

# Kentucky Kernel

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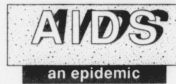
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Wednesday, November 13, 1991

## Schools, campuses deal with onset of virus

### University medical centers respond to AIDS scares

By DALE GREER  
Managing Editor



When Kimberly Bergalis was diagnosed with AIDS in December 1989, health officials didn't know what had gone wrong.

The Florida woman, then 21, defied all the classic risk factors for AIDS exposure. She never had used intravenous drugs, never had a blood transfusion and never had sex with anyone.

But when it became apparent that Bergalis and four others had been infected with AIDS by a Florida dentist, Dr. David Acer, the public responded with shock and fear. What once was considered highly unlikely had become a deadly reality: A health-care worker had infected patients with the AIDS-causing virus, HIV.

While the chances of such transmission continue to be remote, this is still the only documented case — the number of health-care workers with AIDS is growing.

According to federal Centers for Disease Control, 6,782 health-care workers were infected with AIDS as of June 30. No one knows how fast the problem is growing because the agency only recently began tracking it.

But this summer, UK and two other universities began notifying former patients that they may have been exposed to HIV by interns and residents who treated them at the schools.

At the University of Cincinnati College of Medicine, the school has notified most of the 720 patients who were treated by Dr. David Hobart, a former UC resident in obstetrics and gynecology who died of AIDS in 1989.

UC Medical Center is providing free HIV tests to the patients, but the results have not been released, said Dr. Calvin Linnemann, hospital epidemiologist.

Hobart, who had been a resident at the school since 1983, notified hospital officials in 1987 that he was infected with HIV. At the time, he had no symptoms of full-blown AIDS.

Officials immediately restricted him to "non-invasive procedures"

— those that do not involve surgery or exposure to a patient's blood or body secretions, Linnemann said. The hospital, however, did not begin notifying patients about Hobart until this June — a decision that resulted in some public criticism in Cincinnati, said Dr. Thomas Zuck, professor of transfusion medicine at UC and member of a new local commission on AIDS.

UC initially decided not to inform the patients because, at the time, no cases of transmission from doctor to patient had been documented and because no evidence suggested that Hobart had been "sloppy" with sterilization procedures, Zuck said.

"We didn't think there was a risk," he said.

But after the Bergalis case, UC officials decided to rethink their decision and began notifying patients.

"Dentists could infect people," Zuck said. "Maybe Dr. Hobart could as well."

At UK this summer, College of Dentistry officials informed 49 patients that they had been treated by a former student who may be infected with AIDS.

Dr. Ronal Marasco, who treated the patients at a school clinic between 1985 and '89, had his license to practice dentistry suspended by the Georgia Board of Dentistry in July after a report that he has AIDS. UK College of Dentistry Dean Dr. David Nash said it isn't known if Marasco, who now lives in Georgia, has AIDS or is infected with HIV. But Nash said UK decided to notify the patients to "allay their apprehension."

To date, none of the 43 tested for HIV has been found to be infected.

"There is a level of concern today about the HIV epidemic and we felt that some of the patients may be apprehensive," Nash said. "There is no scientific basis to that, but we

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UK College of Dentistry officials informed 49 students that they had been treated by a former student who may be infected with AIDS. Other U.S. universities have had similar occurrences.

### Condom distribution in schools debated

By CHRIS TORCHIA  
Associated Press

Magic Johnson's pledge to warn children about AIDS has drawn applause, and warns among some that condom distributions in high schools could stall the message of fighting the deadly disease with safe sexual practices.

"Should you put a clean needle exchange in the fourth grade?" said schools Superintendent Peter Greer of Chelsea, near Boston, where condom distribution is being considered. "We're not saying that kids shouldn't use condoms, we're saying schools shouldn't distribute condoms."

Cambridge, Falmouth and the island community of Martha's Vineyard have approved such a policy in Massachusetts. But only a few large cities, including Chicago and San Francisco, have chosen to make condoms available in public schools or school-based clinics.

By June 1992, New York City hopes to have programs in place for 260,000 students at all 116 high schools.

But opposition in most towns that have debated the proposal has been strong. Last year, a school board in Easton, Md., narrowly rejected a plan for nurses to distribute condoms at two high schools. In Mill Valley, Calif., a lawsuit by opponents stalled distribution efforts.

"It's being done against many parents' wishes," said Wendy Flint, president of the American Parents Association. "It's using the public schools for someone else's decision."

While many city officials admit some teen-agers are sexually active, they have balked at making condoms available to students. In Boston, Mayor Raymond Flynn went so far as to say that distributing condoms in public schools could increase the spread of AIDS.

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## Chancellor details dangers of freshman year

By CHRISTINE BOTTORFF  
Staff Writer

The "dean of freshman happiness" spoke to about 200 UK students yesterday afternoon.

John N. Gardner, University of South Carolina associate vice provost for regional campuses and continuing education, was given the nickname by The New York Times in 1988.

Gardner is proud of the title and also refers to himself as an "advocate for freshmen." He has been speaking on the freshman experience for almost 20 years.

Held in the Student Center Small Ballroom, his lecture, "Managing the Messes: Successful Freshman Programs," outlined the major problems students face during their first year of college.

Because universities like UK are so large, he said, the curriculum for different degree programs vary greatly. Students "lack a common experience," he said.

Other than basketball games and "searching for parking spaces," freshmen do not have a "sense of community on campus."

Every year, classes of entering freshmen have grown more culturally diverse, he said, but faculty and staff are still predominantly white males. "You can learn better from people who are similar to you," he said.

Also, he said, in research-oriented universities such as UK, "faculty are not getting proper incentives to invest time in teaching students."

Large lecture hall classes, foreign teaching assistants who lack sufficient English skills and abuse of freshman athletes were other problems that Gardner cited.

As a result of these factors, he said, "One-third of all students who enter into American universities and colleges do not return to the same institution the following term."



John N. Gardner, a University of South Carolina vice chancellor, spoke about the difficulties of freshman year yesterday.

He suggested about 30 items that would eliminate these problems and lead to a model freshman year.

Implementing special programs to train teaching assistants, giving freshmen an effective introduction to the campus library and offering courses in residence halls to create a sense of community were among Gardner's proposals.

He also stressed the importance of campus support systems, such as

writing, advising and tutoring programs. "All first-year students, on a mandatory basis, should receive career planning," he said.

Freshman seminars and extended freshman-orientation courses also should be mandatory, he said.

Gardner said the health of freshman students also should be looked after. Universities should help students "improve their lifestyle, so if

See FRESHMEN, Page 2

## Foreign students unaware of services

By JULIE FAIN  
Contributing Writer

Brad Trainer is working on a new solution to an old problem.

The UK graduate assistant said the University offers several social events for its 1,284 foreign students. The problem is that nobody is taking advantage of them.

International student participation is low, Trainer said — so low that there is only "a core group of 20 or 30 students who show up to most meetings."

The participation rate among American students also has been "a little disappointing," Trainer said.

About five American students regularly attend some of the various activities.

Alex Mutonyi, a finance sophomore from Kenya, said the activities targeted toward international students have made UK life manageable.

"The activities have helped me so much to cope ... with the situation here, because it leaves me little time to think about the differences between me and the

Americans," said Mutonyi, president of the Cosmopolitan Club.

"It helps me forget that I'm homesick," he said.

Sharmila Singh, a computer science senior from India, agreed that the activities helped her adjust to life in the United States.

"Best of all," she said, "it helped me to make many friends ... Every time I went, I got to meet someone new."

The lack of attendance, Singh said, could be because "people don't know much about it. It's not really well advertised, so there might be people who are interested to get to know more international students, but don't know how."

But he said it doesn't have to be that way.

The following activities are offered to international and American students:

• The Cosmopolitan Club arranges activities such as ice skating, hiking, films about var-

See CLUB, Page 8

### CORRECTION

An article in yesterday's Kentucky Kernel should have said that UK officials are planning to hold a forum on AIDS Monday from 10 a.m. to noon in the Student Center Theater.

Also, information that appeared in yesterday's UK Today box was wrong. UK's Allied Retail Promotion class is holding a luncheon/fashion show today at the Lafayette Club. The luncheon begins at noon with the show will immediately proceeding.

SPORTS	UK TODAY	INDEX
Curry address critics of the football program during weekly press conference. Column, Page 3.	UKANS (University of Kentucky Association of Non-traditional Students) is meeting at 5:30 p.m. in 111 Student Center.	"Billy Bathgate" hard to recommend to moviegoers. Review, Page 5.
		Sports.....3 Divisions.....4 Viewpoint.....6 Classifieds.....7

## HIV

Continued from page 1

don't respond to issues with science, we respond with feelings."

Northwestern University Dental School in Chicago also has notified former patients who could have been exposed to HIV in a school clinic.

School officials declined to be interviewed, but a spokesman said Northwestern began notifying 125 patients in July that they had been treated by a dental student infected with HIV.

Northwestern also is providing free HIV tests, but the results have not been released.

The dental student, who has not been identified, informed school officials that he was carrying the AIDS virus July 12 and was removed from clinical duties the same date, the spokesman said.

Officials at all three schools say the risk of transmitting HIV from a health-care worker to a patient is extremely low, and all three schools follow strict sterilization guidelines. They also adhere to federal "universal precautions," which call for the use of gloves and protective barriers.

The CDC says a patient's chance of contracting the virus from a health-care worker is between one in 41,667 and one in 2.6 million.

The risk analysis range is so broad because a patient's chances of contracting the virus vary according to several factors, including the kind of health care received and whether it involves invasive or non-invasive procedures, CDC spokesman Chuck Fallis said.

Despite the low risk, some patients remain concerned about their safety, Nash concedes.

"There are thousands of health-care workers that are infected with HIV. In people's minds, that's a problem. People are going to be concerned about the problem, but I have a number of irrational fears myself."

"And it is an irrational fear. As long as health-care providers — dentists particularly — take precau-

tions like the sterilization of equipment and follow universal precautions, the risks are infinitesimally small."

Wayne Anderkin, a mechanical engineering junior at UK, said the news reports about Marasco scared him, but he doesn't think UK's dental clinic residents pose a health hazard because they are careful to follow universal precautions.

"It startled me a little, but I wasn't too worried," said Anderkin, who has received dental care at the UK clinic since about May. "The dentists wear rubber gloves and masks, and they give you goggles to wear."

Anderkin, however, said he would go to a different dentist if he discovered that the one caring for him was infected with HIV.

"The risk might be low that something might happen," Anderkin said. "But still, there is a risk."

For the most part, all three schools have received praise from the public for the manner in which they handled their cases, school officials said.

And so far, the incidents seem to have had no ill effect on the reputation of the schools: There doesn't seem to be a decline in the number of people attending the clinics or receiving treatment.

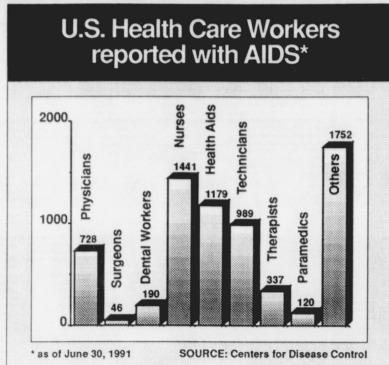
In fact, Nash said the number of patients attending UK's dental clinic is "considerably up this year."

"Patients know that the College of Dentistry is the safest place they can receive dental care because we are a public institution and we follow all the CDC ... guidelines," Nash said.

While the AIDS scare doesn't seem to be affecting the number of patients who seek care at the schools, UK dental students say the disease forever has changed the nature of doctor-patient relationships.

Doctors and dentists now examine patients while wearing the modern-day equivalent of body armor — gowns, masks, gloves, goggles.

"These physical barriers, designed to protect the patient as well as the health-care worker, can become a real psychological barrier between doctor or dentist and patient, the



TYRONE JOHNSTON/Kernel Staff

wear them."

"Now, patients expect you to wear gloves — You don't put an ungloved hand in a patient's mouth today because you're protecting the patient," said Jeff McClain, a dentist senior.

"But the more barriers you put up, the more you are taking out the personal element. It's like, 'I want to protect you, but I'd like to be personal too.' It's really hard to be both."

"All the patient sees is your eyes behind the glasses."

Dentistry senior Kathrine Greene said this is especially hard for children because the protective equipment scares them.

"I try to talk to them," Greene said. "I'll tell them I'm putting on my mask and some of them will want to know why, and I try to explain it to them."

She said the clinic lets children wear sunglasses to protect their eyes because it's less frightening than having them wear goggles.

"We say we don't want Mr. Sun — the shining light — to bother their eyes. That's a way to get them to wear the glasses and they think they're really special being able to

wear them."

This changing relationship between doctor and patient, coupled with the ever-present threat of AIDS, makes it "an unsure time to be a dentist," Greene said.

But the satisfaction she receives from her career, she said, far outweighs the hazards of caring for patients in the 1990s.

Zuck said this is a common feeling among health-care workers. He doesn't think the spread of AIDS will discourage doctors from caring for HIV-infected patients or discourage students from pursuing health-care fields, despite the dangers of contracting HIV from patients.

According to the CDC, at least 40 health-care workers have contracted HIV from patients while on the job.

"I think we took an oath to care for the wounded and sick and ill, and (AIDS patients) are wounded and sick and ill," Zuck said.

"You know, I'm scared shitless by this virus just like everyone else, but if we take universal precautions, if we are careful, if we modify what we do to maximize safety, the risks of my getting infected ... are really quite small."

Chiu said more incentives should be offered for taking the course because it is only worth one credit hour.

Joanne Beidleman, administrative assistant at the office of Undergraduate Studies, said UK 101 was modeled after a similar course at the University of South Carolina that Gardner developed.

Gardner's visit was sponsored by the Teaching and Learning Center, the Office of Undergraduate Studies and the vice chancellor for Student Affairs.

Eric Chiu, an accounting junior, has taken UK 101 and thinks that it could still be improved. "It's a real brief class," he said.

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## Answers to common questions about AIDS

### For the HEALTH OF IT

Counseling and testing for HIV, the virus that causes AIDS, is available at all county health departments and through private physicians and the Student Health Service.

Unfortunately, these tests are not widely known and people who ought to be tested because of past behavior are not accessing services. Too often they are confused or misinformed about the testing and counseling procedures and therefore avoid the issues.

The following are commonly asked questions about HIV testing:

**What tests are available for HIV?**

Two blood tests, the ELISA and the Western Blot, are used to test for HIV. These tests have been available for several years and are now considered 99.5 percent accurate.

**Who should be tested?**

Any person who has engaged in unprotected homosexual or heterosexual intercourse, who has shared hypodermic needles with other people, who received a blood transfusion before 1983 or anyone who has had sex with a person who has done the above things ought to consider testing.

**What is the difference between "confidential" and "anonymous" testing?**

A confidential test is one where a name and other identifying information is attached to the sample. The results are often entered into a medical record. Most private physicians and the Student Health Service offer confidential testing. Anonymous tests have no identifying information attached. A person can simply come to a counseling and testing site (a county health department) and ask to be tested.

**What kind of counseling is done?**

Information on the virus, AIDS, preventative behavior and safer sexual practices is provided. The person being tested is asked to assess their risk so a determination can be done as to their need to be tested.

When the results of the test are returned the counselor then reviews them and explains their meaning to the person being tested.

**What's the difference between a positive and a negative test?**

This gets a bit confusing, but remember that a negative test result means that no HIV antibodies were found at the time of testing. It may not mean that the person is actually negative for the virus since there is a period of six to 12 weeks after infection when the body has not yet produced the antibodies of HIV. If there is any doubt it may be suggested that the person refrain from high risk behavior for about 90 days and then be retested.

A negative test is not a license to continue with high-risk behavior. It should be instead, an opportunity to make resolutions to reduce risk and thus avoid infection.

A positive test means that antibodies were found and that the person will need further evaluation, and possibly treatment from a physician. A positive test will not predict when the person will progress into AIDS and it cannot tell when the infection took place.

**What action should be taken after a positive test?**

A positive test simply means that a person has the virus in their body and is infectious to others. New treatments are now available that will delay the onset of HIV-related illnesses.

Positive changes in lifestyle can further delay the progression to AIDS. Diet, exercise and changing the use of drugs or alcohol all can help the person's immune system be as strong as it can be.

A final word: AIDS is a concern for any sexually active person. Since there is as of yet no cure, prevention is the only sure method of stopping the spread of the virus.

Russ Williams is the Substance Abuse/AIDS Educator for Human Resource Development. For more information on HIV testing, call the Fayette County Health Department at 288-AIDS or Student Health at 233-6465.

## Freshmen

Continued from page 1

nothing else, they live longer," he said.

Gardner hopes that his model freshman program will create students who are successful "academically, personally, socially, physically and spiritually," he said.

"Your University — you should be proud of this — is already doing

a great number of these things," Gardner said. He cited UK's freshman orientation course, UK 101, as just one of the University's accomplishments.

"I'm very optimistic about what I think will be future developments

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## AIDS

Continued from page 1

"That's like saying making glasses available encourages alcoholism," said Tom McNaught, spokesman for the state AIDS Action Committee. "The mayor should know better."

A recent study by the federal Centers for Disease Control reported that 57 percent of all U.S. high schoolers said they have had sex.

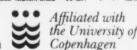
"Kids are going to talk about more than just abstinence," said Paul Palmer of the National Federation of State High School Associations. "Kids are going to be kids regardless of what adults do."

Palmer is director of an AIDS prevention program that uses laser video discs to encourage 13- to 15-year-olds to say no to sex. Talk of condoms would be secondary to the emphasis on abstinence.

"Most teen-agers are going to make their own decisions, no matter what message you send out."

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# SPORTS

## Media owe Cats better deal: fair, original coverage

All the rhetoric had been delivered to the press.

Writers moved about Wildcat Den in search of particular UK players.

Bill Curry finished talking about his team's sixth loss and the seemingly impossible task ahead in taking on the Florida Gators, but before he slipped out of the room, a reporter caught him for a casual chat.

One writer and the coach. Then a television guy. Then me.

I was the third to arrive in the corner of the den. I was not the last.

A small gathering developed. A couple more writers. A radio guy. All crammed into the corner.

The talk remained serious for a while, only a few chuckles here and there. The kind of chuckles that become inevitable when Curry tells one of his anecdotes. This particular tale concerned his tenure at Georgia Tech.

It was not a story of the glory days either.

Curry won only two games in his first two seasons at Tech. He simply did not have the horses to win against the kind of competition he faced. His biggest defensive player was smaller than the cross-state rival's tailback. Sound familiar?

But Curry's situation at Tech proved much worse than UK.

"I spent an awful lot of time begging and fund raising and trying to salvage the (athletic) association," Curry said. "... We had no facilities. When we recruited, we could not show them the locker room because it looked like one of those bastille dungeons."

"I'm serious now. I'm not kidding."

Something had to happen. "What we did is we took pictures of it and took them around the Georgia Tech Alumni Club. They were so embarrassed that we raised the money and built a fabulous facility."

Curry built the program at Tech from scratch and in 1985 he took the Yellow Jackets to the All-American Bowl with a 9-2-1 record. But the years leading up to his Tech success are the ones that hurt him.



John KELLY

"Your first time through it unglues you," Curry said. "It unglued me, and I had been around the NFL and college football all my life."

"But I'd never been a head coach, so the first time through I didn't understand the criticism. I understood the fact that when you lose they were gonna say that's bad. That never bothered me. But I didn't understand some of the stuff people just said. I thought it was unfair..."

When Curry took over at Tech, he polled his athletes about their reasons for attending Georgia Tech. A majority said they came to Tech because no other schools offered them scholarships. A resounding majority.

Ninety-two percent.

He faces a similar situation at UK with the Lexington media. In his second season, UK is 3-6 and starting down the barrel of a 3-8 season with games against Florida and Tennessee remaining. They have not and probably will not win an SEC game this year.

Like Tech, Curry does not have the horses to win in the SEC. Not yet. Not all of them anyway. Some of the pieces are there. Pookie Jones, Damon Hood and a host of talented young freshmen are the seeds of a developing program. Curry has planted the seeds, but



GREG EANS/Kernell Staff

UK tailback Carlos Collins is one of the pieces in the UK football program puzzle right now. Coach Bill Curry knows he is just a few pieces shy of attaining UK's goal of an SEC championship in the near future if he can only fend off the critics long enough.

few people are giving him a chance to let them grow.

The criticism is already surfacing. The same criticism he faced in Atlanta.

Reporters second-guess his decisions.

Columnists degrade the program. The quick fix they thought UK was getting in Curry is not quick enough for them.

One writer said Curry "has no clue." That was two weeks ago.

"The truth is always something a little different every year in every situation," Curry said.

Unfortunately, the stories are not. "That's what you write when this happens," Curry said. "There's another time in which you're supposed to write 'back to the basics'. There's another time that you're supposed to call for an evaluation of the program."

"And then there's a time when you're supposed to give up and say

it's basketball season."

It's like a form letter. Fill in the blanks.

It takes little character to criticize someone in print. Even if you do know what you are talking about. It is easy to write the same old re-hashed material.

Seasons change every year and the stories should too. But, like Curry, I don't see it happening.

The conversation had been a deep one with a crowd gathering from

the start. And, when the crowd had quieted for a moment, Curry spouted one of his usual satirical comments.

"By the way," Curry said with a smirk developing, "did you ever see a statue of a critic? Have you ever been to a banquet given for a critic?"

Assistant Sports Editor John Kelly is a journalism sophomore and a Kernell sports columnist.

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# DIVERSIONS



## The color of money Hollywood begins to feel economic crunch

By GREG LABER  
Staff Critic

Earlier this year, Disney President Jeffrey Katzenberg took a great deal of criticism for his infamous budget-cutting memorandum, which somehow was leaked to the press.

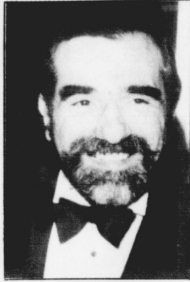
In the memo, Katzenberg claimed film salaries were too high and the industry could no longer profit if costs were not cut.

Although other studios scoffed at what they perceived as the weakening legs of the so-called "Mighty Mouse of Film," they now are singing a song similar to Katzenberg's.

For the first time in history, the economic crunch has hit Hollywood. Even the Great Depression of the 1930s left the entertainment industry relatively unscathed, but the recession of the '90s has everyone tightening their belts.

Studios claim that big-star salaries have cut into their profits tremendously. The likes of Arnold Schwarzenegger no longer are satisfied with percentages of a film's gross receipts as they were just a few years ago. For "Terminator 2: Judgment Day," Schwarzenegger demanded additional payment in the form of a jet.

Even movie-mogul Steven Spielberg, the one-time wunderkind of Hollywood, is not exempt from the budget crunch. On the set of his over-budget Christmas release epic, "Hook," costs now are watched more carefully. For the first time since his debut smash, "Jaws,"

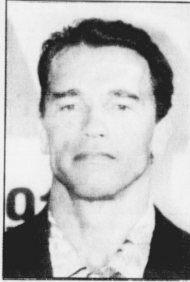


SCORSESE

Spielberg has been plagued with complaints from the studio about his excessive spending.

People may wonder what this all means for everyday moviegoers? It may mean that the days of "Batman"-style mega-movies are coming to a close. Studios are unwilling to take chances on big budget effects and marketing campaigns after watching Disney take a bath in "Dick Tracy" merchandise.

In addition to the extinction of the blockbuster, studios are cutting down on the number of movies they intend to produce. Month for month, companies have released fewer movies this year than last. Even fewer films will see production in 1992.



SCHWARZENEGGER

However, these things are not necessarily bad. The movie industry has taken a long, hard look at its product over the past few years and it is not happy with what it saw.

Small-budget movies like "Home Alone," "Ghost" and "Pretty Woman" have dominated box offices. In

addition, films aimed at more adult audiences like "Dances With Wolves," "Boyz n The Hood" and "Goodfellas" have taken more than their usual share of the profits.

The greatly anticipated release of Martin Scorsese's "Cape Fear" and Spielberg's "Hook" will shape the future of the industry. One is the return of a once-dead style of filmmaking. The other may prove the last of a dying breed.

Hollywood already is anticipating the results of this Christmas experiment. Scorsese has not been in such high demand since "Raging Bull," and MCA/Universal has signed him for future deals. On the other side, Tri-Star has no plans for "Hook" sequel and seems focused on recouping the \$200 million needed to break even.

One can only speculate what these changes will lead to in the long run. Like the economy, Hollywood has a history of unpredictability.

For now, the dream factory only can cross its fingers and hold its breath.

## Henry Rollins delivers many surprises at spoken word show

By JOHN ABBOTT  
Contributing Critic

When I went to see ex-Black Flag front man Henry Rollins speak in the Student Center Ballroom Saturday night, I expected an angry, deranged punker spewing rage and hatred from the podium.

After all, Black Flag was one of those hardcore punk bands that seemed mad at everything all the time; and the black-and-yellow fliers I saw around campus advertising the show possessed all the warmth and charisma of the black plague. I expected aggression. I expected meanness.

Instead, I got an affable, calm man who, instead of stalking on stage with a bad attitude, ready to kick butt, strolled to the front of the ballroom, picked up the microphone and bid a simple "Hey, how's it going?" to the audience.

I figured if Rollins were not going to spew hatred at the audience, at least he would talk with a hard, political edge, much like how former frontman for the Dead Kennedys, Jello Biafra, behaved when he came to speak last year. I expected a brutal, unsympathetic comment on the state of the world.

Instead, Rollins presented 90 minutes of his curious mix of stand-up comedy and storytelling. Where I expected anger and pain, I got humor. Where I expected ugly political commentary, I got anecdotes about airports.

Rollins began the evening reminiscing about the time he repelled a Hare Krishna while waiting for a plane in Los Angeles. "They've let the loonies back into the airports," he said. When you can annoy Hare Krishnas, he added, "you know you've triumphed."

As a well-known musician, Rollins receives a lot of letters from his fans. He spoke of one strange letter from an ambulance assistant who, in the course of an ambulance ride, fell in love with a dying girl they were taking to the hospital. After she died, the letter said, the ambulance assistant became obsessed with her, and he asked Rollins for help.

Rollins' favorite letter, though, was one from an Israeli kid just after Desert Storm, which simply read, "The war is

over and everything is boring." Another favorite was one that asked Rollins, "What do you like to do for fun? I like to skate and blow stuff up."

Rollins continued the evening with helpful advice on seeing therapists ("It's cheaper just to pound nails into your forehead"), traveling to other countries ("I've been to England 15 times. It sucks every time."), dealing with women ("All women are evil... You think you're going to fool any woman who is empowered with the powers of Satan?"), and dealing with men ("All men are morons... The male brain is so easy to fool").

He spoke of Big John, a fellow singer and a big hero of his. Big John was strong. Big John didn't take anything from mean L.A. cops. Big John was a cool guy.

Unfortunately, Big John was a cool guy who suffered from severe mood swings and one day, when Big John went off his medication, he threw a security guard off the Santa Monica pier, beat up a German tourist, tried to pull a motorist out of his car and ended up getting shot four times by a policeman. And they didn't even clean his blood and brains off the sidewalk.

Rollins also described his early family life. His dad liked to give him fighting lessons on the weekend — to make him a man. His father also took him to big company picnics and prompted him to beat up the children of his co-workers that his father didn't like.

The 200-plus crowd was generally responsive and rarely got out of line. One guy shouted a smart remark from the back of the room, but Rollins ignored him and went on with his speech.

"It was hilarious — he's awesome," journalism freshman Danny Wollert said of the show. "He really helped me out, because I'm a screwed-up individual."

Undeclared freshman Gina Bortone was equally enthusiastic. "I love Henry Rollins, and I do think he is a god, and he brought a new perspective to the self that tends to be conservative."

After the show, Rollins hung out in front of the stage, signed programs and chatted with audience members.

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# 'Billy Bathgate' contains little to recommend

By JOHN DYER FORT  
Assistant Arts Editor

There are two ways to enjoy a movie. The first is to "learn" something; the second is to be entertained. These two qualities, while distinct, do not have to remain separate.

Many films have one of these qualities and some even provide both. However, "Billy Bathgate" satisfies neither — at least not enough to recommend.

When the theater lights go up after "Bathgate," one wonders what the film was all about, why the film makers bothered, who were the characters and why should anyone care about them anyway. Director Robert Benton never brings us close enough to a character to get us into this story.

At the movie's opening, mobster Bo Weinberg (played by Bruce Willis), is about to be executed for betraying his boss, Dutch Schultz (played by Dustin Hoffman). Bo's arms are tied behind him and his feet are in a washub full of drying cement. The tugboat they are on chugs up the East River.

Schultz takes Weinberg's girl down below for a heart-to-heart chat. Nicole Kidman as this woman is a glamorous, upper-class girl with whom Weinberg had fallen in love. Schultz wants to know if she can forget about Weinberg or will she also have to die.

The woman, Drew Preston, smiles and practically says "Bo who?"

Meanwhile, Weinberg is alone with Billy Bathgate, the kid wonder from the Bronx (played by Loren Dean). Bathgate's persistence and enthusiasm took him from the streets to trusted gang-member status in a short span. Bathgate thinks Schultz is a real hero. He is a poor kid who believes the gang offers his only opportunity of a better life for himself and his mother, a washer woman who makes \$4 a week.

Bathgate's naivete, innocence and



black-and-white allegiance are the traits that make Schultz notice him. He does not really question anything. He is not intelligent, powerful or violent. He is just loyal — and lucky.

Inexplicably, Weinberg reaches out to Bathgate as if the boy was a wizened veteran of gangland negotiations. Despite fetching drinks, running errands and mopping the floors, Bathgate is treated like a boy godfather by many of the characters he meets.

In desperation and love, Weinberg makes Bathgate promise he will take care of the woman. The boy promises with the seriousness of a kid pledging "Scout's honor."

The only problem is that Weinberg and the woman stand against everything Bathgate believes in, namely Dutch Schultz. Bathgate is too inexperienced to know hypocrisy, cheating, disloyalty, betrayal — not to mention the more violent, criminal traits of gang behavior.

But that's where Bathgate's charm comes in. All he does know is boyish allegiance, blind enthusiasm and taking orders. And, of course, Bathgate's infallibly lucky ability to be at the right place at the right time.

Schultz pushes Weinberg into the East River and takes Preston as his new companion. There is something dubious about Schultz's intentions, but the woman appears out of danger. While Schultz cares little for her he wants her around to satisfy some twisted psychosexual power trip that began when Weinberg betrayed him.

Certainly she does not appear frightened. She is all too eager to pick up with Schultz.

So what's the big deal? This oc-



PHOTO COURTESY OF TOUCHSTONE PICTURES

Loren Dean (above) stars as the title character in "Billy Bathgate." He portrays a poor youth who wants to join a gang of mobsters.



PHOTO COURTESY OF TOUCHSTONE PICTURES

Dustin Hoffman (above left) portrays mobster Dutch Schultz in "Billy Bathgate" which also features Steven Hill (center) and Bruce Willis.

city ditz with a need for thrills is the catalyst for much of the rest of the film. Why? Schultz is an insecure egomaniac and she is rather bland and cold; they may very well deserve each other.

But director Benton would have us believe that Preston causes Bathgate's change in attitude. He struggles to live up to his promise to Weinberg to protect the girl. This means he has to betray Schultz. But neither Schultz or Preston are interesting enough to cause such adolescent anguish.

Is it Schultz' notoriety and money? Is it the woman's Fifth Avenue glamor? The film leads you to believe strongly neither one way or another.

Is this a coming of age story? No, Bathgate is too wishy-washy from beginning to end. He never truly changes. He straddles a fence and is pulled to one side or the other for

no special reason. His character learns nothing and the wavering remains uninteresting, confusing and without explanation.

"Billy Bathgate" is a mixture of genres, character stereotypes and action that ultimately comes out mild and watered down — there is no kick. Like other Depression-era gangster films, the film tones are golden and nostalgic. There are some beautiful sets and costumes of old New York and Saratoga. But often there is a studio-roof-over-the-set feel to the scenery.

"Billy Bathgate" entertains in a mild way. But it is not worth a trip to the theater at regular price — there are much better films out right now. The film is one of those you can wait to see on video or even on cable.

"Billy Bathgate," rated "R" is showing at Lexington Green and Man O' War Movies 8.

## Classic cartoons become big in art world

By MICHAEL HILL  
Associated Press

SARATOGA SPRINGS, N.Y. — Mickey Mouse and Pluto mounted and framed bring with them a price tag of \$13,500. Elmer Fudd sings "... Kill Da Wabbit!" on Broadway to strains of Wagner — and it is only a matter of time before academics proclaim Bugs Bunny an existentialist.

Call it Cartoon Culture. Animated films regarded as soft entertainment when produced decades ago are extolled more and more for their aesthetic quality. Somehow, Goofy and Porky Pig have become highfalutin cultural icons.

"That's ridiculous, but it's a pleasant kind of ridiculous," said Chuck Jones, who as a young cartoonist helped create Porky, Bugs, Road Runner and other Merrie Melodies characters. "If someone wants to call my work art, that's OK with me, but I never thought it was merited."

Jones, 79, has lived to see his creations go from showings before movie features, to Saturday morning television and now onto gallery walls and even the Great White Way.

The Looney Tune gang, accompanied by a full orchestra, has been miming before audiences across the nation in cities like Saratoga Springs. The show, called "Bugs Bunny on Broadway," is a Warner Bros. homage to the sometimes stately, usually loopy, music accompanying the old Merrie Melodies shorts.

Featured are classic music-

oriented cartoons like Bugs and Elmer getting married in "The Rabbit of Seville," a clever subversion of Gioacchino's opera "The Barber of Seville." Other classical composers given cartoon accompaniment in the show include Liszt, Wagner and Strauss.

No, the idea is not to trivialize the original classical compositions. Rather, it is to pay overdue homage to composers like Carl Stalling, who scored the cartoons, according to the project's progenitor, George Daugherty.

"Given the material he was working with, no one was as brilliant as Carl Stalling," said Daugherty, who also conducts the road orchestra.

The music is much more than just

orchestral whizzes and bangs, he said. "Carl did not put in a little snippet of classical music just to do it," Daugherty said. "He did it to ultimately to accentuate what was happening on the screen to the maximum effect."

Daugherty said audiences have been eating it up across the country and the show will soon tour overseas.

Jones is heartened by the late attention given to his departed colleagues. But are these cartoons really art?

He seems more apt to think of them as the work of professionals, working under rigid constraints.

"Like any professionals we had disciplines to work under," he said.

"One of the disciplines of ours is that we had to make (the cartoons) six minutes long."


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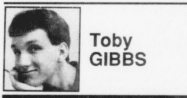
Council on Higher Education has lost sight of proper role

Current Kentucky Gov. Wallace Wilkinson, has called Kentucky's university presidents cry babies. He has said the only thing he hears from higher education officials is "more."
While the governor's comment is a gross oversimplification, it is not without some merit.
Justifiably, higher education in Kentucky asks for a lot. There is no question it needs a lot more than it is getting in order to keep up with other universities and to educate the people of this Commonwealth.



Don't bother showing me, whatever it is — I'm offended

The following "humor" column contains words and ideas possibly offensive to someone somewhere. Despite this risk, the Kentucky Kernel is printing it and not replacing it with "The Fusco Brothers."



Toby GIBBS

People can now gaze toward the heavens and thank Almighty God that the folks at the Lexington Herald-Leader saw fit to corral that evil Garry Trudeau.
Our fair city's leading daily newspaper chose not to run the two weeks worth of "Doonesbury" cartoons satirizing Dan Quayle. And all I can say is "amen."
I say "amen" because I can be offended by anything and everything easily. Thank goodness the folks at Main and Midland — those gatekeepers of virtue and guardians of morality — worked overtime to insulate me from new ideas I might not like. Thank goodness they stopped evil cartoons, which could have miffed thousands.

sin — a seedy, disgusting freak show featuring twisted, cartoonish characters whose words and deeds could bring about the very end of civilization as we know it.
The Herald-Leader should consider removing other offensive things in the funny paper. Personally, I'm offended by all of it.

The shocking sexual content and graphic nudity that mars "The Family Circus" offends me.
The scrambled letters in the "Jumble" word game that sometimes are vaguely similar to obscene foreign words offend me.
When Sarge pulverizes Beetle Bailey and Beetle ends up as a liquified pulp on the sidewalk, I'm offended. Don't forget impressionable young children could read the strip and pick up on that kind of violence.
Calvin's constant interaction with a stuffed male tiger offends me. We never see Calvin with women, do we? Is there some kind of hidden latent homosexual theme sublimally forced into readers' minds?

The remote possibility the presence of a daily horoscope column could entice readers to inhabit the dark, eerie realm of the occult offends me. The same is true of "Dennis the Menace."
The Sunday color comics disturb me. The various hues and constantly contrasting bright colors leave me dazed and sluggish the entire day.
I don't understand "Apartment 3-G," but to be on the safe side, I purposefully assume it offends me. Why take chances?
Why do all these things offend me, you ask? Well, some of the things that offend me appear obvious. They leap off the page toward me and do a vulgar little dance on my face.
Other things are much more subtle in their offensiveness. They are buried deep in the drawings or dialogue. You have to really look for them to be truly offended. And I look hard.
I peer at the newspaper with a magnifying glass, carefully scanning for things that may disturb me. I thumb through dictionaries and thesauri, searching high and low for novel new interpretations of words and phrases, in the hope that those new interpretations will bother me.



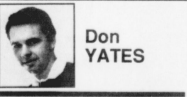
I comb through foreign phrase books, textbook glossaries and cookbooks — all in the hopes of being ticked off.
I am a master at reading between the lines. I can read anything into an innocent sentence or two. I could pull the most arcane notions and off-the-wall misconceptions out of nothing. The phone book makes me seethe with anger, given the sickening views they espouse in the white pages.
So what can I do? Simply stop reading things that bother me? I

can't do that, it would mean I could not complain about things other people should not read. Besides, stopping would leave other people to read those things I hate. And I can't have that.
I have taken it upon myself to act as moral policeman for the world; in short, to keep things I dislike away from others.
This very column offends me. I read my own clippings and feel shame that I ever learned to read. I picked my own home. I burn myself in effigy. I throw myself down in

front of my own car.
Boycott my column, please! Let the Kentucky Kernel staff know that my loopy liberal views and sickening psychosocial ramblings have you in a tizzy of anger. Don't just stop reading my column — force others to give it up against their will. Stop your subscription to the Kernel, and don't start reading it again until "Greek Week Update" replaces me.
Senior Staff Writer Toby Gibbs is a UK employee and a Kernel columnist.

There is almost too much fun in being a Kernel columnist

A few days ago, a student came up to me and asked, "Mr. Cornett, what is the most enjoyable part of your newspaper work?" My first impulse was to reply that I enjoy the free alcohol roudabouts after my aerobics class at the Kernel's health club.
I also derive great pleasure from writing a story like "Sasquatch Sighted in UK Arboretum" in which I make up silly quotes (A panicked UK President Charles Wehington sobbed, "It killed a guy with a shovel and then ate his head!") and attribute them to people I like to embarrass.
After a moment, however, I found my answer. Without a doubt, the most treasured part of my Kernel position is the chance to satirize the antics of our political leaders. Unfortunately, over the past decade, writing satire funnier than the actual escapades of politicians has grown harder. Our current class of politicians is so buffoonish and startlingly dense that I have a difficult time writing jokes to outdo the



Don YATES

chicanery occurring.
This week, therefore, I plan to take a sabbatical from churning out the usual satire. Instead of laboring to produce my own humor, I'll let the politicians do my work.
At a GOP political fund-raiser last week, President Bush in a fit of fist slamming and screeching, charged that "Congress was under the domination of wealthy elites."
It is not the veracity of the charge I disagree with as much as the inclusiveness of the guilty party. If you like your irony cruel, it is interesting to note a few days before Bush leveled this accusation that a flood on the Maine coast destroyed one of his several homes.
It never crossed George's mind that someone who owns several

homes might not fit the description of middle class. Bush's cabinet is rife with millionaires, his vice president is heir to a newspaper publisher's fortune, and he made a fortune in oil. Yet, he has the galling arrogance to lecture us on the evil of wealthy elites in government.
Perhaps rumors that many homeless families now maintain a packing crate in the city and simultaneously own a refrigerator box at the beach have shaped George's view.
A more likely explanation is Bush needs a new demagogic theme for his upcoming election. If he is truly distraught over the influence of wealthy elites in government then he should do something about it — resign.
Another interesting item was a statement from Vice President Dan Quayle. In the course of answering a question at a press conference about the 1992 campaign, Quayle said he planned to be "a pit bull in the upcoming election."
This statement creates all sorts of intriguing questions. I wonder who

will make Danny's doggy suit, Mom or Marilyn. Then again, he could have one left over from Trick-or-Treat.
It will be hard for him to keep his furry tail from becoming entangled in microphones at press appearances. And if he is going to be dog in 1992, what animal was he in 1988? (goose? dodo bird? chimp?)
What this nation needs in 1992 is a serious discussion of our domestic problems. What we don't need is a politician who wants to steal his political image and strategy from an animal that piddles on mailboxes and licks itself.
Everyone has heard about the original "Boy in the Hood": David Duke. Duke is a candidate for governor of Louisiana, an ex-Ku Klux Klansman and former member of the American Nazi Party.
In a speech before a group of businessmen, Duke said all the attention on his bizarre past had made him "one of the biggest tourist attractions" in the state.
No doubt Duke also would refer

to the 1937 Nazi rally at Nuremberg, Germany, as a successful tourist trap. Indeed, none can ever forget the pictures of storm troopers wearing T-shirts reading "My mom and dad went to the Hitler rally and all I got was this lousy shirt."
Duke believes his tourist 'appeal' will bring in new businesses into his state. Why, just yesterday, the Waffen S.S. Car Wash and Tank Cleaning Service and several sheet laundering services announced they were moving their corporate headquarters to Baton Rouge, La.
It is beyond me how Duke has gotten this far. Here is a guy who bought his outerwear as a youth at JC Penney White Sales and yet he is able to contend seriously for the highest office of a state.
My list winds up with a visit to the dedication ceremonies for the Ronald Reagan Library. President Bush added levity to the occasion when he referred to Reagan as a "visionary, crusader and prophet in his time."
Prophet? Reagan could not pre-

dict how long he would remain awake at cabinet meetings, much less herald a new era in politics.
Visionary? A quack astrologer his wife dug out of the National Enquirer supplied this character's "vision" on politics. Reagan could not foresee that increasing military spending and slashing taxes would create a deficit that dwarfs our ability to calculate it.
Crusader? Reagan's crusades consisted of sending Marines on a fool's errand to keep the peace in Beirut, conquering a nation the size of Gilligan's Island and smuggling guns to terrorists. Richard the Lion Hearted he wasn't.
If the politicians keep this up I will have to spend my time writing stories like "Monkey Torso Found in Cafeteria Salad Bar" and making up quotes like, "A perplexed Robert Hemenway said, "Monkey? — Well, whatever it was, it goes great with Thousand Island!"
Don Yates is a woolly second-year law student and a Kernel columnist.

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Readers are encouraged to submit letters and guest opinions to the Kentucky Kernel in person or by mail.

Writers should address their comments to: Editorial Editor, Kentucky Kernel, 035 Journalism Building, University of Kentucky, Lexington, KY 40506-0042.

Letters should be 350 words or less, while guest opinions should be 850 words or less.

We prefer all material to be type-written and double-spaced, but others are welcome if they are legible.

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# Proposal made to guarantee U.S. health care

By JIM ABRAMS  
Associated Press

WASHINGTON — A coalition of corporations, unions and consumer groups presented a national health plan yesterday designed to guarantee health care to every American while saving the country billions of dollars.

The plan of the National Leadership Coalition for Health Care Reform would require every business either to offer a private benefits program or subscribe to a proposed federal program covering the un-

insured.

An estimated 34 million Americans now have no health insurance while the nation as a whole spends far more on health, an average of \$2,354 per person, than any other industrialized nation in the world.

"We have a very grave situation," said former Iowa Gov. Robert D. Ray, co-chairman of the coalition, at a news conference. "We can't go on without doing something."

Dr. Henry E. Simmons, the group's president, said national health spending would rise from an

estimated \$750 billion this year, 12 percent of GNP, to nearly \$2 trillion in the year 2000 if the system is not changed. Under his group's plan, he said, savings would reach \$600 billion in 2000 compared to that.

He acknowledged some participants in the study had dropped out because the plan requires tax increases, but he asserted small businesses, among the hardest hit by rising health costs, would not suffer under the coalition's proposal. "This is not something that will cause job loss," he added.

The issue of health care helped

Democratic Senator Harris Wofford upset Dick Thornburgh in the Pennsylvania Senate race last week and has focused national attention on the desire for changes.

More than two dozen proposals to alter the health care system are circulating on Capitol Hill. The White House has indicated it will come up with its own plan before next fall's presidential elections.

The coalition said its program, developed over 18 months, is unique in that it attacks the issues of cost and quality as well as access and brings together a wide spec-

trum of contributors to health programs.

Among those listed as supporting the proposals were the American Federation of Teachers, the American Nurses' Association, Bethlehem Steel, Chrysler Motors Corp., Lockheed Corp., National Steel, Northern Telecom Limited, United Paperworkers International Union, United Steelworkers of America, Westinghouse Electric Corp. and Xerox Corp.

Under the plan, employers could either offer a standard package of benefits to employees and their dependents through private insurance or could pay a payroll tax of 7 percent and enroll in Pro-Health, a proposed program incorporating Medicaid and covering those without private insurance.

Employees covered by Pro-Health would contribute 1.75 percent of their payroll for the program.

In addition, all firms would contribute 0.5 percent of payroll toward the cost of Pro-Health.

A national health review board comprised of public and private sector representatives would set targets aimed at reducing the rate of growth in health care spending by 2 percentage points a year until it matches the rate of growth in the GNP. The board would also set payment rates for health care services.

Comprehensive primary care would also reduce the need for more costly care, said Virginia Trotter Betts, first vice president of the American Nurses Association.

## BLADE PRONTKIN

by John Morrow & Jerry Voigt



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## Club

Continued from page 1

ious countries and their cultures and seasonal parties such as the recent Halloween party.

"The Cultural Sharing Partners Program puts together one foreign student and one American student, who share similar interests.

These students meet at least five times throughout the semester, whether it be for a movie, a cup of coffee or whatever.

"It didn't get going like we expected, because there is a lack of participation from American students," said Long Yun Siang, an advertising junior from Malaysia.

"The International Hospitality Program assigns an international student to spend time with a local family.

The student, for example, is asked to come over for dinner and participate in various family activities.

Singh, who has taken advantage of the program, said the family she visited even included her in a family portrait.

Siang, whose "family" invited her to vacation in North Carolina, said "They don't try to change me — they just involve me with things."

Some other activities for international students include: a study skills program, cross cultural communication workshops, International

Student Council, a welcome committee for new students and the new Jewell Hall International Living/Learning Center.

The former women's residence hall was converted this fall into a dormitory specifically for more international students to get acquainted with American students. Fifty international students and 50 American students are rooming together in order to learn more about each other's cultures.

For more information about any of the programs, contact Brad Trainer at 257-8811.

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