

THE Kentucky Kernel

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SG mulls election reforms

Proposes vote penalties for campaign violations

By Sean Rose
THE KENTUCKY KERNEL

Student Government election violations could be handled differently if the Constitutional Revisions Committee has its way.

The first committee meeting of the semester did not have enough members present to take action yesterday in the Student Center, but the group did make preliminary plans to eliminate the Elections Board of Claims and shift its duties to the SG Supreme Court.

The Elections Board is in charge of evaluating violation claims and giving punishments. But some committee members said the board wasn't qualified to make the judgments.

"It's not clear to me that they actually do something good and in some cases may harm the process," said SG Supreme Court Chief Justice Christopher Thacker.

Thacker added that in many cases, the board members haven't read the SG constitution and aren't instructed in their duties.

"There's a lot better chance of having people in the Supreme Court who do know," he said.

The committee could only make informal decisions without a majority of the committee present last night. Thacker and committee Chairman Will Nash are currently writing out new regulations that will be viewed by the committee and could go to next week's Senate meeting for approval.

The new regulations could have the existing position of campaign investigator collect complaints and violations and then pass them to the Supreme Court. The Court will then have a preliminary hearing to decide if the violations are serious enough to hand down a punishment, which would come at a second hearing.

Nash said he didn't know if the Senate would approve any changes for this spring's election.

"I guess it depends on some senators' moods the night of," Nash said.

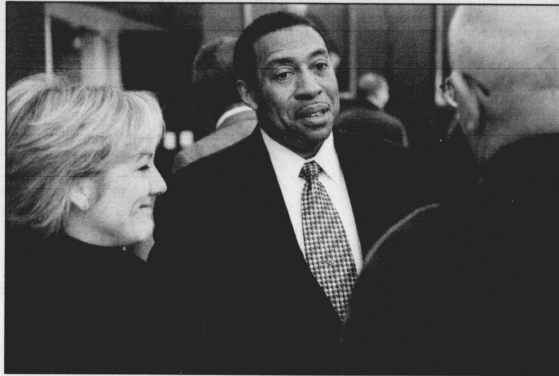
The board of claims was the first stage of last year's five-month election saga, after it disqualified Nash, a presidential candidate, for overspending the campaign limit. Nash appealed, and the election wasn't decided until Fayette Circuit Court Judge Gary Payne sided with current SG President Becky Ellingsworth in her lawsuit against UK.

The committee discussed new punishments as well, focusing on spending violations. Though nothing was decided, one option for violations could include disqualifying votes for a candidate depending on the amount of the overspending.

Rhonda Strouse, the director of Student Activities, Leadership and Involvement said taking away the votes would be the best deterrent for overspending.

"If you talk about candidates, what's the one thing they're trying to get?"

See SG on page 2



NEW UK Police Chief McDonald Vick, center, speaks with interim police chief Kevin Franklin, right, and Carol Jordan, chair of the police search committee, at the press conference to announce Vick's hiring on Feb. 1 in the Main Building.

Vick decides to stay with UK

By Megan Boehnke
THE KENTUCKY KERNEL

UK's newly hired police chief affirmed his decision yesterday to join the department next month despite a counter offer from his current employer and publicity surrounding a sex discrimination lawsuit.

McDonald Vick, who had been police chief at North Carolina Central University for 10 years, received a counter offer from NCCU after he accepted the UK position last week. The offer was "very close" to UK's, Vick said.

He had previously made \$68,466 a year at NCCU and is set to make about \$93,000 a year at UK.

Vick said he considered NCCU's new offer in part after local media, including The Kernel, reported on the discrimination lawsuit in which he is named a defendant along with other university officials and department members.

"It made me think about it," Vick said of the publicity. "I

don't want to bring problems on anybody or discredit anyone even though these allegations are nothing.

"If they were true, then I wouldn't be coming."

Over the past several days Todd has said he and UK's police chief search committee were not told of a current sexual discrimination lawsuit in which Vick, as well as several other NCCU police officers, are named as defendants. Waters-Oldani, the national search firm UK used to gather and review applicants, knew of the lawsuit but after reviewing the case, advised the university that it shouldn't be an issue in hiring Vick.

Todd said he would change the university's search process to ensure that when similar matters arise in future searches, he and the search committee are fully briefed.

"The bottom line is that questions about such behavior with respect to a job candidate, even if untrue, should be fully vetted, evaluated and under-

The Vick File

- Bachelor's and master's degrees in criminal justice from North Carolina Central University
- Served as officer in Durham police dept. for 18 years
- Police Chief at NCCU for past 10 years
- Earned \$68,466 annually at NCCU, set to make \$93,000 per year at UK

stood by an interview team or search committee," Todd said in a campus-wide e-mail yesterday. "In particular, search committees should have full access to a search firm and the information that it gathers."

Still, despite the lapses of communication and concerns about the process by which Vick was selected, Todd said that he still believes that the university made the right choice.

"This information was not

See Chief on page 2

TIMELINE | UK's search for a new police chief

OCT. 2005	FEB. 1, 2006	MONDAY	YESTERDAY
UK reopens police chief search after hiring executive search firm Waters-Oldani	President Lee Todd announces McDonald Vick as UK's next police chief	Todd and search committee say they were unaware of pending discrimination lawsuit against Vick	Vick rejects counter offer to stay at North Carolina Central University and confirms move to UK



Dr. Robert Zeburin signs a copy of his book, "The Case for Mars" for mechanical engineering professor Jamey Jacob. Zeburin, an astronautical engineer, is one of three lecturers that will be brought to UK by the Student Activities Board in its Theoretical Thursdays series.

Red eye for the Red Planet: Goal attainable, says expert

By Keith Brooks
THE KENTUCKY KERNEL

Not only is it highly possible to send men to the Red Planet—we are closer than ever, according to Robert Zubrin.

Zubrin, president and owner of Pioneer Astronautics, a research and spacecraft technology company spoke about his proposals for sending people to Mars last night in Memorial Hall. This marks the first convocation of a three-part series called "Theoretical Thursdays," all hosted by the Student Activities Board.

Zubrin spoke about several plans and spacecrafts optimized to perform various exploratory tasks. One of those included his description of a spaceship called, "ARES," a vehicle capable of lifting 120 tons into the lower orbit of Mars.

Zubrin said that sending massive spacecrafts is the least important aspect of implementation.

"Just lift and throw and shoot it out there," Zubrin said. "That's how we can do space missions in the real world."

Zubrin described a five-year plan called the "Mars Direct Mission Sequence," which included practical and informative details about sending a series of spacecrafts to the Martian landscape. Along with specified diagrams, Zubrin explained that the spacecraft would include "Earth Return Vehicles" that would acquire 95 percent of their fuel from Mars' atmosphere and arrive to the planet before astronauts would reach the surface.

"The fact is basically it's not hard," Zubrin said. "It's 19th cen-

tury chemistry."

Zubrin said that the first part of the spacecraft would be sent to Mars surface, followed by a series of smaller aircrafts every two years. If the craft were to be sent, Zubrin said, the expedition would take one year. Zubrin also spoke about the evidence of life on Mars, a notion that has prompted recent theories about past and possible life on Mars.

"There were rivers on Mars," he said. "Recent probes have found dried-up rivers, dried-up lakes. Mars had a large quantity of water for about 5 billion years." Zubrin also noted that it is possible that microbes exist within one kilometer on Mars' crust.

"Finding the biochemical di-

See Mars on page 2

Dancing to fight cancer

DanceBlue raises funds for oncology research

By Wes Blevins
THE KENTUCKY KERNEL

UK students will be cutting a rug this weekend—and perhaps tripping over it—in a 24-hour no sleeping, no sitting dance marathon at Memorial Coliseum.

In the first annual DanceBlue, more than 180 students will spend tonight and all day tomorrow on their feet in an effort to raise money for the Pediatric Oncology Clinic at UK's Chandler Medical Center. About 50 student organizations have been independently raising funds for the past year, and will field teams for the marathon.

FYI

- DanceBlue
- When: 9 tonight to 9 tomorrow night
- Where: Memorial Coliseum
- Tickets: \$2

The 24-hour marathon, which begins at 9 tonight, is symbolic of the daily struggle pediatric cancer patients face. Students involved in the DanceBlue effort have had first-hand experience with the patients and their families.

Last fall, the UK Student Volunteer Center sponsored a fall festival for the patients. Students have also hosted movie nights and a Christmas party for the children.

"Patients really love meeting the students," said Dr. Jeffrey A. Moscow, chief of pediatric oncology at UK. "It's great for UK students to see the children as part of the UK community," he said.

There will be no advance ticketing for the event, but spectators are being asked to donate \$2 at the door. Upon entering Memorial Coliseum, viewers will be given a wristband that will allow them to re-enter throughout the night.

Finance senior and DanceBlue chair Emily Pfeifer said there are several highlights throughout the marathon, beginning at 8:30 p.m. when students will meet in the Student Center parking lot to form a tunnel for entering dancers.

Pfeifer said students could still show up later on in the night to encourage dancers through their exhaustion.

The featured attraction, between 6 and 9 p.m. tomorrow, will be cancer patients from the Pediatric Oncology Clinic who

See Dance on page 2

Green Thumb seeks student fees to pay for cleaner energy on campus

By John Crowell
THE KENTUCKY KERNEL

Green Thumb, a student environmental organization, is pushing to get students behind a bill that would slightly raise tuition in order to buy energy that is clean and renewable.

Student fees would have to be raised about \$6. Currently, students pay more than \$100 for such services as WRFL, the university's student-run radio station, and chemistry labs.

Tiffany Thompson, the organization's president, said the money would not go directly to buy wind energy just for UK's campus. Green Thumb plans to invest in cleaner energy for the national grid.

"Saving energy saves money," she said.

One of the criticisms of Green Thumb's proposal is the concern that purchasing wind energy is an affront to the coal mining industry, which contributes to Kentucky's economy.

Cody Belcher, a journalism junior from Pikeville,

Ky. and advocate for the coal mining industry, defended UK's use of it.

"Without coal and the work it provides, many Appalachians would be forced to leave the towns they've called home for generations and the region's rich, proud heritage would become a memory," Belcher said. "This, in my opinion, would be far more heartbreaking than any valley fill or mountaintop removal site."

Green Thumb, however, insists their election referendum is in no way an attack on the people whose livelihoods depend on coal mining.

"This referendum isn't anti-coal," Thompson said. "We're just recognizing the need for cleaner energy."

"People seem pretty optimistic about the idea."

In order for students to be able to vote on the proposal, Green Thumb must first get a referendum passed that would allow the referendum to be on the ballot. Of the 1,000 signatures the referendum needs in order to pass, Green Thumb has col-

lected about 700 in what Thompson described as a fairly sporadic signing process.

Green Thumb members have been actively seeking signatures twice this semester. Last semester, the group went out about once a month.

Student Government has set a tentative deadline on the signatures for Feb. 20.

"We're coming to the stages where we need to buckle down," Thompson said.

This isn't the first year that Green Thumb has attempted to get the referendum passed. The organization got 1,000 signatures last year, but was denied the right to let the students vote on it because of what Thompson called a miscommunication with Student Government.

Originally, all signatures on referendums were required to include social security numbers. Green Thumb realized that most students being asked to sign a petition on the street would not be comfortable

sharing such information with strangers. So they requested to collect the signatures without it.

The SG Election Board denied the request because it did not comply with SG's rules. Belcher, then the board's chairman, told The Kernel.

"Because there were problems with the format and content of Green Thumb's signature sheets we could not allow them a ballot position," Belcher said on March 29, 2005.

This year, the rule has been changed and Social Security numbers are no longer necessary.

Thompson said she was confident the organization would collect the remaining 300 signatures.

"Students need to remember that a signing the petition doesn't mean that you're supporting it," said Thompson. "It just means that the students will be able to vote on it and decide for themselves."

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Students need to remember that a signing the petition doesn't mean that you're supporting it."

- Tiffany Thompson, president of Green Thumb on the group's petition to increase student fees

Mice reveal clues to social intimidation

By Jamie Talan
NEWSDAY

Mice bullied for 10 days by aggressive, bigger lab mates display lasting fearfulness, but scientists report that by blocking a gene in their brains, they could undo the animals' social intimidation.

What this means for human social behavior is only speculative, but psychiatrists who did the experiment say they have discovered a change in a region in the center of the brain called the ventral tegmental area that explains the socially defeated response to aggression.

They used genetic tricks to turn off a gene called brain-derived growth factor, which they found was pumping out too much protein in response to constant intimidation. The timid mice regained their pre-bullied outgoing nature af-

ter a day or two, once this response was blocked. A month of antidepressants did the same thing.

"Once again, this study demonstrates the destructive effect of early trauma," said Dr. Robert Hirschfeld, chairman of psychiatry at the University of Texas Medical Branch in Galveston. "The good news is we may be able to reverse this in mice and hopefully in humans."

Brain-derived growth factor increased twofold in the bullied mice. While the hormone is known to have a role in memory, this study suggests it may be involved in social learning.

"Whether you are talking about mice or men, social status is one of the major aspects of psychological equilibrium," said Dr. Thomas Insel, director of the National Institute of Mental Health. "If we want

to understand how these mechanisms develop, we need to look at the brain, system by system."

The study, led by Dr. Eric Nestler, chairman of psychiatry at the University of Texas Southwestern Medical Center, appears Friday in the journal *Science*. Nestler said the findings could have implications for depression, social phobias and post-traumatic stress disorder. "Interfering with this pathway, either through gene manipulation or antidepressants, blocked the trauma of the bullying experience," Nestler said. "We can begin to look for ways to interfere with brain-derived growth factor signaling as a way to treat these conditions."

The mice were exposed to a short daily dose of bullying for 10 days and then watched for a month. The socially defeated animals

never recovered.

When brain-derived growth factor was knocked out in this region, the animals never developed socially avoidant behavior—even after 10 days of bullying. "The animals can't learn that a social stimulus is threatening and respond appropriately," Nestler said.

This, experts say, might not be a good thing.

"If people repeatedly go up against dominant peers, and never learn to protect themselves, what are they learning?" asked Jonathan Jackson, a psychologist and director of clinical training at the Derner Institute at Adelphi University. "Human behavior is more complex," Jackson said. "Continued self-assertion or withdrawal are not the only two options."

Mars

Continued from page 1

versity is why it's important," said Zubrin. "If we can go to Mars and figure out how to use these resources, we can make Mars habitable."

The "Mars Direct Mission Sequence" plan proposed by Zubrin last night would cost \$40 billion over 20 years, which is 15 percent of NASA's current budget.

"This is something we can afford to do," he said. Mitch Schwartz, a telecommunications sophomore, is also encouraged

about the project. He believed it could develop within the future.

"I'm sure, even if there are complications, it could be done within 25 years," Schwartz said.

Zubrin remains optimistic about the goal of reaching Mars within our lifetime, despite the challenges ahead.

"Nothing great has ever been accomplished without courage," he said.

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SG

Continued from page 1

Votes," she said.

But some members thought this punishment would disenfranchise voters by eliminating some student voice.

Still, the members present agreed there needed to be less generality and more specifics in the punishments that would be handed down to violators.

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Chief

Continued from page 1

shared with the interview team. It should have been," Todd said in a statement. "The bottom line is that questions about such behavior with respect to a job candidate, even if untrue, should be fully vetted, evaluated and understood by an interview team or search committee."

"Parts of our process

were wrong. Our choice was not."

Vick said it was the opportunities at UK that drew him to Lexington.

"It's a larger university and the president has made a commitment to improving the police department and public safety there," he said. He added that he was interested in working on issues surrounding the campus including alcohol.

"It's a challenge," he said. "I feel like it's a good mix."

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Dance

Continued from page 1

will perform in a talent show. There will be a memorial service for children who have died from cancer. The event will culminate with the announcement of the total amount raised for the clinic.

Since this is the first year of the event, organizers say they have no idea what to expect terms of the amount of money raised. Volunteer Center Community Relations Chair Jenny Priddy said the Center intentionally did not set a goal for this year, but added, "We have raised more money than we ever anticipated."

Pfeifer added that in this

type of event, fundraising is a secondary concern. What really matters is "making a personal impact on a child's life," she said.

Organizers also encouraged students interested in leadership roles on next year's committee to attend DanceBlue. The Volunteer Center will be accepting applications for the 2007 leadership team. Pfeifer said DanceBlue offers something for everyone, from public relations to fundraising to the entertainment committee.

"Students can do something that will have a huge impact on the UK community," she said.

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WORD POWER



Chuck Clenny, an English sophomore, quotes his poem "Tomorrow is a new day" at the Cat's Den last night. In his second time performing in the Poetry Slam, Clenny won a free pizza for first place in the readings. The next Slam will be at 7 p.m., March 21 in the Student Center.

BRAD LUTTRELL | STAFF

NEWS BRIEFS

Kidnapped reporter appears on new video

BAGHDAD, Iraq — Jill Carroll, the American reporter kidnapped in Iraq last month, appeared on a new videotape aired on an Arab-language television channel last night, urging her supporters to do whatever necessary to obtain her release.

Looking more healthy and composed than in her previous appearance, aired Jan. 30, the 28-year-old Christian Science Monitor freelancer captured by an unknown armed group in Baghdad on Jan. 7, asked an unnamed third party to comply quickly with the kidnappers' demands.

"I am here," said Carroll, a Michigan native who first arrived in Iraq shortly after the 2003 U.S.-led invasion and stayed through the insurgency.

"I am fine," she said. "Please just do whatever they want, give them whatever they want as quickly as possible."

She punctuated her 22-second message, which she said was recorded Feb. 2, with a note of urgency: "There is a very short time. Please do it fast. That's all."

U.S. Maj. Gen. Rick Lynch told reporters Thursday that American and Iraqi officials plan to release about 450 prisoners from detention centers sometime next week. He said he did not know whether any were women.

Teens forced to rob banks

WASHINGTON — Twice in recent weeks, armed men have abducted teens from public places and forced them to rob banks, Prince George's County, Md., police said.

The teens walked into local banks with notes announcing robberies, then walked out with bags of cash, police said. They then handed the money over to the gunmen, who fled, according to police.

The teens are considered victims and were not arrested, said Cpl. Debbi Carlson, a police spokeswoman.

Prince George's police are working with the FBI and Montgomery County, Md., police, who are investigating a similar bank robbery that happened Wednesday. In that incident, a 14-year-old was arrested for robbing a bank on Wisconsin Avenue but not charged with a crime.

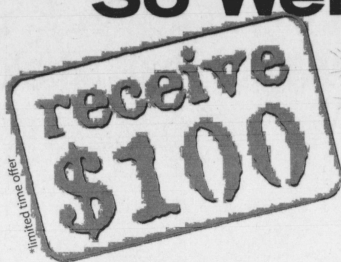
Oprah joins XM radio

Oprah Winfrey announced yesterday that she has signed a 3-year, \$55 million contract to oversee a new channel for XM Satellite Radio Holdings Inc. and its 6 million subscribers.

Called "Oprah & Friends," the channel will be more friends than Oprah, who is committed to appear on air for only a half-hour a week for 39 weeks a year. Winfrey said she and longtime friend Gayle King would engage in "girl talk" during that show.

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COMMENTARY

Wrong way to that 'smoking' body

By Maggie Fintel
THE KENTUCKY KERNEL

Looking to lose a few pounds? A surprising trend shows that instead of heading to the gym, young people are making their way to the nearest gas station to slim up. No, it's not some new wonder-pill meant to instantly burn away the pounds; it's good, old-fashioned nicotine.

A report from Harvard Medical School in an October 1999 issue of *Pediatrics* said that girls and boys as young as 9 years old take up smoking in an attempt to lose weight. More than 15 percent of 9- to 14-year-old kids have smoked at least once, and getting slim is a prime motivator.

But does it work? Dr. David Mannino, a pulmonary physician at UK, helped shed light on the smoky subject.

"It is a common misper-

ception," he said. "It isn't a sure thing; the effects vary from person to person. A lot of my tobacco-using patients are actually overweight."

For some, the nicotine in cigarettes contains an appetite suppressant that affects their metabolic rate, or the rate that you burn off calories. This may or may not lead the smoker to a trimmer figure. The problem is, the weight that is lost is overshadowed by weight gained later on.

"One thing we do know for sure is that patients who are successful in quitting face gaining more weight back than what they had before they started," Mannino said.

While this catch-22 may seem worthwhile to some for the short term benefits, consider this: in turn for shedding an inch or two you'll gain much more in return including yellow teeth,

smelly clothes, a steadily depleting bank account and, in worst cases, cancer.

Mannino partially blames the advertising tactics used by smoking companies aiming for insecure targets.

"In the past, companies like Lucky Strike used campaigns claiming to help women stay trim," he said.

Mandy Bastin, a smoking UK freshman, has also heard of the cigarette diet trend but didn't notice a change herself. "I've heard that from a few places, but I doubt it really works," she said. "I do have friends though who smoke and are afraid of quitting because they don't want to gain weight."

If you fall into that category, don't stress; there is hope for those who seek it. Fadyia Mohammed, a second-year grad student at UK and personal trainer at the Johnson Center, says that

you can beat the pounds if you are serious about quitting.

"Definitely," Mohammed said. "The nicotine withdrawal really lasts a few days itself, and after that it's more of a fight against the mental oral fixation. A lot of people try to satisfy that with food, and that's when their trouble starts."

Taming the scale and acquiring good health isn't easy requiring a level of dedication and willpower unbeknownst to most students. While hitting up the smokes may seem like a dream come true, the cons outlandishly outweigh the pros. Losing weight the right way is as simple as understanding good old fashioned hard work. So rather than lighting up your butt, maybe you should try getting off it instead.

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FOOD FIGHT



A plethora of fine dishes were prepared for last night's Iron Chef competition. Dr. Greg Moore, Margaret Cook-Nowell, Ray Schmidt and Jeff Demoss, the judges of the competition, wait to taste Seth Stallard's entree (above).

Stallard, a chef at Commons Market, rushes to complete his dishes for the judges. He, along with two other competitors, were given one hour to prepare a delicious plate using the centerpiece ingredient, chicken.

PHOTOS BY ED MATTHEWS | STAFF

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• Be female between 18-25 years of age
• Have had sex with 2 or more partners (male or female) in the past 3 months
• Be a full time UK or LCC student
Your participation and the answers you provide are entirely anonymous. The survey can be completed in about 30 minutes. You will be compensated \$20 for your time. For more information contact Richard A. Crosby, PhD at 257-5676 ext. 6209.

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UK UNIVERSITY OF KENTUCKY
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Home on the range

UK rifle team enjoys 'home-field advantage' at NCAA Qualifiers in Murray, Ky.

By Chris Miles
THE KENTUCKY KERNEL

One shot and you're dead. But only if you miss. This weekend everything is on the line as the gun-slinging rifle Cats take a trip to Murray State to participate in the NCAA qualifiers, a meet that will determine if they will be one of eight teams to make the NCAA tournament.

For the team members, this weekend is literally hit or miss. To make the post-season tournament and have a chance for a run at the national championship, the Wildcats will have to have a strong performance. "If we follow suit with what we've been doing, we'll be in good shape," said head coach Harry Mullins.

UK is currently ranked third and is one of the best teams in the nation, but that isn't enough to get them into the post-season national tournament.

Under the rules for the Great American Rifle Conference, to be one of the eight teams participating in the NCAA tournament you must meet two standards. "The top three scores of your regular season are averaged," coach Mullins explains. "But no more than one of those top scores can come from each location."

If the team's top three scores all came from meets hosted by UK then only one of those would be valid. But that still only gets the team halfway there.

"This weekend everyone in the country shoots and that score is worth 50 percent of the score you need to make it," Mullins said.



Jason Dardas and the UK rifle team have their NCAA Qualifier match this weekend in Murray, Ky. Regardless of the outcome, the team then will travel to Oxford, Miss., for the Great American Rifle Conference tournament.

"We have a decent average with our top three scores."

The average of the three regular season scores and the qualifying match score are necessary to make it as one of the eight teams in the NCAA.

"The team thinks it's been a great season and they have been consistent throughout. As a result the shooters have the calmness of a sniper as they head into this weekend's meet."

"We pretty much know we'll make it," freshman Jason Dardas, a top shooter on the team, said. "We're confident enough with the scores we've shot, we'll do well." But coach Mullins says overconfidence is a pitfall. "Strange things have

happened," Mullins said. "You can have a bad bullet, something like that, and lose ten points."

The Cats' strongest opposition comes from the host of this weekend's match, Murray State, who is one of the top ten teams in the nation.

"Murray State is five or six in the country," Mullins said. "If we can beat them, then we know we've already eliminated some of our competition."

Moreover, the Cats feel comfortable as they hit the road for Murray State, a venue they have participated in many times before.

"We shoot there a lot," said junior Amy Sowash, a starter and the only female shooter on the team. "Murray is almost like a home-

court advantage."

The home-range feel along with the now-or-never mentality of the match has the Cats primed for competition.

"I'm really excited," Sowash said. "I think we'll come out of this at a high place. We'll show what we can do."

Sowash and Dardas are the top shooters on the team. Each of them believes the showdown on Sunday will not leave the Cats at a loss.

"We're moving forward instead of backwards," Sowash said. "We've shot great. I don't see us not qualifying. We have a great team."

E-mail: cmiles@kykernel.com

"We pretty much know we'll make it. We're confident enough with the scores we've shot, we'll do well."

— Jason Dardas, UK rifle freshman, on the team's chances of qualifying for the eight-team NCAA Tournament

SPORTS BRIEFS

UK Hoops takes Gamecocks

Sophomore guard Samantha Mahoney scored 17 points and senior forward Jennifer Humphrey pulled down 18 rebounds to lead UK to a 75-71 win over South Carolina last night in Columbia.

Spurred by Humphrey's huge night, UK enjoyed a 45-35 advantage on the boards. Humphrey added nine points, falling just short of becoming the fourth Cat in double figures.

After Mahoney's 17, freshman point guard Carly Ormerod chimed in with 12 and junior Nastassia Alcius added 11.

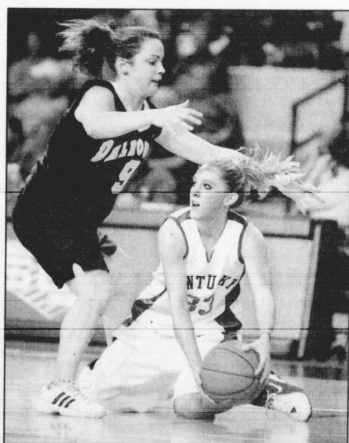
Elesia Roddy, Jenny Pfeiffer and Sarah Elliott finished with eight points apiece.

Football rule changes pass

The NCAA Football Rules Committee recommended changes to the instant replay system and made changes it hopes will shorten the length of games yesterday. The recommendations will be passed on to the Playing Rules Oversight Panel for final approval, then, if passed, will take effect next season.

The Rules Committee approved the procedure for instant replay that has been used in most institutions for the last two seasons. The replay official will review every play and stop the game if there is a controversy that is in the list of reviewable plays and has a direct, competitive impact on the game.

The committee also decided to allow each team one challenge per game. With respect to game times, which are creeping toward the four-hour mark in some cases, the committee decided to make four changes. The first change was to shorten halftime from



UK junior Jenny Pfeiffer looks for help against Dalhousie earlier this season. Pfeiffer had eight points in UK's 75-71 win over South Carolina.

20 to 15 minutes. The committee also decided to start the game clock when the ball is ready for play on a change of possession, which is expected to save five minutes from each game.

The other changes had to do with kickoffs: to start the game clock when a kicker's foot touches the ball on a kickoff, not when the returner catches it, and to shorten the kicking tee to one inch, which will likely limit the number of touchbacks.

Unsportsmanlike conduct and excessive celebration fouls were also discussed and the committee decided the vast majority of these fouls are called appropriately or

SEC Women's Hoops

SEC	Standings	Overall
Louisiana St.	9-0	21-1
Tennessee	7-2	21-3
Georgia	7-2	17-5
Florida	6-4	18-5
Vanderbilt	6-4	17-7
UK	5-4	16-6
Arkansas	5-5	13-10
South Carolina	3-6	12-9
Auburn	3-6	12-10
Mississippi	2-7	13-10
Alabama	2-8	8-15
Mississippi St.	1-9	6-17

Last night's other SEC scores

Mississippi 77, Alabama 67
Vanderbilt 64, Arkansas 59
Florida 63, Mississippi St. 48
Louisiana St. 72, Tennessee 69

Kentucky (75)

NAME	mp	fg	3pt	ft	reb	ast	blk	stl	pts
Roddy	18	7-14	0-0	4-6	2	3	0	0	18
Ormerod	16	2-3	0-0	0-0	3	0	0	1	4
Humphrey	36	4-12	0-0	1-4	3	4	18	9	9
Alcius	17	5-12	1-4	0-2	3	2	1	2	12
Perry	19	4-6	1-1	2-2	1	0	1	1	11
Elliff	15	4-7	0-0	0-0	1	4	4	4	8
Mahoney	29	7-14	1-3	2-2	2	2	1	2	17
Jackson	6	0-1	0-0	0-0	0	0	1	0	0
Pfeiffer	19	3-7	0-0	0-0	0	0	1	4	8
TEAM	200	30-68	6-11	10-16	13	19	45	75	

South Carolina (71)

NAME	mp	fg	3pt	ft	reb	ast	blk	stl	pts
Adams	24	7-8	0-0	4-6	2	3	0	0	18
Watts	14	0-0	0-0	0-0	1	1	0	0	0
Supina	24	7-8	0-0	4-6	0	1	1	0	18
Fabian	27	2-7	1-3	2-2	7	2	1	1	7
Watts	24	0-0	0-0	0-0	0	0	0	0	0
Booker	22	4-12	1-2	0-0	1	2	2	1	11
Watts	22	0-0	0-0	0-0	0	0	0	0	0
Ottobene	18	2-3	0-0	0-0	7	0	0	0	6
Sullivan	15	2-3	0-0	0-0	0	0	0	0	6
Watts	14	1-6	0-0	0-0	2	2	2	0	3
Kutcher	8	1-1	0-0	0-1	2	2	1	2	3
TEAM	200	28-61	6-12	13-19	16	18	36	71	

UK ...

Field goal shooting: UK 44.1, USC 48.4. Free throw shooting: UK 42.3, USC 48.4. Technical fouls: none. Turnovers: UK 18, USC 18. Blocked shots: UK 3, Hampshire 2, USC 8. Rebounds: UK 45, USC 44. Fouls: UK 19, USC 20. Attendance: 607. Records: UK 16-4 (5-4), USC 12-9 (3-4).

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Phi Beta Kappa is one of the most prestigious honorary societies for students educated in the liberal arts. Membership in Phi Beta Kappa is a recognition that will be valued throughout your professional life. We strongly urge that any eligible student apply for membership.

The Alpha Chapter Membership Committee is now receiving nominations for membership. Students are encouraged to nominate themselves. Faculty and staff members are also encouraged to nominate students they believe meet the criteria for membership. The academic requirements for membership can be found at UK's Phi Beta Kappa website: www.as.uky.edu/pbk

In order to be considered, nominations must be submitted no later than Friday, March 10, 2006. The online nomination form can be found at www.as.uky.edu/pbk.

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Attention UK Seniors

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Charles T. Wethington Jr. Feb. 13, 2006

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Graduate School Funding Office
203 Gillis Building

IN OUR OPINION

Athletes are students first—and it shows

UK has already finished first in the Southeastern Conference in one regard this year.

Late last month 52 UK student-athletes were named to the SEC fall Academic Honor Roll, more than any other SEC school.

The Honor Roll is made up of 452 students from the 12 conference institutions. Of the 52 selected from UK, 24 were from the football team.

"We always stress to the kids to work hard in the classroom," head football coach Rich Brooks said. "We want our players to get a quality education as well as performing on the field."

Brooks and his staff, along with the entire Athletic Department, deserve a lot of credit for stressing the importance of academics, especially at a school where success in the gym and on the field often seems like the only measuring stick of achievement that matters.

The news is especially encouraging because the new NCAA rules aimed at improving athletes' classroom success.

This year marked the start of a new NCAA program that punishes schools whose athletes fail to meet certain academic standards. If grade-point averages and graduation rates aren't up to par, athletic programs can be hit with scholarship reductions and

post-season bans.

UK's Center for Academic and Tutorial Services plays a major role in helping athletes stay on top of their class work despite rigorous schedules.

"We meet at least once a week with the CATS program and the coaching staff to communicate with the players to keep up with their school work," said Brooks.

The CATS program offers more than 100 hours a day of tutorial services for student-athletes. The program's administrators and tutors have done a great job helping athletes navigate through their college curriculum.

But as Bob Bradley, associate athletics director for student services said, the athletes themselves deserve a big share of the praise.

"A huge majority of our athletes astound me," he said. "To have to go out and travel as much as they do and then come back home and maintain a 3.5 grade point average, for example, just amazes me."

UK athletes continually give their fans and supporters reason to be proud of their on-the-field accomplishments.

We should all acknowledge and take equal pride in the fact that they're bringing UK academic glory as well.

The Colonel earned his spot in the capitol rotunda

Despite vehement letters from Pamela Anderson, Colonel Sanders' bust still sits in Frankfort's Capitol Rotunda.

Last month, Anderson, who is a spokeswoman for People for the Ethical Treatment of Animals, wrote a letter to Gov. Ernie Fletcher asking the bust be removed because Sanders symbolizes cruelty to chickens.

Anderson detailed alleged abuses of chickens by KFC suppliers. Among her claims, she said workers in a slaughterhouse in West Virginia have been filmed tearing the heads off live birds, spitting tobacco in their eyes and boiling the chickens alive in tanks of scalding water.

This is most likely an isolated incident, and, while atrocious, not representative of most slaughterhouse practices.

"Colonel Sanders remains a Kentucky icon," Fletcher wrote in his reply to the actress. "His success story has been an inspiration to many. The industry he began has employed hundreds of thousands of workers over the years. His business and his legacy have been good for Kentucky."

And Fletcher's right, for once. Harlan Sanders—who started the KFC empire by serving fried chicken out of his own kitchen in Corbin more than 60 years ago—deserves recognition for his accomplishments. Meanwhile, Anderson and PETA have laid blame on a statue, and not where it should be focused: slaughterhouses.

Point fingers at those directly responsible for the acts, not at a non-sentient effigy of the man who blended 11 herbs and spices.



AARON SMITH, THE KENTUCKY KERNEL

Random thoughts from news and classroom burnout

With my final undergraduate semester in full swing and the prospect of attaining the status of "college graduate" come

May (although I hope to pursue a master's in the fall), I seem to have become a jaded and stoic individual; a void within the shell of the man I once was.

As I filled out my graduation contract this week and prepared my portfolio for my adviser, I realized that I was no longer moved by the things that had once driven me to pour my passions upon this page. This became a source of much dismay for me, as Draconian newsroom protocol requires me to submit a column each week.

Maybe I'm burned out on schoolwork (have been since 5th grade). Perhaps I've become disillusioned with the journalistic profession (I have). Could it be that the absurdity of the political discourse that is taking place in this country has driven me away from the ideological dialogue I once craved? (More than likely).

And so, in the footsteps of

Kernel columnists before me, I will revert to a bulleted list of topics about which I will expound upon:

■ Although this issue has already been addressed on this page twice this week, I would like to go on the record as saying that the outrage over the cartoons depicting Mohammed and other Islamic images, regardless of their political tone or appropriateness, is completely absurd.

When will Bush find a way to screw up the cartoon controversy? Until then, Chipotle still rocks!

When old white people get pissed off at "Boondocks" they don't set cars on fire and overrun embassies; they write letters to the paper, get "Boondocks" removed from the paper so I can't read it anymore in my hometown, and then watch "Columbo" reruns on Bravo all day.

■ A headline on CNN.com yesterday read, "Bush calls for end to cartoon violence." This made me think of Bush behind a podium, with a backdrop behind

him that said something corny like, "A Strong Nation, Drawn Together," while he denounced anvils and the dynamite-based persecution of the Road Runner (Tastyus Supersensicus). Actually, I'm surprised that hasn't happened yet...

■ Speaking of blasphemy, I tried Qdoba for the first time last week. I still maintain that Chipotle is in all ways superior, although Qdoba's queso dip is pretty good. However, of a block of Velveeta and a can of Rotel will easily change your mind about the virtues of Qdoba's culinary ace of spades.

■ Once again, the Grammy Awards succeeded in completely ruining music forever. U2 managed to collect five awards, including Album of the Year and Best Rock Album for "How to Dismantle An Atomic Bomb," which for some reason sounded a lot better when it was called "Achtung Baby" or "The Joshua Tree."

Despite the fact that they release the same studio albums the same way the Dave Matthews Band keeps releasing the same live double-CD every few years, "With Or Without You" still manages to change my life every time I listen to it.

Doug Stott is a political science and journalism senior. Email dscott@kykernel.com



Doug Scott
KERNEL COLUMNIST

LETTERS TO THE EDITOR

Let Kentucky players play at UK

Every Mr. Basketball in Kentucky should be offered a scholarship to play for the University of Kentucky, instead of leaving them to play for other teams in the region. Chris Lofton is a prime example. Tuesday he tore apart the team he grew up idolizing, scoring 31 points at Rupp Arena. He came close to his dazzling 39 points in his junior year of high school in the State Championship game, where he hit a record nine three-pointers, and became tournament MVP. The next year he was crowned Mr. Basketball in Kentucky, only to be recruited by SEC rival Tennessee, and not by Tubby Smith and Kentucky.

Why wasn't he offered a scholarship to play here? Was it because he didn't run off his senior year to play for a prep school? Was the school scared of another Mr. Basketball dud? What was the recruiting office thinking?

Instead of offering scholarships to the "best" national players, we should offer them to the absolute best state player first. After all, we are the University of KENTUCKY!

JAY DESKINS
sociology junior

Cartoon offends only extremists

In order to stave off the wave of confused, half-baked and skewed responses that will inevitably follow the Kernel's Feb. 9 editorial cartoon, what follows will serve as an explanation and reasoning for the panel. This is some of the rationale that I believe went into the decision to print such a scathingly accurate cartoon.

■ Only extremists were offended by the original caricature of the Prophet Mohammad published in a Danish newspaper. This is why the protests and displays of righteous indignation took such a violent turn. All those present were complicit in creating an atmosphere of complete animosity,

and were not simply trying to draw attention to a situation involving perceived religious discrimination. Muslims should not, in fact, think that the Kernel was attempting to portray the typical Muslim; clearly this is a gross misperception. Chris Stewart's cartoon is merely drawing our attention to what is most likely happening in terrorist circles around the world. Namely, that they have reached consensus that mocking Islam and its prophet is, in fact, "not cool."

■ This cartoon will help to spark needed discussion on campus about issues ranging from terrorism, to the war on terror, to well, who knows? Most people have a great working knowledge about Islam in general, and its relation to the West (Wes Blevins demonstrated this on the February 8 editorial page), so we can look past that for now. Otherwise, there are endless possibilities.

■ Laughter is the best remedy for any tense situation. Maybe if the turban-wearing, bomb-toting men depicted in the cartoon saw themselves drawn in such a harmlessly humorous manner, they would laugh and give up their violent ways.

■ Things that offend the targeted group do not offend anyone else. No one else is hurt when one religion is depicted in such a way. No one else has the right to be offended, or saddened by this blatant lack of regard for another's faith. This means, obviously, that all non-Muslims (all of us over here in the infidel camp) find this cartoon to be hilariously appealing. If you don't, then you must have a really warped sense of humor. Or maybe you are being too sensitive.

Thanks, Kernel, for preserving our right to free press.

MEREDITH AMSHOFF
psychology and sociology senior

The Steelers won—get over it

No one can ever be completely unbiased, especially when it comes to sports. Everyone has their favorite team. With this being said, one needs to give credit to the Pitts-

burgh Steelers. I know three-fourths of Kernel readers are wrapped up in Bengal mania, along with the entire state. I honestly cannot blame you. It is about time one of our nearest professional teams did something. After a ten-year wait anyone would get pumped.

But I am tired of Bengal fans saying that Pittsburgh is a terrible team and not giving them any credit whatsoever. It is very hard to put animosity towards a team in your division away. Except, when one steps back from the rivalry and looks at the Steelers, I'm sorry to say, they are good.

Look at the facts. They were the six seed coming in the playoffs and won the Super Bowl. They beat incredible teams to get there, all of them being on the road, these three teams being Cincinnati, Indianapolis and Denver. Anyone who knows football knows these teams are not push over teams. These three teams at the end of the regular season had a combined record of 38-10. Pittsburgh did not really dominate the Super Bowl but they capitalized on their opportunities.

Seattle missed three field goals equaling nine points that could have resulted in a completely different outcome. While Pittsburgh had Willie Parker's record-breaking 75-yard touchdown run, and Ike Taylor's interception of Matt Hasselbeck on Pittsburgh's five-yard line, Taylor's interception led to Randle El's touchdown pass on a reverse. See the difference?

I was personally surprised that Pittsburgh made it as far as they did. But Bengal fans would rather have Rudi Johnson injured than admit Pittsburgh deserved to be in the Super Bowl.

Even after they have won, "The Jungle" is still in denial. All I am saying is get over it. Pittsburgh won the Super Bowl; stop your complaining.

Next year when the Bengals win the matchups you can have the satisfaction of knowing you just beat the champs. You're not a champion until you beat the champion.

LEILA KALESI
journalism freshman

Columnists Needed

The Kernel is looking for new columnists to write for the Opinions page on a regular basis.

Columnists of all interests will be considered, but The Kernel especially seeks those who have an interest in campus and local issues.

E-mail opinions@kykernel.com if you are interested.

Note to Readers

The Opinions page provides a forum for the exchange of ideas.

Unlike news stories, The Kernel's unsigned editorials represent the views of a majority of the editorial board.

Letters to the editor, columns, cartoons and other features on the Opinions page reflect the views of their authors and not necessarily those of The Kernel.

Submissions

Send a guest column or letter to the editor to Opinions Editor Brenton Kenkel or Assistant 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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Sticks and stones: Rehabbed Marnitz swings for All-SEC

By Ryan Kuhn
THE KENTUCKY KERNEL

Brooke Marnitz had the definition of an up-and-down season last year.

After spending the winter and early spring rehabilitating a broken wrist suffered in the fall, UK's starting shortstop broke her ankle on April 24 against Louisville.

"I just felt that it was a fitting ending to a frustrating season," she said. "I basically had to learn how to throw again (after my wrist), then I broke my ankle with six or seven games left."

Despite missing a large chunk of the season, Marnitz led the team in batting average (.301) and slugging percentage (.427). UK softball coach Eileen Schmidt was impressed with Marnitz's resilience.

"Brooke's responded really well from her injuries," she said. "We had to start her off at second in the spring until she could make the throw from shortstop, and then she came back really fast from her ankle."

Schmidt said she believes Marnitz is fast becoming a team leader.

"(Brooke) has done a great job leading by example, with her work ethic in the weight room," she said. "But she's also stepped up vocally, which is something she wasn't doing as much last year. I think she is comfortable in the role of leader."

Marnitz's versatility at the plate and on the bases will play a large role in Schmidt's game planning for the Wildcats' opponents this season.

"She will be hitting anywhere from one to four," said Schmidt. "She has the speed and average to lead off, but she also has the power to bat clean-up."

After an up-and-down 20-41 (4-25 SEC) season last year, both Marnitz and Schmidt

feel the Cats have improved and matured as a team.

"This year's team is by far the most goal-oriented group that we've had since I first came to UK," said Marnitz. "We're gelling and becoming a good team. I think we feed off of coach and her knowledge and passion for the sport."

Marnitz, who was Miss Kentucky Softball 2003 while playing at Dunbar High School in Lexington, says the team has made several short-term goals for the season, and they hope those will culminate with the team reaching its long-term ones.

"We want to make the SEC Tournament ultimately," she said. "Once we're there we just want to go as far as we can."

"I would love to accomplish the goals that I've had for myself and the team since I came here as a freshman. It would be great to be All-SEC before I graduate."

Coach Schmidt, who is 82-102 overall in three seasons as a head coach, says the team has benefited from having a coaching staff in place for the full year.

"Last year was full of highs and lows," she said. "We would go out and play really well against Tennessee or Auburn during the weekend and play really poorly the following week."

"I'm looking for more consistency from the entire team in both preparation and competition."

The Cats are in Las Vegas this weekend to play five games. Two of those games are against Washington and Oklahoma, who are ranked in the top 15 in the nation.

"Las Vegas has gotten pretty tough," Schmidt said. "We'll definitely find out where we stand this weekend."



Marnitz

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Come watch the UK vs. Vanderbilt game.

180 Dancers!

Cousins, Caitlin Francis, Michelle Mullins, Anthony Thomas, Brandon Colgate, Jackie Elliot, Dana Goodin, Lauren Kuhnhein, Beth McGlothlin, Chelsey Underwood, Kelsey Clark, Krysta Criollo, Christina Gentry, Fran Herde, Megan Hornor, Jessica Johnson, Rachael Jones, Amy Sparks, Jessica Thompson, Natalie Trauger, Gina Roark, Sarah Berlin, Elizabeth Cosgrove, Kate	Grandis, Colleen Haberman, Abigail Kim, Tom Knouff, Amber McFarland, Levi Nangle, Desiree Northcutt, Jordan Porter, Ashley Strauss, Erol Vichich, Robert Fitzgerald, Daniel Swafford, Matthew Bowler, Kathleen Bright, Katie Brown, Damonique Casper, Jennifer Edwards, Jess Fisher, Ashlee Gagnan, Julie Gotcher, Mark Kessack, Sarah Popp, Melissa Popp, Whitney	Sapp, Braman Turner, Erin Wallace, Daniele Hicks, Mary Beth Santo, Colleen Schenkenfelder, Rob Weber, Matt Wheatley, Kristina Fitzgerald, Erica Hardin, Lorietta Henderson, Ashley Arowwood, Natalie Camic, Dalie Edlin, Kevin Ethereidge, Maggie Hanson, Kate Hayden, Kathleen Keller, Kate Lotts, Ashlee Maglinger, Jennifer Mason, Leslie O'Nan, Lauren Orr, Jenna	Rogers, AJ Segebarth, Meagann Sherry, Kathleen Bowers, Kate Mills, Amanda Nathie, Emily Leanne Weber, Matt Wheatley, Kristina Fitzgerald, Erica Hardin, Lorietta Henderson, Ashley Arowwood, Natalie Camic, Dalie Edlin, Kevin Ethereidge, Maggie Hanson, Kate Hayden, Kathleen Keller, Kate Lotts, Ashlee Maglinger, Jennifer Mason, Leslie O'Nan, Lauren Orr, Jenna	Kenny, Ashley Kessler, Grace Moore, Mallory Mullen, Jenna Peterson, Samantha Smith, Rachel Compton, Sarah Crutcher, Rebecca Drapkynis, Amanda Drake, Taylor Edwards, Katie Johnson, Kendra Maxwell, Allison McNary, Courtney McQuerry, Jessica Olson, Megan Orberson, Jennifer Pennington, Brittany Schlieve, Meredith Sebastian, Emory Shelen, Robyn Wentworth, Kim Zimmer, Cassie	Cullen, Mary Frocchio, Heather Lady, Kristy Steiner, Julianne Bolie, Heather Beckman, Amanda Daniel, Toby Durrett, Kristi Gates, Jacqui Mitchell, Chrissy Stovall, Scottie McLaurine, Tyler Phillips, David Quevedo, Chris Scovic, Tom Hernandez, Zulema Curtis, Laurel Evan, Betsy Mooker, Maru Moore, Ashley Warren, Will Balbach, John Edwards, R.J.	Keilman, Daniel McIntosh, Scott Muser, Patrick Reff, Brian Swape, Richard Turner, Daniel Wood, Matt Wright, Joey Berry, Kyle Douglas, Matt Hamilton, Chad Wedding, Erika Bonilla, Tracy Carbajal, Rojer Esperanza, Alva Hernandez, Zulema Curtis, Laurel Evan, Betsy Mooker, Maru Moore, Ashley Warren, Will Balbach, John Edwards, R.J.	Chandler, Will Miller, Stinson Miller, Townsend Ankerman, Matt Duffy, Sean Valdizan, Fernando Boyd, Camron Hamilton, Charles Jesse, Mark Johnson, Louis Sandman, Steven Vincent, Michael Woolley, Dave Zaborowski, Kendall Carpenter, Sarah Beth Collins, Jon Downing, Wesley Friend, Sarah Harden, James Sharp, Andrew Clark, Scott Perce, Alycia
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