

# Kentucky Kernel

Vol. XCV No. 63

Established 1894

University of Kentucky, Lexington, Kentucky

Independent since 1971

Wednesday, November 25, 1992

## Blacks must demand quality in movies, producer says

By Tyrone Beason  
News Editor

The key to producing quality films about the black experience is found not in Hollywood, but in the black community, movie producer and Spike Lee associate Monty Ross said yesterday.

Ross, who visited UK to conduct a filmmaking workshop last night, said the real power in the movie industry comes from behind the scenes. Therefore, it is important that blacks get involved in movie production, in addition to acting and directing.

"The people who really move and shake the business are the producers," he said. "Everybody wants to be out in front. But to get folks behind the scenes — that's the real power."

A primary collaborator in several of director Spike Lee's films and vice president of Lee's film company, Ross said the greatest obstacle to artistic freedom for black filmmakers is financial dependence on the major movie companies who, he said, mostly are concerned with profits, not quality.

Ross cited as an example his

You don't find black movies that deal with our heroes. What you find are 'shoot-em-ups' and 'baby got backs.' This is a time when we can really start to reflect on our history.

— Monty Ross,  
co-producer, "Malcolm X"

dealings with Warner Bros., the motion picture company that produced the capital for Lee's latest movie, "Malcolm X."

Initially, the company agreed to pay \$18 million to make the film because they doubted the finished product would be a box-office draw, Ross said. He and partner Lee ultimately had to seek alternative financing for the film, which cost more than \$30 million dollars by the end of production.

The bottom line for movie companies is financial control, he said. "What my contention is, is that it's economic. The industry makes about \$5 billion a year, and mostly black people buy those tickets. They want to control it."

Ross said as long as the movie industry controls black produc-

tions, filmmakers likely will not be able to create movies that are truly reflective of black life. Independent black movie companies, he said, would hurt their profits.

"When you have 10 movies like 'Malcolm X,' all of sudden black people will wake up and start to control their destiny," he said. "That cuts into the billions that black people contribute."

Ross said an added dimension to filmmaking is the influence that it can have on a culture. Many films about blacks carry strong messages derived from real-life experiences.

"You have a large constituency of black people that will begin to look at themselves in a different

See ROSS, Back Page



Monty Ross, a co-producer of 'Malcolm X' with Spike Lee, spoke to the media yesterday at UK.

## Fall break plan to be presented

By Lance Williams  
Staff Writer

If a plan being discussed by the Student Government Association is approved this year, students will not be on campus this time next year.

The plan asks the University to add the Wednesday before Thanksgiving to the two-day break the University now takes.

Last week, members of SGA met in committee with members of the University Senate to have an informal discussion about the prospect of closing classes on the day before Thanksgiving in the near future.

November said the tone was "very positive" and that everyone at the meeting understood the need for an extra day off. He added that the members gave a "very good response" to the ideas presented.

The large number of out-of-state students at UK, which at last count was about 25 percent of the student population, November said, was one of the biggest reasons for the proposal.

November said the University "needs to give out-of-state students the opportunity to travel home for Thanksgiving."

If the University continues to heavily recruit out-of-state students, they should, at the same time, provide days for travel time and other needs of those students, he said.

During the next Senate Council meeting, the proposal will be taken on the floor for discussion by members of the council, but it will not be voted on at that time.

November said there are two reasons he wants to take this proposal to the Senate Council for discussion before it is voted on.

He said SGA wants to get a feeling for what the council thinks about the proposal, as well as find potential problems that student government might have overlooked in its planning stage.

November said he held that this would enable SGA to work on the proposal and try to solve the problems before it is put on the floor for a vote.

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## SAB's Awake Lecture Series to focus on black history

By Ernest A. Jasmin  
Staff Writer

In an effort to combat the lack of education many students have about black history, the Student Activities Board's Multicultural Committee is presenting the "Awake Lecture Series," an intensive course in Africentricity.

The introductory lecture of the seven-part series will begin Tuesday at 6 p.m. in 230 Student Cen-

ter. Eraka Rouzoroudu, executive and artistic director of Ascension Productions, will conduct the lecture, which will focus on the misconceptions about African culture.

Each meeting will last about four hours, and participants will be asked to do light reading and assignments in preparation for the presentations.

"It is a comprehensive class on the African experience," said Walk-

er Reinhardt, coordinator of the Multicultural Committee.

The series, sponsored by the SAB, is "about making African people and European people aware of the success of Africa before European society colonized," Reinhardt said.

Rouzoroudu conducted the lecture series for Howard University students in Washington, D.C., during the last fall.

The series is one of the activities

developed by Washington, D.C.-based Ascension Productions.

Rouzoroudu founded the organization in 1987.

It was created to educate the people about ancient and contemporary black history from a black perspective.

Among the institutions Rouzoroudu has lectured and taught at are Howard and Syracuse universities, Barnard and Delaware State colleges, and the University of Maryland-

Eastern Shore.

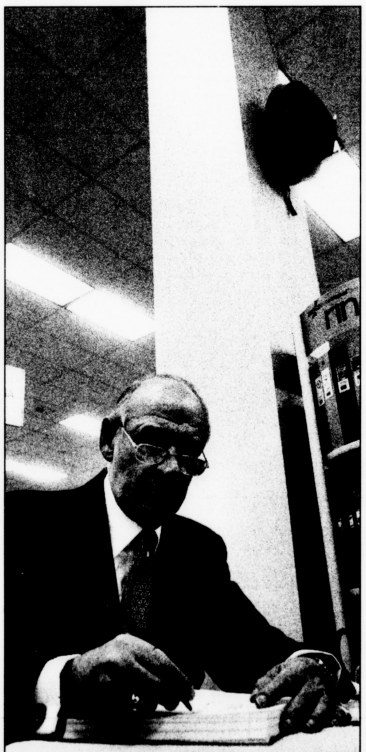
She hosted her own Washington-based cable television show, "Through Our Eyes" in 1990.

The other lectures in the series will take place in January.

Lectures are scheduled for 6 to 10:30 p.m. on Jan. 22, 25, 27 and 29.

Two others will take place between 9 a.m. and 5 p.m. on Jan. 23 and Jan. 30.

## SIGN ON



Cawood Ledford promotes his book, 'Hello, Everyone. This is Cawood Ledford,' with a booksigning session yesterday at the University of Kentucky Bookstore.

## Professor says state should prepare for earthquake within next 20 years

By Lori Coleman  
Staff Writer

Kentucky should prepare for a major earthquake within the next two decades, said Ron Street, a UK professor who recently developed an instrument to monitor ground movement in Tennessee near the New Madrid fault line.

Street, an associate professor of geophysics, installed his "accelerometer" in Fulton County, Tenn. The site is located near the fault, which extends from New Madrid, Mo., into Arkansas.

The machine, along with its accompanying computer, relays data by telephone to Street and his colleagues at UK.

"Its primary purpose is to measure ground motions from earthquakes in high-detail, high-resolution type data," Street said. "It's about 325 feet down in the

### Earthquakes: Advance Planning

1. Check for hazards in the home.
2. Identify safe spots in each room.
3. Locate safe spots outdoors.
4. Make sure all family members know how to respond after an earthquake.
5. Have emergency supplies on hand.
6. Develop an emergency communication plan.

SOURCE: National Emergency Management Agency

TYRONE JOHNSTON/Kernal Graphics

ground. We actually buried a computer and telephone line with it. We call the thing up about once a week or so to check things out and collect data from it that way."

Street said the machine is unique because the only other instruments like it are in California, Japan and Taiwan. "It's the only one in this part of the world," he said.

He predicted that an earthquake along the New Madrid fault could measure 6 to 6.5 on the Richter scale. "There's really strong evidence to support this," Street said. "It won't affect Central Kentucky in a strong way, but I can see things happening like broken windows in Louisville. People will know there's been an earthquake."

The last earthquake of this magnitude, in 1895, was felt as far away as the East Coast, he said.

He also noted that a strong quake earthquake could have a devastating effect on structures that were not built to withstand such natural disasters.

See STREET, Back Page

## Soldier killed in explosion at Ft. Knox

By Thomas S. Watson  
Associated Press

A fuel explosion at the U.S. Army Armor Center at Fort Knox on yesterday afternoon claimed the life of a soldier and left a civilian contract employee hospitalized in critical condition, a post spokeswoman said.

The names of the victims were not released pending notification of relatives, said Laurie Viggiano, post media relations officer.

It was the third accident in the past 17 days at the post to result in casualties.

The explosion at the Harley Motor Park, an on-post storage and maintenance area for military vehicles, occurred at 12:30 p.m. around an M939 fuel tanker, a storage trailer designed to be towed by a five-ton truck, Viggiano said.

The soldier, a member of the 19th Engineer Battalion, 194th Armored Brigade, was thrown clear of the area by the explosion, she added.

"The civilian, an employee with Jansen Environmental of Indianapolis, was transferring fuel for disposal when the explosion occurred and was pulled from beneath the truck by military students of Fort Knox's Armor Officer Basic Course who were training in the area," Viggiano continued.

The victims were flown by military helicopter to Jewish Hospital in Louisville, Ky., then taken by ambulance to nearby Humana Hospital-University of Louisville.

A fire resulting from the blast was extinguished in 10 minutes by Fort Knox firefighters.

The cause of the blast is under investigation, Viggiano said. Ten soldiers were hospitalized af-

ter they were injured when a grenade exploded at a Fort Knox storage and maintenance facility Nov. 18.

In fair condition at Humana Army Community Hospital were Sgt. Robert Brubaker, 22, of Fort Wayne, Ind.; Spc. William Drake, 20, of San Antonio; Pfc. Carey Gibson, 24, of Flint, Mich.; Pvt. 1 Daniel Kemp, 20, of White Lake, Mich.; and Pfc. Robert Young, 24, of Malia, Mont.

Listed in fair condition at Ireland Army Community Hospital are Pfc. Tony Decaro, 19, of West Babylon, N.Y.; Pfc. Randall Hughes, 20, of Mechanicsville, Va.; Pvt. 1 David Kamyck, 23, of Westborough, Mass.; Pfc. Shawn Koch, 20, of Belleville, Ill.; and Pvt. 2 Eric Schmiege, 31, of San Diego. Three soldiers were

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## INSIDE:

**SPORTS:**  
UK volleyball team to take on Auburn in Birmingham, Ala. Story, Page 2.

**DIVERSIONS:**  
For R&B fans, Shai is the group to watch. Review, Page 3.  
'Achy Breaky Heart' is an example of what not to do when remaking a song. Column, Page 3.  
'Incident at Oglala' is a fine documentary about two murders in the mid-1970s on an American Indian reservation. Review, Page 3.

**WEATHER:**  
Partly cloudy and warmer today with thunderstorms likely; high between 65 and 70. Cloudy and colder tonight with a 30 percent chance of evening showers; low between 40 and 45. Cloudy and cool Thanksgiving Day; high between 45 and 50.

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# DIVERSIONS

## R&B group burning up single charts

Shai  
"Shai"  
Gasoline Alley Records

By Holly Terry  
Contributing Critic

All of you R&B fans watch out!

There is a group on the rise. The name of the group is Shai. It consists of four young men who sing a cappella.

Shai made its debut four weeks ago with "If I Ever Fall In Love Again." Since its debut, the group has been compared to Jodeci and Boyz II Men.

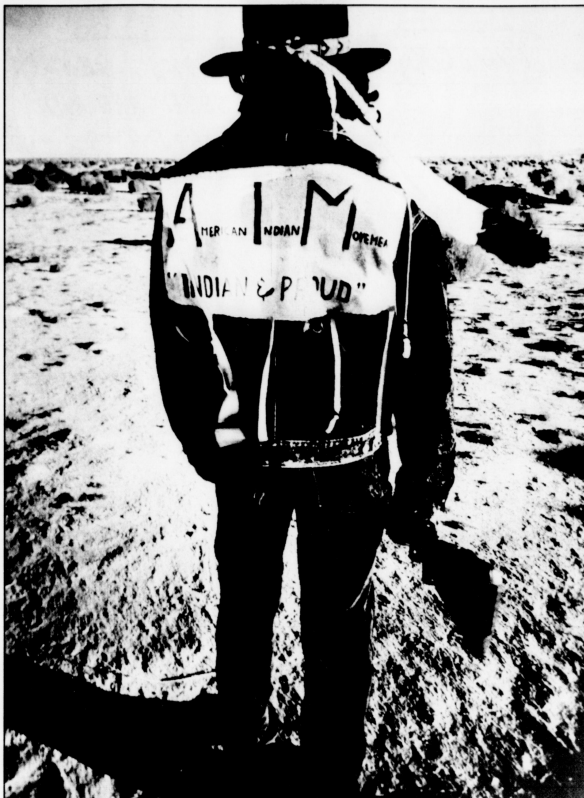
Although Shai has been compared to those groups, it has a sound all its own.

The group does a superb job of showing that sound in its first single. The song begins with sexy talk, slides into the intro with the group's a cappella gospel sound and mixes the harmony, a cappella gospel sound, with the melody to add flavor.

About a week after their debut on radio, the members of Shai did a guest performance for the Arsenio Hall Show. The group's video has debuted on Video Soul, Midnight Love and MTV.

Shai is rising to the top with a sound that can't be touched.

Its debut song is skyrocketing to the top of the R&B charts all over the country. Its debut album will be released between December and January.



Robert Redford is the narrator for "Incident at Oglala," the tale of two murders in the mid-70s on an Indian reservation and the arrest of four Indians for those murders.

## Redford documentary shows FBI prejudices

"Incident at Oglala"  
Narrated by Robert Redford  
Miramax Films



By Chip Sebastian  
Staff Critic

On June 26, 1975, two FBI special agents were killed on the Jumping Bull compound, a section of the Pine Ridge Indian Reservation in South Dakota.

Pine Ridge was the sight of many civil wars and contains some of the most impoverished families and low-grade housing existing in America today. Not even Willie Nelson would touch it.

Robert Redford produced this informative documentary, "Incident at Oglala" by recounting events that surround these two mysterious murders. This has been mostly a cry against attempts at government control and breaking of Indian rights and agreements.

The film centers around the unfairness of the justice system. Through many interviews and sweeping aerial shots with a Jackson Browne score, the film takes an objective stance on the case of Pelier. The evidence against him is so lame, though, that the filmmaker's personal opinions punch through the celluloid canvas.

Michael Apted, who directed "Gorillas in the Mist" in 1988 and "Thunderheart" in 1992, takes the chair for this documentary.

Perhaps the most impressive person in the film is John Trudell, an American Indian who grew up in this impoverished background. Trudell was the national spokesman for the American Indian Movement in the 70s.

In 1979, just 12 hours after he gave an anti-FBI speech, Trudell's wife, mother-in-law and three children died in an unexplained house fire.

Trudell has come into his own, though. He helped Jackson Browne compose the score for this film. He also starred as Jimmy Looks Twice in Apted's "Thunderheart."

If that isn't enough, the FBI has developed a 17,000 page file on Trudell. What an animal!

"Incident at Oglala" — like "Thunderheart," which is based on the same case files — shows the FBI as bunglers and bullies.

The Pine Ridge reservation's tribal leader, Richard Wilson, was head of the GOON squad in the 70s. GOON was a name for the Guardians of the Oglala Nation.

These bogus guardians were set up by the government to keep check on the inner workings of the reservation. It's a sad affair.

This really was a fine documentary, full of facts that are brought back vividly and with incredible emotion by the people who stood in the middle of the events at that time.

Time. It seems to be the key element here, doesn't it? Like everything: the want of the Indians to be let alone, the silliness of government control at the expense of the individual and the healing of Trudell's wounds over the loss of his family and the mistreatment of his people.

In the meantime, Leonard Peltier rots in an eight by six birdcage, which may stand to another bird.

Time belongs still.  
"Incident at Oglala," rated PG, is playing at the Kentucky Theatre through Thursday.

## 'Ghost Riders' good example of song reincarnation with great flair

The temptation for the artist is to do whatever happens to be popular right now. If purple is "in," they say, then let's put some purple in this. I want to avoid that.

During what many consider to be the golden era of country music, the legendary "Man In Black" Johnny Cash recorded his version of the old cowboy movie tune, "Ghost Riders In The Sky" — a song that has been reinterpreted by several artists.

Now, I'm not saying that this tune is a great piece of music, but there must be something in there that keeps people coming back for more.

Maybe it's the mournful, prairie-dog wail of "Yippie-iyay" in the chorus or the guitar sound reminiscent of a cold night around a campfire — or maybe the song just sounds like it belongs in an old Western. (Remember the Blues Brothers and "Rawhide?")

In 1979, The Outlaws recorded a cover of this song set to a faster, louder Southern rock sound, fueled by a chugging electric guitar rhythm that sounds like thundering hoofbeats — the same effect Iron Maiden used to create a musical description of the Charge of the Light



Brigade in their song "The Trooper."

The Outlaws' version, with its extended guitar solos and rashing tempo at the end, works quite well.

A few weeks ago, I heard an outrageous version of "Ghost Riders" on WRFL-FM by the alternative band Goober and the Peas — a hilarious, sarcastic, slap-happy rendition that included elements of rap, funk and harder-edged rock combined into a tight, effective composition.

Each of these reincarnations of "Ghost Riders" is an example of how different artists have approached a musical idea (small or simple as it may be) and reinterpreted it with their own musical ideas to create something that works well — for strictly musical reasons.

One recent country music song serves as a perfect example of the exact opposite. Billy Ray Cyrus' cover of Don Von Tress' "Don't Tell My Heart" has become one of the biggest popular hits in recent

years — but because of non-musical reasons. Cyrus says the song sounded like a hit to him, and he began playing it in clubs. His audiences helped him find a hook when, as he says, "everybody just kept requesting that we play that 'Achy Breaky' song."

So he changed the words from "achy breakin'" to "achy breaky" — and thus discovered one of the most insidious but successful musical "hooks" of the past few years — that silly, herky-jerky rhythmic rhyming chorus that sticks in your

mind, even if you can't stand the song.

However, Cyrus' success was a direct result of a massive marketing strategy by Mercury Records.

The company hired choreographer Melanie Greenwood (Lee Greenwood's ex-wife) to create a dance for the song. Mercury made an instructional video of the resulting "line dance," sent copies to a large number of Western dance clubs and then sponsored dance contests. The dance caught on, and Cyrus became an overnight success.

This success, however, has doomed both Cyrus and anyone else who records this song. Because future covers won't have that musical element, they won't ever match his success — and probably won't ever get the chance to be judged strictly on musical merits alone. Neither, probably, will Cyrus. Few bought his record for its musical merits — most bought it because of a song written by someone else, modified by a hook suggested by someone else and marketed with a dance step created by

someone else.

Our original premise holds true. The future of Cyrus as a musician, as well as the future of this song as a cover, are both doomed to certain failure — because their present success is almost completely based on non-musical elements; elements that have proven in the past to be fickle, short-lived and almost impossible to recapture when their popularity fades.

Phil Todd is a graduate student in the School of Music and a Kentucky Kernel columnist.

CINEMARK THEATRES		
LEXINGTON GREEN 8	MAN O'WAR 8	RICHMOND MALL 8
Nicholsville & New Circle Rd. 271-2070	Man O'War & Richmond Rd. 288-4845	Eastern Pkwy/Richmond, KY 623-8715
<p>Just call 288-INFO EXT 1234</p> <p>ALCONON (R) 12:00 2:00 4:00 6:00 8:00 10:00</p> <p>ALCONON (R) 11:00 1:00 3:00 5:00 7:00 9:00</p> <p>HOME ALONE 2 (PG) 12:45 2:30 8:15</p> <p>HOME ALONE 2 (PG) 11:45 2:15 4:45 7:15 9:45</p> <p>MALCOLM X (PG-13) 12:00 2:00 7:45</p> <p>LAST OF THE MOHICANS (R) 2:00 4:45 7:15 9:45</p> <p>JENNIFER 8 (R) 1:30 4:15 7:05 9:40</p> <p>A RIVER RUNS THROUGH IT (PG) 2:00 4:40 7:15 9:40</p>	<p>Just call 288-INFO EXT 1234</p> <p>ALCONON (R) 12:00 2:00 4:00 6:00 8:00 10:00</p> <p>ALCONON (R) 12:00 2:00 4:00 6:00 8:00 10:00</p> <p>MALCOLM X (PG-13) 12:00 2:00 7:45</p> <p>DRACULA (R) 2:00 4:40 7:20 10:00</p> <p>NIGHTY DOCKS (PG) 1:05 3:15 5:05</p> <p>CANDY MAN (R) 7:35 9:45</p> <p>UNDER SIEGE (R) 1:30 4:15 7:15 9:45</p> <p>FRANKIE'S (R) 1:00 3:00 5:15 7:15 9:15</p>	<p>Just call 288-INFO EXT 1234</p> <p>PASSENGER 57 (R) 1:00 3:15 5:30 7:45 10:00</p> <p>DRACULA (R) 1:15 3:30 7:45 10:15</p> <p>THE BODYGUARD (R) 1:50 4:30 7:10 9:50</p> <p>PURE COUNTRY (PG) 1:30 4:00 7:00 9:30</p> <p>HOME ALONE 2 (PG) 1:45 4:15 7:15 9:45</p> <p>A RIVER RUNS THROUGH IT (PG) 1:40 4:15 7:25 9:55</p> <p>UNDER SIEGE (R) 1:20 3:30 5:40 7:50 10:00</p> <p>NIGHTY DOCKS (PG) 1:10 3:00 5:05</p> <p>CANDY MAN (R) 7:40 9:50</p>
<p>TODAY'S TIMES ONLY      *No Passes      *No Passes No Superlaters</p>		

# DEATH Becomes Her

Wednesday-Saturday at 8:00 p.m.  
Sunday at 5:00 p.m.  
\$2 with UK I.D. at Worsham Theater

**Pulitzer Nominee,**  
**CLIFTON TAULBERT**  
Author of  
**The Last Train North** and  
**Once Upon A Time**  
When We Were Colored

To Speak On  
**Nurturing Family and**  
**Community in African-**  
**American Culture**

Monday, November 30, 7:30 p.m.  
Centre Theater of Old Student Center  
Book signing at Joseph-Beth Book Sellers  
on November 29 at 2:00-4:00 p.m.

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• HBO's One Night Stand • The Arsenio Hall Show (FOX) •  
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Tonight Show w/Johnny Carson (NBC) multiple appearances •  
Welcome Back Kotter (ABC) series regular • Laverne & Shirley  
(ABC) series regular • WKRP Cincinnati • The Original Laugh  
In • Death of Richie (MoW-NBC)

2 NIGHTS ONLY THE MON-TUE AFTER THANKSGIVING  
(Mon) (Tues)  
Nov 30 & Dec 1 **254-JOKE**

# VIEWPOINT

## Kentucky Kernel

Established in 1894  
Independent since 1971

### Editorial Board

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Brian Jent, Senior Staff Writer  
Laura Gum

## Some things for which students on campus should be thankful

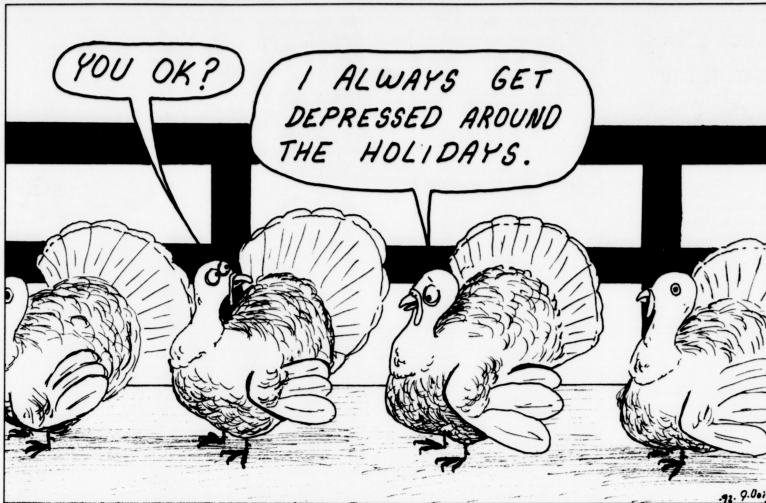
### EDITORIAL

Thanksgiving is a time to eat turkey and identify the many turkeys in our lives.

The members of the Kentucky Kernel Editorial Board have put together a list of the many things we are thankful for this holiday season.

#### We're thankful

- For library that's open 24 hours a day. We hope this is a service that will continue.
- For WUKY-FM's boosting its signal so that more people can listen to the wonderful programming produced and carried by that station.
- That Richie Farmer wants us to drink milk and buy cars. Speaking of those cars, are his commercials with Andy Ryan fake or what?
- That James Edney, the man whose home will soon be a library, will enjoy a final Thanksgiving in his house. Perhaps UK officials should foot the bill for his Thanksgiving turkey. It's the least they can do.
- That tuition has not increased—yet. We hope it won't go up too much when it is increased.
- That sometime in the near future students will have an alternative to the food now served by UK Food Services. We can wait for those franchised products.
- That basketball has begun and football has ended.
- That the Kentucky Kernel staff doesn't have to put out another newspaper for five days.
- Have a safe trip home and a nice holiday.
- And don't eat too much.



JERRY VOGT, Editorial Cartoonist

## Thanksgiving has changed ...

Just because tomorrow is Thanksgiving doesn't mean you have to wait until then to be thankful.

Personally, I can't wait that long. I've got to give thanks and praise where each due, starting today. I hope I won't stop after tomorrow.

My first bit of thanks is for going home. It's been so long that I might have trouble finding my street.

Being away from family is difficult, and the phone doesn't always cut it. (Speaking of a phone, I guess I should be thankful for that, too, because I just got one.)

It will be nice to get back to Louisville and my baby brother and sister who grow like weeds and look a little different every time I come home. I miss you, Dara and Camara. You are my heart.

I should also be thankful that my father isn't after me. As long as I keep school straight and make it look like I'm spending my time



Mitchell Douglas  
Kernel Columnist

wisely (Thank God for that Lexington Herald-Leader fellowship). Dad won't have to worry about me being confused in my career goals.

No, it doesn't look as though I'll be dropping out of school to make records, after all. So keep your shirt on, Dad. I hope I'm making you proud.

Thanks also to Mom for calming Dad down when he was climbing the walls because I couldn't find a job. Mom, you are the spirit that makes our house a home and holds us all together.

I love you both. Being away from home and family makes the friends you find in college all the more important. I've never been the popular type, so the friends I have are a selected and trusted few.

Thanks to everyone who has

helped me keep my sanity since I stepped on the yard in 1988 (I was only 17, I'm not that old.) and all the friends I've made here since.

Your support is greatly appreciated, and you know who you are. I've got to give you your props. When I give thanks for all the things I'm grateful for, I think of what took place during that first Thanksgiving between American Indians and the Pilgrims, who found freedom of religion in their land.

Somewhere in the course of history, American Indians were excluded from this celebration, their beliefs belittled and their land stolen from beneath them.

Because the concept of Thanksgiving has not continued to live up to its original expression of unity, a harmony between races, I wonder how relevant the celebration is today.

Because the concept of Thanksgiving has not continued to live up to its original expression of unity, a harmony between races, I wonder how relevant the celebration is today.

### LETTERS

#### Affirmative action a racist policy

To the editor:

This is in response to Dan Payne's letter in the Nov. 17 edition of the Kentucky Kernel. In his letter, he stated that affirmative action benefits minorities because for them to attend a university does not take into account the disadvantages that they are faced with.

Payne cited that a high percentage of minorities attend inner city schools, which generally are inferior in terms of quality of education to suburban, public and private schools, which have a much lower percentage of minority students. He also said that aggressive recruiting is the education that they deserve.

This is simply reverse discrimination. What about the whites faced with the same problems?

What if they, too, attended the same inner city schools, or rather the extremely rural and run down ones? Why should one student be chosen over another one simply based on the fact that he is a minority?

To me that is simply racism. That is not the answer.

Please do not misunderstand my point of view. I am taking the side of equality and not that of racism. I simply do not wish for anyone to be discriminated against, even when that someone is a white person.

Judge everyone on the basis of equality and open mindedness and

### LETTERS POLICY

Readers are encouraged to submit letters to the editor and guest opinions to the Viewpoint page in person or by mail. Writers should address their comments to "Letters to the Editor," Kentucky Kernel Editorial Editor, 035 Enoch J. Grehan Journalism Building, UK, Lexington, Ky. 40506-0042.

Letters should be 250 words or less, while guest opinions should be between 250 and 800 words. Writers must include their names and major classifications (for publication), as well as their addresses and telephone numbers for verification.

We reserve the right to edit all material.

not on the basis of race, sex or whatever difference one might have.

Kevin Henson  
Political science junior  
Nov. 17, 1992

#### Bicycling can be pretty hazardous

To the editor:

I think bicycling is a good way to travel around campus — if you travel at speeds slow enough to be safe for people who are walking.

I think bicyclists should be allowed to travel on the sidewalks but should be required to slow down. Maybe they shouldn't be allowed to travel any faster than a person walking.

I think the UK police using bikes to get around campus is an excellent idea. Maybe they also could help in dealing with bicyclists who ride too fast or do other things disregarding others' safety, like weaving in and out of people walking.

I don't think it's realistic to expect bicyclists to walk their bikes on sidewalks, especially since campus has so few bike lanes on its streets. I also don't think forcing them to walk their bikes is fair to the bicyclists.

But about speed of travel: Even someone running at top speed through a sidewalk crowded with pedestrians is wrong and dangerous to others. Bicycles can reach very fast speeds — and, on top of that, the bicycle itself becomes a dangerous metal projectile capable of inflicting harm to someone.

Last weekend in my hometown, I heard about an accident that occurred earlier that week involving a teenager riding a motorcycle. He was probably only going 30 mph, a speed which bicycles can easily reach. He hit a woman walking on the side of the road, and both he and the woman were killed.

This same thing could easily happen with a bicyclist.

Please slow down and ride more carefully.

Corey Rodgers  
UK Staff and Information Support Center  
Nov. 13, 1992

Thanksgiving is not a real holiday anymore.

Whoa! I can see the reactions to this statement already.

Thanksgiving is not a real holiday? Ridiculous. I get to go home from college. I get to eat home-cooked meals, and I get to sleep in for four days. How can you say it is not a holiday?

Well, please give me a chance to explain.

Contrary to popular opinion, Thanksgiving is not just a time to eat some stuffed bird until you explode. It is also just a time to watch football and basketball until you turn into a vegetable.

And, it is not a time to sleep and eat and sleep and eat, only taking breaks to use the bathroom.

Thanksgiving is a time to be with your family and friends and be thankful for the good things in your life. It is a time of celebration, not of a break, but of togetherness and

## Attacking debt not an easy issue, but must happen

A lot of people seem to be worried about the national debt these days.

The recently concluded presidential campaign was saturated with partisan rhetoric about the debt and what should be done about it.

President Bush claimed that he was not to blame for it. Bill Clinton promised he could get rid of it. Perot spent millions of his own dollars just to make sure Bush and Clinton did not stop talking about it.

There is no question that the fiscal policies of the Reagan-Bush era cannot continue. In the 1980s, the United States went from being the world's largest creditor nation to the world's largest debtor nation.

Interest on the debt now is the third largest item in the federal budget, behind only defense and social security.

In 1991 taxpayers coughed up \$197 billion for interest on the \$4 trillion debt.

But, if you were to believe the senseless rhetoric of Perot, the na-



Jimmy Gish  
Kernel Columnist

companionship.

Most people miss the point of this day altogether, thinking that Thanksgiving is just another day off with an extra break attached. That is why Thanksgiving is no longer a real holiday.

When the pilgrims held the first Thanksgiving in 1621, no one considered it just another day off work. They used Thanksgiving to thank God for bringing them through the past year.

It was a huge celebration by their standards, but not for the reasons that it is celebrated today. Some people are just too selfish to see the real reason behind the holiday — or behind the season, either.

#### Don Puckett

Kernel Columnist

The important question to ask is "How was the money spent?" Because debt requires payments by future generations, the money should be used in a manner to help those who will be paying for it.

Examples of proper uses of debt funds would be funding education or building of the nation's transportation systems. These types of investments allow for the inheritors of debt to expand their capacity of output and allow for easier repayment of debt.

This was not the case in the 1980s. Despite growing deficits and national debts, our cities are in decay and rural poverty continues to grow. Our educational system is in decline, and the U.S. health-care system needs overhaul. Where did the \$4 trillion go? Unfortunately, most of the spending was for defense buildings and short-term boosts in the economy. Sure, unemployment was low in the 1980s. But give me \$4 trillion, and I'll create a lot of jobs, too.

And when the money runs out or we can't borrow any more, then

Yes, Christmas is fast approaching. Sadly enough, many people only like Christmas for many of the same reasons.

Christmas means another break from school or work, just long enough to trade gifts and eat another truckload of food. For some people, Christmas means fighting in stores to buy gifts to please their selfish children that play with their new toys for about a month after Christmas.

Has our society forgotten what Christmas really is?

Christmas was originally intended to be the day on which people celebrate the birth of Jesus Christ. The point of giving and receiving gifts is the symbolism of the magi giving gifts to Jesus.

And giving, not receiving, is the important element of the practice. However, our society even has corrupted this practice by missing the point of it.

I believe that our society should attempt to recapture the true meanings behind Thanksgiving and Christmas. Even people who are not Christians can appreciate being thankful for what they have and show love and trust through giving gifts.

In this festive season, I recommend that everyone read "The Gift of the Magi" by O. Henry.

In this story, a young married couple has no money to buy gifts for each other.

I promise that if you read this story, you will never look at the Christmas season in quite the same way again. Maybe someday these holidays will return to their original purpose.

Jimmy Gish is a freshman in the College of Arts and Sciences and a Kentucky Kernel columnist.

just look at the 1992 economy to see what happens.

Despite past wasteful spending policies, deficit spending should not be abandoned in the short run. We need investment, and investment requires capital. Capital that no one in Washington, D.C., seems to be able to find these days.

Congress needs to learn to make choices about which programs to fund. Priorities are long-term schemes designed to enhance future productivity such as education and transportation.

Without these, our economy will never be able to handle the task of paying off the debt.

It is unfortunate that the irresponsible government spending of the past has placed the American taxpayer in a bind. It is now up to current legislators to make wise decisions about investment spending.

Otherwise, the American economy will crawl all the way to the 21st century.

Don Puckett is a political science and economics sophomore and a Kentucky Kernel contributing columnist.

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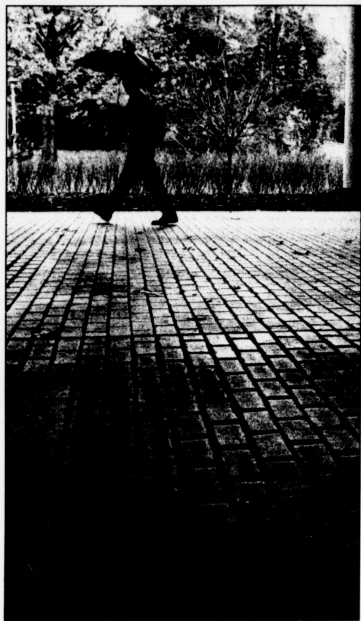
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## UNDER COVER



Yesterday's rain forced students to get out umbrellas to brave the gloomy weather.

## Ross

Continued from Page 1

light," he said about people who view those films. "That's the real revolution that we are all waiting for."

During an appearance before the news media yesterday, Ross said the movie "Malcolm X" sends a message to blacks and whites alike. "I want it to be the kind of interruption that says, finally, young black males can put down their oozies and maybe pull up their pants, maybe begin to understand their responsibility as men," he said.

"And I wanted everyone to know that black people are capable of producing our culture. . . . Not only can we do the show, we can do the business."

The movie is an "interruption," Ross said, because it depicts black life in a positive, more realistic light.

"You don't find black movies that deal with our heroes. What you find are 'shoot-em-ups' and 'baby got backs.' This is a time when we can really start to reflect on our history."

Ross said Lee's movie and other films about black leaders provide role models that today are largely absent in urban America.

"Young black people growing up today don't have those types of charismatic leaders to look up to," Ross said. "Right now, you know, you walk around with your gun, walk around holding your crotch and walk around with your pants around your butt. And that's supposed to be hip."

With the success of "Malcolm X," Ross said movie companies will be more inclined to make films about positive black role models and experiences.

"We have to let them know that these are the movies that we want to see," he said. ". . . Hopefully, this will open up the door a little bit more."

## Fall

Continued from Page 1

November was upbeat about the project, despite last year's shortcoming in attempting to get a fall break on the two school days before midterms begin.

"A good number of benchmark schools close to the size of UK have the Wednesday before Thanksgiving off, while a fairly good number have an additional fall break, as well," November said.

In discussing the proposal yesterday, Robert Hemenway, chancellor for the Lexington Campus, said he trusts the students and faculty to take their ideas to the Senate Council about the proposal and that he would go along with the council's decision.

## Street

Continued from Page 1

"I suspect . . . a few of the taller buildings are well-protected because they're designed for wind load. That goes a long way toward earthquake tolerance," he said.

Street has taught at UK for 15 years. He graduated from Michigan Technological University, receiving a degree in engineering physics and from St. Louis University. He also received a doctorate in seismology.

But Street hasn't always been a teacher. He spent five years in the U.S. Navy and three years doing consulting work for nuclear power plants.

He was involved in nuclear power development consultation until last year.

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## Blandford used campaign funds to buy tickets

Associated Press

FRANKFORT, Ky. — Kentucky's House Speaker, already under indictment on separate charges, bought thoroughbred racing tickets with campaign funds in a practice considered improper by a state registry, according to a published report.

Speaker Don Blandford used more than \$13,000 from his campaign fund — including \$5,424 last year — to buy the tickets, the Lexington Herald-Leader reported yesterday.

Blandford (D-Philpot) was indicted earlier this month on federal charges of stealing thousands of dollars from the campaign fund and laundering the money through staff members.

Although the indictment did not mention the Derby tickets, Blandford said he could not discuss the tickets for legal reasons. He said he did not know whether they were related to the federal investigation.

"I'd like to talk about all of it," Blandford said. "But I'm just walking on eggshells about what I can and what I can't."

In his campaign finance reports, Blandford indicated that most of the tickets to Churchill Downs and the Kentucky Derby were "for constituents."

A recent letter from the Registry of Election Finance to legislative staffers said buying tickets to sporting events for constituents is not a legitimate use of campaign funds. But the campaign finance laws are murky, and it is unclear whether Blandford had violated them, the newspaper said.

"A legislator should not under any circumstances give a ticket purchased with campaign funds to create goodwill among constituents, because giving campaign funds to an individual with the intent to influence his vote would be considered vote buying," George Russell, the executive director of the registry, said in the letter.

Karl Schmitt, a spokesman for Churchill Downs, said track officials will not discuss which individual legislators have purchased tickets.

He said some Derby tickets are made available to certain legislators, although the lawmakers must pay full value for the tickets. The tickets offered to lawmakers range from \$40 to \$80 each, Schmitt said.

"Generally speaking, we try to take care of leadership, we try to take care of the Jefferson County contingent," Schmitt said.

Anita Taylor, a principal assistant at the Registry of Election Finance, said she did not know whether officials at her agency had ever looked at the question of Blandford's purchase of racetrack tickets.

Taylor said that state officials have assumed for years that the law prohibits candidates from using the money for their personal benefit and that the money can only be spent for campaign-related expenses.

But Taylor said there appears to be a little-known gap in the law.

"I cannot find anyplace where it specifically prohibits using the campaign funds for personal reasons," she said.

This year, Blandford spent \$3,912 on Churchill Downs tickets in March. But Blandford repaid this money to his campaign fund in April, so it is not included in the \$13,804 his campaign has spent on tickets since 1987.

Even though Blandford had no opponent this year, his campaign received \$33,237 in contributions between Oct. 16, 1991 and June 25, 1992.

As of the last campaign finance report that Blandford filed on July 25, his campaign fund had a balance of \$51,295.

In the wake of the federal probe that became public at the end of March, Blandford did not put in his customary appearance at the Derby this year.

## Clinton to become comedians' Chief Goat

Associated Press

NEW YORK — Lame duck George Bush can look forward to getting the last laugh.

That comes Jan. 20, when Bill Clinton succeeds him as comedy's Chief Goat.

The more, the merrier, say TV's late night comics, as they await the new president and his accompanying administration.

hopers for Tipper Gore. I'm no historian, but if I'm not mistaken she's the first vice president's wife named Tipper since the Coolidge administration."

Al Franken, longtime writer-player on "Saturday Night Live" as well as the Comedy Central cable channel, has mixed feelings about

the Clinton presidency.

"As an American citizen, I'm thrilled," Franken said, "but as a comedy writer, I'm distraught."

"Usually when you're making fun of someone, it's because they're doing something wrong," he said. "Part of me hopes Clinton isn't funny at all."

"I'm especially going to miss

Ross Perot," said Terry Turner, a fellow "Saturday Night Live" writer, "although I'm sure he'll show up again, maybe as the center square on Hollywood Squares. He was a great gift to all of us in this business."

**Sherman's Alley by Gibb 'N' You**

Well, the big Macy's parade is tomorrow, Sherm. They're having a Captain Delaware balloon again.

You don't seem to be yourself, Sherm. Something got you down?

I guess I wish I'd gone home for the holidays. Brookes, I can almost see it, relatives telling me the growing like a weed, my little cousins throwing succotash in my ear at the table.

Uncle Roy watching the Dallas game on a mini-TV he has beside the gray sofa. Auntie Flo reading up with stories of her recent hip surgery. Cousin Hank doing that funny trick he can do with his tongue, right nostril, and left eye socket.

Thanksgiving Eve

Thank God I don't go home.

Can you show me how to do that tongue-nostril-eye trick?

## Soldier

Continued from Page 1

treated and released from the hospital last week.

All the soldiers hurt by the grenade belong to D Troop, 5th Squadron, 12th Cavalry Regiment at Fort Knox.

On Nov. 8, an armored personnel carrier flipped over during a training exercise, resulting in minor injuries to seven soldiers.

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