

KENTUCKYKERNEL

# FINALS GUIDE

May 5, 2003

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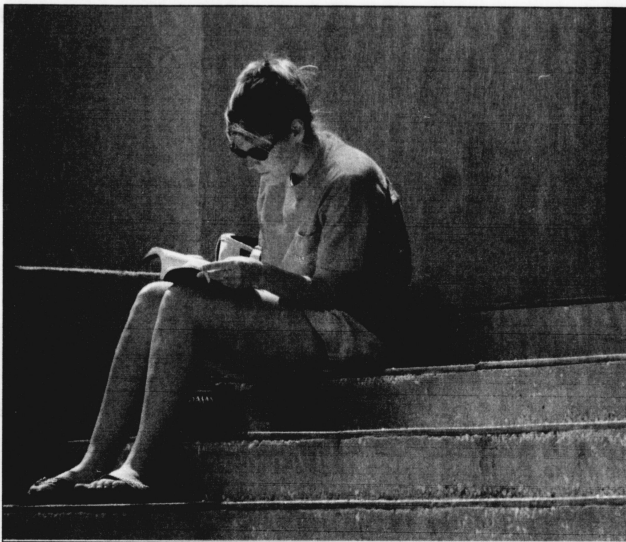
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## CRAM TIME

### Last minute

Elementary education senior Misty Cummins sits on the steps outside the Classroom Building Thursday afternoon and does some last-minute cramming for English 252. "I have a final in 15 minutes," she said.

JOHN WAMPLER | KERNEL STAFF



### Study buddy: Studying in smaller college libraries can be helpful if people are studying similar subjects

By Peter C. Eciow  
CONTRIBUTING WRITER

Kevin Looney had to switch his study place since last semester.

"I just stay at home because the library parking lot is too full," said the business management junior.

Many students and administrators suggest finding a quiet place to study when preparing for final exams.

A good study spot is somewhere that is as distraction free as possible, said Mary Bolin-Reece, director of the counseling and testing center.

Dorm rooms and bedrooms are not usually the best places because they can be distracting, she said.

"You need to find a quiet, visually calm place," Bolin-Reece said. "Looking at the backs of books causes fewer distractions than

the television and posters in your room. You should set an amount of time aside for studying, then leave your room and do it. Think of it like a job — you work, and then you get to go home when you get off."

David Tillery, an agricultural economics senior, said he likes to use the agriculture library in the basement of the Agriculture North building.

"It's quiet. It has a large quiet room, and many people I have class with study there too," Tillery said.

"So if I get stuck, there's usually someone from class there I can talk to."

Elizabeth Arnold, a merchandising apparel and textile senior, said she likes to study at Intermezzo, a cafe and deli on the second floor of the Patterson Office Tower.

"They have coffee, it's

relatively quiet and it is in the middle of campus," Arnold said. "I can often stop there on my breaks to study and I am not far from my next class."

Undeclared sophomore Josh Fowling said he wants to try the amphitheater next to Memorial Hall if it is nice outside.

He said the open space and calm surroundings will help him study during finals week.

Many of the smaller libraries are great alternatives to the W.T. Young Library, Bolin-Reece said.

If students go to their colleges' libraries, they can probably find study partners and reference materials that pertain to what they are studying, she said.

Intermezzo, the Medical Library, the Fine-Arts Library and the Education Center at Dickey Hall are other alternative study areas she said.

"Depending on what you are close to and what your major is, you might find these other colleges better suited for you," she said.

### Lab times

Architecture Library: Mon. - Thurs. 8 a.m. - 10 p.m., Fri. 8 a.m. - 4:30 p.m.

Chemistry-Physics Library: Mon. - Thurs. 8 a.m. - 10 p.m., Fri. 8:30 a.m. - 4:30 p.m.

Education Library: Mon. - Thurs. 8 a.m. - 10 p.m., Fri. 8 a.m. - 4:30 p.m.

Engineering Library: Mon. - Thurs. 8 a.m. - midnight, Fri. 8 a.m. - 8 p.m.

Geological Sciences Library: Mon. - Tues. 8 a.m. - 9 p.m., Wed. - Fri. 8 a.m. - 4:30 p.m.

Law Library: Mon. - Fri. 7 a.m. - midnight

LCC Learning Resource Center: Mon. - Thurs. 7:45 a.m. - 9 p.m., Fri. 7:45 a.m. - 4:30 p.m.

Lucile Caudill Little Fine Arts Library: Mon. - Thurs. 8 a.m. - 11 p.m., Fri. 8 a.m. - 6 p.m.

Mathematical Sciences Library: Mon. - Thurs. 8 a.m. - 8 p.m., Fri. 8 a.m. - 4:30 p.m.

Medical Center Library: Mon. - Fri. 24 hours

W. T. Young Library: Mon. - Thurs. 24 hours, Fri. 12 a.m. - 8 p.m.

## UK honors outstanding achievements

By Ben Fain  
STAFF WRITER

When a record number of students — 4,148 — participate in UK's 136th Commencement May 10, only a select few will receive awards and honors.

But, special recognition will not just go to the award winners.

Senior Carissa Curry, a sociology senior, is the commencement's student speaker.

"I am beaming. This is the biggest honor for me, because it's on the day of my graduation and I get to represent the senior class," Curry said.

Curry said she thinks she was chosen based on her speaking abilities and because her practice speech came from the heart.

The heart of her speech focuses on overcoming adversity by recognizing that everyone comes with "his or her own set of tools," Curry said.

While delivering a speech is nothing new to Curry — she can still remember a speech she made in the first grade — this is a new experience for her.

"I've never delivered a speech to an audience in the thousands before, maybe a couple of hundred, at the most," Curry said. "Every day there is something new for preparing. Like today, we took pictures."

She admits she is not nervous — yet. "I probably will be a few hours before it though," she said. "I hope that it relates well and that they're not yawning."

While Curry will deliver a speech, many of her classmates will receive other honors.

Sullivan Medallions, presented for outstanding public service will go to two students:

• Andrea Murray, an agricultural biotechnology senior, for her work as founder of Girls for Christ, a mentoring program for middle and high school girls, many of whom reside in government housing.

"I'm honored, but I'm not big on recognition," she said. "It's something everybody should do. I really appreciate these kids. Many of them don't have very positive role models in their lives."

Murray also volunteers at UK Hospital with a reading and tutoring program and the City Life House organization.

• Finn Green, a December English graduate, who worked extensively in the fundraising and planning for the renovation of UK's Haggan baseball field. Green received a lot of attention for his undergraduate research project on adolescent substance use and abuse. This is a personal topic for Green.

"I'm a recovering alcoholic," he said. He is also 44 years old. He entered college just weeks before his 40th birthday. "I wanted to learn how to write and how to fill a void in my life," Green said.

Nearly four years later, he graduated Summa Cum Laude, completing a Gaines Fellowship a year earlier — a shocker, considering that he did not like high school.

"I was ready to go to college when I was 40. I was more mature," he said, "I had God in my life."

• Curtis Absher, a non-student, who recently retired after 34 years with UK's Cooperative Extension Program.

Other awards will go to:

• Joseph Chappell, professor of agricultural biotechnology, will receive the 2003 Albert D. and Elizabeth H. Kirwan Memorial Prize, a \$5,000 award for research on plant metabolism and enzyme engineering.

• Dale Bauer, director of graduate studies in the English department, will receive the \$2,000 William B. Sturgill Award, which is presented to a graduate faculty member each year for outstanding contributions to graduate education.

"I'm very excited," said Bauer. "My favorite part of the job is working with graduate students."

## 19-year-old graduating after first three years in U.S.

**Education:** Madina Nigmatulina came from Kazakhstan to Lexington to study; returning home after graduation

By John Wampler  
PHOTO EDITOR

When Madina Nigmatulina started classes at LCC in fall 2000, she was too young to join the sorority she would eventually be old enough to join.

For the most part, being so young and in college didn't faze Madina, a native of Astana, Kazakhstan, a Central Asian country that was once part of the former Soviet Union.

"I was fitting in well with the college culture," she said.

Graduating a year early from high school (in Kazakhstan students graduate at 17), Madina came to LCC, where her older sister, Malika, who graduated UK last

December at the age of 18, was studying.

Their parents supported their daughters' decisions to graduate early and study in the United States, but they did not insist on it, Madina said.

"They never pressured us," she said.

Madina, a business management senior, said that starting college at such a young age didn't concern her. "I was ready," she said.

In order to graduate so quickly, Madina had to pile on the hours, usually taking 18 or more a semester.

Last semester, she got overrides to take a total of 24 credit hours.

Randy Perry, a lecturer in UK's Gatton School of

Business, has had Madina in two of his classes. He said he had no idea that she was so young.

"She blended in quite well," he said.

He added that a sign of Madina's maturity was the fact that she carried herself in such a manner that he did not suspect her age.

Madina's background also helped her contribute to the class. She talked about political, financial and cultural differences between the United States and Kazakhstan, Perry said.

Madina chose to attend UK because of the strong reputation it had in her country in the early 1990s, an

area where she had heard that she was so young.

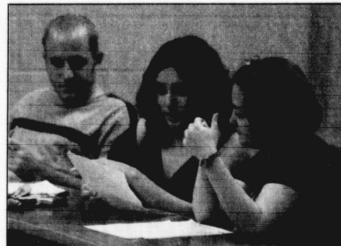
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See SENIOR on 2



### Group project

Madina Nigmatulina (center) looks over some project notes for a math class with group members Steven McLay and Whitney Conner.

JOHN WAMPLER | KERNEL STAFF

## SENIOR

Continued from page 1

exchange program was established between UK and a management school in Almaty, Kazakhstan, she said. Although the program was discontinued several years later, people still talked about UK and continued to come here.

One of the main reasons Madina came to the United States is that she considers it to be one of the world experts in her field of study.

"The United States is known for being able to rapidly develop an economy," she said, noting that as a country it has only been around for roughly 200 years.

With Kazakhstan only being 11 years old as a country, such lessons are important, she said.

"An education from the United States will be very valuable back home," she said.

Madina will be returning to Kazakhstan after graduation, having secured a job with British Petroleum there.

She said that not many people from Kazakhstan who go to the U.S. choose to return. She's one of the few.

"I love my country, and I want to go back home," she said.

Though she has enjoyed her time here, getting used to American culture has been difficult at times.

Madina said that while class-work was doable, culture shock did create interesting situations.

For instance, during her first day at LCC, she had an economics class in which the professor's Southern accent was so thick she couldn't understand him.

"I was not used to hearing speech like that," said Madina, who had learned British English back home.

She had to meet with the professor after class, she said, because she wasn't able to take notes.

"It was one of the funni-



Madina presents her part of a group project in Statistics 391.

JOHN WAMPLER | KERNEL STAFF

est things that happened for me," she said.

Other than confusing accents, classes have not presented much of a problem.

She's made the most of her time here, throwing herself into academics, work, and community service.

"I wanted to make my free time more valuable," she said.

The emphasis of the Nu-bian sorority Zeta Phi Beta on community service drew her to be interested in the group as early as her first year in Lexington.

But there was one problem: she couldn't join them yet. Zeta Phi Beta can only take members aged 18 and up.

However, their service projects are open to the community, and Madina started showing up to virtually every one, said Shamika O'Neil, president of the sorority.

"She's always there if you need someone to talk to or do something," O'Neil said. "She's just always willing to help out."

Some of the programs Zeta Phi Beta does include helping tutor high school students and aiding young single mothers.

Madina said that in some ways the sorority has become her local family.

When she returns home,

she plans to look into the possibility of starting a Zeta Phi Beta chapter at one of the universities there. The sorority is an international organization with chapters in Germany, Africa and the Virgin Islands, as well as the U.S.

While Madina is the only non-black member of UK's chapter of Zeta Phi Beta, she has met women of all races from other chapters.

Besides, she noted, "I'm a minority on this campus too." In addition to her sorority sisters not caring about her skin color, they also don't care about her age.

"We don't think of her as being young because she acts so much older," O'Neil said.

O'Neil said that the sorority hadn't yet discussed making a trip to Kazakhstan in the future, but that it was a good idea to consider.

When Madina spent last summer in Kazakhstan, she spoke to students at her old high school.

She encouraged them to study abroad for college, and then return home once they were done.

Madina said she hopes she has been able to serve as an inspiration.

"I want to be an example to others to show what they can achieve," she said.

# Charley's

says . . .

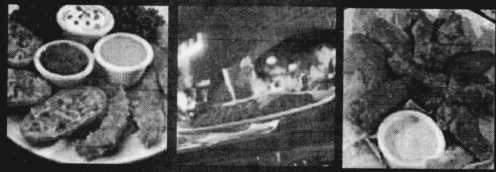
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# Graduation ceremonies take months of planning



A hood for a Masters of Science, a doctoral robe, and a hood for a Ph.D. hang in display at the UK Bookstore.

JOHN WAMPLER | KERNEL STAFF

By Nicole Foster  
STAFF WRITER

As seniors prepare to graduate and move on to the world beyond college, UK is planning its 2003 Commencement.

This year, though, things are just a little different.

The 2003 commencement will take place on a Saturday. "In the past, the graduation ceremonies were held on a Sunday," said Cleo Price, an associate registrar at UK.

Even though the ceremony is being held at a different time, most students do not seem to notice and instead, are focused on graduating.

"I'm busy getting my invitations together," said Sharice Smith, a journalism senior.

The events surrounding commencement are scheduled according to the academic calendar, said T. Lynn Williamson, commencement coordinator.

As is to be expected, there is a lot of preparation that goes into the commencement.

For the Physical Plant Department, planning starts

four to five weeks before the event, said David Iwig, manager of operations at the plant.

"We have custodial and grounds people to take care of the maintenance for the event," Iwig said. "We just want everything to look nice."

The maintenance consists of getting the areas looking as pleasing as possible, he said. These areas include Memorial Coliseum, where the main commencement ceremony is, and the places where the colleges hold their own commencements.

This includes the grassy area between the Student Center and the Singletary Center, where the College of Communications will have its commencement.

"We get the campus in shape for the event, and we make sure the grass is nicely cut," said Jerry Hart, a horticulturist at the Physical Plant Division. "We rope off the grass so that we can keep it green."

Each college sends out information to its graduates concerning their respective ceremonies.

For the main ceremony,

a committee is appointed by President Lee Todd. John Herbst, the Student Services Director, is the chair of the committee, Williamson said. "However, each individual college has their own committee that plans specific events," he said.

Commencement may only last an hour, but some of the planning begins five months prior to the event.

"The months of December and January is what we refer to as crunch time, and in April everyone is busy," Williamson said. "The week before the ceremony takes place is when the various facilities are booked."

Each college provides graduates with tickets, and different guest speakers are appointed to each college. Around 800 graduates are expected to attend the main ceremony this year at Memorial Coliseum.

Those who have been to their college ceremonies say those are an important part of graduation too.

"The ceremony was very important for me and was definitely worth attending," said Faith Scott, a UK alumna.

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# Job market tough for graduates

**Would you like fries with that? Some graduates hiding out in graduate school before entering market**

By Nicole Foster  
STAFF WRITER

As graduation approaches, some students will soon face the daunting task of finding a job and embarking on their new careers.

This could prove to be a difficult feat, considering the current economy and job market that these students will have to cope with after they graduate.

"It's a very challenging environment right now," said Eric Thompson, an associate professor and associate director at the Center for Business and Economic Research. "Companies are shedding employees, and there is more competition."

More schooling is an option for those hesitant about entering the job market, said Michael Desch, a professor and associate director in the Patterson School of Diplomacy and International Commerce.

"For many students, graduate school looks very attractive, and there is a na-

tionwide trend in that respect," he said. According to Department of Institutional Research, UK's graduate school's headcount rose from 2,941 in 2001 to 3,045 in 2002.

Students can prepare themselves for what lies ahead, said professors and staff members. "Networking is very important," said Sharon Childs, a student affairs officer at the Career Center. "Because the market is so competitive, it is very important for students to know people who are in positions that can aid them in the future."

It is likely that students' majors have effects on their future successes with today's market, many said. "I'm in the education field and I know that teachers are in great demand," said Erica Lopez, a kinesiology senior.

Others agreed. "Jobs are tough to come by these days, and it just isn't safe in the state service

or government sectors," said Clifton Jones, a business administration senior.

It is important that students are prepared, and they should be equipped with the tools they will need to find the jobs they want, Desch said.

"Knowledge of foreign languages and cultures, such as Arabic and Chinese, are definitely a plus for students who are graduating," Desch said. "If you have those skills you can basically name your price."

Above all, students must be realistic about what they are doing. "Students have to realize that it can take awhile to get a good job," Thompson said. "There has been a net decline and the number of new hires is lower."

Procrastination, more so that the economy and job market, can be one of the largest problems in getting a job after graduation, Childs said.

"We have students that come and go throughout the semester," Childs said. "About two weeks before graduation most of them are concerned about what to do next."

Despite the obstacles against them, some students don't fear life after graduation.

"I'm confident enough in my abilities that I'll find the job I want because I've been steadily recruited since my junior year," said Ghanee Smith, an accounting and finance senior.



Students need to realize it can take awhile to get a good job."

- Eric Thompson, Associate director at the Center for Business and Economic Research.

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# Students ready to relax after semester

By Leah Roth  
CONTRIBUTING WRITER

As summer vacation approaches, students are devising the perfect plans for their summer getaways. Miami, California, Italy and Mexico are just a few places where UK students are heading this summer.

According to travel agency manager Tanya Robinson, each year brings a set of travel hot spots for college students.

This year some of the vacation hot spots are Pensacola beach, Miami, Orlan-

do, Chicago, New Orleans and Europe.

"This year cruises have also become very popular among travelers," she said. "Students are more prone to travel shorter distance due to the way the semester is almost over and students can't wait to hit the road."

Nate Cheeks, a finance sophomore and a few of his friends have been planning a two week road trip to California all semester.

"It will be great just to spend some time with my buddies after a hard semes-

ter," he said. Rebecca Hughes, a music and classics freshman will be traveling to Ayutla, Mexico on a missions trip with her church. There she will be helping out local churches and also teaching English in elementary schools.

"I'm excited because I'll bring back with me new experiences, new friendships, and I'll learn a lot about myself and the world," she said. Michael Mitchell, a business junior is looking forward to his trip to Miami.

"The beach will be so re-

warding, I can't wait," he said.

Some students, like Latin American studies sophomore Cheryl Caudill and social work junior April Brewer, are adventuring across seas. The two will be heading to Italy mid-June.

"I'm a little nervous about the flight, but it will be worth it," said Caudill.

"I'm more anxious than nervous," said Brewer. "I've never been across seas so this will be a new experience for me," she said.

# Coach Madison Day

This will be his last home SEC series as he ends his 25 year career as Head Coach of the Wildcat Baseball Team.

Weekend series against **VANDERBILT**

on May 9th (6PM) 10th (2PM) and 11th (2PM).

On Saturday, May 10th we are honoring Coach Madison so we are encouraging everyone to come out and celebrate his 25 year career. The first 200 fans will receive a free autographed baseball and a free UK Baseball t-shirt.

Sunday the 11th will be **SENIOR DAY**

We are sending off our 5 seniors:  
Caleb Brock, Brad Pickrell, Russ Rutherford, Gordon Tyler and Scott Wade.

## New UK police chief can't wait to come back to Ky.

By Emily Hagedorn  
ASSISTANT NEWS EDITOR

Returning to Kentucky, UK's new chief of police said having this job has always been one of his goals.

Fred H. Otto III, chief of police at the University of Missouri-Columbia, will take over as police chief July 1. Originally from Fort Thomas, Ky, Otto is a former Kentucky State Trooper and chief of police for Highland Heights, Ky.

"He is a Kentuckian," said Ken Clevidence, associate vice president for campus services. "He wanted desperately to come back to Kentucky because he wanted to be closer to his family."

He is succeeding Rebecca Langston, who was appointed Public Safety Commissioner for the Lexington-Fayette Ur-

ban County Government on Nov. 26, 2002.

Otto said he wants to follow in Langston's footsteps, developing more programs at UK. As police chief, Langston created an open-door policy with other officers and the public, and worked to get the department new equipment and cruisers.

Otto is interested in initiating community-policing programs, where one officer would regularly work the same area, he said.

"It's the people and police working together to decrease crime," Otto said.

Otto has worked at many universities. He was assistant director of public safety at Miami University in Oxford, Ohio, and director of public safety at Northern Kentucky University.

"Fred was very active in

student organizations," Clevidence said. "Not to take anything away from city police or state police ... but it's a very different atmosphere at a university."

Ninety-one people applied in the national search, which began in January. Seven were interviewed. Clevidence helped head the search.

"(Otto) came across as very very strong," Clevidence said. "He came across as the type of person who wanted to take the police department to a higher level."

Otto received his bachelor's degree in police administration and a master's in criminal justice from Eastern Kentucky University. He also got a master's in public administration from Xavier University and he completed training at the FBI National Academy.

## Finding the right cell phone plan isn't easy

By Lindsey Keith  
CONTRIBUTING WRITER

As the summer approaches, new friends may soon have to part. Cell phone plans with nationwide long distance can help keep friends talking through the summer — for a price.

Searching for a cell phone plan to fit specific needs can be a daunting task. Justine Everman, an undeclared freshman, searched a few months ago for the perfect plan for her.

"The number of minutes and cost are the most important features of a [cell phone] plan," Everman said. She added that being from Grand Haven, Mich., she is thankful to have nationwide long distance with her carrier.

Of five local long distance cell phone carriers,

most offer 250 to 600 minutes for between \$30 and \$46. Each carrier varies in prices, and the plans offered have different features.

For instance, Nextel offers direct connect, which is a two-way device that allows users to connect directly with other Nextel phones, and does not count against anytime minutes, which are the peak minutes of phone use.

Here are some options for long distance cell phone service this summer:

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**Sprint**  
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\$45 for 500 anytime minutes

and unlimited night/weekend minutes. This includes unlimited Sprint to Sprint customer calling.

**Cingular**  
\$29.99 for 250 anytime minutes and 5,000 night/weekend minutes  
\$39.99 for 350 anytime minutes and 5,000 night/weekend minutes. This includes rollover minutes each month.

**Nextel**  
\$35.99 for 300 anytime minutes and 3,200 night/weekend minutes. This includes 100 direct connect minutes.

\$45.99 for 500 anytime minutes and 4,000 night/weekend minutes

**Verizon**  
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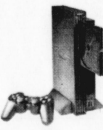
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A lot of people ask the question, "Are we yes people for the NCAA?" McCaslin says absolutely not. "We do have our own voice. The NCAA doesn't tell us what to say. We do argue about student athletes' welfare."

Everyone on UK football offensive tackle Antonio Hall to women's basketball junior center SeSe Helms

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## Athlete shows leadership in SEC

By Derek Poore  
STAFF WRITER

Every couple of weeks during the school year, student athletes talk, and Liz McCaslin listens.

McCaslin, a UK volleyball player, holds a high place in college athletics — she has the duty of representing the entire Southeastern Conference to the NCAA, and she's still a student.

In high school she chose volleyball as her primary sport because it offered a very different opponent than wasn't good at. She's not afraid to take the concerns of student athletes straight to the top, and she battles a very different opponent than a volleyball spike: dyslexia.

McCaslin, 22, is never one to refuse a challenge.

### Juggling act

McCaslin's schedule doesn't seem to end; among her weekly routines, she lifts weights, practices volleyball, attends classes, volunteers at local schools and boys' and girls' clubs, as well as attends UK Student-Athlete Advisory Committee (SAAC) meetings. She exemplifies the recent NCAA TV advertising campaign promoting the vigor and leadership of student athletes, which quips "she's ready to begin."

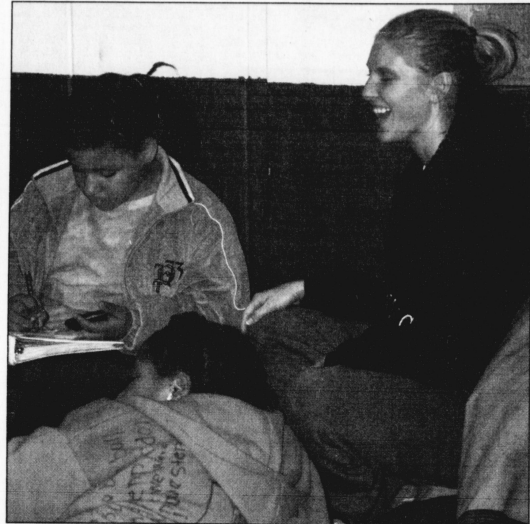
She's not an athletic director or coach, but McCaslin is involved with all aspects of UK athletics.

Being the Southeastern Conference's SAAC representative and the recently elected president of the UK's own SAAC, she has to understand the needs of modern day amateur athletes.

Shortly after 10 p.m., with a one and a half hour meeting coming to a close, McCaslin is still energetic and talkative. As a few students mill around, she focuses her thoughts on what matters most to her — the well-being and concerns of student athletes.

"I became dedicated to volleyball in high school," McCaslin says. "It's more of a challenge. I was much better at soccer, but it was the challenge that drew me to volleyball."

Others have noticed McCaslin's leadership and ability to tackle challenges. "Leadership is so important. You can feel the energy coming from her," explains UK women's volleyball coach Jona Braden. "I think her work ethic is such a great example at a person that works so hard. It's more of an inspi-



Liz McCaslin laughs with 14-year-old Nicole Jones and Julie Jones at the Boys' and Girls' Club of America.

voices concerns to McCaslin when the UK SAAC contingent meets. Every sport at UK is represented here, and the welfare of the student athlete is always a top priority, she says.

Three times a year, McCaslin travels to the national SAAC conference, most recently in Indianapolis. And in July, she'll be going to California to join the representatives from other Division-I conferences to discuss key issues in amateur athletics, such as fifth-year eligibility debates and whether student athletes should be paid. McCaslin serves as the only Division-I student athlete on SAAC's recruiting subcommittee.

"It's an amazing opportunity to get our voice out," she says. "It's a great way to come together. It's an honor."

### Life and leadership

Success seems to follow McCaslin. Born in Scotts-

dale, Ariz., McCaslin came to UK on a volleyball scholarship. She has earned Academic All-SEC honors and has graduated from UK with marketing and management degrees. This fall she will begin working on her masters in business administration.

At Libertyville High School, in a northern suburb of Chicago, she was not a volleyball player by trade — not yet at least.

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ration to cause us to do better. She never tires."

Perhaps her strive to succeed and perform at her best comes from her favorite athlete — Michael Jordan.

Growing up in Chicago, McCaslin loved watching Jordan play. She admires his dedication and how he became an amazing athlete.

"I really have a lot of respect for him in the athletic community," McCaslin says. "He's a great role model for anybody that's trying to be the best."

Her goals are also inspired by ESPN anchor woman Linda Cohn, whom she admires and has had the opportunity to meet.

"I just think she's really eliminated the barriers for women. She's really opened up gates for a woman to have a 'male's job,'" McCaslin says.

Nevertheless, the closest people in her life bring her

See MCCASLIN on 7

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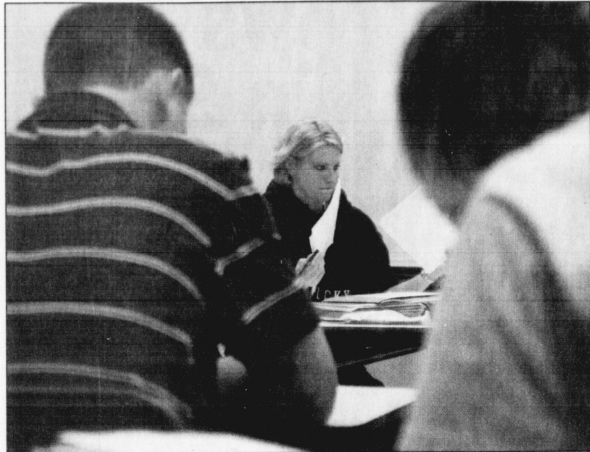
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# MCCASLIN

Continued from page 6



While SAAC members write in their ballots for next year's leadership, the eventual winner in the presidential voting - McCaslin - continues her work up front.

DEREK POORE | KERNEL STAFF

the most strength. Humble about her endeavors, she attributes those accomplishments to the influence of her parents and her boyfriend.

"(They) have been very supportive of me," McCaslin says. "I've never once been told I wasn't capable of doing something. Through hard times I've always had them put me in my place. They don't build me up and tell me how great I am. They speak reality to me, which I need."

"They really ground me and help me focus on what's really important in life."

Passion plays a vital role in McCaslin's outlook on life and athletics, which is the core of her enthusiasm.

"I'm really passionate about making sure that athletes are treated fairly," McCaslin says.

"I believe that sports are an amazing thing to be involved in, and I'm very passionate about having as many people as possible involved in sports for as long as they possibly can."

"I believe it really shapes you as a person. You're presented with so many liked qualities — being on a team, being in a sport. Playing collegiate sports really teaches you a lot about time demands, organizing your time and becoming your own."

**A different challenge**

McCaslin hasn't always had the best of luck with academics.

After graduation, McCaslin was preparing for graduate school when she found out she had a learning disability.

Her grade point average was 3.7, but McCaslin couldn't take her test on time in order to get into grad school, she says.

"When I took the untimed test, I got in the top 88 percent, but when I took it timed I ranked in the top two percent... the lowest."

Because of the vast difference between the two tests, she had to be re-tested for dyslexia in order to pass the GMAT.

"That's when it came out that I had a learning disability," she says.

"I've always excelled in school," she says. "I've had a very hard time. I'll study for a test three hours every day for a week."

McCaslin has no qualms about it. She says she simply does what she needs to, as with any challenge in life.

She says it's difficult to have to study hours each day just for one exam, but not impossible.

**The value of sports**

McCaslin believes sports can sometimes get a bad label but says they are great experiences.

"There's so much involved with sports. I really think sports gets a bad rep, but if you look at the stats there's only 10 percent of women in Fortune 500 (com-

panies) who are CEOs and top people," McCaslin says. McCaslin explains that a vast majority of those were athletes. The Sports Psychology Conference found that 80 percent of female Fortune 500 members participated in sports while growing up.

This is why McCaslin believes that athletes can reap the benefits of being involved with such a strong community.

She wants everyone to get that chance.

"I just think it's amazing the rewards you get for being an athlete. I'm really passionate about making sure that everyone has an opportunity," she says.

McCaslin has regular interaction with the administration, especially with UK Athletic Director Mitch Barnhart, for whom she has nothing but praise.

"I think he's a wonderful guy, and I believe he has the integrity of the athletes in mind with every decision he makes," McCaslin says. "I believe that nothing but good will come out of this program from him. I really look up to him and for everything he's done for this program thus far."

For Barnhart, the feeling is mutual.

She has the ability to understand and know what impacts the institution," Barnhart said at a recent UK Athletics Association Board of Directors meeting.

He also said McCaslin keeps her focus on the stu-

dent athletes' concerns and their welfare.

McCaslin sees this administration as having top-tier quality.

"The administration here is great. Bob Bradley is an amazing person. He helps the athletes out in every way," she says, referring to associate director of athletics Bradley, who also participates in the UK SAAC program as an adviser.

**On passion and success**

As the remaining SAAC members filter out, the meeting room in Memorial Coliseum becomes more tranquil. McCaslin pauses, her eyes find a focal point in the room, and she begins to explain her lifetime goal that anyone can follow.

Her philosophy on life is rooted in overcoming tough challenges, and her hard work results in fruition.

The key to McCaslin's advice on life relates to her fervor for being excited about what a person does in life—even if it's not sports.

"If sports aren't your thing, you really need to be passionate about something," she says. "If you're passionate about something then you'll succeed."

"I think that's the main thing people need to focus on — discovering what their passionate about and really excelling in that."

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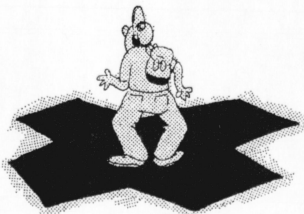
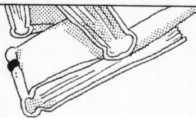
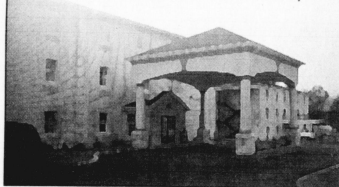
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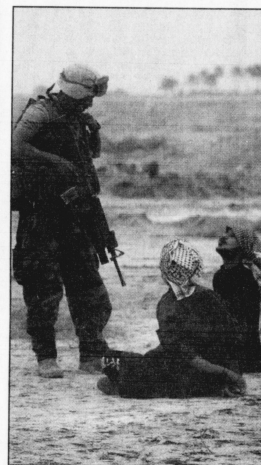
**Mother Nature gets mean**

An ice storm hit Lexington and the surrounding region on Saturday, February 16, although most students didn't see the results until the following morning. Thousands of homes were without heat and power, many for more than a week. UK canceled classes for two days.



**Tim's day in court**

Student Government President Tim Robinson pleaded guilty to charges stemming from 750 cards from a SG voter registration drive that were never turned in to the county clerk. He also resigned.



**War**

U.S. troops now control Iraq, while steps have been taken to install a new government following the fall of the regime of Iraqi dictator Saddam Hussein. Military action was taken by the United States against Iraq after Saddam and his sons refused to leave Iraq. The Bush administration has accused Hussein of concealing weapons of mass destruction in Iraq and supporting terrorists.

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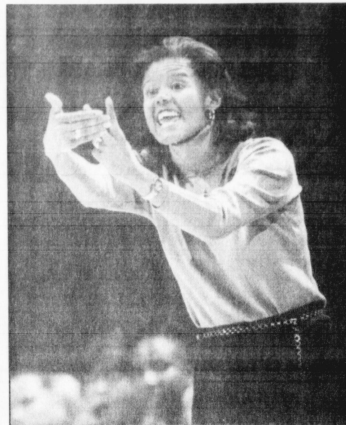
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**Go Tubby!**

After guiding his team to a perfect record in the SEC and to the Elite Eight of the NCAA tournament, UK Men's basketball coach Tubby Smith signed a new eight-year contract this year that will extend his stay at UK through 2011. Worth more than \$20 million, this new contract could make him the highest-paid college men's basketball coach in the nation. Smith won nine Coach of the Year Awards this season, and is the first coach to win all six NCAA-recognized Coach of the Year awards since Bobby Knight did it in 1975. In six seasons at UK, Smith has compiled a 164-47 record, highlighted by the 1998 NCAA Championship. This year, the Wildcats managed to gain a final No. 1 ranking in the AP poll with the nation's best record (32-4). The Wildcats' perfect 16-0 performance in the SEC is only the second time the feat has been accomplished since 1956.

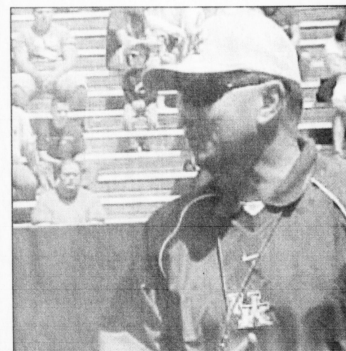
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**Bye Bye Bernadette**

After eight years and a 91-135 record, women's basketball coach Bernadette Mattox retired. Mickie DeMoss, assistant coach for the University of Tennessee for 19 years, has now taken the position.



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**To UK by way of Oregon**

Rich Brooks, former head coach of the University of Oregon's football team for 18 years, is UK's new head coach. He replaces Guy Morris, who resigned to become head coach at Baylor University.

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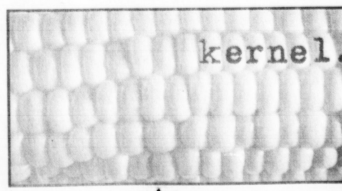
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AND THE LOSER IS ...

# Goldenforks

Every year, the Kernel pulls together its collective brainpower (stop laughing) to mock that which we cannot control. If you are mentioned, please drop all comments in one of the large, blue receptacles located around campus.



FILE ART

## Put a fork in me, I'm done

The undeniable king of Golden Forks this year and last, former Student Government President Tim Robinson has his day in court.

### The 'Drop out of college and smoke' award

To the Kentucky State Legislature for cutting higher education funding and finding a way to avoid a cigarette tax increase.

Maybe instead of handing out diplomas at graduation they should pass out cigarettes instead.

### The 'Maybe I won't be governor someday' award

To Tim Robinson and his gloriously controversial reign as Student Government president. He seemed to be on the way to a classic political career: henchmen in place, down-home persona solidified. His downfall? Outsmarted by 750 voter registration cards.

### The 'Quickest route to Dr. Phil' award

While we're on the subject of politics, what can you say exactly about the whole Paul Patton mess? Sure he ended his political career and made the Democrats an easy target for the 2003 gubernatorial election, but he did get a Kentuckian on Dr. Phil. The quickest route to Dr. Phil? Through Paul's pants.



Guv luv

### The 'Best cry to ever be seen at a news conference' award

To Paul again. His scripted tearfest was one step short of Oscar-worthy. Well, not really, but it might be good enough to score a bit part on General Hospital. He could use a new job.

### The 'Tom Ridge Homeland Security' award

To ResLife and UK Police for a rather restrictive and asinine visitation policy enacted when the United States went to war with Iraq. Granted they quickly changed it, but how much foresight would it have taken to realize that jumping up and down on one foot while presenting your student ID just to sign in your mother was a bad idea?

### The 'Spring cleaning' award

To Athletics Director Mitch Barnhart for cleaning house in UK sports better than a '50s housewife. Sure — they resigned.

### The 'Fact checker' award

To the Kentucky Kernel editorial board for endorsing U.S. Congressman Ernie Fletcher, R, for the U.S. Senate. For those of you who aren't political science majors, he was running for the U.S. House.

### The 'I hope you like eating canned beans over an open fire' award

To Mother Nature and Kentucky Utilities for teaming up and paralyzing Lexington for a week. That's OK, we really didn't like heat and running water.

### The 'How are we supposed to study?' award

To the people who decided to push back the academic calendar by one week. Now the Derby fell the weekend before finals. Unless there's a class in how to make the perfect mint julep or exposing yourself in a Churchill Downs infield, we doubt anyone got in any quality study time on Saturday.



King of Freaks

### The 'King of Freaks' award

We know Michael Jackson has nothing to do with UK, but how can you not comment after that interview? Admit it, you watched it. So did we. And we were afraid. Very afraid. He named his son Blanket. We repeat: He named his son Blanket.

### The 'King of Freaks' award II

Did we tell you he named his son Blanket?

### The 'Raise it while they're drunk' award

To the UK Board of Trustees for scheduling its emergency meeting to raise tuition while UK students were on spring break. Sure they were in a hardspot because state funding was cut, but couldn't they at least let us sober up first? After all, the Cats had won the SEC tournament in New Orleans. Kentuckians feel at home on Bourbon Street.

### The 'Drug factory supply center' award

To the UK Chemistry Department for keeping at least one lab door unlocked, allowing someone to stuff his bags full of chemicals needed to make crystal meth. The break-in lead to what police called the 'biggest meth lab in Kentucky.' Great to know we're helping the state.

### The 'Gymbo' Award

Like a bimbo, but in the gym, the gymbos flocked to the newly opened Johnson Center. Let's get one thing straight: women, you don't need mascara to run on a treadmill and for men, you don't need sculpted hair to lift weights.

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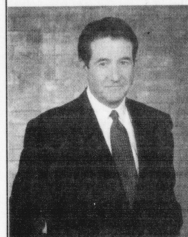


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**KYCPG**

# Editor's farewell: mix of memories



**Sarah Zopfi**  
SCENE EDITOR

By Sarah Zopfi  
SCENE EDITOR

In my last week as Kernel scene editor, many memories of the past three years flood my mind.

I remember being a wide-eyed freshman, eager to learn and write features stories, especially entertainment features.

When I came to UK, Buck Ryan, executive director for the First Amendment Center, gave me a tour of the Grehan Journalism Building and the Kernel. Ryan introduced me to strangers who would soon be my friends, roommates and co-workers.

My first story assignment was to cover an eating disorders campaign on campus. The only journalism experience I had was from my high school newspaper. I turned in my story, barely making it on deadline and waiting with anticipation, hoping it would run.

The next day to my amazement, it was gracing the front page. I was thrilled. Within a week, I found out that front page stories were a regular occurrence at the Kernel.

I began to feel more comfortable hanging out with the Kernelites and met the scene editors of 2000. We had a lot in common when it came to music. Those editors showed me how to write feature stories and prepared me for my future job at the paper.

The editors and I also got together weekly and played guitar together. We were basically a group of college kids who liked to play cover tunes and tried to write their own stuff, but we called ourselves, "The Buckryans." We considered ourselves to be a "real" band.

While some people we worked with are laughing right now — at the thought of us being a band — I take pride in what we accomplished. It was a huge part of my years at the Kernel. Hey, we weren't that bad, were we?

So, with that background, there are a few people I would like to thank, for better or worse, for making my years at the Kernel ones to remember.

Patrick, thank you for being one of my dearest friends, and for living with two girls for nine months. I sure do miss Little Mister Tracy, you were one of the first people I met and helped make living with Patrick easier. Just kidding.

Stacie, I have had the best time living and working with you. You're a great pal. Couldn't you just see us both saying, "Himmm," right now?

Andrea, who could forget our talks at Common Grounds ... boys, the Kernel, boys.

Thanks Scottie-too-Hottie for being ... so hot. Thanks to my journalism teachers and professors, Richard Labunski (even though "Wednesdays with Dick" never got published), Mike Farrell, Dr. E, and Scoobie Ryan.

Thanks Ms. Patsy and Chris Poore for keeping the Kernel folks working toward a better paper and for keeping our tummies full. Thanks to Tom Petty for inspiring me to write.

And thank you Travis for your friendship and love. My years at the Kernel have taught me life lessons and given me a sense of accomplishment.

I will always be grateful.

There are a few people I would like to thank, for better or worse, for making my years at the Kernel ones to remember."

— Sarah Zopfi,  
Scene Editor

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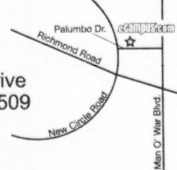


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# Festivities can be cheap, still fun

**Celebration:** Whether it's a quiet engagement with music or an all-night fling with parrots and leis, you can still celebrate the end of the semester affordably

By Robbie Clark  
ASSISTANT SCENE EDITOR

As studying for finals has encumbered your brain to its furthest extent, and the sun has tried your patience long enough, you might want to get out there and celebrate the end of the semester with one final, proverbial "college try."

But perhaps unexpected end-of-the-semester expenditures have taxed your wallet to nothing but your student ID and old prom pictures from high school.

Here are a few, thrifty suggestions to help you with your revelry in case you may find yourself, like many other students, strapped for change once you've filled out your last bubble sheet.

Music is a timeless mode of recreation. The Lighthouse Cafe, a coffee and dessert shop on South Limestone, offers several nights with engagements each week, all of which are free to college students, said David Ponder, one of the owners of the cafe.

He said the establishment allows students to relax in an unobtrusive atmosphere. "There's no pressure on the students. They can listen to music inside or outside on the patio."

On Monday nights, the Lighthouse Cafe offers free recordings for anybody who has original songs and can't afford to have a CD made. Crowds are allowed to watch as beginning musicians lay out their first tracks, Ponders said.

Wednesday nights the coffee shop hosts an open mic presentation by anyone who wants to get on the stage on a "first come, first serve," basis, Ponder said.

"(The Lighthouse Cafe) gives students a place to come and relax," he said, "a place where they can come chill out with friends."

However, if a night away from the house is not what you are looking for, you can bring the soiree to your domain with any number of theme parties.

Party Universe, on West Tiverton Road, sells theme party pack-

ages that are "reasonable priced," according to manager Tammy Johnson.

Some of the favorite packages include a '60s theme party, a Mardi Gras party and a luau, Johnson said.

"The Mardi Gras and the luau are the most popular with college students," she said.

The Mardi Gras package comes with masks and beads, and the '60s theme party comes with tie-dyed napkins and plates. The luau bundle comes with leis and other decorations.

"The luau comes with Hawaiian shirts and parrots and a bunch of different decorations that you might see in Hawaii," Johnson said.

If you are looking for a little adventure for your celebration, Paramount's Kings Island is hosting Grad Night on Friday, May 9, as finals week winds down.

Students, between the ages of 18 and 22 can gain admittance to the amusement park at a discount rate if tickets are purchased over the Internet. Tickets can be purchased at the Web site [www.pkli.com](http://www.pkli.com)

### Let the merriment begin

The Lighthouse Cafe is located at 371 S. Limestone. Live performances take place on Mondays and Wednesdays.

Party Universe is located on 130 W. Tiverton Way off Nicholasville Road. For more information call 272-4497.

Paramount's Kings Island is located north of Cincinnati on I-71. Tickets for Grad Night on May 9 cost \$25 if purchased over the Internet.



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## Bush must prove where his heart is

ABC News released a poll the other day that stated several things. Among the results, 48 percent said that Americans believe they are, to paraphrase the Reaganesque phrase, "not better off today than they were three years ago."

This is understandable. Americans have lost an immense amount of capital since the collapse of the technology boom in the latter portion of 2000 — and, of course, they have witnessed the paralyzing of their nation's economic status immediately after Sept. 11. Yet, even more interesting than that statistic, is what I'd like to call the Bush/Clinton '92 measure, or the "feeling your pain" percentage.

Despite approval ratings that are in the hovering in the 70s, Bush is getting a cold shoulder many Americans. According to the poll, 48 percent believe that he does not understand their difficulties, insinuating that he is too far removed from the average citizen. Uh oh. This isn't that surprising, considering that those 48 percent are much of the same people who did not vote for Bush in the last election, and do not plan to vote for him now. Still, it has historically been the case that if the populace is under the assumption that "you've lost touch" — then you're gone, with the two greatest examples being Presidents Bush (41) and Hoover, each deposed for not dealing with the economy.

Many pundits and analysts have made the connection between George W. Bush and the Scarecrow from *The Wizard of Oz*, but a more alarming connection might soon be drawn between the warrior president and The Tin Man.

His father's icy demeanor and lack of perceived compassion cost him dearly in 1992, and many, including myself, believed that George W. Bush was simply too distinct from his father (in terms of personality) to render a near identical result. Now, I'm not so sure. Granted, Mr. Bush will never strike some people the way President Clinton did: the dissimilar backgrounds of the two men make that all but impossible — but for someone who has tried so hard to emulate "compassionate conservatism," these numbers have to be troubling.

Mr. Bush's greatest advantage, likeability, was something his father just did not have in his presidency. Certainly, people respected the immense credentials of Bush Sr., and they gave him high marks (at least initially) for prosecuting the war with Iraq, but they never liked him.

In retrospect, it is reasonably obvious why that was the case. The public, whether rational or not, had a great affinity for Bush 41's boss, and they expected that the positive economic conditions of 1988 would continue on into the 1990s — and they took notice when the markets (and other indicators) began to slide toward recession.

His son has gone through a similar transition, only a lot more money essentially disappeared, and the war was a lot more widespread — and remains ongoing. It appears that the electorate is on the horns of a reasonably foreign dilemma: how do we treat a president who we like, but whom we don't believe is showing enough empathy for our legitimate gripes?

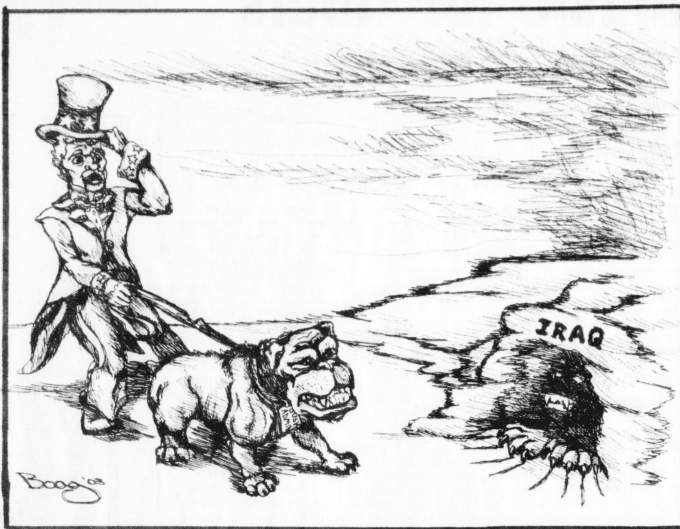
If Bush replicates the PR blunders of his father, the answer will be rather clear — but '04 won't be '92, and Karl Rove will not allow his boss to emulate The Tin Man. How do the Democrats attack this? Al Gore, even in the prosperity era of 2000, gave it a shot. He tried to show that Mr. Bush's personality was not reflective in his budget proposals, whereupon the governor defused the issue by appearing wounded, memorably remarking in a debate that the Vice-President had "questioned my heart," and reaffirming to all the viewers that he did indeed have a good heart.

Forty-eight percent of Americans are now questioning his heart, and as the election draws closer and closer, Bush will have to prove he does care for the disillusioned investor who might be unemployed — otherwise he risks a repeat of 2000, when one state could make all the difference — and a popular war leader could be shown the door once again. This time however, a defeat would be on the order of Winston Churchill's shocking defeat in 1945 — proving that no reelection is a safe bet.

M. Edward Guest is a history sophomore. His opinions do not represent those of the Kernel.



M. Edward Guest  
 KERNEL COLUMNIST



## READERRESPONSE

### Security officers at Mraz show acted disrespectfully

To the editor:

I just got home from tonight's Jason Mraz & Matt Wertz show put on by the Student Activities Board. Originally the show was planned to be in the amphitheater of Memorial Hall but moved inside due to the threat of rain. At tonight's show though, there was a problem between the security guards and police and the students who attended, or tried to attend rather, the show. While I was enjoying the opening set with four friends, one of my friends called and said he wasn't allowed into the show due to the building being at "full capacity". When I exited the building to see what was going on, I gave my ticket to a Lexington police officer at the door and specifically asked him if I would be allowed back into the building. His response was yes and he tore my ticket in half and watched me leave the building. After talking to my friend and then returning to the door, I was told that I wouldn't be allowed back in the show even though I had just left and the police officer specifically telling me I could re-enter.

After accusing me of lying about my ticket being torn and telling me that I came out twenty minutes earlier than I actually had, the security guard told the group of students I was with that no one would be allowed back into the show, whether they had a ticket or not, still citing that the building was at "full capacity" and the fire codes restricted more people from coming in. I was given no reason why I wasn't allowed to reclaim my seat in the auditorium. I was told to simply to be quiet and leave.

They refused to give us the name or telephone number of their supervisor, which is required by law or allow us to talk to the SAB coordinators. Police officers even went as far as physically pushing us out of the doorway so they could close the door in our faces. Eventually SAB committee members came out and gave us the same reasons as the police of the fire codes having to be enforced, albeit in a much more respectful and understanding manner. I understand that the fire codes must be enforced and buildings all have capacity restrictions.

But there is absolutely no reason for police officers, security guards, and the coordinators of the events to treat the students the way they did, even some students who drove five hours from Indiana just to see tonight's show. They simply wanted to push us away and ignore our rights to come in and enjoy the free show like all the other students in Memorial Hall. The Lexington Police at the tonight's show acted like since we were just college students we didn't deserve to be treated with respect or compromised with. I appreciate the SAB's effort in bringing new artists to campus and providing students with an entertainment alternative, but someone must be responsible for the disrespectful and irrational behavior that I and my fellow students received tonight. I am not paying tuition and coming out to a campus event just to have a door slammed in my face, as it was tonight.

ERIN HEDRICK  
 UK SOPHOMORE

### Stuck in summer school? Write for the Kernel.

The Kernel is looking for summer columnists to fill the Dialogue page with witty, thought-provoking prose, primarily with a campus or city focus. We are also looking for cartoonists.

The Kernel publishes weekly during the eight-week summer session. If you are interested in writing, e-mail: [dialogue@kykernel.com](mailto:dialogue@kykernel.com)

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## It would be a better world with record labels

Audie Sheridan  
 CONTRIBUTING COLUMNIST

MURFREESBORO, Tenn. — The music industry as we know it is dying.

It's just too bad that industry execs won't let the poor thing go with form and grace. Instead they keep pumping the same kind of false life into the obsolete music labels as hospitals do to the terminally ill.

Huge centers of creative control, like the record labels, cannot help but eventually die. They rein in creativity until everything looks and sounds the same and bores everyone. Meanwhile, the real talent waits in the wings, happily tooling along making music, movies or whatever — all while broke. These people do it because it's fun. Most of them will never see a dime for their art, and they know it. They don't care.

Sure, a national audience would be nice, but since the airwaves are choked with bland wimp rock and cookie-cutter country "hits," most of the real talent remains economically impoverished.

Older artists like Madonna, on the other hand, are now only in it for the money.

You see, Madonna, Metallica and Eminem are artists

with enough clout that they actually make money on their album sales.

Most artists hardly make a dime on their compact discs. The real money for artists comes from live performances and radio play. Why is this? Because the record labels take all they can from CD sales.

They have million dollar salaries to pay lawsuits against students to fund and huge bureaucratic (hence non-functional) offices to run.

This means we pay \$15 to \$25 for CDs that only cost a buck or two to produce.

Imagine a world where record labels didn't exist.

Artists could come together over the Internet, market their own music and keep some of the money from their creative enterprise. Imagine that — a real free market in the music industry.

Taking advantage of the Internet, artists could build their own Web sites and sell complete downloads of their albums for a few dollars or perhaps ship a fully packaged CD for \$10.

Then, we all could have more of the music we like rather than the crap on the radio now.

When four companies control 84 percent of the U.S. music market, how can you expect anything more than drivel?

Perhaps if the music industry goes ahead and dies, the real talent out there could come to the surface.

So, Madonna, I have to ask you your own question — what the @#& do you think you are doing? When your talent evaporated in the early 1990s, you should have disappeared and made room for real artists.

Artists should be able to make money from their creativity, but for some reason, people actually swallowed the idea that increased record company control is the only way to do this.

It's the record labels that steal from artists — the college students labels are suing just want to hear music.

File sharing will not go away. In fact, it will get more sophisticated and decentralized until the record labels have no choice but to die.

Maybe some creativity could solve the record companies' problem, but then, they're not known for that, are they?

And so the record labels, with their antiquated, 50-year-old business model, will die.

They won't be missed.

Audie Sheridan is a columnist at *Sidelines*, a publication at Middle Tennessee State University. Her opinions do not reflect those of the Kernel.

“Artists could come together over the Internet, market their own music and keep some of the money from their creative enterprise.”

# Pick of the litter: music for finals

**Refresh:** The Kernel scene editors have made a list of CDs to listen to during finals week for some relaxation, sing alongs and stress relief

**By Sarah Zopif**  
SCENE EDITOR

**By Robbie Clark**  
ASSISTANT SCENE EDITOR

It's no surprise that finals week can be stressful. Many people have their own solutions, ideas and techniques to deal with the hustle of this manic week.

Robbie and I have our own solution to stress. It comes in the form of instruments and words, better known as music.

Here are our top six CDs to relieve stress during finals week. Take a listen to them for some relaxation and stress relief.

**Sarah's Pix**

• **Jewel, *Spirit***

Jewel is known for her soft, angelic voice and folk style in guitar playing.

Give her music a listen if you are feeling bombarded by loud roommates or blaring TVs while you are trying to study.

• **Dashboard Confessional, *Swiss Army Romance***

A fairly new band to hit the radio waves, Dashboard Confessional has an acoustic style that is reminiscent of Dave Matthews Band and Travis. Their personal lyrics are what make them unique.

Listen to them if you are having a quarter-life crisis dealing with finals.

• **The Rolling Stones, *Sticky Fingers***

With classic hits like "Dead Flowers" and "Wild Horses," The Rolling Stones create music to sing to.

Listen to this CD if you feel some rage and need to release your anger. They will also get the attention of any older person in your household.

**Robbie's Pix**

• **Bob Dylan, *Nashville Skyline***

Not only is this album good for studying, you shouldn't go anywhere without this masterpiece within an arm's length.

This 1969 album brings poetry and steel guitars together and actually made country music cool until Garth Brooks and The Dixie Chicks messed things up.

*Nashville Skyline* contains the minor Dylan hit "Lay Lady Lay," as well as nine other finely-crafted ditties, but only running 27 minutes long, you might need to hit the repeat button when cramming.

• **Steely Dan, *Aja***

This is another essential album that should not be restricted to simply relaxing, though the Dan is conducive to easy feelings.

With a sly mix of rock and jazz, Walter Becker and Donald Fagen, the creative duo behind Steely Dan, have

arranged eight masterful songs perfect for a background atmosphere while studying or kicking back for a few minutes.

• **Bebel Gilberto, *Tanto Tempo***

With an ambient mix of bossa nova and modern beats, this vocalist has created an eloquent mixture of music perfect for a quick fix of rest and relaxation.

The daughter of jazz legends Joao and Astrund Gilberto, Bebel puts an urban spin on her parents' staples, such as "So Nice" and "August Day Song."

With most of her songs being sung in Portuguese, Bebel on *Tanto Tempo*, this album is easy to listen to without much concentration.

**To ease your mind**

Here's the rundown of the scene editors album pix to relieve stress:

- Jewel, *Spirit*
- Dashboard Confessional, *Swiss Army Romance*
- The Rolling Stones, *Sticky Fingers*
- Bob Dylan, *Nashville Skyline*
- Steely Dan, *Aja*
- Bebel Gilberto, *Tanto Tempo*

“Here are our top six CDs to relieve stress during finals week.”

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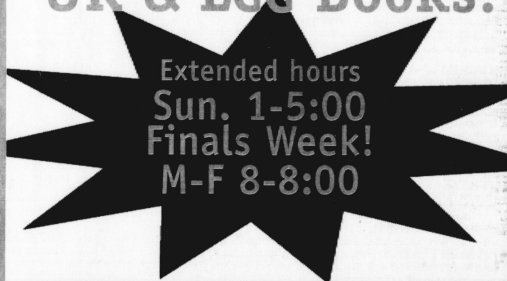
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