



**WEATHER** Mostly cloudy today, high near 40. Chance of snow tonight, low near 30. Snow tomorrow, high of 35.

**BURNT TO A CRISP** Howie Long goes down in a ball of flames in his first-ever starring role. See Diversions, page 3.



**FRi**  
January 16, 1998

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ESTABLISHED 1894

UNIVERSITY OF KENTUCKY, LEXINGTON, KENTUCKY

INDEPENDENT SINCE 1971

## Living the Dream



PHOTOS BY MATT BARTON Kernel staff

**HONOR-FILLED** Anna R. Allen, director of the Medical Center's Office of Minority Affairs, (right) presents Linda Jackson with the first annual Dream Award, along with Dr. James W. Holsinger, chancellor of the Medical Center. The Honorable Steven S. Reed (below) gave the keynote speech during the celebration yesterday.

## Med Center banquet honors slain leader

### Celebration sets tone for upcoming holiday march

By Matthew May  
Assistant News Editor

Uplifting, heart-wrenching, incredible.

Those words were used to describe UK's Dr. Martin Luther King, Jr. celebration Thursday afternoon, commemorating his birthday.

About 100 people attended the "Celebrating the Dream and Evaluating Diversity" gathering, which included several high-profile speakers, the giving of a newly established award and several musical numbers with connections to King's civil rights movement for blacks.

"The celebration was a tremendous success to begin UK's tribute to King, which will culminate in a Freedom March Monday morning at 10, said Anna Allen, director of Minority Affairs for the UK Medical Center.

"The celebration went incredibly well," Allen said. "It really sets the tone for our march, as well as for African-American, women and Asian history months."

Participants were given buttons depicting Dr. King's keynote phrase, "I Have a Dream," than led through a series of inspirational songs and speakers for nearly an hour.

Steven Reed, a U.S. Attorney and UK Board of Trustees member, gave the main address to the

crowd. He told a story of how meaningful it was for him to be able to teach his grandchildren how to read, something his grandparents were not fortunate enough to do for him.

Reed then urged audience members to make the most of the opportunities they have and not waste time with the trivialities of today's society.

Juanita Betz Peterson, staff and extramural development director for the Minority Affairs Office, said Reed's speech provided a great picture of where blacks had to come from.

"The Honorable Mr. Reed gave a great chronology of the times and the situation with slavery and not being able to learn to read," Peterson said. "We were able to achieve a high level in reading within 13 years, which most people couldn't do in that time."

Peterson said Reed's message transcends society, making it meaningful for everyone in the world.

"These things are relevant for everyone to know, not just those who aren't familiar with the history of oppression based upon ethnicity," she said.

Although minorities have come a long way since the days of slavery and segregation, a lot of work remains to be done, Peterson said.

"We have come a long way, but we are still



overcoming," she said. "It takes everyone to continue the process. It is very important to continue the program on an academic level."

Most involved with the program came away visually moved by the events, Peterson said.

"More than one person described the program as extremely uplifting," she said. "It seemed very well received by the audience and was the best it has been in the last eight years."

Musical numbers performed at the celebration gave the program a historical flavor, with songs

See KING on 2

## Tubby Smith to donate at UK, Arkansas blood drive

By Chris Campbell  
Managing Editor

Somewhere a person needs blood.

And basketball fans alike have the chance to join their university's coaches in the fight to save lives.

For Kentucky fans, it has been 56 days since the University of Tennessee defeated UK in the Big Blue Crush blood drive. The annual drive before the UT/UK football game has almost become a staple of pre-game festivities for the battle for the Beer Barrel.

Today UK fans have the chance to get a victory under their belt, by rolling up their sleeves. But over a different conference opponent: the University of Arkansas.

"It's so much fun, and yet there is always the competitive edge to it between both schools, so it simply adds to the fun and assists with the success of the drive," said Pat Boe, spokeswoman for the Community Blood Center of the Ozarks.

The "Game for Life" blood drive is in its fourth year, and today UK seeks its third victory since losing to the Razorbacks' faithful the year the drive started.

The drive comes before tomorrow's UK/UA basketball game and is sponsored by the Residence Hall Association, Student Life and the UK Bookstore.

"The basketball game against Arkansas generates a rivalry just as intense as the Kentucky/Tennessee game in football season," said Sally Baker, spokeswoman for the Central Kentucky Blood Center.

Men's basketball coach Tubby Smith will be making an appearance at the drive to donate blood himself. Both Smith and Arkansas head coach Nolan Richardson will be participating in the drive. Baker said Smith plans to be at Memorial Coliseum to roll up his sleeve around noon.

In the first three years of the drive's existence, Kentucky has donated 1,688 pints to 1,031 for Arkansas.

"Hog fans are determined to win this year," Boe said. "We are looking to win in both places — on the basketball court and in the drive."

Two on-campus sites — Memorial Coliseum and the Complex Commons — and two off-campus locations, the UK Credit Union and the Blood Center, at 330 Waller Avenue, will be used to collect blood donations.

Donations at Memorial Coliseum can be made from 9 a.m. to 5 p.m., while the Complex Commons will be taking blood from 11 a.m. to 8 p.m.

Both Baker and Boe said the timing could not come any better for the drive. Winter is a tough time for blood donations, and shortages are normal during the cold months.

People who donated during the Big Blue Crush do not have to worry about medical problems with donating so soon. Baker said the 56-day lapse is right on target for those to give again.

"This is a crazy time for everyone on campus, with the semesters just starting this week, both here and at Arkansas," she said. "More than half our donations come from on campus, though, and we think everyone should take the time to come out and support this cause because it has an immediate impact."

The impact of blood donated today could be felt by a recipient as early as the end of the weekend, Baker added, after the blood goes through extensive tests and processing.

Door prizes will be given at both locations on campus, and all donors will receive a free long-sleeve T-shirt and a chance to win a Wildcat beanie mascot donated by the UK Bookstore.

## A Tiger at heart

### Flory leaves UK to take volleyball coaching job at LSU

By Jay G. Tate  
Sports Editor

Dream jobs don't come around very often.

So when former UK head volleyball coach Fran Flory was contacted by Louisiana State last month to fill its coaching vacancy, she was understandably enthusiastic.

After all, she had spent the last four-and-a-half years telling prospective recruits that she would only leave Lexington under one condition.

The LSU job had to be open. Baton Rouge, where Flory had shined as a prep star, would always be home, she told recruits. A chance to return there would be

the only lure that would ever tease her away from Lexington.

But the seemingly perfect situation was not wholly positive.

Making good on her promise meant the 12 faces along the UK bench would never again look to her for on-court guidance. They would never ask about a new offense or a new defense or a new plan to slow down an opposing player. Instead, Flory would be coaching that opposing player.

And moving into the head position at LSU meant succeeding the people that brought her into the world of big-time college coaching in the first place. Tiger coaches Scott Luster and Frances Compton brought Flory to the

Tiger program in 1988, where she served as an assistant during the glory days of LSU volleyball — a three-year stint from 1989 through 1991, which saw the Tigers win more than 85 percent of their games and earn back-to-back Final Four appearances.

But after all the emotions subsided and reason had seized control, the decision to embrace LSU remained.

When the Tigers eventually called on Jan. 5, the answer was predetermined.

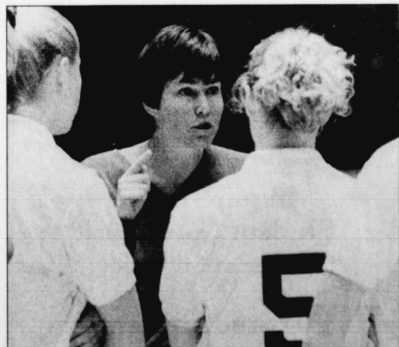
"It's going to be tough to walk away from this place," Flory said. "These people are like family to me. But we're parting on good terms and I really believe this is

the right thing to do."

But as Flory found out, ethical decision-making can be a painful process. One of the LSU coaches that had been fired was assistant coach Frances Compton, who had coached Flory at Episcopal High School in Baton Rouge years ago. The two had been reunited during Flory's stay at LSU and the two vowed to coach together again.

Enter Tonya Johnson, a current UK assistant who played for LSU from 1987-90. She had served as Flory's assistant at UK since 1995 and had become Flory's top assistant after another LSU alum, Julie Ibieta, left for

See VOLLEYBALL on 4



JAMES CRISP Kernel staff

**ALWAYS A TIGER** Fran Flory has coached the Wildcat volleyball team for the past five seasons, compiling a 78-79 record, 110-114 for her career.

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# Living up to Expectations

Soundtrack  
boosts hype  
for movie

By Dan O'Neill  
Associate Editor

As witnessed with Baz Luhrmann's *Romeo & Juliet*, the film industry is not beyond slapping contemporary alternative/pop soundtracks onto updates of classic literature to sell records and lure in the short-attention span youths.

But aside from the resulting cynical argument of film as a marketing machine rather than an art medium, these soundtracks can exist on their own as excellent compilations with a smattering of the music industry's finest. Although this is usually not the case, the new *Great Expectations* album dissents from the typical model of mainstream melange mixed with upstart alternative acts and offers a surprisingly balanced pop/rock potpourri of mostly original music.

Opening with the instrumental intro "Finn" by Tori Amos (who also helped Patrick Doyle with the score), the album moves to "Siren" another vintage Amos track of brooding, gothic vocals sure to be a hit among fans.

The morose, dramatic feel of Amos segues nicely to the "theme" song of sorts, Mono's sultry, electronic "Life in Mono" which accompanies the film's theatrical trailer.

The highlights undoubtedly come from former frontmen of alternative giants in Scott Weiland of Stone Temple Pilots and



Photo furnished

**EXPECTING THE BEST** Tori Amos (above) and Duncan Sheik are two of the artists on the 'Great Expectations' soundtrack.

Chris Cornell of Soundgarden. Both serve up their first solo efforts and do so with the characteristic original flavor that made them two of rock's best vocalists.



**MUSICreview**

★★★1/2  
(out of five)

*'Great Expectations' Soundtrack*  
Various  
(Atlantic)

Cornell's "Sunshower" carries the same aural plesantry of his Seattle buddies but with a slower, more sorrowful touch.

As Cornell stays in the same vein as his former band, Weiland takes a bit of a departure. His whimsical, circus-like "Lady, Your Roof Brings Me Down" featuring Sheryl Crow on accordion shows a more promising post-STP start than his handiwork new act Talk Show.

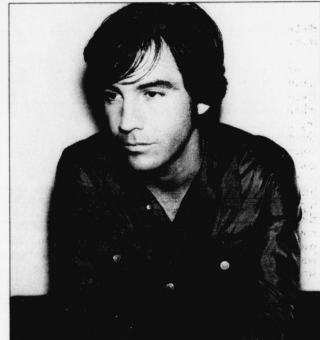
*Great Expectations: The Album* also contains the

first work by Poe since her successful *Hells* album. Her solid contribution "Today" (which doesn't appear in the film) promises her a permanent position in the crowded genre of alternative rock female vocalists.

The album does, however, contain its share of throw-away pop tracks from throw-away pop artists. Duncan Sheik's "Wishful Thinking" and The Verve Pipe's "Her Ornament" both offer exercises in the bland regurgitation of boring radio friendly chart music.

But the low points are relatively few and far between with the new material from established artists carrying the load.

After the *Trainspotting* soundtrack helped revive his career, Iggy Pop returns to lend his 1977 hit "Success," which represents a minor but welcomed break in the relatively slow overall tempo. For further nostalgia



the album closes with the Grateful Dead's "Uncle John's Band" and Cesario Evora's latin love serenade "Besame Mucho" as the slow-dance-inspiring bonus track.

It may not be what Dickens had in mind and it may not have its place in the film, but it works nonetheless as an obliging, at times, amusing collection of songs.

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Poor acting makes film hard to sit through

By Luke Saladin  
Assistant Entertainment Editor

Anyone wondering when this natural disaster kick will stop? Even worse, anyone wondering when these movies will stop making money so they can't bankroll the next one? We've had twisters, volcanoes, floods and now, you guessed it, forest fires.

*Firestorm* brings viewers into the little-known world of smoke jumping. When forest fires occur, it is the job of these men and women, known as smoke jumpers, to parachute into the fire, rescue civilians and perform the preliminary steps needed to stop the inferno.

The film tells the story of Jesse Graves (Howie Long), leader of a close-knit team of such airborne firemen. But as Jesse prepares to fight the fire, he is unaware this particular fire constitutes something more than just an erroneous cigarette butt.

Via a government program that uses inmates to fight forest fires, convicted murderer Earl Shaye (William Forsythe) plans and executes an escape while battling the fire that he ordered ignited. It's like a western version of "Adopt a Highway," except for some reason they use murderers and give them axes while mid-westerners use people who've cheated on their taxes and give them plastic bags.

Suspension of disbelief aside,

past disaster movies at least made an honest effort to give you some quality acting on top of the flying combines and floating ash. Such infamous alumni include Bill Paxton (*Twister*), Tommy Lee Jones (*Volcano*), and Morgan Freeman (*Hard Rain*). In *Firestorm* we are introduced to the acting style of Howie Long, former defensive end for the Los Angeles Raiders.

Simply put, Howie Long is the worst actor in America, a title he stole like a thief in the night from longtime holder Leonardo DiCaprio, which isn't easy when you've got *Titanic* fresh in your mind.

While other action stars such as Schwarzenegger and Stallone limited their dialogue in early films to help the audience focus more on action than words, writer Chris Soth boldly tries to work in a friendship through the smoke and winds up convoluting some of the respectable action sequences of the film.

The true sadness is that Howie Long has the makings of a good action star, just not a good actor. Long's chiseled face, bulging biceps and natural athleticism would be more than enough to make a moderately entertaining.

However, every time he opens his mouth those stereotypes about football players' IQ levels seem

# Up in Flames



**FOOTBALL PLAYERS CAN'T ACT** Ex-Raider, Howie Long, proves that former athletes shouldn't try and become actors.

more believable. Long's more seasoned co-star, Scott Glenn, who plays Jesse's mentor in the film, only highlights Long's unfamiliarity with big-screen acting. It's like comparing a

diamond and piece of coal. Although Long played for football professionally for 13 years, he's light years away from proving he can truly play with the big boys.

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# SPORTS

## Hogs' resurgence heats rivalry

*Richardson wary of UK's team balance*

By Rob Herbst  
Sports Editor

Once upon a time it was the highlight of the Southeastern Conference season.

Arkansas and UK, the best in the SEC West versus the best in the SEC East.

While it's still a highlight in the season, it's not the premiere matchup of the year. UK has continued to be in the upper echelon of basketball but the Razorbacks haven't held up their end of the bargain.

As the Cats were marching through the NCAA Tournament, the Razorbacks were marching through the NIT.

But Arkansas may be on the way back. The Razorbacks (14-2 overall, 3-0 Southeastern Conference) are ranked 22nd in the nation and are undefeated in the SEC West.

"I think they've got a lot of talent on this team," said UK head coach Tubby Smith said. "They're as talented a team as (Richardson) has had in a while. It's not the team they had in the day of Todd Day and Oliver Miller and that group. But these kids are very talented."

Despite an impressive record and a national ranking, some fans in Fayetteville aren't exactly thrilled with this Arkansas team.

The reason? The size of victories. A three-point win over LSU and a five-point win over Florida on Wednesday have some Hog fans questioning the team after an impressive start to the season.

"It don't matter if we win by one point," Richardson said. "There are those who are upset that we don't win by a certain amount of points. Well I don't care about the points. I just care about the victory."

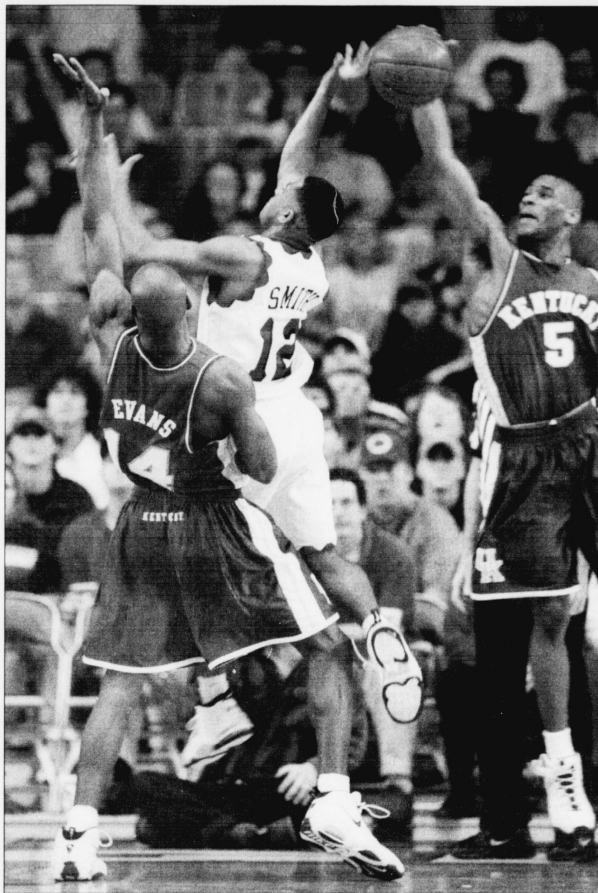
Unlike the Razorbacks, UK has been very impressive as of late. Road wins at Georgia and Mississippi State were nice but a 21-point schlacking of South Carolina has been the pinnacle for the Cats thus far.

After Tuesday's win over the Gamecocks, Smith called the performance the best of the season. But Smith says the Cats must still improve.

"You're never satisfied," Smith said. "Certainly we know we're going to have to play better in the SEC."

But Richardson is impressed with the Wildcats.

"When you have balance that



**TRY AGAIN LATER** Wayne Turner (above) blocks a shot by UK head coach Tubby Smith's son G.G. at Georgia last week. JAMES CRISP Kernel staff

means you have a good basketball team," Richardson said. "When you have balance in your offense and balance in your defense then you have balance in your winning."

The Wildcats have won the past four games over Arkansas and when Smith was at Georgia, he won the last battle over the Razorbacks in the SEC Tournament last

year. Georgia beat the Razorbacks on a last-second shot in the quarterfinals.

"We give them a lot of motivation to come in and play well against us," Smith said. "They'll be ready."

Last week when the Wildcats faced Georgia, Smith faced off against good friend Ron Jirsa. Tomorrow Smith will take on

Richardson, another good friend of his.

The duo go back to their days as assistant coaches — Smith at Virginia Commonwealth and Richardson at Texas-El Paso.

"He's been a real role model and I've tried to watch and emulate him in a lot of ways," Smith said. "His morals and ethics are impeccable."

## Wildcats end drought against LSU

By Dave Gorman  
Staff Writer

Since its win over Auburn before the holiday break, the UK women's basketball team had been looking for a worthy follow-up performance.

Against Florida, UK was squashed, 100-58.

Against Vanderbilt, things looked down again after a 64-54 loss.

At home against Ole Miss? Denied again, 76-49.

But the Cats finally found what they were looking for Wednesday night — a 74-71 overtime win in Cincinnati which improved UK to 9-7, including a 2-3 record in Southeastern Conference play.

Once again, freshman Laura Meadows led the way with 18 points and had seven rebounds, three assists and three steals. But she took her hot hand to the bench as she fouled out in regulation. But the Cats had a chance to win the game before the extra frame.

As the clock was ticking towards the end of regulation, point guard Natalie Martinez made a steal while falling out of bounds and passed the ball to Jaye Barnes.

Barnes then dribbled up court and passed it to Patrice Boyd who nearly banked in an open jumper that rimmed out.

"Coach and I got up and we were all excited," Meadows said. "It looked like it was going to go in, but our team just stepped it up in the overtime period."



**EASE ON BY** UK freshman guard Laura Meadows (right) played a big part in the Cats' win over LSU. Wednesday night, scoring a team-high 18 points and seven rebounds. JAMES CRISP Kernel staff

The Cats set the pace early in overtime as they scored the first six points. Six-foot-3 senior Kim Denkins blocked a shot and Boyd redeemed from missing the potential game-winning shot and pulled down key rebounds.

Denkins finished with 11 points and six rebounds, and Boyd had nine points and seven rebounds.

"We really needed that win," Boyd said. "We had lost three straight, and this has definitely boosted our confidence. We did not give up, we just had to stop them from shooting threes in the end. It was kind of like a home game."

Martinez was also a big key in the Cats victory as she had five assists and three steals.

"It was a nailbiter," Martinez said. "We were so excited to come out and attack them offensively and defensively. We threw our two-three zone at them and we contained them, especially in overtime."

### Nothing to Lose

The Cats have their biggest test of the season as they take on the No. 1 Tennessee Volunteers on Sunday.

The Lady Vols are 18-0 and are the two-time defending national champions.

Still, Tennessee head coach Pat Summitt refuses to ignore the game this Sunday.

"The game is going to be very emotional," Summitt said. "We have to be ready for them. We can

not take anything for granted. It is always tough going into Lexington."

Although UK is not ranked, they received votes in the AP Top 25 last month in the midst of a seven-game winning streak. Barnes thinks the Cats have a good chance against the Vols, provided the Cats stay focused.

"Everybody is going to have to score," Barnes said. "If we come ready to play then we have a good chance. We just have to see them as an SEC team."

That is going to be pretty tough considering the SEC has six teams in the Top 25.

### Nikki Hay out

One of UK's tri-captains did not return to the squad for the second semester. Senior point guard Nikki Hay was declared academically ineligible for the remainder of the 1998 season. Hay finished her two-year UK career with 291 points, 159 rebounds and 74 assists.

"She was a part of our hearts," Boyd said. "We still have her in our hearts and minds but you have to move on. I wear her No. 23 on my shoes to remember her."

### Free Pizza!

The first 250 students who show up to the game on Sunday get free pizza. There is going to be a new student section at the women's basketball games called the "Memorial Mob." At the team's next home game on Jan. 28 against Florida, there will be free Memorial Mob T-shirts.

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**ViewPOINT**

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- ... TO STOP SMOKING
- ... WEAR YOUR SEATBELT
- ... EAT YOUR VEGETABLES
- ... STAY OUT OF THE SUN
- ... LOSE WEIGHT



- ... BUCKLE YOUR KIDS IN THE BACK SEAT
- ... TALK ABOUT RACE
- ... USE A CONDOM
- ... VOLUNTEER
- ... EAT LESS RED MEAT

By Brookins  
REINHOLD TIMES DISPATCH

**A new dawn**



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Thanks to Melanie Cruz and Company, a degree of respect and legitimacy has returned to our elected representatives and for that we are grateful.

The days of scandal and late night mutiny at Denny's appear to have faded into the past as SGA weathered Fall 1997 in style.

With the exception of lurching travel money for Promise Keepers and Circle of Imani, the SGA made a promising start by tackling handicap access across campus; a renewed emphasis on safety issues; establishment of a student memorial room in the new library for fallen UK students and helping to slay the plus/minus monster that wouldn't die.

All goes as planned, a similarly prosperous spring can be expected to follow. SGA now has its sights set on lobbying for revisions of the state's tuition setting guidelines that left students with a 22 percent tuition increase over the next two years.

Further, attempts are being made to establish activity transcripts similar to those at other schools. It would be the first time this has been achieved at a school UK's size. Finally, work has begun to fill the

underserved need for child care on campus.

Each of these will help to make this a greater University, but we would like to make a few suggestions. The first concerns the possible construction of a new arena. It would be great to see SGA actively lobby the Administration for a promise that students will receive a significant number of quality, lower arena seats.

We all know that once those seats are given away, there's no way they can be taken back and given to students. While we are on the subject, why not set aside space in the arena (perhaps on a concourse) for students to congregate and party around game time.

Can you imagine the positive impact that would have on national television coverage, a key tool of recruiting?

We also hope to see SGA continue to fight for improved handicap access, especially at the Commons Complex.

Lastly, we want to encourage SGA to double its efforts to ensure fair, well-run and incident-free elections for the spring. Such an effort would be a fitting end to a successful year.

**IN OUR OPINION**

**Summer camp benefits students and needy kids**

To the editor:

I would like to take this opportunity to let your students know of the summer job opportunity at the Kentucky Sheriff's Boys and Girls Ranch for 1998.

Our camp, which is located in Gilbertsville, Ky. about 20 miles east of Paducah and 30 miles north of Murray, at Kentucky Dam Village State Park, is a non-profit summer youth camp for Kentucky's needy children, ages 8 to 11.

We are looking for young people who have a special interest and talent for nature activities, sports and recreation, arts and crafts, games and skits, musical talent, swim instructors, lifeguards and general supervisory skills.

The ratio of campers to counselors is approximately 12 to 1.

The camp program runs for nine weeks during the summer which includes one week of pre-camp training.

The pay is \$150 per week which is somewhat higher than most camps pay.

Your room and board is included.

Our counselors are required to live at our camp, but adequate time off during our weekly sessions is arranged.

I would like to urge any student interested in working with young "at risk" children to please contact us for an application.

Please keep in mind, this is not an easy job. It requires stamina and determination on the part of the counselor and could very easily be the most difficult job you ever will have.

It will also be the most rewarding.

If you are willing to devote

your time and energy to helping unfortunate children in the summer of 1998, please give us a call.

If you are seriously interested in working with children and being a counselor at the Kentucky Sheriff's Boys and Girls Ranch next summer, please contact us for an application.

Also, be prepared to make a commitment to almost 1,000 needy boys and girls that you will devote your time and effort to providing them with the best summer camp experience they will ever have.

You may write for an application to: The Kentucky Sheriff's Boys and Girls Ranch, P.O. Box 57, Gilbertsville, Ky. 42044.

Or call us at (502) 362-8660 or (502) 454-3325.

Thank you for your interest in our camping program. We will be hiring our counselors early in the year, so call as soon as possible.

Ray Stoess  
executive director

**READERS' forum**

**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. Crehan 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.

**Lexington police have yet to fight the good fight**

*The fear of public opinion influences police activities*

During the Vietnam War, the United States military redefined success.

In wars past, victory was defined as the ability to seize and hold objectives.

In Vietnam however, enemy KIA's or "body count" was viewed as the definitive indication of operational success. In simple terms, killing enemy soldiers regardless of territorial gains or losses was viewed as the most effective way to knock out the North Vietnamese Army.

The North Vietnamese proved willing to suffer the enormous casualties produced by the United States and ultimately prevailed with the withdrawal of U.S. forces in 1972-73. As a result of Vietnam, the general use of "body count" as an indication of success was discredited.

As indicated above, the use of body counts from a military perspective is limited. But, in the civilian sector this habit of using a body count as a yardstick by which to measure success or failure has proved more pervasive.

Federal, state and local police organizations are often judged by their ability to prevent high body counts, i.e. murder.

It's no secret that few citizens would care to live in a community where local law enforcement was consistently unwilling or unable to put a dent in the commission of violent crime.

Here in Lexington, 1997 was a near banner year for murder. 1998 has already witnessed the possible continuation of 1997's body count.

The Lexington-Fayette Urban County Police (LFUCP) have suggested that the recent high murder rate is simply an anomaly. The party line of the LFUCP is that citizens should not become overly concerned about recent crime patterns.

I have no doubt that the LFUCP are diligently attempting to find any existing patterns to Lexington's recent homicides. Furthermore I have confidence that local police authorities are attempting to solve each homicide that has already occurred.

It is clear to me however, that the LFUCP has a fatal organizational flaw that is greatly contributing to the recent wave of homicides/violent crime in Lexington. Last fall, I participated in a program known as the ride-a-long program. I accompanied a uniformed officer during a normal patrol. What I witnessed that night is what I have noticed for a long time.

Lexington police officers will at times turn a blind eye toward crime. In particular, I think the Lexington police force is somewhat gun shy about involving

itself in observed crimes involving young black males.

Oh sure, the police arrest plenty of young black males every month. But I think the leaders of the police department are so worried about possible racial incidents (Tony Sullivan ring a bell?), that this practice of ignoring certain crimes is tacitly approved.

On any given night, police officers in Lexington will observe crack cocaine being bought and sold and will not intervene. Officially, it can be claimed that some local dealers are not arrested as a way of tracking down the source of the drugs.

Additionally it is also claimed that targeting the small dealers is not as effective as targeting the higher placed dealers.

Hogwash, you see a crime you stop it. Period! In the housing areas of Lexington, police officers are routinely told by shift leaders to avoid certain high crime areas for fear of instigating a possible racial incident.

Case in point: The night I went on patrol with the police, we responded to a shots fired call. Upon arriving, an officer's vehicle was pelted by rocks thrown by local teens.

What happened? The lieutenant in charge ordered the remaining officers to avoid the area. In effect, the bad guys ran the police off with a few rocks. Conversely, I'm sure in a mostly white neighborhood, any young punks throwing rocks at police cruisers would be hunted down and caught.

What's behind all of this? I have two possible suggestions: First, the Lexington Police Department is running scared from the black community. White communities don't riot, black communities have demonstrated that they will.

Second, Chief Walsh is speculated to be considering a run for sheriff. The last thing he needs before his campaign is the negative publicity that would surround a white officer shooting a black teen.

The net result of this unofficial policy to ignore crime in certain instances is to promote a general lack of respect for authority.

If a young male can deal crack right in front of a cop with no consequences, why would he respect the police?

On the other hand, if criminals on the street, black or white understood concretely that crime will not be tolerated, respect for authority would be improved.

It's a simple fact of law enforcement that a police department's ability to effectively police is based on public perception of integrity and professionalism.

So come on Sheriff, error Chief Walsh, put the politics aside and strictly enforce a policy of zero tolerance especially relating to drugs.

Kernel Columnist Clayton Sandford is a political science graduate student.



Clayton Sandford  
Kernel Columnist

If a young male can deal crack right in front of a cop with no consequences, why would he respect the police?

**It's no 'Knight Rider,' but public transportation is my life**

For four years, my parents have been bugging me about getting a car, especially now that I am graduating.

I am moving to Chicago this month, a city where I will almost never have to worry about transportation.

That's what I hate about Lexington. The public transportation system, Lextran, is no better than its singing drivers.

Having traveled my share of the world, public transportation is the one thing I have come to rely on daily.

Back home in the United Arab Emirates, a trip from Central Campus to Fayette Mall would cost me a mere \$2 by cab.

In England, the tube and buses are incredibly efficient, and if you've seen the size of the roads, you'd understand why

driving there can be dangerous and stressful. Forget the fact that they drive on the wrong side of the road.

Similarly the rest of Europe has an efficient public transportation system. Driving in my native Pakistan takes the skills of Formula 1 driver, which I don't possess.

So, I am left to put to use my hard earned, and quickly snatched tax dollars.

Another thing that deters me from driving are maniacs on the street who managed to get a license about as easily as a minor trying to get beer.

I mean the few times I have driven have been a nightmare.

You know whom I am talking about. The poor slob, from some technologically deficient part of West Virginia, who is

too happy with the automotive experience, and who decides to drive in a manner that would eliminate the need for Dr. Kevoorkian for Miss Daisy.

Drivers are a strange breed. Get them behind the wheel of a car, and they lose all patience. Pedestrians become innocent victims.

Here we are patiently waiting our turn, watching the miraculous conversion of an orange hand to a white man.

When we finally get to go, someone suffering from itchy gas pedal syndrome decides to run us over because they are not happy at having their independence interrupted.

Then there are the morons who decide to drive behind the slow old couple. Never will they try to overtake them. Nope. They all have to follow the slow car as if it's the Pied Piper.

Old people drive like they are constantly looking for an address. You can

spot them a mile away with their coat belt hanging out the door!

Then there is the greedy son of a bitch who decides to drive in the middle of the road and others who forget that turn signals were meant to be used before an exit has been passed.

I have often wondered if there is a height limit to driving. A few times when I have ended up at a traffic light and looked around me, I felt as if I was in episode of "Knight Rider" because there was no one in car next to me. It wasn't till I got out of my car and looked inside another car that I found someone sitting in the driver's seat trying to visualize the road through the gap between the dashboard and the top of the steering wheel!

Lastly, I have discovered that there are two categories of people in the world of partying. Those who get pathetically drunk and those who have to drive these

individuals home.

If I decided to join you Alcoholics Anonymous members, I'd probably end up driving back and forth from parties.

It sounds like a fair deal, partying in exchange for being a designated driver, but I don't think I am going to college to become someone's chauffeur.

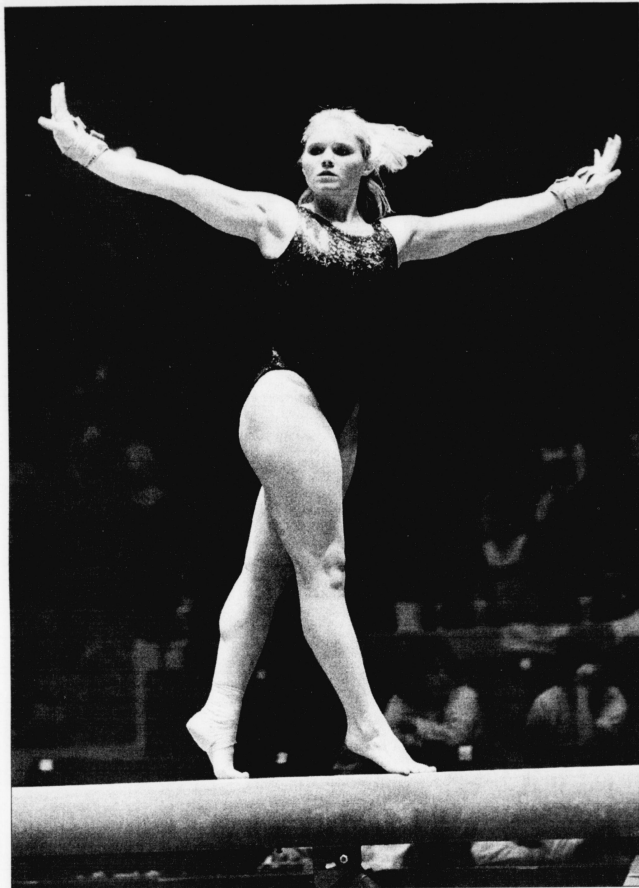
So until I move to a place with worse public transportation than Lexington and when my friends find out how I am using them, I will consider "investing" in a car, but I don't think I am waiting to become extremely rich and hire one of my drunken friends, whom I have driven all too often, as a driver.

But until then, my friend, Kurt, and I will continue to ride around at the expense of others. Kurt has it made, he has a wife!

Contributing Columnist Imad Khan is an economics senior.



## A balancing act



UK junior Misty Marinik (left) will be among the Gym Kats battling conference rival Florida tonight at 7:30 in Memorial Coliseum. The Gators are ranked No. 8 and bring four All-Americans to the meet, including NCAA vault champion Susan Hines. No. 22 UK returns eight letterwinners this season, including sophomores Krysten Hoefler, who notched career highs against Florida last season on beam (9.800), floor exercise (9.850) and all-around (39.125).

JAMES CRISP Kernel staff

### STUDENT GROUP HEALTH INSURANCE NEW ENROLLMENT

The Student Group Health Insurance Plan for 1997-98 with Mega Life and Health Insurance Company offers a pro-rated premium for students enrolling for the spring semester only. The effective dates for the Spring/Summer policy are January 1, 1998 through August 26, 1998. The pro-rated premium for this period is \$289. The following information will assist you if you are considering the plan for the first time.

- \$445 Annual Premium provides year-round coverage (\$289 pro-rated premium provides coverage through 8/26/98)
- Preferred Provider Option
- \$75 Deductible per injury or sickness with an annual maximum deductible of \$225
- Prescription Drug Benefit
- \$7,500 maximum for Repatriation
- \$10,000 maximum for Medical Evacuation

Information packets are available from the University Health Service (located in the Kentucky Clinic/Medical Plaza, 1st Floor, Wing C), 323-5823 ext. 230, or by contacting the Student Insurance Division, PO Box 809026, Dallas, Texas 75360-9684, 1-800-767-0700

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## San Diego preparing for big Super party

Associated Press

SAN DIEGO — Welcome back to San Diego, Super Bowl revelers. You too, John Elway.

The last time the NFL title game was here, the stadium was named Jack Murphy, the downtown party scene was bland and Elway and the Denver Broncos suffered one of their worst championship losses following the wildest 15 minutes in Super Bowl history.

Ten years later, the stadium is called Qualcomm, the Gaslamp Quarter is a happenin' place and officials have been crossing their fingers that El Nino won't dump on sunny San Diego. So far, so good — the forecast for next Sunday is that people who get soaked \$2,000 by a scalper for a ticket won't get drenched by rain.

"We're ready to have a hell of a party," tourism official Reint Reinholders said.

That's good news to cheeseheads escaping the frozen tundra to follow their beloved Green Bay Packers, and Broncos fans hoping to see their team win for the first time in five Super Bowls.

Elway, though, couldn't care less.

"I'm not happy about getting back to San Diego," the three-time Super Bowl loser said. "I want to win. I've been there before. I've never had a chance to win one."

Well, OK then, Elway can spend his time practicing in the days leading up to the Super Bowl, the first played in a stadium that's been renamed in exchange for corporate cash.

The city will do the celebrating. It's become a 10-day ritual of parties, golf tournaments, concerts, the NFL Experience theme park and every mind-numbing "official" event possible. Even surfers and sailors get their due.

First, though, a quick look back at 1988.

The Broncos were in their second straight Super Bowl and Elway threw a 56-yard touchdown pass to Ricky Nattiel on Denver's first play from scrimmage. The Broncos pushed the lead to 10-0, but Washington scored on five straight possessions for an NFL postseason record 35 points in the second quarter and won 42-10.

### Do you have a LEARNING DISABILITY or ATTENTION DEFICIT DISORDER???

If you are a UK or LCC student with a **diagnosed** learning disability or ADHD, we have a discussion group for you!!!

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**GAIN** support and accomodation resources, information on learning styles, problem-solving experience and new study strategies.

\*For information and to schedule a meeting with the group co-leaders during January, call 257-8701. The group will meet on Thursdays from 4:30-6:00p.m., starting late Jan.-early Feb.

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Executive Officer  
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