

KENTUCKY KERNEL

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Senate's budget lowers cuts to higher ed

By Jill Lester
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After passionate discussion yesterday afternoon, the Kentucky Senate approved a budget that would reduce, but not eliminate, an across-the-board 12 percent budget cut proposed by Gov. Steve Beshear.

In a 32-2 vote yesterday, the Senate approved a \$19 billion budget for the next two years. Under the plan produced by the Senate, UK would face a total budget cut of 6 percent, which includes a 3 percent cut already in effect for this fiscal year.

Unlike the House budget passed two weeks ago, the Senate's budget does not include an increase in taxes on cigarettes or gas. The House's call for a 25-cent increase on cigarettes and 1.5-cent increase per gallon of gas harms the state's citizens, said Sen. Charlie Borders, R-Grayson.

"I think in times like this, people in the legislature need to act like house-holds across the Commonwealth and be fiscally responsible, and not expect us to insult (Kentuckians) by presenting them with tax increases," Borders said when he presented the budget to the full Senate after it passed the committee he chairs yesterday morning. "That's what we do with the budget we present today."

With no tax increases, the Senate budget relies on taking more money from Kentucky's lottery system. In the first year, Kentucky would take \$54.6 million and \$55.6 million during the second year of the two-year budget cycle.

Borders said one way the lottery could reduce its expenses would be to cut advertising spending. But Sen. Ernesto Scorsone, D-Lexington, called increasing the state's piece of lottery funds "smoke and mirrors" because if the lottery cuts advertising, it would see a decrease in profits.

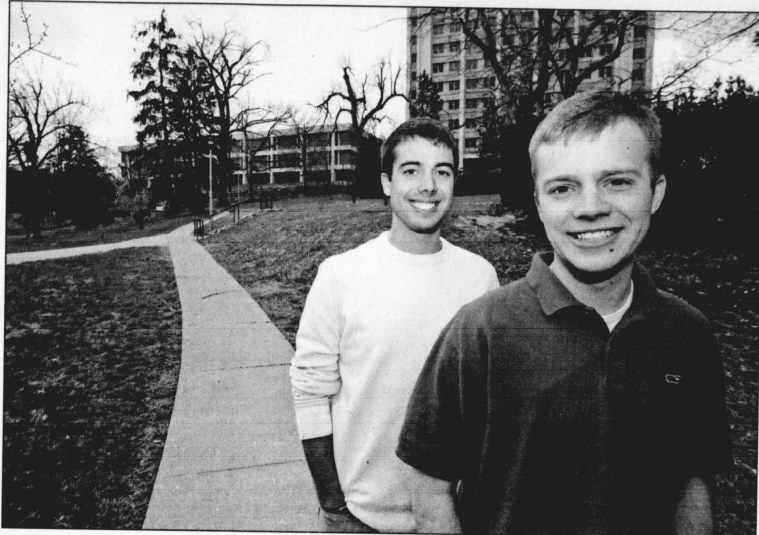
Scorsone, who voted against the Senate budget, also criticized the Senate's cuts in fields like education and health care as an alternative to increasing taxes.

"This is a cruel and callous budget," Scorsone said during debate on the Senate floor yesterday afternoon. "This is a major retreat from our commitment to Kentuckians. We reached a fork in the road. We could've gone right. We could've gone left. And we retreated."

The House and the Senate will negotiate to arrive at a compromise on the two different budget plans. Then the budget must receive the governor's signature before it passes through the House and the

See Budget on page 3

UNOPOSED BUT NOT ALONE



SG presidential candidate Tyler Montell, right, and running mate Grant Mills will be the only names on the presidential ballot this year.

BRAD LITTELL | STAFF

Sole candidate pulled support early

By Katie Saltz
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Students heading to the polls tomorrow and Thursday for the 2008 Student Government elections will see only one name on the ballot for the highest-ranking student-elected leader at UK.

But even though he does not have an opponent, SG presidential candidate Tyler Montell said he is campaigning as if he did.

"We're running like we're 10 points behind," Montell said. "Students have seen that Grant (Mills) and I have proven ourselves, and I think it would be hard to beat our platform."

Montell and his running mate, Grant Mills, said being the only candidates has given them time to prepare for their term. They decided to run together in the fall, and without the pressure of opposition,

Mills said the pair was able to focus on progressing with plans that can take effect once in office.

"It has allowed Tyler and I almost an extra month to be talking and planning on what we can work on next year," Mills said. "I think that is the biggest advantage."

Earlier in the year, there was talk of other possible presidential candidates. Montell said, but throughout the year potential candidates decided against running.

"I think after talking with us, Grant and I pulled a lot of support, and people wanted to be on board (with us)," he said.

The two candidates said they both are qualified because of their experience in a variety of areas. Montell is a two-term senator, serving as Senate president this past year. That experience, Montell said, gives him the advantage of knowing the internal and external roles

of the SG president.

Mills said his involvement in other student organizations would help him offer fresh ideas for SG programs, projects and legislation.

"I've worked with everything on campus from being a tour guide to working with student organizations, Greek and non-Greek," Mills said. "I think that will help me bring a different perspective."

The president and vice-president will be sworn in sometime in April, but Montell said he and Mills intend to start working Friday morning, less than 24 hours after election results are announced. They already have a checklist of things to do, they said.

One of those items includes hiring the staff for next year's SG office. Montell said he wants to build a staff of the most qualified people, not just people who are known in SG.

"I'm not just hiring people that helped with the campaign," Montell said. "I want to hire the best possible students."

The office of vice-president does not have many specific duties outlined in the SG constitution, Mills said, and he is looking forward to expanding his responsibilities.

Last semester, Vice President Brittany Langdon changed legislation so that the vice president would be in charge of the Leadership Development Program. Mills said he wants to continue that program and keep expanding its role to help more students.

"I want to play a larger role in the university and staff Senates working with academic policies," Mills said. "Those decisions affect students' daily lives, and we need stronger representation there."

Once in office, Montell said the first piece of legislation he would focus on is a Senate accountability act. Earlier this month, the Senate approved an amendment that would require every new Senate to create an outline for the expectations of its

See Montell on page 3

"We're running like we're 10 points behind... I think it would be hard to beat our platform."

— Tyler Montell, the lone SG presidential candidate

Visit from former Indian president leads to new program, closer ties

By Jill Lester
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Siripriya Katragadda stood in a crowd of people behind a velvet rope in the Singletary Center yesterday in hopes of glimpsing for a few seconds, not a Hollywood celebrity, but a former president of India.

"He stepped out of the presidency July 2007, but even after he left office he was charmed in many ways," said Katragadda, a UK graduate student.

A.P.J. Abdul Kalam, president of India from 2002 to 2007 is on campus as part of a three-day "Celebration of India" at UK. The last event free and open to the public that Kalam will participate in is a question and answer session with students at 10 a.m. today in the Worsham Theater in the Student Center.

Kalam is an engineer and author known for a plan to make India a fully developed nation by 2020. He will

leave the Bluegrass today with an honorary degree from UK and gifts from various community groups.

Discussions of his visit that began almost a year ago have led to a new program at UK. During a ceremony last night where Kalam was the keynote speaker, UK announced a new Center of Excellence for India Studies. The center would focus on research, teaching and outreach in areas like Indian business, language and religion.

"Many parts of the Bluegrass have the same problems as the rural parts of India, so there's a lot we can learn from each other," said UK Provost Kumble Subbaswamy during the program's announcement.

The center would use private donations from an endowment fund, which would be named the President A.P.J. Abdul Kalam India Studies Endowment Fund pending Kalam's approval. The fund would

create two endowed professorships in the Gatton College of Business and Economics.

Throughout his visit, Kalam emphasized the importance of international economic and cultural alliances, including between the Bluegrass and India. During a news conference yesterday, he brought up a question a student had asked him earlier about how richer countries should interact with poorer countries.

"The solution is countries like India and the United States have responsibilities not only to our prosperity and happiness, but a responsibility to help other nations with their prosperity and happiness."

Kalam also said India can offer intellect and vision to the Bluegrass, and Kentucky could contribute as well.

"It's a beautiful land," he said of Kentucky during the news conference. "Any country can have a beautiful land. That's no surprise. After one day here I talked to peo-

See Kalam on page 3



Kalam

BCTC student burglarized, kidnapped in Greg Page

By Alice Haymond
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A Greg Page resident was burglarized and kidnapped Monday, and although the resident returned home safely, he or she lost a Dell computer and an undetermined amount of cash, according to UK police.

Two men entered the apartment sometime between 2 and 3 p.m.; one was armed with a knife, and the other was armed with a miniature baseball bat and implied he had a gun, police said. After taking cash and a Dell laptop, the two men forced the resident, a Bluegrass Community and Technical College student, to drive to the bank and obtain more cash, according to police. The student was not identified last night.

The student drove the two men back to campus and dropped them off near W.T. Young Library, as they directed. Interim UK Police Chief Joe Monroe said he did not know last night whether the two men were students at either UK or BCTC, but his officers are working at the case with two detectives who were called in to investigate.

One suspect is described as a 6-foot-4-

inch tall, thin, black man with medium complexion. He was last seen wearing a navy blue facemask, a black zip-up hooded sweatshirt and light gray, fleece pants, according to police.

The other suspect is described as a 6-foot tall black man with medium complexion and a mustache. He was last seen wearing a black Carhart-type jacket with a hood and black or dark-colored pants, according to police.

This is the second incident involving weapons reported from Greg Page Apartments this semester. The first, on Feb. 6, involved gun shots fired outside a resident's door after he would not let in a boy with a gun accompanied by two other boys and a female.

Monroe said the incidents are not related. The nature of Greg Page Apartments' location, across from Commonwealth Stadium on Alumni Drive, makes it more vulnerable to incidents than other places on campus, he said.

"If you look at Greg Page, it is more of an open environment, similar to an apartment complex," he said. "The dormitories are more secure because you have to swipe a card to get in the building."

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Horoscopes

By Linda C. Black

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

Aries (March 21 - April 19) Today is a 6 — Pay off debts; don't incur new ones now. It feels like you can afford to buy anything you want. That would be incredibly foolish, especially if you put it on plastic.

Taurus (April 20 - May 20) Today is a 7 — Make sure your spokesperson knows exactly the message you want to convey. Don't leave this to chance; make your instructions crystal clear.

Gemini (May 21 - June 21) Today is a 6 — If the work you're doing now isn't taking you to where you want to end up, stand back for an objective view. Then make a correction.

Cancer (June 22 - July 22) Today is a 7 — Everything seems wonderful, but actually, that's an illusion. Don't wager more than you can afford to lose. All is not as it seems.

Leo (July 23 - Aug. 22) Today is a 6 — You need a few important things for your home and family. Buy the best you can afford, so it will last a long time. Get it wholesale, if possible.

Virgo (Aug. 23 - Sept. 22) Today is a 7 — You're very interested, but not in the assigned task. Avoid becoming so distracted that you really mess up. The consequences of that would be awful.

Libra (Sept. 23 - Oct. 22) Today is a 6 — Don't fall for an emotional argument. Maintain objectivity. The tears and drama are all a trick to part you from your wealth. Don't play the fool.

Scorpio (Oct. 23 - Nov. 21) Today is an 8 — Don't let there be any misunderstandings. Make your position clear. Don't be a fool about it, though. Adapt if necessary.

Sagittarius (Nov. 22 - Dec. 21) Today is a 6 — Don't gossip or even pass along information you think is right. The odds are high there are circumstances that have not been revealed. Continue your investigation, quietly.

Capricorn (Dec. 22 - Jan. 19) Today is a 7 — It's not a good idea to fund a friend's fanciful proposal. Let somebody who can afford to lose more than you can do that. It's not a good time to invest.

Aquarius (Jan. 20 - Feb. 18) Today is a 6 — You're doing well financially, but are you really happy? Forget about that for a while. Do the job and collect the money. Happiness isn't everything. It's transitory, anyway.

Pisces (Feb. 19 - March 20) Today is a 7 — To keep things going well, you need to be realistic. Don't take anything for granted. Check and double-check your measurements before you cut.

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AN MTV STAR'S TRAGIC DECLINE

THE DISH

Friends have Jackass' Steve-O involuntarily committed after a descent into drugs and suicidal behavior

By Eric Anderson

Jackass member Steve-O has always been known for his wild antics: stapling his scrotum to his leg, walking nude down red carpets, even once publicly urinating at an Oscar event.

But on March 13, it became clear the funny-man was no longer laughing. "I'm in the loony bin," he wrote on his blog.

He explained how eight friends, including Johnny Knoxville and MTV's Jackass director Jeff Tremaine, "physically forced me" to the mental health unit of L.A.'s Cedars-Sinai Medical Center, where Owen Wilson and Britney Spears were treated recently. (Assistant Jen Moore made his blog posts for him after visiting the hospital.)

Currently, he is on a 14-day involuntary psychiatric hold, due to suicidal behavior, and scheduled for release on March 23.

The Jackass pals, no strangers to extreme behavior, felt compelled to act in the wake of the star's escalating use of drugs — which included cocaine, marijuana, Ecstasy and, during the past few months, even crack cocaine, according to a source.

The abuse has led to a se-

ries of bizarre outbursts. Most recently, Steve-O, 33 (real name: Stephen Glover), was evicted from his apartment complex in Hollywood after clashing with a neighbor on March 3.

"The initial call we received was that Steve-O was using a broomstick or a similar object to punch holes through a wall into his neighbor's apartment," L.A.P.D. rep Sara Faden tells Us. (The star was busted sans shirt on a felony cocaine charge; he posted bail a day later.)

Dad Ed Glover staged an unsuccessful intervention, and his son continued to chronicle his drug-fueled self-destruction via blog entries on death, suicide, aliens and "my quest for immortality." (In a March 9 video post, he destroys a microwave with a skateboard, then mimes shooting himself.)

Bad to Worse

By his own admission, Steve-O also suffers from bipolar disorder and has refused medication. Gal pal Brittany McGraw's rejection of marriage may have also contributed to his dark mood: "It hurt me, big time," reads a March 9 post. But drugs remained the main culprit.

Actor pal Andy Dick (who's been in rehab multiple times) tells Us, "I was scared for him every time I parted with him. I'm surprised he's still alive."

The star still faces a March 26 arraignment for the cocaine

felony. But for now, Steve-O is focused on recovery. "I did a great deal of damage to my brain by abusing drugs," he blogged on March 13. "Now that they've all worn off, I'm facing the consequences."

His Myspace rants

Excerpts from his blog at myspace.com/steveoarmy March 8, 6:30 p.m.

I've never really given very serious thought to the idea of committing suicide, but I did some major spiritual digging over the last couple of days. [Posts videos in which philosophers discuss death and immortality.]

March 9, 1:42 p.m.

I had to leak one more amusing tirade for you all. [Posts a video in which he mimes shooting himself in the head.]

March 13, 11:59 p.m.

It's gotten so bad, there's nothing left of me. I've harmed myself to no end for those people (at the expense of my loved ones), and look where it got me. [Posts a five-minute video, taped while on drugs, in which he rambles nonsensically before asking, "Who cares when you die?"]

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Functional fillers for Fall semester holes

By Elise Reed
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Beginning this week, students across UK's campus will register for fall semester classes. For students who need to fulfill University Studies Program requirements, several options are available in categories such as social sciences, written communication, natural sciences and general electives.

Although some students may be tempted to fill empty spaces in their schedule with "fun" classes, the following are a few fall courses that fulfill university requirements and also have practical benefits.

PS 101: American Government. This social science class provides a comprehensive overview of the American political system and the nuts and bolts of key governmental organizations, according to the course description on UK's Web site.

Students in this course also learn about

the election process, a timely lesson in fall 2008, when Americans will elect the next president.

ENG 203: Business Writing. This class fulfills the graduation writing requirement without a great deal of literary analysis. In ENG 203, students focus on professional correspondence and reports rather than the traditional essay. It is geared toward writing skills that would be used in business, industry and government careers, according to the course syllabus.

FAM 251: Personal and Family Finance. This course, which would count toward elective credit, teaches students the basics of lifetime money management, spanning from student loans to retirement planning. Topics covered include how to calculate tax payments, mortgage a home and manage credit, according to the course syllabus.

Instructor Martie Gillen said the lessons

about money management would be especially helpful to students once they are officially on their own. One of the course's assignments requires students to track their income and expenses for one month and then create a budget for the following month based on what they spend and earn.

"Students learn pretty quickly that \$3 dollars at Starbucks a couple times a week adds up," Gillen said.

GLY 120: Sustainable Planet: The Geology of Natural Resources. This course, which fulfills natural science requirements, might be the preferred choice for students who do not consider themselves very science-minded. While students learn about geological processes, they also examine use and abuse of natural resources and the political importance of resource management, according to the course syllabus.



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BUDGET

Continued from page 1

Senate again for separate approval. The process is slated to be completed by April 15.

However, several senators alluded to the possibility of not completing the budget by the April deadline during debate on the Senate floor yesterday. If that happens, the General Assembly would enter into a special session and continue work.

UK's tuition rates, which UK officials

have said are contingent on the state's budget, will be decided in April. Last month, UK President Lee Todd said UK could not guarantee a tuition increase of 10 percent or less if the state does not fully fund UK's Top 20 Business Plan, which the pending budget does not.

The plan calls for state appropriations to increase by \$20 million each year.

It is still uncertain whether UK's current staff hiring freeze will end if the final budget includes the restored funding, said university spokesman Jay Blanton.

MONTELL

Continued from page 1

members for that term. The act is a good way of proving to students that senators take their jobs seriously, Montell said.

Creating a successful and balanced budget is also a priority, Montell said. Adjusting the amounts and number of line items would provide more money to fund student organizations.

"Our top three funding priorities would be the Violence Intervention and Prevention Center, DanceBlue and diversity on campus," Montell said.

The current administration has done a great job at being active and getting outside the office to connect with students and administrators on campus, Montell said. But SG still has room for improvement, Montell said.

"(Nick Phelps') involvement in the student body and the Board of Trustees has been great," he said. "No SG president has done that much outside office work before. But communication with the student body is something we can continually do better."

KALAM

Continued from page 1

ple, experienced people, saw their arts and culture. Kentucky people are not only blessed with beautiful places, but beautiful minds."

Each time Kalam spoke this week, a crowd of people of all ages gathered waiting to shake his hand. As Kalam left the

Singletary Center yesterday, he took two or three minutes to greet the crowd, including Katragadda, before being ushered into his car to another event.

After Katragadda checked the pictures on her friend's camera of the president and her, she said seeing Kalam and shaking his hand was a priceless experience.

"It's been a lifetime opportunity," she said.

Trash pickers mobilize to become global environmental force

By Jack Chang
McClatchy Newspapers

BUENOS AIRES, Argentina — As the world scrambles to save dwindling resources and halt global warming, a long-scorning population is becoming the latest hope in the environmental battle.



The unsung heroes are the impoverished trash pickers who fill the streets of countless cities around the developing world, searching garbage for cardboard, plastic bags and other treasure that can be sold and recycled.

Every day, they rescue hundreds of thousands of tons of material from streets and trash dumps that get reprocessed into all kinds of products. That not only cuts back on the resources used by industries but also lightens the load on dumps that are quickly reaching capacity.

Despite their contributions, trash pickers have long suffered harassment from local governments and diversion from neighbors, who often consider them vagrants or even criminals. Such attitudes, however, are changing, trash pickers said, and they're increasingly being seen as foot soldiers in the global warming battle.

"We're the only ones doing this work," said Cristian Robles, a trash picker who scours the Argentine capital of Buenos Aires for recyclables. "If we didn't do it, nobody else would."

As in Buenos Aires, government-run recycling programs are rare in most of the developing world, meaning valuable

materials that could be reused end up rotting at local dumps if trash pickers don't get to them.

At an estimated 15 million people worldwide, trash pickers make up about 1 percent of the global urban population, and their impact is enormous, said Martin Medina, a U.S.-based waste management expert who wrote "The World's Scavengers," a book about the population.

Brazil, for example, claims the world's highest aluminum recycling rate, at nearly 90 percent — not because of official initiatives, but thanks to the country's estimated 500,000

trash pickers, Medina said. By comparison, only about half of the aluminum used in the United States is recycled, despite the proliferation of city-run recycling programs. In total, Brazilian trash pickers salvage about 33,000 tons of recyclables a day.

In Indonesia, the world's fourth most populous country, trash pickers recycle a third of all garbage, Medina said.

Trash pickers also reduce emissions of methane produced by rotting garbage in open-air dumps. That's no small contribution, considering methane wreaks more than 20 times the global-warming damage than carbon dioxide does.

"Environmentally, they're having a big effect," Medina said. "But they're not getting the support of governments. The entire system is based around economics, and people only turn to this when they have no other choice. Unemployment and layoffs are what's pushing many people into doing it."

To trash-picker advocates such as Jorge Pinheiro of Rio de Janeiro, Brazil, such conflicts could be avoided if governments stopped harassing trash pickers and instead helped them professionalize their operations.

That's already happened in some countries, such as Brazil, where the federal government officially recognized trash picking as a legal profession five years ago and provided some labor protections. Most other countries, however, still prohibit the activity.

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Visit the web site for event details or to post your own web event.

Tuesday 25 th	Wednesday 26 th	Thursday 27 th	Friday 28 th	Saturday 29 th	Sunday 30 th
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> •Robert C. May Photography Endowment Lecture Series 12:00 PM UK Art Museum in the Singletary Center for the Arts •Miniature Worlds: Art of India 12:00 PM UK Art Museum in the Singletary Center for the Arts •Prof series workshop: The NEW Business Culture 3:30 PM B&E room 248 •25th Edward F. Prichard Lecture 4:00 PM Great Hall, Margaret I. King Building •Prof series Workshop: Good Impressions 4:30 PM 112 Raymond Building (College of ENG) •25th Edward F. Prichard Lecture 4:00 PM Great Hall, Margaret I. King Building •CCO-Volunteer at Catholic Action Center 5:00 PM Catholic Action Center •An Evening of Poetry and Performance UK Student Center Cats Den 8:00 PM •Volunteering at the Carnegie Center 3:00 PM Carnegie Center •Happy Hour: \$1 Video Games 4:00 PM UK Student Center Cats Den •The Inner Eye: Folk Art of India 12:00 AM Rose St & Euclid Ave •25th Edward F. Prichard Lecture 4:00 PM Great Hall, Margaret I. King Building 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> •Learn to Knit 7:00 PM Student Center Rm 228 •CCO-Young At Heart Meeting 5:00 PM Student Center •25th Edward F. Prichard Lecture 4:00 PM Great Hall, Margaret I. King Building •Miniature Worlds: Art of India 12:00 PM UK Art Museum in the Singletary Center for the Arts •Robert C. May Photography Endowment Lecture Series 12:00 PM UK Art Museum in the Singletary Center for the Arts •MAVARUK MASH HOUR - The Night, Take it Back 8:00 PM Memorial Hall 12:00 AM Rose St & Euclid Ave •Volunteer w/ Beaumont Buddies 4:00 PM Beaumont Middle School •CCO-Volunteer At God's Pantry 3:30 PM God's Pantry •Volunteering at the Carnegie Center 3:00 PM Carnegie Center •25th Edward F. Prichard Lecture 4:00 PM Great Hall, Margaret I. King Building •Comedy Caravan 8:00 PM UK Student Center Cats Den 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> •25th Edward F. Prichard Lecture 4:00 PM Great Hall, Margaret I. King Building •Robert C. May Photography Endowment Lecture Series 12:00 PM UK Art Museum in the Singletary Center for the Arts •WildCat Career Link demo session 12:30 PM B&E, room 125 •25th Edward F. Prichard Lecture 4:00 PM Great Hall, Margaret I. King Building •FREE MOVIE! Nobody Knows 10:00 PM Worsham Theater, Student Center •Miniature Worlds: Art of India 12:00 PM UK Art Museum in the Singletary Center for the Arts •Laughs on the Lawn - Jen Kober 7:00 PM •Volunteering at the Carnegie Center 3:00 PM •25th Edward F. Prichard Lecture 4:00 PM Great Hall, Margaret I. King Building •Job Searching for international Students 3:30 PM James W. Stuckert Career Center •CCO Board of Directors Meeting 5:00 PM 106 Student Center •The Inner Eye: Folk Art of India 12:00 AM Rose St & Euclid Ave 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> •25th Edward F. Prichard Lecture 4:00 PM Great Hall, Margaret I. King Building •SMC Spring Student Show - opening reception 5:00 PM The Basall Gallery •Volunteering at the Carnegie Center 3:00 PM Carnegie Center •25th Edward F. Prichard Lecture 4:00 PM Great Hall, Margaret I. King Building •Beatnik Ball Concert 7:00 PM •25th Edward F. Prichard Lecture 4:00 PM Great Hall, Margaret I. King Building •Happy for Life 7:00 PM Good barn field •Robert C. May Photography Endowment Lecture Series 12:00 PM UK Art Museum in the Singletary Center for the Arts •The Inner Eye: Folk Art of India 12:00 AM Rose St & Euclid Ave •Miniature Worlds: Art of India 12:00 PM UK Art Museum in the Singletary Center for the Arts •Robert C. May Photography Endowment Lecture Series 4:00 PM Worsham Theatre, UK Student Center •25th Edward F. Prichard Lecture 4:00 PM Great Hall, Margaret I. King Building 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> •Barrel Tasting 11:00 AM Talon Winery •25th Edward F. Prichard Lecture 4:00 PM Great Hall, Margaret I. King Building •Miniature Worlds: Art of Art of India 12:00 PM UK Art Museum in the Singletary Center for the Arts •The Inner Eye: Folk Art of India 12:00 AM Rose St & Euclid Ave •Trans-Continental Disko Delight 7:30 PM Cats Den Student Center •The Inner Eye: Folk Art of India 12:00 AM Rose St & Euclid Ave •Robert C. May Photography Endowment Lecture Series 12:00 PM 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> •25th Edward F. Prichard Lecture 4:00 PM Great Hall, Margaret I. King Building •Robert C. May Photography Endowment Lecture Series 12:00 PM UK Art Museum in the Singletary Center for the Arts •Christian Music Explosion 7:30 PM •The Inner Eye: Folk Art of India 12:00 AM Rose St & Euclid Ave •Miniature Worlds: Art of Art of India 12:00 PM UK Art Museum in the Singletary Center for the Arts

UK poet flows into competition

By Wesley Yonts
features@kernel.com

It is rare when a poet is rendered speechless. But that is what happened when Mike Kimble, an integrated strategic communications senior, found out that he was hand-picked to go to Albuquerque, N.M., to participate in a national beat poetry competition.

International and gender studies sophomore Katie Goldy and English senior Chuck Cleary will open for Kimble. "I can't put it into words, because I've come such a long way being a freshman and writing poetry... and now I'm being recognized as one of the best poets in the nation," Kimble said. "I want to be that trail blazer to get poetry more recognition because everybody should get recognition for what they do, but I don't think poetry gets it's just do," he said.

The competition will be sponsored by the Association of College Unions International and will take place April 2 in Albuquerque. Students from across the nation will partake in the competition. "All the hard work and speaking in front of smaller crowds, all of these things have paid off to the point where people want me to showcase and I'm going to nationals," Kimble said. "There's a lot of good poets out there you just got to find them," he said.

Annual art show features student work

By Margaret Barr
features@kernel.com

Gallery hops and art shows are not just for professionals — they're for students too.

The UK Studio Major Student Council is showcasing its third annual Spring Student Art Show. The show will be held through April 9 in the Rasdall Art Gallery, located in the UK Student Center. A reception and silent auction will be held Friday from 5 p.m. to 8 p.m. for the artists as part of UK's Campus Gallery Hop.

The gallery hop, which will take place after the auction, is designed to allow the surrounding community to come to campus and see the art being made by students. Galleries that will participate in the Gallery Hop include the UK Art Museum, the Tuska Center for Contemporary Art, the Barnhart Gallery and the Rasdall Gallery.

The Studio Major Student Council was founded in 2005 to promote and showcase art being made by UK art studio majors and to increase art awareness at UK and in the Lexington community. The Spring Student Art

Show is held to give the art students a place to showcase their work from the spring semester.

"The show is open to UK students, but you had to apply about a month ago," said Lee Ann Paynter, president of the SSMC. "Around 104 works were submitted and 37 were chosen from those."

Paynter said half of the proceeds from the silent auction will go to the SSMC and the other half will go directly to the artists.

Hilary Brown, a second year art studio graduate student with a concentration in photography, will display her art at the show.

"The work I submitted is part of a series I had been working on that focuses on abandoned buildings in the central Kentucky area," she said. "I'm excited that this show will be displayed in a central area of campus, and hopefully will create some buzz about the art department."

Some of the art showcased will be similar to what you would see on a family mantle.

"My photography is very traditional and straightforward," said Mallory Blair, a senior art studio major. "I concentrate on documenting my family, so I was also thrilled that it worked out to where I could show my mom, dad and sister individually."

"I'm excited that this show will... hopefully create some buzz about the art department."

HILARY BROWN
second year art studio graduate student

One of the judges for the show will be Centre College professor Stephen Rolfe Powell. Powell will judge art from many different categories such as photography, oil and spray paints, etchings, sculpture and many others. He will decide first, second and third place for the show. Those artists will receive cash prizes.

"When I evaluate student work, I try to take a more objective approach by concentrating on the balance in the work between technique and creativity," Powell said.

TASTE OF OUR WORLD

March 26,
11 a.m. - 1:30 p.m.
Student Center, Grand Ballroom

Taste of Our World will feature a diverse menu of culture-rich food representing six continents. Tickets for individual samples of the dishes are \$1 each, seven for \$5, or 15 at \$10. Cash or Plus Account only.

Join Mayor Jim Newberry and School Superintendent Stu Silberman as they greet hundreds of Lexington middle school and high school students.

Shuttle bus service will be provided from the UK Academic Medical Center and UK Chandler Hospital to the Student Center. Information: kconwell@uky.edu.

TEN THOUSAND VILLAGES

March 26 11 a.m. - 1:30 p.m.
Student Center, Grand Ballroom

Friday, March 28, 11 a.m. - 2 p.m.
UK Chandler Hospital, North Lobby

During the Taste of Our World celebration, visit a Ten Thousand Villages sale of jewelry, home decor and gifts from over 100 artisan groups in Africa, Asia and Latin America. Visit www.tenthousandvillages.com

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JOHN VAND
MIAMI HERA

spr

UK on the rebound for first time this season

By Matthew George
mgeorge@kykernel.com

Just before the UK baseball team beat Xavier to improve to 19-0 and tie the record for best start in school history, head coach John Cohen warned that part of the evolution of a ball club is seeing how its players recover from a loss.

After a 1-2 weekend in Auburn, the Cats (20-2, 4-2 Southeastern Conference) must stare down adversity for the first time this season.

The Cats failed to score Friday, stranding a season-high 12 runners in a 2-0 loss, their first of the year. UK held a three-run lead into the fifth inning on Saturday before Auburn stormed back for a 7-3 win.

"Things didn't go as well as we had planned," redshirt freshman shortstop Chris Wade said. "Of course on the road you would like to win two games and win the series. We came out flat Friday and didn't score. But things were better on Saturday. We actually had the lead for a while but we walked seven or eight guys and they stole seven or eight bases against us."

And though the Cats salvaged a 9-8 win Sunday to save off a sweep, Wade said the team felt the sting of losing their first SEC road series.

"It's just disappointing that we lost more than anything," he



ED MATTHEWS | STAFF
Redshirt freshman shortstop Chris Wade tags out Alabama's Alex Avila, who was trying to advance to third base.

"I'm really pleased with the way our kids played," said. "We really just try and go out and win one game at a time. I know that sounds cliché. But we're not so much disappointed that we didn't get the win on Friday or Saturday."

But Cohen did not share in the disappointment. "I'm really pleased with the way our kids played," he said. "I love the way our kids fought back on Saturday. We just didn't control the running game and didn't throw strikes."

Had the Cats won Friday, their 20-0 start would have set new records for the best start

and longest winning streak in school history. But Cohen said he put little stock in history and was more concerned with how his team played than the games' outcomes.

"Maybe I'm getting old, but I don't even think of it in those terms," Cohen said. "I'm more concerned with: Did we play well or did we not play well? This weekend I thought we played well. I was happy with about 75 percent of our game and disappointed with about 25 percent."

Senior first baseman Brian Spear said that though the win-

ning streak was nice, he knew an eventual loss was inevitable.

"In a league like the SEC, you're not going to go 30-0," Spear said. "The league is just too strong and baseball is too finicky a game. You are going to lose, it's all about how quickly you rebound and how you deal with adversity."

Because of the strength of the SEC, Cohen said it is commonplace for a highly ranked team to lose two games in a weekend conference series.

It happened during the weekend. Vanderbilt, ranked No. 4 in the nation, dropped two of three games to Alabama, a team that had lost five straight games and was swept in a three-game series by the Cats earlier this season.

"No matter how used to winning you are, in our league, you better learn to deal with losing," Cohen said.

After dropping two games to Auburn, the Cats have experienced losing for the first time this season. Tomorrow's 4 p.m. game against Xavier gives them the opportunity to prove they have, in fact, learned how to deal with it.

"Of course you're going to lose games, that's just baseball," Wade said, "but we are going to be fine as long as we keep doing what we have been doing all season."

Cats in midst of pivotal 6-game, 10-day stretch

By Laura Pepper
lpepper@kykernel.com

Scheduled to play six matches in 10 days, the UK men's tennis team entered a stretch of games Friday that may not only be the busiest time of the season but the most important.

The No. 63 Cats are 7-9 (2-4 Southeastern Conference). With just eight matches left before the SEC Tournament in April, UK must win four of its five remaining SEC matchups to finish with a winning record in the conference and five matches total to ensure a 500 overall record.

Sunday's 4-3 win over Auburn snapped a four-game losing streak, which freshman Alberto Gonzalez said was important entering into the busy 10-day stretch of games.

"We really needed it, and I'm really happy for all of my team and, you know, we haven't had like the best season ever," Gonzalez said. "But little by little I think we're improving, and I'm really happy to see that not only for me but for everybody."

Three of the teams UK will face are currently ranked in the top 10. The Cats take on No. 3 Ole Miss on Sunday, No. 3 Georgia on April 4 and No. 3 Tennessee on April 6. Out of the 24 opponents on UK's schedule, 19 are ranked and, with the exception of No. 70 South Carolina, all are ranked higher than UK by more than fifteen positions. All twelve SEC teams, including UK, are ranked.

"A lot of teams will schedule easier non-conference matches," head coach Dennis Emery said. "Our philosophy has always

been that we want to schedule as good as we can in our non-conference to prepare for the really tough SEC."

But UK has had difficulty against ranked opponents this season — the team has only won three of its 12 matchups against ranked teams. UK's two wins in SEC play came in a 5-2 victory against then-No. 57 South Carolina in February and Sunday's 4-3 upset of No. 22 Auburn. The Cats' other ranked win came against then-No. 51 Harvard in February.

"All the matches are really hard," Gonzalez said. "But the best we can do is just fight as hard as we can and just give our hearts out there and let's just see if we can do that."

The Cats return to action against No. 32 Notre Dame today at 2 p.m. in Lexington.

Ogilvy hangs on; Woods' perfect season comes to an end

By Jeff Shain
McClintock Newspapers

DORAL, Fla. — Never mind that Geoff Ogilvy made nothing but pars Monday. It was good enough to crown him the new king of Doral — and the man who put an end to Tiger Woods' perfect season.

A 30-foot chip-in at the 13th hole highlighted Ogilvy's perilous nine-par outing on the Blue Monster, holding on for a one-shot victory at the WGC-CA Champi-

onship over Vijay Singh, Retief Goosen and Jim Furyk.

Woods was another stroke behind, ending his winning streak at seven tournaments worldwide.

"Seven in a row, what are you going to do?" Woods said after three birdies in his final seven holes gave him a 4-under-par 68.

"I made too many mistakes. I had four three-putts this week, two bad lies in bunkers and a photographer (whose camera went off in his backswing Sunday). All in all, to finish two

back — that's a good sign."

Ogilvy closed with a 71, leaving him at 17-under 271 for the week.

The Aussie recorded just one bogey on the week — that coming on the seventh hole of the final round Sunday when he pulled his drive into a set of palm trees. Not since 1974 has anyone won a PGA Tour event with four bogey-free cards.

"I never really felt like I was getting away with pars," Ogilvy said. "The holes where it was important to hit good shots off the tee, I hit good shots most of the time."

An exception was Monday's par-4 13th, where Ogilvy pulled his 2-iron tee shot left of the green. Then he compounded his situation by fluffing his chip out of the thick rough, leaving himself 30 feet to the hole.

But he made up for it with his next stroke, watching the ball steam toward the hole, hitting the flagstick and dropping in.

It was reminiscent of the chip-in par he made on the next-to-last hole of the 2006 U.S. Open — setting himself up for victory when Phil Mickelson melted down at the finish.

"When you watch people win a golf tournament," Ogilvy said, "something like that happens quite often."

Ogilvy recorded his fourth PGA Tour win — three of them coming in upper-tier events. Four months before winning the Open, he was victorious at the WGC Match Play.

The Aussie becomes just the second player other than Woods to own multiple World Golf Championship victories. Darren Clarke is the other; Woods has claimed 15 of 28 possible WGC trophies.

This was Doral's second Monday finish in five years. A 2003 playoff between eventual winner Scott Hoch and Furyk was forced over to Monday when Hoch couldn't see to line up a putt in the low light of a late Sunday playoff.

Geoff Ogilvy hoists the Gene Sarazen Cup after winning the World Golf Championship-CA Championship at the Doral Golf Resort in Miami, Florida, yesterday.

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UNIVERSITY OF KENTUCKY RESEARCH

Volunteers Needed for Lung Cancer Study

Researchers at the University of Kentucky College of Medicine, Division of Hematology and Oncology, Markey Cancer Center and Cancer Control Program are conducting a clinical research study to examine the effectiveness of blood protein testing combined with Computed Tomography (CT) scanning in the early detection of lung cancer.

You may be eligible to participate if you are:

- a smoker or non-smoker;
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- have no prior personal history of cancer, with the exception of non-melanoma skin cancer.

This study is under the direction of Andre T. Baron, M.S., Ph.D., M.P.H. and Marites Buenafe, M.D. For more information please call the Research Information Line at (800) 617-4077, choose option 3 or (859) 323-1528, choose option 3.

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■ KERNEL EDITORIAL

Montell qualified to lead SG despite lack of competition

An endorsement when there is only one candidate to choose from may seem like a moot point.

It's not. Hopefully the lone Student Government presidential candidate, Tyler Montell, and his running mate, Grant Mills, realize this as well.

This board could have chosen not to endorse Montell. But even though there is no other platform to compare Montell's to, there is no reason to expect a poor performance from Montell.

It is unfortunate that no other candidate is running. The biggest losers are the students, who will not have the opportunity to examine and select which platform they prefer for the future of their campus. This year's race for SG president will have votes, but the counts won't matter. Montell is essentially guaranteed the office. In any democracy, even small, local ones, a collection of diverse ideas is critical for progress. That is missing in this election.

It is also important to note that under the circumstances, the student body and SG was very lucky in having the sole candidate be someone who is very qualified.

Montell has been involved with SG for two years, including this year as the Senate president. He cites experiences with the past two SG presidents as another reason he will work well in the office. And a smooth transition, promised by SG President Nick

Phelps, from this administration to the next one should set Montell up for a productive year.

His ideas for campus, such as increasing the funding the Senate can give to campus groups, seem motivated by a genuine commitment to better UK. Other efforts, like creating a stronger campus community by re-

This board could have chosen not to endorse Montell. But even though there is no other platform to compare Montell's to, there is no reason to expect a poor performance from Montell.

warding students for attending campus events, could be innovative enough to succeed or at least build to future successes.

Montell should realize, however, that because of his lack of opponents, he has more to prove than any other SG president in recent memory.

In past elections, there has been a winner selected by voters. Barring a massive write-in success, whether 26,000 students or 200 vote for Montell, he will be in office at the end of the year.

He has much to prove not only to students who may not support him but to all who did not have the choice of whom to support. He will not have the benefit of being vetted in the election process like past presidents.

Ensuring the return of a choice in next year's presidential election should be a priority for Montell's administration. Increasing involvement and the diversity of ideas in SG can only benefit campus. And next year, students and SG might not be so lucky to fall back on a lone candidate as qualified as Montell.

■ LETTERS TO THE EDITOR

China's media ban in Tibet must be lifted

I have been reading the recent letters to the editor following Linsen Li's March 17 column on China's brutality in Tibet. I am so saddened by the ignorance and more importantly the refusal of those Chinese students to face the facts. They are supposed to be the intellectuals, capable of reasoning and drawing their own thoughts, the cream of the crop coming to the United States to study. If this is the level of their reasoning, China's future is in great jeopardy.

Anybody who is interested in knowing the actual situation in Tibet can do so easily online. Basic human rights, religious rights, cultural, economical, social and the conditions of so on could easily be understood with a little research.

These Chinese students are so quick to dismiss anything that goes the slightest against their government propaganda, as the evil West and Tibetan separatists trying to undermine China. It is comical to hear them say we are swayed by the evil West propaganda, while the Chinese government filters all information entering China: radio, television, telephone, Internet, you name it. Try typing in Tiananmen Square on Google search engine in China and see what results you get. It is very important for the Chinese citizens to hold their own government accountable to them.

Tibet right now is under total lockdown, and all independent journalists and foreign nationals have been removed from Tibet. Many major newsweeks have reported large convoys of Chinese military vehicles moving into Tibet. What is happening right now inside Tibet behind closed iron curtains is anybody's guess.

This cannot go on any longer. China cannot totally isolate Tibet from the rest of the world and do as they please inside Tibet without any repercussions. China must allow unrestricted media access into Tibet.

Tseten Yeshi
Biology graduate student

Allow UN human rights commission to Tibet

I am impressed that the Kernel has continued to print a dialogue regarding the situation in Tibet that was sparked by Linsen Li's column "West's reaction to Tibet unrest reveals widespread hypocrisy." The subsequent personal insights offered by Wenjun Zhu and Jue Bai offered a chance for reflection regarding media bias and points of view. All three of them claim that the Western media hypocritically and unfairly portrays China; however, it is the Chinese government that systematically denies access to an independent media and uses censorship to foster exactly the sort of ultra-nationalism seen in Li, Bai, and Zhu's editorials.

The Chinese government routinely forbids entry of foreign independent journalists into Tibet. As a result, the international community receives vastly different information from Chinese and Tibetan sources.

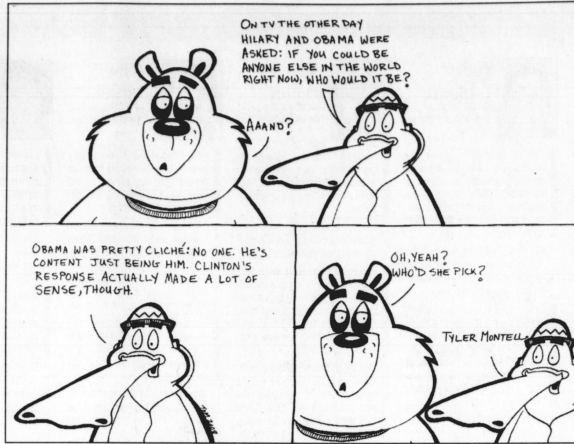
While Tibet's exile movement claims that at least 130 Tibetans had been killed since the clashes began on March 10, officials in Beijing say that only 22 people have died. China also claims to have sufficient evidence to prove this incident was "organized, premeditated, and meticulously orchestrated by the Dalai clique," yet they have not provided it.

Today, when Reporters Without Borders protested at the lighting of the Olympic torch in Athens, Chinese state television switched to a prerecorded scene, preventing Chinese people from witnessing the beginning of their Olympic games. Who are we to believe?

If China wants to block information, then we should assume that they have something to hide. When China prints only one-sided propaganda, then we should assume that this information is inaccurate. By blocking the free dissemination of information, China only makes ideological divides worse, forcing people to make judgments based on unverifiable evidence. The result of such censorship is unreasonable ultra-nationalism that hinders any chance of reform of the current Chinese power structure.

Several leading Chinese intellectuals recently released a petition entitled "Twelve suggestions for dealing with the Tibetan situation," in which they call on their government to allow independent journalists and the United Nations Commission on Human Rights into Tibet. If Tibetans are members of a larger Chinese family, as Bai suggests, why not?

Steve Strock
Molecular biology technician



TOM WILKINS, Kernel cartoonist

Current SG election system leaves student body uninformed

I will not be voting in this year's Student Government elections.

Yes, I know that the elections are

fully available online and that the whole process will take me all of five minutes. In the convenience

time-consumption category, I have no excuse not to exercise my right as a member of the student body to vote in the elections.

However, personally, I don't feel the urge to vote for candidates whom I know very little, if any, of.

It's not a conscious decision to be spiteful of the SG organization or to show disapproval of the candidates on the ballot. Rather, my uninformed voting doesn't contribute to the spirit of the election process.

The whole idea behind holding campus-wide elections is to identify the candidates that best represent the student body as a whole. And ideally, students should know these candidates well enough to weigh their qualifications and to make an intelligent decision.

In practice, however, it's another story.

As the system stands, barring personal friendships, family relations and other exceptions, it is extremely difficult to know a candidate and his/her qualifications for the sought-after position.

The above is especially true for the senatorial positions. While presidential candidates would at least hold an open forum for voters to learn a little about them and their platforms, the only "campaigning" I am aware of that senatorial candidates participate in is posting pointless name-and-a-face signs and indiscriminately inviting people to join their Facebook groups. (Thank goodness I don't see that many signs this year, all they accomplish is making the campus look trashy and distasteful.)

I see no point in voting for senatorial candidates based on their self-glorifying signs (if anything, these signs are a strong reason against a candidate) and repeated Facebook group invites, nor do I believe the popular method of "pick an interesting name" helps to serve my interests as a student.

It doesn't help that there is only one presidential candidate on the ticket this year. I have had the chance to hear Tyler Montell talk about his candidacy extensively, and I believe that he has the tools to be a competent SG president. Montell has the experience inside the SG organization, and he seems reasonable and responsible

enough for the position.

At the same time, I can't help but feel shortchanged as a voter.

To me, it's not about the lone candidate being a qualified one; it's about having two or more candidates who

As the system stands, it is extremely difficult to know a candidate and his/her qualifications for the sought-after position.

offer different personalities and platforms for the voters to choose from. No matter how qualified Montell is, not having an opponent to compare him with doesn't serve justice to the spirit of democracy.

Certainly Montell is not the one to blame for the situation, nor should the fact that he is the lone candidate be counted against him. But to me, to vote for him without having another choice on the ballot is, in a way, an act of defaulting my right to choose a candidate.

This is likely the only election that I am eligible to participate in for a long time. I have to say that I am disappointed with the SG election system.

Linsen Li is a history and journalism junior. E-mail opinions@kykernel.com.

Sex scandals never helped a politician, but disqualification from office?

I care about a lot of different things. Among them are whether the characters will ever escape the island

on Lost and how fast my computer processor can run. Not among them, though, are the favorite sexual practices of elected officials in this country. Whether they prefer guys, girls, eight of each or something in between, when it comes

down to it, does it really even matter? What are the qualities of a good leader? They must be just and be willing to do the right thing even when it's unpopular. They must be fair and not beholden to the interests of any group over any other.

They must have the intelligence and be able to make the extremely tough decision under solid logical reasoning.

With those simple standards established, we then must ask, do they need to prefer a singular female underneath the sheets at night to meet all of those qualifications?

Some people will always argue that anything other than a heterosexual monogamous relationship constitutes such a moral shortcoming that a transgressing politician is not qualified to represent them in any capacity. Often these people are impossible to convince otherwise.

For the rest of us, it is unfortunate that true crimes often end up shifting

focus onto a politician's private life instead of illegal actions. And in the end, the important issues are laid aside while the sexual choices of the accused are highlighted relentlessly.

Former New Jersey Gov. Jim McGreevey revealed in 2004 that he had had an extended extramarital affair with a male employee. This no doubt was a major moral misstep, but does that alone change his qualifications for the job he was elected for? Does it make him too dumb to make intelligent, just decisions in his political life? Obviously the people of New Jersey didn't think so when they elected him without knowing his sex life.

However, McGreevey did take actions that would prove his lack of leadership qualifications. While in office, he gave his unqualified lover a plum job without bothering to disclose their discreet relationship. Without a doubt, this was a reason to toss him out of office.

What should not occur though is all of the issues being wrapped together into one. He was gay. Big deal. He lied to his wife about an affair. Big personal problem. He used his power as governor to give his lover a job he absolutely did not deserve. Now that's a reason to disqualify him from office.

When tabloid news gets a hold of such a story, the real issue gets pushed aside for those that are least important but far juicier to the public. It becomes more about a politician's personal life than the professional actions at hand.

Former New York Gov. Eliot

Spitzer was recently caught repeatedly cheating on his wife with female prostitutes, but it was often difficult to tell if his crime was cheating on his wife or violating state statutes.

Even when there is no potential sexual taboo involved in the scandal as with Spitzer's situation, the public's obsession, rather than legal ramifications, pushes the story. One only needs to remember the Bill Clinton's sex scandal with Monica Lewinsky. What is so well known about the entire fiasco that it became? That he lied under oath as the president of the United States? Or is it that the president left a stain on the dress of an intern?

Granted, there are major problems with a man in a position of power having a relationship with a subordinate, but it's not a crime, and it's certainly not unique. Did any of Clinton's sexual transgressions make him incapable of making good leadership decisions for the country? People evidently were happy enough with those he made during his first term in office, as he was re-elected.

Why the rush to change our opinion of an elected official when we find out what goes on legally underneath his sheets? If we thought well of them before, why do we rush to change our opinion after we find out. It's time to stop worrying about the tabloid reports of a public official's controversy and start thinking about if it really changes what really matters about the person.

Tim Riley is a mechanical engineering junior. E-mail opinions@kykernel.com.

Intolerance of gays to be focus of panel discussion

By Rebecca Sweeney
rsweeney@kykernel.com

Casey Lyons makes a joke when she hears an offensive remark to point out how inane the comment is without putting tension in the air.

"Like, for example, a friend of mine once said the movie 'My Fair Lady' was gay, and I said, 'No, I swear I saw it holding hands with Renaissance Man' last night; it's got to be straight," said Lyons, an English and Spanish senior.

Awareness of harassment toward gays is the subject of tonight's presentation, "In My Shoes: Stories of Our Lesbian, Gay, Bi-sexual, Transgendered, Questioning and Ally Campus and Community."

The panel discussion is part of the Diversity Dialogues series sponsored by Student Diversity Engagement and the Division of Student Affairs. It will be held

If you go

What: Diversity Dialogues Series
When: Tonight at 7
Where: Center Theater
Admission: Free

tonight at 7 in the Center Theater.

Panelists will share their experiences growing up gay in Kentucky and how they have dealt with intolerance and hatred.

Students can fight stereotypes by fighting prejudice in their own lives, Lyons said.

"I think things like that really make a difference, and I do it whether someone makes a sexist comment, a racist comment or anything," she said.

Many people feel uncomfortable around gay people because they don't know much

about what it is like to be gay or why they should support gay rights, said Lyons, co-director of OUTsource, the campus resource center for gays, lesbians, bisexuals, transgendered and questioning students. OUTsource aims to support these students by hosting events and providing access to materials related to coming out and dealing with harassment.

"This dialogue is just to tell our stories and educate people about our lives and experiences to fight prejudice," Lyons said.

Lyons hopes that by hearing the panel's experiences, the audience will have a stronger connection to statistics about gay and transgender people whose friends have bullied them or whose families have kicked them out of their homes.

"This makes it more personal so that people see that it isn't some political issue to be debated, it's people's lives," she said.

Global dishes part of diversity fest

By Jenny Davis
news@kykernel.com

Students, faculty and staff will have the chance to sample customary cuisine from six of the seven continents tomorrow at a UK Cultural Diversity Festival event.

The 19th annual Taste of Our World runs from 11 a.m. to 1:30 p.m. in the Student Center Grand Ballroom. Participants must purchase tickets for individual samples of the dishes. Tickets are \$1 apiece, \$5 for seven tickets or \$10 for 15 tickets and are payable by Plus Account or cash.

Naitore Kiogora, a Cultural Diversity Festival committee member, said this will be her first year attending the event, and she is excited to experience the "popular" sampling that has become a tradition.

If you go

What: Taste of Our World
When: Tomorrow at 11 a.m.
Where: Student Center Grand Ballroom
Admission: \$1 a piece, \$5 for seven tickets, \$10 for 15 tickets

"Students who are not familiar with this event will get the chance to step outside their own culture and experience the richness that other cultures have to offer," Kiogora said. "What better way to experience other countries than through eating their delicious food?"

Justin Blevins, a Cultural Diversity Festival committee member who is helping coordinate the event, said the tasting will offer students a chance to

get away from their everyday, mainstream American food choices like McDonald's.

"We want to give them a chance to sample different foods, but we also want to give them a chance to have a different cultural experience altogether," Blevins said.

Along with the diverse menu of culture-rich foods, Taste of Our World will offer international students a chance to wear their native attire and showcase their talents through performances.

"This is a really great opportunity for students to sample great foods and to intermingling with students of different cultures," Blevins said. "I enjoy working on events like this because it really highlights and brings out the work that UK does for cultural diversity."

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