

**WEATHER** Sleet continuing this afternoon, high near 40. Cold and dry tonight, low of 25. Cool tomorrow, high of 45.

**NO DIRECTION** The star-studded film 'Twilight,' with Susan Sarandon, has the talent, but lacks plot. See Diversions, page 2.



**Tue**  
March 10, 1998.

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## Tuition options draw praise, scrutiny

By Brandy Carter  
Staff Writer

President Clinton and Vice President Al Gore's new plan for college students is getting mixed reactions from students and faculty.

One proposal in Clinton's plan calls for increased Pell Grant awards. This would mean nearly \$4 million low- to moderate-income students would receive Pell Grants of up to \$3,000.

Some students welcome the money for obvious reasons.

"Increasing the amount awarded to Pell Grant recipients would

help me because I would receive more money (for school)," said Jessica Newland, a psychology sophomore.

Increasing these grants could mean benefits for many students, traditional and non-traditional, part-time and full-time.

"The increased Pell Grants would give incentive for at risk students such as teen-age mothers to go and finish college or go on and get a professional degree," said Kelly Watkins, an early education junior.

Another part of Clinton's plan includes a tax exemption on interest made off of Education IRAs.

To be eligible for the tax exemption, families would be required to invest \$500 annually in the child's name.

But this program would only be available for children under the age of 18.

"I think the tax exemption is a move in the right direction, when you've got more than one child planning on attending college all that money adds up," Watkins said. "If parents save money early on, their children could attend top ranked schools."

Clinton's plan also aims at improving access and opportunity for student-based loans by lower-

ing the interest rate and allowing for a pay-as-you-earn income-based repayment plan.

Five million parents and students will use \$30 billion in federal loans this year alone.

"The program sounds good, but I hope that students will have the option to repay more than the minimum based on what they earn so that I could get out of debt faster," said Tom Shay, a secondary education junior.

Other students criticized Clinton's proposal.

"Clinton's plan doesn't seem that different to me," said Jenny

Paulin, an undeclared sophomore. "I don't think reducing the interest rate is significant enough change."

Clinton's proposal creates a lifetime learning credit that would allow for a tax credit to help offset college costs for upperclassmen and graduate students.

"Clinton's plan would really help me, as I will probably be between \$70,000 and \$80,000 in debt by the time I get my Ph.D. in psychology," said Heather Bostwick, a psychology sophomore.

"Clinton's increased access to loans means I can borrow more, but it's bad because it's more

money I'll have to pay back later," she said.

The goal of Clinton's proposals is to make college attendance as universal in the 21st Century as high school attendance is today. Louis Swift, dean of Undergraduate Studies, thinks the program will have a positive impact on UK.

"Something is needed to help students as many of them leave the University more than \$20,000 in debt," Swift said.

The Clinton administration has already begun to implement

See PLAN on 6

## Food for thought



PHOTOS BY HOBIE HILIER, Kannel staff

**EATING EDUCATION** Many students questioned the need for a mandatory meal card at UK. Food Services says it has to have money to stay open and continue offering new items.

## Students: More flexibility should be given in plans

By Mark Fister  
Contributing Writer

Nick Rainey couldn't believe his eyes.

A crowd of late-semester shoppers descended on the Commons Market and cleared the shelves of the on-campus grocery.

"My initial reaction was, 'Are we having an air raid or a nuclear holocaust?' I couldn't even buy cold medicine when I was feeling bad," said Rainey, an animal science sophomore.

Students with large amounts remaining on their Diner Accounts took friends and strangers on a shopping spree that left shelves bare.

"Students who live on campus are required to purchase the \$675 Diner Account. All but \$50 must be used by the end of the first semester or it is lost. Any money left on the account at the end of the year is forfeited."

Carol Raitz, the director of UK Food Services, said "UK students have, by far, the most flexible plan that's available."

Without the guaranteed money from on-campus students, UK would have to start cutting back on some services,

Raitz said. Elementary education sophomore Monica Rogers worked at the Commons last semester. During dead week Rogers watched a girl announce she had \$200 left on her account.

"She told a bunch of people she didn't even know to buy whatever they wanted," Rogers said.

Raitz recalled a similar incident at K-Lair Grill. A student with \$300 left walked in and bought food in bulk for the 10 people behind him in line.

Many students dislike the requirement. "What we have here is a command market economy," said Matt Wheeler, a mechanical engineering senior. "The consumers are at the mercy of the provider, rather than the provider catering to the wants and needs of the consumers."

Secondary education freshman Christopher Huelsman said he doesn't mind paying for the Diner Account but doesn't want to be forced to spend the money. He said students should have the freedom to cash out what they don't use.

Raitz said it's not about



making students pay more, but about covering expenses. Food Services does not make a profit, she said.

"We are currently struggling to make ends meet," she said.

The Diner Account represents 47 percent of UK Food Services' sales, Raitz said. The rest of the money comes from UK employees and students who live off campus.

The Diner Account can be used to buy such items as batteries and shampoo, but is useless at vending machines and small-unit restaurants.

Raitz said this was because the smaller units like Intermezzo lack the capacity to serve the entire campus.

Undeclared freshman Zach Smith said competition would improve the overall quality of

Food Services. "They should allow one of the local restaurants to accept one of the cards," Smith said.

Raitz acknowledged local business interest in such an idea, but she said the plan is unlikely. Raitz said this is in part because the state would require that such a move be backed by a bank.

The prices charged by Food Services have also roused concern.

Food Services employee Lisa Ewing said, "I have to pay like everybody else, and I agree. They're too high."

Elementary education freshman Shannon Reh agreed with Ewing.

"You get more for your money at the local stores than you do downstairs (at Blazer Express)."

Raitz offered a suggestion for those who have trouble spending all of the \$675.

"They should commit themselves to eating one good hot meal a day on their accounts."

She said that by choosing nutritious meals, "The young ladies who complain about not wanting to eat a lot ... could spend their money and not gain weight."

The Diner Account should be made optional or eliminated in favor of exclusive use of the Plus Account, Huelsman said.

Rainey does not think Food Services would go out of business if the Diner Account were no longer mandatory.

"I'd eat on campus or off campus. The important thing is I'd eat."

## Tenure review looks at wording

By Joe Dobner  
Staff Writer

What does "and" mean?

The answer is not as clear as one might think. This and other questions were tackled by the University Senate in yesterday's meeting.

The Senate held a non-voting discussion on promotion and tenure reform. The Senate Task Force on Promotion and Tenure has put forward a proposal to the full Senate on the subject.

"This proposal is a significant revision in the criteria for promotion and tenure," an attachment to the proposal written by the task force said.

The discussion focused mainly on wording. The primary bones of contention were the evaluation requirements for promotion, review purposes and diversity.

The university has a regular title series for tenure-track positions. These titles are the familiar assistant professor, associate professor and professor.

UK also has special title series for professors that don't quite fit into the standard professorial model, such as extension workers and physicians at the medical center.

The task force intended that the new guidelines apply to all title series.

See TENURE on 6

## Indigo Girls tickets on sale this afternoon

By Mal Herron  
News Editor

If the Student Activities Board members blinked, they would've missed it.

They didn't.

Now the contracts are signed: The Indigo Girls are playing Memorial Coliseum.

The Epic Records' artists will perform at 8 p.m. on April 21 at the venue, one of many stops on its tour to support the group's latest album, *Shaming of the Sun*.

The tickets are \$22.50, cash only, and go on sale at 5 p.m. today in the Student Center Grand Ballroom. To make sure all students get a chance to attend, the board has set an eight-ticket limit per person for the lottery.

Fearlessly harmonic, politically aware, the Emory University graduates' latest effort is a departure from earlier folk-centered efforts. But crowds have adored it just the same, most recently on the band's last jaunt through the Bluegrass, on Dec. 2 at the Palace in Louisville.

"We actually had shown a lot of interest in bringing them for homecoming," said board president Winn Stephens, but scheduling conflicts kept them from coming.

Concert committee co-chairs Brian Klausung and Lezell Lowe, along with other members of the committee, researched several possible bands. They sent out surveys to the students, checked

See INDIGO GIRLS on 6

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Interested applicants must be a UK student and must have worked at the Kentucky Kernel for one semester or have previous publishing experience at a major newspaper.

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CANDIDATES selected will be interviewed by the Kernel's Board of Directors. You will be given a time to interview between 3 & 6 p.m. on March 31.

**APPLICATIONS ARE DUE ON MARCH 13 AT NOON.**

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**BOWLING ALLEY DREAMS**  
 Jeff Bridges and Julianne Moore (left) star in the new Coen brothers film, 'The Big Lebowski.' John Turturro plays Jesus Quintana, Bridges' arch bowling rival.

Photo furnished

**Coens roll a Strike**

By Ashley Shrewsbury  
 Senior Staff Writer

Following the renowned success of *Fargo*, the Coen brothers crafted their latest effort, *The Big Lebowski*. It is an offspring (of sorts) of a menage à trois among *Raising Arizona*, *Blood Simple* and *Fargo*.

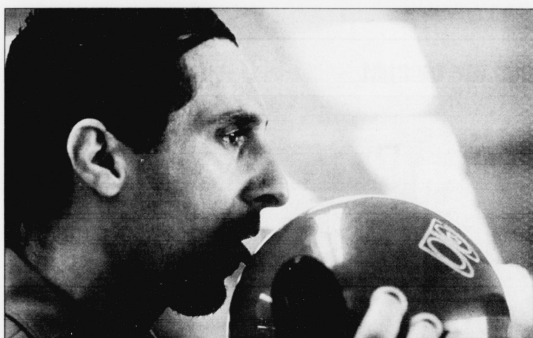
The time-honored elements of mystery, deception and scheming scoundrels coupled with lovably eccentric characters merge into an off-the-wall, but familiar film experience.

Sam Elliott's voice-over narration opens the film as a "tumbling tumbleweed" makes its way across the desert and into L.A. Much like a drifting plant himself, Jeff Lebowski, a.k.a. The Dude (Jeff Bridges), scouts a grocery store for half and half, a staple ingredient in his drink of choice, White Russians.

With long hair and utterly unmatched, disheveled clothes, The Dude casually writes a check for 69 cents and returns to his run-down Venice bungalow.

The plot unfolds as two thugs mistake The Dude for The Big Lebowski, a bitter old millionaire whose wife, the malleable Bunny, maintains a penchant for incurring debt to unsavory characters.

The Dude visits The Big Lebowski (David Huddleston) to procure a replacement for his soiled rug and soon becomes enmeshed in the logistical mess of Bunny's kidnapping.



While The Dude normally feels content bowling with his buddies and drinking his White Russian beverages, his foray into the criminal element and the barrage of colorful characters he meets challenges his stoned, laid-back persona.

His bowling friends, Walter (John Goodman) and Donny (Steve Buscemi), have nothing in common save a love of bowling.

Walter, a Vietnam vet, never misses a chance to editorialize on his patriotism and to randomly label people as nihilists, pacifists, and Nazis. Donny, a soft spoken ex-surfer, gets excluded from conversations and endures constant admonishments from Walter to "Shut the fuck up."

Nevertheless, the three friends, although dissimilar, show much loyalty and protection toward each other.

As *The Dude* runs into trouble, Walter provides help. His military background encourages his participation in *The Dude's* affairs and provides an outlet for the jungle warfare tactics he pulls against the German "nihilists."

The Dude's troubles become more complicated as the Big Lebowski's daughter, Maude

(Julianne Moore), entices The Dude with a cut of the ransom money he recovers.

While Bunny is the prototypical L.A. beach slut, Maude is a regal, pretentious, ultra-feminist artist. She paints in the nude and pontificates on the virtues of her "vaginal" art.

Painfully hilarious, Moore's affectations and mannerisms exist in a pocket of the film much like the other extrinsic characters. In fact, the film functions more like a dream—as a whole it is disjointed, but the parts appear lucid enough to excuse the lack of completeness.

With this in mind, *The Big Lebowski* lacks definition, but the final analysis reveals a film made simply to entertain. The plot takes a subsidiary position to the visuals and sharply constructed characters.

Even *The Dude's* dream sequences, although irrelevant to the plot, punctuate the film with humor and fantasy as they adopt the grandiose spectacle of a Busby Berkeley production complete with long-legged dancers and choreographed sequences.

Although the film operates loosely and far less cohesive than its predecessors, it shows the audience with fantastical images, a quirky sense of humor and endearingly unique characters.



**MOVIEreview**

★★★★  
 (out of five)  
 'The Big Lebowski'

**Newman in the 'Twilight' of career**

By Luke Saladin  
 Assistant Entertainment Editor

Making movies is a lot like putting together a sports team. You can have all the talent in the world, but if you don't have a good game plan, at best you're destined for mediocrity.

Case in point: *Twilight*, Hollywood's latest attempt at proving the end product is not always equal to the sum of its parts.

Between the film's trifecta of Paul Newman, Susan Sarandon, and Gene Hackman, we have the following: four Academy Awards, 19 Academy Award nominations, one legend, one icon, one of the best supporting actors ever to grace the big-screen.

But alas, singing the praises of these fine talented actors and actresses is superfluous in the case of *Twilight*. The film suffers from an inconsistent script and episodic scenes that are like reading an essay without a thesis.

Actors are merely a tool, and without the right craftsmanship, they lose their luster. The wasted talent permeating

*Twilight* does not relegate itself strictly to actors.

Benton places these three actors in a setting that must seem all too familiar, the blinding glitz of Hollywood. The film is a study in loyalty between three friends: an aging cop named Harry Ross (Newman), and two aging Hollywood icons, Jack and Catherine Ames (Hackman and Sarandon), whose marriage has fallen on hard times.

The opening scene of *Twilight* will always exist as a tribute to how entrancing the film could have been. Somewhere in Mexico we find Ross wearing sunglasses and discreetly sipping a drink. He has been sent by his friend Jack, a former screen legend, to recover his runaway daughter who has been seduced by a low-life vagabond.

During his rescue of Ames' daughter, Mel (Reese Witherspoon), the audience is given a scene of such ambiguous tension and bizarre vision that I will avoid ruining it for those who actually see the film.

The fact is the scene worked because it gives the viewer ques-

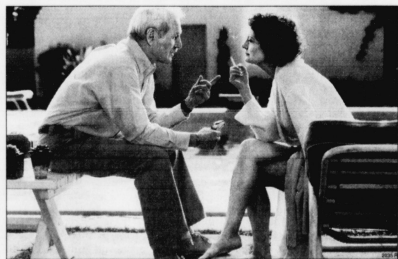


Photo furnished

**ACTORS WITHOUT DIRECTION** Paul Newman and Susan Sarandon's talents are wasted on 'Twilight' which has little direction.

tions. From this point on, the film wallows in scenes that, although filled with lots of stark imagery and stellar camera work, don't fit together into a solid narrative. Whereas the first scene gives the viewer questions, we aren't even sure what questions to ask from then on out.

Although the actors have nothing to work with, the individual performances are indicative of this fine group; Newman as the shop-worn retired police detective; Sarandon as the graceful and ele-

gant star of a bygone era; and Hackman as the grizzily "seen-it-all, done-it-all" man in Hollywood. Interspersed with their wonderful chemistry are moments of sheer style that make this movie all the more tragic.

Our first vision of Catherine has her coolly coming out of a swimming pool naked and asking Harry, who has his head turned, "Harry ... I think you've seen all of me there is to see."

In the case of *Twilight*, we should take a lesson from Harry, and just turn away.

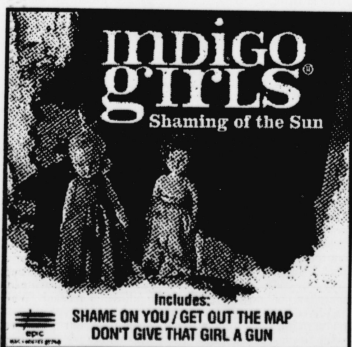
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# SPORTS

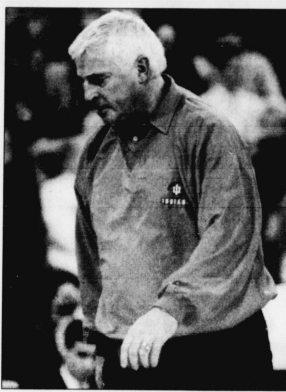
## IU's Knight appeals decision

Associated Press

BLOOMINGTON, Ind. — Indiana coach Bob Knight has appealed a ruling by the Big Ten, which reportedly gave him a choice between a one-game suspension or a \$10,000 fine for his actions during a game against Illinois two weeks ago. Knight was censured for his scathing comments about referees. Before the conference tournament in Chicago last week it was reported that Big Ten commissioner Jim Delany gave Knight the option of accepting one of the two penalties or appealing to the Big Ten. The conference said the decision would not be made public until Indiana had a chance to respond. But the school said today it was up to the Big Ten to announce details of precisely what was being appealed. "You'd have to talk to them at the Big Ten. What

we sent out, that's us," Indiana basketball sports information director Gregg Elkin said today. No one at the Big Ten office in Chicago could be reached for comment. A winter storm in Chicago kept many people from work. The Hoosiers begin play in the NCAA tournament on Thursday against Oklahoma. If Knight was to be suspended, it would be his third suspension in his 27 years at Indiana. Elkin said neither the university nor Knight would discuss the issue further. "It's a personnel matter," Elkin said. "University regulations prohibit us from discussing university personnel matters regarding employees. That's just a university rule." He would not say if last week's media reports were accurate. The *Herald-Times* of Bloomington, Indianapolis television stations and ESPN

college basketball analyst Dick Vitale, citing unidentified sources, all reported Knight was given a choice of serving a one-game suspension or paying a \$10,000 fine. Indiana was given three business days to decide whether to appeal or accept those findings, meaning Knight was allowed to coach during the Hoosiers' two games in the conference tournament, a victory over Ohio State and a loss to Purdue. The *Herald-Times* reported that the Big Ten cited Knight for violations of its sportsmanlike conduct code, which includes intentionally inciting participants or spectators to violent or abusive action and publicly and unduly criticizing a game official. Knight called the officiating in Indiana's loss to Illinois Feb. 24 the "greatest travesty" he has ever seen as a college coach.



**TEMPER TROUBLE** IU coach Bob Knight was banned a suspension after another violent outburst last month.

## Figuring March fortunes not a numbers game

By Jim O'Connell  
Associated Press

The number most associated with the NCAA tournament is 64 because that's how many teams make the field. That's far from the only number connected with this year's tournament, which starts Thursday. Here are some figures that could be interesting, might be surprising and will change by this time next year: 0 — times all four No. 1 seeds have advanced to the Final Four. 3 — times in the '90s the scoring champion has played in the tournament (Bo Kimble of Loyola Marymount in 1990, Glenn Robinson of Purdue in 1994 and Charles Jones of Long Island University in 1997). 3 — bids for the Midwestern Collegiate Conference, the most for of the non-power conferences since the Big West had three in 1990.

- 3 — games won by No. 15 seeds (Coppin State over South Carolina in 1997, Santa Clara over Arizona in 1993 and Richmond over Syracuse in 1991).
- 4 — teams making their first NCAA tournament appearance — Illinois-Chicago, Northern Arizona, Prairie View and Radford.
- 6 — No. 1 seeds for North Carolina since the field expanded to 64 in 1985. Kansas and Kentucky are next with five each.
- 6 — schools to repeat as national champion, with Arizona trying to make it seven.
- 7 — the longest current streak of NCAA appearances to be snapped this year when Wake Forest didn't get an at-large bid.
- 7 — the combined number of consecutive first-round losses between first-round opponents Indiana (3) and Oklahoma (4).
- 8 — schools from last year's Sweet Sixteen that did not even make this year's field.
- 8 — the lowest seeding of a national champion (Villanova in 1985).
- 9 — No. 1 seeds that have gone on to win the national championship since 1979.
- 9 — teams ending at least a 10-year drought since their last NCAA appearance.
- 11 — lowest-seeded team to reach the Final Four (LSU in 1986).
- 14 — teams with losing records that have played in the NCAA tournament. Prairie View joins that group this year.
- 14 — tournaments that have had fields of 64.
- 16 — former NCAA champions that are in this year's field.
- 16 — teams in the field that did not beat another NCAA tournament team this season, with only No. 5 Princeton among the top half of field.
- 20 — tournaments that have been played with a seeding process.
- 23 — different schools that have had a No. 1 seeding since 1985.
- 24 — consecutive appearances by North Carolina to extend its own record. Arizona and Georgetown are next with 14.
- 31 — wins by No. 9 seeds over No. 8 seeds in their 52 first-round games.
- 36 — teams in this field that have never reached the Final Four.
- 38 — years since Miami last played in the tournament.
- 39 — the most appearances by one school, Kentucky.
- 40 — the number of wins Kansas would have if it wins the national championship.
- 52 — the number of wins by No. 1 seeds over No. 16 seeds in as many meetings.
- 63 — games to decide the national champion.
- 9,999 — the odds to 1 given for a No. 16 seed to win the national championship.

## U.S. Olympic Committee talking trash

By Larry Siddons  
Associated Press

All players on the U.S. Olympic men's hockey team could be barred from future games unless those who trashed dorm rooms in Nagano come forward soon, officials said Monday. U.S. Olympic Committee executive director Dick Schultz said he and committee president Bill Hybl would discuss disciplinary options during a conference call with the panel's officers Tuesday. He said the USOC wanted to act quickly and only one option appeared severe enough to carry weight with the highly paid NHL players who made up the U.S. team at last month's Winter Games. "The toughest thing we could do would be denial of participation," Schultz said. Such a ban could be extended to world championships and other international events. Schultz said he believed only two or three players on the 23-member squad were involved in the vandalism of three rooms at the Olympic Village dorm in the early morning of Feb. 18, hours after the United States

was eliminated by the Czech Republic. He refused to say which players he suspected of causing the estimated \$3,000 worth of damage. While "the last thing you want to do is penalize innocent people," Schultz said the USOC was left with few other choices under its Code of Conduct for Olympic athletes "unless somebody suddenly comes forward and says, 'I saw it,' or, 'I did it.'" "That's the whole dilemma." The hockey players could be omitted from the guest list for a White House visit by the entire Olympic team next month, or could be denied commemorative rings and watches, Schultz said. "But with the kind of money these guys make, that really doesn't have much of an impact," Schultz said by telephone from his office in Colorado Springs, Colo. Taking away their medals wouldn't work. Although a pre-tournament favorite for gold,

the U.S. team won just once and failed to even come close to a bronze. The NHL said last week that so far it has been unable to determine which players were responsible for the damage. Although the league said the case was not closed, Schultz made it clear Olympic officials could wait no longer. "We have to do what's in the best interest of the USOC," Schultz said. He said he and Hybl would ask to investigate the matter and decide on punishment without going to the ruling executive committee, which is scheduled to meet in Portland, Ore., next month. "There's no time frame but it's something that we should try to bring to a conclusion in as short a time as possible," he said. "It shouldn't be another 30-60 days." Schultz said he would be interested in interviewing the hockey himself, "although logistics now might make that difficult."

With the kind of money these guys make, that really doesn't have much of an impact.

— Dick Schultz, USOC Executive Director, on the possibility of rescinding an offer for the U.S. men's Hockey team to visit the White House.

### ADVISING

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## Princeton elated as NCAA rewards Tigers in draw

Associated Press

PRINCETON, N.J. — One of the biggest questions leading up to the NCAA tournament was where Princeton would be seeded. "The Tigers liked the answer. Getting the highest seed ever for an Ivy League team, fifth-seeded Princeton (26-1) will meet 12th-seeded UNLV (20-12) Thursday in the East Region at Hartford, Conn. Despite playing a weak Ivy League schedule, Princeton's early wins over Wake Forest, Texas and North Carolina State, as well as a close loss to North Carolina and a ranking of No. 8 in the AP poll, impressed the nine-member selection committee. "It's a great seed for us," center Steve Goodrich said Sunday. "There's a lot of teams from power conferences who didn't win tournaments they could have bumped up. To be considered with teams like that is an honor." Princeton had the previous highest Ivy League seed when it was No. 8 in 1991. The Tigers were seeded 13th in 1996 when it upset defending champion UCLA in the first round and were 12th last year, when they lost to California 54-52 in the first round. Princeton has won 19 straight games, going 14-0 in the Ivy League for the second straight season and winning all but one of those games by double figures. "We're basically happy with the seeding and the (opponent), guard Brian Earl said. "We've spent a lot of time in New England with our league games and I would have liked for maybe some sunny weather, but we're really

just going to play basketball." Starting in 1989 with a one-point loss to top-seeded Georgetown, Princeton's vaunted system of offensive patience and defensive intensity has captured the nation's fancy at tournament time. The Tigers deliberate offense, which revolves around backdoor layups and 3-point shooting, has led to several near advances to the second round and the memorable upset of UCLA two years ago under coach Pete Carril. This year, second-year coach Bill Carmody said he hopes the reversal of their underdog status works to Princeton's advantage. "There are advantages to being the favorite, or the 'overdog,' because maybe people are a little afraid of you," Carmody said. "If you're the underdog maybe people take you lightly, but no one takes anyone lightly in the NCAA tournament." "It feels different this year because we know we were going to be on the other side — a five, not a 12," Earl said. "We knew we'd be playing somebody tough, and UNLV is certainly a tough team. But we come in with a little more confidence this year and that's because of what we saw in the draw today." Goodrich pointed to the Tigers' early non-conference wins as a reason to feel confident. "We've played some big games a lot of teams in our league don't get a chance to play," Goodrich said. "We know the sense of urgency that's needed and I think we can go pretty far. We have a tough first-round game but I think we can beat every team in our bracket." Carmody said he was unable to watch much of the Western Athletic Conference tournament and could not give many thoughts on how his team matched up with UNLV, which won it by winning four games on its home court in as many days. Goodrich and Earl both stayed up late to watch the Rebels' run to the title. "They fly the ball up and down the court," Goodrich said. "It was interesting to me they played zone a lot against Utah and New Mexico. They'll probably zone us too. They've got some big guys inside." "They're playing well. They're probably upset with their seed after winning that tournament. I'm sure they're happy with the matchup." UNLV averages 69.8 points, just three more than Princeton. The Tigers lead the nation in defense, allowing an average of 50.9 points. "They have a different style than teams we've been playing but we can adjust," Earl said. "Normally we play these type of teams well, keep it at our pace. But there's no telling what will happen."

## Athlete's Foot?

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# Group looks at plagiarism

*Cornell professor accused of using student's dissertation as his own*

By Jenn Abelson  
Cornell Daily Sun

ITHACA, N.Y. — As part of a larger investigation to examine cases of academic misconduct, a House committee is evaluating a grant given to a Cornell professor accused of plagiarizing a student's dissertation.

Dan Pearson, spokesperson for Representative George E. Brown (D-Calif.), the ranking minority member of the House's Committee on Science, said he will be evaluating United States Department of Agriculture (USDA) documents to determine if Prof. David Levitsky, nutrition, honored Antonia Demas' Ph.D. '95 research in his initial proposal for a federal grant.

In addition, Pearson will see whether Demas' name was dropped from the re-submitted proposal and examine the progress reports as well as the reasons for the termination of the grant before any other action is taken.

While none of the other cases the House is examining involves federal funding, in Demas' case, "the grant seems central proof that work was stolen," according

to Pearson.

## 23 Allegations

Demas brought 23 allegations of plagiarism, lying and harassment against Levitsky in March 1996 for research conducted for her dissertation and an additional study.

Demas charges Levitsky with failing to give her proper credit in a variety of instances, including in a grant proposal to the USDA, among other accusations.

A subsequent investigation by Daryl Lund, dean of the College of Agriculture and Life Science, in October 1996, concluded: "Although, one could construct a general pattern of lack of attribution by Professor Levitsky, I do not think that these allegations constitute plagiarism or ultimately misconduct."

In addition, Pearson said he plans to investigate communication between the USDA, Cornell and Levitsky.

According to Pearson, Cornell legally administers the grant and contract officials sign on the grant as well as Levitsky.

Pearson said the investigation would not continue if the evalua-

tions of the grants "did not seem promising" for the larger investigation.

Pearson, however, said, "I would be very surprised if that's true."

Prof. T. Colin Campbell, nutrition, who served on Demas' Research Advisory Committee, said he believes the House's results will not agree with the University's conclusions.

"This is one of the most clear-cut cases I've ever seen," Campbell said.

If the investigation of the grants lead to further questions, Pearson said he would contact Henrik N. Dullea '61, vice president of University relations, and Stephen Johnson, director of government affairs, and conducting a series of interviews, including ones with Lund and Peter C. Stein, dean of faculty, in early April.

## Ignored Sources

In addition, Pearson said he "could choose to look into sources Cornell decided to ignore."

At Dullea's request, Johnson and Dullea met informally with Pearson on Feb. 24 in Washington D.C. At this meeting, Pearson said he indicated his interest in the Demas' case and asked him if he had anything "that would further explain the Cornell side."

Dullea did not have any documents, according to Pearson.

Dullea said Pearson requested information regarding the adoption date of the University's Policy on Academic Misconduct and the number of cases where charges against faculty were made under this policy.

Dullea said the Dean of Faculty has reviewed 12 cases under the policy, which was established in 1989.

Dullea, however, said he does not know the outcome of any of these cases because "the files apparently are not maintained after three years. We don't have a substantive count in terms of an outcome profile."

Although he does not know how many cases will be examined for the House investigation, Pearson said he already met with five victims and listened to their grievances.

The House inquiry, which began two months ago, is expected to be completed by early June.

According to Pearson, the results of the investigation will highlight the commonalities between both the academic integrity cases and to provide future guidance "on what Congress might do and schools might do to avoid similar situations."

# Family TV blamed for youth smoking

Associated Press

ST. PAUL, Minn. — Jed Clampett's jalopy passes a Winston cigarette truck at the start of "The Beverly Hillbillies" and the show's theme song ends with the company's slogan: "Winston tastes good like a cigarette should."

Winston sponsored the 1960s family series on CBS.

By integrating commercial information into the show, "a young person would begin to see smoking, or Winstons, as a part of normal life," said Cheryl Perry, an expert on youth smoking, as she testified Monday in Minnesota's tobacco trial.

Such information, she said, plays an important role in a youngster's decision to begin smoking. She also cited commercials for cigarettes featuring characters from "The Flintstones" and the Marlboro man and print ads for Camel cigarettes featuring the cartoon character Joe Camel.

Ms. Perry testified on behalf of the state and Blue Cross and Blue Shield of Minnesota in their lawsuit against the tobacco industry to recover \$1.77 billion they say was spent treating smoking-related illness. They also are seeking punitive damages.

The plaintiffs allege the

tobacco industry knew about the dangers of smoking and hid their knowledge while marketing to youth and manipulating nicotine to keep people hooked.

Perry said internal tobacco industry documents show cigarette makers considered underage smokers critical to their future business and tracked the smoking habits of children for decades.

"The tobacco companies viewed smokers under age 18 as what they called replacement smokers, that without them their market would die," Perry said.

"They know that the teen-age years, that's when people begin to smoke and that's when they begin to make their brand selection," said Perry, who helped prepare the 1994 Surgeon General's report on preventing tobacco use among young people.

Perry cited documents from Philip Morris Inc., R.J. Reynolds Tobacco Co. and Brown & Williamson Tobacco Corp. during her testimony.

A 1984 Reynolds marketing document specifically addressed the importance of young smokers.

"Today's young adult smoking behavior will largely determine the trend of industry volume over the next several decades," the document said.

# Snow buries Midwest

Associated Press

A blustery snowstorm brought an abrupt halt to El Nino's mild winter weather in the Midwest on Monday, tying up highways and airports, including Chicago's busy O'Hare, and knocking out electricity to more than 300,000 customers.

About a foot of snow had fallen by the afternoon in Wisconsin, with 6 to 7 in Illinois and Indiana. Eighteen inches that fell over the weekend in central Iowa was heaped into 12-foot snowdrifts in Des Moines by wind gusting to 40 mph.

"Roads are drifting shut almost as soon as they are being plowed out," sheriff's Deputy Mary Paisley said in Wisconsin's Lafayette County.

Two traffic deaths in Kansas and one in Wisconsin were blamed on the weather.

The storm and the cold air it dragged down from Canada brought a sharp halt to what had been weeks of unusually mild weather.

El Nino has been causing a lull in the jet stream that has kept the coldest air off the northern United States and steered much of the heaviest precipitation across the South.

By Monday, wind chills had

dropped below zero in Iowa, and Minot, N.D., had a low of 20 below, with a wind chill of minus 40.

"It is kind of a shock to us because we just haven't had winter," said 6-year-old Phyllis Cushman of Platteville, Wis.

Ben Fortune, manager of Nevada Bob's Golf in Windsor Heights, Iowa, said "It's weird because we've all played at least one round of golf this year in February, and then March comes along and kicks us in the butt."

Blizzard conditions at O'Hare International Airport, the world's busiest passenger airport, reduced arrivals and departures to just 20 percent of normal, backing up flights elsewhere around the country.

Indiana shut down southbound Interstate 65 because of drifting snow and numerous jackknifed tractor-trailers. "It's just impassable, we can't even get the tow trucks out there," said Trooper Ann Wojas.

Snow had stopped falling over the Plains, and Nebraska highway crews began reopening sections of Interstate 80, which had been shut down since Friday night for about 275 miles.

More than 300 big rigs crowded Shoemaker's Texaco Truck

Stop and surrounding streets in Lincoln, waiting for permission to get back on the road.

Some 275,000 homes and businesses were without power across scattered sections of northern Illinois, including parts of Chicago.

An additional 30,000 customers had no lights or heat in southeastern Wisconsin. And thousands more were hiked out in northwestern Indiana.

"We know it's thousands of people, but we're so overwhelmed we can't say for sure how many people," said Vic DeMeyer of Northern Indiana Public Service Co.

Power in some rural areas of Illinois could be out for two or three days, said Commonwealth Edison spokesman Wilson Medina.

It was the coldest part of a vast storm system that also poured heavy rain across the lower Great Lakes, the Northeast and the mid-Atlantic states Monday.

Tornadoes damaged retirement communities, mobile home parks and campgrounds in Florida, and flooding kept some 2,000 people out of their homes in southern Alabama.

Eight deaths had been blamed on the weather across the Southeast.

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# People who dine out fuel increase in food illnesses

Associated Press

ATLANTA — Despite scientific improvements over the past 50 years, stomach illnesses caused by food are on the rise in the United States, in part because Americans like to eat at restaurants and get fruit and vegetables all year round, an expert said Monday.

"After all the years we've spent improving our food supply, it appears the problem of stomach illness has increased," Michael Osterholm, a Minnesota epidemiologist, told the International Conference on Emerging Infectious Diseases.

Scientists found an average of one stomach illness per person per year in a study of 86 families done in Cleveland between 1948 and 1957. The same rate held up in a 1965-71 study of 850 families in Tecumseh, Mich.

But in the last two years, studies in five places around the United States have found a rate of 1.4 illnesses per person per year. In Minnesota, the rate is 1.8, said Osterholm, Minnesota's state epidemiologist.

The problem may be even worse, he said, since many food-borne illnesses go unreported.

Paul Blake, chief of epidemiology for the Georgia Department of Human Resources, noted that Washington state — with about half the population of Georgia — has more reported outbreaks of food-borne disease. "We feel like we are missing a lot of outbreaks," he said.

Almost half the money Americans set aside for food is spent in cafes and restaurants, where diners are vulnerable to the safety practices of workers who are young and poorly paid and may not wash their hands, Osterholm said. The growing taste for gourmet foods, many of which are not completely cooked, only worsens the risk, he said.

As baby boomers grow older, increasing the average age of the U.S. population, their digestive systems become more vulnerable to tainted food.

Another factor is the push to eat more fresh fruits and vegetables year round, which forces the United States to shop for produce

in other countries with less stringent cleanliness standards, Osterholm said.

In 1996, more than a third of all cantaloupes, 74 percent of green onions and 79 percent of cucumbers from Mexico were sold in the United States.

"We have seen a whole transformation in the way our food comes to us," said Robert Toaxe, chief of food-borne and diarrheal diseases at the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention.

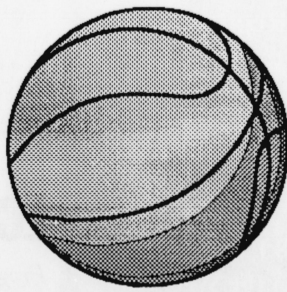
Keeping watch for new outbreaks is essential to gauging the problem of sickening foods, Osterholm warned, adding that a government-initiated surveillance system called FoodNet is being used in only seven areas of the country.

"Unfortunately, it's left us with more questions than answers," Osterholm said. "What we are not detecting is many times larger than what we are currently detecting."

He said Americans must be taught about food safety.

"It is not OK to eat pink hamburgers or pink pork and we need to communicate that to the public."

# GET THE BALL ROLLING



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Tomorrow.

# Campus

## Plan

### Administrators question proposals

From PAGE 1

some of its new programs. Under changes to the 1993 budget deal, interest rates on student loans are expected to drop from 7.8 percent to 7.0 percent. Also, 5.8 million students are expected to benefit from the Hope Scholarship, which offers tax credits of up to \$1,500 for students in their first two years of college.

"The reduced interest rates will really help me, since I will not have much money starting out to pay back my debt," New-

land said.

Increased awareness of Clinton's new plans might determine their success.

"Not enough people realize they are eligible for aid," Newland said.

Despite the benefits of Clinton's plan to students, some think it does not go far enough to open college opportunities to everyone.

"Increasing the number of Pell Grants is good, but the qualifications need to be lowered in order to help more students," Swift said.

Shay and Swift said they are concerned about the effectiveness of Education IRAs at helping low income families.

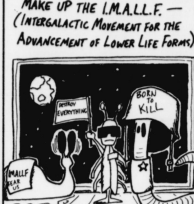
"The \$500 minimum yearly investment could be a problem for low-income families who couldn't afford to deposit \$500,"

## Newt and GERM

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## Senate

### Words pose problem in tenure policies

From PAGE 1

"By saying that scholarship is an activity that every faculty member must do, we felt it was no longer necessary to segregate the special title series from the regular title series," said microbiology professor Alan Kaplan.

Some faculty objected to the way the requirement was worded. "Research" is understood relatively narrowly, and that works against some people," philosophy professor Joan Callahan said.

One of the proposed changes is to a section called, "Research and Other Creative Activity." This section states, "Evidence of recognition of research and creative activity and its long-lasting merit and worth is valued."

Some professors are supposed to do scientific research and little else, while some music professors are almost entirely performance-based.

Senate Council Chairman Jim Applegate said that the "and" meant and/or.

The proposal's introduction

said that one of the goals of the criteria for promotion and tenure was to maintain a diverse faculty.

"Some faculty didn't like that statement, as diversity wasn't defined."

"To my mind, academic excellence is directly tied to having a faculty that is not of one monolithic mindset," Callahan said.

"Has the word diversity come to mean only women and minorities?" said engineering professor Hans Gesund, referring to diverse disciplines of faculty members.

Nursing professor Helen Hunt suggested a section be added to the proposal to define vague terms, such as "research" and "diversity."

The Senate also approved by a series of amendments to the regulations for searching for a new University president. The change was made mostly due to the devolvement of control over the community college system. The number of faculty members on the search committee was changed from three to four.

LCC faculty will now be represented in the University Senate, as the Senate approved this change by voice vote.

Another proposal to make it impossible for transfer course grades to count towards GPA was approved.

## Indigo Girls

### SAB nabs dynamic duo for UK concert

From PAGE 1

Polstar, an industry magazine that lists groups and how they've sold at various venues, and eventually drew up a list of four acts: George Clinton, Salt-N-Pepa, Bob Dylan and Indigo Girls.

The Girls jumped first. End of story.

"It happened so fast," said Klausning, an arts administration junior who attended a campus activities convention in Indianapolis in mid-February, and talked with other students about the act and how students received them.

"You have to act real quickly," he said. "It was in the University's and the students' best interest to go for it."

For a while, Big Blue seemed like big bust in terms of drawing big-name rock acts. In the past three years, artists such as Violent Femmes, They Might Be Giants, Rusted Root and Live have played other state colleges and

universities. And although Tori Amos, Bush, blues legend Bobby Blue Bland and T.S. Monk have visited, the board still drew criticism as a virtually nonexistent student organization.

"I understand there has been a lot of criticism, I understand students wanted a show like this," Stephens said. "It's been a long time coming. I can only remember one coliseum show since I've been here. It's positive for everybody."

With the advent of this upcoming show, Klausning said UK will be able to compete with other regional universities for bigger, badder and better bands.

"The way that the board is going, especially with this concert, we'll be able to see a lot of events for students," Klausning said.

One challenge, Lowe said, is the lack of a venue.

"You can't bring in a big-name act and put them in the (Student Center) ballroom," said Lowe, a health administration graduate student.

At the beginning of each year, the committee will pick top acts to try to bring to campus, and follow them even over the summer to see the draw they have at other college venues, Lowe said.

# Med students aid communities

By Jessica Coy  
Assistant News Editor

The time and instruction given to UK medical students by community-based faculty represents a \$3 million resource. The experiences they offer students are priceless.

Kentucky has long experienced a decline in rural health care. A shortage of primary care providers and the closing of several community hospitals are evidence to this decline.

The UK Chandler Medical Center and the University of Louisville Health Sciences Center have teamed together to create programs that will increase student's interest in practicing in Kentucky's rural areas.

The backbone of these programs are community-based educators who volunteer their time and expertise and invite UK students to come into their practices and learn the ropes of community health care through hand-on experiences.

"Community-based teaching is

inherent in the philosophy of this medical center," said Mae Marie Quan, the associate director of Area Health Education Centers (AHEC).

Students working with community-based faculty have the unique experience to work one on one with a professional.

"One of the most important things students gain from working with our community-based faculty is a sense of respect and professionalism," Quan said.

Missy Haney, a third-year medical student, is currently working with Dr. Beth Griffith, a community-based faculty member in Winchester.

Haney said that working in a smaller community gives her a different outlook on the field of pediatrics than what she would have gained from working in a large hospital such as the one here at UK.

"I think working here, where I get to do a lot of hands-on work gives me a more realistic impression of the real world," Haney said.

Community-based educational activities benefit over 1,500 stu-

dents from UK and the University of Louisville each year.

Students in the five colleges at UK Medical

Center are required to participate in a certain number of internships, on and off campus.

"We encourage students to take advantage of community-based faculty," Quan said. "Students are able to basically choose where they want to get their field experience. Many students take the opportunity to return to their hometowns."

Seven AHECs throughout Kentucky serve as a link between the university and the community-based faculty. But

as the program grew, the need was recognized for a program that would more fully integrate community-based faculty with the university.

According to information released by the UK Chandler Medical Center, a Community-Based Faculty initiative has been established that will strive to strengthen communications between the university and the community-based faculty, and will provide greater resources to the faculty that will support their roles as teachers.

A multi-disciplinary, community-based teaching conference sponsored by the UK

Chandler Medical Center last weekend addressed issues that the faculty members face. It was the fourth annual conference to provide a form for dialogue between on- and off-campus and community based faculty members.

# LCC offers youth taste of college life

### Program looks to help high schoolers plan for future

By James W. Smith  
Contributing Writer

Lexington Community College is hosting a program to encourage minority high school students to start planning for life after graduation.

The ninth-annual Minority High School Information Program will take place March 18 at LCC and will include information sessions, games and a guest speaker.

Davittia Harrell, the educational specialist at the Tulsa Department of Education and a former member of the UK

women's basketball team, is the guest speaker for the program.

Harrell will give a talk called "Be an All-star in Your Court."

"The program's main goal, said Director Donna Murphy, is to reach out to the community and stimulate people to think about higher education."

"Our mission is to serve the community and to familiarize minority students with higher education," Murphy said.

When she first came to LCC in the early '80s, Murphy said the campus wasn't very diverse and didn't resemble the surrounding community.

The program was designed to make minority students at area high schools aware that they should not stop the learning process after getting their diploma.

Erica Cotton, a dental hygiene

freshman at LCC, said she agrees need to attend college or some other kind of post-high school program.

Cotton also said LCC has become a diverse campus.

"It's pretty much equal I think," Cotton said. "You have a lot of blacks and a lot of whites here at LCC."

Cotton also said many students do not feel motivated to attend college after high school.

Murphy quickly pointed out that the word minority is a broad and sometimes ambiguous word.

She said the program was initiated primarily for African-American students, but all high school students are welcome to participate regardless of race or gender.

She also said the goal of the program was not to boost LCC

enrollment but to educate and to encourage students to continue their education.

"This is not a recruitment program," Murphy said.

"We would hope they would like to come to LCC, but this program is open to all students in (area high schools). Whether they attend LCC, a trade school or whatever, we want them to start thinking about life after high school."

This year's event will include sessions on financial aid, college admissions, career planning, self-esteem and African-American history, as well as games and a luncheon.

The popularity of the event is evident in the morale of the students who attend and also in their number, Murphy said.

She said the event usually draws 150-200 students.

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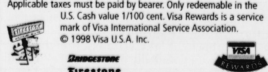
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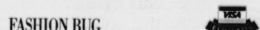
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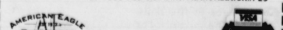
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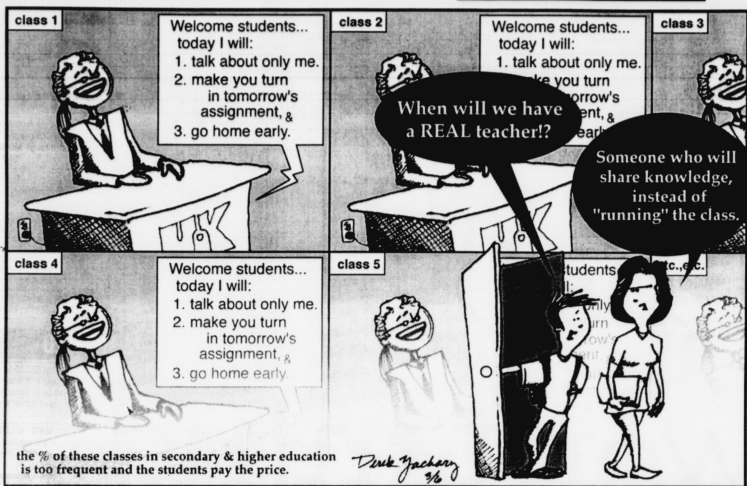
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# ViewPOINT



the % of these classes in secondary & higher education is too frequent and the students pay the price.

Dave Jackson '96

## Score one for SAB

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 Rob Herbst, sports editor  
 Jill Erwin, senior staff writer  
 Ashley Shrewsbury, columnist  
 Matt Ellison, asst. editorial editor

**C**loser to Fine. Not there yet, but definitely closer. Over the years we've often used this space as a forum to criticize and condemn the indolence of our Student Activities Board. We watched other (and lesser) universities book national artists and speakers while our stages remained quiet. We diagnosed the problem as part unfulfilled potential on SAB's behalf and part apathy on the student body's behalf. Although it becomes easy to chide poor performance, it is important to remember **IN OUR OPINION** to applaud a job well done. The organization picked up a hammer and nail and banged out a contract to get popular folk duo Indigo Girls to play here. The group will be coming in late April and now it's time to give SAB its props. For UK, the concert is the biggest draw since Tori Amos hit the Singletary Center nearly two years ago. Since then, however, SAB has only left us with memories of how good big-name concerts at UK could be. Instead of SAB hearing the screams and yells for encore performances, it was squeaking to

hear the claps following another Wednesday movie thriller. And not even two weeks ago, we were here yacking about how SAB needed to prove its worth before bothering to ask for an increase in student fees. It asked for the money, but we only had visions of promising entertainment to dream of. It is no lie, we doubted its ability to get the job done. We were against it at the time — maybe we need to re-think our logic. SAB responded to its criticism and this is their kudos. Now it's time for UK students to respond similarly and support this concert in hopes of more its kind to come. We fear most that students will not attend the event or make a strong showing at tonight's ticket lottery. This could only bring SAB's forward motion to a screeching halt. The move to begin anew and create a more diverse and attractive lineup for students could end as quickly as U of L's basketball season. Go SAB, and we're not joking. You've done good; it is now in the students' hands.

## Spring Break, the real reason we go to college

*A few tips to help kick off the party of all parties*

**I**n grade school, children are taught the Three Rs: reading, writing and arithmetic. These three basic principles are the foundation that children build their educational futures upon.

This same philosophy can be applied to Spring Break, and since it is right around the corner, I think it is time we reviewed the basic principles behind a kick-ass Spring Break. The Five Bs of Spring Break are Babes, Beer, Bozos, Beaches and Bongos. **Babes.** I mean absolutely no disrespect toward women, when I refer to them as babes. As most of you know, when referring to women in a social situation, males refer to females as "babes."

Break, a bozo is pretty much representative of anyone who tries to ruin your Spring Break.

Some of the more common examples of bozos are people who go out of the way to try and ruin the babes and beer for you.

**The Fuzz.** For trying to lock you up for trying to have a good time.

**Old Man McCarthy.** who accidentally rented the room next to yours and doesn't like to listen to tunes at 4 a.m.

In short, anyone who kills your buzz is most likely a bozo. So beware, and if you think there is a bozo on the prowl, warn your partners-in-arm.

Otherwise, you might find yourself in jail, with no beer, no music, no buzz, and all while somebody else has your babe or hunk of hunk.

**Beaches.** Yes, the beach is a very important part of Spring Break. For those in Florida, the beach is where you can sit out all day, drink heavily, and stare at gorgeous sunbaked babes all day long.

There is just something about sand, water and half-naked women that makes a guy feel all warm and fuzzy inside.

Now for those of you who aren't lucky enough to be headed down to Florida, you can't substitute any other B-word for beaches, but otherwise cling to those other Bs.

If you don't, your Spring Break will completely fall apart and you won't be able to recover even with the help of expensive psychological therapists.

**Bongos.** This refers to one of two things, either a beer bong or that alternative to good old tobacco. In most cases, these are must-have items to score. Of course, all of this is irrelevant without our second basic principle.

**Beer.** This is self-explanatory. Without alcohol, thousands down in the Sunshine State would never have the nerve to do some of the crazy stuff that goes on during Spring Break.

How many hook-ups are a result of two intoxicated people falling into each other's arms? Thousands of people who are normally wallflowers become pimp-daddies and ball-breakers. Alcohol stimulates the mind, allowing users greater freedom to enjoy themselves.

Without it, what good stories could possibly come out of a week in Florida? With alcohol, you can become a wild child, let go of reality and have a time you'll never forget or never remember.

**Bozos.** When on Spring Break, you have it, the Five Bs. Five basic principles that will ensure the best Spring Break for your dollar.

Remember, no matter what anyone else says, Spring Break is the time to cut loose and enjoy yourself before finals come rampaging through to ruin you over without blinking an eye.

**Babes, Beer, Bozos, Beaches and Bongos...** Oh My!

*Kernel Columnist Ben Rich is a journalism junior.*



Ben Rich  
Kernel Columnist

### READERS' forum

#### Kernel stepped over the line with its nymphomania

**To the editor:**  
 I have read the Kernel for all the years I have been at UK, and now that I am currently away in Washington D.C., I read it online. I know many say it is a rag to wipe up the floor with, but I am of the opinion that students must be able to express their opinions (as well as keep up on current events), and the Kernel is one way to do just that. However, the Kernel and Michelle McCloud overstepped their bounds a bit on March 4. I think I understood your point, Michelle (a small satire on the state of affairs in media, where sex and men are concerned), but couldn't you have said it a bit more tactfully? When I read the column you wrote, I was a bit amused, quite

surprised, and very concerned. Concerned for a couple of reasons. First, you note that, "If it isn't sex I want to have, then it is oral sex." Oral sex is sex, hence the name. Second, though I will not profess to be an incredible journalist (not by any stretch of the imagination) I feel I can question the writing in your column. It rambled on with no more point in it than to say that you enjoy, like, love and adore sex. I got that in the first 10 sentences. The extra 30 sentences about your love of sex was not necessary. The newspaper (good or bad) is not reserved for that (or at least in my humble opinion, should not be). If your true goal was to write a mini-satire, as it seems you did in the second half of your column, then do so. But please don't pollute the Kernel and its news any more than it is already.

**Matthew A. Bowdy**  
*communications graduate student*

#### This is not a trade school

**To the editor:**  
 Columnist Dave Gorman doesn't want a college education, he wants a trade school education. College should not be about learning a trade, but about a breadth of education and learning how one thinks and learns. As for the dead week controversy, how is it that studying for an exam during the final week of classes detracts from studying for the final exam? Take, for example, a course with a comprehensive final exam. Any material studied for the "dead week" exam would again be eligible for the final exam. As such, it adds to one's preparedness for the final. Instead of spending our time finding new and improved ways to coddle and pamper students, perhaps we should be finding new and improved ways to better the quality of their education.

**Jeff Sykes**  
*mathematics graduate student*

#### 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.kyk-kernel.com for more letters to the editor.

#### INFORMED SOURCES "DO THEY want to put metal bumpers all around the golf carts too?"

**Charles Jackson, on new National Highway Traffic Safety regulations that require golf carts to have seat belts, turn signals, a windshield, mirrors and other safety features.**

## Orwell's dark vision has come to life 14 years later

**T**he year 1984 came and went with no sign that anything was out of sorts. Sure, the cynics among us have drawn a few parallels between our society and the nightmare of George Orwell's novel, but no one was being actively brainwashed. Fourteen years have passed and Big Brother has continued to sneak into our lives. Granted, he's not been so dramatic as to lobotomize anyone for dissenting views, but his presence can still be felt. A lot of conspiracy nuts are quick to point out how much information the government keeps on each and every one of us. But let's face facts: These guys are crack pots who see conspiracies in the daily "Ziggy" cartoon. The government can't even deliver the mail, much less plot far-reaching conspiracies. No, the Big Brother I am speaking of is



Greg Labor  
Kernel Columnist

far more sinister than any government, although he has his influences there as well. To paraphrase the cartoon character, Pogo, I have seen Big Brother and he is us. In his classic novel 1984, Orwell referred to "newspeak." Newspeak was a language that had been greatly edited by the wicked government to reinforce their agenda. Today, we have our own version of newspeak and we enforce it on ourselves. The self-censoring sensation I'm referring to is that phenomenon commonly known as political correctness. It began with only the best intentions, but the PC movement has grown into an overbearing monster bullying everyone into one way of thinking. On the surface, political correctness probably seemed like a good idea. After

all, who doesn't want to be correct? And besides, all Big Brother was proposing is that we all try to be a little more considerate in our choice of words. But then something went wrong. The bar was continuously being raised by the humorless and over-sensitive. Like the playground tattle tale, an overzealous minority began looking to enforce their increasingly ridiculous vocabulary. Unsatisfied with merely rewriting the dictionary, some PC zealots brought their concerns into the courtroom. With vague new crimes such as sexual discrimination on the books, there was no longer any limit to their reign of terror. When most people think of sexual harassment, they imagine a fat, sweaty executive chasing his nubile, young secretary around a desk to cop a chickie. However, the definition of this offense has been broadened to include anything that may make anyone in the workplace

feel uncomfortable. Now personally, being asked to do work at all makes me uncomfortable. Does this qualify as a form of harassment as well? I'd best call my lawyer. Of course, the true card-carrying members of the Society to Eradicate Freedom and Common Sense have taken sexual harassment out of our offices and put it in some pretty ludicrous places. I recently heard that a student at my former high school was suspended for a week for sexually harassing his teacher. My immediate reaction: Is that possible? I have come to find out that the teacher overheard him questioning her sexuality with his friends. Give me a break. I would have never made it through my senior year if I got kicked out every time I questioned my teacher's sexuality. Besides, if the student really did say something disparaging about a teacher, shouldn't teachers focus their attention

on educating that student rather than making him miss a week's worth of classes? I suppose it's too much to expect our school systems to educate when knee-jerk overreaction is a viable option. Let me be clear about this. I believe in being considerate and if an employer grabs his secretary's butt, I say we prosecute the sucker. But flying off the handle when a teenage boy maligns a grown-up authority is not even in that ball park. On the other hand, if this is the course we intend to follow, let us follow it to its natural conclusion, rather than merely exclude the boy from his studies for a week. Why not lobotomize him before he strikes terror into the hearts of faculty everywhere? We certainly wouldn't want to accidentally leave a trace of rebellion or free thought in the mind of a 15-year-old boy. *Kernel Columnist Greg Labor is a psychology graduate.*







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