



Johnson brothers find roles reversed from last season

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TUESDAY

AUGUST 28, 2007

KENTUCKY KERNEL

CELEBRATING 36 YEARS OF INDEPENDENCE

Ragland pleads guilty to manslaughter

UK graduate will serve 3 more days under house arrest in death of former football player

By Juliann Vachon
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Shane Ragland pleaded guilty to second-degree manslaughter in the 1994 sniper-like shooting of a UK football player yesterday morning at a hearing in Fayette Circuit Court.

Ragland will serve three more days of home incarceration before going free. He was awaiting his second murder trial in the death of former offensive lineman Trent DiGiuro.

In exchange for the guilty plea,

prosecutors suggested an eight-year sentence, Fayette Commonwealth's Attorney Ray Larson said. Ragland will receive credit for time served in prison and home incarceration, said his attorney Steve Romines.

Ragland has maintained his innocence since the case first went to court in 2000. While Ragland still says he did not kill DiGiuro, he couldn't turn down a plea offer that will allow him to walk free after serving three more days, Romines said.

"It was an offer we couldn't

refuse," Romines said. "Only a fool turns down walking away."

If Ragland had pleaded not guilty, the case would have proceeded to trial later this year.

Although prosecutors are not happy with the plea, it was important that Ragland at least admit he killed DiGiuro, Larson said.

"The important thing for the DiGiuro family is that this guy admit what he did," Larson said. "We would have liked for him to spend the rest of his life in prison, but that wasn't going to happen."

Although Ragland maintains he is

innocent, when Judge Thomas Clark asked Ragland if he admitted to killing DiGiuro, Larson said, Ragland raised his right hand under oath and said, "Yes, I did."

"All he's trying to do is cover his own rear end now," Larson said.

Ragland's guilty plea came more than 13 years after the murder of DiGiuro, who died from a gunshot to the head July 17, 1994, while

sitting on the front porch of his Woodland Avenue home during a party three days before his 21st birthday.

See **Ragland** on page 6



DiGiuro

AG tells Fletcher trustees must resign

By Jill Laster
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Kentucky's attorney general has called for the resignation of three members of UK's Board of Trustees, saying the board's Republican majority violates a state law.

The statute requires that the number of Republican and Democratic appointees on the boards of trustees at the state's public research universities reflect the affiliations of registered voters.

Gov. Ernie Fletcher's recent appointments to the boards at UK and the University of Louisville violate the law, said Attorney General Greg Stumbo, a Democrat, in a letter to the Republican governor yesterday.

"The citizens of Kentucky are entitled to representation on these Boards that faithfully reflects their own political choices and makeup," Stumbo said in the letter. "By creating a Republican majority among gubernatorial appointees to those boards, you have denied the people their guaranteed voice."

In Kentucky, 57 percent of registered voters are Democrats and 37 percent are Republicans, according to the Kentucky State Board of Elections.

For the UK board's 16 gubernatorial appointees to parallel the state's partisan makeup, it should have 10 Democrats and six Republicans, Stumbo said in the letter.

Right now, it has seven Democrats and nine Republicans.

The affiliations of the four trustees elected from within UK — one student, one staff member and two faculty members — aren't considered under the law.

On U of L's board, nine of the 17 appointees are Republicans when there should only be seven, Stumbo said in the letter.

Fletcher has done nothing wrong, spokeswoman Jodi Whitaker said.

"The governor is committed to appointing the best and brightest individuals," Whitaker said. "The governor has followed the law."

Stumbo could not be reached for comment.

See **Trustees** on page 6



Lydia Courtright, a sociology sophomore, shouts chants with other protesters during a rally at Phoenix Park in downtown Lexington yesterday. The protesters, including many UK students, gathered for the beginning of a 24-hour rally against the Iraq war.

Students march against war

By Leticia Janes
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Many students who are critical of how elected officials are handling the war ignited strong reactions as they kicked off a 24-hour peace rally yesterday by marching from UK to downtown Phoenix Park.

Drivers honked their horns as rally participants chanted. "Hey McConnell, what do you say, how many kids have you killed today?" referring to U.S. Sen. Mitch McConnell, R-Ky.

Rally opponents shouted out a window in Holmes Hall at the students marching along South Limestone Street below them; the participants responded with calls of "join us."

At Phoenix Park, the rally began with speaker Richard Becker, a political science junior. Becker, who opposes the war, said he was disappointed with McConnell's support of President George W. Bush's Iraq policy and called for other students to become involved.

"We're at a generational cross-

road," Becker said. "It defines who we are."

More than 20 students began gathering in the free speech area outside the Student Center yesterday at 4 p.m. to prepare for the rally and make posters.

Stephen Shepard, a political science senior and the rally's student coordinator, has been involved with the national organization, Iraq Summer 24 Peace, for two weeks. Shepard said he wanted UK students to know Lexington has a group of community members involved with the organization.

"Students are a growing presence in our generation and should use their voice to speak on the war issues," Shepard said.

Rally participants tried to get other students involved by handing out stickers and posters. Other students played bongos to grab the attention of bystanders on campus.

The rally began at 5 p.m. yesterday at Phoenix Park and will continue throughout the night. Some student and community



CHRISTINA LAYTON | STAFF

Lexington resident Nancy McDuffie holds a sign calling for an end to the Iraq war yesterday afternoon in Phoenix Park.

members planned to stay overnight at the park.

Many students knew not everyone at the rally would agree with their message. Julia Taylor, a recent UK graduate, said she would welcome the opportunity to discuss different viewpoints.

"Students should be more in-

volved with politics in general," Taylor said. "If they have a chance to voice their opinion they should come to the rally."

Last night continued with a candlelight vigil for the deaths of Kentucky troop members. Today there will be more poetry, speeches and music.

New technology spots repeat parking offenders

By C.J. Conklin
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Bill Ayers has been cruising through UK parking lots as usual this year, making sure cars have permits and ticketing those that don't. But now he has a helper in the passenger seat to scan the masses.

The new Automated License Plate Recognition system, a high-

tech tool that UK is the second campus nationwide to implement, notifies Ayers, a parking control supervisor, every time he passes a car that has outstanding parking fines.

This new enforcement method will help free up parking spots for permit holders, said Don Thornton, director of Parking and Transportation Services.

"The number one complaint from students every year is of other students who park in lots without permits," Thornton said, "thus preventing them from finding spots."

The system, manufactured by PIPS Technology in Knoxville, Tenn., uses two cameras mounted on the vehicle that capture a color image of each parked vehicle, as well as an infrared image of the license plate.

The license plate is then run against a database of vehicles with outstanding parking citations, notifying officers immediately with an alert sound on their laptop if a match is found.

PTS already owned the cameras and other equipment necessary for the system and only had to pay for

See **Parking** on page 6


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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 an 8 — Be looking behind the scenes and in other hidden places for the answers that you seek. The obvious one isn't always correct.

Taurus (April 20 - May 20) Today is a 6 — There'll be more time for meetings and other conversations with friends. Go over the recent activity and see if you can make any sense of it.

Gemini (May 21 - June 21) Today is a 7 — You'll have to pass a couple of tests before others understand that you're not the same person any more. Don't be intimidated.

Cancer (June 22 - July 22) Today is a 7 — There are changes coming, and you'll need to be paying attention. This is one of the reasons you're advised not to be frivolous.

Leo (July 23 - Aug. 22) Today is a 7 — Purchasing a big item puts a strain on your budget. Make sure you're not getting bells and whistles that you could do without.

Virgo (Aug. 23 - Sept. 22) Today is a 6 — Be patient when explaining to a person who's confused. Don't be disrespectful; this one could find the right answer.

Libra (Sept. 23 - Oct. 22) Today is a 6 — All sorts of complications pop up. It's just one thing after another. There's not even time for day-dreaming. Schedule that for later in the week.

Scorpio (Oct. 23 - Nov. 21) Today is an 8 — You care a lot about the people you care about; that's just your nature. Don't show them with expensive gifts, however. And don't gamble. You'd lose now, in both sit-

uations.

Sagittarius (Nov. 22 - Dec. 21) Today is a 5 — Think about what you've just learned. The investigation didn't turn out the way you thought it would but this could be better. Figure out how.

Capricorn (Dec. 22 - Jan. 19) Today is a 7 — You don't learn every lesson from a book. Most of your best have come from experience. Pay attention, there's another one lurking in the shadows.

Aquarius (Jan. 20 - Feb. 18) Today is a 6 — Money, money, money, money. You hate to obsess about it but that is still the first thing that needs to be settled on your agenda. You can do this.

Pisces (Feb. 19 - March 20) Today is a 7 — You're gaining more than you realize. There's nothing you have to do. You've learned a lot in the past few weeks, and it's changing who you are.

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THE RECORD

Tying the Knot

First Daughter Jenna Bush, 25, is engaged to business student Henry Hager, 29.

Backstreet Boy Howie Dorough, 34, popped the question to real estate broker Leigh Boniello, 33.

Laura Linney, 43, and her longtime boyfriend, Marc Schauer, are getting hitched.

four-bedroom pad in L.A.'s Studio City that he had built before becoming famous for \$1.5 million. Carell, wife Nancy Walls, 41, and their two kids nabbed a \$6.5 million waterside home in L.A.'s Toluca Lake.

talks to play a woman whose man won't commit in a film version of the 2004 bestseller *He's Just Not That Into You*. Scarlett Johansson, 22, will star as a Pilates teacher who falls for a married man.

Isla Fisher, 31, will headline the big screen version of *Confessions of a Shopaholic*.

— Ian Drew

Legal Woes

On August 14 — the day he settled a breach-of-contract suit against CBS Radio — Don Imus, 67, was sued for defamation by Rutgers women's basketball center Kia Vaughn. On his since-canceled radio show last April, he called her team "nappy-headed-hos" as they advanced to the national championships.

Expecting

Olympic figure skater Scott Hamilton, 49, and his wife, Tracee, 37, will welcome their second child on January 23.

Checking Out

Famed hotelier Leona Helmsley died of heart failure on August 20. She was 87.

Split

Lindsay Lohan's parents, Dina, 44, and Michael, 47, reached an undisclosed divorce settlement on August 17.

Hired!

Kristen Bell, 27, signed on to play a mysterious criminal in a multi-episode arc on NBC's *Heroes* starting in October.

Real Estate

Courtney Cox, 43, and David Arquette, 35, bought a four-building Malibu, California, compound, with a five-bedroom house and beach cabana, for \$17 million.

Steve Carell, 44, sold the

Idol News

American Idol champ Jordis Sparks, 17, signed with 19Recordings/Jive Records August 17. Her debut drops in November.

Ruben Studdard, 28, is opening a club in his hometown of Birmingham, Alabama.

Cleaning Up

Amy Winehouse and husband Blake Fielder-Civil, both 23, checked into a "retreat" in Essex, England, for health reasons, he told the BBC August 16. When asked if she had a drug problem, Winehouse said, "I wouldn't say so, no."

Booked

Jennifer Aniston, 38, is in

Hills Star's Racist Rant

The drama never ends for Jason Wahler.

After completing a 56-day rehab stint for alcohol abuse this spring, the Hills star, 20, was slapped with a \$200,000 lawsuit August 17 by an L.A. traffic officer who claims Wahler and model Kristen DeLuca physically and verbally assaulted him last September.

Jonathan Wallace of the Department of Transportation says he was helping a tow-truck driver impound a car when a vehicle carrying the two nearly clipped him.

The suit says Wahler got out of the car and hit Wallace in the left eye while calling him the n-word, a homophobic slur and other obscenities. (Police said Wahler's blood-alcohol level was nearly three times the legal limit; he later pleaded no contest to battery.)

"This happened before he went to rehab — he's not racist," a pal tells Us. "It was all a terrible mistake."

— Ian Drew

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POSITION PREVIEW: LINEBACKERS

Johnson rises to occasion after freshman slump

By Travis Waldron
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During the 2006 season, it often seemed as if the eyes of every UK fan were on Micah Johnson. The blue chip recruit's first year in Lexington didn't exactly go according to plans, falling short of the lofty expectations that fans, coaches and even Johnson had set.

But during summer workouts, with few eyes on Johnson and the Cats, the linebacker underwent the transformation his coaches and teammates were looking for.

The first sign, senior linebacker Wesley Woodyard said, came when a few players slacked off during summer workouts and Johnson got in their faces, urging them to work harder.

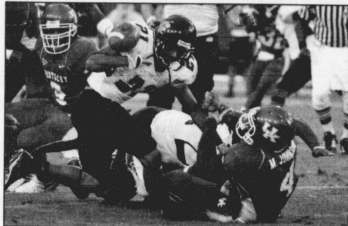
"That was something new," Woodyard said. "Micah was always a serious guy, but he was never a guy to get in someone's face. He did a lot of that this summer."

The intensity was a welcome sign for linebackers coach Chuck Smith, who said Johnson often struggled with his own intensity in practice last season.

"He's older, age-wise, and I expected him to mature," Smith said. "As he matures, you'll see a different Micah Johnson. We're absolutely seeing signs of that."

Johnson signed with UK as one of the nation's most highly touted recruits, earning numerous All-America selections and Kentucky's Mr. Football award. He made 29 tackles and earned Southeastern Conference All-Freshman honors last year but still felt like he fell short of both his and the fans' expectations.

This offseason, he took strides to prove he can live up to those expectations as a sophomore.



BRAD LUTTRELL / STAFF

Sophomore linebacker Micah Johnson forces a fumble against Central Michigan on Sept. 30, 2006. Johnson adds depth to an experienced unit.

Johnson lost nearly 20 pounds, dropping from about 270 pounds last season to around 250 pounds this year. And after playing most of the 2006 season with two sports hernias, he had offseason surgery and entered UK's first fall practice healthy.

"I took last year as a learning experience and worked hard this offseason," Johnson said. "I got myself back in shape and recuperated from surgery, got myself right academically. I'm really excited to come out here and play. I think I can make great strides and help the team get better."

By the end of UK's first week of fall practice, Johnson had already begun to prove he was a different player. When junior Braxton Kelley, the projected starter at middle linebacker, went down with a high-ankle sprain, Johnson stepped up.

"(He's) looked the best he has since he's been here," head coach Rich Brooks said. "He's making his reads quicker and attacking the line of scrimmage."

Though Kelley is still expected to start in UK's season

opener Saturday against Eastern Kentucky, an improved Johnson will add depth to a unit that is already the deepest on the UK defense. Woodyard, an All-SEC selection, will start on the weak side for the fourth straight season. Kelley is a two-year starter at middle linebacker, and junior Johnny Williams is slated to start on the strong side.

With defensive coordinator Steve Brown preaching that the defense needs to be more aggressive, Smith is excited about the depth and ability of his unit.

"I'm really excited about our linebacking corps," Smith said. "We're going to attack and pressure more...and the players like to do that. It allows them to be more aggressive and hopefully it will show up in the results."

Woodyard has dubbed the 2007 version of the defense the "Cleanup Crew," and he intends for the linebackers to lead the charge in UK's defensive improvement.

"(That's) our motto right now," Woodyard said. "We've got to put it all together. If we pull everybody together, we can come out with some victories."

Older brother lacks drive to improve

In the immediate aftermath of UK's Music City Bowl victory over Clemson last season, head coach Rich Brooks stated he was preparing his team for this season.

"What we did this season is not going to be enough," he told them. "You have to get better, we have to get better."

Most of his players heeded that message. Since December, those same words (or a slight variation of them) have served as a mantra for UK's players. From Andre Woodson to Keenan Burton to Wesley Woodyard, the Cats have expressed a universal feeling that last season means nothing unless it is used as a catalyst to an even better 2007. Almost every UK player seems to understand that.

Christian Johnson, however, does not. Or if he does, he hasn't shown it yet.

Throughout fall practice, Brooks has attempted to light a fire under the junior offensive guard who started 12 games last season. Johnson fell out of favor — and off the No. 1 spot on the depth chart — after academic troubles forced Brooks to suspend him for all of spring practice. And apparently Johnson has done little this fall to reclaim the starting job.

"Christian did not take advantage of understanding (the message) or implementing it," Brooks said. "In some cases, he's regressed a little bit."

That's a shame, because for the Cats to achieve their full potential, their inexperienced offensive line needs a road-grader like Johnson playing at a high level.

"Christian Johnson could be and is the best offensive lineman that we have," Burton said. "But until he steps up and shows that, coach is going to keep constantly saying what he has to say and doing what he has to do so he can understand it. (Brooks)

thinks the world of (Johnson) and he understands that we need him. But Christian has to understand he has to do something that we need him to do so that he can be a big factor."

You get the feeling that Brooks can't figure out how to crack Johnson. He's tried suspending him, and he's tried calling him out in public. What will it take to get Christian Johnson ready to play?

"I wish I could answer it," Brooks said. "Christian has a lot of ability. I am one of his biggest proponents of getting him to play to his capability and at this point I have failed to do that. That's my responsibility and I'm not getting the message across."

But Brooks seemingly has done a good job of getting the message across to everyone else on the team.

So if Christian Johnson still isn't getting a message that has been drilled in to the men in blue since late December, who's fault is that?

Chris DeLottell is an education senior. Email: cdelottell@kykernel.com



CHRIS DELOTTCELL
Kernel columnist

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■ KERNEL EDITORIALS

Loosening rules on mining technique will harm region

Mountaintop removal, the destructive strip-mining practice that has ravished the Appalachian landscape for more than 20 years, is on the verge of gaining a stronger legal foothold if a proposed federal regulation becomes law.

The mining technique entails blowing the tops off mountains to make the coal inside more easily accessible, and a large amount of waste, known as spoil, is produced in the process. The proposed new regulation, which the Office of Surface Mining Reclamation and Enforcement published Friday, makes it easier for mine operators to dump the spoil within 100 feet of flowing streams as long as they agree to minimize damage to streams "to the extent possible."

But the proposal gives no specific guidelines about which waste-dumping practices fall outside the law. Instead, it says regulators will decide "on a case-by-case basis" whether mine operators have failed to do enough to avoid damaging the environment.

So whereas current law errs on the side of the environment — mine operators must get an exemption each time they put spoil in a stream, the Kernel reported Friday — the change, if enacted, will give waste-dumpers the benefit of the doubt.

A coal-industry representative downplayed the significance of the proposed change, saying it wouldn't lead to more mountaintop removal.

"This new change is intended to codify existing practices that have been occurring for the past 30 years," said Bill Caylor, president of the Kentucky Coal Association, in Friday's Kernel. "This does not mean that we will be doing more surface mining as a result of the change. It will be business as usual."

But business as usual is exactly the problem: Mountaintop removal has

already done irreparable harm to waterways in Appalachia. By 2002, spoil from mining sites had already affected 724 miles, or 1.2 percent, of central Appalachian streams, according to the environmental impact statement accompanying the proposed change — and the damage isn't slowing down.

"If valley fills continue to be constructed at this rate," the statement said, "an additional 724 miles of headwater stream would be buried in 17 years or by 2018."

Mountaintop removal is not an issue that the UK community can comfortably ignore, even if the landscapes being ruined are hundreds of miles east of Lexington. Coal makes up 14 percent of Kentucky's economy and provides 90 percent of the state's electricity, according to figures on the state's Web site (www.kentucky.gov). Even when we just flick on the lights, we're reaping the benefits of a mining practice that is ruining stream ecosystems in Appalachia.

Fortunately, the new rules won't take effect until at least the end of a 60-day period, which ends Oct. 23, for residents to submit comments about the proposal.

To comment online, go to the Federal eRulemaking Portal (www.regulations.gov), select "Office of Surface Mining Reclamation and Enforcement" from the first drop-down box, and press "Submit." On the list of results that comes up, find the document called "Excess Spoil, Coal Mine Waste, and Buffers for Waters of the United States," and press the talk-bubble image on the right to see the comment form.

Federal officials should be strengthening regulations on mountaintop removal, not making it easier for mine operators to harm Appalachian ecosystems. At this point, public outcry may be the only way to remind them of that.

Follow example set by Henderson Project

UK architecture professor Drura Parrish and 16 architecture students are spearheading an initiative to renovate the Henderson, Ky., riverfront — a project that is impressive enough in itself.

What makes the Henderson Project even more notable, though, is that it's a prime example of how UK students can apply the skills they learn in the classroom to real-world situations. For that reason, other departments at UK should emulate this program.

Imagine the possibilities: We could have business and marketing students helping to revive commercial and retail centers in struggling small towns. Kinesiology and health promotion students could be aiding the fight against obesity. History majors could

put together a traveling museum and take it to schools throughout the state, engaging knowledge and artifacts to students who may otherwise never have an opportunity for that type of hands-on learning.

Of course, many of UK's schools and individual students are already involved in local communities, but few have had the impact and commitment demonstrated by those involved in the Henderson Project. And not only have those involved in Henderson given us a brilliant example of risk-taking and initiative, but they've proven that we can be successful in helping people and places that need it.

They've shown that the learning experiences of UK students can — and should — stretch all over the Bluegrass.

■ LETTER TO THE EDITOR

New Chargers a waste of UK's money

I read with no small interest the article in the Aug. 23 Kernel issue titled "New rides charge campus streets." The article was informative and well-written.

However, new Dodge Chargers with a top end of 148 mph for UK police? If it weren't August, I'd have thought the article was an April Fool's joke. Why not just ordinary new domestic sedans with air conditioning and the new computer equipment? Do the campus police engage in high-speed pursuits off campus, or do they call for help from the local, very capable gendarmes?

The article stated that the cost would be paid from the campus police's operating budget. No wonder I am constantly getting calls from the College of Arts and Sciences and solicitations from the UK College of Law requesting money.

With fiscal stewardship as irresponsible as this, UK's quest for top-20 status is going to be a protracted and arduous climb. To the administrators, please take my name off the contribution requests until you hire a latter-day J.P. Morgan to handle your money.

Bill Sewell
History and law alumnus

Submissions

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Fame and renown results not typical

CHAD REESE, Kernel cartoonist

Student Government kept busy during UK's summer break

Welcome back, Wildcats! It was great talking with so many of you Friday at the Sea of Blue Party, and I hope you enjoyed the Dippin' Dots and lemonade



NICK PHELPS
Contributing columnist

on such a hot day. It feels great to have everyone back on campus — it's been lonely without you here! While you have been away we've had a productive summer, and we are excited for the upcoming year.

This summer, we started working right away on our audit of services, election promises and our goal of increased visibility. We have gone through most of our services; we're making what works better, and we're getting rid of what doesn't.

We started with our freshman program, formerly known as the Freshman Representative Council. It is now revamped, improved and renamed as the Leadership Development Program. Any freshman looking to get involved on this campus should swing by and pick up an application in the Student Government office at room 120 in the Student Center; applications are due Sept. 5.

One of the main services we took a look at this summer was the DVD

rental program. While we had talked about expanding this service, we ultimately felt that it was better to spend our time and money on other services that better serve this campus.

Brittany and I started out the summer by working to increase our visibility on campus. We did this by speaking at every freshman advising conference and introducing ourselves to UK's newest class. We also attended the Kentucky Leadership Academy, where we worked with all of the student governments in the state. It was here that we formed many vital relationships that we cannot wait to utilize in the upcoming year.

However, we haven't just set our sights on campus. We've already headed off to Washington, where we met with Kentucky's federal delegation to discuss the Greek housing bill and potential textbook tax-credit legislation. We have formed relationships and hope to bring many people we met with to campus this year.

As you might have heard, this summer we went into uncharted territory and hired an adviser who will serve as a liaison between SG and UK's faculty, staff and administration. Todd Cox is going to help us

make legislation a reality and be there to help keep us and future administrations on the right track. He will be a great help in transitioning the organization from year to year so good ideas don't die with graduating members.

We want you to know that two of our election promises — the golf cart for SafeCats and an attorney to represent the students — haven't been forgotten, and we hope to accomplish these goals this semester. Unfortunately, these things take time; there are a lot of stakeholders, and we want to make sure that we do it right. If done correctly, these improvements can have a lasting impact for years to come.

I hope you can already see how serious and excited we are about this year. We know there is a lot of work to be done, but we hope we have set the groundwork for an unbelievable year, and I look forward to updating you on our progress. We've worked hard to revitalize our office so we can work efficiently and you can get what you deserve out of SG.

I will be right here every other Tuesday letting you know what's going on with SG and what we are working on. Please stop by sometime, and don't hesitate to contact me directly. Have a great week, and Go Cats!

Nick Phelps is the president of UK's Student Government. E-mail nick.phelps@uk.edu.

College Republicans offer sanctuary for conservative students

The parents are gone. You've met your roommates, and you sort of know your way around now. And, considering this is the fifth day



THOMAS ROBERTS
Contributing columnist

of class, your professors have undoubtedly let you know that all Republicans are ignorant rednecks whose conservative Christian values do not belong in a tolerant, free-thinking, learning community.

After all, Republicans are intolerant bigots who would like nothing better than for all jobs to be shipped to Mexico or India.

I hope the crazy liberal UK faculty members do not persuade you to change your minds based solely on their claims. Although they may be experts in extremely useful fields like medieval French literature, Appalachian studies and geographic gender relations, not one letter after their names would like your opinion wrong. You should never feel intimidated, and you should never allow yourself to be silenced by your "free-thinking" hippie teaching assistants and professors. If you find yourself in an intimidating situation, talk to the Office of Academic Ombud Services. None of what I just said should be taken to mean these people know

nothing. If you are in a medieval French literature class and the professor teaches about medieval French literature, take advantage of that instructor's expertise and learn all you can about the subject.

Just remember the difference between an opinion on political topics and factual information in course subjects. If you are conservative, that guarantees that professors are going to lecture about things that directly oppose what you believe. That just means you have to know the facts behind your opinions. Challenge yourself to know why you believe what you do. Chances are, if you cannot justify your opinion, you just may be wrong.

Republicans aren't the Bible-beating, assault-rifle-toting, right-wing nut jobs the left proclaims. There will come a time, however, when you may doubt this. After all, if all of the lectures, the Kernel and the rest of the liberal media are all saying Republicans are bastards, it must be true, right? The shortest answer is "Hell no!"

Liberals are great at letting everyone know they're nearby. Whether they are whining on blogs, complaining about something Republicans did or having a couple of people with a bullhorn at a rally, they tend to be visible. While inexcusable, it always happens that those who know the least know it the loudest.

In any case, the next time you encounter such a brazen display of ig-

norance, remember that College Republicans are actually trying to fix the problems we face by addressing the tough issues and getting candidates who share our values elected to office.

I hope every one of you will take the time to come to our first meeting tonight at 8 on the third floor of Commons Market. Once there, you'll see we have a very diverse group. We have people ready for George Bush to leave the White House and those wishing he could run again. We have people on both sides of every issue.

We have people from all different faiths, from different economic classes. We've got punks, hippies, rockers, preppies, city people, rednecks and any other group you could imagine. If you want to know more about our organization — like how to get involved and when events are happening — check out our Web site (www.ukcollegeRepublicans.com).

I can't think of a better year to get involved. We've got several social events planned, a ton of campaign internships still available, and unbelievable networking opportunities due to the heated state elections this fall. You'll only be cheating yourself if you decide that rerun of "Seinfeld" is more worthwhile than coming to the meeting to learn what we are about and make some new friends.

Thomas Roberts is the chairman of UK College Republicans. E-mail opinions@kykernel.com.

Call 859-257-2871 to place your ad
Ads can also be found on www.kykernel.com

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TOWNHOUSE 2BR, 1.5BA near UK. 820.000. 361-7396. 202-2712.

UK TERRITORY BUY a home in Woodland Heights. This historic home has many updates that are blended in with the accessories of yesterday. Near downtown, the sturdy house has stood the test of time. Features include 3BR, 2BA, air 2 fireplaces, hardwood formal dining and more! It is a 5 BR possibility. \$174,900. Call Marisa 966-9571. Realty World May & Associates.

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FOR RENT

1 BR historic cottage 345 Odium Ave near Woodland Park, campus, and Starbucks. Remodeled. 1 3/4 baths w/ new stainless kitchen. \$150/mo. Positive references. www.levington.com. 838-3494.

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3BR, 2BA NEAR Todd's Rd w/ family room, deck, patio, garage + off-street parking. 859.50/mo. Call info at www.hillcountryproperties.com or call Jim 760-762-0690.

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- 209 PINE ST. 4BR, 2.5BA. Avail. Now renting for \$1500 + util. Call 222-5232.
- 2018 CHEVY CHASE, new kitchen - BA \$750/mo. 4BR incl. CONTACT Rentman 948-3808 or 221-0988.
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Call Darlene 859-949-4381. Available September 1

3BR, 2 FULL BA duplex. Move-in ready! Located in 1st Class in Campbell. Pets allowed. 859-949-8214.

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Call Casey for all your real estate needs across Campus & Downtown

3BR, 3BA TOWNHOUSE with w/d now available. Call Crazens Properties 262-9888.

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1 BR, Large, nice. 370/mo. Walking to campus. 312-1532.

1 BR, 800/mo. incl. utilities. Walking distance to campus. 312-1532.

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ADVERTISING SALES: Mad Cow Publications hiring immediately. Up to 25% commission. Send resume to PO #2572. Lexington, KY 40524-9722.

AFTERNOON CHILDCARE TEACHER needed 2:30pm-5:00pm. Pk #21-1554.

AFTERNOON CHILDCARE TEACHERS needed. M-F 2-4:30pm. Some schedule available to campus. \$5-7. 666-1558.

ANDOVER GOLF COUNTRY Club is seeking experienced service and staff work in upscale dining environment. 15% per hour starting potential with great benefits. Also seeking Asst. Food and Beverage Operations Manager. Outdoor seasonal part-till openings as well. Please apply in person at 3450 Todd's Rd Lexington KY 40509.

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ARKWOOD TOWNHOMES, 2 & 3BR from 807/mo. Call Leslee, 426-4000. 2BR from 807/mo. Call Leslee, 426-4000. 2BR from 807/mo. Call Leslee, 426-4000.

AWESOME NEW 1BR above Starbucks on S. Upper W. apartments, covered parking, balcony. 859-221-5940

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ATLANTA PHARM STUDENTS need w/c? Call 859-727-0767 for more info or apply within 1800 Alexandra Dr. FT help wanted.

AUNTIE EM'S PRETZEL SHOP at Fayette Mall now hiring FT/PT positions. Flex, hrs, good pay. Contact Pam 272-0101 or Kelly 859-3844.

BAKERSITE FOR 10-15 yr old w/d wanted for occasional weekdays/weekends. Reliable traits + references necessary. Please call 266-7759

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BEER O'BROAD'S is looking for energetic servers & cooks. Apply in person at 129 Town Center Dr. Call 859-288-0079 for more info.

BILL'S BBQ hiring for all kitchen positions. Apply in person 101 Cochran. After 3pm.

BRACKTOWN ACADEMY Now hiring FT teaching staff for toddler and preschool classrooms. Morning and afternoon hours available. \$6-hr. Please call 859-282-1222 for more information.

BROOKSTONE APTS. Is now hiring FT leasing agents. Must have leasing/leasing skills, strong communication skills and computer fluency. Bilingual a plus! Please apply in person or email resume to: hr@brookstone.com. 800 W. Walnut Dr. Lexington KY 40511. NO PHONE CALLS PLEASE!

BUDY'S BAR & GRILL now hiring for waiters/bussers & bartenders. Apply in person 854 S. High Street.

BUSY SPECIALTY MD office needs PT asst to answer phones, assist front office and help where needed. Must be able to multi-task and be energetic. Great work environment. Near campus. Please send resume to Jennifer Ross 859-779-0561

CASSELL CARROLL PT receptionist needed for busy health clinic. Send resume to 859-608-6068, Lexington, KY 40503. No phone calls.

CENTRAL KY RESEARCH ASSOCIATES, OHA, is currently looking for healthy individuals to participate in an investigational vaccine clinical research trial for the Avian or Bird Flu. Qualified participants will

receive at no cost: study vaccine, study related medical evaluations, and up to \$700 in compensation for time and travel. For more information, call today. 859-289-8899 or toll-free 1-800-908-1866

CHARLE BROWN'S is hiring servers and bartenders. Apply at 488 Excite Ave.

CHI OMEGA IS LOOKING for 3 houseboys, 1 for Monday 3:45-9:30p, 2 for Mon. 4-6:30pm, 3 for TWR 6:00pm-11:30 PM Sat 7am-Tue. Please contact house mom Martha Newlin. 381-9722 (home) 502-758-2242 (cell)

CHILD CARE after school care needed Approx. 20 trackes. Please leave a message at 273-8458

CHILD SITTER/IN-HOME DAYCARE
CHILD CARE CENTER has PT positions M-F Please call 289-2938

CHILD CARE WORKERS NEEDED. Tues. and/or Thurs. 8:15-11:30pm. Call Mary Baker Church. Close to campus. Contact Betty at 221-9458

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PARKS & RECREATION NEEDS after school children's center. M-F 2:30pm. Call 289-2929

PLAY'S CLOSET NOW hiring immediate openings. Great employee discounts. Fun work environment. Flexible schedules. Casual dress. Close to campus behind Fazio's on Nicholasville Road. Apply within. 279-8669

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PT BARISTA daytime hours. For hospital coffee service. 859-430-3917

PT CHILDCARE NEEDED for Fall semester and beyond. 5-10 hrs/wk. Chevy Chase. 2 girls, 5yrs & 8yrs. Flex hrs. Must have exp. References preferred. Smoke free, pet free home. Contact Betty 266-0723

PT DAYTIME OFFICE worker: Clear speaking voice, computer skills, reliable. Will work with weekend evenings. 859-430-3917

PT HR'S & WEEKENDS needed. Apply at Howard Curry Stokes, 380 Southfield Dr.

PT JOB OFFER as sales rep!!! Work at home, making envelopes or typing is the potential to earn \$700-3000 US per week running your

RAGLAND

Continued from page 1

The case went unresolved for five years after DiGiuro's death until Ragland's former girlfriend, Aimee Lloyd, told police that Ragland confessed to her in 1995 that he had shot DiGiuro.

Larson said he promised Lloyd that if she testified against Ragland, he would put processes in place to keep her safe. But those protections could only be offered once, and Larson said he would not compromise Lloyd's safety by putting her on the stand again if the case went to a second trial.

"The DiGiuro family and police had no idea who did it or

why they did it," Larson said. "She was reluctant to testify because she was scared that he would kill her too. But she couldn't stand living with that burden."

Trent's father, Mike DiGiuro, said he knew the absence of Lloyd at a second trial would hurt their case.

"(The decision today) was a necessary evil," DiGiuro said. "What can you get accomplished going to trial when one of our key witnesses is gone?"

Ragland was arrested in 2000 and convicted of murdering DiGiuro in April 2002. He was sentenced to 30 years in prison.

The Kentucky Supreme Court ruled in November 2004

that a prosecutor misspoke in his closing argument in the original trial when he commented on Ragland's decision not to testify against himself, a constitutional right protected by the Fifth Amendment.

Former First Assistant Commonwealth's Attorney Mike Malone wrote in the original trial, "The only person who knows where that shot was fired from is the person sitting in that chair over there, and he hasn't seen fit to tell us."

The court overturned Ragland's conviction and ordered a new trial. But in December 2004, Attorney General Greg Stumbo asked the court to reconsider its decision.

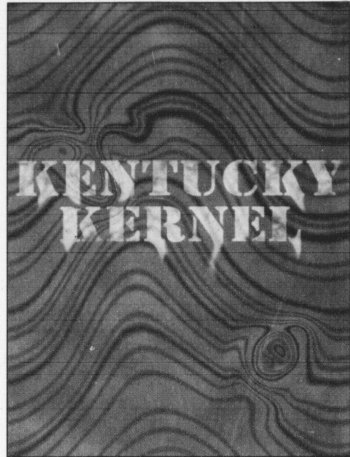
Ragland's attorney once

again asked the Kentucky Supreme Court for a retrial in March 2006, this time based both on Malone's statements and research indicating that a bullet test used as evidence in the original trial was unreliable.

In March 2006, the Kentucky Supreme Court again overturned Ragland's conviction and ordered a new trial based on the controversy surrounding the type of forensic testing used to connect Ragland to the crime.

Mike DiGiuro said that while Ragland's sentence was not as harsh as he wished, his family needed closure.

"We've been in the legal system for seven years," DiGiuro said. "It's time to be done."



SG

Continued from page 1

brought in front of the whole Senate for discussion," Montell said.

Phelps said the executive staff's salaries in the budget proposal are only valid for the fall semester.

"I've established salaries for the executive staff that will be evaluated at the end of this semester and will have to be re-approved by the full Senate based on the performance of these individuals," Phelps said.

These salary changes are part of a \$31.750 decrease in total operational expenses, including nearly \$90,000 less set aside to fund campus services.

"We've worked hard to bring down our expenses this year," Phelps said. "The executive and legislative branches are accepting less money, and we audited our services to determine what deserved the most funding."

Peer Tutoring, the Violence, Intervention and Prevention Center (formerly Women's Place) and the legal service were among organizations and services that had funding cuts.

"We really looked at how much we were able to give these groups based on how much money we have to start out with and what the money we provide is going toward," Phelps said. "And for each service whose funding we cut, we made sure it was getting that money from somewhere else."

SG increased the amount of money for Channel 50 and childcare grants, money it gives to students with children.

"Student Government is obligated to give \$10,000 for the next couple of years to Channel 50 in a contract we have with WRFL, Resident Student Association and Student Activities Board," Phelps said. "But we are giving additional money this year because this is a service we really want to see take off."

PARKING

Continued from page 1

the cost of installation, which Thornton estimated to be under \$1,000.

The cameras had been in the UK Hospital parking structure, said PTS spokeswoman Chrissy Balding Tune, where they scanned passing license plates to detect student vehicles in the hospital parking.

After one year, PTS decided to install the system into a campus patrol car. The new system combines the recognition technology with the database of UK parking violations.

"This technology is a great fit for us," Thornton said in an Aug. 22 news release. "It adds value to parking permits by allowing us to enforce parking regulations effectively and efficiently."

However, if a student backs into a spot, the only way for the officer to check the license plate is by manually entering the permit number, which Thornton said the officer

would do, even though it would slow down the process of checking plates.

After the first system was installed on Aug. 8, Tune said PTS ran through a demonstration of the system. After a period of 40 minutes, the new system had scanned 2,500 license plates, five of which contained outstanding tickets.

Eventually, PTS would like to use the system for detecting stolen vehicles, as well as monitoring a vehicle's length of stay in a time-designated area, according to the news release.

If students are parked on campus and they have an unpaid citation, they risk impoundment, Tune said. If a student receives six or more parking tickets during one school year, the vehicle can be impounded each and every time it is in violation until the student pays the fines.

Tune said while PTS has a more efficient system to crack down on parking violators, it is not trying to increase punishment for students parking on campus.

TRUSTEES

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ment as of press time.

Fletcher has 10 days to act before the attorney general files suit to remove three "unqualified board members" from UK's board and two from U of L's, Stumbo said in the letter.

UK spokesman Jay Blanton said he did not know which three board members may be removed.

"It's between those policymakers, and so it's not anything we have any comment on," Blanton said.

UK faculty trustee Jeff Dembo said that while he has not read all of the requirements for the Board of Trustees, he believes the university must do what the law says.

"The University of Kentucky as a flagship institution has to set the standard as far as being unquestionably ethical," Dembo said. "If there's any question about the way

board members are appointed, the whole board should be concerned."

Student Government president and board member Nick Phelps said he hopes the matter is resolved as soon as possible but that the issue is between Fletcher and Stumbo.

"I'm elected by the students at UK, and this is between two lawmakers in Frankfort," Phelps said.

Dembo said that although "it isn't nice to take back something that's given to someone," the Republican appointees will have to be removed if necessary.

"If the law is indisputable, we have no latitude," Dembo said.

He said the conflict surrounding the Board of Trustees is an unfortunate result of how its members are selected.

"My opinion is that political appointments to a state university is a bad marriage, but that's the way it's always been," Dembo said.

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