

KENTUCKY KERNEL

CELEBRATING 36 YEARS OF INDEPENDENCE

VP candidate wants to bring his research to UK

By Jill Laster
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The third candidate for vice president for research to visit campus said yesterday that he wants to bring research from his Texas lab to Kentucky.

"I'm not going to spend a whole lot of time trying to grow (my research), but I'm going to try and maintain that because I believe it can be beneficial," said James R. Halpert of the University of Texas Medical Branch at Galveston.

Halpert said seeing firsthand how research operates at UK will give him

insight on how to grow and improve research here.

When he met with Provost Kumble Subbaswamy Monday night as part of the interview process, they agreed Halpert's research would continue only if time allowed, Halpert said. "We agreed that if the time came when that was no longer the case, I'd know what to do," Halpert said.

Another way to fix problems in the research program is to find out what faculty and staff have to say, Halpert said. However, he also said he believes in the

benefits of formality and using meetings.

"I do not have an open door policy because I feel that fritters away time," Halpert said. "Of course, if there is an emergency, you can get in touch with me."

Personal accountability is a better way to try to solve problems, Halpert said.

"I don't believe in luck," Halpert said. "I don't believe in good luck; I don't believe in bad luck." "I believe you take responsibility

for what happens," he said.

Another of the issues raised at the open forum was whether the arts and sciences would receive the same amount of funding as scientific research.

"I almost became a professor of Scandinavian language and literature because I was so interested in the humanities," Halpert said.

Halpert received his bachelor's degree in Scandinavian Languages after studying abroad in Sweden as an undergraduate. He went on to earn a Ph.D. in biochemistry in Sweden in 1977. His experience in different fields would help him as vice presi-

dent for research, he said.

"I guess I feel I do walk the walk and talk the talk," Halpert said.

Funding for researchers in the arts and humanities will come in large part from small grants although the prospects for grants are different than he thought from online research, he said.

"Despite the fact that on paper there's a substantial amount of small grants available, many are significantly under funded," Halpert said. "We need to grow the pie."

Some of the money to increase

See VP on page 5



Halpert

Students install wind turbine at Arboretum

By Kenny Colston
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Students set up a symbolic statement of alternative energy — a small homemade wind turbine — at UK's Arboretum yesterday as part of Earthdays in the Bluegrass.

"Symbolically, it shows that we are going to have to change our energy economy," said Shane Tedder, a student affairs officer for Residence Life.

Biology and chemistry senior Andrew Hitron pitched the idea of a wind turbine during brainstorming meetings for Earthdays in the Bluegrass.

"I saw a design for it and thought it was a fun thing to do," Hitron said. The turbine will charge a battery bank and light a poster displaying the effects and benefits of wind energy. With a 35 mile per hour wind, the turbine can generate up to seven amps, Hitron said.

The turbine wasn't just a cool idea for alternative energy, he said. "It's more than alternative energy. It's green living."

Andrew Hitron, biology and chemistry senior

"It's more than alternative energy," Hitron said. "It's green living."

The turbine creates energy when wind hits the propellers, turning a treadmill motor that is attached to the batteries.

"It has a cool factor to it," Tedder said. "It's going to be a cool display of wind power."

Tedder wasn't sure if another turbine would be set up at the Arboretum anytime soon.

"It would have to be a joint decision between different groups," Tedder said. "Maybe we'll stick with just one."

Arboretum director Marcia Farris, welcomed the turbine.

"We are happy to have it here," Farris said.

See Turbine on page 5

Sports Illustrated photographer to present work

By Kristin Sherrard
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A nationally-known photographer will be on campus tonight to present some of his own work and to speak to students interested in photography.

Bill Frakes, Sports Illustrated staff photographer and former Newspaper Photographer of the Year, will be speaking at 6 p.m. in Room 102 of the White Hall Classroom Building. The event is sponsored by UK Photojournalism.

UK Photojournalism, originally called The Dirty Dozen, was created three years ago by Dave LaBelle, the Kentucky Kernel's current photojournalism adviser. At that time, many students were interested in photography, but were unable to take photo classes because of time conflicts, said Ed Matthews, the group's

See Photo on page 5

PASSING NOTES



PHOTOS BY ANDREW HUGGINS | STAFF

Angie Ortega, a music performance major, prepares backstage yesterday before her junior recital in the Center Theater in the Student Center.



Angie Ortega, left, and Chris Strange warm up before Ortega's recital yesterday in the Center Theater. Ortega and Strange were performing "Honeysuckle Rose" by Anday Razaf and Thomas Waller during their warm-up.

Angela Ortega, a musical performance major, held her junior recital at the Center Theater in the Student Center last night. Ortega showcased her talent as a singer and an alto saxophone player. The recital also featured Tedrin Blair Lindsey on piano and Chris Strange on tenor saxophone.

Musicians bring 'magical mystery' to Lexington

By Meghan Cain
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Several years ago, a "spontaneous composition" happened in a hotel room in Kansas City.

Two musicians fused their unusual musical tastes and talents to create a sound that combines traditional Irish folk with Appalachian blues.

Roger Landes and Chipper Thompson used their ability to play the bouzouki, a pear-shaped, long-neck, fretted instrument, to birth "Janissary Stomp," a predominantly instrumental CD influenced by world music such as African and Arabic sounds.

The two will share their unique sound with UK today at noon and 7 p.m. in the Niles Gallery and with the rest of Lexington on Saturday at Joseph-Beth Booksellers at 2 p.m. and Natasha's Café at 9 p.m.

"Our music is an invitation to get your feet wet with beautiful music from around the world that you don't get to hear everyday,"

Landes said. "It is a magical mystery musical tour that is intense, fun and not like anything else you are liable to hear."

They have been working on "Janissary Stomp" since 2000 but didn't release it nationally until November. The shows in Lexington are the first in a two-week road tour.

"We realized we might as well treat this like a new recording," Landes said. "After several years, we are now trying to get out and do a little more with the music to see what people think of it."

Landes and Thompson met about five years ago through Stephen Owsley Smith, the man who built both of their bouzoukis. They immediately liked each other's music and wanted to play together, but their musical paths did not align at the time, Landes said.

"It took quite a while for us to actually do anything together because we couldn't think of any new music to compose so we could play together," Landes said.

Eventually, they wrote a swampy-blues-like song together. This song channeled a

shared instrumental concept and opened the door for them to create more music together.

"Because we had written one song together, it gave us a hint of what the record could be about," Landes said. "A lot of the music we liked we had in common, like Celtic, Arabic and Turkish music."

They began to throw notes out to one another and eventually created chord progressions that turned into melodic fragments and finally songs, Landes said.

"Most of the music came from just sitting down with our instruments and playing our ideas, and then the other would immediately react and this would prompt another reaction, and it would just keep going," Landes said.

Once the songs were written, Landes and Thompson thought some of them had a narrative that went along with the vibe of the music. Now they tell these stories during their live performances as background on the song.

"We would have people come up to us after shows and ask if the story was on the CD."

See Bouzouki on page 5

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THE DISH

LOVE LIVES

Kate & Owen: Nothing to Hide

I love Kate Hudson!" Luke Wilson tells Us of his brother Owen Wilson's girlfriend. "She's a very nice girl." Owen clearly agrees. After rekindling his romance with the actress, 27, in February (following a two-month split), the star, 38, has not been shy about sharing his feelings. During a dinner date at Santa Monica, California's Ivy on the Shore March 30, they smooched outside on the patio for all to see. "They were constantly touching, kissing and whispering," says a restaurant staffer. Adds one close friend of Hudson: "They're really happy." Must be. Three days earlier, the couple were spotted sharing a drive together in Malibu, California, and that night, says a source, Owen slept at her house.

Jennifer & Marc: Making Sweet Music

At an NYC listening party for her new CD, Como Ama Una Mujer (How a Woman Loves), Jennifer Lopez showed fans exactly that while serenading hubby Marc Anthony. "They kept looking at each other," an onlooker at the singer's March 27 Spotlight Live gig tells Us. "Marc was dancing and singing. He mouthed along to every song." At one point, Anthony, 38, who wrote some tunes on the album, joined Lopez, 37, in a duet. With their heads just inches apart, the witness says, "they sang into each other's faces and were really into each

other." When the song ended, Anthony gave Lopez a kiss on the forehead and she proclaimed, "That's my baby!" The duo's sentimentality doesn't surprise one source, who says that during rehearsal, the couple would lock eyes as they sang. "It was really intense," says the insider. "I felt like I was intruding!"

The Hunk from 'Ugly Betty'

"If someone told me I was going to marry someone from high school, I would've told them they're out of their minds!" Ugly Betty star Eric Mabius tells Us. Yet that's exactly what he did, tying the knot a year ago to Ivy Sherman (they were once in the same sex-ed class). These days, the duo are busy learning about their 10-month-old son, Max. "We just went to the movies for the first time since before he was born," says the star, 35. "We saw '300.' A light, romantic comedy! No, but it was great."

Heder's Real-life Partner!

Is Jon Heder's wife of five years, Kirsten — who's due to deliver their first baby any minute — appalled by the spangling out-fits he sports in Blades of Glory? "No, she loved it!" the actor, 29, tells Us. "We got photos of them first and she checked them off and said, 'That one's OK. This one's got to go.'" The routine isn't new, he says: "I always get the wife's approval. I don't know if I could ever do something she hated!"

Jonathan Rhys Meyers: Sexy and Gallant

Jonathan Rhys Meyers' starring role in Showtime's luscious new drama The Tudors may earn him more female attention than ever, but his girlfriend, Reena Hammer, isn't jealous. "It's been nearly three years, so I'm used to it by now," the Classics student, 26, tells Us. "He's very good, you know." Even when he's working, the Irish actor, 29, makes time for romance. Hammer's favorite gesture of his? When he surprised her on Valentine's Day in Shanghai. "He was shooting in China and was very eager to leave this seven-course dinner early, and I couldn't figure out why," she says. "But once we got to the hotel, it was all flowers and candles. It was lovely." The London-based couple just bought a house together in L.A. — could kids be the next project? "We'll see," she says. "I'm still quite young."

Naveen Andrews: Happily Unhitched!

They've spent nearly a decade dating off and on, but don't expect wedding bells for Lost star Naveen Andrews and actress Barbara Hershey, 59. The London-born actor, 38, tells Us they're happy to keep dating. "I'm from Europe. I'm a snob and we don't believe in marriage — but you never know," says the father of two. "It's a nice thought!"

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Horoscopes

By Linda C. Black
To get the advantage, check the day's rating: 10 is the easiest day, 0 the most challenging.

Aries (March 21 - April 19) — Today is a 6 — It's hard for you not to worry when you don't know which direction to go. Hide out and set priorities now, take action on Monday.

Taurus (April 20-May 20) — Today is a 7 — Conditions for celebration look good, with one minor limitation. If you spend recklessly, you'll hate yourself in the morning.

Gemini (May 21-June 21) — Today is a 7 — Talking with friends, you realize the most interesting ones are passionate about their objectives. Don't let the naysayers stop you.

Cancer (June 22-July 22) — Today is a 7 — Postpone that trip out of town until tomorrow at the least. Avoid complications that could arise by simple procrastination.

Leo (July 23-Aug. 22) — Today is a 6 — Not a good time to gamble, or even to do much shopping.

Virgo (Aug. 23-Sept. 22) — Today is a 6 — You're wise to work with a partner who has a bold decisive manner. Rather than arguing, let this person represent your interests. Let him or her argue for you.

Libra (Sept. 23-Oct. 22) — Today is a 7 — The good news is that there's plenty of work. The bad news, however, is that you won't have much time left for fun. Can you manage to enjoy your job?

Scorpio (Oct. 23-Nov. 21) — Today is a 6 — You are sorely tempted to buy toys and lottery tickets. You want to shower your sweetheart with gifts, and really enjoy

your wealth. None of these are good ideas, and you know why.

Sagittarius (Nov. 22-Dec. 21) — Today is a 6 — You might decide you'd rather hang out at home than go racing about. If you do go out, take care, guard against a chill. Wear lots of layers.

Capricorn (Dec. 22-Jan. 19) — Today is a 7 — You're not as careful as you were, as you begin to find discrepancies. Your expectations are not exactly matching your results. Don't give up; do have a decaf latte.

Aquarius (Jan. 20-Feb. 18) — Today is a 7 — A generous gift helps you stretch your resources. Luckily, you will survive. Now, put aside enough to get you through the next lean phase.

Pisces (Feb. 19-March 20) — Today is a 7 — Stand up for your rights. Don't let anyone talk you out of them. It will be perfectly OK to pitch a fit, if you must.

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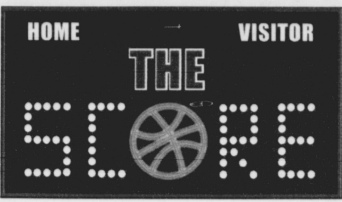
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COMING SOON TO THEATRES EVERYWHERE

Friday
April 13,
2007
PAGE 3

Chris Miles
Asst. Sports Editor
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“He has flourished in a culture that permits a certain level of objectionable expression that hurts and demeans a wide range of people.”
— CBS President Leslie Moonves on the decision to fire radio host Don Imus for racist remarks about the Rutgers womens basketball team.

BASKETBALL NOTEBOOK

Gillispie focuses on staff, recruits for now

In only six days as the head coach of the UK men's basketball team, Billy Gillispie said he has already begun work on next season's squad.
“It's been fast and furious and that's the way I like it,” Gillispie said in his first news conference since being named as head coach last Friday. “I've been hustling, trying to get everything organized.”



Gillispie

During that time, Gillispie said he has hardly had time to breathe and take the whole situation in.
One of his primary objectives has been to put together his coaching staff, a process he said he is doing carefully.
“You want to get it done as quickly as possible, but not for as-quickly-as-possible's sake,” Gillispie said. “We can have the best staff in the country.”

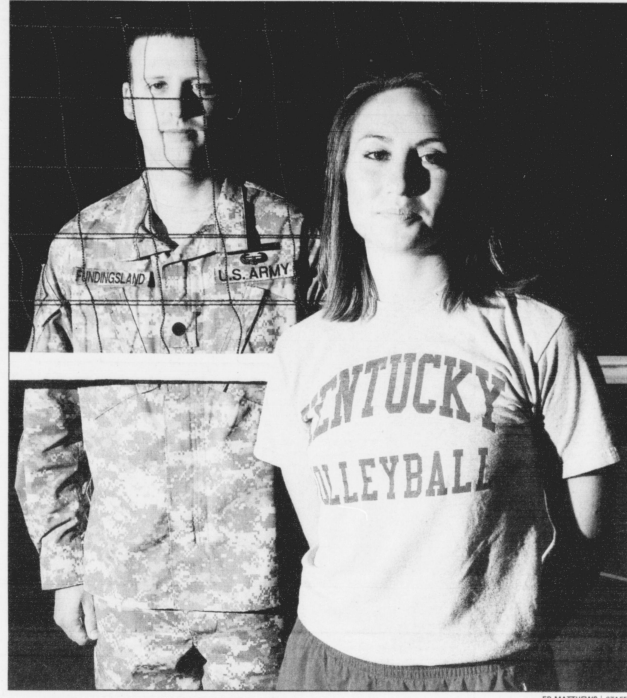
Gillispie said that he is looking for coaches that are multi-dimensional, and are not only focused on recruiting or academics.
“I want guys that are getting ready to be head coaches,” Gillispie said.
One possible assistant is Jeremy Cox, who worked with Gillispie at Texas A&M and has started working with him at UK, but has not been officially hired, Gillispie said.
Cox is “way, way high up on our list,” Gillispie said.
Gillispie is looking for coaches that like to have fun and come onto the court with a smile on their face, he said.
“At Kentucky, you should have the absolute best staff in the country.”

UK late in recruiting
Coinciding with the search for a coaching staff, Gillispie is also looking for recruits to fill out his squad.
“Our (current) roster is definitely not where it needs to be,” he said. “I think things are stable. Everyone knows we have work to do on our roster.”
Gillispie will have three scholarships available for the 2007-08 season. Two recruits have already signed with UK last fall: forward A.J. Stewart of Jacksonville, Fla., and Mike

Williams of Alexandria, Va. Speculation over whether 6-foot-11 center DeAndre Jordan, the No. 2 high school center in the nation who signed with Texas A&M, will come to UK has been lively since Gillispie took the job. Jordan has not announced any switch to UK from A&M.
Gillispie said he is looking for recruits who are competitive and team oriented.
Even late in the recruiting season, Gillispie said he is trying to bring the best possible recruits to UK and he doesn't think there will be a problem when it comes to building a squad for next season.
“Every player will help us win,” he said.
One thing Gillispie said he will do a lot of is recruit players at an early age.
“I think we'll be very, very selective in recruiting and we'll be very, very aggressive at an early age.”
Gillispie said he will sell everything that is good about UK to get the players that are necessary in the future.
“We're going to go wherever we have to go to recruit the best players and win championships here.”

Coach gets to know team
After last week's news conference and pep rally, several current players said they thought Gillispie was enthusiastic about the new job and they were excited to play for him.
Since Friday, the team has had three short workouts, Gillispie said.
“This will possibly become a real fun team to coach. It looks to me that they'll enjoy playing.”
He said he was excited about the team and some of the factors he didn't know were present in the team.
“I think they're better than I thought, a little bit,” Gillispie said. “We have some guys that have the ability to be leaders.”
“It'll be a hard working team. It'll be a close team.”

Following Love
Coach to quit to be with fiancé serving in Army



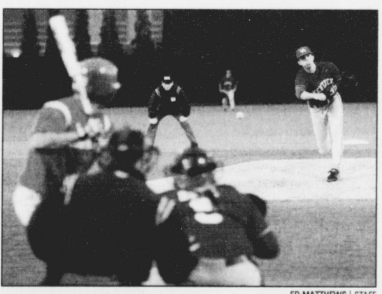
Jenae Dowling, an assistant coach on the UK volleyball team, will quit to be with her fiancé, Steven Fundingsland, when he goes to Fort Benning, Ga., for Army training after graduating from UK in May.



CHRIS DELOTTELL
Kernel columnist

This is a story about sacrifice and love. This is a story about a woman who loves her future husband so much she is willing to sacrifice her dream career and begin a new life with him. This is a story about a man who loves his country so much that he is willing to sacrifice his safety to defend it. This is a story about UK assistant volleyball coach Jenae Dowling and her fiancé Steven Fundingsland.
Dowling has decided to leave her coaching position at UK to be with Fundingsland in Fort Benning, Ga., where he will be stationed with the Army for the next eight months. The decision to leave wasn't an easy one.
All Jenae Dowling ever wanted to do was be around volleyball.
As a player at Nebraska — one of the top programs

in the country — she became a four-year letter winner after walking on as a freshman. She won a national championship in 2000, and, after her graduation in 2003, she wondered how she would stay involved in the game.
Craig Skinner solved that problem. When the former Nebraska assistant took over as head coach at UK in 2005, he hired Dowling as an assistant. Dowling quickly developed relationships with the players.
“She was the encourager,” senior defensive specialist Julie Gagnon said. “She was the one who would take us aside the most and help us work on the little things we needed to do. And that was something we needed.”
See Dowling on page 4



Dewayne Oxford pitches during their 8-1 loss at Louisville on Wednesday. This weekend the Cats will face off against No. 1 Vanderbilt at home.

Cats look for momentum against Vandy

By Eric Lindsey
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The UK baseball team is facing a slump. The Cats have lost four of their last six games and their face-off against No. 1 Vanderbilt over the weekend could be a hurdle in their attempt to snap their recent bad luck.
The No. 19 Cats (25-7-1, 5-6-1 SEC) currently sit 2.5 games out of first place in the SEC Eastern Division heading into the first of a three-game weekend series against the Commodores (30-5, 7-5 SEC) tonight.
After opening the season with a 19-game winning streak, the Cats have hit a wall with a little more than a month to play in the regular season. In the Cats'

slump UK has lost four of their last five against SEC opponents.
“Our preparation has been as good as any club that I've ever had in 15 years of (coaching),” said head coach John Cohen about the team's recent struggles. “That's why it's really baffling to me right now.”
With 18 conference games still remaining, this weekend's series against the Commodores could be the toughest contest. Vanderbilt is considered by many in the college ranks as the best team in the nation.
The Commodores are ranked No. 1 by Baseball America, the ESPN/USA Today Poll and the National Collegiate Baseball Writers Association.
“They're a really good club,” senior utility player Mike Brown said. “But we

don't necessarily look at the rankings. We're just trying to play our game and play our style of baseball.”
Leading the way for the Commodores is pitcher David Price. The junior right-hander is arguably the best pitcher in the nation, posting a 6-0 record to go along with a 2.50 earned run average and an SEC-leading 99 strikeouts.
“You got to hope he doesn't have full command of everything,” Cohen said of facing Price tonight. “Because if he does (have full command) he can beat anybody. He might even be able to beat the Yankees.”
Price, who is scheduled to pitch tonight, is a National and SEC Player of the Year Candidate. He is making a strong
See Vandy on page 4

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DOWLING

Continued from page 3

Dowling played a role in the remarkable turnaround of the program, helping Skinner captain the Cats to back-to-back NCAA Tournament trips for the first time since 1992-93.

One night in December during last season, her second at UK, Dowling went out with friends. On the dance floor at a local club, she met Steven Fundingsland, who is finishing his degree at UK with a plan to serve as an infantry officer in the U.S. Army.

"We knew pretty quickly that there was a connection," she said.

Dowling told Fundingsland that she was a volleyball coach at UK.

"The next day, he showed up on our game," she said. "But he left before I had a chance to talk to him. I'm not sure if he knew how the whole coaching thing worked."

The two talked plenty in the ensuing weeks and soon became serious in their relationship.

"After about a month and a half, I knew she was the one," Fundingsland said.

Five months after they met, Fundingsland and Dowling got engaged.

And then Jenae Dowling had a decision to make. She knew that Fundingsland would be stationed in Georgia for at least 10 months after his graduation, and she knew she couldn't live in Georgia and coach volleyball at UK.

So Dowling made a choice.

As she prepared to marry a man who will soon make a sacrifice for his country, Dowling decided to sacrifice her career in the sport she loves. She resigned her coaching job at UK to go

with her husband to Georgia — and wherever else the Army wants to send them after Fundingsland's 10-month training stint.

"One thing that brought us together is that we're both so passionate about what we do," Dowling said. "My passion can be moved and his can't be, and I'm willing to do that."

"The passion that I have I see in him, and I know you can't give it up. And I'm willing to do that for him."

The hardest part of Dowling's decision was telling Skinner, her mentor. But the UK head coach supported her.

"They're doing this thing together," Skinner said. "He's made a commitment to the country. That's a pretty special thing that very few of us understand."

Very few of us can really understand this story. Those of us who love sports can't understand walking away from a career in the industry. Those of us who haven't found "the one" can't understand the choices you have to make when you do find that person. But we can all understand — and admire — the most important parts of this story: Love of another person, sacrifice for the country and the importance of making tough decisions.

So when Jenae Dowling becomes Jenae Fundingsland and leaves her job in May, she'll leave behind volleyball — at least for the time being. She hopes to coach again at some level, either in high school or club because "once volleyball is in your blood, it's hard to get out."

But there's something more important in the blood of Fundingsland and Dowling. There's a special selflessness; a selflessness for each other and for the country. There's a desire to serve and a desire to sacrifice.

And above all, there's love.

VANDY

Continued from page 3

case for the honor with batters managing just a .191 batting average off of him.

"It's a big challenge for us," Brown said. "We're just going to play our game against him. We're not going to swing at his pitches and his slider outside the strike zone."

The series will also be special as UK will honor the family of former pitcher Jon Hooker, a victim of Flight 5191 at Bluegrass Airport, with a ceremony.

The Cats will place an honorary emblem on the old right-field scoreboard before the game on Saturday at Cliff Hagan Stadium.

Hooker, a London, Ky. native, was a UK letterman from 1998-2001 under former head coach Keith Madison. He signed a free agent contract with the Chicago White Sox in 2001 following his career with the Cats.

"I think it'll be an emotional time," Cohen said. "There will be a lot of folks from London that are going to come. I think it's a very important day for our program and for the state of Kentucky."

"When you are having success, you don't want to do anything to change that success, because we are creatures of habit," Brown said.

"I think we are all superstitious by nature," Brown said. "I think (head coach Rich Brooks) and coach Heller, our Director of Football Operations, they go to Burger King every Friday or something like that just to keep the good luck going."

Brooks said his superstitions are not necessarily flashy. "I probably have some superstitions when we get on a winning streak, but not very much and not very exciting," he said. "Only when things are going good."

Brown said there is nothing wrong for players or coaches to have superstitions, and they are natural.

"I think we are all superstitious by nature," Brown said. "I think (head coach Rich Brooks) and coach Heller, our Director of Football Operations, they go to Burger King every Friday or something like that just to keep the good luck going."

STAFF WRITER MATTHEW GEORGE CONTRIBUTED TO THIS STORY

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Friday the 13th brings out superstitions

By Chris Miles
cmiles@kyemail.net

Friday the 13th is just another spring practice day for the UK football team.

Though nothing is weird about today for the players, there is a tradition of superstition behind it. There's also a tradition of superstitions in sports.

"I could tell you one thing that nobody really knows about," said junior wide receiver Steve Johnson, who wears the number 13. "The brace that I wear right here (on his wrist). The only reason I wear it is because of number 13 (Kecuan Burton, who wears one). I see how his work ethic is, so when I put this on, I just look at it to remind myself that I have to get on his level."

Otherwise, Johnson doesn't consider himself superstitious and doesn't consider his number is a bad omen.

"I don't even think about it like that," Johnson said. "We'll see this season if it's cool or if it's an unlucky number. I'll just take it for what it is."

New UK defensive coordinator Steve Brown said he thinks everyone in the sports world is superstitious.

"Especially coaches," Brown said. "When you are winning you try to repeat by either eating at the same place or wearing the same things, saying the same things, we are just superstitious by nature."

And that includes himself. "When I was a player, at every home game before a game and after the morning meeting I would go to Jack-in-the-Box, get my two breakfast Jacks, drive the same road, say hi to the same people in the Astrodome, made sure I shook the same people's hand and if they weren't there I made sure I found them," Brown said.

If he didn't complete his personal super-

stition, he'd get nervous during a game.

"I think we are all superstitious by nature," Brown said. "I think (head coach Rich Brooks) and coach Heller, our Director of Football Operations, they go to Burger King every Friday or something like that just to keep the good luck going."

Brooks said his superstitions are not necessarily flashy. "I probably have some superstitions when we get on a winning streak, but not very much and not very exciting," he said. "Only when things are going good."

Brown said there is nothing wrong for players or coaches to have superstitions, and they are natural.

"I think we are all superstitious by nature," Brown said. "I think (head coach Rich Brooks) and coach Heller, our Director of Football Operations, they go to Burger King every Friday or something like that just to keep the good luck going."



Brown

The numbers game 60 years after Jackie Robinson

By David Aldridge
THE PHILADELPHIA INQUIRER

PHILADELPHIA — When Dontrelle Willis pitches for the Florida Marlins, he's balancing a heavy load.

"Every time I go up on the mound, I take my race and my family out there," the all-star hurler said last week.

"I go out there and I play as hard as I can," he said, "because in the end, you can say whatever you want about my numbers, but you can never say my effort level wasn't there, as far as going out there and taking pride on my shoulders and saying, 'Work hard and try to open the door like they opened the door for me.'"

But if recent trends continue, Willis won't have many people to whom he can pass the torch.

When baseball began its season last week, there were just four African American starting pitchers on major-league rosters: Willis, the Indians' C.C. Sabathia, the Pirates' Ian Snell, and the Nationals' Jerome Williams.

While there is still a Ryan Howard here and a Ken Griffey Jr. there, the overall pool of African Americans playing in the majors has evaporated to a puddle. The self-segregation away from baseball toward other sports and other careers has left only a handful of African Americans in major-league clubhouses.

Last month, the University of Central Florida's racial and gender report card for baseball in 2006 painted a stark picture. The study put the percentage of African Americans playing in the majors at 8.4 percent, the lowest in two decades.

By contrast, white players constituted 59.5 percent of the baseball-playing population last season, while almost 30 percent

of major-leaguers — and many of the game's superstars — were of Latino descent.

As late as 1995, 19 percent of major-leaguers were African American, according to the athletes. By 2005, the Houston Astros played in the World Series without a single African American on their roster.

Baseball has noticed the decline — 60 years after Jackie Robinson's debut.

"I don't think we're saying every African American athlete has to be a baseball player," Jimmie Lee Solomon, Major League Baseball's executive vice president of baseball operations, said by telephone.

"But we have the longest historical link to the black community," Solomon said. "It would be a shame to let it go. We would be remis if we didn't do everything in our power to make sure that every black kid as well as every white and every red kid and every Hispanic kid who wants to play the game gets an opportunity to play the game."

Sabathia called the lack of African Americans in baseball a "crisis" during spring training, adding: "I don't think people see the problem. They see players like Reyes and Delgado and assume they're black."

He was referring to New York Mets infielders Jose Reyes and Carlos Delgado.

Reyes is from the Dominican Republic. Delgado is Puerto Rican.

At the Civil Rights Game in Memphis last month, Sabathia explained further.

"I wasn't trying to criticize Major League Baseball or nothing like that," he said. "I was trying to say, 'Hey, I'm here, but I don't have all the answers, either. I just want to help.' And hopefully we can get something done, because, when you talk (four) starters in the entire two

leagues, that's a tragedy." Several factors have contributed to the decline, Solomon said.

Baseball, which used to have first crack at most black athletes, now competes with football and basketball for attention and for prospective players. Transcendent players such as Michael Jordan in basketball and Tiger Woods in golf have given those sports more cachet in the black community. When public schools began allowing students to wear sneakers to school, shoe companies — which almost exclusively market basketball players — gained entree into poorer communities.

Baseball courts are cheaper to build and maintain than baseball fields. Colleges offer many more scholarships for football players (up to 85 at Division I schools) than baseball players (11). Baseball went to Latin America for cheaper talent that was not subject to its draft.

And baseball's best player the last 15 years, Barry Bonds, has been emmeshed in controversy instead of being marketed to young blacks who could have emulated his skill set the way African Americans two generations ago gravitated to the talent, flair and work ethic of Bonds' godfather, Willie Mays.

"You take all of these things and mix them up together, and you get this perfect storm," Solomon said.

Baseball has initiated a series of programs to try to reverse the trend. It opened a Baseball Youth Academy on 10 acres in the middle of Compton, Calif., last year. The facility, run by former major-leaguer Darrell Miller, offers free instruction in baseball and softball to local youngsters on two regulation fields, five batting cages, a softball field and a youth field.

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VP

Continued from page 1

funding would come as a result of the Top 20 Business Plan, which calls for research funding to increase to over \$750 million from the current \$300 million, Halpert said after the forum.

"As the University of Kentucky grows its research to the \$768 million goal, the amount of indirect funds available to the vice president for research will grow," Halpert said.

Money is not the only indicator of a successful research program, Halpert said. "I think if you ask most

faculty members, they don't want money," Halpert said. "They want credit; they want recognition."

"You've got to appeal to people in the terms that just work for them."

The final candidate for the vice president for research position to visit campus is Theodore S. Widlanski of Indiana University-Bloomington.

The forum for Widlanski will be Tuesday, April 17 in Room 101 of the Mining and Mineral Resources Building from 4 to 5 p.m. Students, faculty and staff may attend to learn about Widlanski's background and ask questions.

PHOTO

Continued from page 1

coordinator and assistant photo editor for the Kernel.

"Dave started this group as a way for students to come in and share information and techniques and talk photography all the time and learn from each other and really help each other out," said Matthews, a journalism sophomore.

Frakes has been a long-time acquaintance of LaBelle and contacted him about coming to speak to the UK students, Matthews said. This will be Frakes' second lecture on campus; the first was last year. Frakes is most known for

his sports photography.

"He is very, very good at what he does and very, very good at what I want to do," Matthews said. "I look at his work and it just gives me something that I want to work toward."

Frakes has photographed such famous subjects as Michael Jordan, Jevon Kearse and Dick Vitale.

He has worked in more than 75 countries in a variety of editorial and advertising clients, according to his Web site (www.billfrakes.com). His photographs have appeared in advertisements for such companies as Nike, Coca-Cola, IBM and Kodak.

Frakes has received national

TURBINE

Continued from page 1

"We try to work with students in as many ways as we can." Farris said sustainability and environmental awareness are important to the Arboretum.

"We hope to give support to research and environmental awareness," Farris said.

Tedder said the turbine will be used mostly as a teaching tool.

"We'll use it as a model and for demonstrational purposes mostly," Tedder said.

Earthdays in the Bluegrass is a month-long event that tries to raise awareness of the environment. It continues until Arbor Day, which is April 28th.

al and international awards for his work, including the Gold Medal by World Press Photo. Frakes was also honored with a Robert F. Kennedy Journalism Award in 1983 for his coverage of the disadvantaged in Florida. He was a member of the Miami Herald staff, which won the Pulitzer Prize for their reports on Hurricane Andrew in 1992.

"He is one of the most successful photographers in the business, and it's a chance to come see his work and listen to him talk about what it takes to make it and be as successful as he is," Matthews said. "It's just a really great opportunity that a lot of students will be sorry if they miss."

BOUZOUKI

Continued from page 1

Lendes said. "We realized it was an important part and served as a window inside of the music."

Lendes' interest in Irish traditional music and the bouzouki surfaced in 1981 when he was studying classical guitar in college. He became intrigued by medieval music and felt no one was playing this form of music anymore. He was then introduced to the Chiefans and realized traditional Irish music sounded a lot like medieval music.

He wanted to play the jigs and reels he heard in traditional Irish music and since he already knew how to play guitar, the bouzouki

would be easy to learn.

"I went with it because it has frets like the guitar, but to play Irish music on a fretted instrument is very hard," Lendes said. "It was too late for me to switch instruments."

Lendes continued to pursue his music career and atypical tastes by playing in the Kansas City-based Celtic group Scartaglen and performing on numerous other albums.

Thompson was familiar with many instruments, but after hearing Irish music and meeting Lendes, he took up playing the bouzouki.

He then created a unique voice for the bouzouki by broadening its use to Appalachian, Celtic, blues, rockabilly and Middle Eastern sounds.

"You'll probably really like us, or you'll hate us," Lendes said. "Our sound is energetic and rhythmic and needs attention."

Continued from page 9

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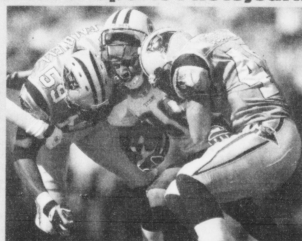
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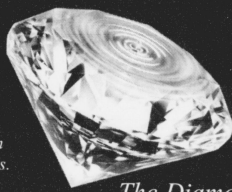
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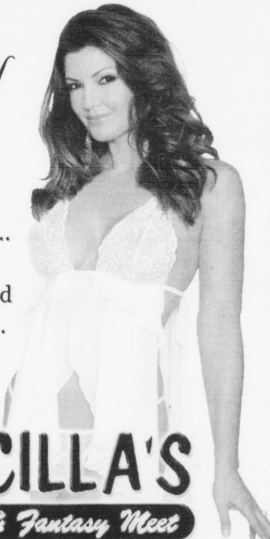
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Grayhawk protest atypical, but at least homeless benefit

Generally, protest is thought of as a labor of love, made possible only by the protesters' strong belief in the cause.

The protesters near campus who are targeting the construction company Grayhawk LLC may be all for higher wages for carpenters, but they have another incentive to stand in the picket line: an \$8 an hour wage from the Indiana-Kentucky Regional Council of Carpenters, the Kernel reported April 4.

On the surface, the concept of "protesters for hire" seems absurd. Normally, what makes a protest powerful is that the people participating are all giving up their time and money to voice their concerns to the public. That's not exactly the case when the people involved are being paid to do it.

Another apparent irony is that while the protesters are making \$8 an hour from the union, they're calling for Grayhawk to pay carpenters about \$20 an hour. What's unfair for one group is perfectly fine for another in the union's eyes.

Nevertheless, there's nothing wrong with what the carpenter's union is doing — in fact, it might be a good thing overall for the local community.

First, remember that it's a free-market economy. If there are people willing to protest for pay and a sponsor willing to pay for protesters, there's no reason why that economic exchange shouldn't take place.

Second, many of the protesters

KERNEL EDITORIAL

"come from rehabs or homeless shelters," said Dan Hogle, a senior representative at the carpenter's union, in last week's Kernel story.

That means the union is giving jobs to the people who need them most.

It is often hard for people who have fallen into such dire straits to be able to find a job at all, let alone one that pays above the minimum wage.

Moreover, the "issue" of paying protesters only 40 percent of what the union is fighting for carpenters to make is not an issue at all.

The living wage for an adult with no children in the Lexington-Fayette area is \$6.80 an hour, according to the living-wage calculator on Penn State's Poverty in America Web site (www.living-wage.geog.psu.edu). The protesters' hourly wage of \$8 is well above that.

The Grayhawk protest may be unsightly — sometimes they carry a 13-foot inflatable rat to drive the point home — not to mention its incongruity with typical notions of protesters as dedicated volunteers.

But the protesters have as much right as anyone to exercise free speech and be paid for their labor.

In addition, although we take no stance on the union's overall cause, it should be commended for providing jobs to those who need them the most.

KERNEL EDITORIAL

good sign that a generally respected and widely-read rankings guide such as "America's Best Graduate Schools" would consider such a wide array of UK's graduate programs to be among the nation's best.

It would be wise for UK administration to study what makes these programs. Talk to deans, professors and students to find out what sets these particular graduate programs apart.

Then, implement feasible solutions based on these findings in other graduate programs. Hopefully these programs will be able to work with each other in order to make the entire university better.

If this happens, more and more UK graduate programs will likely rise in U.S. News & World Report's annual rankings.

By working with each other, UK's graduate programs can improve each other, and help the university with its top 20 quest.

Grad programs should learn from each other in order to improve

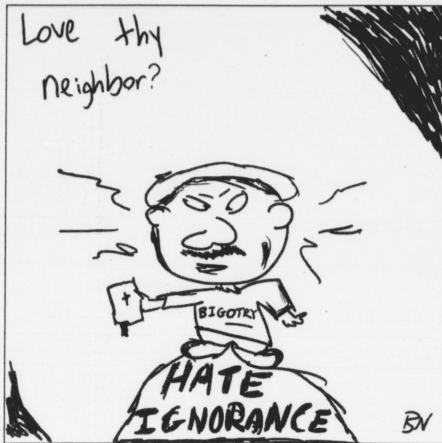
Several of UK's graduate programs have risen in the rankings of the latest "America's Best Graduate Schools," published annually by U.S. News & World Report.

The Kernel reported last week that the UK College of Law rose five places in the magazine's ranks, to 60th place among all universities and 31st among public schools.

UK's College of Nursing also advanced three places to 26th place overall, and 18th among public universities.

Other programs recognized include the UK College of Public Health, which rose to 31st place in its category; the Martin School of Public Policy and Administration, which ranks 34th and its public finance and budgeting program 6th; and UK's College of Pharmacy continued its stay in the national top ten, ranked 8th.

Though questions frequently arise concerning the validity and accuracy of the U.S. News rankings, they are at the very least a good indicator of UK's reputation nationwide. It's a



BRETT NOLAN, Kernel cartoonist

If racist comments will get you fired, punish everyone equally

Imus in the Morning — I'm at the point where all I can say is "yikes." Obviously it was a stupid thing to say, calling the Rutgers women's basketball team "nappy-headed hos." Few will argue otherwise.

But is it enough to fire him? At this point MSNBC will no longer be simulcasting Don Imus' show and advertisers like Procter and Gamble have dropped their sponsorship, but is this enough?

His comments may have been racist; they were certainly wrong. And as difficult as it may be to understand, Imus shouldn't lose his job. Some say he should be held accountable for what he said, and I have no objections to that. Only he should apologize to the girls, not Al Sharpton. But Imus isn't held to the same accountability standards as other journalists. Let's face it, he's not hosting 60 Minutes and he's not the editor of the New York Times. Calling him a journalist or a true man of the media would be an insult to those who are.

His job is something akin to a comedian. He sits in his chair and interviews people and says whatever he wants, whenever. No one has issues when Chris Rock, Dave Chappelle or any other comedian says something that may be considered offensive. So why is there so much controversy over this?

The Rev. Al Sharpton seems to be adding fuel to the flame. He's the most vocal opponent of Imus in this situation, calling for his dismissal. He was quoted as saying, "Somewhere we must draw the line in what is tolerable in mainstream media."

But this case isn't about drawing lines, because Imus isn't the first and won't be the last to make some stupid remark about who knows what that is offensive to someone. The media, which includes music, television, movies and more, is full of things that offend people; so Imus shouldn't be picked out from the crowd and made an example of.

The real issue, as far as I see, isn't coming from the fact that something regrettable was said, but what was said was, in effect, a racist comment. The outrage is because millions are viewing this as blatant racism and are refusing to tolerate it.

Don Imus is what some call an "equal opportunity insulter" or an

"equal opportunity offender," in that he doesn't care who you are, what race you are or anything about you — he has the right to insult you. Imus has been doing it for years and there has never been such a considerable outrage.

Before you can fire this guy for his comments, everyone needs to prepare to fire everyone who starts making comments. You can't pick and choose your victims; you have to be an equal opportunity punisher.

People are pushing for Imus to be fired. Fine. But realize the reason that you are doing so — his racist comments. And realize that once you open the can of worms by firing him, you can't just let it all go.

Every radio personality, every television and movie star, every rapper, everybody who says something racist must be treated equally. The media have made this case huge; the media are the ones who are reacting by pulling his show and proclaiming how horrific it is that he would say something.

So the media now need to decide that they won't let anyone slide anymore — no matter who, no matter what.

Megan Vazmina is a journalism junior. E-mail opinions@kykernel.com



MEGAN VAZMINA
Kernel columnist

LETTERS TO THE EDITOR

Kernel staff should respect fellow students' privacy

I was revolted by your reporters' lack of morals and respect for a fellow student's privacy as they documented the arrests of Morgan Nelson and Dustin Sims on April 10. The "Shouting neighbors [who] permeated the rest of the 200 block," as quoted by the April 11 article, were due to the uncouth reporting practices of your staff.

A photographer snapped photos of the two as they were led out of their house in handcuffs and were put into the back of a police cruiser. Onlookers angrily asked the reporters to stop their paparazzi-like antics as they continued to take pictures of Sims as he tried desperately to dodge the lens.

Of course I understand the value of this story to your front page, just as I understand why you would run the Michael Strong alleged rape story.

Unfortunately you never ran a story explaining that Strong's charges were nearly immediately dropped, as I'm sure you will not run a follow up story on these young men.

These are students' lives that you're tainting, their names that you're staining. These are our peers. What happened to innocent until proven guilty?

I asked your reporters the day of the arrest and they coldly turned their shoulders to focus on the scene.

I am thoroughly disappointed by the journalism practices this paper sees as acceptable — I expected more from a student-run newspaper. This sort of exploitation has got to end.

Emily Acland
Marketing sophomore

Columnist's comments on nurse practitioners unfair

It seemed obvious that the April 4 column written by Chad Reese ("Clinic should do more to ensure satisfactory care for students") was written as an agent to incite emotional negative feedback. As a student of UK's Acute Care Nurse Practitioner program I was very disappointed to read such highly unwarranted attack against a health care profession that has had roots since the mid 1800s.

Other than misinformed opinion from Reese, what makes nurse practitioners less qualified to perform their job as patient care providers? Several studies exist in peer-reviewed journals that have shown nurse practitioners have similar positive patient outcomes as physicians.

Nurse practitioners must go through four years of undergraduate studies to acquire a bachelor's degree in nursing, then complete two to three years of graduate studies.

This is the same as many professions including law school, MBA and physician's assistant. Are these professionals any less qualified to do what they do?

So it seems unfair and biased to imply, after a single incident at a university student health clinic, that nurse practitioners are less qualified to provide quality care to students, or anyone. Reading the column was like envisioning a time when women and minorities did not have the right to vote because they were not seen as being qualified enough to make that decision.

I would certainly hope that is not the type of image UK and its students would want to give while pursuing its top 20 goal.

Floyd Johnson
Nursing graduate student

It's not environmentalism unless you put Earth first

Not many people realize that environmentalism was created with the first Earth Day in 1970, marking a split in mindsets between conservationists and environmentalists.

While some may see this difference as trivial, I have come to believe that it is vital to the future of humanity.

While the environmental movement certainly has a place in promoting "global citizenship," it does so only for the sake of humanity.

Conservationists, on the other hand, aim to restore the damage done by humans for the sake of the environment.

Endangered species restoration, invasive species removal and national park allocation are all conservation oriented while conserving energy, recycling and organic agriculture are environmentalist issues.

Earth day is a good activity to get people involved in the community and thinking about how their actions impact the environment they live in. However, lumping conservation programs and environmental programs is harmful to the conservation mindset.

Instead of promoting a dance as "Save the planet so we'll have some place to boogie!" maybe try, "Save the planet from the ourselves we touch ... go humans!"

This is truly not "a celebration for mother earth" if all we are worried about is our own hides.

Cristina Brady
International agriculture senior

Note to Readers

Unsigned editorials reflect the views of the Kernel Editorial Board. They are written independently of the Kernel's news coverage. Columns, letters and cartoons reflect the views of their authors.

Submissions

Send a guest column or letter to the editor to Opinions Editor Wes Blevins. Please limit letters to 350 words or fewer. Be sure to include your full name, class and major with all submissions.

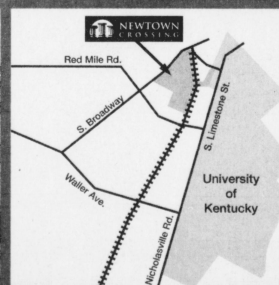
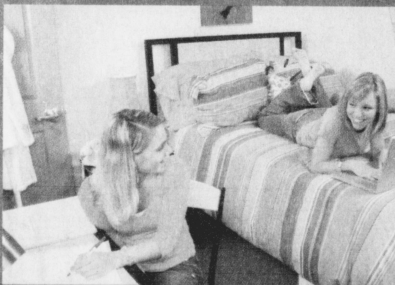
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Weekly Poll Question

Did UK make the right choice in hiring Texas A&M's Billy Gillispie as the new head coach of the men's basketball team?

Vote online at www.kykernel.com

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