



THURSDAY KENTUCKY

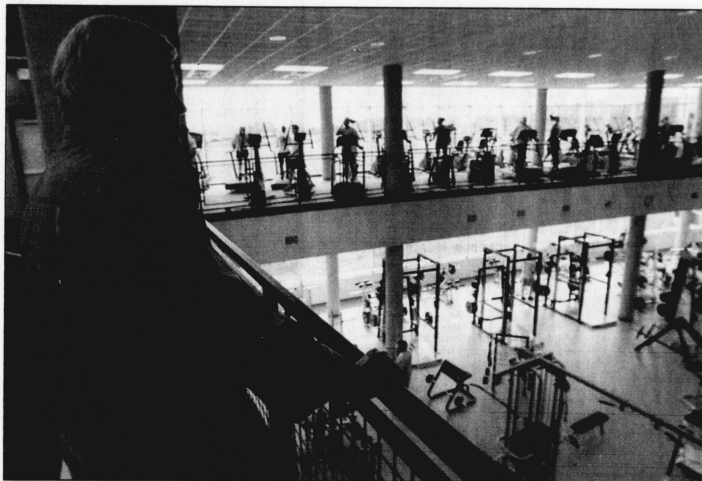
KERNEL

April 17, 2003

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Johnson Center's success pleases its planner



SCOTT LASHINSKY | KERNEL STAFF

Look and see
Director of campus recreation Bill Pieratt looks on as students work out at the Johnson Center. Pieratt began pushing for the facility in 1996. His efforts finally came to fruition with the opening of the center in January 2003.

Director plans even more for facility

By Sarah Wilmoth
CONTRIBUTING WRITER

Although Bill Pieratt is ecstatic about UK's new student recreation center, he already has more plans in the mix to further improve the Johnson Center. Pieratt said he plans to add a smoothie bar to the main lobby and wants to set up popcorn machines there during UK games. The lobby has a big screen TV, which Pieratt hopes will draw students in.

He believes that the center will also help the university attract and retain more students.

"It's something else to do on campus. Instead of going over to Two Keys all the time, they've got an alternate place to come."

See FUTURE on 12

Dream: Man worked for seven years to see Johnson Center become reality

By Sarah Wilmoth
CONTRIBUTING WRITER

Bill Pieratt smiles as he strolls through the Bernard M. Johnson Center, proudly surveying the busy scene in UK's new recreation facility.

Pieratt, UK's Campus Recreation director, long envisioned a safe, healthy and beautiful place where students would be able to come together and exercise, play sports and hang out. It was his dream, and he dedicated years to it.

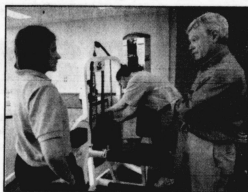
The sparkling 87,000 square-foot center is new to the students, but for Pieratt, there's a seven-year story behind it.

Since 1996, Pieratt, a former high school and college athlete and longtime fitness advocate, pushed for the facility. It was not an easy task, he had to make sacrifices.

He worked long hours. He lost sleep. Proposals and planning consumed most of his days. He jumped through hoops for contractors. And he never stopped promoting the idea to administrators and students.

Although there were times he thought the Johnson Center would never be completed, Pieratt's vision and determination always displaced his frustration and spurred him on.

The Johnson Center is no longer just a lofty idea in Pieratt's heart and mind. It is a tangible reality, and he is walking through it.



Bill Pieratt explains to student staffer Clare Glaser an adjustment that fitness director Robert Hayslett makes to an exercise machine.

SCOTT LASHINSKY | KERNEL STAFF

He has achieved his goal. "It's been such a dream," Pieratt said. "It's like the movie *Field of Dreams* — 'Build it and they will come' — and it's true. We just felt like our students deserved as much as anyone else, so we fought for it and it became a reality."

Early planning to completion

Pieratt, who has been director of campus recreation for 21 of the 30 years he's worked at UK, started working on the Johnson Center project in 1996. At that time, administrators started acknowledging that UK was substandard in terms of its student

See PIERATT on 12

SG board reviews election violation claims

Seven decisions leave elections mostly unchanged; one senator is disqualified on reporting violations

By Paul Leighty
STAFF WRITER

The Student Government Election Board of Claims last night unanimously ruled not to unseat the newly elected President Rachel Watts and Vice President Matt Rippetoe.

The board voted against two election violation claims and in favor of five, deciding in one case to disqualify senate candidate Melissa Snow-Groves.

Election Investigator Eric Mills presented six claims that he had selected for review by the board, out of the approximately 40 claims that have been filed.

Braphus Kaalund, College of Law senator-elect, Justin Rasner, former SG chief of staff and James Harris represented the Watts/Rippetoe campaign. Mike McDonner, a law student, represented presidential candidate David Hutchinson, who filed many of the 40 claims; only one of his claims was heard.

In one claim against Watts, McDonner argued that her campaign did not adequately report the purchase of Web site hosting and design from UK alum Edwin Orange.

Hutchinson's brother, Casey, spoke as a witness, saying that the reasonable retail value of Watts and Rippetoe's

Web site would be more than the \$1.75 per month that they reported. McDonner said that cost would put them over the SG campaign spending limit of \$600.

Casey Hutchinson said that he has both professional experience and education in working with Web sites and computers.

Kaalund argued that Orange's prices were adequate, and that Hutchinson had violated a similar rule by not reporting that his brother, who is not a student, had helped design his Web site.

"It's pretty interesting that David Hutchinson's brother got up here and accused us of the exact same offense that he's guilty of," Kaalund said after the hearing.

McDonner also argued that he be allowed to present other claims on Hutchinson's behalf, and that Mills recuse himself from his position because of his friendship with Orange.

Mills said that the relationship does not constitute bias. "We are a small community here and we all know each other a little bit ... it's unfair to allege bias based on that."

Kaalund argued that the board should hear only the six claims that Mills selected because the SG constitution mandates for only the investigator to select claims. "Mr. McDonner would basically emasculate our constitution," Kaalund said.

See SG on 3

WAR IN IRAQ

Bush urges lifting of Iraqi sanctions



ASSOCIATED PRESS

Civilian interests

SPC Richard Heglund of Wilmington, Delaware, of Bravo Company, 3rd Battalion, 187th Regiment of the 101st Airborne Division, writes "USA" on the hands of a crowd of Iraqi children in Baghdad on Wednesday.

ASSOCIATED PRESS

The top commander of U.S. forces in Iraq briefed President Bush on the war from inside one of Saddam Hussein's ornate palaces on Wednesday, underscoring the death of the old regime. At home, the administration reduced the terrorist threat from orange to yellow.

Bush urged the United Nations to lift economic sanctions against Iraq, saying the country had been liberated by U.S.-led forces. "Terrorists and tyrants have now been put on notice," he said.

Four weeks after the war began, American troops in Baghdad raided the home of the mastermind of Iraq's biological weapons laboratory and discovered a recently abandoned terrorist training camp operated by Palestinians and the Iraqi government.

Army forces exchanged fire with a small number of die-hard paramilitary fighters north of Baghdad, then took out two surface-to-air missile systems and three anti-aircraft guns left over from Saddam's military.

Iraqis in Mosul said three people were killed and at least 11 wounded when shooting erupted for the second straight day. Iraqis blamed the Americans, but the circumstances were cloudy.

Gen. Tommy Franks, in command of more than 200,000 troops in the war zone, lit up a cigar as he toured

See WAR on 4

South Korean ambassador urges dialogue amid crisis

By Joe Anderson
STAFF WRITER

The South Korean ambassador to the United States urged dialogue as a means to defuse the escalating crisis sparked by North Korean nuclear development and emphasized the strong ties between South Korea and the United States before an audience at UK last night.

"Talk is better than no talk," said Ambassador Sung Chul Yang. "Time is critical and favors no one."

The speech comes as one of Yang's last acts as ambassador; his tenure ends Friday.

Yang said communication between South and North Korea is subdued, but still continues. "The South Korean government is cautiously optimistic about the resolution of the North Korean nuclear situation," he said.

In contrast, Yang said diplomatic relations between Japan, the United States and North Korea have stalled.

Yang said the United States should approach North Korea with a "renewed relationship from a fresh perspective, with mutual empathy."

Yang also discussed the differences between the two Koreas, comparing South Korea's sharp rise in prosperity and per capita income with North Korea's economic stagnancy. "The economic disparity between North and South Korea is staggering," he said. "North Korea is one of the world's poorest countries and the largest recipient of food aid."

Yang discussed the disparity between North Korea's economic weakness and its military might. North Korea has the fifth largest military in the world, with 70 percent of it aimed at South Korea. "While their economy is in shambles, their military and nuclear program are menacing," he said.

Yang said South Korea is the world's 11th largest economy and the United States' seventh largest trading partner.

Yang used South Korea's economy to show further similarities between the two nations. "The Korean-U.S. relationship has been long-standing," he said. "In half a century, South Korea has become one of America's strongest allies."

Yang called the United States the "sole hyper-power" in the world, noting that American defense spending is now equal to the rest of the world combined.

The occasion was as much a homecoming and a celebration as a discussion of international diplomatic relations.

Yang and his wife lived in Kentucky for more than 20 years, and they received doctoral degrees from UK. Both of their children were born at Good Samaritan hospital, just a few blocks from UK. Yang taught at Eastern Kentucky University from '70 to '75 and at UK from '75 to '86.

"Kentucky is my second home," Yang said. "I've come to Lexington at the end of my diplomatic journey. I saved the best for last."

ALL THE NEWS THAT FITS.

The Low-down

Moore case waived to grand jury

The case of Jared Keith Moore, the UK student charged with engaging in sexual and abusive acts toward two pledges, has been waived to the grand jury, said County Attorney Margaret Kannensohn. The hearing, scheduled for Wednesday morning, will instead be presented to the grand jury within a few months, Kannensohn said. Moore, a senior at UK in the College of Communications and Information Systems, is being charged with taking a pledge to a wooded location near the Landsdowne Shopping Center, according to police reports. The charge says he took pictures, then beat and fondled the pledge. In a separate case, Moore is charged with convincing another pledge to follow him to Moore's basement, where — police reports say — the pledge was beaten with a paddle and fondled by an unidentified female. Moore's attorney Burl McCoy, could not be reached for comment.

Ky. miners protest reality TV show

PIKEVILLE, Ky. — Appalachian coal miners may go to New York to protest plans by CBS to produce a reality television series called "The Real Beverly Hills." Cecil E. Roberts, president of the United Mine Workers of America, said members of his union may attend the annual shareholders meeting of Viacom, the parent company of CBS, unless plans for the show are canceled. "This plan — to take a poor rural family place them in a Hollywood mansion and ridicule them on national television — is repugnant to me and to the union members I represent," Roberts wrote in a letter to Viacom's top executives. Roberts, who has been arrested ten times at protests his union has staged across the country, said mocking rural families is inappropriate. Roberts led some 200 shouting, sign-toting coal miners in a protest against a company in eastern Kentucky last year. Last month, 43 members of the U.S. House of Representatives representing states from Florida to Texas asked that plans for the show be canceled. The Center for Rural Strategies, an Appalachian advocacy group in Whitesburg, Ky., has placed ads in some of the country's largest newspapers, criticizing the proposed reality TV series as demeaning to rural people. Tim Marema, vice president of the advocacy group, said he hopes the coal miners' union can help to derail the show. CBS spokesman Chris Ender said Wednesday no decision has been made on whether production will go forward.

This plan — to take a poor rural family, place them in a Hollywood mansion and ridicule them on national television — is repugnant to me and to the union members I represent."

Cecil E. Roberts, president of the United Mine Workers of America commenting on the possibility of CBS producing a reality television show titled "The Real Beverly Hills."



HITCHED: Rocker Melissa Etheridge plans to tie the knot at the end of this year with her companion of two years, actress Tammy Lynn Michaels.

"This is the first wedding for both of them," Etheridge's publicist, Marcel Pariseau, said Tuesday. He declined to reveal plans for the ceremony except to say it would take place in Los Angeles.

Etheridge, 41, has been dating Michaels, 28, for about two years, Pariseau said.

The musician shares custody of a daughter and a son with former partner Julie Cypher. The two made news in 2000 when they revealed that musician David Crosby was the sperm donor for their children, who were delivered by Cypher.

State sued over erratic foster care

CHICAGO — A county official sued the state Wednesday in an attempt to stop the frequent shuffling of children in foster care. Cook County public guardian Patrick Murphy sued on behalf of 291 children his office represents, claiming they have "suffered through at least 2,147 separate moves" between foster homes and institutions. The lawsuit, targeting the Illinois Department of Children and Family Services, says at least two children have been moved more than 30 times while thousands of others have been moved repeatedly. "People think these kids are these very resilient widgets. But when you take them away from a parent or a home they're comfortable with, it's a very traumatic thing," Murphy said. He said 80 percent of the children placed in foster care are handled by private agencies. "The DCFS has got to take on the private agencies," Murphy said. "Their whole way of placing kids is wrong."

State sued over erratic foster care

SAN DIEGO — Two poultry farmers who instructed workers to destroy thousands of chickens by throwing them into wood chippers amid a disease outbreak should face cruelty charges, animal rights advocates said. Prosecutors decided last week that brothers Arie and Bill Wilgenburg had no criminal intent, but animal rights groups want charges reconsidered. Wood chippers are one of many methods used for mass euthanasia in the industry, and the brothers were acting on the advice of a veterinarian, prosecutor Elizabeth Silva said. "It's cruel and it's callous, but it's part of any animal husbandry operation," she said. The Wilgenburgs were banned from moving aging, unproductive hens from their ranches due to a quarantine for an exotic Newcastle disease, a virus which has forced California ranchers to slaughter nearly 3.4 million birds since October.

Discovery sparks new investigation

RICHMOND, Calif. — The investigation into two bodies found in San Francisco Bay is trying to determine whether they were that of Laci Peterson and the baby she was carrying, a state criminalist said Wednesday. The state crime lab is comparing DNA from Peterson and her parents with tissue and bone taken from the decomposed bodies of a woman and infant boy found this week on the shoreline east of San Francisco. The 27-year-old substitute teacher vanished on Christmas Eve from her home in Modesto, 90 miles southeast of Richmond. Her husband, Scott Peterson, said he saw her as he left to go fishing that morning in Berkeley, not far from where the bodies were found. Scott Peterson has not been named as a suspect, but police have seized his boat, truck and items from his house.

Compiled from staff and wire reports.

College Town plans to be finalized soon

By Sara Cunningham
ASSISTANT NEWS EDITOR

Students, faculty and staff should know what parts of the College Town project will come first for UK and Lexington within the next few weeks, members of the Town & Gown Commission said.

The first phases of the College Town project, a plan to revitalize parts of downtown and campus will be announced within the next 30 to 60 days, said Harold Tate, the president and executive director of the Downtown Development Authority. Several commercial and residential sections are being considered, but no final decisions have been made, Tate said during the commission's meeting Wednesday.

"We are still talking to developers right now but we may know what is coming as early as in a few weeks," said Ben Carr, UK's vice president of auxiliary and campus services.

Some commission members raised questions concerning the costs of all the parts in the plan.

Tate said estimates of the costs are still being discussed and worked out. But the costs should not be too high, especially during the first phases, he said.

"The beauty of this is that most of the facilities are already there," Tate said. "The project will improve them." Craig Hardin, a representative of the University Area Housing Association, also spoke about a project of a landlords' association that would help plant trees in the campus area to replace those lost during the February ice storm.

Hardin describes the association, which started two years ago, as the "landlords that care" and said the group's goal is to offer assistance in the area.

The association has already raised several thousand dollars to buy trees and hopes to triple that amount, Hardin said. Funding will come from companies, developers and citizens in the area that want to get involved and they hope volunteers will put in the labor to plant the trees, he said.

In May, just after finals week, Hardin said they hope to be able to plant 50 trees. Euclid and Woodland avenues are two of the areas being considered, but the city will decide where the trees will be planted.

Hardin said if things work out with the first phase, 150 more trees could be planted in other areas in October.

Get involved

The scheduled Thursday meeting of the Lexington-Fayette Urban County Council will be held on UK's campus this week.

Along with the normally scheduled agenda items, there will be a presentation by the Town & Gown commission and a presentation by UK on a neighborhood project. The council will also be voting on a second reading of the resolution concerning the acquisition of the KY-American Water Company.

Anyone interested in attending is welcome to come to the Center Theater at the UK Student Center 7 p.m. Thursday. Free parking will be available in the Limestone Street parking.

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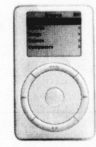
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Pentagon releases war cost totals

ASSOCIATED PRESS

WASHINGTON — The Iraq war has cost at least \$20 billion and probably will consume that much or more in the next five months, the Pentagon's top budget officer said Wednesday.

An additional \$5 billion to \$7 billion will be needed to get U.S. troops from the Persian Gulf region to their home bases, officials said. That process is just now beginning.

Those totals do not include the yet to be calculated sums for postwar reconstruction of Iraq, the Defense Department's comptroller said at a news conference. The United States is counting on contributions from other

countries to pay part of the rebuilding cost.

Dov Zakheim said military operations in Iraq to date have cost about \$10 billion to \$12 billion. Personnel costs have been about \$6 billion and the cost of munitions has been more than \$3 billion. The figures include what it cost to move 250,000 troops to the Persian Gulf area.

Between now and the end of the federal budget year on Sept. 30, the Pentagon expects to spend about \$20 billion more on military operations inside Iraq, officials said.

In human costs, the Pentagon said the war's official death rose to 125, including a Marine corporal killed in a March 23 firefight near

Nasiriyah, Iraq. The Pentagon said it had identified the remains of Cpl. Kemaphoom A. Chanawongse, 22, of Waterford, Conn., who had been listed as missing in action. There are now three Americans listed as missing.

At a separate news conference, Maj. Gen. Stanley McChrystal said that although major combat was ended, there are still some Iraqi towns that U.S. forces have not reached, including an area north of Tikrit, Saddam Hussein's hometown.

McChrystal said the war's overall commander, Gen. Tommy Franks, is sending some U.S. forces home.

At his news conference, Zakheim explained how the

Pentagon will use the \$62.6 billion Congress has approved in supplemental spending over the Pentagon's \$364 billion for the current budget year. Nearly all the new money is for the war in Iraq and the global fight against terror.

The supplemental spending bill provides \$1.4 billion to repay terrorism war allies such as Pakistan, which Zakheim said is spending \$70 million a month searching its northern tribal areas for members of al-Qaida. Jordan also will be reimbursed, he said, without giving a figure.

The 1991 Gulf War cost about \$60 billion, but nearly all of that was reimbursed by Kuwait, Saudi Arabia and other allies.

SG

Continued from page 1

Mills recused himself from presenting one claim that was filed against himself and the Watts/Rippeto campaign, saying that he wanted to eliminate the possibility of bias.

The claim, filed by Joe Ibershoff, a computer science and math senior, and Emily Rigdon, an economics and Latin American studies senior, argues an inappropriate connection between Mills and

the Watts/Rippeto campaign.

The claim, which the board rejected, states that the Watts/Rippeto campaign Web site and the SG site were available from the same Web server. The SG site is also registered in Mills' name. Mills has said that he owns and operates the server, but hasn't recently been involved with the SG site.

Both Rigdon and Ibershoff said no one had informed them of the hearing beforehand. Rigdon said she would have attended and made her case, had she known when and where it was.

Mills said that Edwin Or-

ange, who registered the Watts/Rippeto Web site, may have used the server without Mills' knowledge since Orange resigned from his position in SG.

Orange could not be reached for comment.

The board decided in favor of a claim to disqualify Fine Arts senatorial candidate Melissa Snow-Groves because she did not file a finance report. Snow-Groves was unopposed in the race. The SG constitution states that winning candidates who don't file should be disqualified.

Snow-Groves did not attend the hearing and did not

return phone messages last night.

The board also said they agreed with a claim stating that certain portions of the constitution were not posted at any polling places, although that is required by the constitution. However, they said this violation was not sufficient to affect the integrity of the election.

The board also decided that the campaigns of Watts, Hutchinson and Falk should pay small fines and write letters of apology for not removing some of their campaign signs from around campus by the official deadline stated in the constitution.

Sorority sponsors event to help students unwind

Time out

Psychology sophomore Ayana Anderson gets a temporary tattoo from Jules Robinson of Genesis Day Spa, which was part of a stress relief and rejuvenation day held by the Delta Sigma Theta sorority.



JOHN WAMPLER | KERNEL STAFF

By Carson Smith
CONTRIBUTING WRITER

Some came for the massage. Others came for an eyebrow wax. For others, it was the free smoothies.

No matter the goal, the pampering is hoped to have relieved some stress at a time when students have it the most, organizers of the Stress Relief and Rejuvenation Fair said.

To allow students and faculty to unwind, Delta Sigma Theta Sorority held the fair Wednesday at the Student Center.

"The goal of the fair is to help students relieve the stress and anxiety brought on by finals," said the sorority's

president, Andrea Murray.

More than 15 businesses from around Lexington offered free products and services.

The fair provided students with advice on ways to stay stress-free throughout the year, including yoga, supplements and exercise.

"All too often, students do things to relieve stress that actually add to it, such as drinking," said Karen Bryle, of the UK Wellness Center.

Business management sophomore Will Holton liked the opportunity to relax.

"I appreciated that the sorority took time to do something for other students," Holton said.

Scholarship needs prompt LCC fund-raiser at Keeneland

Money: LCC president said event is the something to build on but not to cure school of financial woes

By Matthew Towner
STAFF WRITER

LCC is turning to Keeneland in an effort to ease its financial difficulties.

The first LCC Day at the Races will take community leaders to the horse track this week as a way to raise scholarship money for LCC students.

The idea emerged from a brainstorming session involving school officials and other leaders looking for a way to help ease the financial burden facing the college. LCC President Jim Kerley said the city's strong ties to horse racing made the event seem like a natural fit.

"It was something that could be fun as well as a fund-raiser," he said. LCC Advisory Board member Margee Koffler was instrumental in bringing the college and Keeneland together, he said.

After setting the location and time, the college sent invitations to LCC alumni, business leaders and other community leaders with LCC ties, said Krista Whitaker, LCC's director of development.

"We were trying to cast a wide net," she said. Glenna Fletcher, wife of Kentucky Congressman Ernie Fletcher and graduate of the LCC nursing pro-

gram, will serve as honorary chair for the event. She represents several of the groups LCC is targeting.

LCC President Jim Kerley said he hopes the event and others like it will help bring in additional funding for scholarships and other causes.

"It will be a more intimate chance to get to know community leaders and other people who can help Lexington Community College," he said. "We have a better chance of getting more outside dollars."

LCC's tuition is the highest of any two-year college in Kentucky, with an average increase coming in the fall. Despite this, the school only has a budget of \$3.675 to spend on each full-time student, significantly lower than other state schools and LCC's benchmarks.

Just as bettors cannot turn their fortunes around in one day at the track, one fund-raiser will not cure LCC's funding woes, Kerley said.

"We're still low on scholarship dollars," Kerley said. "We need a couple of annual events and this is one we can build on."

Both Kerley and Whitaker said they expect the day at Keeneland to become an annual fund-raising event.

18-22 year olds

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CAMPUS CALENDAR

Week of April 14 - April 20

The Campus Calendar is produced by the Office of Student Activities. Registered Student Orgs. may submit information for FREE online ONE WEEK PRIOR to the MONDAY information is to appear at: http://www.uky.edu/Campus_Calendar. Call 257-8867 for more information.

<p>MEETINGS</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> UK Lambda, 7:30pm, UK Student Center, Rm. 231 Institute of Religion: History of The Church of Jesus Christ of Latter-day Saints, 12:00-12:50pm, UK Medical Building 2nd Floor Deviations & Lunch, 12:00pm, 429 Columbia Ave., \$1.00 Freshman Focus, 7:30pm, Baptist Student Union Conversational English Class, 7:30pm, Baptist Student Union Synergy, 8:00pm, CSF Building Assembly International Meeting, 7:00pm, Student Center, Rm. 228 Annular Radio Club, 7:00-9:00pm, Chemistry Physics, Rm. 163 International Convocation Hour, 6:00-9:00pm, MLK Jr. Cultural Center, Old Student Center, Free! <p>ACADEMIC</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Career #1 Last Minute Job Search, 3:30-4:30pm, Career Center Math Tutoring, (All 100 level courses), 2:00pm-6:00pm, Math Resource Center, 063 CB <p>SPORTS</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> UK Baseball-Karate Club, 5-6:30pm, Alumni Gym Loft Women's Rugby Practice, 4-4:50pm, Rugby Pitch Warm Radio License Training Class, 7:00-9:00pm, Chem-Physics Building, Rm. 163, Free! <p>ENTERTAINMENT/RECREATION</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Self Defense/Kempo class, 6:30-8:00pm, Alumni Gym Loft, Free! No experience needed. ARTS/MOVIES UK Jazz Ensemble, 7:30pm, Singletary Center, Free! 	<p>Thur 17</p>
<p>MEETINGS</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> International Christian Fellowship, 7:00pm, St. Augustine's Chapel <p>SPECIAL EVENTS</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> La Residence française, 5-6pm, Keeneland Hall <p>SPORTS</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> The Raven Do practice, 5:30-7:00pm, Alumni Gym Loft <p>ARTS/MOVIES</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> UK Orchestra and Choral/Choirs, 7:30pm, Singletary Center, Free! 	<p>Fri 18</p>
<p>SPORTS</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> The Raven Do practice, 11:00am-12:30pm, Alumni Gym Loft <p>ENTERTAINMENT/RECREATION</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Self Defense/Kempo class, 3:00-5:00pm, Alumni Gym Loft, Free! No experience needed. 	<p>Sat 19</p>
<p>MEETINGS</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> International Student Bible Study, 6:30pm, Baptist Student Union Alpha Kappa Psi Executive Board Meeting, 7:00pm, Student Center, Rm. 203 <p>ACADEMIC</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Math Tutoring, (All 100-level courses), 6:00-10:00pm, Commons Rm. 307 Math Tutoring, (All 100-level courses), 6:00-9:10pm, Holmes Hall Lobby Physics Tutoring, (All 100-level courses & 211/213), 6:00-10:00pm, Commons, Rm. 307 Chemistry Tutoring, (All 100-level courses), 6:00-10:00pm, Commons, Rm. 307 Biology, (All 100-level courses), 6:00-10:00pm, Commons, Rm. 307 	<p>Sun 20</p>

studentactivitiesboard

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Students' trip to China hits wall over fears of respiratory illness

Architecture professor cancels UK trip to Beijing following CDC advisory to postpone trips to Asia

By Leah Rowland
CONTRIBUTING WRITER

First-year architecture students were left with their bags packed but no place to go last month when their trip to China was suddenly canceled hours before departure because of a mysterious new disease.

Sudden Acute Respiratory Syndrome, or SARS, recently appearing in people living in or traveling from certain areas of East Asia, kept the students from a trip to Beijing, which was scheduled as part of the curriculum. The students were to visit the Great Wall of China, go to the opera and do site seeing.

Two days before they were to leave, Liz Swanson, assistant professor of architecture and director of the program, received a phone call from a concerned parent.

Swanson said that she hadn't been aware of the outbreak and over the next 24-hour period, she checked the CDC's Web site each hour. "It just seemed to explode overnight," she said.

Their plane was scheduled to leave at 3 a.m. Monday, March 17. On Sunday, Beijing became a high target area, Swanson said. Then, the CDC issued a travel advisory, urging the postponement of trips to East Asia.

"It was just the straw that broke the camel's back," Swanson said. "The students were bummed, but 100 percent of the parents were relieved."

LIZ SWANSON, ASSISTANT PROFESSOR OF ARCHITECTURE

"I was shocked," Wright said. "But, it was pointless to get irate—the reasoning for not going was understandable. It just sucked that I had spent all this money on this trip."

The trip cost around \$1,000. The group's travel agency has offered a refund in the form of a travel voucher. Plans are in the works to make up the trip next year, Swanson said.

"We just value travel so much," Swanson said. "Cities are made different; architecture is different. You just can't feel the spirit of a place without being there."

According to Greta Combs M.D., a 1982 UK College of Medicine graduate, SARS, which is transmitted by saliva droplets, is extremely contagious. "So essentially one person on a crowded bus or plane could infect 30," Combs said.

"Doctors have learned a lot about it and very quickly," said Combs. "And, fewer people are dying from it now than at the beginning of the outbreak."

According to the CDC, there are 193 reported probable cases in the United States and almost 3,000 worldwide as of Wednesday.

Doctor who died of SARS vital in the fight against it

ASSOCIATED PRESS

When doctors at the Hanoi French Hospital were baffled by a patient's flu-like illness, they called on Dr. Carlo Urbani for answers.

"If there was an infectious disease problem, you called Carlo Urbani," said his colleague, Lorenzo Savioli.

Urbani was a doctor who believed in staying close to his patients, and within a month the mysterious new disease had killed him.

The condition Urbani identified in a Chinese-American businessman on Feb. 29—severe acute respiratory syndrome, or SARS—proved to be the first severe new disease of the 21st century with global epidemic potential.

Urbani, an infectious disease expert with the World Health Organization's office in Hanoi, Vietnam, rapidly determined that he was dealing with something quite strange. He quickly notified others of his findings, drawing the world's attention to the new disease.

On March 23, he died of SARS at age 46. However, his quickness in recognizing the potential scope of the illness is credited with containing Vietnam's initial outbreak, and his death prompted some scientists to call for the SARS virus to bear his name.

A few days after Urbani had examined the first patient, many doctors and nurses were falling ill too. Urbani, along with others at the WHO in Hanoi, persuaded the doctors to seal off the hospital and brought in tougher infection control measures, shuffling the beds so that people with the mysterious illness were isolated in one area.

They quickly got Vietnam's Ministry of Health on board, and worked to alert the public about what little information they had regarding the disease and what to do if symptoms occurred. They also reached other hospitals and doctors for a potential onslaught of sick patients.

Urbani was ill when he arrived March 11 in Thailand to make a presentation on childhood deworming. He was taken to a hospital in Bangkok and died 18 days later.

The New England Journal of Medicine suggested that the virus could bear his name. A team led by the U.S. Centers for Disease Control and Prevention proposed the name Urbani SARS-associated coronavirus.

However, not everyone was enthusiastic about the idea. "Most times, when viruses are named after somebody they are named because they find them or because they discover a disease, not because they die from it," said Dr. David Heymann, WHO's chief of communicable diseases.

Wednesday, WHO said scientists had confirmed the identity of the virus that causes SARS and had agreed to name it simply SARS virus. The U.N. health agency said the WHO-coordinated lab network paid tribute to Urbani by dedicating to him its work in tracking down the virus.

WAR

Continued from page 1

the palace just outside Baghdad that had been part of Saddam's realm. Franks and senior officers sat in plush green chairs with gold, wood trim for the briefing with Bush in Washington, held over a videoconference.

Earlier, the four-star general viewed, with evident disgust, gold sink fixtures, a gold toilet paper dispenser and a toilet bowl brush inside one of the bathrooms.

"It's the oil for palace program," he said, a biting reference to the proceeds went to food for civilians.

Franks' visit to Baghdad, from his command headquarters in Qatar, came less than two weeks after Army tanks first rumbled through the capital and one week after Iraqis, aided by Marines, toppled a statue of Saddam in a downtown city square, signaling the end of his regime.

Saddam's whereabouts are unknown. U.S. officials say they don't know if he is dead or alive.

"The fact of the matter is, though, he is gone. Whether he is dead or alive, he is gone," Secretary of State Colin Powell told Associated Press Television News. "He is no longer in the lives of the people of Iraq."

Slowly cities across Iraq were struggling to shed the effects of the war. After days of looting and mayhem in Baghdad, Americans armed newly recruited Iraqi police officers with handguns to help keep order. And citizens sought to pick up their normal lives.

"The market is open and products are available," said Tadamoun Abdel-Aziz as she shopped with her son for eggs, bread and vegetables in the downtown Irkheita Market. But with power only partially restored and temperatures in the 90s, some residents bought blocks of ice.

American commandos backed by about 40 Marines staged the raid on the residence of Ribhab Taha, dubbed "Dr. Germ" by U.N. weapons inspectors. Taha, a microbiologist, was in charge of Iraq's biological laboratory suspected of weaponizing anthrax.

Three men emerged from the raid on her home with their hands up, and American troops removed several boxes of documents. Her whereabouts were unknown.

A Marine spokesman, Cpl. John Hoellwarth, said a terrorist training camp found consisted of about 20 permanent buildings on 25 acres south of Baghdad, and was operated by the Palestine Liberation Front and the Iraqi government.

He said recruits were apparently instructed in bomb-making, adding that Marines found chemicals, beakers and pipes at the site, along with questionnaires that asked recruits to state their preference in missions. Hoellwarth said many volunteered for suicide missions.

The discovery came less than a day after American officials disclosed the capture in Baghdad of Abul Abbas, a Palestinian behind the 1985 hijacking of an Italian cruise ship in which one American was killed. Other suspects were taken in a series of raids that also netted weapons such as rocket-propelled grenades, military officials said.

Together, the events buttressed the Bush administration's long-standing claims that Iraq under Saddam provided sanctuary to terrorists.

At the same time, there was reduced concern about the terrorist threat at home.

The threat level was raised to orange on March 17, days before the war began. And in lowering it, the administration said the end of heavy fighting in Iraq had diminished the threat, but cautioned that risks remain.

In Washington, the Pentagon's top budget officer said the war has cost at least \$20 billion so far.

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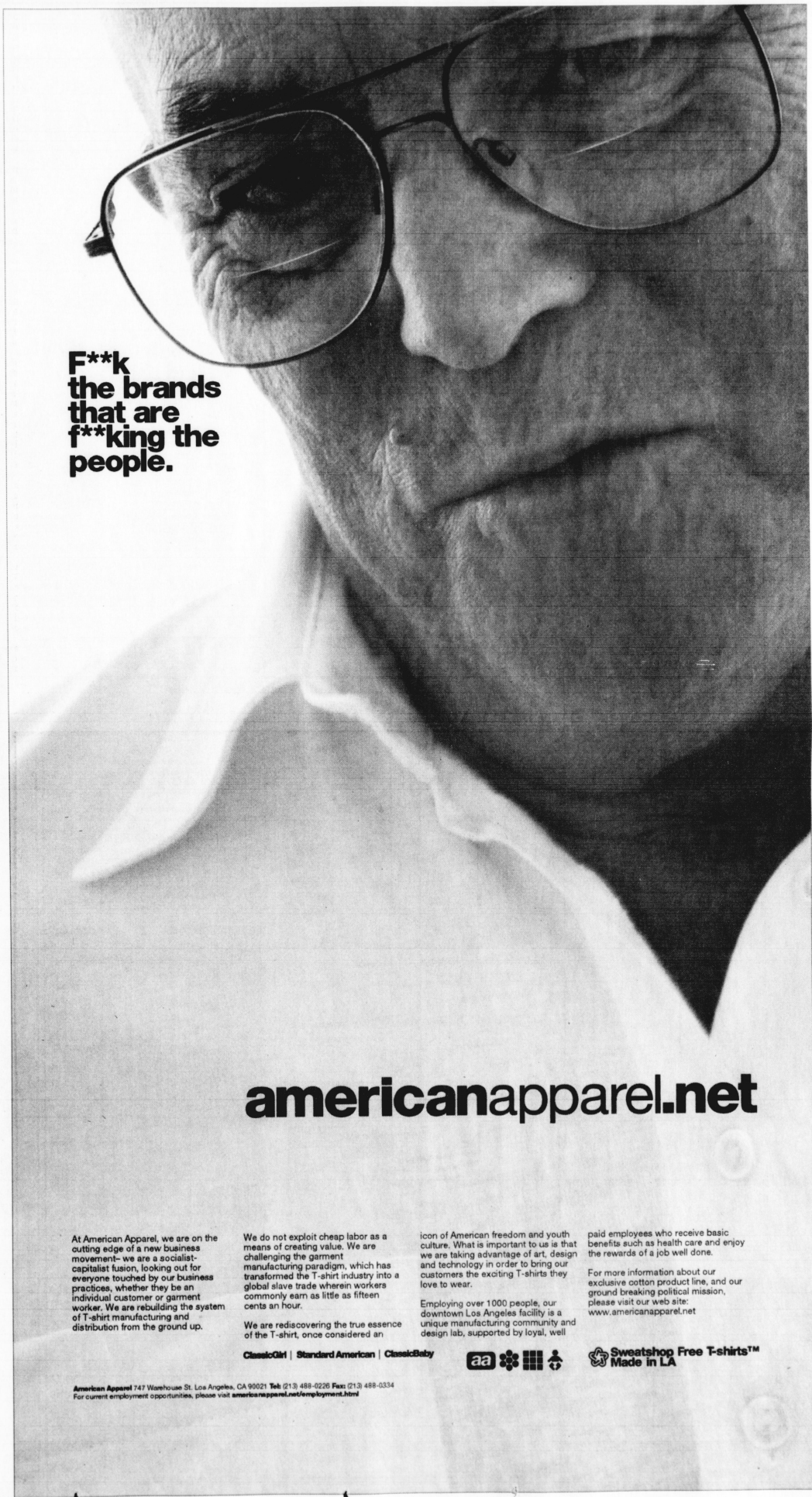
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The learning process takes a little bit of time, but we are really pleased with where they are right now." Ron Hudson, offensive coordinator

Lorezen, Boyd earning credit for Brooks' 'crash course'

Double trouble: Lorezen, Boyd will form multi-dimensional combination as quarterbacks for Cats

By Jeff Patterson
STAFF WRITER

For UK quarterbacks Jared Lorezen and Shane Boyd, the starting quarterback job may go to the one that passes the "crash course" in the new offense.

Boyd and Lorezen, not to mention the rest of the offense, are trying to digest new offensive coordinator Ron Hudson's high-scoring offense. Hudson came to UK from Kansas State, where those Wildcats led the nation in scoring with 48 points per game in 1998. Hudson's Cats ranked second nationally last season with 44.8 points per game.

So far Boyd and Lorezen are passing the course. "They are both competing and they are both getting better," Hudson said. "But

Deuces Wild

Jared Lorezen and Shane Boyd may share time at quarterback this season with the possibility of both players sharing the field at the same time.

more than anything they have to pick up the system. "The learning process takes a little bit of time, but we are really pleased with where they are at right now. They are throwing the ball adequately and for everything we're asking them to do, they're doing fine."

The new coaching staff has conditioned the team to be one of the best-conditioned teams in the Southeastern Conference.

"Coach Brooks is a real believer in conditioning," Hudson said. "I've been around a lot of programs, but he wants them to condition in the spring, most programs don't condition in the spring. He wants them to be in shape and he wants them to be tougher."

Lorezen is proof that head coach Rich Brooks' philosophy on conditioning is working. Losing weight

has been good for Lorezen as he is faster out of the pocket. He averaged over five yards per carry in last Saturday's scrimmage.

"It'll kill you to tell you how much I lost," Lorezen said. "I lost a lot, yeah, but winter workouts really killed us. They were running us constantly."

"Coach Hudson wanted me to get my weight down just to be more versatile and that is what I was going for. I just wanted to go out there and to make this offense work, and if it meant me losing weight, that is what I had to do."

Hudson has also been impressed with Boyd in all facets of the game.

"He's doing fine," Hudson said. "But you can't really scrimmage Shane because we don't want to get him hurt. We are introducing some things to him so that he'll continue to get better at them."

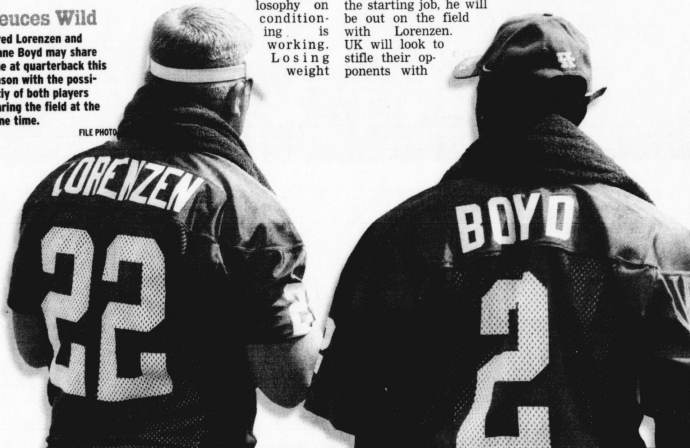
Even if Boyd doesn't win the starting job, he will be out on the field with Lorezen. UK will look to stifle their opponents with

Boyd and Lorezen trading snaps.

"It looks like they've got a chance to do some things and put some pressure on the defense because they are diametrically different," Hudson said. "So you've got to put on the field what they best present in terms of problems to the defense and let them play the game. That is what we are doing right now."

One pressure play started with Lorezen behind the center and Boyd out as wide receiver. Lorezen then dashed to the wideout and Boyd filled in at quarterback. Boyd threw the ball in the backfield to Lorezen who in turn threw the ball to the opposite side of the field to Boyd. A wall of linemen blocked for Boyd as he scampered for a huge gain.

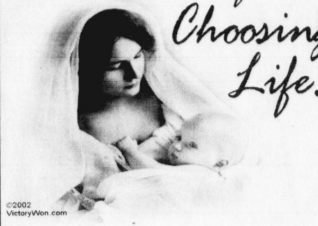
Hudson's course may prove to be the toughest either Lorezen or Boyd takes all spring.



FILE PHOTO

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Life at Commons varies for its current residents



By Emily Hagedorn
ASSISTANT NEWS EDITOR

Sitting near the pool at the Commons, Beth Caudill, a communications freshman, recalled how the day before her air conditioning had once again gone out.

"It felt better outside than it was in our apartment," she said.

While University Commons apartments boasts many amenities like a pool, porches and personal space, it also has negative attributes, Caudill said.

Because of a higher demand for housing, UK leased 78 four-bedroom apartments in Commons last fall. Next year, UK will be leasing the entire complex.

Many of its tenants said they appreciate the proximity of Commons, which is on Red Mile Road, to campus.

Renters have nearby parking and a fully furnished apartment, including a washer and dryer, dishwasher, and air conditioning.

Commons also has a hot tub, volleyball court, basketball court, tennis court, activities room, weight room and free bus rides to campus.

"It's a student-oriented area," said Laura Sidwell, a communications sophomore.

That's not going to keep her at Commons next year, though. The experience hasn't been what she thought it would be, she said.

"Anybody is going to jump at the opportunity to live in an apartment complex for cheap," she said. "I just think people should be aware that the deal they hear is not a deal."

Sidwell said that while maintenance crews would promptly come when called, they usually didn't do a quality job.

"It's the quick fix," she said. Also the condition of her apartment when she moved in left much to be desired, she said. The carpet and the walls were dirty.

"They painted over the dirt," Sidwell said.

Caudill said that when she and her roommates moved in, their refrigerator door was cracked, and two handles on the bathroom drawers were broken. These still have not been fixed, she said.

Brittany Olenick, a sociology sophomore, had a hole in her kitchen wall.

"I shouldn't have to stare at the hole in the wall ... or put a poster over it," she said.

Phyllis Bertram, the property manager of Commons, said each

Campus?

UK will now be leasing all of the University Commons apartments to students next year. Some residents say living at Commons has good and bad aspects.

JOHN WAMPLER | KERNEL STAFF

apartment is painted, cleaned and re-carpeted before a new tenant moves in.

The way Commons prepares apartments was one of the reasons UK chose Commons, said Jim Wims, the director of Residence Life. "They were really good about that," he said.

Commons is also a party hotspot, many students said, which can be both good and bad.

"I'm fine with parties on Thursday, Friday and Saturday," Olenick said. "But when it comes to Monday, I want to do my work."

Parties at Commons must be authorized by the management, Bertram said.

"If someone is making too much noise, the courtesy officers will ask them to be quiet," Bertram said. "The students have been very well-behaved."

Since UK leased the apartments, UK Police have patrolled the area. Next year, UK may put an "officer-in-residence" in the complex, Wims said.

"It gives a different type of living," he said. "They get quite a lot more space and freedoms."

John Wampler contributed to this article.

Some landlords wonder why UK choose Commons

By Ben Fahn
STAFF WRITER

Looking for a new apartment has become a hobby for many this time of the year, including Jamie Sacra and her roommates at University Commons.

When UK starts leasing their entire apartment complex in August, Sacra and her roommates are moving out "because they're raising the rent almost \$150 a month," the undeclared sophomore said.

The roommates are also questioning why UK chose to lease all of Commons, when there seems to be a number of houses and apartments for rent closer to UK.

When UK began searching for apartments in December 2002, officials went through the yellow pages to find leasing options, said Ben Crutcher, associate vice president of Auxiliary Services. They looked for reasonable pricing, proximity to the UK campus, utility-included rent, a predominate student population and at least 300 beds, he said.

One of four property managers who the Kernel contacted had received leasing information from UK. Royal Lexington, Sills Brothers Properties, and Wassmer Properties were never contacted, according to property managers. UK did express interest in University Village Apartments, according to its property manager.

When choosing which apartments to lease, UK also considered the list of potential complexes approved to do business with, Crutcher said.

UK would have considered all responses from complexes, Crutcher said. "We don't exclude anybody," he said.

However, he thinks that UK sent the letter to ten or 15 complexes that were on the potential vendor list. Commons is the only one that responded. Some property owners who were not contacted said they would have worked with UK.

One of Commons' closest competitors, Royal Lexington, a 342-bedroom complex on Virginia Avenue consisting of mostly students, seemed to fit UK's criteria.

However, the apartments were already leased for the 2003-04 acad-

emic year by the time UK started apartment hunting, said Crutcher and Jenny Hiten, Royal Lexington property manager.

Hiten could not say if she would work with UK if contacted, because she has never dealt with the university before. But UK's deal with Commons has caught her attention. "It's good for Commons because they don't have to do any leasing," she said. "The only negative for Commons is that it's so far from campus."

Dennis Sills, part-owner of Sills Brothers Properties, oversees apartments on Richmond Avenue and East High Street along with numerous residential houses on areas close to campus.

Sills never received a letter from UK inquiring about leasing apartments, he said. If they had, he would have worked with UK.

"It would be easier for me. I'd spend a lot less time trying to get places rented out," Sills said.

Lexington developer Bill Wassmer agrees with Sills. Wassmer Properties owns 167 apartment units clustered around campus.

Never contacted by UK, Wassmer said he would have worked with them if they had, he said.

"The checks would never bounce," said Wassmer, who also said there is no housing shortage at UK with the large number of apartments and houses surrounding campus. "Count how many ads there are in the Kernel classifieds," he said.

"There are houses everywhere."

By the time UK contacted University Village Apartments in mid-February about leasing from them, it was too late. "UK might not have realized it's late, but when you're in this business long enough, it is," said Jennifer Butterfield, property manager for University Village on Simpson Avenue.

Butterfield said many tenants had already renewed their leases, and she could not supply UK with a whole apartment building.

UK also wanted to find one, central facility, which they got.

"It didn't make sense to spread students out in four or five different areas," Crutcher said.

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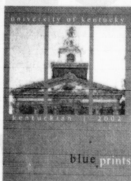
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Concert helps raise awareness

By Cassie Stokes
STAFF WRITER

Ani DiFranco's visit to UK is more than just a concert for music fans — it's a cause.

Fifteen UK organizations, such as Amnesty International and the Feminist Alliance, are expected to set up booths before DiFranco's concert tonight.

And it's the organizations that helped get DiFranco here. Once Turning the Corner concert organizers at the Singletary Center realized the venue price to bring Ani DiFranco was out of the budget for the series, Amanda Kool, an arts and administration senior, set out to find another way to bring her to UK.

She discovered that DiFranco did make a few exceptions in her price for venues if they had an active cause.

So Kool contacted organizations that were part of UK's Campus Progressive Coalition and got a positive response about being a part of the concert.

"One of the big reasons I was so excited was because DiFranco has a high-profile on issues," Kool said.

Kool had worked for two years at the Singletary Center and now volunteers to help them with concerts.

"Amanda really spearheaded getting the organizations together," said Rebecca Vice, marketing coordinator for the Singletary Center.

"It's a way to make students actively involved by having Lexington and University of Kentucky organizations participate with the student population in the Singletary Center," Vice said.

Kool also worked closely with Holly Salisbury, the director for the Singletary Center, in getting together the proposals to make the concert happen.

Several organizations and groups already follow DiFranco to various concerts.

"I think it's good that she's using her popularity to



... I was so excited because DiFranco has a high-profile on issues."

-Amanda Kool, student who helped bring DiFranco to UK

bring awareness to issues that some people wouldn't take time to recognize or think about," said Megan LaFollette, a dietetics senior.

Kristina Griesshaber, an art studio and arts administration senior attending the concert, said she's glad to see the groups participating.

"It's good because they can reach students. It's a more

approachable form," she said.

The organizations and booths will set up between 6 and 6:30 and can stay until the concert begins at 8 or through the show if they desire.

People are welcome to come see the booths and organizations whether they purchased a ticket or not. Tickets are still available for the concert.

Gallery Hops bring art, originality

By Chrissy Tigas
STAFF WRITER

From landscapes to punk rock to wine and belly dancing, Lexington's fine arts centers will join together in a Gallery Hop to bring the public various art events and displays Friday.

Gallery Hop is a cooperative effort among 28 galleries, studios and arts organizations that entertain for free five times a year.

Friday's Gallery Hop will take place at various locations across Lexington, including Ann Tower Gallery, Artique, ArtsPlace Gallery, UK Art Museum and Gallerie Soleil.

Most participants show visual art, although some branch into dance and musi-

cal performances. Many locations are offering refreshments from wine and cheese to punch and cookies.

Gallerie Soleil will feature four artists showing "Psychotic Woodblock Prints," "Vague White Mother" and "Rock and Roll Freak Show."

"There's a lot of sex, violence and disturbed psychological work presented this month," said Bob Morgan, curator of the gallery.

"It's not for the faint of heart."

Contemporary punk rock band The Murders will be playing on the sidewalk in front of the gallery.

The Artist's Attic Inc. will feature a special display of digital paintings by Betsy Kurzinger, assistant professor

of art and design at Eastern Kentucky University.

Mecca, a cultural-based dance studio, will be celebrating its fourth birthday with this Gallery Hop. The studio will present "RE:arrangements" performed by an African dance group.

"It's a time for people to come and see what we do here," said Mecca co-owner Teresa Tomb.

Gallery Hop has several UK connections with galleries run by students or have student work presented in them.

The Asian art display, "Magic, Mystery, and Materials," showing at UK Art Museum in the Singletary Center will be free to the public this Friday only.

UK Donovan Scholars, students over 65 years old,

will show off their art at The Carnegie Center. The exhibit called "Mostly Landscapes" will be on display through May 20.

"It's a pleasant, informal chance to get out and decide what appeals to you artistically and what doesn't," said Jane Isenhour, public relations representative of The Carnegie Center.

Check out the hop

Gallery Hop will take place from 5 to 8 p.m. Friday at various downtown art galleries. The Lexington Arts and Council Web site has more information on dates and times. <http://www.lexarts.org>.

Catholic Campus Ministry at UK

invites all to Holy Week Services.

The Newman Center
320 Rose Lane
255-8566

Holy Thursday - 7:30 p.m.: Evening Mass of the Lord's Supper

Good Friday - 12:10 p.m.: Way of the Cross

5:30 p.m.: Passion, Veneration of the Cross, Communion

Holy Saturday Easter Vigil - 8:30 p.m.

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IN OUR OPINION

UK improves but lags behind top benchmarks

New data shows UK's retention and graduation rates are improving, but it still trails other top public universities.

According to a report recently released by the Office of Institutional Research, freshmen retention and graduation rates — highlighted by a record-setting 6-year rate — have climbed, but UK still ranks near the bottom of its benchmarks for these categories.

The retention rate, the percentage of freshmen who return for their sophomore year, improved to 79.3 in 2001. And the 6-year graduation rate, now the national standard because so many students take time off or attend part time, is 57.7 percent for students enrolling in 1996, a record rate. For students who enrolled in 1986, the rate was 48.8 percent.

Despite the improvement, these numbers lag behind UK's top benchmarks, such as the University of Virginia, the University of North Carolina-Chapel Hill, the University of Michigan-Ann Arbor and the University of Georgia, all of which have been ranked as top-20 national public universities by U.S. News & World

Report magazine.

All of these schools have retention rates higher than 86 percent and 6-year graduation rates of at least 65 percent. Virginia leads both categories with a retention rate of 95 percent and a graduation rate of 91 percent.

Of its 19 benchmarks, UK ranks 16th in graduation rate, ahead of Ohio State University, the University of Arizona and the University of Minnesota.

While the UK community deserves applause for these achievements, it's clear that more will have to be done for UK to reach its goals, which include reaching top-20 status for public research institutions and raising the retention rate to a state-mandated 90 percent by 2020.

UK can start by continuing to improve and experiment with its first-year programs. UK should consider making UK 101 a requirement for freshmen. Raising admission standards would result in better-qualified students. A graduation contract, which has been proposed by Student Government members, would also be beneficial.

Joshu Goebeler

KERNEL COLUMNIST

Fighting the government's propaganda machine

Sometimes I wonder if "they" have put large doses of dumb in our water supply. It is easier for me to believe this than the alternative. People have swallowed the war-time propaganda hook, line and sinker.

Everything is neatly placed into binary opposites of black and white, good and evil, godly and ungodly, "US" and them. But, reality is actually as gray as Kentucky winters.

Lie number one: If you are against the war than you are against the troops. With this line of reasoning, one that is for the war — the people who want to put U.S. troops in the line of hostile fire — is in support of the troops' best interests. I feel that by being against the war, wanting to bring the troops home and out of the barrage of enemy bullets, is more supportive of the

troops' best interest.

Lie number two: God is on our side. This just doesn't make any damn sense. "Thou shalt not kill," was God's sixth commandment. I don't care what kind of cock and bull philosophical argument you come up with, you just aren't going to get around this not killing rule.

Remember when the terrorist flew the planes into the twin towers and it was reported that they believed they would go to a type of heaven with several grape-peeling virgins. I didn't believe their argument, and I do not believe ours. As Bob Dylan said, "If God's on our side, then he'll stop the next war."

Lie number three: Other countries hate our freedom. "The liberty we prize is not America's gift to the world. It is God's gift to humanity," Bush told U.S. troops. This is

the type of stuff that makes other countries hate us. It is not because they hate our freedom as the propaganda machine tells us. It is because we are arrogant. Tim Leary said that you could tell a lot about a country by the drugs that it consumes. In America we drink booze by the truckload. Alcohol is known to dull the senses and inflate the ego. Maybe, just maybe ... we are not God's gift to the world.

Lie number four: We are in Iraq to free the oppressed people, and they will welcome us with open arms. The people, while maybe oppressed, would rather be oppressed by their own country than be oppressed by ours. Over half of our country voted against Bush, but if a Middle Eastern group of Muslims came to the United States in order to free us from our oppressor we might

be hostile to our liberators. Iraq is a Muslim country, and they do not want our Christian Colonialism setting up camp.

According to "Asheville Report" (www.agnews.org) "Thousands of Iraqi exiles have been returning home over the past week from Jordan, with many insisting they want to defend their country against U.S. and British 'invaders.'" Jordanian records show that 5,284 Iraqis have crossed the desert border overland into Iraq since Mar. 16, Col Ahmad al-Hazaymeh, director of Jordan's al Karana border post, said.

True: Saddam used chemical weapons against his own people. What George W. failed to mention in his speech is that his father was the one that gave Saddam the chemical weapons ... and what did we do when that

happened, absolutely nothing! It is interesting how bin Laden has disappeared or rather been transmogrified onto the face of Hussein. Who funded the creation of the Taliban? It was George Bush Sr. It is almost frightening how full circle everything has come.

If we want to help people why don't we start here? We have plenty of homeless, starving, diseased, alcoholics, drug addicts and depressed, hopeless people. What about the Native Americans? They were slaughtered with "germ warfare" of the most basic kind — blankets with smallpox.

They were shot while surrendering and put into prison camp reservations where they starved. Even today they are the poorest group in the United States with the highest rate of alcoholism. Why haven't their

oppressors been "hunted down" and brought to justice? Because, their oppressors are "US."

In the end it is the people who oppose the war who are truly patriotic. These are the people who get dropped from CNN, the people who have their albums burned and black-balled, the professors who have their face flashed on the news with a few of their words taken out of context.

Then there are the thousands of people who are protesting, being beaten with clubs, shot with rubber bullets, sprayed with Mace and, in some cases, run over. In the end, the easy path is not always the most righteous.

Joshu Goebeler is a historic preservation graduate student. His views do not necessarily represent those of the Kernel.

READER RESPONSE

C. Phillip Wheeler Jr.
CHIEF JUSTICE OF THE STUDENT SUPREME COURT

Chief Justice writes to explain, clarify SG court's ruling

I am writing this response to set the record straight on why the majority (4-1) of the Student Supreme Court chose to uphold the results of last week's Student Government Election despite a discrepancy of 171 "over-votes" between the totals recorded on the voting machines and those recorded on the computers.

This was not, as described by the Kernel's editorial board, a "shirking of our constitutional duty." In fact, it is quite the opposite. We came to our decision based on hard material facts presented to the Court by the Elections Investigator Eric Mills and Respondents' Counsels Holly Harris-Ray and Braphus Kaaland.

Neither side asserted evidence of voter fraud. The only grounds given by Mills for having a new election is that there was a "possibility" of fraud, although it was indeed highly unlikely given the fact that all polling stations were manned at all times and no violations were reported by any candidate.

In fact, the discrepancy was not even noticed until the Board of Election Supervisors was walking out the door of the SG office to announce the results to the student body. Such a minute possibility that there was fraud in no way rises to the level of probability.

In making its decision, the Court was well aware of the difficulties encountered in past elections. The Respondents, candidates who wished to have the results certified as recorded, encouraged us to adopt the so-called "20 percent Rule" used by the Kentucky Supreme Court to decide elections.

This rule states that unless it is proven that 20 percent of the votes in a given election were illegal, the results as recorded on the machines will stand.

We would have been well in our right to do so since, according to the SG Constitution, the Student Supreme Court is technically bound by both state and federal law.

However, we felt dishonest candidates could use the adoption of such an inflexible standard to render an injustice upon the democratic process, and, therefore, we chose to adopt a more flexible standard that looks to see if there was reliable evidence of fraud when making the decision of whether or not new election is necessary.

This standard would allow for the Court to declare a new election no matter how many or how few over-votes are cast if reliable evidence of voter-fraud is presented. We do in fact believe that UK student elections should be held to a higher standard.

When human poll workers run elections, we will always have some kind of error. No form of election, electronic or manual, functions perfectly. There is always the possibility of fraud. However, unless reliable evidence is presented which turns this possibility into a probability, the results in an election should be upheld.

To force candidates and students to endure another election every time a candidate narrowly loses would be unfair to the victors and would provide no finality to the democratic process on UK's campus.

If we were to have an over-vote in the next election and only five Senate candidates were affected, mustn't we then call yet another new election if we chose to follow the Kernel's recommendation?

The approach advocated by the Kernel has too great a potential to become a never-ending process, and, therefore, since no proof of voter-fraud was presented, this Court chose to uphold the results as recorded. If anyone would like a text of the entire opinion, they are available in the SG office.

C. Phillip Wheeler Jr. is the chief justice of the Student Supreme Court.

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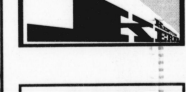
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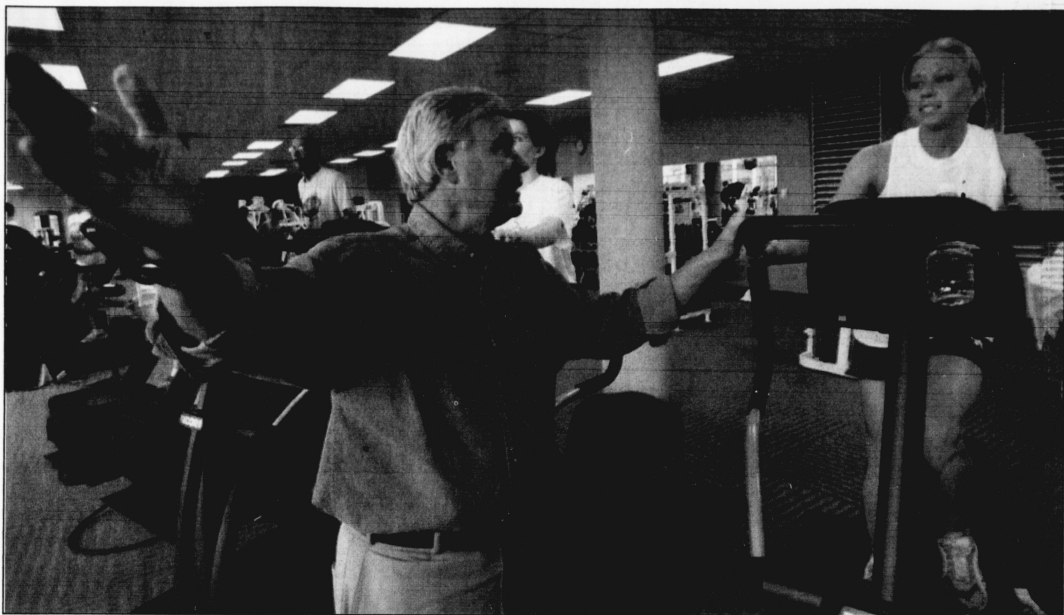
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SCOTT LASHINSKY | KERNEL STAFF

For the students

Bill Pieratt talks with kinesiology junior Jessica Kibbe, a student worker at the Johnson Center, as she works out on one of the center's cross-trainers.

JOHNSON

Continued from page 1

recreation facilities.

Administrators asked Pieratt to form and lead a committee of faculty, staff and students to begin working on a proposal for a new facility. Committee members toured universities that had new student recreation centers to determine what would make a new facility popular and successful.

"When we'd go on these visits, we'd tour through their centers and I would ask the students, 'What do you like about this place? What areas would you make bigger? What areas are not as popular?'" said Pieratt.

Pieratt and his committee also spoke with UK students and campus leaders for input on a new campus recreational facility.

In 1999, after Student Government conducted student surveys on campus to learn more about what students wanted and the Department of Campus Recreation gave presentations to show students the possibilities, Pieratt's committee's proposal was brought before the Board of Trustees and was overwhelmingly approved.

Construction on the project began in late summer 2000, and the new facility was completed in January 2003.

The Johnson Center, which includes a multi-purpose gymnasium with four basketball courts, two aerobics studios, an elevated, four-lane jogging track, a climbing wall, four racquetball courts and two levels of fitness/weight training, was funded by student fees and cost \$15.3 million to build.

As many as 2,500 students use the Johnson Center each day; that's compared to an average of 400 students who used the Seaton Center when it was the main campus recreation facility.

Pieratt's dedication

Pieratt's eyes sparkle when he talks about the Johnson Center. It is hard to mistake the pride in the slim 61-year-old's voice as he mentions the numerous fitness amenities now available to UK students. He's on top of the world.

It's his persistence, intelligence and patience that got him there, said many who have worked with him.

Victor Hazard, dean of students, said Pieratt's commitment to the Johnson Center has been tremendous.

"Many have the ability to birth ideas, but Bill was able to take his vision and see it come to fruition," Hazard said. "Without his energy, drive and commitment, we probably wouldn't have the facility today."

Ron Lee, associate director of Campus Recreation, said Pieratt's enthusiasm over the Johnson Center was hard to miss.

"You could just see him light up any time he talked about the project or had work to do with the project," Lee said. "He's just been tireless in the effort of getting this project completed."

Although many refer to Pieratt as the man behind the completion of the Johnson Center, he gives much credit to members of the committee who worked on the project with him as well as to other supporters.

"There were so many players in this and so much support from the students and from the administration," Pieratt said. "The support we had for it was overwhelming."

Pieratt's wife, Janice, said although there were some sleepless nights, her husband remained calm and patient throughout the lengthy and often tedious process. She said he never lost sight of his goals for the Johnson Center or his enthusiasm for it.

"Bill has always put students first and has been very dedicated to this project," she said. "I've been over there [the center] a lot because he wanted me to see all the stages of construc-

tion. He will still come home every night and say, 'We had 2,300 students use it today.'"

In fact, Pieratt said he was so committed to student satisfaction and comfort at the Johnson Center, he chose to sacrifice staff office space, including his own office that is the same size as those of his staff, when planning got underway for the Johnson Center.

Pieratt said he wanted as much space as possible to be available for student use.

Winn Stephens, who served as the initial student representative on Pieratt's planning committee, said Pieratt stayed focused on his main goal for the new center — that it be geared toward students.

"He wants students to enjoy it and get the most benefit out of it," said Stephens, who is now the assistant director of student activities.

"It's not my facility. It's the students' facility," Pieratt said.

Lee, who has worked with Pieratt for 20 years, said that Pieratt's fitness habits allow him to effectively reach students.

"Bill's very conscientious about not only his own health, but in promoting it with the students," he said. "He's very supportive and active in pursuing and educating our students."

Although Pieratt said he shies away from preaching about exercise, he said he does encourage others to work out and tries to promote fitness by providing people with the information they need to have a healthy, active lifestyle and by setting a good example.

"Exercise energizes me," he said. "You just feel so much better."

Pieratt said he's happy he found a way to combine his love of fitness with his love of working with students.

"I'm involved with the day-to-day happenings around here as much as I can be," he said. "I'll go out and mop up a spill or empty trash if I have to."

"I never have considered myself a boss so much as just a coordinator, trying to keep the team together and working towards a common goal. If everybody helps everybody else, it makes everybody's job so much easier."

Pieratt said he learned the importance of being organized, involving staff in decision-making and having an open-door policy from Bernard "Skeeter" Johnson, the founder of the Department of Campus Recreation and the man for whom the Johnson Center was named.

"He had a tremendous influence on me," Pieratt said. "He was really my mentor. He almost became like a father to me because my dad died when I was in my early 20s."

Pieratt's dedication to the university and his hard work are the driving forces behind much of the success of the campus recreation program, Hazard said. "He's superb. He's an unsung hero who has been working behind the scenes for years, advocating for student wellness."

Beginnings

Pieratt has always been a sports enthusiast. He said his career choice was an easy and natural one.

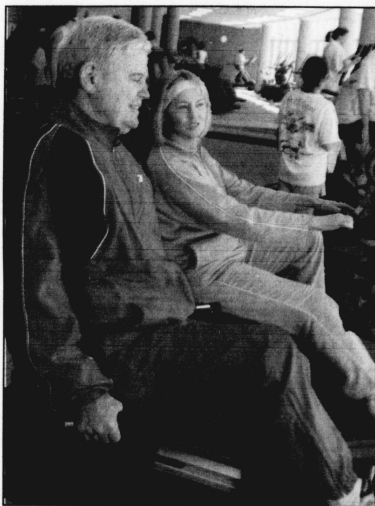
"I was around sports from a very early age and have always enjoyed them," he said.

As a child growing up in Mt. Sterling, Ky., Pieratt played several sports. Throughout high school, he played football, basketball and baseball. At UK, Pieratt played basketball as a freshman and played on the baseball team for three years.

He said his parents always encouraged him to be active.

"My parents were always telling me, 'Go out and play,' he said. "I didn't spend much time indoors. We didn't even have a TV until I was a senior in college."

Pieratt graduated from UK in 1964 with degrees in physical education and health and history. He taught and coached basketball, track and gymnastics at Beaumont Junior High School from 1964 until 1971. In 1972, Pieratt was approached by UK's Campus



Building strength

Bill Pieratt works out at the Johnson Center with his wife, Janice, on a Saturday morning. They work out together most Saturday mornings, Pieratt said.

JOHN WAMPLER | KERNEL STAFF

Recreation Director Skeeter Johnson, whom he had as a professor during his undergraduate work, about coming to work for the university in campus recreation.

"I had no desire to leave," Pieratt said. "I had a good job, and I enjoyed the teaching and coaching, but he talked me into it. In 1972 he hired me, and I've been here ever since."

Pieratt started out in campus recreation as intramural director. After a year, he became coordinator of facilities. He has been the director of campus recreation since 1992, when he succeeded Johnson. Johnson died in 2001.

Pieratt's future

Although he is not sure when he will retire, he said that when he does, he plans on taking some art and woodworking courses.

He also plans to traveling with his wife.

"My wife and I have a lot of the same interests," he said. "We're going to do a lot of hiking and biking and taking trips where those things can be worked into the trip. We want to take a big trip out west to California and the wine country. We want to see the big redwoods, Yosemite and all the national parks."

Pieratt credits his wife's devotion and support for his happiness and success over the years.

"My wife has been a tremendous supporter and friend throughout my whole career," he said.

Pieratt says he will continue to exercise regularly and plans on spending a lot of time outdoors.

"My activities now are mostly aerobic," he said. "My wife and I walk a lot together, and we do a lot of biking. We prefer being outdoors."

When looking back over his years at UK, Pieratt said he has been very pleased and happy with his career.

Despite typical university-related problems, such as budget cuts and lack of funding, Pieratt said he has experienced no major disappointments in his career at UK and says he believes in the importance of having a good attitude.

"I've always felt that you just have to deal with it and look at the glass half-full instead of half-empty," he said. "I don't think I've ever gotten up and said, 'You know, I just don't want to go in today.' I can't ever remember feeling that way."

FUTURE

Continued from page 1

Pieratt said the university hopes to add an outing center, which would be part of campus recreation's Outdoor Pursuits and Adventures Program. This facility would allow students to rent gear for outdoor activities and serve as a place for storing things like canoes, kayaks and camping and climbing equipment.

Pieratt said he would also like to see a satellite fitness facility, comparable to the Underground Fitness Center in Donovan Hall, built on north campus. Pieratt said that would be a good way to reach even more students, especially those who don't live close to the Johnson Center and may not want to walk to it at night or because of the distance.

"It wouldn't be a full-blown recreation center, but it would have cardio equipment, a weight room, an aerobics room and locker rooms," he said.

One other addition that Pieratt believes would be financially beneficial for the university is the addition of a full-service health bar and deli open to the public. It was included in the original proposal but was cut when funding started running low, he said.

"It would be something where you could come in and get a veggie sandwich or some fresh fruit... something where you'd at least have a healthy choice — like a Subway concept," he said.

In light of recent state education budget cuts, Pieratt said it will be a while before major additions to the Johnson Center will be seriously considered by the university. For now, Pieratt said he will focus on pursuing less costly plans.

"We are going to do the minimal — the smoothie bar and possibly bring in some pre-made sandwiches from food services," he said.