

KENTUCKY KERNEL

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On-demand bus service changes to steady route

By Cody Griggs
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With the elimination of on-demand CATS bus service on Friday and Saturday nights, students have mixed emotions about the switch.

For this school year, Parking and Transportation Services created the Green Route, which runs every thirty minutes from 7 p.m. to 3 a.m. on Friday and Saturday nights. The route replaced on-demand service

those two nights. Some students said they are fine with the change. UK graduate student Ji Yoon Jung said the switch from the on-demand service on the weekends presents no problem for her.

When she rode the on-demand service, she said, she would have to wait for the bus. Now with the Green Route she said she knows the timetable for the bus route and can show up without waiting much time.

However, biology sophomore Benton Stegman said he does not use the service nearly as much as

he used to since this year's switch. The stops are not close enough to where he needs to go, Stegman said. "I hope it goes back to on-demand as soon as possible because I'm tired of missing out on everything," he said.

The reason for the switch is that the route is a faster option for students and staff, said Chrissie Baldwin of Parking and Transportation Services. Parking and Transportation Services mapped out where the largest volume of calls were coming in from and made a route that would stop at all the campus hot spots.

Rising gas prices did not play a role in the decision to change the route, Tune said. However, she said the Green Route is more efficient than driving around campus for

pick-ups on a person-by-person basis.

The route also saved money because with on-demand service, UK had to employ a person to answer phones and a driver on Friday and Saturday night, Tune said. Now, only a driver is needed.

An estimated 750,000 rides are logged for the CATS bus each year, many of which are UK Hospital employees and professional students, Tune said. Parking and Transportation Services does not measure the number of people that ride the Green Route, she said, although about 35 people rode the bus on Saturday, Sept. 13.

The new route has been getting positive feedback and there are no plans being made to change the route back to on-demand, she said.

The CATS bus will keep similar routes during the day for the 2008-09 school year, although there are changes to the daytime Red, White and Blue routes.

For example, the Blue Route no longer goes to Funkhouser Building. Instead, it has been redirected to the UK HealthCare center and the Good Samaritan Hospital. The White Route no longer goes through Cooperstown Apartments.

Students who need a bus ride Monday through Thursday from 11 p.m. to 5:30 a.m. or Sunday from 7 p.m. until midnight will still be able to call (859) 221-7433 for on-demand service.

For this year's new bus maps and schedules, visit the Parking and Transportation Services Web site (www.uky.edu/parking).



PHOTO BY KRISTIN SHERRARD | STAFF

Study results renew criticism

By Rosalind Essig
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UK released the findings of a study on an oxygen-carrying treatment, reviving criticisms of the study and the treatment.

UK was one of 32 Level 1 Trauma Centers participating in the study testing the treatment PolyHeme, which ran between 2004 and 2006, according to a university press release Sept. 10.

PolyHeme is a hemoglobin-based oxygen carrier produced by the Illinois company, Northfield Laboratories. It can carry oxygen like blood, and because it does not have red blood cells it can be given to any blood type, said Dr. Andrew Bernard, the UK trauma surgeon that headed the study.

Thirty-four of the 270 patients in the study were participating in UK's portion of the study. The trial was to test the hypothesis that the treatment would increase the survival rate and lower the rate of organ failure in trauma patients.

It did neither, which Bernard attributes to the fact that the average time from the field to the hospital was 26 minutes.

In an article in the Journal of the American Medical Association in May, Dr. Charles Natanson concluded that the hemoglobin-based substitute significantly increases the risk of heart attack and death.

"The FDA gave approval for this trial in trauma patients even though the FDA presumably had unpublished data showing a significant increase in myocardial infarction, a type of heart disease in the prior PolyHeme trial in vascular surgery patients," he said in

See **Blood** on page 4

Forum focuses on council candidates

By Laura Edelen
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Candidates vying for the spot representing UK on the Lexington-Fayette Urban County Council will discuss their positions during a forum Thursday.

A 3rd District forum will be held at 8 a.m. Thursday in the Kentucky room of the Hyatt Regency at 410 W. High Street.

Participants include Diane Lawless and Eric Thomason, both vying for the seat being vacated by Councilman Dick DeCamp.

Lawless and Thomason will discuss a range of issues, including public gatherings, public art, parking and student housing, said Renee Jackson, organizer of the event and executive director of the Downtown Lexington Corporation. Questions will also be taken from the audience.

See **Council** on page 4

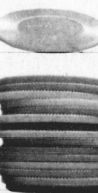


Online gamers in Kentucky may be soon losing their playing ground. The state government has seized 141 domain names and has filed a lawsuit to have the sites controlled and blocked in the state of Kentucky.

Playing by the house rules

State files lawsuit in attempt to control over 100 illegal gaming Web sites

By Jill Laster
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Online poker players, be warned. Your favorite Web site may no longer be available as the result of an ongoing lawsuit against over 100 online gaming companies.

The state of Kentucky seized the domain names of 141 illegal gambling Web sites as a result of a ruling last

week in Franklin County Circuit Court, perhaps making Kentucky the first state to take such a step against online gaming.

All are still operational, although that may change after a hearing Thursday, said Jennifer Bristin, a spokeswoman for the Justice and Public Safety Cabinet.

During Thursday's hearing, Franklin Circuit Judge Thomas Wingate may determine whether or not the state would need to officially take control of the sites.

The Justice and Public Safety Cab-

inet filed the suit to force sites to block access to Kentucky users or relinquish control of their domains, said Bristin.

"The endgame is to make sure to protect what is Kentucky's signature industry, thoroughbred racing, and stop this illegal gaming," she said. "...It poses a very real, very valid threat to racing and other forms of legal gaming."

See **Gaming** on page 4

On the web

Downloadable PDF of all 141 Web sites involved in the state's lawsuit against illegal gaming.

Officials discuss UK, city sustainability efforts

By Travis Walker
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"Go Big Blue" may be the mantra on campus, but on Tuesday energy experts discussed ways to go green.

On Tuesday at "Big Blue Goes Green: A Sustainability Showcase" in the Student Center, Mayor Jim Newberry, UK Vice President for Facilities Management Bob Wiseman and Deputy Secretary of the Energy and Environment Cabinet Hank List weighed in on issues regarding sustainability on city, university and state levels.

During an open forum, all three described what their respective organizations are doing to further sustainability efforts and then fielded questions from the audience.

"We are incredibly fortunate to

have our urban county government so close to the reservoir of talent that exists on campus," Newberry said.

After the panel, Newberry also weighed in on the role CentrePointe, the debated downtown high-rise building project, will play in Lexington's sustainability.

CentrePointe will be the largest project in the state qualifying for the Leadership in Energy and Environmental Design (LEED) certification, Newberry said.

During the panel, Wiseman described both the positive and negative effects the university has on the environment.

Wiseman emphasized the great deal of cooperation between the various colleges on campus on sustainability issues, as well as

classes on the subject. During the 2007-08 school year, UK offered 44 courses that dealt with sustainability issues, he said.

Shedding light on some of the things the university is doing to go green, Wiseman explained that all of the energy usage in every building on campus is controlled by a centralized computer system, a practice that saves the university \$2.3 million a year and cuts its energy consumption by 10 percent.

Wiseman then went on to tout education as an important factor in sustainability, and expressed his desire to inform students about the initiatives taking place to improve sustainability.

"If folks don't know personally what we're doing on campus, they assume nothing's taking place," he said.

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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 — Conditions are in your favor. You can trust your hunches. Make the decision and take the action you've been thinking about. But first, review your notes for errors.

Taurus (April 20-May 20) — Today is a 6 — Continue to double-check for mistakes in your work. You get extra points if you find the error first. You can redeem these points for quilt-free cookies later.

Gemini (May 21-June 21) — Today is an 8 — As you get into a new job, you enter a new learning curve. As you know from experience, this can sometimes be awkward.

Cancer (June 22-July 22) — Today is a 6 — You're not in the mood to argue, but your luck is improving. Stick with what you know is right, and

they'll come around to your side.

Leo (July 23-Aug. 22) — Today is an 8 — For the next few weeks, there will be more errors than usual in communications. Get used to double-checking.

Virgo (Aug. 23-Sept. 22) — Today is a 6 — Save your money by using something you already have. Nowadays it's called recycling. Used to be called "making do."

Libra (Sept. 23-Oct. 22) — Today is a 7 — For the next few weeks, you'll be more cautious. This is good. Perhaps you won't let your friends talk you into spending too much.

Scorpio (Oct. 23-Nov. 21) — Today is a 6 — The coming three weeks are going to have more than normal delays and setbacks. There could be communications breakdowns, too. Better back up your computer.

Sagittarius (Nov. 22-Dec. 21) — Today is an 8 — Your fame is

traveling far and wide, and your fan base is growing. Now is a good time to schedule a tour. You can include a family reunion in the expedition.

Capricorn (Dec. 22-Jan. 19) — Today is a 6 — Your social life will become more active in the next few weeks. Your entertainment expenses will also increase, however. You can afford it, but be aware so you don't go overboard.

Aquarius (Jan. 20-Feb. 18) — Today is an 8 — A critic wants to point out all your mistakes. Do not complain. Listen carefully and put in the corrections. This is an absolutely golden opportunity, if you don't have to pay for it.

Pisces (Feb. 19-March 20) — Today is a 6 — For the next three weeks, be extremely careful about your finances. Don't take out any loans, and check invoices for mistakes.

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kernel POP

Going on this minute.

Jason's love story comes out

By Sarah Grossbart

Biggs tells Us about finding the girl of his dreams on set

Life-changing role, indeed! Jason Biggs not only had a blast filming the new comedy *My Best Friend's Girl* (out September 19) with Kate Hudson and Dane Cook, but he met and fell in love with his wife, Jenny Mollen, 29, who also appears in the flick, during the fall 2007 shooting. While the couple (who wed in a private ceremony in April and again in California's Napa Valley July 13) didn't share any scenes together, "We did plenty of work off the set," he jokes. The New Jersey native, 30, talks love with Us.

Q: Your character, Dustin, is a bit unlucky in love, but you seem to be doing just fine! When did you know your wife was *The One*?

A: I knew it probably right away. I think we were reluctant to admit to ourselves and each other that we had found *The One*, but that didn't last long. I would say halfway through filming it was pretty clear that this was the woman I was going to impregnate at some point.

Q: So family plans are in the works?

A: I definitely want to start a family soon. I want little Mollens and Biggess running around. And I want them to look like her.

Q: What was it like working with Kate and Dane?

A: Kate's incredible, and she's just such a pro on set and gracious to everyone. Dane was always ready with the joke, but he wasn't the jokester that you couldn't turn off. He wasn't that guy, fortunately. We all know who that guy is — and it's me.

Celeb's hotline

Mini-mes made easy! trendy kids can dress like mom in Alice + Olivia's new line for girls (Sarah Jessica Parker and Jenny McCarthy are fans of the adult label). The 16-piece collection boasts bomber jackets, cardigan sweaters and tunic dresses in designer Stacey-Benedet's signature silhouettes. Her dream client? "Sari Cruise always looks fabulous!" she tells Us.

Grant Show

The Swingtown actor guests as the brother of *-Addison* (Kate Walsh) on ABC's *Private Practice*. "He gets extremely friendly with her coworker," exec producer Betsy Beers tells Us.

Rumer Willis

On the October 12 episode of Lifetime's *Army Wives*, she plays a bride whose soldier husband comes home injured. Willis "has vulnerability," says exec producer Deborah Spera.

Oprah Winfrey

When Tina Fey appeared on the icon's show, she jokingly asked Winfrey to be on *30 Rock*. "She said she would do it!" Fey told Us in April. Costar Alec Baldwin has since confirmed her appearance, though NBC says no deal has been inked yet.

Star's fall fashion musts

New season, new clothes! Celeb style mavens tell Us what items they're coveting

"Definitely a leather jacket. And there are these really great Louboutin boots ... though they're not necessarily user-friendly for people who aren't used to walking in heels!"

Heidi Klum

"A great pair of boots, a great pair of jeans and about 10 pairs of black tights!"

Beth Ostrosky

"Definitely boyfriend jeans, long cardigans, skinny belts and something tweed."

Molly Sims

"Jewel tones look pretty good on me, so it's nice that they're back."

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Band member uses reality show to promote music

By Megan Hurt
features@kykernel.com

Most bands don't promote themselves with baseball caps.

When musicians promote their bands they normally send out a press release and do a few shows at small bars. But Erik Huffman helped expand the fan base for his band FLOREZ by wearing a FLOREZ baseball cap on national television during his run as a contestant on the latest season of "Survivor: Chi-na."

Since returning home from the competition, where he was three tribal councils away from winning \$1 million, Huffman along with his fellow band mate Alex Florez discovered a larger fan base, thanks to the FLOREZ, hat.

Students can discover FLOREZ and become a fan themselves tonight at 8 when the band performs outside on the Student Center front lawn, as part of Backyard Beats concert series, a free event sponsored by the Student Activities Board.

"After hearing them at a national convention in February I decided they would fit perfect with the vibe we're trying to achieve with the Backyard Beats series," said Louise Cincala, director of concerts for the SAB.

The series is a laid back, fun, light atmosphere centered around friends and good music, Cincala said.

FLOREZ is comparable to The John Mayer Trio, Weezer and Gavin Degraw, who they opened for in 2005, according to their offi-

cial website. But even with the comparison, Cincala finds uniqueness in their style.

"They mix up the lyrics by throwing in Spanish and French," Cincala said.

The series, which is in its first year, features a different performer every other Wednesday. Today the SAB will also be giving away prizes during the FLOREZ event, including an iPod Shuffle, a picnic basket dinner for four people and free T-shirts, which are given out during every performance.

"Wednesday will be a great time to just kick back, grab some free things, and discover a new, great band," Cincala said. "FLOREZ's music is perfect for a relaxed fall weeknight with your friends."

New Termanology gets support from big names in hip-hop world

In exactly six days, the world will be formally introduced to Termanology, a New York-based MC that has made big waves in the underground circuit as of late.



LANDON ANTONETTI
Kernel columnist

show out for this release. But Termanology is the real spectacle, a lyrical most clever with one foot in '94 and the other in 2008.

For those who don't know Termanology, his story goes like this: He's a Lawrence, Mass. native who based his music career out of hip-hop's birth place, New York City. As a good friend of mixtape-DJ and fellow Massachusetts native, Statik Selektah, Term got his start dropping singles on various mixtapes which in turn earned him a substantial cult following. Over the years, Term has built up quite the rhyming resume, by dropping verses

alongside members of hip-hop's upper pantheon, including Royce Da 5'9, Big Shug, Trife, Sean Price and even Mr. Congeniality himself, Kanye West.

Termanology first caught my ear when the single "How We Rock" showed up in my inbox. This track is the poster child for raw, DJ Premier cuts. A simple drum arrangement, continuous sample combination and scratched in chorus make this joint certified street. Bun B drops in and delivers his illest verse to date, the baritone Houston heavy hitter pulls out his sword and cuts this track to ribbons. I copped this track a couple months back, and it still sends chills up my spine every time I hear it.

Obviously, a bulk of Term's popularity is accredited to the influence that the Internet has had over hip-hop in the last few years. Dropping a single online once a month has seemed to work in his favor, by keeping fans chomping at the bit for his new album and exposing him to new listeners at the same time. With the success of his "Hood Politics" mixtapes and the deafening buzz he's built up over the last year, Termanology's debut should be one for the books. Be on the look-out for a review of "Politics As Usual" after the jump.

Landon Antonetti is a journalism junior and the production director for WRFL. E-mail features@kykernel.com.

Kid-friendly versions of mom and dad's favorite jams are all the rage

By Mario Tarradell
The Dallas Morning News

Kids' music is grownup business.

We're not talking about teen sensations Miley Cyrus and the Jonas Brothers. This is about music for babies all the way to pre-teens — from lullabies to current pop hits refashioned by kid singers.

Take a gander at the numbers: There's the Kidz Bop Kids series, now 21 CDs strong, which has cumulatively sold 9 million copies, according to Nielsen SoundScan. Then we have the growing Rockabye Baby set of discs that take rock repertoires from, say, U2, Pink Floyd and Queens of the

Stone Age, and turn them into lullabies for babies. The 24 volumes combined have moved 428,000 copies, according to Rockabye Baby Records, an imprint of New York's CMH Records.

Those are the big ones, but hardly the only ones. The Praise Baby Collection consists of 15 CDs and DVDs offering worship music in lullaby form. And of course there's Putumayo Kids, the children's branch of Putumayo World Music, boasting 16 titles such as "African Dreamland" and "Caribbean Playground." Rockabye Baby also has Hushabye Baby — country songs done as lullabies.

"The reason for it is

there's an audience," says Geoff Mayfield, senior analyst for Billboard magazine, about the kids' music phenomenon. "That's the kind of niche that a record company would look for. All the sales have gone down in the last six to seven years, so you are going to look for growth opportunities, and the kids market is one of them."

But the kids' music explosion is really about the parents. The Rockabye Baby library is the perfect example of music aimed at mom and dad but tailored for their infant. By taking the legendary rock music of Led Zeppelin and AC/DC and reworking it as lullabies, the cool parenting factor soars off the charts.

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NEWS BRIEF

SG Senate to vote on green fee recommendation

Wednesday night the Student Government Senate will meet to vote on legislation, including a resolution sponsored by Sen. Robert Kahne supporting a \$6 to \$8 increase in student fees, said Senate President Jackie Colgate.

The money would be a green fee, and the resolution would be a recommendation to UK President Lee Todd and Student Government President Tyler Montell.

Colgate said there will also be a referendum presented to be added to the Freshman Senate election ballot concerning the new student meal plan. The freshman Senate election will be Oct. 8 and 9.

Meetings begin at 8 p.m. in the Student Center Small Ballroom and are open to the public.

COUNCIL

Continued from page 1

Neither candidate supports the CentrePointe project, which involves building a complex including a high-rise luxury hotel in the block between the corners of West Main and South Upper streets and West Vine and South Limestone streets.

"It takes away from the popular places where many younger people have established themselves," said Thomason, one of the founders of downtown preservation organization Preserve Lexington. "It is wrong that the developers of the project did not seek any community input."

Lawless said the CentrePointe plan is "not right for the city."

"All the stakeholders, developers and architects need to sit at the table and come up with a plan that is in ordinance," she said.

Besides CentrePointe, the two candidates have other topics they hope to address.

Lawless said during the forum she would like to discuss issues in Lexington neighborhoods, saying it has become "students versus residents" in local neighborhoods. She also said she wants to make sure students know basic rules, such as where drivers can park. Lawless also wants to look into safety issues such as building without a permit.

"I'm looking to embrace students and make them part of the community," Lawless said. "There is no reason we can't all live together safely and happily."

Thomason plans to talk mostly about improvements needed in downtown Lexington, he said. He also said connecting UK with downtown will be one of his goals. To help bridge the gap between the two, Thomason wants to improve South Limestone with better sidewalks and lighting, and more restaurants and entertainment that appeal to students.

"I want to help create a true college town," Thomason said.

Lawmakers hostile to Treasury bailout plan, insist on changes

By David Lightman and Margaret Teley
McClatchy Newspapers

WASHINGTON — Congressional lawmakers grew uneasy Tuesday about the Bush administration's plan to spend \$700 billion rescuing America's financial industry, demanding provisions that limit executive pay and assurance to taxpayers that they're not writing a blank check to bail out troubled firms.

Leaders of both parties were cautiously optimistic that they'd be able to pass a plan, perhaps by the end of this week, but they were struggling to iron out details. Republican conservatives objected to the size and scope of the package, while Democrats insisted on adding stronger government oversight and consumer protection. Changes were assured, but in the end the administration is likely to win approval of a massive bailout package.

"We've got to get this right. . . . There is no second act," said Senate Banking Committee Chairman Christopher Dodd, D-Conn. Senate Republican leader Mitch McConnell of Kentucky echoed that thought, adding, "We're anxious to act quickly."

The rank and file was stirring, however. Republican conservatives protested that the bailout is little more than an expensive giveaway to big corporations as well as an irresponsible government intrusion into the private sector.

"This massive bailout is not the solution. It is financial socialism, and it is un-American," Sen. Jim Bunning, R-Ky., said at a Senate Banking Committee hearing at which members of both parties spent five hours grilling top administration officials.

Democrats were concerned that chief executive officers and big companies stood to benefit at the expense of middle- and lower-class taxpayers.

"This proposal is stunning and unprecedented in its scope and lack of detail," Dodd said. "It would allow the (Treasury) secretary to intervene in the economy by purchasing at least \$700 billion of toxic assets. . . . It would do nothing to help even a single family save a home."

Still, the point man for the package in the House of Representatives, Financial Services Committee Chairman Bar-

ney Frank, D-Mass., said he didn't think that the level of dissent on both sides of the aisle was enough to derail a major bailout package, and that "our primary focus at this point is still getting the thing nailed down with the Senate. I think we will be together on everything."

"Am I concerned about all the concerns? You know, this is legislation. There are some people who I think are trying to derail it, but there are a lot of people who honestly want to make this work."

Treasury Secretary Henry Paulson, who appeared with Federal Reserve Board Chairman Ben Bernanke before Dodd's committee, tried to show empathy with the public.

"I share the outrage people have," said Paulson, a former CEO of the huge investment firm Goldman Sachs. "It's embarrassing to look at this. I think it's embarrassing to the United States of America. There's a lot of blame to go around."

In the House, Republican members met privately with Vice President Dick Cheney and White House Budget Director Jim Nussle in what was described as a tense session.

"People want to try to enjoy capitalism on the way up, socialism on the way down, and we know where that is headed," said Rep. Jeb Hensarling, R-Texas. "What we will end up with, I believe, is less freedom, less opportunity for the next generation."

Whether such anger will erupt into the kind of backbench rebellion that forced negotiators in the 1980s and 1990s to make changes in tax and budget deals remained unclear.

House Republican leader John Boehner of Ohio explained the reservations that many GOP members shared.

"It's the size of the solution that causes great concern, and trying to gauge the risk-to-reward ratio," he said. "How serious is the problem, and how imminent is the crisis?"

Still, leaders of both parties in both chambers of Congress remained committed to moving ahead with some substantial financial-system rescue plan.

"It's about saving our economy," Boehner said.

House Speaker Nancy Pelosi, D-Calif., said that Democrats were unified on the need for legislation but that it

must show that "the party is over for compensation, for CEOs who take the golden parachute as they drive their companies into the ground."

The House is expected to debate the plan first, perhaps as early as Thursday. "There's going to be a lot of soul searching over the next few days," said Rep. Phil Gingrey, R-Ga.

The path to approval seemed somewhat smoother in the Senate.

"All the Republican senators have having to deal with this kind of crisis, especially with government involvement in the private sector," said Senate Republican Conference Chairman Jon Kyl of Arizona. However, he added, "Republicans have determined we're going to try our very best to work on this in a constructive way in a very short period of time."

The Bush administration refused to budge publicly from its stance that any legislation should be passed "quickly and cleanly," as Paulson reiterated Tuesday.

Senate staff members said they expected the administration to concede many key points that Democrats were pushing, but that wasn't clear in Paulson's testimony.

Paulson and Bernanke said that without fast congressional action, the nation's financial system faced enormous trouble that could endanger the broader economy.

"At this juncture, in light of the fast-moving developments in financial markets, it is essential to deal with the crisis at hand," Bernanke said.

Democrats want stronger oversight of the rescue plan, limits on executive pay at firms that take bailout money and assurance that consumers who are having difficulty paying their mortgages will get some leniency.

Paulson and Bernanke emphasized that taxpayers probably wouldn't wind up spending \$700 billion because, over time, the government would sell off now-unmarketable assets once markets returned to stability, and the Treasury would pocket the proceeds.

Sen. Charles Schumer, D-N.Y., wondered why the entire \$700 billion was needed at once. Why not authorize \$150 billion now, then re-evaluate after the plan has a track record?

BLOOD

Continued from page 1

the article.

Bernard said that some of the treatments made with hemoglobin had been shown to cause constriction in blood vessels but that Natanson grouped different treatments together in his study.

"There are a number of problems with the Natanson paper," he said.

The PolyHeme study fell under federal regulation that allowed an exception from informed consent requirements for emergency research, Bernard said. However, the community in which the study is taking place must be informed of the study and its risks and benefits.

A number of patients suffered heart attacks in a previous study of the treatment, Bernard said. He added that this previous study was not brought up in the community meetings held before the study began because it was not the action of the treatment but the volume that had caused the heart attacks.

"It is the opinion of the investigators doing this study that the heart attacks in the previous study were related to the way the study was done, not to the treatment itself," Bernard said.

GAMING

Continued from page 1

Along with control of the Web sites, the Justice Department may also seek between \$40 million and \$170 million in income lost because of illegal gaming, Brislín said.

The suit has the full support of Beshear's office, the governor said in a statement Monday. Beshear, who supported a failed push to put an amendment placing casino gaming on the November ballot, cited the "tremendous threat" of illegal online gaming poses in his statement.

"The owners and operators of these illegal sites prey on Kentucky citizens, including our youth, and deprive the Commonwealth of millions of dollars in revenue," Beshear said "It's an underworld wrought with scams and schemes."

UK student Brad Cawood said he didn't know one of his favorite Web sites, fulltiltpoker.com, was on the illegal gaming list. He found the site on ESPN's Web site, which helped him think that it was com-

pletely legal, he said.

"I just assumed most of the ones are legal," he said. "Most of the ones that are illegal won't let you gamble in the United States."

Cawood, a secondary education junior, said he doesn't worry about finding a new place to play online because there are so many Web sites available.

"It's probably better that the ones that are illegal get shut down because of (potential) problems cashing out," he said. "So I wouldn't be upset at all."

Critics of the shutdown, however, call the seizure a repression of Americans' rights. Kentucky's seizure "not only unduly restricts the freedom of Kentucky residents to play games of skill, such as poker, online, but sets a precedent for censorship on the internet by force," said John Pappas, executive director of the Poker Players Alliance, in a statement Tuesday.

The sites were chosen based on a government investigation that found illegal Web sites that could be accessed using a Kentucky address, Brislín said. Some of those Web sites may not be directly accessible to

users through the URL, but may be through links from other gaming sites.

Kentucky is not trying to cut off URL access beyond the state, and only wants to keep illegal activity out, Brislín said.

"We have no interest in anything but keeping this illegal activity outside of the borders of Kentucky," she said. "Our goal is not to impose the laws of Kentucky anywhere else but inside the borders we expect our laws to be respected."

UK media law professor Richard Labunski called the state's seizure a "dangerous trend" that attempts to regulate Web sites that have ownership in other states.

"This really ought to be a national discussion — the Internet is national and international," Labunski said. "It's a troubling development when the state takes it upon themselves."

Shutting down illegal Web sites will be a benefit to the state because illegal activity should be stopped, said Mike Stone, the executive director of the Kentucky Council on Problem Gambling. However, the non-profit council doesn't take a position on

whether people should gamble, Stone said.

However, he did say studies have shown that young people are more likely to gamble than their older counterparts.

"Younger people have more interest in activities than those who are 60 or 70 years old," he said. "It's a natural progression in life — the young are more likely to take risks. Gambling is one of those exciting activities."

Chemistry senior Jonathan Rogers described online gaming as similar to drugs or alcohol, saying getting addicted is more about the person's personality than the substance. Rogers said he almost never loses money, usually stopping when he breaks even.

Shutting down illegal sites may be a benefit, Rogers said, but it probably won't affect him much. So many sites exist he could switch to another one.

Overall, Rogers said he is not too worried about the shutdown's impact on his gaming.

"I think the things that are illegal are maybe not as regulated as the things that are legal," he said. "So, it bothers me, but not enough to stop."

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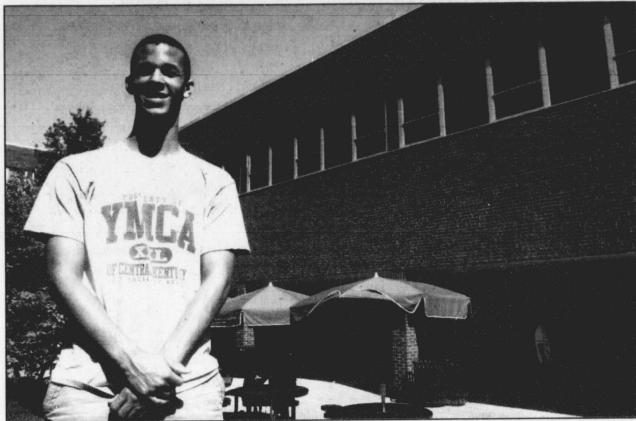
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Q&A with Scott Douglas

Habitat for Humanity president building program through growing student support



Scott Douglas president of Habitat for Humanity.

PHOTO BY EMILY COOVERT | STAFF

By Megan Hurt
features@kykernal.com

Throughout the semester, the Features page will spotlight various campus leaders. This week we are featuring Scott Douglas, the president of Habitat for Humanity-UK Chapter.

Q. Why did you decide Habitat for Humanity was the organization to get involved with and what does Habitat for Humanity mean to you?

A. I wanted to get involved in this organization in particular because I realize how lucky I have been in my life. I have always had a warm place to live at night and plenty of food, but I know many people aren't so fortunate. I also never realized the true extent of the homeless and poverty in Lexington until I participated in a build with Lexington Habitat as a teenager. Before and after that build, I drove through some of the poorest areas of the community. I got to meet the family we were helping and talk to them about the opportunity that we were able to give them. I got involved in this organization to give back to the community and help less fortunate families in a very personal way.

Q. Why did you decide to become president and take on the challenge?

A. I actually happened into becoming president of Habitat for Humanity. After being a member for two years, I was involved with a lot of Habitat's activities but didn't consider running for an office, much less as president. A couple of weeks before the election no one had decided to run for president, vice president and various other offices. I was shocked that at a school as large as UK there wasn't even

one person interested in leading this organization. I decided to run because I realized there was an opportunity for me to get more involved, develop leadership skills and lead an organization that was working towards a worthy cause.

Q. What do you hope to accomplish as president?

A. This year we are working on a number of things. First, we are working to raise awareness of our organization around campus. Last year we had less than 20 members. Talking to students across campus, most would love to help build a house or participate with us, but they just didn't know UK Habitat for Humanity was available to them. We have been recruiting at various events on campus to change this and had around 70 people attend our first meeting. We hope to keep the interest high in our organization so we will have students running for officer positions next year and dramatically increase membership. As we increase involvement with Habitat for Humanity, we will be in a better position to serve the local community and contribute to the work Habitat for Humanity does across the country and throughout the world.

Q. What are some of the projects UK Habitat for Humanity is currently working on?

A. At the end of last year, our former

For more information on how to get involved with Habitat for Humanity visit their Website <http://www.uky.edu/StudentOrgs/Habitat/>

treasurer, Mallory Wright, began working with UK to organize an on-campus build. We are modeling our effort after a recent project at Clemson University. They built a house on campus and transported it to the final site as part of homecoming activities. Obviously, this would be a huge logistical and financial undertaking so we are looking at two years down the road. Mallory is working with UK to get the permission we need to go forward, and we are working with student government and stepping up our fundraising efforts to raise the money necessary to pursue this project.

Q. Have you witnessed any support from the UK community that surprised or inspired you?

A. I have been very encouraged by the interaction I have had with students at UK. Most people I talk to are interested in getting involved and often the reason they were not involved in the past was that they simply didn't know UK had a chapter of Habitat for Humanity. This means we have a great upside and simply have to get our name out and let people know where and how to get involved.

Q. What do you see in the future for Habitat for Humanity?

A. I look forward to Habitat for Humanity growing here at UK. When I became president we had barely as many members as we did officers, and I want to grow our organization this year and in the future. With higher membership and more effective fundraising activities, we will be able to sponsor builds every year or even every semester and get more students involved with our work throughout the community.

Lower your stress level one massage at a time

By Kellie Oates
features@kykernal.com

Round one of exams may be taking its toll on the stress levels of UK students, but there is an answer.

The Student Activities Board is making sure students maintain that level of stress in a healthy way, and what better way to do it than with a free massage.

Massage on the Go is a new event introduced by the SAB's Campus Life Committee.

"It will occur three times this semester, during first round exams, midterms and finals (Sept. 24, Oct. 27, Dec. 3)," said Ashlee Harris, director of public relations for SAB.

The massages will take place from 11 a.m. to 2 p.m. Wednesday in the Wildcat Lounge, located outside the Student Government room in the Student Center. There will be five-minute massages every five minutes.

If class schedules are an obstacle, students can sign up on a timesheet located in the lounge and come back after their class.

"It is a great way to relax," said Campus Life Committee Director Mallory Johnson. "Everybody loves massages, especially when they are free."

Metallica fans say 'Guitar Hero' versions of 'Death Magnetic' songs beat those of the CD

By Victor Godinez
The Dallas Morning News

Fans of heavy metal band Metallica have been complaining that the group's new album, "Death Magnetic," suffers from heavy-handed distortion effects. Too bad, right?

Well, apparently not, at least if you're a Guitar Hero fan.

Apparently, the "Death Magnetic" tracks available for download in Guitar Hero are much cleaner- and sharper-sounding.

As a result, many fans are clamoring for Metallica to re-release the album with the Guitar Hero tracks.

There's even a YouTube video with side-by-side audio comparisons of the CD and Guitar Hero versions of the same song. (I posted the clip on our gaming blog, punchbutton.com, if you want to check it out.)

All the fuss seems a bit overdone to me.

I have "Death Magnetic," and I think it's a great album and a welcome recovery from Metallica's last record, "St. Anger," which sounds like a rusty chainsaw stuffed in a suit of armor and pushed down a flight of stairs.

There are some noticeable differences between the Guitar Hero and

CD versions, but I don't think I would have noticed them if they weren't highlighted in the comparison clip.

But what's really interesting to me is that the Guitar Hero versions of the songs will soon be regarded as the definitive sound.

I wouldn't be surprised to see Metallica re-release the CD with the title, "Death Magnetic: The Guitar Hero."

It would probably be the first time a video game was headlined on an album by a major band, but probably not the last.

The next step is for a superstar group to create a song exclusively for a music game like Guitar Hero or Rock Band.

Sure it would probably take a huge upfront payment (read: bribe) to the band from the game's publisher to make it happen, but the fact is that video games are more popular with kids now than music (or, at least, legally acquired music).

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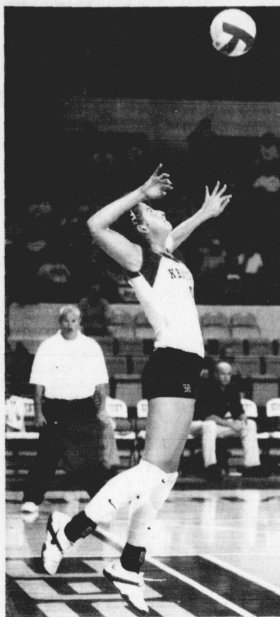
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SPORTS

Kenny Colston
Sports Editor
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After one season, Mendoza already filling leadership void for Cats



Sophomore Sarah Mendoza takes her turn serving. After a slow start last year, Mendoza's offensive stats have shot up.

By Meti Camfield
mcamfield@kykernel.com

Sophomore slump.
The name, the horror, the thought of it occurring all rushes through the minds of players with stout freshman campaigns. For sophomore outside hitter, Sarah Mendoza, however, it was all about looking to the future. "I was actually looking forward to this year," Mendoza said. "When you're a freshman you don't have any expectations to come out and do well. Now that we went through spring and all of weights, now I'm getting used to everything and I feel a little more comfortable with the place that I am."

Rated as a top 50 recruit out of high school by www.prepvolleyball.com, Mendoza chose UK over Auburn and Florida State. Her main reason for choosing the Cats was the coaches, but it was also a fresh start. Mendoza felt that at UK she could concentrate more on her grades and volleyball away from her Winter Park, Fla., home. In her first year with UK, Mendoza was named the Southeastern Conference Freshman of the Week once, while playing in 29 of the Cats' 32 matches.

Energized in the offseason, Mendoza worked hard to become the best player she could be. Her workout starts at six in the morning and includes heavy lifting with running right afterwards, and taking to the court in an open gym whenever possible. "I wasn't really happy with what kind of player I was last year," Mendoza said. "I knew I wasn't contributing to the team as much as I wanted to. I just

wanted to be someone that people could go to — I wanted to be more of a leader."

"(Last year) we asked her to primarily play front row," UK women's volleyball head coach Craig Skinner said. "Starting in January all the way through now we've asked her to play back row, hit out of the back row, serve, so we've always known she's had a great ability to do that, and I think it was just a matter of time before it really happened."

Mendoza earned SEC Offensive Player of the Week honors this past week in her performances against Alabama and Mississippi State this weekend. Mendoza currently leads the team in kills and is second in digs, balancing out her contribution.

"She is a fire on the team," junior libero BriAnne Sauer said. "She comes in, she gets it done, she's a very smart player and especially for her height, that's what she needs to be. She plays all the way around (the rotation) and there are only two people that do that, so obviously she's a big part of our team."

Nicole Britenriker lead the Cats in kills last year, so for Mendoza to step up and take the reins from the departed Britenriker so early in conference play has impressed not only Skinner, but her teammates as well.

"I think it shows a lot about her drive and her personality and her passion for the sport," junior setter Sarah Rumely said. "She goes out every day in practice and works very hard and she's always ready for game time; she's not one of those people that you have to get ready to go, she's always ready to go on her own. She just wants to be the best."

Emotion allows junior to boost Cats' offense

By Clark Brooks
cbrooks@kykernel.com

Passionate — the lone word junior midfielder Jason Griffiths used to describe himself as a soccer player.

After moving across the Atlantic, fighting back from numerous injuries and earning six yellow cards to date, Griffiths knows he has heart and a deep love for soccer. He just wants everyone else to know.

Born in Bracknell, England, Griffiths was naturally attracted to soccer. He joined the Beaconsfield SYCOB Football Club when he was a teen. Griffiths excelled as a Ram, leading his team to the Minerva Spartan South Midlands League Premier Division Championship in the 2003-04 season. His play helped earn him the Berks and Bucks Senior trophy. Besides his club team, Griffiths performed very well for his high school. He and his Garth Hill School squad won four straight county and district titles, as well as being nationally recognized in 2003 as one of the top 16 teams in England.

After high school Griffiths wanted to continue playing soccer. In 2005, Griffiths attended a tryout where 20 American coaches were scouting players, hoping to be noticed as a prospect.

"A few of my friends were already in the U.S.," Griffiths said. "I had a good work out and Coach Collins was there. I assume he was impressed, because he wanted me to come to UK."

Griffiths burst onto the scene as a freshman scoring four goals and helping out with six others in 2006, two of which were game winning. He earned a spot in the starting rotation 15 times for the Cats. Griffiths tallied up five points in the Conference USA Tournament.

"When I got here, I wanted to be successful," he said. "I think we as a team did very well that year."

However, while the rest of the Cats were preparing for the 2007 season, Griffiths suffered a hernia. The injury was still giving Griffiths trouble in the summer, so he decided to have surgery on his injured groin.

"Even after the surgery and physical therapy, there was pain in my groin. It lingered all season limiting my action," Griffiths said.

Griffiths didn't play until the sixth game in 2007, but was still able to play

through the discomfort. He was only able to account for one goal, a game winner against Central Florida.

"I definitely lost a step or two when I got hurt," Griffiths said. "I had an off-season. I wanted to focus on getting faster. Unfortunately, I pulled my hamstring in the process."

Despite the injuries Griffiths had the will to get better and improve himself in the game he loves—which was established by his father when he was a little boy.

"My dad really wasn't good at soccer, so it was like he tried to play through me. He pushed me to work harder in every aspect of the game. He is by far my biggest role model in this game."

Now, Griffiths feels he is back to his old self. He scored two goals and accounted for one assist so far in 2008. Griffiths also is maintaining a perfect penalty kick percentage of 4-for-4 on his career.

"Honestly, I don't try to do anything fancy," Griffiths said. "I just aim for the lower right corner. It is funny to think that I'm perfect by doing the same thing every time."

what we honed in on."

While the Tide leads the SEC in rushing offense, the Bulldogs top the conference in rushing defense, something Alabama head coach Nick Saban isn't taking lightly.

"Their defense is certainly one of the best defensive teams in the country," Saban said. "They are difficult to run against, are difficult to score against and have a lot of starters and a lot of experience back on the team."

Georgia has made a point of making opposing offenses one-dimensional. Defensive tackle Corvey Irvin said that again will be the plan Saturday.

The task will be tougher this time, thanks to Alabama's veteran offensive line and hard-nosed approach.

Irvin, however, isn't intimidated by the matchup; he looks forward to it.

"I'm excited because I want to see what I'm made of and see what my other teammates are made of, to see where we're really at," he said. "This will be, to me, the best team we play this year."

Georgia Bulldogs expect old-fashioned battle in trenches with Alabama

By David Hale
McClatchy Newspapers

ATHENS, Ga. — When Jeremy Lomax started thinking about Saturday's matchup against Alabama, one name came to mind: Bear Bryant.

Sure, the 72-year-old Georgia defensive end isn't old enough to remember Bryant's golden age at Alabama, but he knows a good SEC turf war when he sees one, and this year's Crimson Tide rushing attack looks an awful lot like those halcyon years.

"They're the best we've seen, by far," Lomax said. "They're hard-nosed, Bear Bryant football. It's a great challenge, and it's going to define our team."

College football is in an age of aerial acrobatics and wide-open offenses, but Saturday's game will be a throwback.

Alabama wants to run the football. Georgia's defense has shut down the ground game against three straight opponents. Both teams have their sights set on winning the

clash at the line of scrimmage.

"We haven't played a team that was sold out to run the ball like Alabama," Georgia head coach Mark Richt said. "Everyone we've played has had a pass-first mentality, but it will be a little different with this Alabama team."

Alabama has had three running backs top 90 yards in a game this year, but junior Glen Coffee is the Tide's top rusher.

Coffee has battled injuries throughout his career at Alabama but is rounding back into form this season. He posted 162 yards on only 10 carries against the Razorbacks, including touchdown runs of 87 and 31 yards. For the season, he has 404 yards on 47 carries.

"The way he's hitting the hole, he's trusting his blockers," Alabama quarterback John Parker Wilson said of Coffee. "He's got great patience. He's not making premature moves. Watching tape of this past week, he would hit the hole at the very last second when it would just

open up."

In four games, Alabama has outrushed its opponents each time, including posting 328 yards on the ground last Saturday against Arkansas. This season, the Tide has run on 61 percent of its plays, generating two-thirds of its total yards.

"Every game we've played, we've come out and kind of dominated them up front," Wilson said. "By the end of the game, they didn't want to be out there. I think it's on both sides of the ball. If we can keep dictating the pace of the game like that, it makes us tough."

Of course, Arkansas hardly provided the same type of defense the Tide can expect from Georgia.

The Bulldogs rank third in the nation in rush defense, allowing fewer than 2 yards per carry. Last week against Arizona State, Georgia allowed only 4 net yards on the ground.

"Our main objective as a defense is to stop the run," Georgia defensive end Demarcus Dobbs said. "That's

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- Sept. 17** Laptop theft reported from the Student Center at 8:11 a.m.
- Sept. 18** Bike theft reported from W.T. Young library at 7:53 p.m.
- Sept. 16** Drug/marijuana use reported from Kirwan III at 9:07 p.m.
- Sept. 17** Alcohol intoxication reported on Sports Center Drive at 3:13 a.m.
- Sept. 17** Theft of chemistry book reported near White Hall Classroom Building at 11:27 a.m.
- Sept. 17** Theft from UK Hospital reported at 12:38 p.m.
- Sept. 17** Theft from UK Hospital reported at 4:49 p.m.
- Sept. 17** Mulch fire reported on University Drive at 9:31 p.m.
- Sept. 17** Alcohol intoxication reported on Sports Center Drive at 10:58 p.m.
- Sept. 18** Attempt of starting a fire reported from the K Lot Bus Shelter at 1:17 a.m.
- Sept. 18** Alcohol intoxication reported on South Limestone at 2:31 a.m.
- Sept. 18** Report of counterfeit bill given to K-Lair at 9:19 a.m.
- Sept. 18** Theft of iPod and prescription drugs reported from W.T. Young Library at 12:16 p.m.
- Sept. 19** Alcohol intoxication reported on Rose Street at 1:32 a.m.
- Sept. 19** Alcohol intoxication reported in Newtown Crossing Apartments at 3:55 a.m.
- Sept. 19** Bike theft reported from Chemistry/Physics building at 1:28 p.m.
- Sept. 20** Alcohol intoxication reported in front of Donovan Hall at 12:26 a.m.
- Sept. 20** Alcohol intoxication reported at Papa John's Pizza at 8:27 p.m.
- Sept. 21** Alcohol intoxication reported at Kirwan Tower at 2:47 p.m.
- Sept. 22** Tool theft from auto reported from Huguélet Drive at 7:38 p.m.
- Sept. 22** Mulch fire reported from soccer fields on Alumni Drive at 7:00 p.m.

Compiled from UK Police Department reports.
Compiled by staff writer Jennifer Graham.
E-mail: jgraham@kykernel.com.

50 years later, how the credit card has changed the United States

By Patrick May
San Jose Mercury News

SAN JOSE, Calif. — They called it the Fresno Drop.

Fifty years ago this month, Bank of America mass-mailed to nearly every home in Fresno, Calif., a small piece of plastic called the BankAmericard. The credit card had arrived, a shiny corkscrew for each recipient to unbottle thousands of dollars in spending money that hadn't existed before they ripped open those envelopes.

That first taste went right to Fresno's head. By the second year, cardholders had racked up nearly \$60 million in purchases. BankAmericard morphed into the Visa powerhouse. And a half-century later, as America embraced and then exported the concept of buying things with money folks didn't necessarily have, the whole world has gotten tipsy.

And following in the wake of the subprime mortgage mess, the credit card bender could end up being uglier than ever.

"Credit lubricated the economy in ways we couldn't have conceived of before," said Bella Berly, a certified financial planner in Los Altos, Calif. "But as a society we became completely inebriated on it. Being able to just 'put it on my credit card' fueled the sense that you could do anything, like a Superman effect."

The world would never be the same. Diners Club, a so-called charge card that required complete payment each month, had come a few years earlier, the legendary branchchild of a wealthy New York financier caught cashless after a meal at a high-class steak joint.

But the Fresno Drop would pack a much bigger wallop. Dee Hock, the credit card guru who later turned the BankAmericard into the sprawling Visa network of member banks, was really the father of "the electrification of money," says spokesman Will Valentine at San Francisco-based Visa, whose corporate mantra is to "root out spending by cash and checks."

Along with its younger siblings like debit and prepaid cards, the revolving credit card — which charges interest and lets customers make partial payments — fundamentally changed not only the way Americans think about money, but America itself.

Santa Clara University finance Professor Meir Statman describes credit as "interwoven into our society." With consumers no longer tethered to cash on hand or in the bank, the financial realities of our lives — how we save, spend, borrow and budget — went through a sort of time warp.

Armed with plastic, consumers now could charge their way into glittering new lifestyles their parents could only have dreamed of.

"Before credit cards, credit came in small-dollar installment loans and people tended not to use them unless they really needed help," said Kathleen Keest, a former assistant attorney general in Iowa who now works with the Center for Responsible Lending. "When you had to go to your bank to get a personal note, you really thought about it. But when suddenly it's a piece of plastic in your pocket, debt almost becomes something that happens without thinking about it."

The sea change has been extraordinary. Revolving debt, most of it from credit cards, stood at \$1.5 billion in 1968, according to the Federal Reserve. This summer, it reached \$969.9 billion.

Those 60,000 cards dropped into Fresno 50 years ago have mushroomed to 3.67 billion payment cards today, with



PHOTO BY NHAT V. MEYER | SAN JOSE MERCURY NEWS
Cynthia Uribe looks for a credit card she cut up at the Consumer Credit Counseling Service office in San Jose, California, Thursday, September 11, 2008.

more than two-thirds of them in circulation abroad.

It's a great big plastic world out there. Norm Magnuson with the Washington, D.C.-based Consumer Data Industry Association recalls buying a "TV on credit in the '60s, and my father about had a heart attack. Today you stand in line at Starbucks and people use credit to buy a \$4 cup of coffee."

Magnuson says credit "gives you the opportunity to not only have a better standard of living, but you're also putting more money into the economy and it's being recirculated. Since two-thirds of our economy is based on consumer spending, the more consumers purchase, the better off the economy."

Companies like Visa and MasterCard, which maintain networks of financial institutions lending the money and collecting fees every time a card is used, have become spectacularly wealthy through this easy access to credit. Visa's recent initial public offering was the largest in U.S. history, while MasterCard's stock has soared nearly 500 percent since it went public two years ago, their markets overseas growing like wildfire.

But while most cardholders pay off their debt, there remains a very dark side to the credit card, "a deceptively simple device that has the capability of destroying you," says Adam Levin, co-founder of San Francisco-based credit.com.

Critical of the card issuers' heavy fees and aggressive marketing tactics, especially toward finance-naïve student and low-income communities, Levin says "people have been bludgeoned" by credit card offers, often going to consumers already struggling with debt. "It's like taking a vampire and putting him in the middle of a blood bank."

One study showed that about 70 percent of students at four-year colleges had at least one credit card, with average balances of more than \$2,000. Former San Jose State University student Cynthia Uribe was one of those who succumbed to the on-campus sales pitch.

"I figured I could use it just for emergencies," says Uribe, now 24 and

doing clerical work at a local hospital. "But I got more of them, from Best Buy and Macy's and MasterCard. And by the second year, I was using them for fun and pleasure. And making the minimum payment was so much easier than paying the whole thing."

The debt snowballed. Uribe could no longer bear to look at the entire bill, paying the minimum due even as her interest rates climbed. Hiding statements from her parents and boyfriend, she felt "ashamed and dirty, like a drunk hiding alcohol around the house. I'd max out a card, but I kept getting offers for new ones."

Uribe hired a debt counselor, who has worked with the card issuers to restructure the \$21,000 she owed. Assuming she avoids credit cards, Uribe's bills will be paid off in four years.

But many like her are still treading water. In 1977, U.S. households charged a little more than \$100 a month on cards, or 3.4 percent of the average household income. By 1997, that figure had risen to \$830, or 20 percent of average income. And more Americans are using "debt just to live," Keest says. "We're seeing low- and middle-income people using their credit cards because their paychecks no longer cover the basics."

Still, the middle-aged credit card seems destined for many happy returns. With issuers pushing prepaid cards and direct-deposit products that link your paycheck right to that plastic in your wallet, cash and checks seem like endangered species in the financial jungle.

"Globally, the Visa card is coin of the realm," says David Robertson, publisher of the payment-card industry newsletter The Nilsson Report. "I can't use American currency or checks anywhere in the world like I can with Visa."

But in a delicious irony, wireless and other kinds of technology may soon free the credit card from that humble material that first brought it to life 50 years ago — plastic.

"There will always be currency," Robertson says. "But there might not always be plastic cards."



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■ KERNEL EDITORIALS

Fasting event raises money, awareness

By taking food away from themselves, over 300 people gave a chance for others to eat.
Fast-A-Thon, an event that was put on last week by the Muslim Student Association, raised money from about 10 businesses around the city to help stop hunger in Lexington, according to a Kernel article on Wednesday.

Besides being graced by Student Government President Tyler Montell's presence and a speech, participants experienced the holiday for one day and got a free meal at the end of the day. In one great effort, the MSA was able to raise awareness about Ramadan, the Islamic holy month, and generate money for a good cause.

"This fundraiser is to feed other people," said Aun Munis, president of the MSA. "Sometimes, we take our lives for granted, so this experience can help us put it into perspective and allow us to be thankful for our lives."

The student body should try to absorb what perspective the MSA is showing. Munis said one point to the event was "to help people understand how it feels for those who go hungry all of the time in our own city."

Even without the fundraising element, this event is beneficial to the community to appreciate the significance of those who practice the faith and participate in the month-long holiday, which lasts about 30 days.

If you missed Fast-A-Thon, you still have a chance to participate in Ramadan for the sake of the experience. Ramadan, considered the holiest month of the Islamic calendar, is expected to go until Sept. 30, depending on the moon's cycles.

So from sunrise to sunset, try something new. Gain a perspective by giving up your meals. You may not be raising any money, but you'll be raising your own awareness.

Todd's State of University Address a broken record

If you've been on campus for more than 20 minutes, then someone has mentioned UK's Top 20 Business Plan to you. Those who listened to President Todd deliver the State of the University Address realized it was the same old song and dance.

It is not that the plan is bad for UK. If successful, the plan has the potential to be great for both the state and the campus. And it's good that the plan is mentioned, as things his administration can control while facing huge budget cuts — things like student retention and diversity.

But after years of hearing about the top 20 plan, surely there is something else going on with UK. Or, surely, notable progress can be reported outside of the annual college rankings. There's so much more to UK than the Top 20 Business Plan, yet that's all we ever hear. Let's march on with the top 20 plan, but let's also hear about some progress.

Of course, UK has information that proves they are progressing as a top-20 institution, including facts that they could easily recite in a heartbeat. Facts they have touted before. But every time the top 20 plan is mentioned, the same things are talked about over and over. Is there anything else to this plan? Is there anything else going on throughout this campus? What of us may have heard the accomplishments, but what about the rest? What about the 4,000 true freshmen?

Until there is something fresh, Todd's speeches are just like hearing a record on repeat.

■ LETTER TO THE EDITOR

Look to common morality when selecting leadership positions

Daily, a large number of medical professionals turn to a systematic framework called common morality through which they may reach the most impartial and rational decisions possible in the most inconceivable moral dilemmas concerning life and death, organ donations and ethical care.

Imagine considering such principles as not causing death, pain, disability, deprivation of freedom or pleasure when making decisions that will be looked upon as precedent for future situations. Common morality also calls medical professionals not to deceive, keep their promise, not to cheat, obey the law and do their duty. Many will also have to ask themselves, "What is the greatest good for the greatest number of people?"

These moral dilemmas concern life and death matters for many patients seeking health care. So, it stands to reason that we expect our medical professionals to be bound by unparalleled ethical standards.

Therefore, I'm forced then to ask the question, "Why are we not selecting our elected officials based on their capability to make decisions in a similar fashion?"

After all, legislation and policy affects each one of us on a moment-by-moment basis.

Whether considering your choice for president or a city council member, shouldn't you ponder the principles of common morality? How much harm will you be responsible for if you elect a party that wants to continue ineffective policies such as "No Child Left Behind," "Don't Ask Don't Tell," "Defense of Marriage Act," "Abstinence-Only Sex Education," banning stem cell research, and restricting the rights of gay men and women to those of second class citizens?

You have to ask yourself who in this election will use impartial, rational and objective judgment when making a single decision affecting many millions of people throughout the world. You must consider how personal values, dogma and narrow-mindedness of an American president will impact our political culture, the future of the Supreme Court and our responsibility as an ethical role model for the world.

Help me send a message to John McCain that it is time for rational and impartial judgment and the role of being a "maverick" was best suited for John Wayne.

Troy Johnson
social work master's student



SG Senator takes initiative to fix former president's green fee 'disaster'

On Earth Day earlier this year, former Student Government President Nick Phelps, along with staff trustee

Russ Williams, made a mistake. Their mistake was choosing to eliminate the student-supported "green fee," which had

been overwhelmingly passed by a SG referendum in 2006. What their decision amounted to was the loss of both \$27,000 and a comprehensive

sustainability policy for the university, along with another year of wasted efforts by Greenthumb and a whole lot of discontent with SG and the university's leadership.

President Todd, in one of his few praiseworthy moves of late, corrected Phelps' and Williams' mistake by allocating \$25,000 to funding what will become UK's inaugural Sustainability Speaker Series, a lecture series designed to increase awareness and understanding of sustainability by bringing in nationally-renowned experts to engage the university in a dialogue about sustainability.

The only problem with President Todd's gracious move is that the university still lacks any meaningful effort to reduce our dependence on coal. Around 40,000 tons of coal is

burned in the campus power plant on Upper Street each year, in addition to the coal-fired power the university purchases from Kentucky Utilities. If UK is currently receiving any of its power from clean and renewable sources of energy, I would be surprised.

So where does UK stand with renewable energy? Last week, SG Senator Robert Kahne introduced what may be one of the most important resolutions in recent SG history. Kahne's resolution calls for SG to tirelessly support the institution of a \$6 to \$8 per semester green fee, the full amount passed by students in the '06 referendum, in any way possible in the coming year. While in past SG administrations, the leadership would have either actively derailed such a plan (as was the case with Nick Phelps) or simply ignored it, SG President Tyler Montell, Vice President Grant Mills and Senate President Jackie Colgate have all agreed to co-sponsor Kahne's resolution. The resolution passed from the Student and Academic Affairs committee last week by a 9-1 vote, with at-large senator Greg Robinson the only dissenting vote.

On Wednesday, the green fee resolution will go before the whole of the SG Senate. While SG cannot enact the green fee by itself — ultimately that is up to the Board of Trustees — this resolution will perhaps be the most impor-

tant moment in the five-year history of the green fee. For the first time, SG can decide to lend a hand to a group of incredibly dedicated individuals who have worked to make our campus better through sustainability. This opportunity is not only one for SG to make itself look good, but it is an opportunity for SG to do good by supporting a smart and thorough sustainability policy for the university.

Without supporting the resolution, SG could again risk losing what credibility it retains after the Phelps, Brown and Ellingsworth administrations. If SG leaders ignore a student referendum, are students then not allowed to also ignore the results of executive and legislative elections for SG? Can we not all declare ourselves the legitimate student body president? While I've learned that the University of Kentucky is surely not run democratically, the opportunity for SG to act democratically by supporting the green fee, by way of a favorable vote on Wednesday night, is great and should not be passed up. If you see a SG Senator today, tell them that sustainability matters, and tell them to vote in favor of the green fee resolution — because we can't afford to relive the Phelps/Williams disaster that we're just now overcoming.

Taylor Shelton is a geography and political science senior. E-mail opinions@kykernel.com.

Dear John and Barack: A word about the ladies

The proverbial question for men has long been, "What do women want?" Well, I'm here to reveal the carefully guarded secret — at least to two men, Sens.

Barack Obama and John McCain. The rest of you fellas will have to keep guessing. (OK, I'll throw a bone here: Recognize in women the things they value in themselves.) Back to more substantial matters for our presidential hopefuls: Women voters, especially the unmarried ones, are the demographic key to this year's election. If you want their votes, you will have to approach them with respect and insight. Drop the reductive labels that diminish women into voting blocs — recall "soccer moms"? Few women can be packaged so neatly.

So far, neither Obama nor McCain has garnered a strong majority of potential female voters. A recent poll of women found 49 percent were for Obama and 38 percent were for McCain. Presumably, at least some of those women's minds might be changed either way before November. Add the less adamantly loyal voters to the other 10 percent of women polled who labeled themselves as undecided. (The poll was part of the Every Woman Counts campaign done by Lifetime Networks.) The votes of these women, gentlemen, are enough to de-

cide the election. Obama and McCain also should forget about nominating a woman running mate if this is merely a means to court the female vote. We don't care.

A majority of the women polled by Lifetime said the VP's gender was of no consequence to them. They still believe they will soon see a female president, even if it's not this go-around.

The candidates should also beware of regarding their own lovely spouses as somehow representative of women generally. Most women are not securely married, nor blessed with the financial plenty Cindy and Michelle enjoy.

Consider that more than half of the nation's households are run by an unmarried woman. The candidate who speaks too heavily in the language of suburbia, with its two-car garages for a mom and a dad with kids, risks alienating a whopping 53 million women are unmarried and of voting age.

This is a massive demographic that oddly doesn't seem to merit much courting. In fact, these women are addressed so stereotypically that the effort is more likely to turn them away from, rather than toward, a politician.

Unmarried women can be many different types: 20-somethings with a child; middle-aged women who are divorced and caring for children, and perhaps aging parents as well; a woman living with a man in a committed relationship but without the legal benefits of marriage; or a widowed woman attempting to live on Social Security and whatever savings she and her deceased

husband saved.

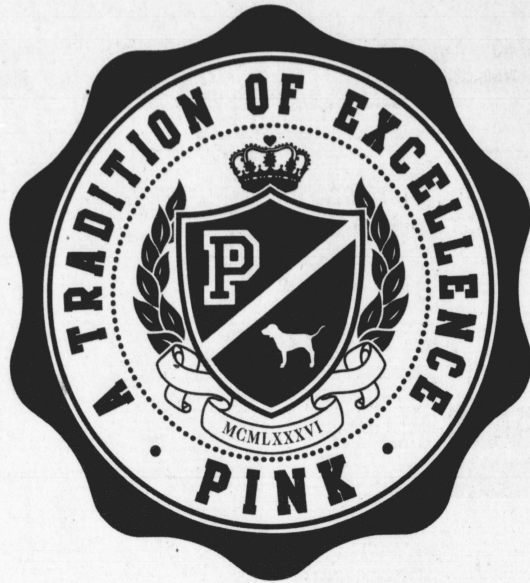
So spare us the banter that panders to the young, unmarried female clutching her meager savings as she awaits Prince Charming. Your voter-to-be might be looking for Mr. Right, but she's also likely got a job to attend to, or children, or parents, or a mortgage — maybe all of the above. Many married women voters likely have that same list of duties.

Which is why jobs and the economy are the top concern of women in the Every Woman Counts poll, followed by the Iraq war, health care, prescription drugs and education. Talk of our future, but specifically about how you will reshape society to fit the reality for women today. And yes, that speaks to this election's favored buzzword, "change." That said, there is no doubt that with women voters, substance — not just the delivery — will be increasingly important as November nears.

Women are adept at spotting fakers. We know when a man is lying about his bank account, prestigious job, love of his mother, the role he played in a divorce and whether he really scored the winning goal. Don't try to con us.

Your bid for the White House depends on it.

Mary Sanchez is an opinion-page columnist for The Kansas City Star. Readers may write to her at: Kansas City Star, 1729 Grand Blvd., Kansas City, Mo. 64108-1413, or via e-mail at msanchez@kctstar.com.



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