



**WEATHER** Mostly sunny and warm, high near 50. Clear tonight, low of 30. Dry and cool tomorrow, high near 45.

**DANCE OF A LIFETIME** Sally Potter directs and stars in the visually stunning 'The Tango Lesson.' See Diversions, page 2.



**FRi**  
January 30, 1998

**iN** Campus 2 Crossword 7  
Cartoon 2 Sports 5  
Classifieds 7 Viewpoint 6

ESTABLISHED 1894

UNIVERSITY OF KENTUCKY, LEXINGTON, KENTUCKY

INDEPENDENT SINCE 1971

## Students try to energize organization

### Black Student Union looks for more campus support

By Jill Erwin  
Senior Staff Writer

Black Student Union President Alejandro Stewart had one objective in mind before last night's BSU meeting. Reorganize the group into a more powerful force.

"The turnout here is quadruple what it was the last couple years, but it's still not enough," said Stewart, an education junior.

"It's not too late to get this thing back to where it's supposed to be."

Stewart started the meeting by asking those who attended what they expected and wanted out of the group.

Some ideas were tossed around, including getting the faculty and Learning Services Center involved in the meetings and participating in community service, such as tutoring students in Bluegrass-Aspendale and on the West side of Lexington.

UK's Director of African American Affairs Chester Grundy also attended the meeting, and pushed for the group to become more involved in campus happenings and to make sure their views are heard.

"I think that, like he (Grundy) said, the Black Student Union needs to be lobbying to get our people into SGA, into the Student Activities Board," Stewart said. "I think we need to be the voice of people on campus."

One of the main problems the group faces is the need to work with other minority campus groups.

Ideally they would all support each other, but realistically, there isn't enough time in the day.

About two years ago, the idea was brought up for a retreat to a campground for members of all groups to spend time together. This year's group is also looking at the idea.

"We wanted to be able to sit down, go over a calendar, and try

to space things out so it's able for everyone to be a part," said Melissa Moore, a political science and history senior.

Stewart also decided to set up different committees for the upcoming semester to make sure BSU gets more accomplished.

Students volunteered for the publicity committee, a group to bring speakers to campus, and the community service group.

The group also plans to make this year's Lyman T. Johnson Banquet "one of the most important things to hit UK in a long time," Stewart said.

"I think this banquet should be his going-away festival," Stewart said. "I want to get dancers, African Dance, an excellent speaker ... I want to get a lot of community involvement. So many people have a connection with UK, and I think they should have a part in this banquet."

The banquet is normally held in the Student Center Ballroom, but Stewart is exploring the option of raising money to have this year's dinner held downtown in a hotel ballroom, such as the Radisson or the Hyatt.

Overall BSU Vice President Clyde Pickett was pleased with the effect of the meeting.

"The meeting was positive in the sense that we brought all the students together to let them know BSU is still here for them, but basically we need more support from the students," said Pickett, a secondary social education sophomore.

"We're in the trenches working for them, and we're here and we want to put it all together."

The BSU meets every other Thursday at 5 p.m. in the King Cultural Center, located in 124 Student Center.

## Crowning the queen



## Carter dons black, gold crown

By Hal Kirtley  
Staff Writer

More than 150 students and friends attended the Ms. Black and Gold Pageant Thursday night at UK's Memorial Hall.

The pageant, sponsored by the Alpha Phi Alpha fraternity, honors one black woman from UK who most exemplifies scholarship and service to the community.

This year that was Keisha Carter.

Four contestants competed in the program that consisted of six parts. The first two categories, business wear and active wear, gave the women a chance to model different fashions before the audience.

The entertainment and announcements portion of the pageant came next, and the talent and evening wear portions of the program followed. The sixth portion of the program, the question and answer session, was the grand finale.

Alpha Phi Alpha, which nationally sponsors the pageant, sends the winner on to further competition.

"Whoever wins tonight will move up to the district level," said LaGene Brown, computer science senior and the fraternity's president. "If they win that, they go up to the national level."

Though the spirit of the pageant was competitive, the event proved to be fun for all who attended.

"We came to the Mr. and Ms. Black UK Pageant earlier this year, and it was a comedy," said

Varicka Stovall, an electrical engineering sophomore. "I think it's (comedy) the reason why a lot of the people came out tonight."

Although only one contestant can wear the crown, many more people are represented by the pageant.

"We want somebody to represent us (Alpha Phi Alpha) well as themselves," said Robert Stewart, an agriculture education junior.

The Ms. Black and Gold Pageant is sponsored annually by Alpha Phi Alpha chapters at more than 300 colleges and universities and is widely successful at UK. But black students at UK still need more representation, Brown said.

"There are not too many black people competing in that (homecoming), but if you win this pageant you could possibly be Miss Black UK," Brown said.

This year's pageant had a large turnout and was a good time for all, but it serves a more specific and serious purpose on the UK campus, said Alejandro Stewart, an education junior and president of the UK Black Student Union.

"I say we're in a time of crisis on campus," Stewart said. "It seems like we've let ourselves get separated. Tonight, hopefully we can get the word out everybody as to exactly what's going on at UK for all fraternities, sororities and other organizations."

When the competition ended, Sharrona French was runner up and Melanie Dumas finished third.



PHOTOS BY MATT BARTON *Kennel staff*

**CROWNING ACHIEVEMENT** Contestants in the Alpha Phi Alpha-sponsored Ms. Black and Gold Pageant competed in several categories including business, active and evening wear. They also had a talent competition.

## UK, other universities making connection to future



**HOOKED UP** John Margriddge, chairman of Cisco Systems Inc., explained the new computer system that will connect researchers across the country. The high-speed network will provide access to databases in the Southeast.

### High-speed network will aid in research

By Jessica Coy  
Staff Writer

UK is taking steps toward the future of super-computing.

Exchanging information with researchers in other states through computers with 30 times more speed will soon become reality for UK researchers, faculty and students.

Working with Southeastern Universities Research Association, Cisco Systems Inc., GTE and five Southeastern Universities, UK has launched a high-speed data network that provides researchers with access to super-computers across the Southeast.

"This network will allow us to do many things that aren't feasible with the system we have now," said Doyle Friskney, a UK network systems professor.

"The super computers are designed to handle very specific types of computing needs," he said.

The network links super computers at UK,

West Virginia University, the Alabama Super-Computing Authority, the University of South Carolina, Mississippi State University and Louisiana State University. The universities organized the South East Partnership to Share Computational Resources, or SEPSCoR.

"This means a UK researcher working with a computer geared toward a specific discipline can access a more compatible super computer, even though it's hundreds of miles away," said University President Charles Wethington in a news release. "And researchers at the five other institutions in the SEPSCoR consortium can share UK's computer resources at speeds never before possible."

"UK has been a leader in pulling this network together, and is proving that we can be leaders in the computing field," said Lee Todd, chief executive officer of Data Beam Inc., a Lexington firm that specializes in telecommunications software.

The new computer network will not only help researchers with number crunching and data analysis, but also will allow students to work with local software firms such as Data

Beam. This will allow students to take part in the research that goes into placing a new software product on the market.

"One of the greatest benefits of this network is that UK will be able to graduate students that have much more knowledge of what really goes on in their prospective fields," Todd said.

Another benefit of the super computing network is its ability to create jobs anywhere. Computing firms normally confined to locations close to super-computing systems can now operate from anywhere in the country if connected to these networks. Computing firms create positions for engineers, secretaries, public relations personnel and sales staff.

"Computer systems such as the one UK is launching have the potential to change the way that Kentucky looks at job creation," Todd said. "Instead of losing UK graduates to other states, let's create the jobs that will keep them here."

**UK has been a leader in pulling this network together, and is proving that we can be leaders in the computing field.**

Lee Todd  
Data Beam Inc.







# SPORTS

## 'Three' a magic number for UF

### Smith says Florida plays like its coach

By Jay G. Tate  
Sports Editor

For Florida, three-point shooting is a way of life. The Gators' 42 percent shooting from three-point range places the Gators 10th in the NCAA.

Their 10.8 three-point buckets per game is the best in the nation. But the long-range efficiency Florida currently enjoys was far from fruition just two years ago.

Prior to head coach Billy Donovan's arrival in Gainesville in 1996, the Gators were the Southeastern Conference's poorest perimeter shooting team, hitting just 31.5 percent from three-point range.

Donovan's up-tempo style, gleaned from an 11-year association with former UK head coach Rick Pitino as both player and coach, now has opponents afraid of a perimeter blitzkrieg.

They don't always win — Florida is just 10-7 and 3-4 in conference play — but always let the ball fly from anywhere on the court.

And when the Gators come to Rupp Arena Sunday, UK head coach Tubby Smith knows it will be tough to squash UF's perimeter plans.

The Cats are among the SEC's worst three-point defenders and have a loss against Louisville to thank for a reluctance to contest perimeter shooting.

Though UK's defense has improved, Smith believes it will be a challenge to slow UF's perimeter plans.

The three-point is a big weapon for them and if you don't guard against it, they can really beat you with it," Smith said yesterday.

Like against Vandy, where the Commodores watched helplessly as UF landed 15-of-28 three-pointers last week in a surprising 85-69 Florida win.

Like Duquesne, which saw the Gators hit 15-of-39 from the perimeter in an early-season

### UK vs Florida

Sunday, 8:30 p.m.  
Rupp Arena  
TV: ABC-Channel 36 Radio: 590AM WVLR

#### #7 Kentucky Wildcats (19-2)

Probable Starters	PPG	RPG
G Wayne Turner	9.7	4.1
G Jeff Sheppard	11.7	4.0
F Allen Edwards	10.0	3.3
F Scott Padgett	7.1	7.1
C Nazr Mohammed	12.2	7.3

#### Florida Gators (10-7)

Probable Starters	PPG	RPG
G Jason Williams	16.1	6.6
G Eddie Shannon	10.2	4.2
F Kenyan Weaks	11.5	3.4
F Greg Stolt	12.3	5.6
C Damen Maddox	7.7	7.0

\*Assists per game

Florida win.

Like McNeese State, which had no answer for UF's 14-of-29 performance in Florida's 95-53 win.

Florida's long-range game plan isn't new to Smith, who coached against the Gators while head coach at Georgia and faced Donovan personally when the two were assistants for Pitino from 1991-92.

"He never saw a shot he didn't like and he would never pass the ball in the pickup games that we played," Smith quipped.

Though Smith was only joking, he went on to point out that knowing Donovan on a personal level provides insight into Florida's philosophies.

"His teams are certainly an expression of (Donovan)," Smith said. "They're very competitive, very hard nose."

(Donovan) was known for his three-point shooting and his outside shooting and his ability to pass the ball. He's like a Jason Williams, who plays a lot like (Donovan)."

Williams, who transferred to Florida last season from Marshall after originally signing with Providence, has emerged as the Gators' go-to presence in his first



**YOU'RE KILLIN' ME** UK head coach Tubby Smith and Florida head coach Billy Donovan know each other well. They were both assistant coaches during Rick Pitino's first two years in Lexington and played pickup basketball together.

season in Gainesville. He is both the team's leading scorer (16.1 points per game) and it's steady playmaker — notching 99 assists to just 68 turnovers.

But Williams isn't the only player making noise for the Gators.

Sophomore guard Kenyan Weaks is shooting an otherworldly 55 percent from three-point range.

Forward Greg Stolt, who led the SEC in three-point shooting last season, is again lighting up

opponents by hitting 53 percent from long range.

It's a full-scale commitment to long range shooting. And it's a commitment Smith believes will continue to make the Gators a threat in the SEC.

"They've improved considerably since last season," Smith said. "You can see their team getting better as the year goes on. Experience is the No. 1 factor."

"It just takes time for guys to learn and become a cohesive unit."

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## Wildcats seething over '0' fleeting

By Dave Gorman  
Staff Writer

No matter which way you look at it, the UK women's basketball team desperately needs a win.

They say they are taking it one game at a time. They say they have to come out ready to play every game.

But the fact remains the Cats have lost seven of their last eight games and four of those were at home.

"I'm tired of getting beat," said a frustrated Jaye Barnes after she fouled out in Wednesday night's loss at home against Florida.

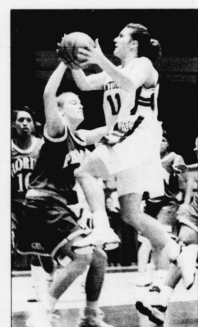
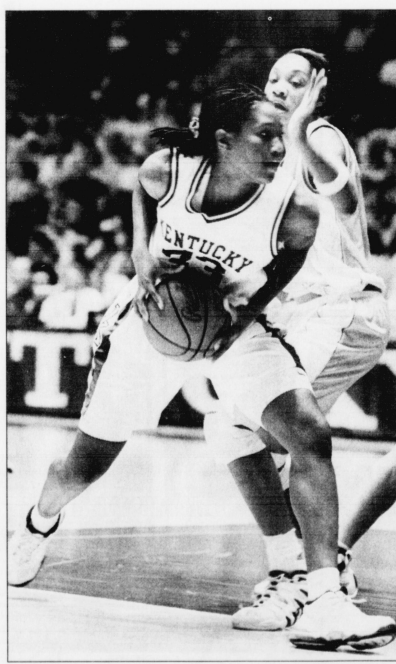
Katie Vieth feels the same way. "It is very frustrating losing these games," she said.

"We have beaten top-ranked teams, so we know that we are good enough to win. We go out and get whooped and then all we can do is come back and practice really well."

"If we continue to play good defense than hopefully we can start winning."

Coach Bernadette Mattox stressed that her team is young and still in the maturation process. With six games left in the season, Mattox can find some solace in the strong play she is getting from her new players.

Rookies Jaye Barnes and Laura Meadows are UK's leading scorers with 14.0 and 11.2 points per game, respectively. Junior Tiffany Watt is averaging in double figures with 10.4 points per game, but Mattox still wants more offense.



PHOTOS BY JAMES CRISP, Kernel staff

**CAUGHT IN ALLIGATOR ALLEY**  
After being demolished in Gainesville earlier this season, UK played evenly with Florida for much of Wednesday's game. Afterward, UK head coach Bernadette Mattox seemed satisfied with her team's defensive effort, but added that her team needs more offense. Among those helping to carry the offensive load this season are forward Stephanie Christman (left) and Tiffany Watt.

need more of an offensive-minded team. Our team needs more scorers," Mattox said. "We pass way too much. Natalie Martinez needs to step up her game. She does a great job of getting us in our offense but we need her to score more points."

Mattox also has the advantage of looking down her bench and seeing seven healthy bodies ready to play.

"It's just about whoever comes out to play — it's a forty-minute battle," Mattox said. "Florida

played four kids (for) forty minutes. We had them tired but we did not execute when they slipped. Our bench has been stepping it up, which should help us Saturday."

The Cats may sport a 9-11 record but they have already surpassed their seven-win 1997 season.

They will find out Saturday if they have made it over the hump when Arkansas comes to Memorial Coliseum at 7 p.m.

The Cats are 4-0 at home all-time against the Lady Razorbacks.

Arkansas is 15-5 this season and look to senior All-American candidate Christy Smith for leadership. The Lady Razorbacks' point guard averages 9.6 ppg and started at the point for the United States in the World University Games that won a gold medal.

UK will once again have their hands full with an explosive Arkansas team.

Mattox said all five of UA's starters can handle the ball and four of them are capable of shooting from behind the arc.

### Free deodorant

Students in the Memorial Mob section will receive Mennen deodorant products at the game Saturday night.



# No. 6 GymKats put lessons to use

By Katy Crossen  
Staff Writer

The GymKats are glad to be home. After recovering from a surprising loss to lowly-regarded LSU last Friday, UK head coach Leah Little and the No. 6 GymKats return home for tonight's meet against George Washington.

They look forward to regaining the No. 5 spot and hope that having the home-team advantage will boost their promising scores tonight.

"Having a home meet makes things more relaxed," junior Misty Marink said. "We know the equipment, we know what to expect — we know the crowd."

Marink also said the team went into the LSU meet "a little soft" and that likely contributed to their letdown on the road.

The GymKats come into this weekend's meet with a team scoring average of 193.361, compared to GW's 191.038. While the averages could perhaps allow the GymKats to feel over-confident, Marink says the team has learned from its mistakes.

"We can't take anything for granted," Marink said. "We took our high ranking (after the Florida meet) for granted and LSU was more difficult for us than what we were expecting." With last weekend's debacle firmly in mind, the GymKats have been trying not to let their high ranking go to their heads.

Rather, UK is going into this meet with hopes of stopping the downward spiral before it starts.

"We want our scores to be at least as high (as the last home meet), so that we can be back in the top 5," Marink said.

While the GymKats are ranked No. 6 as a team, UK is enjoying success on the individual level as well.

On the vault, freshman Ashley Burkholder is ranked fourth in the nation, while Beth Coleman is No. 23. Marink is ranked 23rd on bars, Kristen Hoeflerin is No. 32 on the beam, and Mila Chitwood holds the No. 5 spot on floor.

And based on the strength of its individual efforts, it's no surprise the GymKats are nationally ranked in each event.

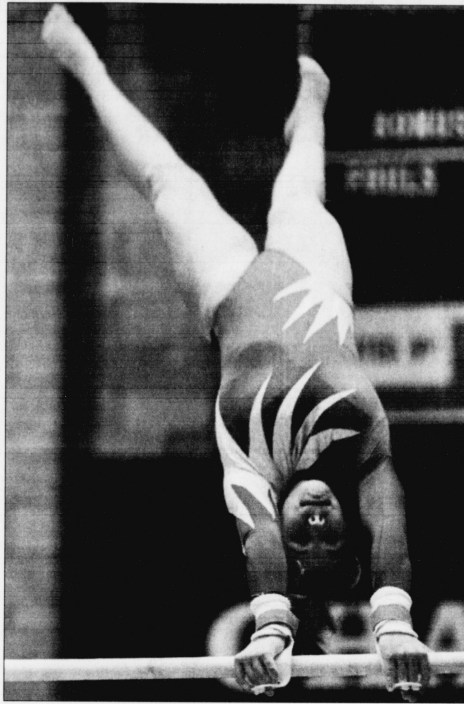
As a team, UK is ranked No. 13 on the uneven bars, No. 9 on the floor, and No. 4 on both the balance beam and vault.

Despite all the statistical accolades, an athlete can never get too comfortable with her performance.

Known for placing pressure on herself, Marink said she is more relaxed for tonight's meet.

"I'm not pressured — I feel very relaxed," Marink said. "I know I am going to do well."

Tonight's 7:30 meet is themed "Boppin' 50's Night," and is being presented by Parkette Drive-In. Admission is free to students, \$5 for adults and \$2 for children.



JAMES CRISP Kernel staff

**SWINGIN'** Against GW tonight, UK looks to extend its 10-1 series record against the Colonials.

# UK boxers low-key, high drama

By Brett Dawson  
Senior Staff Writer

Forget about the high profile Tyson-Holyfield feud.

Heck, forget about the high profile *Tabby Smith-Holyfield* feud.

It'll be low-budget and low-key, but it'll be real boxing when the UK Boxing Club takes to the ring for its UK Invitational this weekend. UK entertains Xavier (Ohio), Miami (Ohio), Ohio University and Michigan in what club president Jeremy Winton calls "the first big show" of the boxing season.

UK's club team is "usually the best in the region," Winton said yesterday, but with only two returning veterans, Winton expects a challenge from Miami.

"We have a lot of new guys," Winton said. "We're going to be really young."

That youth goes on display Saturday at the Continental Inn. The college bouts, in 12 different weight classes, begin at 7 p.m., to be followed by a series of Golden Gloves fights about 9 p.m. UK looks to its returnees, Winton, who fights at 156 pounds, and Sal Bertuna, who usually fights at 112, but may move up to 125 this weekend, for leadership early.

Winton hopes UK will peak by the postseason. Xavier plays host to the regionals February 27 and 28, and Lexington is the host city for the collegiate nationals on March 3 and 4.

"We should be pretty good," Winton said of his squad, which has yet to compete at home this season.

"We'd really like to get people aware of the club before the nationals come here."

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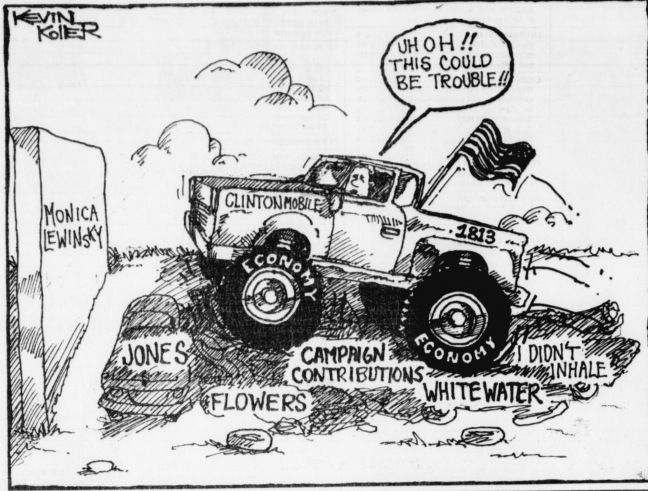
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Century 21

It happened to the American Indians, the Jews, Asian Americans and now the geology department at UK: forced relocation.

It has been decided by higher powers outside the department that life would be better if the contents of the geology collection in Bowman Hall were integrated under the Library of Congress classification system with materials from the departments of physics, mathematics, engineering and chemistry in the soon-to-be vacated space at the Margaret I. King Library.

It is argued that such integration will assist students in locating similar materials across diverse fields of study. Further, it would provide one-stop-shopping for those who need to use digitizers, map tables, special copiers and other equipment that would otherwise have to be duplicated in multiple locations.

These arguments are sound and compelling; however, such a move would destroy the integrity of the well-respected collection and University officials realize as much, yet they claim that no suitable alternatives exist. Surely, a campus that boasts hundreds of allegedly bright minds could find a solution that would satisfy both parties.

It has been suggested that the move is motivated, in part, out of a need to simply fill space in MIK, if that is a significant factor then we are certain that others in the UK community would kill to gain access to such space. In fact, President Wethington once commented that the University would be bombarded with requests to take over the empty space in the Mathews building once the new career center on Rose Street is complete.

Perhaps officials should try once again to reach a compromise that accommodates concerns on both sides. It might even be possible to duplicate a large portion of the geology materials for MIK—at great expense—so that the original collection can remain undisturbed.

Duplication is always costly, but it might be possible for the geology department to recruit a corporate sponsor in the field to pony up money to save the collection and donate money to its future preservation.

After all, the money isn't going to be spent on a new basketball arena as many faculty feared so now faculty can go out and solicit funds on their own.

Hypocrisy of the media sickens fellow journalist

A candy coated diet can sustain us for only so long

I've been in the newspaper business for almost five years and I've always wanted to say this. But maybe I mean stop the madness.

I am embarrassed to be a working member of the media in these days of in-depth interviews with high school classmates of alleged oral-sex driven former interns with friends with axes to grind. In class — every class from political science to sex education — it is the most talked-about subject. And inevitably someone turns to me in class, expecting me to speak on behalf of the bumbling press corp. They find me speechless and disgusted with my peers.

The media has literally made a circus out of this president Clinton, Monica Lewinsky debacle. And as one of the circus clowns, I'm beginning to want out of the big top.

The ringmasters, the national media, are falling all over themselves to get exclusives with people that might know something about what happened in the White House.

They are searching high and low for anything that might "scoop" another media member. We're walking a high, wobbly wire without a net because inevitably the public will stop watching, and we will fall. Working citizens of America can only take so much of the eye candy before they beg for substance. And with no concrete evidence, the media is left holding the bag.

As a young child fascinated with the newspaper and television media (I was kind of weird), I looked up to the likes of Barbara Walters and Ted Koppel. I was enthralled with USA Today and the New York Times. Now these papers are relying on anonymous sources, reports from inside the White House from leaks that could be anyone from a secretary in the Oval Office to the personal trainer of Buddy the dog.

We all laugh at the lady in the grocery line passing her time trying to subtly look into the National Enquirer without anyone noticing. She just wants to see "what kind of crazy news that rag can make up and make people believe." She just wants to get the latest dirt on the biggest celebrities. But now we're all just an un-

educated lady in a supermarket line waiting for the latest edition of the Enquirer.

And the media circus is aiding us in our quest with that kind of garbage everyday. Semen stains on a dress? Other married men she's slept with? Clinton's a sex addict (as relayed by a "sexpert" on "Hard Copy"). The secret service saw it all! And if just one more time I see the CNN footage of Lewinsky hugging Clinton, I will throw the TV off my apartment balcony.

If this really happened and our president had an affair but didn't do anything really illegal or wrong (and I'm not saying he didn't), then who are we to judge? We have all done stuff we're not particularly proud of. If Hillary Clinton doesn't care then why should you? I know so many media members that have had affairs (the newspaper industry is a very incestuous one). Many have lied about it. I guess hypocrisy runs rampant everywhere.

But there is absolutely no excuse to cover a circus in the White House with even less integrity than the event itself. The media owes it to the American public to tell them accurately and fairly, the entire story as they know it.

In an issue as serious as this, the media owes it to the public to report their sources and keep the commentary and analysis to a minimum. The media has a responsibility to the people, and it's not living up to its end of the bargain. The media owes it to the public to stop the madness.

As a college journalist, I obviously have a lot to learn. But no one is setting the example anymore. No one is challenging me to cover the real stories with passion, intelligence and integrity. I have no one to look up to.

So this is a plea to members of the "real" media everywhere, stop and look at what you're doing. I'm not saying stop the coverage, because if it is a matter of perjury or obstruction of justice the public needs to know about it. But stop the false reports with no basis. Stop the interviews with so-called experts. And if there are no new developments, just say so.

Because eventually, as my mother always taught me, while at the circus if you fill up on too much cotton candy, you're just going to get sick.

Editor in chief Jennifer Smith is a journalism junior. She can be reached at jsmith@pop.uky.edu.



Jennifer Smith Editor in Chief

READERS' forum

UK Athletics sets a poor example for its athletes

To the editor:

A recent article appearing in the Lexington Herald-Leader serves to highlight what is wrong in college all athletics today. He quoted UK Athletics Director C.M. Newton as saying, when told of ECU AD Mike Hamrick's comments, "I'm not going to have him question our integrity on this thing. It's not something we wanted to do. And certainly we don't like to have to do it."

I beg to differ. This is a question of integrity, and the impending legal action may set a disastrous legal precedent for all of college athletics. This is not a simple case of exercising a clause, neither is it standard operating business procedure, as UK would have everyone believe. What UK has done is extremely rare, and it

is widely considered to be in very poor taste, if not illegal.

The "buyout clause," mentioned so self-righteously by Kentucky officials, is intended for use in the event of emergency situations — conference realignment, disasters, acts of God, etc. — and not because a team "wants another home game." Such action is bad business. To illustrate this point, let us assume a star recruit signs a contract in good faith to play football at X university, but then breaches the contract to play at Y university — this is not done.

The most disturbing element is the precedent being set by Kentucky's action. If this dispute goes to court, as appears to be the case, the legal precedent set would lead to chaos and scheduling nightmares. What would stop university officials from dropping and rescheduling teams in the eleventh hour for any reason? In the case of Kentucky, the most likely reason being the avoidance of a possible road loss and subsequent embarrassment. I trust that university athletic directors, the

NCAA, and college football fans will keep a close eye on this disturbing case and in the future, second guess any contractual agreements with UK.

R. Matthew Potat Raleigh, N.C.

Rich has scrambled his facts

To the editor:

Ben Rich's article was inaccurate. We did not celebrate Martin Luther King Day because we politically correct. Likewise, we did not correct it because he was a great man who deserves to be recognized.

We celebrated it because every semester is planned to start with a three day week, and a three day weekend. Every semester is that way. Our breaks are not chosen by the value of the holiday, but location on the calendar.

Wade Hull computer science sophomore

TALKback!

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

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

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

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

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

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

INFORMED SOURCES

"WE DON'T know what he was thinking. He won't talk to us. I tell you, it's kind of crazy for police with some motorists these days."

Rich Stewart, on a motorist who tried to back over a state trooper and his motorcycle. The motorist then pursued the trooper through traffic on Highway 17 before crashing into a guard rail.

A trip to Vegas or marriage, it's a gamble either way

It's stuffy in August inside this little church where people are packed against the walls.

I got the last seat in the place and the most amazing feeling off some northern lights. I'm one of many in the last two pews hoping there is an open bar at the reception.

In front of us is a sea of gray, graying heads attached to lines and summer dresses that would rather be hanging in their closets. My friend gives me the elbow and whispers in my ear, "This is a joke."

Perhaps it was the tie around my neck cutting off the circulation to my head but I couldn't help thinking Sharon was catching a buzz off of her wedding.

After all, every eye in the place was on her as the hand of every guy in the last two rows had been. But that's a whole

another can of beer. Sharon and Tom Collins are in love as one of 19 year olds can be. The minister, having assumed the lovers had been mis-

informed, has a lengthy Question-and-Answer in which Tom and Sharon are grilled on their marital duties.

Sharon's eyes glisten as she stammers, "I do." Then they kiss whereupon everyone gives a standing O and promptly swarms the reception area to stammer their vows to the bartender.

My level of happiness increases by some proportional mathematical equation that involves trips to the bar and dancing with Ally.

And late in the hours Sharon and Tom dance out in the wreath of each other's

arms while the bride's maids blow bubbles in the night.

The bride and groom are whisked away in the limo to a place warm and gorgeous; I think it was Jamaica. And as the tail lights recede the laughter dies like the quiet after the storm.

No one can help but be happy for them. We all hope it lasts forever, yet we can't help but think, "What if?" What if 10 years down the road, Tom just isn't doing it for Sharon? What if she has an affair and stays married for the kids, but starts hoarding and pretty soon she's dead?

Or what if they are the middle aged couple in front of you at the ball game that are still flirting and sharing beers?

Half of us still standing around the driveway whiffing the faint exhaust are betting on the latter, the other half on crash and burn. And anyone who has been to Vegas knows that those are 50-50 odds and that ain't bad.

So listen up kiddo, you only go around once, so do it right and do it right the first time. This is the '90s and there is a certain amount of freedom that wasn't available to you before. So if you found someone that doesn't ignore you completely and makes you feel good; live with them until you are positive you don't want the commitment.

I'm a firm believer in the old college try, whatever that means, but I don't intend on using it as a scapegoat. When

your marriage fails you can tell your therapist, "Well, I gave it the old college try. Heave ho! Right?"

And as you spin off lengthy long distance phone conversations using psycho babble to highlight your inner demons and traumatic childhood, think of the family you crushed by a youthful mistake;

I can't help but think of the people I know that are divorced, and the people getting married next year who denied last month that love ever existed. How quickly we change.

When my friend Kathy told me yesterday that she is getting married, I asked only one question, "What's the rush?" After all, houses, cars and lovers will come and go. Your spouse, children and rock 'n' roll won't. But that's a whole 'nother can of beer.

Guest Columnist Owen Duffy is an undeclared sophomore.



Owen Duffy Guest Columnist





# CAMPUS

## UK celebrates black history

## Speakers tackle prejudice, racism on national level

Seminars set to spark discussion

By Manish Bhatia  
Staff Writer

Starting today UK will bring seven speakers to campus to discuss racial prejudice in a lecture series called "Prejudice, Stereotyping and Public Policy."

Over the next three months, lecturers from several universities across the United States will speak on various topics about racial awareness, including welfare, media bias and popular public misconceptions about race.

Franklin Gilliam, the director for African American studies at the University of California-Los Angeles starts the series at 3 p.m. this afternoon in 230 Student Center.

His lecture, titled "Prime Suspects: The Effects of Local News on the Viewing Public," will focus on racial stereotypes promoted by the media.

"He is doing some really interesting work on how local news stories tend to feature violent crimes with African-American suspects," said Mark Peffley, a political science professor at UK.

"(The media) tends to reinforce negative stereotype for blacks. It also shows support for more punitive anti-crime policies," he said.

Deb Weis, director of Communications for Research and Graduate Studies, the series is funded by the Commonwealth Distinguished Visiting Scholar Awards. The purpose of the awards is to enhance graduate and undergraduate education as well

as research. "This is a really exciting series," Peffley said. "This is an important topic nationwide as well as UK campus. We hope to get people to discuss and think about these issues."

Several people were studying racism, prejudice at the University, Peffley said. And the series provides an excellent means for them to get together for discussions, he said.

The speakers include three psychologists, three political scientists and one sociologist. UK's political science department invited four of them. The lectures are designed to be an important forum for undergraduate

ates, graduates and faculty at the University. The remaining lecturers are Margo Montelth, UK (Feb. 13); Martin Gilens, Yale University (Feb. 24); John F. Dovidio, Colgate University (March 6); Donald Green, Yale University (March 27); Jennifer Crocker, University of Michigan (April 3); and Lawrence Bobo, Harvard University (April 17).

those too, call). We are looking for people who are involved in local and campus theatre. Don't wait. Get your story told for all the campus to see.

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By Matthew May  
Assistant News Editor

With February only days away, several organizations on campus are putting the final touches on a series of events for African American History Month, which begins Sunday.

The African American Studies and Research Program, Black Student Union and the Martin Luther King Jr. Cultural Center have filled their schedule of events and will embark on a month-long journey of speeches, films and seminars designed to celebrate black history and heighten awareness on campus.

Gerald L. Smith, director of UK African American Studies and Research Program, said he is excited about the events and hopes he can direct his program toward a more Civil Rights-based one.

"We are hoping to not only develop a curriculum that will make our area of expertise the Civil Rights movement," Smith said, "but create programs that will stimulate the campus and community at large."

Chester Grundy, director of African American Student Affairs, agreed that public awareness is a major goal of the events for the month.

"The purpose of doing this is essentially to contribute to the public awareness of the central

role the black history and culture has played in this society," Grundy said.

Some of the activities for the month include speeches by Georgia Powers, the first black senator in Kentucky history, on Feb. 2; and Clayborn Carson from Stanford University. Carson is considered the foremost authority on King and his writings during the Civil Rights movement.

Weekly presentations from UK graduate students will be part of the Carter G. Woodson lecture series on a variety of subjects related to the history of African Americans, film presentations, concerts, poetry, talent nights and an art exhibit featuring stone sculptures from the Shona people of Zimbabwe.

The interactive programs will be an exciting and relaxing way to add a little fun to the events of the month, said Sandra Cairo, programming coordinator for the King Cultural Center.

With 1998 being the 30-year anniversary of King's assassination, now is the perfect time to discuss the Civil Rights movement, Smith said.

"Given it has been 30 years since the assassination of King and perhaps the most turbulent year in our history, it's an ideal time to bring Civil Rights to the forefront," Smith said. "We want to look at it from a national, local

and state perspective."

Bringing Powers, who has witnessed the struggles of blacks in Kentucky firsthand, to campus will create a unique view for students, Smith said.

"Mrs. Powers gives us a person who knows the struggles of bringing Civil Rights to Kentucky," Smith said. "She has an insider's view that is rare, not only for women, but for black women."

Smith and Grundy both expressed the opinion that the Feb. 12 "Reflecting Backward: The 1968 Black Student Union Movement at the University of Kentucky" panel discussion may be the most interesting event of the entire month.

"Having people such as Guy Mendes, Doris Wilkinson and Chester Grundy who were on campus during the Spring and Fall of 1968 is very exciting," Smith said. BSU's mission during African American History month is to help everyone at UK and in the community appreciate other cultures' backgrounds, Grundy said.

"The activities are designed to render an accurate and authentic picture of African descended people," Grundy said. "The month gives us all a fuller sense and deeper appreciation of how important it is to expose ourselves to experiences that give us an accurate understanding of the people who make up the world's culture."

Grundy insists the key to black students understanding their heritage is based on knowing themselves.

"An immediate value for black students is that all knowledge is based on self-knowledge," he said. "You must have a healthy sense of identity to learn up to your potential."

While each of the three organizations have some events planned separately, all will work to support one another wholeheartedly.

The BSU and research program will co-sponsor the panel discussion, and although the King Cultural Center doesn't have many things planned on their own, Cairo said they support the other groups.

"The King Cultural Center philosophy is not to schedule much, but to support the other departments," Cairo said. "African American history shouldn't be just one month, but an yearlong curriculum."

All the organizations agree that the month of February isn't just a time for blacks to celebrate and learn about their history, but a time for all to come together.

"The whole idea is to stimulate curiosity in all races and classes," Smith said. "It's not about hero worship or compensatory history. It is a challenge for all to think about the past and how far we've come."

SALE ENDS SUNDAY!



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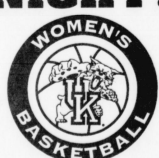
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