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THE Kentucky Kernel

Wednesday, October 19, 2005

Celebrating 34 years of independence

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Trial brings transfusion innovation to hospital

UK Medical Center tests PolyHeme, an oxygen-carrying blood substitute

By Megan Carrell
THE KENTUCKY KERNEL

The first oxygen-carrying blood substitute ever produced is on trial at UK.

PolyHeme is a blood substitute derived from expired human blood. The oxygen-carrying hemoglobin molecule is filtered from red blood cells and chemically modified to create a blood substitute compatible with all blood types. It is designed for treatment of large volume blood loss, especially when blood is not readily available, such as at the scene of an injury or during transport to the hospital.

"The study is very transparent," said Dr. Andrew Bernard, trauma surgeon at UK Chandler Medical Center and principal investigator of the trial. "It is a partnership with the community."

The trauma center at UK has been participating in the sixth clinical trial of PolyHeme since April 2004. Bernard said UK was selected, along with 22 other trauma centers nationwide, because it is a Level One trauma center with experience in conducting rigorous clinical research.

"A lot of credit goes to the highly trained paramedics and hospital staff," he said.

The paramedics are just beginning their PolyHeme training at the University of Kansas Medical Center. After waiting about a year, the Human Subjects Committee in Kansas City, Kan., has approved the PolyHeme conducted by the university.

"We should be ready to start the trial at the end of November," said Suzanne Porraf, trauma research coordinator at the university.

PolyHeme may be superior to blood in some ways because it has attributes blood does not. When patients receive a large volume of red blood cells, they also receive a small amount of the donor's plasma.

"It's like getting a little bitty transplant," Bernard said of a blood transfusion.

See Trial on page 2

Speedy studies a new route to med school

Program allows students to take three years of accelerated undergrad courses

By Julie Fitzpatrick
THE KENTUCKY KERNEL

Starting this year, UK students will have an opportunity for early enrollment into the College of Medicine.

The new program works allows students to enroll in three years of accelerated undergraduate classes with special advising. Then they can apply to medical school and be considered for early admission at UK, even though they will not have yet received a degree. If their progress is advanced, they will be accepted into the standard first-year medical school courses after three years of undergraduate studies.

"Another way to look at it is that the student's first year of medical school will double count for the fourth year of undergraduate studies," said Darrell Jennings, dean of academic affairs and project coordinator.

The program's goal is to accelerate good students who know they want to practice medicine, said Chuck Staben, project coordinator of the B.S./M.D. program and vice president of research for the university.

"The major objective for the program is to offer special opportunities to outstanding students, as well as recruiting exceptional students to the university," he said.

The program also takes aim at students before they even reach college.

"Ten highly talented students that are outstanding in high school and have excellent letters of recommendation and service research activities have been chosen this year to participate in the early admission program," said Carol Elam, the dean of admissions for the College of Medicine.

Phillip Bonner, director of undergraduate studies in biology is on the operating committee for the accelerated program and said students are constantly in touch with people from the medical school. The students are counseled monthly and are able to take tours of UK's facilities in order to see what goes on.

But though a large focus is putting the students on a fast track to medical school, there's still another way students can direct themselves.

"One large difference in this program compared to other schools is that students are not required to apply to medical school after their early enrollment," Bonner said. "After three years of undergraduate studies, they have the option of applying for their master's de-

See Speedy on page 2

Lexington to

COMING TOMORROW: The story of a UK medical student and a Lexington resident who fought the grip of HIV and AIDS in an African nation.

Lesotho



JONATHAN PALMER | STAFF
Maphosho Tseane enjoys the morning sun in a Mapoteng, Lesotho, village. Mapoteng is home to Maluti Adventist Hospital, one of the best in the African nation of Lesotho. Today, four doctors tend to more than 200 patients who need care for HIV-related diseases.

Weekly workshop corners creative writing

By Sara Henderson
THE KENTUCKY KERNEL

Crossing t's and dotting i's is only the beginning.

The Creative Writing Corner is a workshop centered on improving the way students creatively express their ideas.

"I think it is a wonderful opportunity for students who write creatively outside of their schoolwork, but don't have a chance to talk to other people about it or to practice with a group," said Libbie Morley, director of the Thomas Clark Study in the W.T. Young Library, where the workshop is held.

The workshop, held Tuesdays from 6 to 8 p.m. begins with a pre-write to get

students thinking in a more creative way. Students then share their writings and discuss the results with the rest of the group.

This session is for students who want to improve their writing skills, have questions about papers for class or pieces they have written in their free time, said Christina Cornelison, a senior undergraduate student who has been working with the Creative Writing Corner for two years.

Though the Creative Writing Corner has been open to UK students for nearly five years, it has had very little response in the past. Cornelison, along with Morley and Katharine Osborne, a graduate student, are restructuring the program to make it a more effective tool for stu-

dents. "I am excited to get this off the ground; I have a vision and I would like to see where that goes," Cornelison said. "I know there are a lot of creative writing students at this school, and my overall goal is to get people who want to improve their writing."

Individual attention is also given to both students and types of writing.

The first hour is dedicated to suggestions about how to be a more creative and imaginative writer. The prompt is a good place to start and creates a basis for their writing, Cornelison said. The last hour is devoted to personal writings. Students can bring in their own stories and get suggestions about how to make them

See Writing on page 3

Falling into Octoberfest



ANDREW HUGHES | STAFF
Interior design freshman Amanda Zimny paints a pumpkin during Octoberfest at the North Campus courtyard. Other activities included: face painting, needle in a hay stack and pumpkin carving.

See more photos from Octoberfest on PAGE 6

Student finances affect grad rates, College Board says

By Peter Hong
LOS ANGELES TIMES

As tuition across the United States continues to outpace gains in financial aid, students' chances of attending college and finishing with a degree increasingly have become linked to their families' income, the College Board reported yesterday.

The nonprofit group, in releasing two reports on college costs and financial aid, noted big gaps in graduation rates even among students who have high test scores. Those from families with the highest income and education levels finished college at more than double the rate of high-earning students from the lowest socioeconomic grouping.

Sandy Baum, a College Board analyst, said the data show that college completion increasingly is "not about academic preparation, it's about money."

Not including room, board and books, the tuition and fees at four-year public colleges rose by an average of about 7 percent, to \$21,235, the group reported.

Private four-year schools raised their tuition by an average of about 7 percent, to \$21,235, the group reported.

The gain in public college tuition was smaller than the double-digit increases of the last two years, when numerous states experienced budget strains and passed more costs onto students. Private college tuition increased at roughly the same rate as the previous year.

See Finance on page 3

Trial

Continued from page 1

This can have negative effects on the patients' immune systems, making them vulnerable to infection. PolyHeme does not cause adverse immune reactions and is metabolized by the body.

These benefits to the patient are important because they are the reason the Food and Drug Administration granted a waiver from patient consent at the time of enrollment. Due to the seriousness of their conditions, patients who are randomly selected to receive PolyHeme are in no shape to have a consent discussion. Throughout their treatment, however, efforts are made to notify the patients' families.

At the University of Kansas, Parrof is responsible for trying to contact a patient's family every half hour to give them the option of removing the patient from the trial.

Also, of the approximately two million people in the area, Parrof has only received 30 requests for bracelets that ex-

press the decision to not be a part of the trial.

In Kentucky, these bracelets can be obtained by calling the PolyHeme hotline: 859-323-6346, ext. 248.

The only recorded reaction to PolyHeme is a mild rash, which does not occur frequently, doesn't cause discomfort and disappears when PolyHeme is no longer administered.

If the FDA decides to approve PolyHeme after reviewing the data from this sixth trial, it will have a large impact on the medical field.

"It could revolutionize the care of the bleeding patient where blood is not available," Bernard said.

"Being able to administer PolyHeme at the scene of an injury is... years away from what we're able to do now," Parrof said.

At UK, the projected end of the PolyHeme trial is in the first quarter of 2006 and Bernard said he's glad UK had a part.

"We are fortunate to be a part of this trial," Bernard said. "I am hopeful of an optimistic outcome."

E-mail
news@kykernel.com

Speedy

Continued from page 1

gree."

Jennings said this approach helps students stay happy with their choice.

"We feel as though we are getting the best of both worlds," Jennings said. "Students are not locked into staying in school when they are unhappy, and we are producing and attracting high performing students here at UK."

"After three years of undergraduate studies, the

scholars have the option — they can continue school, study abroad, or do a variety of things before enrolling in medical school."

So far the program seems to be working out, as the 10 students already accepted into the program are performing well.

"They are very strong in their motivation and eager to quickly move through undergraduate studies in order to proceed into upper level courses," Jennings said.

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UNIVERSITY OF KENTUCKY CRIME REPORT

Selected crimes reported to UK police

Oct. 12 through Oct. 17:

- Oct. 12: Suspicious car reported at Commonwealth Stadium occupied by two individuals in the back at 2:34 a.m.
- Oct. 12: Suspicious person appearing to be a patient wearing a hospital gown and bracelet reported wandering on Alumni Drive at 6:58 a.m.
- Oct. 12: Bike theft reported at Smith Hall at 9:57.
- Oct. 12: Theft of a black purse in the first floor men's bathroom reported at the Funkhouser Building at 3:05 p.m.
- Oct. 12: Bike theft reported at Blanding III at 8:57 p.m.
- Oct. 12: Domestic dispute in progress reported at the Student Center Parking Lot at 9:12 p.m.
- Oct. 12: Suspicious circumstances reported at Barker Hall at 9:39 p.m.
- Oct. 13: Marijuana use reported at 758 Woodland Avenue at 12:51 a.m.
- Oct. 13: Theft reported at 900 S. Limestone at 12:40 p.m.
- Oct. 13: Robbery reported at Kentucky Clinic at 1:36 p.m.
- Oct. 13: Theft from building reported at Baldwin Hall at 6:06 p.m.
- Oct. 13: Suspicious circumstances and a possible theft from automobile reported at Cooper Drive at 9:10 p.m.
- Oct. 13: Theft reported at the intersection of Scott Street and Upper Street 11:29 p.m.
- Oct. 14: Suspicious person reported at the intersection of Funkhouser Drive at 2:33 a.m.
- Oct. 14: Suspicious person reported at Scott Street at 2:47 a.m.
- Oct. 15: Bike theft reported at Jewell Hall at 7:23 p.m.
- Oct. 15: Alcohol intoxication reported at 355 S. Limestone at 11:23 p.m.
- Oct. 16: Criminal mischief reported at Kirwan III at 1:31 p.m.
- Oct. 16: Theft of a purse taken overnight on the sixth floor of the Chandler Medical Center reported at 3:54 p.m.
- Oct. 16: Bike theft reported at 300 Alumni Drive at 6:53 p.m.
- Oct. 16: Two suspicious persons reported at Arboretum at 10:41 p.m.
- Oct. 16: Harassing communication reported at Kirwan IV at 10:59 p.m.
- Oct. 16: Fire reported at Blanding Tower and assistance given to fire department at 11:58 p.m.
- Oct. 17: Hit and run accident reported at UK Chandler Medical Center at 11:10 a.m.
- Oct. 17: Theft reported at UK Chandler Medical Center at 12:28 p.m.
- Oct. 17: Non-injury accident involving an ambulance and an unknown vehicle reported on Rose Street at 2:19 p.m.

Crime log compiled by Megan Boehnke
E-mail mboehnke@kykernel.com

UK UNIVERSITY OF KENTUCKY

2005 Agriculture Career Fair

Wednesday, October 19,
10AM - 3PM
Ag Science North
Lower Lobby
ALL Majors Invited!

For a complete list of companies attending
visit: www.uky.edu/CareerCenter
Click on Agriculture



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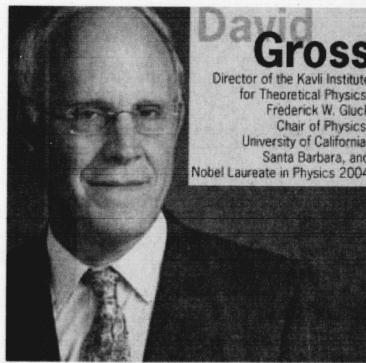
UK UNIVERSITY OF KENTUCKY
Singletary Center for the Arts

Singletary Center for the Arts
Monday, November 14, 8:00 PM Concert Hall
Tickets on sale: October 19, 12:00 PM: www.uky.edu/SCFA
October 24, 12:00 PM Singletary Ticket Office / 859 257 4929

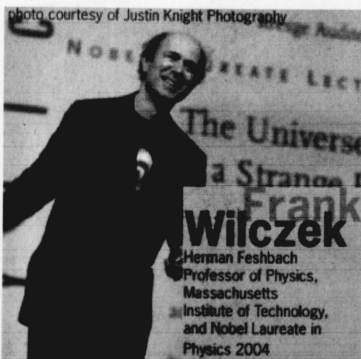


"The Future of Physics"

Thursday, October 20th
7pm, Memorial Hall
free + open to the public



2004 Nobel Laureates in physics



"The Universe is a Strange Place"

Thursday, November 3rd
7pm, Memorial Hall
free + open to the public



UNIVERSITY OF KENTUCKY
College of Arts and Sciences
Department of Physics and Astronomy

information: www.pa.uky.edu/Einstein.htm/

Jose Porcel and Ballet Flamenco



Chris Reynolds | Staff
Jose Porcel dances with one of his flamenco dancers during the Ballet Flamenco last night at the Singletary Center. Flamenco dancing is a form of Spanish dancing that is known for its rhythms and colors

Finance

Continued from page 1

Average total charges, including room and board, across the country are \$12,127 for public colleges, and \$29,026 for private schools this year.

Financial aid did not keep pace with tuition increases this year, continuing a trend, according to Tuesday's reports. The average net tuition and fees — the price paid after financial aid is awarded — was \$11,600 for private college students, up from an inflation-adjusted \$9,500 10 years ago. Public college net tuition and fees averaged \$2,200, increasing from a real price of \$1,900 a decade ago.

College Board president Gaston Caperton, a former West Virginia governor, said increasing the number of college graduates is critical to U.S. economic growth.

Speaking at a Washington news conference with some reporters participating by

telephone, he pointed out that China produced more than eight times as many engineering graduates than the United States last year, and India graduated five times as many engineers. "Affordability is essential to opportunity," Caperton said of the need to boost college enrollment and graduation in the United States.

As college costs rise, students and their families are borrowing more to cover the expenses, the reports noted. And the financial aid pool also is strained by policies that benefit affluent families, through tax credits and "merit" scholarships that reward students with higher test scores or grades.

University of Maryland Chancellor William Kirwan said at the news conference that merit scholarships often go to students who would attend college anyway, while diverting funds from low-income students.

Citing federal statistics, Baum said the consequences of rising costs and family resources can be seen in the lives of students who scored highly on mathematics ex-

ams as eighth-graders in 1988.

Within the lowest socioeconomic quartile, 75 percent of high-scoring eighth-graders eventually enrolled in college, but only 29 percent earned college degrees by eight years after high school graduation. Ninety-nine percent of high-scoring eighth graders within the highest socioeconomic quartile attended college, with 74 percent earning degrees. High-scoring in the middle two socioeconomic groups entered college at a 91 percent rate, with 47 percent earning degrees.

University of Pennsylvania President Amy Gutmann said, "The gap is also widening between high and middle," as costs rise and merit scholarships go to more affluent students.

"These families are stressed," she said of those with incomes between \$50,000 and \$100,000.

"Making college truly affordable to middle-income as well as low-income students is one of our greatest challenges," she said.

Writing

Continued from page 1

better.

"We are not trying to grade people, or put them down," she said. "It is just an open forum where you can talk about your concerns, about your writing, things you would like to do, or things you would like to learn."

"Hopefully myself or Katharine can pass on what we know."

The Corner also provides a place for experienced writers, including graduate and

undergraduate students that are willing to help others become better writers.

"If people are interested in creative writing and they want to improve their writing they need a chance not only to write it, but to get feedback that is critical advice on how to improve their writing that is not overly negative, but is actually with the interest of improving a person's writing overall," said English senior Robert Brown.

"It is really important to have one place on campus where everyone who is interested in poetry, fiction writing, nonfiction writing, anything that has to do with creative writing ... can come

and get information, share ideas and explore the ideas of creative writing," said Nikky Finney, a professor who teaches creative writing in the English department.

E-mail
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Creative Writing Corner

The workshop is held on Tuesday from 6 p.m. to 8 p.m. in the Thomas Clark Study (Writing Center) on the 5th floor of WT Young Library. For more information please call Christina Cornelison at 257-1356.

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20% OFF STOREWIDE SALE
Wed, Oct. 19
9:00-4:30
Credit Cards and Plus Account Accepted
Second floor of the Student Center, Beside Starbucks

Into each student's life a little rain must fall
Being a student isn't easy, and the last thing you need is to lose credits from the course you had to drop. Get out of the rain by stepping into our office. You can make up the course through the mail and take up to one year to complete it.
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JOIN THE PEACE CORPS.
come to an info meeting:
WED., OCT. 19, 6 TO 7:30 PM
STUCKERT CAREER CTR., 101

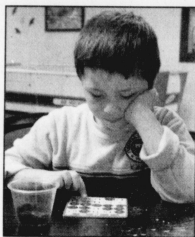
Demonstration Cooking & FREE Chili and Chowder.
Vegetarians are welcome!
Friday October 21st on the Student Center Patio
11:30am - until it's gone!

CHILI & CHOWDER

B-I-N-G-O

James Ball, a history junior, took on the challenge of placing 20 bingo chips on his face between games at the Cats Den last night.

BRAD LUTTRELL | STAFF



Left: The youngest player at bingo, Kean Celik, 6, plays with his parents, Muge Denli and Hakan Denli, a visiting professor. Bingo is played every Tuesday at the Student Center.

BRAD LUTTRELL | STAFF

NEWS BRIEFS

Kutcher proposes to Fox

Ashton Kutcher has apparently gotten the last laugh on skeptics who might dub his marriage to Demi Moore a farce. He's turned their love into a sitcom.

The latest celebrity to spin his backstage life into a TV script, the former "That '70s Show" star has sold Fox an idea for a comedy series called "30-Year-Old Grandma," executives say. It's about the complications that ensue when a young man becomes the stepfather to a brood of kids remarkably close to his own age, according to the trade paper Variety.

But don't necessarily expect to see inside secrets of the Kutcher-Moore union, assuming there are any left to tell. The project, produced by Kutcher's Katalyst TV banner in association with 20th Century Fox Television, will be written by someone else (sitcom writer Holly Hester).

and Fox has only committed to producing a pilot.

"This idea did spring out of his real-life situation," 20th Century Fox spokesman Chris Alexander said. But "how closely the script will adhere to the facts of his real-life situation remains to be seen."

Fugees back again

After nine years and enough drama to last several lifetimes, The Fugees are back together, with a new album due in December.

The first single, "Take It Easy" (Sony), puts Lauryn Hill, Wyclef Jean and Pras on the same song again, though at times it isn't that clear.

Though it's united by the same spacey-synth beat, "Take It Easy" has L-Boogie going off at a mile a minute about, among other things, being blocked by "the cops and paparazzi" and Chief rapping at half that speed about

slowing down, before Pras arrives to deliver a tangent about ghetto superstars.

Wonder returns in a duet

"A Time to Love" (Motown), the great Stevie Wonder's first solo album in 10 years, won't make anyone forget his landmark work of the '60s and '70s, or even 1985's "In Square Circle."

But the massive, nine-minute title track, a duet built on African rhythms and soulful reminders of the importance of love, will stand among Wonder's greatest hits, as will the funky single "So What the Fuss" and the touching Katrina benefit single "Shelter in the Rain."

Though the rest of "A Time to Love" doesn't quite live up to the standout tracks, it's still a cut above most of today's R&B.

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Jessica McQuerry



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Breaking Benjamin

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JUMBLE

Unscramble these four jumbles, one letter to each square, to form four ordinary words.

COLIG

FORVA

BLOMAG

VINNET

Answer here: A

Yesterday's

Jumble: BRBE CRABL PRPFER DCUBLY

Answer: Why the carpet layers worked late -- THEY WERE ON A ROLL!

THAT SCRAMBLED WORD GAME

by Janet Arnold and Mike Arplion



WHAT HOBBY GAVE HER WHEN HE FORGOT THEIR ANNIVERSARY?

Now arrange the circled letters to form the surprise answer, as suggested by the above cartoon.

COMEDY CARAVAN

Wednesday, October 19th

Ben Morrison!!!

MTV2's hit show Damage Control, E! Channel's "Wild On Izbor"

FREE!!! 8 PM

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FOOSBALL DOUBLES TOURNAMENT



THURSDAY, OCT. 20th

STUDENT CENTER CATS DEN / 7PM

Free Pizza and Drinks For ALL Participants!

No Entry Fee!!

Prizes Awarded To Winning Team





Coming Tomorrow: A one-on-one interview with 'Dreamer' Director John Gatins and a film review from the Lexington premiere

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Features

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Asst. Features Editor
Phone: 257-1915
E-mail: features@kykernel.com

FRAMEXFRAME | In theaters and on shelves

IN THEATERS

DOOM

We've all played the video game and we all love firing the BFG 9000. This movie follows the "plot" of the game, except instead of the monsters coming from hell they come from a virus. The Rock has proven himself to be a formidable action star, but this movie is based on a video game. No movies based on video games have ever been good. At Lexington Green, Regal and Woodhill.

DREAMER

Ben Crane (Kurt Russell) is a former horse trainer, whose talent was wasted making other people rich. The horse, Sonya, is expected to be the next big race horse, until it breaks a leg and is given to Ben as severance pay after he is fired. His daughter Cale (Dakota Fanning) insists that he train the horse to win the Breeders' Cup even though it is injured. This movie is based on a true story, and was shot at Keeneland, among other locations. At Lexington Green, Regal and Woodhill.

NORTH COUNTRY

After Josey Aimes' (Charlize Theron) marriage falls, she returns home to Northern Minnesota in search of a job. In Northern Minnesota the biggest source of employment is iron mining, which has kept the area alive for decades. Aimes decides she wants to make more money by doing the dangerous and difficult job of blasting the iron ore out of the rocks. The men aren't happy, since they need the jobs and think women belong in the

kitchen. Thus, the story of the first successful class action sexual harassment lawsuit in the country begins. At Regal and Woodhill.

STAY

Ewan McGregor plays a psychiatrist, Sam Foster, who is trying to prevent his patient Henry Letham (Ryan Gosling) from killing himself on his 21st birthday. Foster digs deep into Letham's head and we see the world from his point of view. It is a surreal and dream-like view of Manhattan. At the end, Foster becomes so engulged into Letham's head he can no longer discern what reality is. Theaters TBA.

ON DVD

BATMAN BEGINS

Forget the last four Batman movies, especially "Batman and Robin." Christopher Nolan ("Memento") takes us back to the beginning to explain how and why Bruce Wayne (Christian Bale) becomes Batman. Wayne's parents are murdered and he flees Gotham City to Asia to train with the League of Shadows, a martial arts group. Henri Ducard (Liam Neeson) teaches him strength and endurance. Wayne then returns to Gotham to live the life as a rich socialite and comes up with the identity of Batman to save the town from crime.

LAND OF THE DEAD

The fourth film in George Romero's "Night of the Living Dead" series in which humans no longer control the earth, as zombies have taken over almost every place. All of the hu-



PHOTO COURTESY OF REGENCY ENTERTAINMENT
Naomi Watts, Ewan McGregor and Ryan Gosling star in "Stay," a thriller that will make you question reality. The film opens Friday.

mans remain alive in this single, fortified city, Fiddler's Green, which lurks at the top of a high-rise in the center of the city. The people of Fiddler's Green are the last of the upper class, as they control the means to leave the city to retrieve food. But soon the people begin to revolt while the armies of the undead begin to evolve and commence an attack on the city. All of these zombie movies are pretty much the same, so I'd stick with "Shaun of the Dead" as a nice change of pace from the rest.

MAD HOT BALLROOM

A documentary about the disappearing art of ballroom dancing. We follow three schools on their quests to turn their students into world-class dancers. You people seemed to enjoy "Dancing With the Stars" so you should like this too. It'll make you feel all warm and fuzzy inside.

— Compiled by Staff Writer Ryan Ebelhar

E-mail: rebelhar@kykernel.com

Critic: UK Theatre's 'Menagerie' misses the mark

Melissa Smith Mallory
KERNEL THEATER CRITIC

The Wingfield family of Tennessee Williams' "The Glass Menagerie" isn't the model family of the 1930s and 1940s.

Amanda, the matriarch of the family, is a neurotic, overbearing, heartbroken woman. Her children, Laura and Tom, each have a host of psychological (and physical) problems of their own. From actors, these conflicts of character demand a certain level of depth — a depth not fully achieved in UK's current production.

As Tom Wingfield, Fonzie Geary, a graduate student in theatre arts, overpowers. His opening narration scene can be awkward, due to the fact that Geary spends most of the monologue wandering in the dark. Whether that was a lighting problem

or just bad blocking, no one could see him.

Interacting with the rest of the family, Geary improves a bit. In an argument with Amanda, the climax is loud, but lacks the emotion one would expect from this scene. His build-up to this point is suitably funny, but would be more appropriate if he more effectively captured the hatred after the sarcasm.

Dara Tiller, a theatre senior playing Amanda, falls short of the high standard this script sets. She portrays the Southern charm but lacks the grace. Instead of giving the character a bit of strength in the face of adversity, she instills Amanda with crippling fear and fragility. Tiller also speaks very quickly, which makes it hard to understand her at times, especially when she speaks softly. Any scene with her seems rushed, whereas any scene with Tom

is drawn out as much as possible.

As a mother worrying about her children's futures, although mainly for Laura's, Tiller comes off more as selfishly terrified than genuinely concerned. The audience is never able to justify Amanda's motivations when she is played so gratingly. Only a couple of times is her humanity glimpsed: fixing a cowlick, serving lemonade and reliving her Blue Mountain days.

A welcome respite from the over-powering characters of Tom and Amanda are Laura and her gentleman caller Jim O'Connor. Laura and Jim do very little yelling and their aims are pure. Theater student Crystal King plays Laura and Kyle Weishaar, a theater senior, plays Jim. These two set up a comparison between Amanda and Tom.

King does better than anyone at showing the emotion implied in

Williams' written words. Laura's obsessive anxiety over her glass menagerie shows just how out of whack her priorities are. Weishaar is charming in a goofy way, and you can see why Laura may have been in love with him in high school.

Even when the dialogue is not so hard to watch, the blocking makes everything seem bulky and staged. There is little about this production that seems natural and there is no semblance of flow. Williams' characters are portrayed superficially and are hastily drawn in this production.

The best part of the whole show is the brick wall of scrim that masks the set and eventually becomes transparent to reveal the hidden part of the set.

E-mail: features@kykernel.com

ONTAP | For the week of Oct. 19 - Oct. 25

TONIGHT

Line 47 w/ Rusuden, Laromlab, and Van Stallion

9 p.m. The Dame. Tickets cost \$3.

Pretty Ricky

8 p.m. Coyotes Niteclub, Louisville. Tickets cost \$25.

Amos Lee

8 p.m. 20th Century Theater, Cincinnati. Tickets cost \$15.

Blues Traveler

7 p.m. Newport Music Hall, Columbus, Ohio. Tickets cost \$20.

TOMORROW

Suicide Girls w/ Tsu Shi Ma Mi Re and Miss Kittywister & Her Hot Dogs

9 p.m. The Dame. Tickets cost \$12.

Silverlode

7 p.m. Coyotes Niteclub, Louisville. Tickets cost \$5.

Rascal Flatts

7:30 p.m. Freedom Hall, Louisville. Tickets cost \$39.

Bloodhound Gang

8 p.m. Bogarts, Cincinnati. Tickets cost \$15.

FRIDAY

Happy Roots

9 p.m. The Dame. Tickets cost \$15.

Chevelle

8 p.m. Jillians, Louisville. Tickets \$20.

3 Doors Down w/ Shinedown and Alter Bridge

7:30 p.m. Louisville Gardens. Tickets cost \$38.50.

SATURDAY

The Yonders w/ Greg Garing

9 p.m. The Dame. Tickets cost \$5.

Leo Kottke and Mike Gordon

8:30 p.m. Bogarts, Cincinnati. Tickets cost \$25.

The Coup

10 p.m. Patio Lounge, Indianapolis. Tickets cost \$10.

Paul McCartney

8 p.m. Schottenstein Center, Columbus, Ohio. Tickets cost from \$75 to \$195.

SUNDAY

Thrice

7 p.m. Bogarts, Cincinnati. Tickets cost \$16.50.

Matt Nathanson

8 p.m. 20th Century Theater, Cincinnati. Tickets cost \$10.

My Morning Jacket w/ Kathleen Edwards

8 p.m. Vogue Theater, Indianapolis. Tickets cost \$15.

MONDAY

Clumsy Lovers w/ Locksley

8 p.m. The Dame. Tickets cost \$5.

Kanye West

7:30 p.m. Schottenstein Center, Columbus, Ohio. Tickets cost \$30 to \$40.

TUESDAY

Cat Power

8 p.m. Wexner Center Mershon Auditorium, Columbus, Ohio. Tickets cost \$15.

— Compiled by

On Tap Editor Ryan Ebelhar

E-mail: rebelhar@kykernel.com

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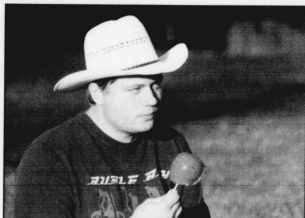
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OCTOBERFEST (CONTINUED FROM PAGE 1)



LaDaya Owen, a vocal performance junior, participates in the Needle in the Hay Stack competition with Denisha Ballew, a vocal performance junior. Ballew won a free medium extra value meal at McDonald's.

HILLY SCHIFFER | STAFF



Brian Bagby, an electric engineering sophomore, ate a caramel apple at Octoberfest in the North Campus courtyard.

HILLY SCHIFFER | STAFF

Students fell into autumn yesterday with a celebration of Octoberfest. To mark the change of season, students carved pumpkins and searched for needles in a hay stack.



Carmen Timmerding, a Spanish freshman, enjoys an inflatable slide at yesterday's Octoberfest.

ANDREW HUGGINS | STAFF

'Specific' threat closes tunnels

Tunnel connecting New York, Washington closed after authorities received tip

By Ryan G. Murphy
LOS ANGELES TIMES

WASHINGTON — Acting on a "somewhat specific" security threat, authorities in Maryland shut down underwater highway tunnels in Baltimore yesterday, paralyzing traffic in the congested East Coast corridor that connects New York and Washington for hours.

Federal investigators interviewed people who may have had information about the security threat, while state and local officials searched the tunnels and stopped trucks and vans to look for suspicious material.

However, neither the searches nor the interviews uncovered plans for an attack. Some investigators said the tunnel closures may have been an "over-reaction" to a probe that found no ties to terrorist groups.

Yesterday's shutdown followed the disruption of subway service in New York City earlier this month after authorities received a tip later suspected of being bogus. The Baltimore threat

was considered uncorroborated but was "somewhat specific as to date and time," said Kevin Perkins, FBI special agent in Baltimore.

As a result, the Fort McHenry Tunnel along Interstate 95 was limited to one lane of traffic while the nearby Baltimore Harbor Tunnel along Interstate 895 was completely shut down from about 11:30 a.m. to 1:15 p.m.

Although the threats proved to be inconsequential, local, state and federal officials stressed the importance of caution in a potential terror situation and congratulated emergency workers for quick action.

"Our No. 1 priority in a situation like this is always public safety," said Maryland Gov. Robert Ehrlich.

Maryland Transportation Authority Police Chief Gary W. McHinnery said it took 80 police officers only minutes to close the tunnels. McHinnery said that he received information from federal agencies last week that justified the tunnel closings and decided on the action

Tuesday morning.

Perkins refused to comment on reports that six to eight Egyptians were being interviewed by the FBI about an overseas tip concerning a potential attack plan, and would not discuss other specifics of the investigation. But he said agents were interviewing several individuals.

A U.S. intelligence official said the closure of the tunnels was done in an "abundance of caution," based on intelligence information from Europe that was uncorroborated — information based on a single source or not shown to be a genuine threat.

"This information has been out there a while and it's definitely not corroborated," said the official, who spoke on condition of anonymity. "But there were specifics to it and it did come from overseas."

He declined to elaborate, but said the report specifically mentioned tunnels in the city of Baltimore.

In the New York City subway threat earlier this month, officials heightened rail security after an Iraqi source warned of attacks. The U.S. intelligence official

said the information regarding the Baltimore tunnels did not come from the Iraqi source.

Two FBI officials confirmed the tip came from overseas and said that while it provided some detail concerning specific individuals in the Baltimore area, it was uncorroborated and appeared to have little credibility.

Both of the FBI officials said federal agents and local police were interviewing a handful of individuals in connection with the tip, but that they had not yet found anything to indicate the men were involved in any terrorism-related activities.

One of the FBI officials characterized the tip as being completely unreliable, and questioned why local authorities closed the tunnels.

"This is just like New York," the official said. "It seems to be a tremendous over-reaction."

He said investigators "spoke to all those people named by the informant as the perpetrators of this. And there was no nexus to terrorism. It's all panned out to be nothing."

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Injured starter back to lift reeling Wildcats

Aura signals happier times for the Wildcats after Brooks' defends team

Joe Schuler tried to hold a straight face. But he cracked. "Always playin'." the sophomore linebacker said, half smirking. "You guys are always playin'."

Something had fired up the UK football team after practice yesterday.

Whether it was the return of senior wide receiver Tommy Cook for the Ole Miss game — or from his fifth college surgery — or head coach Rich Brooks' sticking up for his kids in front of the media the day before, players were cracking jokes and chasing each other into Nutter Training Center.

Brooks didn't dance around the issue during his spot toward the media and critics Monday during his weekly press conference.

"Well, it isn't going to happen," Brooks said. Later, he said, "I am not happy with where our team is after my first two and a half years. ... Having said that, we'd still be in the same situation in this rebuilding process. I have had one full recruiting class of 25 players. One, gentlemen — and ladies. One full recruiting class. Anyone who knows anything about football can look at our team and see we have some pretty good young players."

It seemed to strike a chord with the players. "It will probably make us play better," sophomore running back Rafael Little said. "It shows he's thinking about the future."

Brooks also showed he's going to stand up for his squad despite the losses, despite the injuries, despite the fan pressure and media critics.

"It let's everyone know we're still in it," said senior wide receiver Scott Mitchell. "It's hard to ignore not winning. But the goal is still winning."

The support did help. "He's not giving up," senior safety Muhammad Abdullah said.

Woodson rubbed his face in his hands and looked down at the worn concrete by the practice field.

"It's tough on us," the sophomore quarterback said. "We lose and people are saying all of this. People don't understand what we do in the off-season. We bleed and sweat for this and for 12 games."

Woodson rubbed his face and kicked a piece of gravel. But when Cook's name came up, he looked up and smiled.

"He's the general of the offense," Woodson said. "No matter if he grabs one, two or 10 balls. Just having him on the field helps us a lot."

Mitchell, who has seen much more time at receiver with both Cook and sophomore Keenan Burton out since the Idaho State game, is looking forward to complementing the injury-embattled wide-out.

"I'll do anything in my power to supplement Tommy," Mitchell said.

General's charge

Tommy Cook was the last one left. He sat on a blue bench outside Nutter Training Center, listing off his injuries one by one.

Broken hand. Hernia surgery. Bone spurs removed. Broken right leg. Torn anterior cruciate ligament. Dislocated knee.

It sounded more like a team injury report than one man's struggle.

The cadre of Cook's soul is in his medical history. "You know I don't know how I did it sometimes," Cook said about recuperating so many times. "You've got to be positive. Life's dealt me a really tough hand. But if you can't sound positive, what's the point?"

Saturday at Ole Miss, Cook will be out there. Joker Phillips said yesterday he probably would play the whole game if given the opportunity, but the offensive coordinator said he didn't want to give Cook too many reps.

"If my teammates see me being negative," Cook said, "it doesn't help anything."

The general is back.

Sports Editor Derek Poore is a journalism senior. He can be heard on the "Big Blue Review" today at 4 p.m. and Sunday nights from 8 to 10 on WRFL 88.1 FM. E-mail: dpoore@kykernel.com.

Thursday's Kernel — Read more about Tommy Cook's latest recovery and return to the field

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SCOUTING THE REBELS

Wildcats travel to Ole Miss seeking first conference win and first victory over the Rebels in 12 years

Ole Miss (2-4, 0-3 SEC West)

Head coach: Ed Orgeron, 1st season (2-4)

Key players

Ole Miss's running attack is led by Mico McSwain, who is carrying the load for the Rebels (79 carries, 461 yards, three touchdowns).

Senior quarterback Micheal Spurlock has completed 92 of 171 passes for 1188 yards, four touchdowns and five interceptions.

Leading the experienced receiving corps in catches is senior Mike Espy (23 receptions, 280 yards and two touchdowns). Senior Taye Biddle has 22 catches for 320 yards and senior Mario Hill has 20 catches for 362 yards and two touchdowns.

Defense

The Rebel defense is led by junior linebacker Patrick Willis' 63 tackles — 7.5 of those

for loss — and nine sacks. Senior Kelvin Robinson has 49 tackles and two sacks and sophomore Garry Pack is third on the Rebel defense with 32 tackles, but a team-high 19 sacks on the season.

Last meeting

Sept. 29, 2001 — Ole Miss quarterback Eli Manning threw for 268 yards and two TDs in the Rebels' 42-31 win over UK in Commonwealth Stadium. Ole Miss' Chris Collins caught seven passes for 119 yards, including a 26-yard score and a 38-yard touchdown on a reverse. UK trailed 35-31 with 7:39 left in the fourth quarter, but Ole Miss' Toward Sanford

scored his third touchdown with 4:06 to go, sealing the Rebel win.

Series history

- Ole Miss leads overall series 25-12-1
- First meeting: UK wins 27-7 (1944)
- at Lexington: Series tied 9-9-1
- at Oxford: Ole Miss leads 6-2
- at Jackson: Ole Miss leads 5-1
- at Memphis: Ole Miss leads 5-0
- Largest UK win: 47-0 (1948)
- Largest Ole Miss win: 37-7 (1956)

2005 SEC STANDINGS

EASTERN DIVISION

- Georgia 6-0 (4-0)
- Florida 5-2 (3-2)
- Tennessee 3-2 (2-2)
- Vanderbilt 4-3 (2-2)
- South Carolina 3-3 (1-3)
- Kentucky 1-4 (0-2)

WESTERN DIVISION

- Alabama 6-0 (4-0)
- Auburn 5-1 (3-0)
- LSU 4-1 (3-1)
- Arkansas 2-4 (0-3)
- Ole Miss 2-4 (0-3)
- Mississippi State 2-4 (0-4)

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SPORTS BRIEFS

Women's golf surges to third place

With strong play in the third and final round, the UK women's golf team finished in third place at the Tyson/Embassy Suites Invitational yesterday at the Pinnacle Country Club in Rogers, Ark. The Cats had a three-round total of 906 (311-291-304). Arkansas, ranked No. 2, won its home event with a total of 876 and Notre Dame took second with 896.

The Cats, who posted their third top-five team finish of the season, were led by senior Ali Kicklighter, who finished the tournament in a tie for 14th place with a 226 (78-74-74).

Senior Erin Faulkner finished in a tie for 16th place with a 227 (79-71-77), while sophomore Elizabeth Dotson fired a 74 on the final day of play to conclude the tournament in a tie for 28th place with a 230 (83-73-74).

Junior Katie Johnson finished the tournament in a tie for 31st place with a 231 (77-73-81) and sophomore Beth Felts

finished tied for 35th place with a three-round total of 233 (77-77-79).

Competing as an individual, junior Marissa Muir concluded tournament play in a tie for 81st place with a 250 (81-88-81).

UK returns to action Tuesday, Nov. 1, as it travels to Kapolei, Hawaii, to compete in the Kent Youel Invitational.

Men's golf No. 9 by Golfweek

Despite losing five seniors from last year's squad, the UK men's golf team has earned a spot in Golfweek's Top 10. In the most recent poll, the Wildcats are No. 9 in the nation.

Fellow Southeastern Conference schools Georgia tops the poll, while Florida is No. 5 and Tennessee is No. 6.

The Wildcats have finished in the top 10 in all three tournaments this season. They tied for sixth at the NCAA Preview and earned their best finish of the fall with a second-place finish last week at the Gary Koch Intercollegiate. Senior Matt Kohn fired a career-low 65 to

win the individual title at the Koch Intercollegiate.

"Obviously, this is a great testament to our returning players and the freshmen who have jumped in the lineup this season," said head coach Brian Craig. "They have done a great job of carrying on the tradition that we've set at Kentucky over the last few years."

The Wildcats travel to Orlando, Fla., Oct. 23-25, for the Isleworth Invitational.

John Holmes finishes 2nd at first stage qualifying school

Sparked by a round of 65, former UK golfer John Holmes is one step closer to joining the PGA Tour. The Campbellsville, Ky., native finished second in the First Stage Qualifying at the Black Horse Golf Club in Cypress, Texas.

Holmes finished the four-day event Oct. 14 with a total score of 272 (16-under-par). Nine birdies helped Holmes to his best score of the tournament as he fired a 7-under-par 65 on the first day of play. He

followed that performance with a 4-under-par 68 that included six birdies. Holmes fired a 3-under-par 69 in the third round before ending the tournament with a fourth-round score of 70. He recorded an eagle on the 614-yard fifth hole, as well as two birdies in the final round to finish second in the overall standings.

The former UK All-American trailed only Mike Mezei who fired a 21-under 267 (64-66-71-66).

The 60 applicants returning the lowest scores at each 2005 First Qualifying Stage competitions are exempt from playing in a pre-qualifying competition in the 2006 PGA Tour Qualifying Tournament.

Holmes and the low 20 finishers and those tied for the last qualifying position advance to the Second Qualifying Stage which will take place either Nov. 9-12 or Nov. 16-19.

COMPILED FROM UK ATHLETICS REPORTS



Sophomore Elizabeth Dotson prepares to putt during the Oct. 2 Wildcat Fall Invitational at the University Club. Dotson fired a 74 on the final day of the tournament in a tie for 28th place with a 230 (83-73-74). The Cats finished third in the Tyson/Embassy Suites Invitational yesterday in Rogers, Ark.

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IN OUR OPINION

Students must be tech savvy

While the technical problems with student U-Connect computer lockers turned out to be a mere peccadillo, it's an appropriate juncture to note that campus technology — though largely beneficial — requires sufficient mastery and awareness on the part of students.

Otherwise, students subject themselves to multiple frustrations, or even worse, become vulnerable to those with malicious intent.

And oh, how the responsibilities add up when you consider the vast array of accounts, their passwords and all of their specifics.

Perhaps you're one of those 75 to 80 students who accidentally allowed your student locker to be shared with the entire campus, including your personal information or personal files. Or maybe you forgot to log off your Systems Labs account and were greeted with that obnoxious wallpaper upon your next login.

UK students have U-Connect e-mail, Blackboard, system lab accounts and student locker space, and constantly have to rack their brains: What is the password to this account? Does it have to be changed? And if so, how often? Do I have time to send this attachment to myself and get to the library before the U-Connect scheduled maintenance,

or do I send it to one of my five other e-mail accounts and hope I remember the password?

The scenarios are endless. To UK's credit, it is trying to prevent further proliferation of passwords by allowing students to synchronize all of them through Active Directory (AD) accounts (for more information on this, see the list below).

And UK, to be sure, has fallen short on helping students to rectify these issues as they arise. The Blackboard problem at the beginning of the semester was way out of hand.

But by and large, UK has set up useful Web pages to assist students having trouble and has provided technical support (IT) for those in need.

Remember, UK can only do so much. The ultimate responsibility for technology problems lies with the student.

And if privacy and irritation aren't incentive enough for students to do their homework, then perhaps the dignity of not looking like an elder who portrays himself or herself as the helpless and hapless victim of sinister technological advancements will suffice.

For those who prone to technical difficulties, you may want to clip out the following list of Web sites and/or support contacts that may be of use:

U-Connect, Blackboard accounts:
Web site: www.uky.edu/email-uconnect/faq.html (FAQ)
Contact: IT Customer Service Center
Address: 111 McVey Hall
Phone: (609) 257-1300
Hours: 7 a.m. to 6 p.m. Mon.-Fri.
E-mail: helpdesk@uky.edu

Systems Labs:
Web site: swb.uky.edu/SystemsLabs/about.html

To report problems with labs located in the Mechanical Engineering, EE Annex, Journalism, Little Library, and King Library buildings:

Engineering Lab (EWL):
sysadm@ewl.uky.edu
Computer Science Lab (CS Lab):
sysadm@cslab.uky.edu

Macintosh Labs (Fine Arts, King, Journalism):
macadm@ewl.uky.edu

For more information about the password synchronization mentioned above:

Visit www.uky.edu/IT/CustomerService/news/passwordsync.html for information about synchronization, and visit www.uky.edu/IT/CustomerService/kb/active-directory/index.html to learn how to create an active directory account.

Those who are packin' aren't the ones lackin'

Check out my melody.

I think it's great that women on campus find mental, emotional and physical relief in the gym nowadays. But let's face it, not all of us are going to be Naomi Campbell or Tyra Banks.

Men have even accepted this; now it's our turn.

Truth be told I'm glad we aren't all the same size. In fact, I'd almost prefer it.

I see women of all colors who walk with pride with their XL shirts and jeans across UK campus. It's almost amusing to see the smaller girls who aren't. Who are they to judge what is beautiful and commonly accepted?

Surely not the ones who spend their entire paychecks on a piece of clothing that barely covers anything? What kind of image is that? Is that even an image or better yet a reflection?

I give up; half of them throw it up anyway.

As a black woman of thundering status, I find it amusing to come across lanky girls who by all means eat nothing outside green leaves, pita bread, fruit and water. How do they survive? Then there are the metabolism freaks who can eat half of an entire Christmas dinner and not show a bulge.

Cry me a river.

Sistas know it's all about confidence. Let's be honest, UK seems to underestimate its "packed" population. We're smart; we just happen to be large and in charge too. Accept.

Growing up, I was told that stout women were prized back in the day. For instance, in Jamaican custom, larger women are treated as royalty because it is sign of wealth to be voluminous.

In Germany, husky women were ranked higher than smaller women because they had more of a "backbone."

It's a global thing, ladies. It's all good.

Whether you read "Mrs." or "Essence," it's known that healthy larger women are "in." They always were. I, for one, am proud to walk amongst them.

More and more women on campus seem to forget that size isn't everything. Yes, we all believe that the inner beauty is more of a "cop-out" theme for larger women but the truth is it works.

Larger women find themselves to be more confident than those bustin' cardiac vests at the gym.

Bottom line, the hefty sista can still blow mad up- percuts to the lightweights, with or without her fork.

Still, on the side, I must say that smaller girls sporting the Abercrombie and Pac Sun fashion is played out. The small, concise, dainty jewelry, elegantly placed strategically on the shirt with matching purse and flip-flops is, in a word, overdue.

I say status sistas need to get up and show some of these "birds" how to dress on campus without the crazy sequence.

Sistas know the personality must match the ensemble. If that means sweats on a fresh Monday morning, steer clear out of the way.

Fashionably, smaller-framed women can put it down sometimes, but the "full" sistas are still holdin' it down.

Whether we're hustlin' to class or sweatin' exams, we seem to be fashionably loud, inside and out. Bigger is predominantly better.

Danielle Meadows is the online editor for The Kentucky Kernel. E-mail her at online@kykernel.com.

LETTER TO THE EDITOR

SG should retain independence

In its obtuse Oct. 18 editorial, The Kentucky Kernel yet again made a step in the wrong direction in protecting student rights. The Kernel wants to uphold the same *in loco parentis* attitude of UK Student Affairs, claiming that while students' parents are absent, it is UK's responsibility to take on that role.

Apparently, these nine students, who believe in this form of oversight from the administration, also believe that although students are legally adults and are guaranteed certain fundamental and basic rights of all citizens, their voice should be silenced through administrative control of Student Government.

SG is the one governing body on UK's campus that is elected to represent the student's voice.

While there may be differences in opinion on various candidates, SG policies and SG officers, the fact is that SG's independence should not be taken away due to any form of pragmatism or personal case-by-case issues.

While students may disagree with me or previous SG officers on the stances they have taken, the fact is that SG was created to protect, voice and execute the student body's opinion as a self-governing organization.

As such, the philosophy of maintaining the student voice should be upheld and, as The Kernel so fervently opposed, be voiced loudly.

Yet another point The Kernel misses is that current Governing Regulations already allow for financial oversight of SG by its administratively appointed adviser.

The proposed changes to the Governing Regulations, however, are clearly a power play on the part of student affairs. In particular, the creation of a "Student Government Association advisor" who has, in effect, complete power over all SG actions, ends any real "self-governance" that students have.

No less offensive is the expansion (by implication) of the vice president for student affairs' "administrative oversight," which exerts more limitations on what is supposed to be an independent SG than most other student organizations ever have imposed on them.

Plainly, there is an unmistakable lack of respect for the student voice by administrators, and in no way are the changes an attempt to clarify the relationship between SG and the university. Rather, they are an attempt to take over SG, and control every move it makes.

In effect, student affairs is wasting both its own time, as well as SG's, with its childish power play when there are more pressing issues at hand.

In all, SG was created to be for, and by the students, and it should remain in student hands, not those of the administration.

BECKY ELLINGSWORTH
SG President



BRAD STURGEON, THE KENTUCKY KERNEL

The guise of growth: Funding UK comes at an economic price

Across the United States, university presidents in poorer states have been telling lawmakers that more investment in higher education would translate into greater economic development opportunities and decrease the relative differences in wealth between the poorer and wealthier states.



Andrew Martin
COLUMNIST

UK President Lee Todd made such an address last week, telling Kentucky lawmakers that UK's top-20 initiative was a "compact between the state and university" which required more funding and that investing in higher education would spur economic development.

Lawmakers gave the address cautious praise, though some noted other priorities were competing for limited resources. However, such an assertion begs the question as to whether taxes can be increased in order to give the state government more resources to allocate to higher education or any other government program, for that matter.

From Todd's address, we can infer that he'd like to see a tax increase. With Frankfort's coffers strained as they are, that's the only way UK would realize significant appropriation increases. However, Todd has made diplomatic pains to avoid making such a suggestion outright, perhaps fearing a reprisal from Gov. Ernie Fletcher and the Republican-controlled Senate.

But the question remains: Does raising taxes to increase funding for higher education necessarily enhance economic development? In "Going Broke By Degree: Why College Costs Too Much," Ohio University economist Richard Vedder tests the claim that higher taxpayer-funded investment in higher education generates more economic growth by examining economic growth in the

50 states and the District of Columbia and comparing it with higher education spending by state and local government as a percentage of personal income.

"I expected either a statistically significant positive relationship between public support of higher education and economic growth (the conventional wisdom in the academic community) or no statistically significant relationship whatsoever," wrote Vedder. "The results, however, are significantly negative — increases in the proportion of a state's income used to support higher education are associated with lower rates of economic growth."

Although he admits that factors affecting economic growth are endlessly complex and more investigation on the subject is required, he tentatively concludes that the results allow us to "reject the claim that state and local spending on universities promotes economic growth, finding it far more likely that the reverse is the case."

But why? If more spending on higher education is supposed to bring about a more sophisticated workforce and create jobs, why doesn't the data reflect the statement?

Well, it's a safe surmise to assume states with higher levels of spending have higher taxes. Having more money to spend is good for the government and the beneficiaries of its programs, but it comes at a price. Higher taxes tend to slow down economic growth because they drive out economic investment from the private sector.

Vedder doesn't address the issue of taxation directly. But he does note that median spending by local and state governments (again, as a percentage of personal income) was more than one-third higher than it was in states with the highest economic growth. Meanwhile, spending increases were more pronounced in states with lower levels of economic growth.

Using border states as case studies, Vedder furthers his case, noting higher spending resulted in lower econom-

ic growth, Kentucky included.

"The same is true of Kentucky (big support for its universities) relative to Tennessee," Vedder wrote, "which had higher economic growth but much less public subsidization of colleges. It did not work," he concludes.

As Vedder's book asserts, much of the problem has to do with how taxpayer funds are spent.

More and more, we see education dollars poured into brick-and-mortar capital investments, research (be it buildings, projects or faculty) and public service. And those benefits do not directly transmit into the classroom.

The challenge, then, is to figure out how to make higher education more cost-effective with a return to first principles of educating students and less reliance on fueling the monolithic research machine (which is mostly funded with taxpayer dollars sucked out of the state by the federal government vetter to begin with).

I don't claim Vedder's work to be the lone source of authority. But you'll rarely hear a college administrator or politician bucking conventional wisdom, even when sufficient evidence comes from the painstaking intellectual efforts an obviously bright scholar.

Evidence such as this must be presented to Todd (and other university presidents, for that matter) before allowing college administrators to charge ahead with their own solutions to policy pitfalls virtually unopposed, as is so much the case in higher education today.

If better decisions regarding the future of higher education are to be made, we'd all be better off with a stronger culture of dissent.

Andrew Martin is a journalism and political science senior. E-mail amartin@kykernel.com.

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