

THE Kentucky Kernel

Wednesday, January 25, 2006

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Trustees mull SG oversight changes

By Megan Boehnke
THE KENTUCKY KERNEL

Student Government President and student trustee Becky Ellingsworth told the UK Board of Trustees yesterday that she was disappointed in a proposal that would allow the University Appeals Board to affirm or void an election.

"This is the most crucial problem with the changes. Although not directly specifying the winning candidate, it does

not protect the sanctity of SG's ability to interpret its own rules," she said, outlining the same issues she raised in a column in yesterday's issue of The Kentucky Kernel.

The board received the proposal yesterday, which would clarify the authority of the Vice President of Student Affairs Pat Terrell to monitor SG's actions to make sure it follows UK's written policy as well as the affirming the provost as the final authority

over disputes.

The university decided to examine the governing regulations of SG after last year's election stalled and a winner was not decided until more than five months after students voted.

"Since the Student Government president sits on the board and because there is such a small amount of time that that trustee's term will be (filled) to help the board do its work, I felt that it was vitally

important that we make every assurance that the Student Government Association elections result in a trustee that we can seat in a timely fashion without any qualms or questions about what process is," said trustee Jeff Dembo, faculty representative to the board.

Dembo is also a member of the board's student affairs committee, which voted 3-1 to put the proposal before the board. Ellingsworth was the only com-

See BOT on page 5

Board approves new provost

Kumble Subbaswamy

Age: 54

Education: B.S. from Bangalore University, India, in 1969; M.S. from the Delhi University, India, in 1971; Ph.D. in physics from Indiana University in 1976.



Subbaswamy

Start Date at UK: July 1

Base Salary at UK: \$265,000 annually

Former positions: Dean of College of Arts and Sciences at Indiana University, physics professor at UK (1978-1997).

Tobacco grows into student aid

By Megan Boehnke
THE KENTUCKY KERNEL

The College of Agriculture will now have nearly \$800,000 to help match private gifts in support of undergraduate scholarships. The funding, which comes as part of the federal tobacco settlement, will match \$1 for every \$2 donated of any gift of at least \$10,000.

"This is a great way of perhaps doing targeted recruitment," said Mike Mullen, associate dean of academic affairs for the College of Agriculture, about the potential for more scholarships. "With tuition increasing it's important for us to find ways to offset that cost for students."

Like many schools in tobacco-producing states, UK invested in tobacco research. The university had large holdings of tobacco on its research farm that created income, Mullen said.

"We felt an appropriate use of our quota holdings was to turn it into scholarships benefit as many people as possible," Mullen said.

If the quasi-endowment scholarship program draws private donations the college hopes for, it could potentially generate \$2.4 million in scholarships. That money would go into an account and only the interest, generating about \$120,000 annually would be used to fund scholarships.

The college currently offers students about \$400,000 a year in scholarships. With scholarships ranging in \$500 to more than \$2,000, Mullens said the new funding could help as many as 40 to 60 more students.

News of the program has already generated interest from private donors, Mullens said. So far, \$538,000 has been pledged and the College of Agriculture has matched it with \$279,000.

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Professor discusses scandals with ESPN

By Dariush Shafa
THE KENTUCKY KERNEL

A UK professor in the College of Education will appear today on ESPN, talking about recent scandals in college athletics.



Thein

Education professor John Thein, was scheduled to appear at 1:45 a.m. today on the Emmy award-winning show "Outside the Lines" on ESPN, with the show being re-aired at 12:40 p.m.

The show's focus will be on scandals in the men's basketball program at Baylor University in Texas.

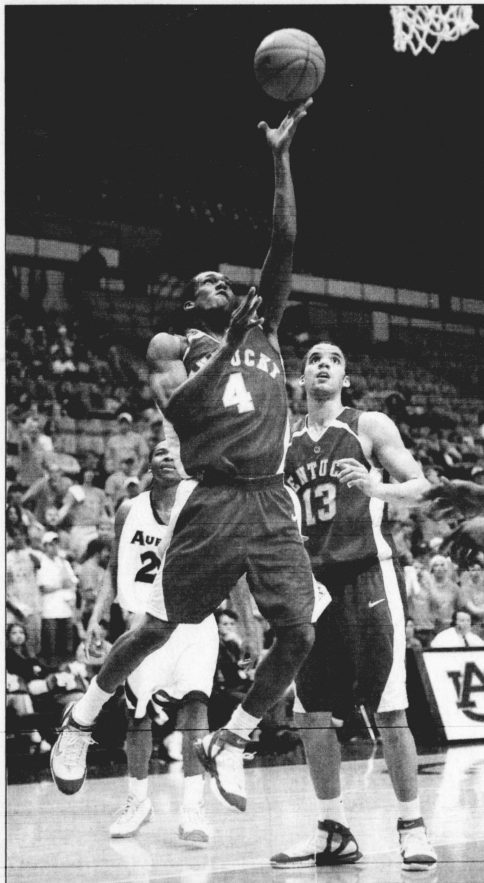
"We considered other reporters, analysts, et cetera, but Professor Thein had a diverse background on

See ESPN on page 5

First issue free. Subsequent issues 25 cents.

UK 71, AUBURN 62

Home on the plains



UK sophomore guard Rajon Rondo goes up for a layup during the second half of UK's 71-62 win over Auburn last night. Rondo scored eight points in a 10-0 second-half run that put the Cats on top for good.

With ninth win in 10 trips to Auburn, Cats extend SEC winning streak

By Josh Sullivan
THE KENTUCKY KERNEL

AUBURN, Ala. — Once again it was Rajon Rondo to the rescue last night.

Fresh off the heels of his game-saving 3-point buzzer-beater against South Carolina on Saturday, the sophomore guard with a new-found knack for coming up big in the clutch went on a tear to propel the UK men's basketball team to its third straight victory, 71-62 against Auburn.

The Tigers had shaved a 16-point UK lead to six with a 15-5 run early in the second half when Rondo took over the game, scoring eight of his 12 points in two and half minutes to lead the Cats on a 17-5 run of their own.

Head coach Tubby Smith said the plan was to lean on Rondo after Auburn clawed back into the game.

"We spread the court for that reason," he said. "We felt like we had a mismatch."

Rondo didn't hesitate to attack the Auburn defense, driving deep into the paint for three layups during the stretch.

"I knew I could beat my man off the dribble," he said.

Though Rondo fueled the decisive UK run, Joe Crawford paced the Cats all night. For the second straight game, the sophomore guard led the team in scoring, tying his career high of 23

See Hoops on page 4

Beware, Cats still bluffing

AUBURN, Ala. — You can play just a decent hand of poker and, at the end of the night, still win.

If you get the right cards.

The same is true for a very good team playing against weaker competition.

The wins become routine: scoring more points and winning hide problems.

Problems like being out-rebounded, playing suspect defense, having no



Chris Johnson

SPORTS EDITOR

See Johnson on page 4

\$576.7 million

UK's total endowment at the end of 2005, 93rd nationally

\$607.6 million

Univ. of Louisville's total endowment, 89th nationally

\$861.6 million

Berea College's total endowment, 63rd nationally

UK endowment still lags behind Berea College, UofL

By Dariush Shafa
THE KENTUCKY KERNEL

UK's endowment continues to grow, but the school stands 93rd nationally in total endowments and trails the University of Louisville and Berea College, according to a recent study.

The endowment, which is the amount of money gifted to the university along with returns from the investment of that money, stands at \$576.7 million at the end of 2005, up \$50.2

million from 2004, an increase of 9.5 percent.

According to recent study by the National Association of College and University Business Officers, UK ranks 93rd in total endowments. Other universities in the state ranked far lower, with Transylvania University at 234th, Asbury College at 316th, Western Kentucky University at 375th and Murray State at 528th. But two state universities were ranked higher than UK, with UofL at 89th and Berea College

at 63rd.

UK's endowment has seen particularly good times over the past six years, more than doubling since 1998, when the endowment was \$220 million.

"UK's endowment has significantly grown in the past six or seven years because of the research challenge trust fund," said Susan Krauss, director of investment and endowment services, referring to an arrangement with the Kentucky Council

See Endowment on page 5

Newsroom: 257-1915

**UNIVERSITY OF KENTUCKY
CRIME REPORT**

Selected reports from Jan. 18 to Jan. 23

- Jan. 18: Theft of office hours sign and political cartoon from door reported 460 Cooper Drive at 7:36 a.m.
- Jan. 18: Car reported misplaced or stolen at 460 Cooper Drive at 9:20 a.m.
- Jan. 18: Theft of backpack from locker at 434 Complex Drive at 12:38 p.m.
- Jan. 18: Theft of money from cash register reported at K-Lair Grill at 5:11 p.m.
- Jan. 19: Threatening reported at Peterson Service Building at 11 a.m.
- Jan. 19: Harassing communication reported at Commons Market at 6:26 p.m.
- Jan. 19: Theft reported at UK Medical Center at 10:24 p.m.
- Jan. 20: Suspicious person seen looking into cars parked on Sorority Circle at 327 Columbia Terrace at 12:59 a.m.
- Jan. 20: Someone appears to be sleeping on the street at Washington Avenue and Rose Street at 9:05 a.m.
- Jan. 20: Man in hospital gown refused to leave UK Medical Center at 9:20 a.m.
- Jan. 20: Theft from auto reported at 845 Red Mile Road at 11:03 a.m.
- Jan. 20: Criminal mischief reported at 305 Euclid Ave. at 2:01 p.m.
- Jan. 20: Hit-and-run accident reported outside W.T. Young Library at 4:35 p.m.
- Jan. 21: Alcohol intoxication reported at Woodland and Hilltop Avenues at 12:26 a.m.
- Jan. 21: Man and woman reported fighting on Rose Street at 2:16 a.m.
- Jan. 21: Two suspicious subjects reported at AStEC building at 9:03 p.m.
- Jan. 21: Assault reported at 3414 Iron Works Pike at 9:53 p.m.
- Jan. 21: Resident adviser complains someone has burned a deck door at Kirwan III at 10:42 p.m.
- Jan. 22: Student believed to have alcohol at Blanding III at 2:03 a.m.
- Jan. 22: Manager reports a possible drive-off at the Speedway on Limestone Street.
- Jan. 22: Theft of banner reported at Lambda Chi Alpha fraternity house at 8:39 p.m.
- Jan. 22: Drug use reported at Kirwan II at 11:24 p.m.
- Jan. 23: Theft reported at 807 Limestone St. at 9:10 a.m.
- Jan. 23: Theft reported at Patterson Office Tower at 10:09 a.m.
- Jan. 23: Harassing communication reported at UK Medical Center at 12:54 p.m.
- Jan. 23: Theft reported at Patterson Office Tower at 2:20 p.m.
- Jan. 23: Assault reported at 305 Euclid Ave. at 4:44 p.m.
- Jan. 23: Male subject passed out in room at Kirwan III at 8:22 p.m.
- Jan. 23: Suspicious person asking for money reported at Haggin Hall at 11:32 p.m.

Compiled from reports at the UK police department.
Compiled by Tim Wiseman
E-mail twiseman@kykernel.com

NEWS BRIEFS

UK pharmacy professor earns award

Craig Martin, an assistant professor in the College of Pharmacy, was awarded the Clinician of the Year Award by the Society of Infectious Disease Pharmacists at the group's meeting last month.

The Society of Infectious Disease Pharmacists maintains a special focus on appropriately using antimicrobial agents to combat disease. Martin, a 1989 graduate of the UK College of Pharmacy, was selected for the award because of his work in managing use of antimicrobial drugs at the UK Chandler Medical Center, where he serves as clinical pharmacist for the Antimicrobial Management Team.

Saddam trial delayed again

BAGHDAD, Iraq — The court trying Saddam Hussein abruptly called off Tuesday's session, asserting that some witnesses and complainants were away on pilgrimage to Mecca and did not show up.

Tribunal spokesman Raed Juhri announced the delay only after a four-hour wait for Tuesday's scheduled session to start. The court is set to reconvene Sunday, Juhri said. He refused to say who the missing witnesses and complainants were, or why the court waited past midday to delay the hearing. The trial has been plagued by months of delays and postponements.

Panel approves Alito nomination along party lines

WASHINGTON — Democrats all but conceded the Supreme Court confirmation of Samuel Alito to Tuesday, but signaled they will use the Senate debate that begins Wednesday to focus on President Bush's domestic spying program and their predictions that Alito will be too pliant in supporting it.

The Senate Judiciary Committee voted along party lines to recommend Alito's confirmation, depriving him of the bipartisan support enjoyed by most current justices and setting the stage for a sharply partisan Senate debate this week. The committee's 10 to 8 vote, which was anticipated, occurred after stinging criticisms by Democrats, including the three who had supported Chief Justice John G. Roberts Jr. last fall.

Democratic leaders indicated they will attack Alito's record in the Senate floor debate expected to last until Friday or later. But they

strongly hinted there will be no filibuster, a parliamentary tactic that conceivably could enable Democrats to block the confirmation in a 100-member chamber where Republicans hold 55 seats.

UPN and WB join to form network

In a stunning move that suddenly shrinks the television landscape, CBS Corp. and Warner Bros., on Tuesday announced they were shutting down their struggling WB and UPN networks and replacing them with a new network called "the CW."

The joint venture of two long-time competitors was a clear admission that in today's cluttered media market, six English-language broadcast networks are one too many. By building a fifth network with their best shows — among them, the WB's "Gilmore Girls" and UPN's "America's Next Top Model" — they hope to attract younger viewers and the advertisers who court them.

The new network, which launches in September, will be jointly owned by CBS and Time Warner Inc. It will immediately be available in nearly half of the country.

Disney to buy Pixar

WASHINGTON — Walt Disney Co. announced Tuesday that it will acquire Steve Jobs' Pixar Animation Studios in a deal aimed at restoring the Disney magic in the age of computer-generated animation.

Disney has been slow to embrace the newer technologies behind such Pixar-produced hits as "Toy Story" and "Finding Nemo." The media giant hopes buying one of Hollywood's hottest filmmakers for \$7.4 billion in stock will help it in the intensifying competition for the hearts of young moviegoers.

"The goal here, above all else, is to make great animated films — the rest kind of takes care of itself," Disney's new chief executive, Robert Iger, said in a conference call with investors Tuesday.

The deal opens the possibility of a wider partnership between Disney and Jobs, Pixar's chief executive and the head of Apple Computer Inc. Jobs, who would become a Disney director after the merger, has helped foster the cultural phenomenon of portable digital music and video with Apple's iPod.

COMPILED FROM STAFF, WIRE REPORTS



Collegiate

— MONDAY —
"Rally At The Ally"
 UNLIMITED BOWLING
 2 for 1 Drink Specials
10 PM - 1 AM
 \$9.95 per person

— TUESDAY —
"COLLEGE NIGHT"
 UNLIMITED BOWLING
 \$1.00 16oz Drafts
9 PM - 1 AM
 \$9.95 per person

— WEDNESDAY —
"SPIN TO WIN"
 Prizes • Prizes • Prizes
 UNLIMITED BOWLING
9 PM - 1 AM
 \$9.95 per person

— THURSDAY —
"COLLEGE NIGHT"
 AT EASTLAND
 "Wildcat Country Night"
 \$1.00 16oz Drafts
\$8.00 per person

— FRIDAY & SATURDAY —
"GLOW BOWL"
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Questions regarding the Ellis Loan Program may be directed to the University of Kentucky College of Engineering, 257-8827

Win A FREE Trip

Students: Winners of the following tournaments will be eligible to compete in the ACUI competition in North Carolina on February 17-19.

Table Tennis Tournament

Thursday, Jan. 26

7-9pm In the Cats Den

Racquetball Tournament

Feb. 7 & 8

Courts open at 6pm, begins at 7pm

Seaton Center

?s: Call the Cats Den

Programming Office: 859-257-2544



FRAME X FRAME | In theaters and on shelves



PHOTO COURTESY OF TWENTIETH CENTURY FOX
Martin Lawrence reprises his role as FBI Agent Malcolm Turner whose alter ego "Big Momma" brings the law in "Big Momma's House 2." The film opens Friday at Lexington Green, Woodhill and Regal.

IN THEATERS

BIG MOMMA'S HOUSE 2

Martin Lawrence is back in this much-needed sequel to 2000's classic piece of American cinema, "Big Momma's House." The plot may be a bit too complicated for some of you non-intellectuals, so pay attention. Lawrence's character, Malcolm Turner, goes undercover wearing a fat-suit to root out the dastardly forces behind a computer worm that would compromise national security. Isn't there a better way to infiltrate a terrorist organization than pretending to be an obese nanny? Not if hilarity is meant to ensue! This epic opens Friday at Lexington Green, Regal and Woodhill.

ANNAPOLIS

Who would have imagined film producers would find a way to combine the heart warmth and triumph of "Rocky" with the adventure-driven military spirit of "Top Gun"? It stars James Franco ("Spiderman") as an unlikely plebe at the Naval Academy who swoons for an upper-classman who helps him hone his boxing skills, Jordana Brewster ("The Fast and the Furious"), naturally complicating his already fragile

world. Opens Friday at Lexington Green, Regal and Woodhill.

LOOKING FOR COMEDY IN THE MUSLIM WORLD

Yeah, this has been out at the Kentucky for the last week. Sorry we missed it earlier, because the seemingly endless War on Terror could use some serious and smart comic relief, and this film pulls it off without being too political or crass. The film follows writer, star and director Albert Brooks ("Finding Nemo," "Taxi Driver") as himself after the U.S. Government sends him to India and Pakistan on a quest to build rapport with Muslims through laughter. At the Kentucky.

ON DVD

THE ARISTOCRATS

The basic idea of "The Aristocrats" is that there's a framework for a joke so vile and disturbing that most comedians never get to share their own versions, so this film works as that opportunity. Of particular note are the contributions from the South Park gang and Sarah Silverman ("Jesus is Magic") who both bring the standards of decency to an all-time low, and it

couldn't be funnier.

THE FOG

Starring Tom Welling ("Smallville") and Maggie Grace ("Lost"), this flick is an inferior remake of the classic 1980 John Carpenter film of the same title which had Jamie Lee Curtis to help it along. There's a mysterious fog that conceals a marauding band of lepers' ghosts bent on wreaking revenge on a coastal Northern California town. The DVD special features on this disc are laughably titled; they include "Feeling the Effects of the Fog" and "Seeing Through the Fog." I get it, guys.

THUMBSUCKER

A weird one. In it a young teen, Justin Cobb, played by Lou Pucci ("Empire Falls," "Fifty Pills") has a heinous thumb-sucking problem that's ultimately treated with Ritalin. A high school debate coach, played by Vince Vaughn, and an orthodontist, oddly cast as Keanu Reeves, aids him. One of few movies that discuss the negative effects change can have on an individual, "Thumbsucker" is at least worth a try.

— Compiled by Asst. Features Editor Ian Conley

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ONTAP | For the week of JAN. 25 - JAN. 31

TONIGHT
Duwayne Burnside w/ Jimbo Mathus
8 p.m. The Dame. Tickets cost \$8.

moe.
8 p.m. Jillians, Louisville. Tickets cost \$22.

Willie Eames
10 p.m. Cheapside. Tickets cost \$2.

TOMORROW
i. Inside w/ Family Forces and Fighting Instinct
9 p.m. The Dame. Tickets cost \$5.

Honky Tonk Night w/ The Shut-ins and Mountain Gossip
9 p.m. High Life Lounge. Tickets cost \$4.

FRIDAY
Uncle Kracker
7:30 p.m. Caesars Indiana, Elizabeth, Ind. Tickets cost \$25 to \$30.

Derek Trucks w/ Grace Potter and The Nocturnals
8 p.m. Bogarts, Cincinnati. Tickets cost \$22.

Bill Engvall
8 p.m. Louisville Palace. Tickets cost \$31.75.

Walter
9 p.m. Common Grounds. Free.

BR5-49
9 p.m. Southgate House, Newport. Tickets cost \$12 to \$15.

Whiskey Daredevils w/ Barnyard Burlesque and Hogscraper
10 p.m. High Life Lounge. Tickets cost \$6.

SATURDAY
Mark O'Connor
8 p.m. Singletary Center for the Arts. Tickets cost \$20 to \$40.

Kenny Rogers
8 p.m. Louisville Palace. Tickets cost \$40 to \$80.

SUNDAY
The D-5
9 p.m. Southgate House, Newport. Free.

TUESDAY
Nile w/ Decapitated, With Passion, Hypocrisy, Raging Speedhorn and Solient Greenz
7:30 p.m. Bogarts, Cincinnati. Tickets cost \$20.

Dark Star Orchestra
8 p.m. The Dame. Tickets cost \$20.

Jeff Hanson w/ Southerly
8:30 p.m. Southgate House, Newport. Tickets cost \$7.

— Compiled by Projects Editor Crystal Little

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JUMBLE
Unscramble these four Jumbles. One letter to each square. To form four ordinary words.

TCHAB
MYNAL
KEBTUC
RESPON

Print answer here: "_____"

Yesterday's Jumbles: BERET LIGHT TRIPLE DURESS
Answer: How the guard described the prison
equivalent — A STAR IN THE STAR

COMEDY CARAVAN
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laugh out loud!

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Confident Crawford takes lead

By Josh Sullivan
THE KENTUCKY KERNEL

AUBURN, Ala. — Last night Joe Crawford began making good on his goal for 2006.

"It was my New Year's resolution to get to the free throw line a little more," he said after scoring 23 points to lead the Cats in their 71-62 victory over Auburn.

"(Coach) wants me to get to the free throw line a little more."

"He's got a physical build, he's strong," said UK head coach Tubby Smith. "He's got a good touch, going 9-for-11 in the game."

Crawford got to the line just once against South Carolina on Saturday, when the Cats made it to the charity stripe just four times as a team compared to the thirty trips they made last night.

The sophomore guard is quietly developing into one of the premier offensive threats for the Cats after averaging just 3.2 points per game in his freshman season. Last night was the second straight game in which Crawford led the team in the scoring column, after he put up 15 against the Gamecocks.

"Shooting is all about confidence," Smith said.

Crawford appears to be developing more and more confidence each game. Last night he nailed his first three 3-point attempts in the first half, including a bomb where he hesitated with a defender in his face, then let fly.

"I normally wouldn't take that shot but I felt it," Crawford said.

Crawford was the only Wildcat to hit a 3-pointer in the second half, as UK went just one of 11 from the arc after the break.

"(With) that flurry of threes at the beginning of the second half, we almost shot ourselves out of the game, but he was the only one to make one," Smith said.

Sophomore guard Rajon Rondo credited Crawford with picking up the scoring slack against the Tigers with starting center Randolph Morris on the bench in foul trouble.

"He stepped up. Our other guys were in foul trouble a little bit," Rondo said.

Crawford also did the dirty work for the Cats underneath, leading UK with nine rebounds.

"Joe was in there mixing it up," said senior guard Patrick Sparks. "That's what we needed."

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Kentucky (71)

| NAME | mp | pts | 3pt | ft | a | of | st | tr |
|----------|-----|-------|------|-------|----|----|----|----|
| Rondo | 37 | 5-13 | 1-3 | 0-0 | 3 | 0 | 0 | 12 |
| Sparks | 25 | 2-6 | 1-2 | 0-0 | 5 | 1 | 3 | 3 |
| Crawford | 33 | 10 | 4-9 | 1-1 | 1 | 2 | 2 | 23 |
| Perry | 29 | 3-5 | 1-3 | 0-0 | 4 | 4 | 7 | 2 |
| Morris | 14 | 3-6 | 0-0 | 2-4 | 0 | 4 | 0 | 8 |
| Smith | 4 | 1-2 | 0-0 | 0-1 | 1 | 1 | 2 | 7 |
| Miss | 24 | 1-4 | 1-3 | 4-2 | 1 | 2 | 7 | 2 |
| Bradley | 9 | 1-2 | 0-0 | 1-1 | 1 | 1 | 1 | 2 |
| Thuralt | 6 | 0-0 | 0-0 | 1-2 | 0 | 0 | 1 | 1 |
| Thomas | 10 | 1-2 | 0-1 | 0-0 | 1 | 1 | 1 | 1 |
| TEAM | 200 | 22-51 | 7-21 | 20-30 | 12 | 18 | 34 | 71 |

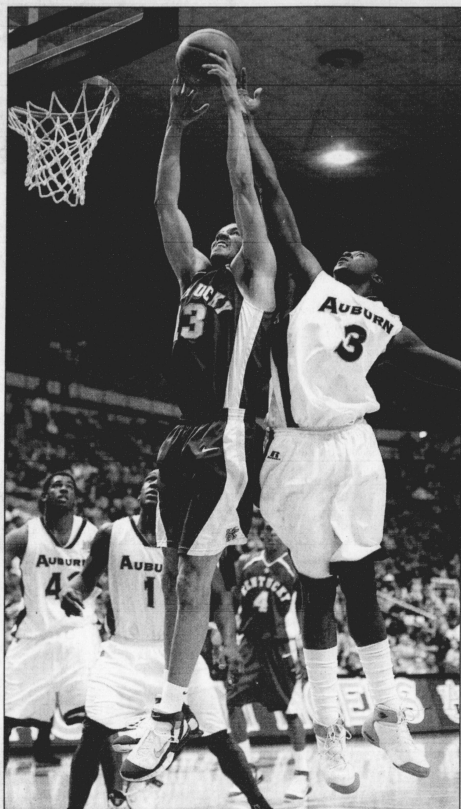
Auburn (62)

| NAME | mp | pts | 3pt | ft | a | of | st | tr |
|-----------|-----|-------|------|-------|----|----|----|----|
| Barber | 16 | 2-3 | 0-0 | 0-1 | 0 | 0 | 5 | 3 |
| Cammon | 11 | 0-0 | 0-0 | 0-0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 |
| Barrett | 30 | 4-9 | 1-3 | 1-5 | 0 | 2 | 4 | 12 |
| Robertson | 40 | 3-9 | 1-3 | 1-1 | 1 | 1 | 4 | 12 |
| LaMelle | 37 | 5-12 | 2-8 | 1-2 | 1 | 3 | 4 | 13 |
| Labrett | 20 | 4-8 | 1-2 | 1-1 | 1 | 1 | 4 | 14 |
| Hayes | 12 | 1-3 | 0-1 | 0-0 | 1 | 2 | 2 | 7 |
| Swilley | 24 | 2-5 | 1-2 | 1-1 | 3 | 3 | 6 | 7 |
| Hawell | 0 | 0-0 | 0-0 | 0-0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 |
| TEAM | 200 | 21-50 | 6-21 | 14-24 | 10 | 28 | 35 | 62 |

Kentucky 39 32-71

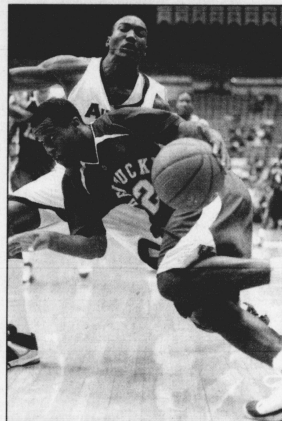
Auburn 28 34-62

Field goal shooting: UK 43.1, AUB 42.0. Free throw shooting: UK 66.7, AUB 58.3. Technical fouls: Turnovers: UK 17, AUB 17. Blocked shots: UK 0, AUB 2. Officials: Tony Greene, Bert Smith, Karl Hess. Attendance: 6,605. Records: UK 13-13 (2), AUB 9-9 (5).



NextGame

Arkansas at UK
1 p.m., Saturday
Rupp Arena



PHOTOS BY KEITH SHIMLEY | STAFF
Left: Auburn freshman forward Josh Dollard tries to grab a rebound away from UK junior forward Bobby Perry during the first half of UK's 71-62 win at Auburn last night.

Above: Sophomore guard Joe Crawford pushes past Auburn freshman forward Korvotney Barber on his way to the basket during the second half last night. Crawford tied a career-high with 23 points in UK's third straight victory.

Hoops

Continued from page 1

points.

Crawford was a force both inside and outside, draining four of six 3-point shots, drawing several fouls in the paint and knocking down nine of 11 free throw shots. He also led the Cats in rebounds, pulling down nine boards.

"Joe was outstanding tonight getting to the free throw line, attacking the basket and making his shots," Smith said.

Crawford's inside presence helped the Cats notch 28 points in the paint despite being forced to make due without starting center Randolph Morris for a majority of the game. Morris logged only 14 minutes after getting in early foul trouble. He sat out the final six minutes of the first half after picking up his second personal, then went back to the bench just eight seconds into the second half after drawing his third.

"Randolph's foul trouble certainly hurt us," Smith said. "This is two games in a row he's struggled staying in the game. Based on the way he played tonight, he needs a lot more time (to get on track). He's got to be more conscious of playing without fouling."

Smith hinted that Morris' tendency to

get in foul trouble might stem from his lax attitude in practice.

"You've got to be a little more serious-minded in shoot-arounds and practice because it carries over," he said.

UK's defense was a mixed bag in the first half. Though they allowed the Tigers to knock down half of their shots in the first twenty minutes, the Cats forced 12 turnovers before intermission. They converted those Auburn miscues into 18 points and took a 39-28 lead into the locker room. UK stiffened up on Auburn's shooters in the second half, holding the Tigers to 42 percent from the field for the game.

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Johnson

Continued from page 1

consistent inside presence and finishing sloppily against an Auburn press that hadn't shown its teeth during the rest of the evening.

It helps when the aces up your sleeve can beat the eights and nines playing defense against them.

The ace of hearts: Joe Crawford. UK fans swoon when they see a 3-point shooter, and Crawford buried four in a row on a night in which he finished with 23 points, tying a career high he set earlier this season against Ohio, five of 10 from the field with nine rebounds.

He got a bunch of points from the charity stripe, a sign of activity around the basket and effort overall.

"It was my New Year's resolution to get to the free throw line a little more," Crawford said, not an inkling of a smile on his face, speaking of his-nine for 11 night at the

charity stripe.

"The spread offense plays to his strength, which is putting the ball on the floor," UK head coach Tubby Smith said. "Our offense is allowing him to thrive."

The ace of spades: Rajon Rondo. The hare-racing quickness of UK's sophomore guard allowed him to get deep penetration on Auburn's Quanzie Robertson on four second-half possessions.

The result: a 10-0 run, Rondo scoring eight points on four layups, extending the Cats' lead from eight to 18.

"We spread out — I knew I could beat my man off the dribble," he said.

"I think they (Auburn) were a little fatigued at the time," Smith said. "Rondo was able to push through. He has the ability to go by a guy, protect the ball and jump. Obviously, we like to put the ball in his hands."

The ace of diamonds: Randolph Morris.

He changes the game when he's in it, which was not very much at all last night.

But in Morris' 14 minutes, he racked up six shot attempts, four free throws and several

at double teams.

"Randolph Morris' foul trouble hurt us

and it hurt him," Smith said. "We have to get him to be more conscious of playing without fouling."

"Not really a consistent effort from the third ace.

Not, according to Rondo, as if that's a problem.

"We've got so many talented guys," Rondo said. "As long as someone's stepping up, we don't need a (consistent threat), but in the long run, we'll need someone consistent."

They don't need one now because the opposition can't even muster a full house (Beard-Eaves Coliseum sits 10,500, a paltry 6,651 showed) to play with UK's three aces.

But when you play the teams that can make you go all-in, the Floridas, Tennessees and LSUs, a consistent threat that can bang and hang with the best in the conference is going to be necessary.

Because the wins over the Georgias and Auburns aren't going to get you to the final table.

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BOT

Continued from page 1

mittee member to vote against the proposal.

Ellingsworth emphasized the importance of having a student-elected president serving as a trustee.

"It's very important that the correct trustee is seated and it's not just getting someone in here," she said.

Staff Representative Russ Williams, who also serves on the student affairs committee, pointed out that if the election is voided, it would be returned to SG to correct the error.

"Students will still have control over who their elected officials are and who their trustee is," he said. "The governing regulations specifically state that the University Appeals Board cannot determine who is president and who the trustee is."

Dembo said he was also concerned with the public image of the university after last year's election.

In March, presidential candidate Will Nash originally won by 171 votes but was disqualified because of campaign violations. After the SG

Supreme Court confirmed his disqualification, Nash took his case to the appeals board. The board sided with Nash, and in response, Ellingsworth sued UK in the Fourth Circuit Court in June on the grounds that the SG Supreme Court should have the final say in the matter. Judge Gary Payne ruled in Ellingsworth's favor in early September.

"I don't think that the public reading the headlines that, 'Oh what's going on with SGA or what's going with the student body?' — I think the public perception was what's going on with UK?" Dembo said. "I think that it's perceived as a university-wide issue, which as a board member, I feel deeply concerned about."

"This wording, in my mind, gives the assurance that UK won't be painted with broad brush strokes like we might have been before."

The board will have the opportunity to vote on the proposal at its March 9 meeting.

Board approves next provost

In other business, the board approved President Lee Todd's choice for the next provost, Kumble Subbaswamy Subbaswamy, who was a UK professor before becoming a dean at Indiana University, will become UK's

second provost when he takes over July 1. The board approved his contract, which calls for a base salary of \$266,000.

Subbaswamy replaces UK's first provost, Mike Nietzel, who left the school in June to become president of Missouri State University. Scott Smith, dean of the College of Agriculture, will continue to serve as interim provost until Subbaswamy takes over.

Trustee leaves for Georgia College

Faculty representative and Associate Dean to the College of Communications Roy Moore will leave the university and his post on the board to take a position at Georgia College and State University.

"I regret that I'm going to be leaving this board because it's certainly been a tremendous opportunity and great working with you, board members and with President (Lee) Todd," Moore said at the board meeting yesterday.

Moore spent time in the area when he received his Ph.D. from Georgia State University.

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Endowment

Continued from page 1

on Postsecondary Education.

The trust fund guarantees that dollars donated to the university specifically for research are matched by the state.

However, the endowment still needs to grow quite a bit, Krauss said.

"When you compare our endowment to the benchmarks set by the Council on Postsecondary Education, we are low," Krauss said.

This is especially troubling for a university with aspirations of being

one of the top-20 research institutions in the country, she said.

"In order for the university to meet its objective of being a top-20 research institution, the endowment must grow," Krauss said.

Because the university avoids excessive action in its investing strategy, that money to fuel the endowment's growth must come from somewhere else.

"There's also going to have to be a large private commitment," Krauss said.

However, the \$50.2 million increase was not as high as some would have liked, however, because the university's one-year return on its investments from the endowment was only

7.8 percent, compared to a national average of 9.5 percent.

"It was a disappointing year," Krauss said. "But you need to look ahead to the future."

Five or 10 years into the future, because the university's five-year returns are 3.6 percent, compared to a national average of 3.3 percent, and 10-year returns are 9.5 percent, compared to a national average of 9.4 percent.

"We feel like we have positioned the portfolio very well for future performance," Krauss said.

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ESPN

Continued from page 1

this specific topic and that is what set him apart," said ESPN Talent Producer Jason Romano. "He's an expert on scandals in college sports."

Thelin has also authored a book on this topic entitled "Games Colleges Play: Scandal and Reform in Intercollegiate Athletics," which was first published by the John Hopkins University Press in 1994.

"I just always have thought they (sports) have been important, through high school and through college," Thelin said.

Thelin said he also maintains a special interest in athletics since he was a varsity wrestler at Brown University, and that he and his former

teammates still maintain an interest in college athletics.

"We're concerned with the future of college sports and want them to be healthy and prosperous," he said.

Thelin said he focuses on the different aspects of college sports and what they teach, both good and bad.

"At the best, they can really teach good lessons in balancing priorities," he said. "They can teach teamwork and discipline ... and that's at their best."

Things don't always work out for the best, though.

"At their worst, they can teach bad lessons, taking advantage of situations, not being a good team member, expecting to be entitled to specific treatment and not taking studies seriously."

The scandal at Baylor included recruiting violations, drug use and turmoil surrounding the murder of a basketball player by a fellow team-

mate, which then-coach Dave Bliss instructed players to cover up by lying.

The specific focus on Baylor was a no-brainer, Romano said.

"They have arguably gone through the biggest scandal in college sports history," Romano said, adding that Baylor continues to suffer sanctions even though no one currently involved in the basketball program at the time is still there. "It was something we knew we wanted to do when Baylor was beginning their season earlier this month," Romano said.

Thelin said although his appearance on the show was "unexpected," he's still enthusiastic.

"I like it a lot because I've always tried to make my scholarship timely and useful to continuing discussions," he said.

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Technology fuels absenteeism

By Stuart Silverstein
LOS ANGELES TIMES

Skipping classes, particularly big lectures where an absence can go undetected, is a tradition among college undergraduates who party late or swap notes with friends.

These days, professors are witnessing a spurt in absenteeism as an unintended consequence of adopting technologies originally envisioned as learning aids.

Last semester, Americ Azevedo's class on "Introduction to Computers" at the University of California, Berkeley featured some of the hottest options in educational technology.

By visiting the course's Web sites, the 200 students could download audio recordings or watch digital videos of the lectures, as well as read the instructor's lecture notes and participate in online discussions.

But there was one problem: So many of the undergraduates relied on the technology that, at times, only 20 or so actually showed up for class.

"It was demoralizing," Azevedo said. "Getting students out of their media bubble to be here is getting progressively harder."

Even as many academics embrace

electronic innovations, others are pushing back. To deter no-shows, professors are reverting to low-tech tactics such as giving more surprise quizzes or slashing online offerings.

"Too much online instruction is a bad thing," said Terre Allen, a communication studies scholar at California State University, Long Beach.

Last term, Allen posted extensive lecture notes online for her undergraduate course, "Language and Behavior." One goal was to relieve students of the burden of scribbling notes, freeing them to focus on the lectures' substance.

Yet the result, Allen said, was that only about one-third of her 154 students showed up for most of the lectures. In the past, when Allen put less material online, 60 percent to 70 percent of students typically would attend.

When it comes to lectures with enrollment in the hundreds, universities usually don't compel undergraduates to show up, or even lower their grades for poor attendance.

"This is one of the things that divide universities from high schools," Allen said. "Students are expected to be personally responsible."

Still, Allen said, to curb "the absentee approach to college," she won't put her lecture notes online this term.

Doug Suda, 19, a student in Azevedo's UC Berkeley class last semester, said he skipped about three-quarters of the lectures because of his off-campus job. At the end of the term, Suda crammed for the final exam by watching videos of the lectures over three days.

"If I hadn't had that ... I would have probably failed the class," said Suda, who received a B-plus.

Kelly A. Rocca, an assistant professor of communication at St. John's University in New York and one of the few scholars who has recently studied American college absenteeism, said she suspects that skipping class has reached an all-time high because of off-campus jobs and reliance on technology.

To combat ditching in her own classes, Rocca refuses to post notes online. With undergraduates, she said, "the more reasons you give them not to come to class, the less likely they are to come."

Statistics on class-skipping are scarce. But a University of California, Los Angeles, survey of freshmen at 142 schools found that 33 percent said they skipped occasionally (The survey conducted last fall, also found that 43 percent were bored and 58 percent had fallen asleep in class.)

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IN OUR OPINION

To best serve students, SG must play politics

All The Kernel ever does is bash Student Government — or so it seems to SG officials and others who think that knee-jerk opposition to any SG action is a guiding principle of this editorial board.

In a sense, the critics are right: We certainly haven't had much nice to say about SG in recent years. Complaints about the organization's improper handling of elections, waste of student funds and general immaturity are mainstays of this page.

But we're not the knee-jerk, anti-SG reactionaries we may seem to be. We believe that SG is fundamentally capable of playing a positive, even crucial, role in the service of UK students. That's why we've been so frustrated at SG officials' actions over the past few years — they've been missing a great opportunity to have a constructive role within the community.

The problem is, we've been faulting SG for not doing the "right thing" without actually explaining what that right thing is. So over the next month, we're going to be detailing our own platform — the ideas and proposals that we would be touting if we were running our own SG campaign. These would be a blueprint for SG to have a much more valuable — and laudable — role on campus.

The first four pieces in the series will focus on our main ideas for improving SG: focusing on student advocacy rather than activities on campus, organizing students politically within the Lexington community, restructuring the election process, and improving communication with the student body. The fifth will summarize these ideas and integrate them with more minor ideas we've advocated in the past into a comprehensive platform statement.

We hope these proposals can spark a process of introspection and dialog within the campus community SG can become a positive force at UK — but only with serious change.

All too often, the name "Student Government" seems like a misnomer. Yes, SG officials are elected by students, but they seem to focus mainly on planning activities and sponsoring services, rather than representing the voice of the student body in a political fashion — as a real "government" would.

But students need a vocal advocate within UK, unless we want to have no say in the functioning of the university. SG is in the best place to fill that role of advocacy. For students' sake, it's time for SG to act less like a prom committee and more like a political party in regard to issues on campus.

When the Board of Trustees or UK administration takes action that may make changes that affect students, SG should take and vocalize a position, much as it has done this year in response to actions taken toward SG. The SG Senate should become a committee similar to political cam-

paigns' rapid-response teams: a group of students who would analyze administration actions, inform students about the issues at hand and take a position on whether each given action was justified.

The past year has seen changes in the cheating policy, revisions to the student code that expand UK's jurisdiction off campus, and the taking of disciplinary action against students because of photographs posted on the Facebook Web site — all with nary a peep from SG. But SG is the only organization capable of gauging student opinion and mobilizing students to try to affect university policy. Perpetually organized, vocal outrage would not stop UK from (for instance) disciplining students who post incriminating pictures online, but at least it would have the potential to make waves — unlike silent acquiescence.

An SG committee responsible for organizing student responses to administration actions could issue "position papers" briefly describing the issues at hand, analyzing the relevant information and taking a stance intended to represent the interests of students. Of course, that's often what this editorial board does, but we are neglected by the student body, nor do we have a representative on the Board of Trustees — and, in the potential case of an egregious violation of student rights, we could not organize a protest or other direct political action. SG, on the other hand, possesses all of these characteristics and should take advantage of them.

In the past, SG has taken such action in response to tuition raises. But there are a host of other issues — Thanksgiving weekend, dead week, parking hassles and disciplinary policies, for starters — that won't change unless students can speak with one loud, organized voice. SG must be the vehicle for such action.

This shift in priorities means that SG needs to delegate some of its other tasks elsewhere — specifically, the planning of large events such as Hoosier Daddy and the Valentine's Day Gala. Regardless of the merits of spending student fee money on such events, certainly planning them should be left to the Student Activities Board. Let SAB handle recreation so that SG has more time for advocacy and the student body will benefit greatly.

For now, however, SG seems to have accepted its role as a glorified activity-planning committee that helps to have elections and offer services to students. Meanwhile, many students are left asking, "What does SG do? What's the point?" And the university keeps on running with little to no student input on its policies or functions.

To fix those last two problems, SG needs to envision itself anew as a political organization rather than just one. Best of all, it won't take additional funding or even new membership — just initiative and leadership. Those who want to see students have a voice on campus and for SG to become a meaningful organization should take note.



BRAD STURGEON, THE KENTUCKY KERNEL

Offensiveness is no grounds for censorship

Any connoisseur of Comedy Central's "South Park" knows that no demographic group is safe from the cross hairs of creators Matt Stone and Trey Parker. In their insanely popular show's nine-season history, blacks, Jews, gays, Mormons, Catholics and the "differently abled" have been the brunt of numerous jokes — and that's just naming a few. Most of these groups seem to take the punishment in stride. It is, after all, South Park's modus operandi.

The ninth season finale, however, presents somewhat of a different story. To briefly summarize, Stan's father, Randy is sent to an Alcoholics Anonymous meeting where he is told that he is afflicted with a disease. Believing himself to have a terminal illness, Randy turns to a statue of the Virgin Mary that bleeds from its backside. Hearing of the miracle statue in Rome, Pope Benedict makes a personal visit to inspect for himself. Upon inspection, the Pope declares the statue is not miraculous after all. He finds she is not bleeding from her rear and as previously believed, but from her vagina. So the phenomenon is no big deal, since "Chicks bleed out their vaginas all the time."

Before I go on, I will add that I thought this particular episode was among the weaker efforts from Stone and Parker over the past several seasons. In this nihilist's humble opinion, the episode was simply not funny. I

am not Catholic, but I could see the episode was particularly offensive, especially considering the season finale coincides with Christmastime, and its original air date was the day before the Catholic Feast of the Immaculate Conception.

Predictably, the Catholic League for Religious and "Civil" Rights objected to the episode and demanded an apology from Comedy Central's parent company, Viacom. Furthermore, the group sought a "pledge that this episode be permanently retired and not made available on DVD."

Initially, it appeared that Comedy Central had caved in to the outside pressure, when "Bloody Mary" was pulled from a Dec. 28 South Park marathon. In an e-mail to viewers, however, the network explained the episode was pulled only out of deference to the holiday season, adding "As satirists, we believe that it is our First Amendment right to poke fun at any and all people, groups, organizations and religions, and we will continue to defend that right."

The First Amendment right to free speech is perhaps our most fundamental and cherished right as Americans. No one would argue the Catholic League isn't free to express its disgust with "Bloody Mary." At the same time, Comedy Central is free to express creativity through the satire of South Park and other shows. What the First Amendment does not guarantee is the right not to be offended by the exercise of free speech by others.

I could go to the Lexington Public Library or any other library around the country for that matter, and pick out a plethora of books that poke fun at or call to

task the Roman Catholic Church over past and contemporary issues. Much of Dan Brown's "The Da Vinci Code" centers around corruption at different levels of Church hierarchy. Any Blockbuster likely carries multiple copies of Kevin Smith's "Dogma," largely a satirical examination of the fallibility of the man-made Church.

Perhaps the Catholic League would endorse a wholesale burning of books and other media they deem disagreeable. Clearly the only shows that should be broadcast are those heartwarming tales of Catholic benevolence. If only that darned First Amendment didn't stand in the way.

The real issue at stake in the "Bloody Mary" debate is personal choice. Parker and Stone's right to satirize entities such as the Catholic Church is undeniable. The First Amendment also affords the Catholic League the right to protest any episode to which they might object. Attempting to have the episode forever stricken from the air, however, serves only to legitimize the message it contains. What does the Catholic League have to hide? Are its leaders so insecure in their faith that they cannot tolerate others' criticisms of their religion?

In the future, the leaders of the Catholic League should rely on a new technological innovation to ensure they are no longer offended by inane criticism of their Church. In fact, this device may be one that will never be forced to watch offensive programming again. What is this miracle of modern living called? A remote control.

Wes Blevins is a journalism senior. E-mail: wesb@uky.edu.

Abortion isn't a constitutional right, so let states decide

Thirty-three years ago, national dispatches carried to the far corners of modern America's biggest political and cultural earthquakes. Eyes lit up since they've been hit with reports of its aftershocks.

The epicenter was in Texas, where Norma McCorvey, subsequently known as "Jane Roe," challenged the constitutionality of the state's statute outlawing abortion.

Since the U.S. Supreme Court handed down its decision in Roe v. Wade, the judicial branch has become increasingly politicized and subject to vociferous grassroots campaigns from the left and the right. And it's no wonder, given the court's waning willingness to delve into controversies over which it has no jurisdiction.

In Roe v. Wade, Justice Harry Blackmun declared that the U.S. Constitution protects a woman's right to an abortion. This right, he maintained, was protected in the "emanations" and "penumbras" of our founding document — or rights implicated by the Constitution. The so-called "right to abortion" was part of a "right to privacy," which could be found hiding in the shadows of the First, Fourth, Fifth,

Ninth and 14th Amendments to the Constitution, according to Blackmun.

Then, in accordance with his shadowy abstractions and the cosmic powers vested in the court, Blackmun outlined a crude doctrine which would decide once and for all (so said The New York Times the day after the decision), when a woman has the prerogative to choose an abortion and when the state has a prerogative to protect unborn life.

Initially, the court employed a trimester doctrine, which forbade states from regulating abortion during a woman's first trimester of pregnancy, allowed regulation in the interest of the mother's maternal health during the second trimester and allowed substantial state regulation of abortion during the last trimester.

Although this doctrine has been modified by the court in subsequent cases, the fact remains that the court took vague abstractions and crafted them into interpretations so specific and constraining that no reasonable person could deny the court acted arbitrarily and overreached into the legislative realm.

Indeed, many of the left's most-revered legal minds — Harvard law professors Lawrence Tribe and Alan Dershowitz, Supreme Court Justice Ruth Bader Ginsberg, and University of Chicago law professor Cass Sunstein among them — have criticized Roe for attempting to set

the issues beyond the scope of the Constitution, according to Blackmun's doctrine, hijacking the political process from the states' legislative branch.

Despite these criticisms, most of these intellectuals believe Roe or some modified form of its central holding should stand because it's been a precedent for more than three decades.

To rebuff calls from conservatives to overturn Roe, liberals smear their opponents as people with hopelessly antiquarian ideas about constitutional interpretation — or, worse, as sexists bent on sending this country back to the dark ages of back alleys and coat hangers.

Others, wearing a veneer of respect for conservatives, patronizingly trumpet the faux notion that truly principled conservatives don't have to like Roe but can in good conscience uphold it on the basis of stare decisis. But as Justice Antonin Scalia has noted, Roe has already been manipulated on so many occasions as to hardly render it a sacrosanct legal precedent.

Furthermore, the stare decisis argument so frequently propounded by the left contains a misapprehension and an irony: Principled conservatives aren't categorically opposed to change; they prefer it to come slowly and incrementally. And it's ironic that proponents of a "living, breathing constitution" would find the strange bedfellow of stare

decisis that alluring, given the former's doctrine of change) is essentially the antithesis of the latter (a doctrine of stability and tradition).

Additionally, many liberals want to press the notion that conservatives would seek a national abortion ban, which no conservative I know of has proposed. Instead, conservatives seek the status quo ante, where the jurisdiction would go back into the hands of state legislatures.

Despite its unfair caricature, the conservative position actually provides a less contentious solution to the issue. If people are allowed to debate and effect policy solutions themselves instead of having it dictated to them, I predict the rumbles left and right would be somewhat assuaged, if not completely.

My darker sensibilities tell me such a move would no doubt face tremendous opposition and would shift all of the political potency to the left. And I have few illusions; I seriously doubt Roe will ever be overturned.

Admittedly, the solution — like any human solution — has its flaws. Essentially, the abortion debate boils down to two (unfortunately) mutually exclusive ethical values: women's rights on one hand, protection of unborn life on the other (which, as aforementioned, even the court has recognized the state has a substantial interest in protecting).

Very few people are unequivocally for or against legalized abor-

tion, and that's probably a good thing. I personally trend pro-life, but I support exemptions in instances where the mother's health is in jeopardy, or incest or rape is involved.

Although reasonable, morally sound people may come to different conclusions, the stakes are simply too high for conservatives to in effect say, "You go your way; I'll go mine."

That doesn't mean conservatives are completely shutting the door on pluralism; to do so would place them on no higher footing than Roe's authors and their supporters. If the popular sentiment wills statutory or constitutional protections in any state, then legalized abortion would stay. At least the origins of such law would be legitimate.

It may strike some people as odd that abortion would be legal in some states, illegal in others. And the net effect may be to force someone to drive to another state for the procedure.

But due regard to pluralism, federalism, principled constitutional interpretation and a less-politicized federal judicial branch could to a large extent undo the institutional damage done by such political mayhem.

And the next Samuel Alito won't have to run from senators with pitchforks.

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ACROSS
1 "Stop it!"
5 Nails may cause them
10 Shipboard shout
14 ___friendly
15 Plan again, as strategy
16 Victor Gorge, e.g.
17 Hodgepodge
18 Verse units in
19 Gem mined in Australia
20 Where to stand firm?
23 Lulu
24 Madeline of "Clue"
25 Bacchic attendants
27 Short-circuit
30 Collect for a cause
33 ___root
34 Tell just about anybody
37 Unit of energy
38 Repe
41 Wonder
42 Upright
44 Shorebird
45 Mexican fast food
47 Narrow projections
49 Spins on the ice
50 Wobble
52 Certain something
53 Sympathetic attention
54 Where to relax?
60 Hyped-up
62 Impolite looks
63 Follow orders
64 Lumux
65 Gambling game
66 Poke (around)
67 Rope fiber
68 Promise
69 Jazz sessions
DOWN
1 Pairs
2 Kon-Tiki
3 Museum site
4 Diamond who sang "Sweet Caroline"

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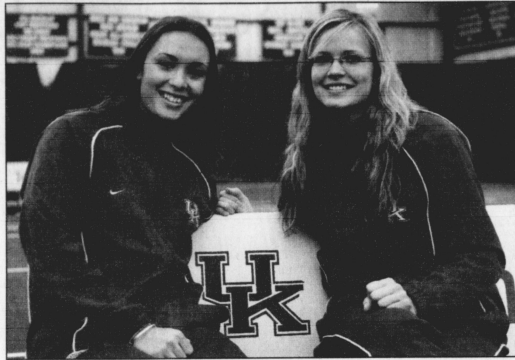
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Beyond Borders

UK women's tennis continues to recruit globally



ANDREW HUGHES | STAFF
Kim Coventry (left), from Australia, and Liis Sober, from Estonia, both came to America to play tennis at UK. They were roommates freshman year and have since become close friends.

By Chris Miles
THE KENTUCKY KERNEL
UK certainly cannot be considered the center of the world. But when you look at the roster of the UK women's tennis team, it isn't such a far-fetched idea.

Kim Coventry and Liis Sober are both juniors on the team and share a close friendship. But that relationship is one that might have never been realized, though both of them are similar in many ways.

Each of them has racked up strong stats throughout their career playing tennis at UK. Each has a love for the game they play. And each of them considers their home to be, literally, half way across the world.

Coventry hails originally out of Melbourne, Australia, and Sober is from Tallinn, Estonia.

"Tennis is the only sport I've ever played and I love it," Coventry said. "I looked at a lot of schools to play at over here, but I thought the location (of UK) was great."

Coventry came here after meeting up with former women's tennis coach Mark Gilbeau, who impressed her immediately.

"I thought the coaches here were great," Coventry said. "And I didn't want to live in a big city. Melbourne is a lot bigger than Lexington. It's like Cincinnati. Lex-

ington was the right size." Sober was also drawn to the Bluegrass. Her native Estonia is in Eastern Europe, and she had spent most of her life in Helsinki, Finland, a city she described as "bustling." But she had ties to Kentucky.

"My sister originally played basketball for the University of Louisville," she said. "She went to high school here in town at Dunbar, and I used to come visit her."

Sober, like Coventry, also was impressed with Gilbeau, whom she met at a UK tennis camp that she participated in.

But unlike Coventry, tennis didn't run as strong through Sober's blood.

"At first I played basketball," she said. "My dad really pushed me into that sport."

Sober's dad had played for the Estonian national team in the former Soviet Union. He also coached the women's team and is currently coaching the men's team.

"But I also played tennis and I really wanted to keep playing," Sober said.

She joined the UK tennis team the same year Coventry did, but unlike Coventry, whose native language is English, Sober initially had some problems.

"I was pretty much fluent

when I came here," Sober said. "But, at the beginning, it was hard studying. I had an anthropology class and there were a lot of big words used, specific words for different periods and such that are different in my language.

"I'm not dumb, but 'Dinosaurs and Disasters' was one of my hard ones."

Both girls said that, while they miss their homes, family and friends often, each has small reminders to comfort them here at UK.

"I have a flag in my apartment and a lot of pictures and DVDs of Australian TV shows," Coventry said.

"Dark bread," Sober said talking about one of her favorite foods in Estonia, "I brought back a lot of that when I went home over the break."

Over winter break both girls headed home, each to one corner of the world.

They both agree that it's a wonder they met.

But lying dead in the center of the line that connects Melbourne to Tallinn is a little place called Lexington, or, for these two, the center of their worlds.

"I miss (Australia) a lot," Coventry said. "And I'll go back eventually. But right now, I'm here with my team."

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"I miss (Australia) a lot ... but right now, I'm here with my team."

— Kim Coventry, UK junior tennis player, about moving to America from Australia to play tennis

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