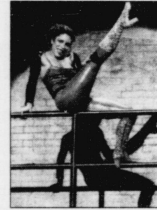


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KENTUCKY Kernel

BENT FOR RENT

Rent's rockin' musical numbers bring bring New York life to the stage in Louisville.
See Diversions, page 4.



THU

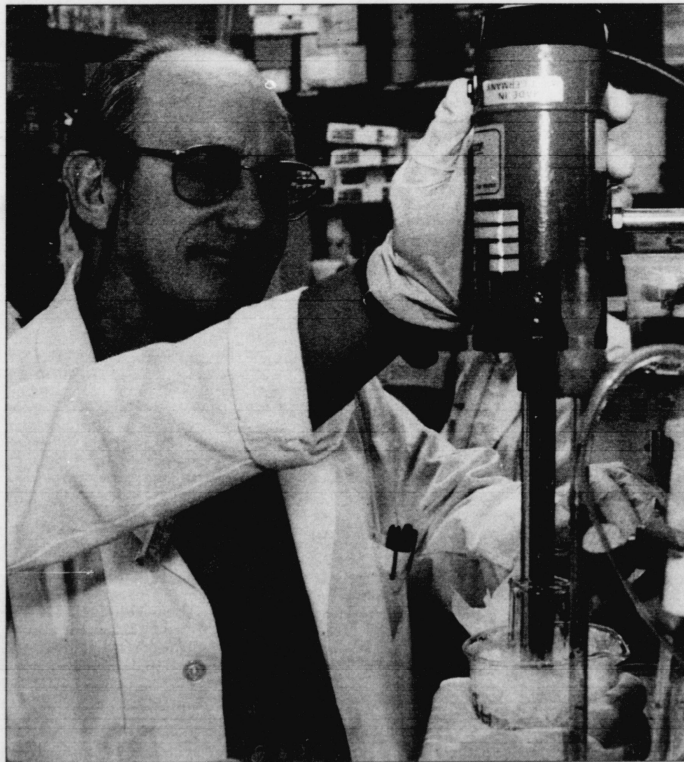
July 16, 1998

Classifieds 7 Diversions 4
Sports 8 Viewpoint 6

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JOHNNY FARRIS Kernel Staff

SCIENCE FAIR Pat Ryan works with soybean seeds to isolate certain genetic material. Ryan is a participant in this year's Howard Hughes Medical Institute program.

Higher Learning

Teachers get refresher course on lab work while at UK this summer

By Jessica Coy
Editor-in-Chief

While many of their students are vacationing at the beach or lounging by the pool, five teachers from across Kentucky are spending their summer days in

labs here at UK.

Three high school teachers and two community college professors are adding to their experience this summer at UK through a grant from the Howard Hughes Medical Institute.

The biotech program,

in its sixth year, annually selects up to 12 science teachers to study at UK as a way to keep them updated on the latest advancements in the fields of cellular genetics.

Participants are paired with UK professors to take part in lab research for six to eight weeks.

Pat Ryan, a DNA science teacher at Madisonville Community College and Madis-

See **TEACHERS** on 3

FOOD SERVICE

Domino's and Mad Mushroom file complaint

Local pizza companies disagree with decision

By Manish Bhatia
Staff Writer

What is your favorite brand of pizza? "Cheese". What is your least favorite brand of pizza? "Beef". These were some of the answers to a survey done by UK Food Services in April that showed Papa John's to be the clear favorite among students.

The prize was the lucrative contract that will allow the chain to apply the Plus Account for pizza purchase.

However, the losers of this high stakes bid are not too impressed.

"We are asking the university to reconsider their decisions and to open it up for each of the bidding vendors to charge the account", said Thomas Bullock, attorney for Domino's.

Tuesday, Bullock filed a formal protest on behalf of Mad Mushroom and Domino's pizza companies.

The grievance, which requests that the bidding process be reopened, states, "It is the contention of Domino's Pizza and Mad Mushroom Pizza that the methods, practices and procedures used by both the Division of Planning of the University of Kentucky and its selected Evaluation Committee to secure a vendor for the University's Pizza Delivery Program were unfair, arbitrary, contrary to law, capricious."

Bullock filed the complaint because he felt it was not in the university's or the student's best interest to have an exclusive contract. Also, he was concerned about the way the survey was conducted and tabulated.

"In other multi-million dollar contracts, the university would have spent some more time," he said. "They had the ability to use some

See **PIZZA** on 10

Pieces of the pie

Key results of the April survey that sparked a wide array of opinions

7:00 pm

Favorite time to order pizza.

Papa John's

Favorite brand of pizza.

Mad Mushroom

Least favorite brand of pizza.

\$8.00

What would you expect to pay?

OVERheard

"We just don't have the computing capacity to deal with more than one (company)."

Richard Clark

Asst. Director, UK Food Services

"You are forced to order from Papa John's since they are the only ones, that could be a problem, especially during sporting events."

Judson Ridgway

Domino's franchise owner

"They (the commission) can't base preference on 200 students."

Steve Hart

Owner, Mad Mushroom

INSIDE

Other campuses have had to figure it out. See story, Page 10

CAMPUS

Board of Trustees to include staff member

After a long fight, UK staff members will have voice

By Kim Glenn
Staff Writer

Come this fall, the UK Board of Trustees will have a new look. For the first time in the school's 133-year history, staff employees will have a direct voice in the University's ultimate governing body.

The board, which will total 20 members with the new addition, is responsible for setting University policy concerning everything from room and board rates to allocation of funds.

The board currently comprises 16 members appointed by the governor, two faculty members and one student representative.

The debate over whether to add a staff member began back in 1994 when State Rep. Freed Curd introduced House Bill 154 to the Kentucky General Assembly.

The bill proposed the addition of an elected member of the non-teaching staff to the UK Board of Trustees and to the Board of Regents of each regional university. But before the bill could be passed, it was amended to delete UK.

In response to their exclusion, UK staff personnel formed the University of Ken-

tucky Staff Association, a grassroots organization, in Spring 1994. Its No. 1 goal was to get an elected staff representative on the board.

Hope was kept alive when Rep. Ernesto Scorsone sponsored a bill in 1996 to add a non-teaching member to the board. The proposal gained support at the University and the University Senate Council sent forth a resolution in Spring 1998 to the House and Senate leadership supporting the bill.

The work culminated during the last General Assembly when UK was legislated to add a staff representative to its Board of Trustees.

The staff representative will essentially take the place of the community college representative, whose position was eliminated when the Community College System was spun off from the main campus in 1997.

The responsibility for the staff selection lay in the hands of the Office of Fiscal Affairs.

Tom Henninger, director of business planning and operations in the Office of Fiscal Affairs, said the election is a two-step process.

The nominations took place

July 10. All regular, full-time nonteaching employees, excluding administration personnel such as President Charles Wethington and college deans, were eligible to run. Voting took place electronically over the web and via paper ballots. 604 employees chose six finalists.

"The voting went very smoothly, and everything worked well," Henninger said.

The final stage of voting will be July 24. Results should be announced by the following July 27 with the chosen representative taking their seat at the August board meeting. Like their faculty counterparts, the staff representative will serve a three-year term.

Optional: Jessica, I would cut this part out because it gives her press but none of the other five finalists.

One of the six finalists Bonnie Johnson, a Communication Voice Manager and founding member of the UKSA said that she couldn't be more pleased with the addition of the staff member to the board.

"For so long the staff has been the silent majority. We serve in all areas of the University and this finally gives us an opportunity to convey our concerns and desires," Johnson said. "I just hope that all the staff jump aboard and participate."

NEWSbytes

State donors

WASHINGTON — Louisiana doesn't want its citizens' livers going to Mississippi. Or Arkansas. Or anywhere else for that matter.

South Carolina wants to keep its citizens' livers, too. So do Wisconsin and Oklahoma.

In a direct challenge to a new federal policy, states are passing laws ordering that organs donated at home stay at home if there's a patient who could benefit.

It's the opposite approach from the federal Department of Health and Human Services, which has issued new rules meant to break down geographic barriers. HHS hopes to equalize waiting times across

the country.

The new rules, now under congressional scrutiny, are not yet final. But in case that changes, states are laying the groundwork for a court challenge.

"Our work is based on the giving of South Carolinians," said Nancy A. Kay, executive director of the South Carolina Organ Procurement Agency. "We like to take care of our neighbors here."

China uses technology

WASHINGTON — China has used sensitive technology from U.S. satellite exports to enhance its military capability, Senate Majority Leader Trent Lott

asserted Tuesday, summarizing what he called the work of a bipartisan Senate investigation. Top Democrats called his accusations political posturing.


Lott, R-Miss., also cited "new information" on "direct Chinese financing" of U.S. elections, but without elaboration. He called for appointment of a special prosecutor to pursue such charges.

Surprised Democrats called the report, delivered to the Senate by Lott in a morning floor speech, a political broadside thick with unproved allegations.

"The implication is that the committee has reached some kind of conclusion. It most assuredly has not," said Sen. Bob Kerrey, D-Nebr., co-chairman of the Senate Intelligence Committee.

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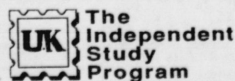
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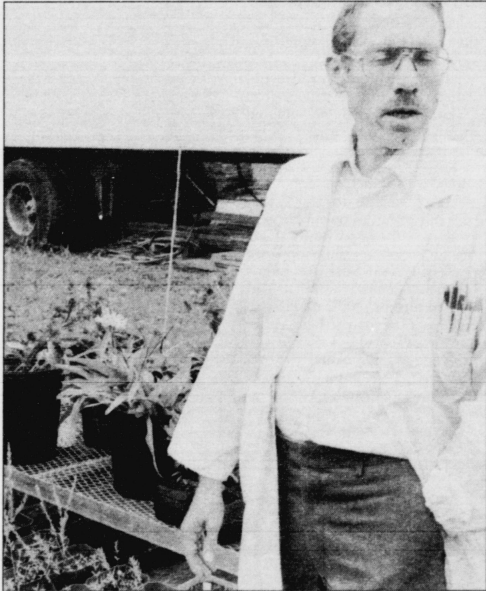
KeG

CAMPUS

Teachers

High school teachers using Hughes grant to bring knowledge back to students

From PAGE 1



JOHNNY FARRIS Kernel staff

PAY PLANTS David Hildebrand works with soy and linseed plants in a study searching for a gene to increase the production of fatty acids in soy beans.

onville North High School in Hopkins County, is working with David Hildebrand in agronomy.

Ryan and Hildebrand are trying to manipulate the genetic structure of soybeans so that they will contain a higher percentage of fatty acids.

Should a soybean with increased fatty acids be produced, it would make the foods made with it ten times healthier and will increase the quality of other soy products such as ink and oils.

Ryan said that he was drawn to the program not only because of the exciting research he would be doing, but also because of the positive impact such an experience would have on his teaching.

"I come back from this with a

definite flavor of what doing science is all about, which is something I try to translate to my students."

Ryan said that working in a lab reminds him of how things do not always go according to plan, and that everyone involved on a project has to work together to get things done.

"I want my students to learn that they are not lone rangers when they are working with other scientists, they sometimes lose sight of that, especially in the more competitive classes," Ryan said.

Hildebrand said that the program is important because when teachers are in better touch with the scientific community, then the students will be as well.

"To create better scientists, we have to create better teachers," Hildebrand said.

"We hear all the time from industries saying that we need better trained students, and this starts with students in high school. If we can get students to become interested in science from that point it makes our job as college professors easier and more fulfilling," he added.

Debra Britton, a high school math science teacher at Heritage Christian High School in Hopkins County, is working with Mark Farman in agronomy.

Britton and Farman are trying to isolate a specific gene which will create certain desirable qualities in the Magnaporthe Grisea fungus.

Britton said that although she does not teach science at the time, she will still be able to take much of what she is learning back to her teaching environment.

"Being here has showed me a little of what it's like to be in the student's shoes," Britton said. "The bio lab is totally new to me and I can definitely see how students might feel."

But Farman said that beyond all the educational purposes, the teachers are useful in a more elementary way.

"I have found that the teachers show up on a more regular basis than some students we have working in the labs," said Farman.

"Also we have some projects that need a lot of man power to keep them going and the teachers definitely help with that," he said.

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Council decides they are not worthy

Unanimous vote keeps basketball tickets from council members

By Dave Gorman
Staff Writer

Little did councilman George Brown know that he was making an indecent proposal.

Two weeks ago, Brown proposed that the Lexington Center Corp., the business entity which manages Rupp Arena, for a whopping 13 pairs of lower-level UK basketball tickets.

Brown went out of town for a week, and that was when the public moved in for the kill.

The public outcry had a definite impact on the council. Tuesday, the Urban County Council

voted down the notion of getting UK basketball privileges. The vote was unanimous, 11-0, although four council members were absent.

Just last Tuesday they all voted to put the proposal on the agenda.

Near the beginning of yesterday's council meeting Brown made it crystal clear that he regretted the ticket proposal.

"This has allowed me to grow as a public servant," he said.

His "growth" may be due to the fact that the public flooded his colleagues with angry phone calls while he was gone.

"I think there's been enough pain around this issue that I think we need to move forward," Brown said.

UK students were especially perturbed with the entire situation.

"I think that it is wise that they backed down from their proposal, very wise," said Student Government President Nate Brown. "Actually, I don't mind them getting tickets as long as they are hitting their heads on the rafters like I did my freshmen year."

"They don't deserve special treatment just because they are elected," said communications junior Tom Williams. "I think they made the right decision."

Since the council voted to put the ticket issue on the agenda there has been increasing pressure put on the council members.

Glenn Hoskins, chairman of the city's ethics panel, personally warned them last week that if they did not drop the ticket plan

they would be violating the city's ethics code.

However, the mayor, fire and police chiefs and two Lexington Community College council members still have the ticket privilege.

But it's a privilege that sits poorly with students.

"It's a shame to think that here in Lexington our public servants have the opportunity to get certain perks that the people can not," said Aaron Silletto, a political science senior.

The furious public made such an impact that mayor Pam Miller now says she will not use her UK privilege to buy tickets. Instead, Miller said she intends to pass them on to charitable organizations.

How the vote went down

▼ JULY 7

Urban County Council unanimously votes to put ticket proposal on the agenda to be discussed at the next meeting

▼ JULY 7 to JULY 14

Letters from outraged citizens pour into the Herald Leader and local government offices. Mayor Pam Miller and Glenn Hoskins, chairman of the ethics watchdog panel, speak out against the proposal.

▼ JULY 14

The Urban County Council votes unanimously against the ticket proposal. Mayor Pam Miller says that she will no longer use her position to obtain basketball tickets.

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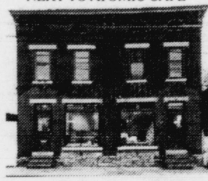
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THE PIERCE IS RIGHT

Piercing is fad students have to be careful of

By Heather Stanfield
Contributing Writer

Look around at your fellow students and classmates. You may notice a growing number of them have their noses, lips or eyebrows pierced. Some may have piercings that you can't (and maybe don't want to) see.

The piercing trend has hit campus and the city in a major way.

Kiven Warner, owner of Club Tattoo, which has a piercer on staff, said body piercing is "trendy" with teens. He said you have to be at least 18 years old to have a piercing done and that it is especially popular with college students 18 to 25.

Christina Taylor agreed. She pierces at Lexington's Charlie's Tattoo Studio and says her customers mainly fall within the 21 to 26-year-old range.

But Warner said piercing has been around for about 40,000 years and while it is fashionable with the younger age groups, he sees a broad spectrum of people wanting to get pierced.

Taylor said she has even seen 50- and 60-year-olds getting pierced and that the most popular place for piercings with any age group is the tongue, navel, eyebrow and nipple. Other options are lips, ears and ear cartilage and genital piercings. Piercing costs can range from \$15 up to \$65, depending on the location.

Why would someone go

through such an experience? Warner says the "look" and "attitude" piercings give are one reason.

Taylor said a main reason is that people see it as "cool." She said a person will see someone who has a piercing and then they just have to have one as well.

Danielle Whitaker, a Lexington Community College business management junior, had her navel pierced at Club Tattoo on Valentine's Day.

"I liked the look and it was a little rebellious, something you can do that your parents may not like a lot, but it is not extreme," Whitaker said.

With rebellion sometimes comes some pain.

"I thought it was going to hurt a lot more than it did," said Jennifer Ronald, an undecided sophomore who had her upper ear pierced. "I was also afraid that it would get infected or that it would look disgusting."

Whitaker said that pain and infection were her two main concerns.

"The anticipation is worse than the actual amount of pain, which is very little, like you are getting a shot," she said.

While piercing is gaining more and more popularity, there is no governing body over piercing health standards.

Steve Harris, an environmental training coordinator with the Lexington/Fayette Urban Coun-

ty Health Department, said, "There are no regulations, not in Lexington, not in Kentucky."

Taylor said the lack of regulations is "extremely sad" because almost anyone can rent a building and put out a sign and they are in the piercing business, without necessarily caring about consumer health.

Warner and Taylor both said that all their services are single service, meaning the tools are used on only one client. Both also spoke of the sterilization of the instruments.

"It is recommended that you sterilize the instruments for 15 minutes at 245 degrees," Warner explained. "Here, we sterilize them for 45 minutes at 265 degrees." He said it helps erase the "unclean" stereotype of piercing parlors.

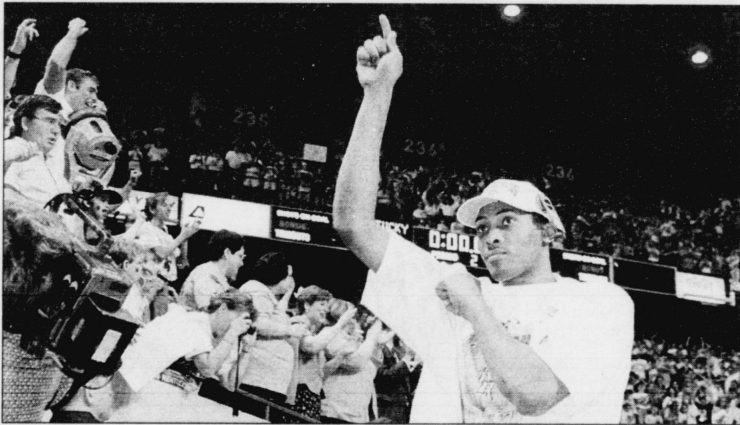
Greg Dinkens, owner and senior piercer at The Hole Thing, said it's important to interview the piercer and check out the studio you are considering patronizing. He said to remember that you are buying a service and have a right to know about the artist's training and experience.

"Many people who go into a piercing studio are intimidated," Dinkens said. "However a piercer should make you feel comfortable, answer all your questions and not have a know-it-all, arrogant attitude."

▶▶

A piercer should make you feel comfortable, answer all your questions and not have a know-it-all attitude.

Greg Dinkens



File photo

OUT OF BOUNDS Though he was not charged, Jamaal Magloire (above) was found by police last month in a vehicle associating with two men later charged with drug possession. His situation is not unique — at least three other Cats have plead guilty to various charges in recent months.

UK athletes slipping up

Andre Hayslip headed South after run-in with authorities

By Dave Gorman
Staff Writer

There goes another one. He is the fourth UK athlete to bang heads with the law this summer. He is also the second Wildcat to be thrown off the football team since the end of last season. This young man is former UK sophomore wide receiver Andre Hayslip. Hayslip was dismissed from the UK football team on July 1 because of charges of shoplifting and disorderly conduct within an eight-day period.

"Before this happened nobody knew me," Hayslip said.

Cornerback Tony Woods was dismissed from the football team in February after being charged with drunk driving.

Three basketball players have had run-ins as well.

Sophomore guard Ryan Hogan plead guilty to driving while intoxicated. Sophomore forward Myron Anthony belatedly admitted to leaving the scene of a September hit-and-run accident. Junior Jamaal Magloire was riding in the front passenger seat of a Jeep in which two men were arrested on drug charges. Magloire was released with no charges.

Assistant Athletic Director Kathy DeBoer said nobody is perfect.

"Athletes are unique in the

eyes of the public. The public is interested in their lives on and off court. You can't have your cake and eat it too," DeBoer said.

"You have to recognize that they are between 18-21 years old just like the rest of the students."

Athletic director C.M. Newton was not available for comment, nor was head football coach Hal Mumme who was on vacation.

Hayslip said that athletes make the same mistakes as other students, but those mistakes are magnified when made by student-athletes and their heightened public exposure.

"Whenever we do something wrong everybody finds out about it," Hayslip said. "It's like walking on pins and needles."

Has Hayslip learned his lesson?

"That was the first and last time," said the 20-year-old Hayslip.

According to Fayette District Court records, Hayslip allegedly walked out of Fayette Mall on June 21 with \$92 worth of stolen items. He plead not guilty to the charges and scheduled a preliminary hearing.

Then on June 28 he was arrested and charged with disorderly conduct after allegedly punching another man. According to district court records he

ran up behind another man and hit him in the head in front of South Hill Station on Bolivar Street near UK campus about 1:30 am.

Hayslip plead guilty to the offense and paid a \$100 dollar fine. But he still says it was all a misunderstanding.

"They always see the second punch, just like referees do," he said.

"I was defending myself, the other guy also plead guilty too you know. All people see is some football player beating up on somebody."

Now he joins the ranks of former UK tailback Derrick Logan who was charged of shoplifting and kicked off the team during the 1996-97 season.

But Hayslip has plans of his own for the future. He said he will transfer to Division I Troy State, a small school outside Montgomery, Ala., and play cornerback — the same position he played before he switched to wide receiver.

"I should be a starter and get plenty of playing time," he said.

"(TSU Head) Coach Wayne Bolt just told me to be up front with what happened and come on down and play ball."

Hayslip hopes that others can learn from his mistakes.

"It's a burden and a blessing at the same time. I just want to go down to Troy State and make a little noise and show them what I got."

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DiVeRSions



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7M3 on the rebound

Band attempts to recover from sophomore jinx

Staff Report

If at first you do not succeed, try and try again. Although that's been creed for the majority of upstart bands, Seven Mary Three did succeed at first. So why are they trying so hard?

Popularly referred to as a sophomore slump, 7M3 fell off the rock throne and fell hard. But only thirteen months after releasing *Rock Crown*, the less-than-memorable follow-up to their multi-platinum debut *American Standard*, the band is back with their third studio album, *Orange Ave.*

The album's title comes from the strip of clubs in Orlando, FL, which has made stars out of such acts as Marilyn

Manson, Sister Hazel, Creed, matchbox20 and Mighty Joe Plum.

Already things are off to a better start. A month ago 7M3 successfully released the album's first single "Over Your Shoulder" and it has since become a radio favorite.

Fortunately there's plenty where that came from, as the 12-song album boasts a number of radio-friendly pop rock tunes.

Lead vocalist Jason Ross tones down his tendency to belt out whiny, from-the-gut croons unnecessarily for a all-around pleasant sound.

Closing with the surprisingly tender "Devil's Holy Joke" and a southern-tinged hidden track that makes

you wonder why it was hidden, Ross and company prove they've made a 360 degree turn from the doldrums of *Rock Crown*.

As far as live performers, the band is no stranger to the area, playing nearly a dozen times in the past three years. Of all

their performances, however, a concert two years ago at Cincinnati's Jamin' on Main stands out. At the height of success on *American Standard*, the 7M3 show played host to a small riot complete with a fights, smashed bottles, a riot squad and tear gas.

The band returns tonight to play Bogart's and hopefully revive the riotous energy they once had ... minus the actual riots.

LOOKING ahead

Seven Mary Three plays Bogart's tonight at 8. Five Easy Pieces will open. Tickets are \$12. Call 513.281.8400 for more information.

HANGIN' ON Seven Mary Three released its third studio album 'Orange Ave.' on Tuesday and began its national tour the same day.

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EVICITION or PAY: 'RENT'

Unorthodox musical depicting New York life set to open in Louisville

By Matthew T. Patton
News Editor

Drug dealers, people living (and dying) with AIDS, homosexuals and struggling artists refusing to pay their rent. Just another day in New York City? Perhaps.

But with some creative genius, however, Jonathan Larson turned the dull and mundane depiction of everyday New York City bohemian life into one of the best rock musicals to sweep the country with *Rent*, an updated version of Puccini's *La Bohème*. The scope extends well beyond New York City with a universal theme of love and living (and more than merely existing.)

Rent, which opened in at the Kentucky Center for the Arts in Louisville on Tuesday night, has swept all major theatre awards, including the 1996

Pulitzer Prize for Drama, and is one of only five musicals to win both the Pulitzer Prize and the Tony Award. Additionally, *Rent* has been awarded the Tony for Best Score and Best Book; three Drama Desk Awards (Best Music, Best Lyrics and Best Book); 1996 Outer Critics Circle Award for Best Off-Broadway Musical and the 1996 Obie Award for Outstanding Music Lyrics and Book.

The musical consists of fifteen young performers, a 35-song score and a five-piece band, which unlike many traditional musicals is directly on stage.

The story opens with Mark Cohen, a filmmaker, and Roger Davis, a songwriter in their East Village

loft. The electricity is out, they are burning scripts and posters in a garbage can and wondering how they will pay rent. The bohemian ensemble sets the mood for the entire show with the invigorating number (also called "Rent.") Mark dated the outspoken and temperamental Maureen Johnson, but was later dumped for Joanne Jefferson, lesbian conservative and Harvard Law School grad. Mark and Roger's ex-roommate, Benjamin Coffin III (Benny), marries into a rich family and bought the building in which Mark and Roger live. Roger is dating Mimi Marquez, a sexy S&M dancer who used to date Benny. Sound like a soap opera?

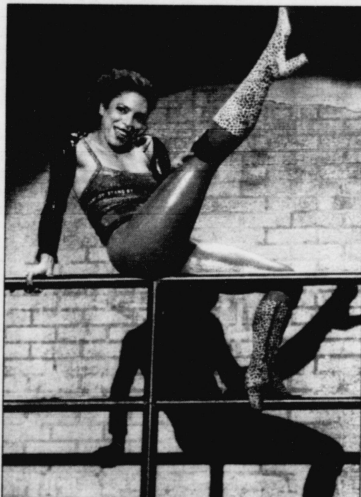
The way in which the lives of the characters intertwine is part of the appeal of the show.

Roger falls in love with Mimi. Collins meets Angel, a drag queen, and falls in love after discovering that they are both HIV-positive. Maureen



NO DAY BUT TODAY
The cast of "Rent" speaks to the audience through songs of inspiration. Julia Santana (bottom left) plays the sexy dancer Mimi Marquez.

Photo furnished



and Joanne continually fight and argue, and ultimately make up. Mark lives his life through capturing it all on film.

The songs alone are phenomenal, ranging from romantic and compelling with such songs as "Light My Candle" and "I'll Cover You" to the downright silly "Over the Moon." The ensemble songs were much better than most solo songs which lyrics were often hard to understand.

Adrian Lewis Morgan plays the role of Roger. He said that "although the show should appeal across the board, the audience is mostly younger—it's a rock musical."

Sadly, Larson died just 10 days before his 36th birthday, on the night of *Rent's* final dress rehearsal. His sudden death exemplified what the show is about—a life trying to find love and hope on a borrowed time.

"It's about living and doing whatever makes you feel good," said Julia Santana, who plays Mimi, in an interview after Tuesday's successful opening. Her favorite song to perform is "No Day But Today." "I live my life by those lyrics."

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ViewPOINT

Bidding on pizza deal riddled with errors

Papa John's may have won, but bids deserve a second look

It's a thankless job no matter how you slice it. The selection of a pizza vendor for UK's Plus card program was certain to bring a rousing round of cheers from many students, but it was also certain to evoke groans from losing bidders and other students whose favorite pizza place lost out.

It's one of those unfortunate situations when you're damned if you do and damned if you don't so you cross your fingers and hope for the best. So we want to thank Carol Raitz and everyone else at Food Services for taking the heat we so often dish out and for still trying to improve Food Services each year knowing they'll be under the microscope and open to unending criticism.

That's why we're hesitant to knock the folks at Food Services for the recent selection of Papa John's because they obviously were trying to enhance the food options available on campus, something we would hate to discourage.

Nonetheless, a review of the selection process has left us shaking our heads in stunned disbelief. Surely, the people in Food Services understood this was a high stakes decision that required a selection process beyond reproach yet UK's manner of selection begs for criticism and leaves us wondering how the process got so far along without anyone noticing its glaring deficiencies.

On the opposite page we detail some of the problems, but we must also look to the future and decide what's to be done now that two of the losing vendors have formally appealed UK's decision.

There appears to be three primary options: 1) deny the appeal and proceed with awarding Papa John's the contract, 2) start over and re-bid the contract, or 3) open up the Plus Account to all four vendors.

Assuming that it is technologically and financially feasible we prefer scrapping the entire process and allowing

Papa John's, Domino's, Mad Mushroom and Pizza Hut to share in the contract.

This not only guarantees students a wider range of choices, but also ensures competition, spreads the student orders around so that no single vendor is overwhelmed with business and gives UK a larger base upon which to earn commissions per sale.

However, if UK insists on awarding a contract to an exclusive vendor and re-bidding the contract then we have these suggestions:

▼ Conduct a more scientific survey of student preferences. Preferably one that treats price and quality as factors that can be considered jointly and separately.

IN OUR OPINION

▼ Provide greater market share information to the evaluation committee so that its members have a firm grasp of where students buy the most pizzas from rather than a vague notion of whose pizza they prefer.

▼ Ask vendors to provide two or three price scenarios based upon varying rates of commission. As it stands now, vendors are rewarded for offering higher commissions that limit or eliminate the opportunities for discounts to students.

▼ Provide additional guidelines to bid evaluators that will ensure a more uniform and less arbitrary evaluation of competing bids.

▼ Revamp the criteria for bid evaluation and stick to that original criteria.

▼ Rather than judge menu and price together, consider them separately so they both receive full consideration.

▼ Lessen to a minimum the weight afforded technology as the winning vendor must obviously acquire the equipment necessary to access Plus Accounts.

▼ Eliminate the arbitrary "extra service" criteria that suggests donations to the University could sway the evaluators' decision.

The suggestion that donations could be influence the awarding contracts has gotten more than a few politicians in hot water.

▼ Explain where and how the money generated by the deal will be spent by Food Services. Will it subsidize the current Food Services budget or be put to other uses?



A pepperoni revolution

College is a time of growth. It's a formative period for students to develop the beliefs they will hold for a lifetime. And while this often results in a conflict of divergent opinions, there is one subject on which we all agree.

Pizza is good eats! Whether you're a vegetarian or a meat-lover like me, pizza has something for everyone. It is the great unifier of men and nations. Governments and religions may come and go, but that heavenly Italian pie remains a constant.

There is a mythic bond between pizza and college. I can't help but be choked up just thinking about it. During one semester, I survived on nothing but large pizzas and strawberry daiquiris. By semester's end, I was adopted by Papa John.

To this day, a full 25 percent of my body weight is undigested pepperoni. Pop me in the oven for 20 minutes or so, and I'll make a delicious stromboli.

So you can understand the unbounded joy I felt upon learning that UK Food Services has finally arranged it so students can use their Plus Cards to order from a pizza chain.

The plan makes me a little nostalgic for my own Plus Card days. Back in those dark times, the purchasing power of your mighty meal card afforded only a wide variety of fatty, flavorless food.

We were always told this day would come, but few of us dared to dream that it would ever become a reality. Years of eating at K-Lair made cynics of us all.

Just as man was destined to walk on the moon, it seems that UK students were indeed fated to pay for pizza with their Plus Cards. Moments like this are almost enough to restore your faith in the natural order of the universe.

However, some people have been raising eyebrows over the way Food Services conducted the selection process. The powers that be selected Papa John's as the exclusive pizza vendor despite their slight-

ly higher prices and the fact that they offered a lower percentage commission.

Food Services has suggested that the decision was based on student preferences. If this is truly the case, it would mark a historic occasion. Never before in UK's long history has student opinion outweighed the all-mighty dollar.

Some students who don't remember being asked by Food Services for their pizza opinion suspect the decision had more to do with the UK Athletic Department's long-standing relationship with Papa J than any kind of student voice.

But am I complaining about the outcome of the decision? No.

I swear by Papa John's pizza! It's the best pie in town and I'll gladly go nine rounds with any man woman or child who says otherwise.

Besides, no one can claim this is anything but a step in the right direction for Food Services. Mark my words, one day history will record this moment as the first strike in the greatest revolution since the gordita.

Call me crazy, but I dream of a time when the Plus Card can be used at all the local eateries. Imagine using the Plus Account to buy a Super Ho and hash browns. Or swiping your card at Lambamba's for a burrito as big as your head (on the average, about 14 pounds).

Ladies and gentlemen, we are on the horizon of a fast food utopia. We cannot relinquish this dream until everyone — regardless of race, religion, or sexual preference — can march down to South Hill Station and order a Yatwich on their Plus Account.

But until that glorious day comes, we can take satisfaction in this great victory. Let the dipping sauces flow from every dorm on campus. Tonight, we feast like kings! Or at least like upper classmen.

Kernel Columnist Greg Laber is a psychology graduate.



Greg Laber
Kernel Columnist

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Falling to pieces

'Informal' survey earns failing grade

Originally, and to the great angst of this newspaper, the bids were to be evaluated most heavily (40 percent) on commissions paid to Food Services while student preference was given half that weight at 20 percent.

Although we were pleased to see Food Services reconsider and give student preference, a higher consideration at the end, the informal survey that served as the primary basis for student preference was poorly conceived at best.

For those unfamiliar with the survey, a marketing team from Food Services went out to various Food Service outlets for a few days in April to collect student opinions and had someone in-house evaluate the results.

Unfortunately, the questions were vague, the scientific methodology suspect, and there is little basis upon which to believe the results bear out student preferences for awarding an exclusive pizza contract.

This highly unscientific and informal survey appears to have been the decisive factor in the selection of Papa John's and

incorrectly served as a basis for bid evaluators to explain away the comparatively low 15 percent commission offered by Papa John's as the other bids offered a 25 percent commission.

The bid evaluators repeatedly cited the survey's overwhelming student preference for Papa John's as reason to believe that Papa John's, as an exclusive vendor, would do significantly more business than the other bidders and thus make up for the lower commission rate. However, this picture is wholly inaccurate for two reasons.

First, the pizza listed as "favorite" by students is not necessarily the pizza they buy most often. We are certain that given a choice of cars such as a Toyota Tercel, Dodge Neon or Ford Mustang, that most students would choose a fully decked out Mustang as their favorite, but that doesn't mean they can or will spring for the higher price and

costs associated with owning a sports car.

So the opinions expressed in the informal survey have little to do with the real-life spending decisions students make about ordering pizza and thus might only serve as a tie-breaker of sorts if all other factors are even. That's assuming the results of the survey are accurate reflection of the marketplace and student preference.

Secondly, if in a totally free market, Papa John's sold substantially more pizzas than its competitors then justification would exist for assuming that a greater volume of sales would compensate for a lower commission.

However, the commissions received are not based upon competition in a free market, but rather an exclusive contract that grants one vendor preferred status over the others.

Thus we must consider the amount of sales that each vendor would do if granted an exclusive contract. It is probably safe to

say that sales would increase noticeably for whoever won the contract and perhaps erase any significant difference in sales volume between Papa John's and its competitors.

In light of this it would seem premature to assume that Papa John's 15 percent is equal to or greater than the 25 percent offered by competitors.

Therefore, Papa John's proposed commission probably received far greater consideration than warranted and thus saved it substantial points in the evaluation process.

Of course, if the contract was opened up to all four vendors then UK could hedge its bets and accept a smaller commission from each vendor, allowing them to offer better deals to UK students.

Then again, UK could throw out the commission entirely in favor of an administration fee to cover costs of administering the Plus Accounts or UK could simply ask each restaurant to guarantee a specific annual payment to the university in exchange for exclusive rights to access the Plus Accounts.



It is probably safe to say that sales would increase noticeably for whoever won the contract.

A brief glimpse into the bidding wars

Discounts, commissions compete for dollars in vendors' proposals

After reviewing the regular prices offered in bid proposals we found a lack of across-the-board discounts that may be attributed to the commissions required for the winning the contract.

In short, for every dollar that UK receives on a pizza sale, that's one less dollar that could have been offered in discount.

Although we are unsure how much money Food Services needs to make on the deal, our discussions with two vendors, Domino's and Mad Mushroom, revealed that their offers of a 25 percent commission would make it difficult for them to give students the substantial discounts they now enjoy.

For instance, Domino's regularly discounts pizzas by 30 percent, but such a steep discount would be impossible considering that a 25 percent cut on top of that would go to UK, leaving Domino's with only a 45 percent cut of net revenues.

However, both vendors noted that if UK were to open the contract to several vendors and accept a more minimal commission, say five percent from each vendor, then both could continue to offer hefty discounts to students while UK reaped the benefits of earning commissions from multiple sources.

Straddling the middle, perhaps by luck or foresight, Papa John's offered a moderate 15 percent commission combined with a \$7.99 campus special for a large 1-topping pizza. Had the other vendors submitted proposals based on a 15 percent commission, they too might have been able to include campus specials in their proposals.

A special flavor all their own, here's a rundown on each vendor

In the flood of variables to be considered in judging the competing bids, it finally comes down to balancing the strengths and weaknesses of each vendor. So here is quick glance into each bid:

▼ Papa John's: On the downside, Papa John's offered the lowest commission at 15 percent and *doesn't* sell any version of buffalo wings and/or sandwiches as its competitors do. However, it will open a new store next year at the former Hardee's location; it will accept coupons to offset somewhat higher prices; and has an extensive history of joint ventures with UK athletics.

▼ Pizza Hut: As the most expensive vendor it may have priced itself out of the competition, but it does offer its own version of buffalo wings along with various specialty pizzas, has a location right on South Limestone, and its prices can be offset by coupons.

▼ Domino's: Its trump card is a more expansive menu that includes buffalo wings and hoagies along with the flexibility inherent in having owner/operator Judson Ridgway in Lexington to personally manage contacts between Domino's and the university. However, this bonus is offset by the 25 percent commission that eats into discounts on pizza bought with the Plus Account.

▼ Mad Mushroom: As the smallest vendor, it suffers from a lack of technology and a perception that it's a minor player; however, it too has a local owner/operator, buffalo wings and sandwiches, and it offered the novel idea of setting up a scholarship to be funded by 1 percent of its Plus Account sales.

So who would you choose?

Nature of scoring evaluations leaves bidding process in question

Evaluation sheets used to score the bids show an arbitrary allocation of points that varies greatly from one evaluator to the next, thus pointing out the subjective nature of what should have been a more objective process.

For instance:

▼ Papa John's earned between eight and 10 points out of 10 for menu and price despite offering a limited menu compared to the other vendors. Further, Mad Mushroom received a six in this category from one evaluator (versus a nine for Papa John's from the same evaluator) despite having a larger menu and nearly equivalent price. It seems that "menu" was slighted repeatedly in favor of price by the evaluators.

▼ One evaluator questioned the ability of three vendors to live up to their stated promise of paying 25 percent in commissions; however, it seems to us that the vendors themselves would know what they can and cannot afford to pay.

▼ Despite offering a significantly lower commission Papa John's was always awarded at least half the available points in the category of "commissions" whereas others lost more than half the available points in areas such as "student preference." Because of the weight given this category, it seems that larger deductions might have been in order.

▼ One evaluator noted of a vendor, "Relationship and money contributed to athletics is important." Yet, past and future contributions to the university should never be a consideration for awarding a contract.

Proposed pizza system a cut above others

By Jessica Coy
Editor-in-Chief

This fall UK will begin to allow students to use their PLUS accounts at one lucky off campus pizza vendor.

However, many other universities have not yet allowed their students that freedom.

"We have everything we need here on campus, from Wendy's to Pizza Hut," said Tracy Crowe, a food services representative at Western Kentucky University. "The university hasn't even thought of letting students use their accounts at off campus ven-

dors because it is so convenient for the students to use the on campus stores," said Crowe.

The University of Louisville and Eastern Kentucky University have policies similar to the one in effect at Western.

UK's proposed system amy be modeled after the one in place at the University of North Carolina.

"When the program first started, we allowed the students to use one of three pizza companies, but two of them ended up not working out and now they are only allowed to use one," said Marsha Elliot,

who works in the food services department at UNC.

Elliot said that although the students have less to chose from now that only one company is used, the majority of them are happy with the service.

"To most of us pizza is pizza, I think they are just glad to have the service," she said.

The proposed pizza delivery system at UK will also allow students to use their PLUS accounts with one vendor.

Richard Clark, the Assistant Director of Food Services did

not think UK was equipped to handle the volume of a multi-company contract.

"We just don't have the computing capacity to deal with more than one (pizza chain)," he said.

"It's a matter of us adding this service on the request of the customer and improving it in the future," said Clark.

UK english senior Jason Ritter agrees that one pizza company is better than none.

"I'm just glad that I won't have to search for money every time I order a pizza," he said.

Pizza

Legal battle to ensue over contract

From PAGE 1

substantial research analysis."

The grievance cited glaring inconsistencies in the evaluations such as Papa John's receiving the full 40 points despite their considerably lower commissions. Also, evaluators did not go through the mandatory inspections and put all the points into student preference, he said.

"We would like the system of a flat commission rate which the vendor then chooses to pay," Bullock said. "We want to do what is best for the University,

the students, my clients and the taxpayers of Kentucky."

The major cause for concern among other pizza vendors continues to be the way UK chose to implement a multi-million dollar bid.

"They can't base preference on 200 students," said Steve Hart, the owner of Mad Mushroom. The five year old on-campus chain delivers about \$160,000 worth of pizzas to students per semester, he added.

The Survey Research Center is one UK organization that deals with face-to-face, telephone and mail surveys as well as other forms of data calculations.

Dr. Ron Langley, the center's director expressed mixed emotions about UK Food Service's polling technique.

"We certainly could have

done a more reliable survey," he said. "The margin of error in this survey was about plus or minus 6.3 percent."

Langley felt the survey was a quick, cheap method of getting feed back. In addition, the wording of the questionnaire and it's interpretation left a lot to be desired.

The proper way would have been to obtain a list of students on campus and then generate a random sample, he said.

"However, since the difference in numbers are so big, you can judge that Papa John's was greatly favored."

David Strickland, the area supervisor for Papa John's thought the survey was fair towards all the bidding companies.

"Everybody was given the same opportunity by the com-

mittee," he said. "I don't see any bias one way or the other."

Despite the frantic race among the pizza chains, students expect to finish first with the new system.

"I think competition makes things cheapest, said Nate Brown, President of the Student Government Association.

The organization has been pushing for more food companies to strut their wares as part of UK Food Services.

"Ideally, it would be nice if you could use a meal card," he said.

Although Papa John's was the clear choice among the four member field that included Domino's, Mad Mushroom and Pizza Hut, the contract can not be signed until the appeal filed by Bullock is dealt with by the university.

Food survey results

220 students were randomly questioned at food service outlets about their pizza preferences.

What time of day or evening do you usually order pizza?

7pm - 16%
8pm - 13%
did not specify - 13%

What is your favorite brand of pizza?

Papa John's - 44%
Pizza Hut - 25%
Domino's - 13%
Mad Mushroom - 4%
Donato's - 4%
Little Caesar's - 3%
Other kinds - 6%

What is your least favorite brand of pizza?

Mad Mushroom - 24%
Domino's - 23.5%
Pizza Hut - 20%
Papa John's - 10%
Little Caesar's - 5.5%
Sir Pizza - 4%
Donato's - 3.5%
Snappy Tomato - 3%
Other kinds - 6.5%

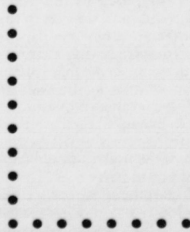
What price do you expect to pay for a whole pizza?

\$9 - 27%
\$8 - 35%
\$7 - 20%
<\$7 - 18%

SOURCE: UK Food Services survey

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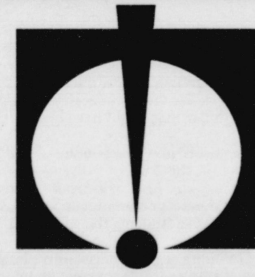
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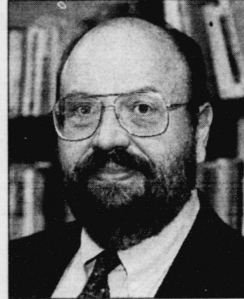


Dean Howard Grotch

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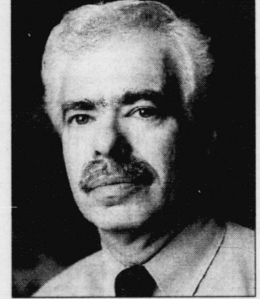


Dean David Johnson

Bachelor of science degree from Michigan State. Master of arts in social science multi-disciplinary programs. Doctorate in communications.

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