



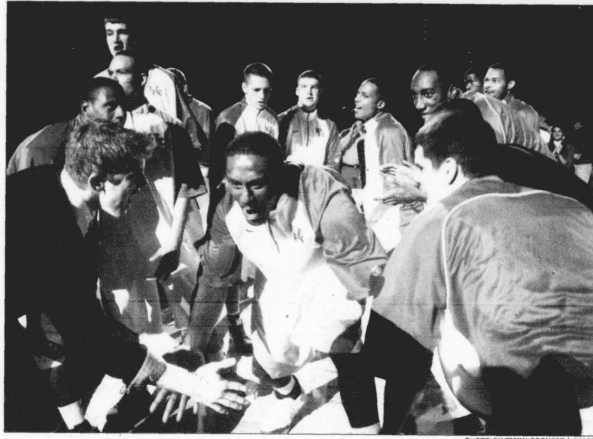
KENTUCKY KERNEL

TUESDAY, NOVEMBER 25, 2008

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UK 91, LONGWOOD 57



Sophomore forward Patrick Patterson celebrates with teammates during player introductions before UK's 91-57 win over Longwood. Patterson led the Cats with a career-high 28 points and six assists. The sophomore also added 12 rebounds.

Starting over

Patterson leads Cats back to .500 with career-high 28 points in rout

By Bobby Reagan
breagan@kykernel.com

Back to square one. That's where the UK men's basketball team (2-2) finds itself with its 91-57 rout of Longwood (3-3) on Monday night in Rupp Arena. With an 0-2 start behind them and a fresh slate of non-conference games still looming, the Cats took the floor looking to right what many considered a sinking ship after the first two games. With a little help from sophomore forward Patrick Patterson, the Cats continued to sail for another day. Patterson, who struggled in games against the Virginia Military Institute and No. 1 North Carolina, led the Cats against the Lancers with a career-high 28 points. Add that to 12 rebounds and another career-high six assists to equal what UK head coach Bil-

ly Gillispie thinks should be normal procedure for Patterson. "Patrick knew he hasn't been playing well," Gillispie said. "Tonight he played very well. He played with a lot of energy, a lot more confidence and played the way he should play." Patterson credits his best game of the season thus far to a talk he had with his coaching staff and his father, Buster. Patterson said his father told him to be more of a leader on the court, which he said would translate into a better performance. While his father's speech helped, UK's ability to finally feed Patterson led to the sophomore's career night. Patterson got his hands on the ball in the post on four possessions in the first five minutes of the game. Those touches translated to 11 of the

See **Basketball** on page 3

Getting ball to the post proves to be winning plan

I know what you were thinking: Here we go again. Who could blame you? For the second year in the row, you left an early UK game with the lingering question: The Cats lost to who? After the first season-opening loss since



JOHN HALE
Kernel columnist

2001 and only the third 0-2 start since 1926, you had to be thinking here we go again. But rest easy, these Cats are not the 2007-08 Cats reincarnated. There will undoubtedly be more bumps along the road (watch out for the Miami Hurricanes in a couple of weeks), and the Virginia Military Institute probably won't be the last team you think UK should handle this season, but inevitably

See **Hale** on page 3

Volleyball mourns loss of Casper

By BW Jones
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For four years, Jenni Casper gave everything she had to the UK volleyball program. Now, two days after Casper's death, the UK volleyball community is trying to give everything back to its star.

"Our hearts continue to pour out for her family and loved ones and soon-to-be fiancé," UK head coach Craig Skinner said. "We're really feeling for that family and her friends and loved ones."

As the team prepares for their regular-season finale Friday against Tennessee, Skinner said four of Casper's former teammates who are still with the team are keeping Casper in mind.



Casper

"Everyone heals and grieves in different ways, and they're some pretty upset athletes," Skinner said. "When you have a teammate, regardless if you played with them for one game or one year, whatever it is, regardless if you're best friends, not best friends — I mean, it is a very, very difficult thing to go with because you spent so many close hours with each individual and tough times and difficult workouts."

Skinner was not sure how the team would formally honor Casper in its final game, but gave assurances that "we will do something."

"The challenge for us is honoring the commitment that Jenni gave to this program," Skinner said. "The parents wish that we continue on and finish what we started and we're going to do everything we can and play with a chip on our shoulder and Jenni in mind."

Casper died Sunday afternoon at UK Hospital of multiple blunt force traumas, a Fayette County coroner said. Casper, 24, was in a car accident early Saturday morning on Chinese Road in Lexington, according to Lexington police. Lexington police were quoted in the Lexington Herald-Leader on Monday as saying that speeding and alcohol may have been a factor in the accident, but did not return phone calls to the Kernel as of press time.

Current players were unavailable for comment, and Casper's former teammates could not be reached at press time.

Casper, of Louisville, is one of the most decorated players in UK volleyball history. Casper, who was with the team from 2003 to 2006, is a former two-time Southeastern Conference Defensive Player of the Year and leads UK in career digs. She graduated from UK in May 2007.

"We've just got a ton of support this morning from the volleyball world across the country," Skinner said. "Jenni was a tenacious defender and an exceptional player."

Information regarding funeral and service arrangements was not available at press time.

Expert disagrees with UK's focus on diversity

By Laura Edelen
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UK recently combined the Commission on Diversity and Commission on Women to form the new Commission on Excellence, Diversity and Inclusion.

Vice President for Institutional Diversity J.J. Jackson will head the new commission, which will go into effect July 1, 2009.

"My goals for the commission are to continuously identify as clearly as possible the major issues that the campus faces around diversity, and that the commission can help to address," Jackson said.

But some disagree with UK's diversity efforts. George Leef, the vice president for research at The John William Pope Center for Higher Education Policy, said he believes all these efforts by universities concerning diversity are not essential to improving education.

"There is complete mania over diversity, but it has nothing to do with quality education," Leef said. "Long before there were thoughts over any need for diversity, students got a great education."

Leef said he has heard about UK's attempts to become a top-20 research institution by year 2020, and he believes diversity is a foolish project to begin with.

"These efforts concerning diversity are for show, and they will not help to accomplish prestige," Leef said. "It's a diversion."

Jackson, however, said she thinks that focusing on diversity will ensure that all constituent groups on campus receive necessary attention.

"This commission will ensure that everyone's greatest needs are met to the best of our ability, and that there is one standard — excellence — applied to all," Jackson said.

By combining the two divisions, Jackson said there will be equality in addressing issues and a greater chance that no one will be left out.

"With diversity as a strategic goal, an inclusive approach will best support the university's top-20 achievement," Jackson said.

In a campuswide e-mail, UK President Lee Todd said he believes this new structure will increase focus on the goal of inclusion as part of UK's diversity effort.

"As we intensify the depth and pace of our planning process to achieve our strategic goals for reaching Top 20 status by the year 2020, UK's efforts around diversity and inclusion are increasingly more critical," Todd said in the e-mail.

Businesses hope consumers buy into Black Friday

By Brooke McCloud
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The economy may not be so cheery, but local businesses are hoping that this Black Friday will make for a profitable holiday shopping season. Taking place the day after Thanksgiving, Black Friday is the official kickoff to the holiday shopping season. With stores offering longer hours, doorbusters and limited-time sales, Black Friday has become a holiday tradition for many consumers.

Stores draw customers in on Black Friday with one-day-only discounts and limited-supply items, yet there are predictions for an overall decrease in the holiday shopping season from last year, said Ken Troske, a UK economics professor.

"There is an expectation that retailers are concerned about the perception of the economy to consumers," Troske said. "People are feeling more pessimistic."

With the current state of the economy, local business owners are anxious to see the outcome of Black Friday.

"We are concerned but staying positive, and I am personally staying hopeful for a pick-up in business," said Pat Bardo, owner of Outside the Box gift store on East High Street and president of Woodland Triangle Business Association.

Stores have had to use different tactics this season and increase advertising to appeal to customers, Bardo said.

Alison Meyer, owner of Two Chicks and Company gift store on Southland Drive, is offering a 10 percent discount to all college students this season to bring in more customers. Meyer is relying on her store's specialty gifts and personalization to appeal to customers more than ever this year.

"People are price conscious and wanting to get more bang for their buck this season," Meyer said. "I'm staying positive because people can find reasonable gifts here that are reasonable."

Despite the gloom that has been associated with the state of the economy, both Meyer and Bardo are relying on holiday spirit to motivate consumers.

"The holidays are all about feeling good," Bardo said. "They might not want to spend on big ticket items, but gift giving will be something people aren't willing to give up."

Laura Kinsley, a merchandise, apparel and textiles senior, said she predicts that most demographics are spending less this season.

"I wouldn't be surprised if Black Friday sales are down because people have less faith and sense of security in the economy," Kinsley said. "People are more prone to saving this holiday season."

For Andy Szybisty, a history junior, Black Friday is the retail equivalent to the Super Bowl.

"On Black Friday, I tailgate and wait for the doors to open," Szybisty said. "I want to be the first one there."

Szybisty said he regularly visits Web sites such as sickdeals.net to find and plan for the best deals on Black Friday.

Even though Szybisty said he will be spending less money this year on Black Friday than in recent years, he looks forward to finding the best deals to make up for his tighter budget.

"I would hope that businesses are trying to put out more holiday spirit," he said. "I think people are having to tell their friends and family not to expect as much this year."

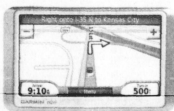
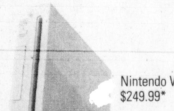


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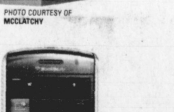


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Horoscopes

By Linda C. Black

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

Aries (March 21-April 19) — Today is a 6 — A lot of planning goes into a major endeavor. You don't need to have the whole thing figured out; just get a start on it. For instance, see if you can figure out what this is going to cost.

Taurus (April 20-May 20) — Today is a 8 — Right now it's not a very good idea to try to get people to do anything other than what they've been doing. Conditions are rotten for change.

Gemini (May 21-June 21) — Today is an 8 — The rush is on, and you're up for it. Give the job everything you've got. The paycheck's not all that impressive, but you're not in it for the money. Besides, you're making great connections.
Cancer (June 22-July 22) — Today is an 8 — Keep costs

down by letting others participate in the project. You can still be in charge, but you shouldn't have to foot the whole bill.

Leo (July 23-Aug. 22) — Today is a 7 — Home's your best location for an intimate conversation. There are a couple of issues you'll want to iron out. Try to be flexible; you may be the only one who can.

Virgo (Aug. 23-Sept. 22) — Today is a 7 — Finding a quiet place to study could be a challenge now. Your house appears to be anything but a tranquil place. Do the best you can with what you have.

Libra (Sept. 23-Oct. 22) — Today is a 7 — Put in the extra hours and make the overtime. You can earn a bonus if you take the initiative. Imagination is required, so it shouldn't be too tough.

Scorpio (Oct. 23-Nov. 21) — Today is an 8 — By now you've probably made a choice as to your next course of action. During the next four weeks, there will be many opportunities to make money. Make that your top priority and you'll do very well.

Sagittarius (Nov. 22-Dec. 21) — Today is a 7 — It's cleanup time again, on a smaller scale. There are a couple of ancient items in your in-basket that deserve your attention. Face them. They might be easier to deal with now than you thought.

Capricorn (Dec. 22-Jan. 19) — Today is a 6 — Watch out for a group that decides to spend more of your money than you think is appropriate for something you don't even want. Yes, this could be your own duly elected officials.

Aquarius (Jan. 20-Feb. 18) — Today is a 7 — An opportunity to advance may not be as great as it looks at first. Get the terms in writing and watch out for trickery. Somebody may be trying to give you more work for the same pay.

Pisces (Feb. 19-March 20) — Today is a 6 — Watch out for a group that decides to spend more of your money than you think is appropriate for something you don't even want. Yes, this could be your own duly elected officials.

Aquarius (Jan. 20-Feb. 18) — Today is a 7 — An opportunity to advance may not be as great as it looks at first. Get the terms in writing and watch out for trickery. Somebody may be trying to give you more work for the same pay.

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your daily dose of entertainment, pop culture and fun

kernel POP

'I never should have lied'

Music superstar Brandy acknowledges her marriage was a fake



THE DISH

Brandy Norwood hit it big as an R&B singer at 15 with her self-titled debut CD, then spent six seasons as a teen icon on the hit sitcom *Moesha*. In 1998, she released a duet with Monica, "The Boy Is Mine," that remains on Billboard's Hot 100 songs of all time. Then, at 22, she found herself unmarried and pregnant.

"I was afraid and didn't know what was going to happen," the Grammy winner, 29, tells Us. In February 2002 — four months before daughter Sy'rai, now 6, arrived — she announced that she and her boyfriend, music producer Robert Smith, whom she met in 1998, were secretly wed in July 2001. The two even acted as husband and wife for the MTV series *Brandy: A Special Delivery*, which documented Sy'rai's birth.

However, the marriage never occurred; a fact Smith exposed in an explosive radio interview after the couple had split. (At the time, Norwood merely responded that the two had a "spiritual union.") Now, with her fifth CD, *Human*, soon to be released, the McComb, Miss., native finally admits why she faked a marriage — and opens up about the struggle of raising her baby alone and unprepared.

How did you react to the news you were pregnant?

The first thing was, I was afraid of the labor. I immediately thought, it's going hurt so bad! But I was excited. I just knew I was bringing a special somebody into the world. And I wanted her to be a girl. Boys want what they want, when they want it — they have a different energy than girls.

Were you worried about your career?

Absolutely, because I got pregnant in the middle of recording my third album, *Full Moon*. To the record company, that was a big no-no. My family's mind went to my career, too. It didn't go to, Oh, my God, this is a gift — not at first. But it was always a gift — it just needed to be realized.

Then you released the statement saying you had secretly gotten married.

The statement was a mistake on my part, because that wasn't true. I never married her dad. That was something that should not have ever been said.

I lied because of the fear of what people would think and the pressure to be a role model. I didn't want to be seen as not married and having a baby. For how I was raised, it wasn't something that should have happened, but it did. I didn't want to disappoint people. I'm sorry I misled my fans. Truly, truly sorry. I was just trying to protect everything that I ever worked for — my image. I was very young and afraid that people would judge and criticize.

Were you and Sy'rai's father actually a couple?

Our relationship was very real, but we just weren't legally married. There was no actual walking down the aisle. We definitely talked about it, but I didn't feel like it was where my life should go. He didn't feel it either. Now he has found a beautiful, beautiful wife who is the mother of his children. I think she was always the one. I never was and that's OK. It was just something I had to

realize in my own time. When we split (around the time Sy'rai was 1), it was just something that wasn't meant to be. It's better this way. But he's a great, great dad.

How did the breakup affect Sy'rai?

She's completely fine. He and I share her (they both live in California's San Fernando Valley, less than 10 miles apart) and go back and forth, but it's not a set thing. She was very young when it happened, so she didn't know what was going on. Now she's old enough to see that her dad and I are very close, and I'm close with his wife and family. She loves the fact that we all talk, we all hang out, we all visit each other, and it's like one family. She understands it with such a sweet perspective.

Post-split, you took time off. What was the plan?

I didn't know. I'm not a planner — I don't even know how to use the calendar on my phone! I just go with the flow. I wanted to be with my daughter. When you have a baby, you are just overwhelmed with what's in front of you. She was 2 when I was working on my next album, *Alfrodisiac*, and I was inspired by her life by then.

You were also engaged to New York Knick Quentin Richardson (it ended in 2005).

I really thought it would work out, but it didn't. Many people think it's going to last forever and it doesn't. No hard feelings.

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SPORTS

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Cats try to avoid talk of losing streak

By Kenny Colston
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For the next five days, UK head coach Rich Brooks and his players expect to be consistently asked about the streak. Sprinkled in will be questions about Phillip Fulmer Day, various UK players that hail from or near Knoxville and UK's bowl fate. But the streak, the one in which Tennessee has beaten the Cats 23 straight times, will be the main focus. "I told them we'd hear about the streak," Brooks said. "But streaks end at some point and it would be great if this senior class could end that streak."

Never mind the fact that most of UK's players weren't even born the last time the Cats beat the Volunteers, or that what was once seen as a great border state and Southeastern Conference rivalry has turned into nothing more than hype for many UK players.

"The streak is more so overblown," junior defensive tackle Corey Peters said. "We don't focus on it too much."

That may be why other angles — Fulmer's last game as Tennessee's head coach and UK's eventual bowl fate — seem to carry more weight heading into Saturday's game in Knoxville.

"It's obvious they haven't packed it in," Brooks said. "Everything I've seen and heard is that this group of players have a love and affection for Fulmer. They'll want to send him out on a positive note."

When Fulmer announced his resignation after 17 years as head coach three weeks ago, Tennessee announced Phillip Fulmer Day a few days after, planning to send what has been the face of its program for the last two decades out on a good note. That much was evident when Tennessee beat in-state rival Vanderbilt 20-10 on Saturday in Nashville, said junior running back Alfonso Smith.

"They're playing for pride right now," Smith said. "They don't want to lose to Vandy and Kentucky."

But that high emotion could backfire on the Volunteers — or at least that's UK's hope.

"They'll have lots of emotion," Smith said. "Really it works for us and distracts them. But it could work the other way too. While this year's Tennessee squad looks a lot different than years past, with a 4-7 overall record and a loss to Wyoming, the Volunteers aren't completely changed. Brooks said Tennessee still has a lot of athletes in the backfield and at wide receiver. But Tennessee's biggest trademark (huge offensive line-men) hasn't changed one bit.

"It's a very physical Tennessee offensive line," Peters said. "Very big, very physical and very well-coached. We knew that going in."

While that Volunteer trademark never changed, others did and that's what led to Fulmer eventually being forced out as head coach.

"I'm sure they would be way hyped up for this game," Peters said. "Playing for a guy who has been there so long, it's sad to see him go. But that's the nature of college football. They only remember you for so long."

BASKETBALL

Continued from page 1

Cats' first 17 points.

"We did a better job looking for him," Gillispie said, "and he did a better job posting and receiving."

One player who distributed the ball to Patterson down low was freshman Darius Miller, who made his first collegiate start. Miller was able to get Patterson rolling, feeding him twice in the first four possessions for layup attempts.

Gillispie said Miller got the start over junior Ramon Harris due to Miller's rebounding efforts through the first three games. However, against Longwood, Miller only recorded one rebound to Harris' eight.

"It blows my mind that the guy you got the start over recorded six rebounds before half and (Miller) had one and that's why he got the start," Gillispie said. "But Darius is a young player and he's going to be a superstar. Not a star. A superstar."

Gillispie was happy to see the improvements, not only in Miller and freshman DeAndre Liggins, but also in the areas the Cats have struggled in during their first three games — turnovers and points in the paint. UK outscored Longwood 54-16 in the paint and trimmed its turnovers to 19.

"I thought we were extremely hungry, especially to start the game tonight," Gillispie said. "They looked like one of the teams I'm used to coaching. I'm very proud of the effort, and we're also starting to play smarter."

HALE

Continued from page 1

game Monday and used a 13-0 run to jump out to a 31-7 lead in the first half. The Cats led by as many as 41 points in the game, and held their second straight opponent to under 31 percent from the field.

Through the first three games of the young season, one could easily take UK for a team with no plan. Its best player had gone missing in action for long spurts in each of the two losses and the first victory of the season. The supposed strong defense had surrendered 111 points in the opening game.

But don't fret. As of Monday night the Cats have a plan: get Patrick Patterson the ball.

"We did a better job looking for him," UK head coach Billy Gillispie said, "and he did a better job posting and receiving."

The Cats did a better job of feeding the post period. UK outscored Longwood 54-16 in the paint Monday night.

Freshman Darius Miller set the tone for the Cats early by feeding Patterson the ball on UK's first possession. Miller also recorded the assist on UK's first basket, another post play from Patterson.

Patterson recorded UK's first three field goals, and even chipped in with a steal and an assist off a Longwood inbound play.

Just like that, UK had a plan. The Cats had a demonstrative size advantage. Longwood only started one player

taller than 6-foot-5 and only played three players all night taller than that height. The diminutive Lancers' lineup and UK's all-everything power forward seemed like a match made in heaven for UK.

"(Patterson) was playing real hard," Miller said. "All we had to do was get him the ball."

Miller wasn't the only Cat who got the message. Junior Ramon Harris, who was demoted to the bench to start the game, fed the ball to Patterson on his first offensive possession. Seldom-used point guard Kevin Galloway even got in on the action by assisting Patterson on a basket in his brief first-half appearance. It's early, and the Cats probably know a little more about themselves than they did two weeks ago after the shocking loss to VMI, but at least for one night they looked like a team with a plan.

"It's an extremely long season," Gillispie said. "It's just a work in progress for every team in America."

The eventual success of UK's season hinges on its ability to exploit advantages like the height difference it boasted Monday night. One might assume UK will feature a similar plan for the rest of the season. The Cats are clearly a better team when their best players have the ball.

Gillispie is right — it is a long season. There will be bumps along the road. The Cats' sudden ability to feed the ball into the post might vanish as quickly as it arrived.

But for one night, you can rest easy. The Cats have a plan.
Jon Hale is a journalism senior. E-mail: jhale@kykernel.com.



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Monday 24 th	Tuesday 25 th	Wednesday 26 th	Thursday 27 th	Friday 28 th	Saturday 29 th
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> •UK CAPOEIRA CLUB, 7:15 PM, BARKER HALL •DANCE STUDIO •Trivia, 8:00 PM, UK Student Center Cats Den •UK Trap and Skeet Practice, 7:00 PM, Bluegrass Sportsman League •Solar Car Team Meeting, 7:00 PM, DV Terrill Engineering Building (Behind Funkhouser) •Alternative Spring Break Applications, 106 Student Center •Robert C. May Photography Endowment Lecture Series, 12:00 PM, UK Art Museum 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> •Alternative Spring Break Applications, 106 Student Center •UK CAPOEIRA CLUB, 7:15 PM, BARKER HALL •DANCE STUDIO •Honors Program Student Council Meeting, 7:30 PM, Student Center 231 •UK Trap and Skeet Practice, 7:00 PM, Bluegrass Sportsman League •Non-Traditional Student Organization Meeting, 7:30 PM, Pazzo's Pizza •Robert C. May Photography Endowment Lecture Series, 12:00 PM, UK Art Museum 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • UK CAPOEIRA CLUB, 7:15 PM, BARKER HALL •DANCE STUDIO •Robert C. May Photography Endowment Lecture Series, 12:00 PM, UK Art Museum •UK Trap and Skeet Practice, 7:00 PM, Bluegrass Sportsman League •Fellowship of Christian Athletes, 8:00 PM, Room 211 of the Student Center 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> •UK CAPOEIRA CLUB, 7:15 PM, BARKER HALL •DANCE STUDIO •Robert C. May Photography Endowment Lecture Series, 12:00 PM, UK Art Museum •UK Trap and Skeet Practice, 7:00 PM, Bluegrass Sportsman League •Campus Crusade for Christ, 7:30 PM, Center Theatre in the Student Center 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> •UK Trap and Skeet Practice, 7:00 PM, Bluegrass Sportsman League •Robert C. May Photography Endowment Lecture Series, 12:00 PM, UK Art Museum 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> •UK Trap and Skeet Practice, 7:00 PM, Bluegrass Sportsman League •Robert C. May Photography Endowment Lecture Series, 12:00 PM, UK Art Museum •UK Trap and Skeet Practice, 7:00 PM, Bluegrass Sportsman League
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The opinions page provides a forum for the exchange of ideas. Unlike news stories, the Kernel's unsigned editorials represent the views of a majority of the editorial board. Letters to the editor, columns, cartoons and other features on the opinions page reflect the views of their authors and not necessarily those of the Kernel.

■ KERNEL EDITORIAL

Falling back on grad school is still risky

The thought of not having a job when you graduate is definitely scary. That's why many students, even at UK, are turning to graduate school. But that move is just delaying the inevitable.

According to a Nov. 19 Kernel article, a Kaplan survey said there has been an almost 6 percent increase in students taking the Graduate Management Admission Test. The GMAT is one of many exams undergraduates can take in order to gain entrance into a graduate school.

But a flood of entries into various graduate schools only further complicates the problems undergraduates are facing. According to that same Kaplan survey, 75 percent of business school admission officers claimed that recent floods of applicants have made acceptance into their schools harder.

"We do expect (admission) to be highly competitive," said Liza Weale, director of graduate programs for Kaplan. "Students need to make sure their applications are robust and stand out as much as possible."

That means a majority of undergraduates cannot find jobs or get into graduate schools. In a sense, those same undergraduates are back exactly where they started, with a few months that could have been used job searching spent instead studying for an exam.

Furthering your education isn't bad. If a student had planned to go to graduate school, they should still apply. If they believe they have a good chance to still be admitted during a highly competitive time, a student should certainly apply.

But applying because the real world is too scary and you're too lazy or frightened to seek out a real job in tough economic times is not going to solve your problems. There's no point in it, especially if you aren't qualified for graduate school, and it's only delaying the inevitable job search that comes with stepping into the real world.

A better degree may not promise you a job and for many, graduate school is more student loan money to pay off in the future, especially since graduate school is more expensive and usually takes longer for people to finish. If a student even makes it through graduate school, but tough economic times still prevail, what good will a master's degree be with extra loans hovering nearby?

Sure, if an undergraduate had planned on graduate school the entire time, he or she should pursue that goal. But graduate school shouldn't be the easy way out for students simply because of a receding economy.

Submissions

Send a guest column or letter to the editor to Opinions Editor Brad Bowling. Please limit letters to 350 words or fewer. Be sure to include your full name, class and major with all submissions.

E-mail opinions@kykernel.com

Obama has not shown he can enact positive change

Throughout the campaign trail the last two years, we have been told quite a bit about change. President-elect Barack Obama made his entire election about change. Obama explained to voters how he is going to change the entire political landscape and bring in fresh faces to combat the status quo and corruption in Washington D.C. He extended to voters how he wants to change the traditional "politics-as-usual" establishment and usher in a new dawn of politics, except for one thing: He has yet to explain anything about this change and what it will look like.



JACOB SIMS
Contributing columnist

I really do want to give Obama a fair chance and offer the new administration support and cooperation of conservatives. The conditions, however, were him following through on his campaign promises. While it is early in the game, it does not seem to be happening, so it's due time for a little partisanship.

For those who have just now gotten involved in politics, the following names of people Obama has appointed probably don't mean much to you: John Podesta, Rahm Emanuel and Eric Holder. Let me elaborate.

Podesta is heading the transition effort for Obama, which would include, in part, using his judgment to select new members of Obama's staff-and administration. Podesta, while respected outside of politics for his accomplishments in the academic field, served as both an assistant to the president and as deputy chief of staff under President Bill Clinton, where he was extensively involved in the infamous "Pardongate."

Clinton, with the assistance of Podesta, issued 140 pardons, including 16 to members of the violent Puerto Rican group that set off 120 bombs throughout New York City and Chicago, killing a half-dozen and wounding dozens more. It also included the pardoning of Edgar and Vernon Jo Gregory, guilty of bank fraud, in which Hillary Clinton's brother had ties with and lobbied to President Clinton to issue the pardon.

Peter MacDonald (fraud, extortion, inciting riots, bribery and corruption), Almon Braswell (defrauded senior citizens of millions of dollars), Weather Underground members Linda Sue Evans and Susan Rosenberg (weapons and explosives charges), two former fellow Democratic congressmen, and President Clinton's half-brother were all pardoned in the process, which Podesta oversaw.

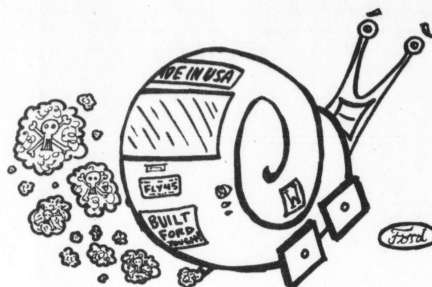
Emanuel is the chief of staff in the president-elect's administration but was one of Bill Clinton's top advisers. "Rahmbo" Emanuel, while pro-Israel (a concern in the election) and very qualified, is a ruthless partisan who has continued to sicken our political structure. Examples are of him sending a dead goldfish to a co-worker that he had a dispute with. There was also a rumor of him taking a steak knife and naming all of his political enemies, followed by him shouting the word "dead" and stabbing the table with the knife at a dinner after the 1996 elections.

Obama has recently announced that he would like Eric Holder, a former deputy attorney general of the Clinton administration, to be his attorney general. Holder, while also qualified, shows tendencies to legislate from the bench and was involved with the pardon of Marc Rich (tax evasion, illegal trading with Iran and FBI Most Wanted List for years). Holder is awaiting approval before being announced as attorney general.

Janet Napolitano, a former Clinton U.S. attorney, is being courted as Obama's secretary of homeland security. On top of all of that, he is looking to appoint Sen. Hillary Clinton as his secretary of state (the list of scandals is too long for the parenthesis).

A few months ago, Obama wanted to change the world. He wanted to completely revamp the political system and do away with all of the political insiders and corruption; however, it seems now that he is elected, he is bringing back more and more of the former Clinton officials in his administration and some of the same old tricks that were used back in the 1990s. Where I come from, we don't call that change; we call it more of the same.

Jacob Sims is a political science and history sophomore and president of UK College Republicans. E-mail opinions@kykernel.com.



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ANDREW WALDNER, Kernel cartoonist

■ LETTER TO THE EDITOR

Column about Bible was both wrong and misguided

The Bible is crap. Those who follow it are blind. These insults are essentially what one takes away from Nate Kremer's diatribe of the Bible in a Kernel column Thursday. In response to this, my first question to him is this: Where do you think the values of this country come from that were standardized by our Founding Fathers?

To suggest that our values stem from anything but faith and religion only exemplifies your apparent ignorance. Religion, and freedom of, was the whole reason this country was established. I thought that was obvious to anyone who took an elementary history class. Where did the whole concept of good and bad, right and wrong come from? From the beginning, mankind has appealed to some kind of direction and guidance to follow. It's a natural instinct. To say that these sentiments and ideals simply appeared out of nowhere is asinine.

To address another mindless point Kremer made, if you're going to throw the Bible out because it's so antiquated and too old to follow, why isn't the Constitution considered antiquated also?

The last point I want to make is that someone such as Kremer, who thinks he has such an existential knowledge of the Bible when in fact his knowledge is obviously lacking, need not showcase this in an attempt to refute someone like Joseph Green, who does.

Kremer's insufficient knowledge and understanding of the Bible became obvious when he proceeded to paint his personal understanding and perception as factual. For starters, the Old Testament is largely an account of what took place with so many different characters in those days so long ago. It should not be taken as an advisement to stone, enslave and kill. It must be read with understanding that it is not

be taken literally. To be so literal is to be narrow-minded.

Lastly, the New Testament was written to transcend the Old as guidance. Here, you find acts of love — namely Jesus giving his life for the world — given in action and as testament. It tells us to value and uphold the gift of life.

I'm personally quite sick of people like Kremer taking cheap shots at people that have held fast to good values just because of where this advice came from. Find something else to belittle and demean. Kremer is in no position to criticize and label something billions of people have followed for thousands of years, especially when you try to pass your personal understanding and interpretation off as factual.

Andrew Bake
journalism and political science
sophomore

Use prudent spending habits this week and don't overdo it

Thanksgiving is just a couple of days away, and that means holiday shopping is right around the corner. Most people will start the frantic search for gifts on Black Friday and the heavy shopping season will continue for a few weeks after the New Year.



WESLEY ROBINSON
Kernel columnist

Between now and then, more money than most people have will be spent on things that most of us either don't need, don't want, can't afford or won't use. As much as I want to preach against the mindless consumerism and shallow materialism that has placed so much value in gratification through things, I hope to give a few hints on how to save a few dollars. Also, I would like to help people buy things they want/can use and really focus on what it is you're trying to convey with a gift.

The condition of the economy will make this one of the better years to purchase more costly gifts ... if you have the cash that is. There is a huge recession for a reason, most of which is credit. If you can't buy it straight up, let it stay at the store. Your loved one will understand if you don't go all out on gifts this year if you can explain that you avoided bankruptcy. Trust me.

Some families that already could afford the bow-swapped Lexus or the all-expenses paid trip to Europe can capitalize on the market and buy two Lexuses or a trip to Europe and a safari to that country in Africa. For those of us that live on earth, there will be lots of sales, discounts and promotions to get us into the stores.

First, don't get sucked in by the Black Friday deals. Half the stuff they are selling is junk. Those cheap computers, 40 percent off sales and buy-one-get-three free deals are not worth it. Having your attention is all that the stores are go-

ing for and once in the store you're in their trap.

Really, you can do without most of those deals, and how useful are the things that they put on sale anyway? Not to mention there are only a few \$199.99 computers that even work, the 40 percent price cut extends only to items that no one is buying and you never actually need the additional three pairs of red and green argyle socks. But right next to those items is a brand new laptop, that sweater you want or some new shoes to cover up the socks that no one will ever wear. Seriously consider how useful the gift is going to be and budget how much will be spent in the long run.

Besides, going the extra mile and giving others the things they want feels a lot better than buying a new jacket or a new game that loses its luster 15 minutes after you get it out of the bag. Also, shying away from the personal gift can really help out your wallet. Even though there's nothing better than drumming up the Christmas spirit like buying yourself the perfect present, you can do without. I know I am not the only one that enjoys getting myself exactly what I want. But at the end of the day, whatever holiday you are celebrating, the holiday season is about giving and focusing on others.

Finally, remember these quick and simple tips for holiday shopping. Before you start, set a budget for all the gifts you plan on buying and stick to a strict price range. Exhaust all shopping options to ensure you have given yourself the chance to stumble across some wonderful gift you may have missed. That perfect gift doesn't always have to break the bank, and often times you'll find something very valuable at a good buy if you look hard enough. Use the Internet to find the ultra bargain buys but remember to allow enough time for shipping.

Have a safe Thanksgiving and make smart purchases that reflect good judgment.

Wesley Robinson is a Spanish junior. E-mail opinions@kykernel.com.

New city parking meters save energy, loose change

By Kellie Doligale
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Drivers around town may no longer have to search for loose change to feed parking meters. In the past month, the city of Lexington has started installing solar-powered parking meters that accept cash, credit cards and debit cards.

Since October, five new meters were installed with 20 more planned for November, said Gary Means, executive director of the Lexington and Fayette County Parking Authority. Two are currently up and running near campus, Means said. One is on Scott Street and the other is on South Limestone near the North Campus dorms.

"We feel it will help give Lexington a more high-tech and green-friendly reputation," Means said.

To use the machine, a driver selects how much time they think they will need to use the parking space. Cash, debit cards and credit cards can then be used to pay for the time, and the meter prints out a receipt to be placed on the dashboard. If there is time left on a slip, that car can use the same ticket even in a different area.

The decision to install the new meters has many benefits, Means said.

"We had very old meters that needed to be replaced," he said. "Other reasons are more payment options, less street clutter, better customer service and better audit trails for the revenue."

The new meters are more convenient for payment options, said undecided freshman Thad Storms.

"With the new parking meters, you don't have to rummage around in the bottom of your purse or pocket for loose change that you may or may not have," Storms said. "It would be much easier to just swipe your credit card, take your slip and go on about your day."

Being able to use a credit card for the new meters is a feature that students seem to enjoy, Means said, but using solar energy to power the meters has proved to be efficient on many levels.

"Solar power, besides the obvious use of a renewable energy source, it is part of our green strategy," he said. "Also, installing solar powered meters is much less expensive than if they had to be hard wired."

Communications junior Katie Murrell said changing something as common as parking meters to be energy-efficient could have a positive effect on the whole city.

"When you park on the street, you don't really look at parking meters and think about how much electricity they take up," she said. "Using a natural resource to power something like that could make a big impact, especially if it spreads."

Lexington residents can expect to see even more meters popping up. Means said the city plans to install 25 more meters in December for a total of 50 around town, with 17 in the UK area.

Play alters element of Surprise Theatre

By Margaret Barr
features@kykernel.com

With its latest play, Surprise Theatre is removing one of its standard elements of shock for audience members.

"There is no audience participation unlike past plays," said Gene Williams, co-owner of Natasha's Café and board member for Surprise Theatre. "We give the audience a program and a curtain call after the play is over. We do everything backward."

Surprise Theatre is putting on its latest production, "Of Pie and Men," Tuesday at 8 p.m. at Natasha's Café, which is located downtown at 112 Esplanade. Tickets are \$10 and reservations are required.

Williams said Surprise Theatre, a branch of Balagula Theatre, has been performing for the past three years and continues to surprise its audience.

"We don't tell you what the play is, that's the surprise," Williams said.

He said "Of Pie and Men" is not one whole play but several mini-scenes. Without giving away too much about the characters, Williams said, "they are superb, well-known, highly skilled actors performing."

James Hamblin, an actor in "Of Pie and Men," said there are usually two actors per scene, and each scene can last three to 15 minutes. He said the scenes are more like "little vignettes."

Hamblin plays a few different characters in the play because he acts in multiple scenes, some of which he

wrote. He said his characters are "over the top, kind of Monty Python-ish."

Hamblin's ideas for the scenes he wrote came from experience.

"One of the scenes I pulled from a play I performed in many years back," Hamblin said. "I also write stuff that I want to act in. John Cleese is a huge inspiration, as is 'Monty Python.'"

Williams said audience members should be on the lookout because they may not know who will surprise them.

"Actors may be embedded in the audience, chefs may surprise you; you won't know what to expect," Williams said. "We have to keep it broad so the surprise is there. Every little surprise is like an electric shock."

"Of Pie and Men" also will be performed Wednesday and Friday at 8 p.m. at Natasha's Café. For reservations call Natasha's Café at (859) 259-2754.

If you go

What: Of Pie and Men
When: Tuesday at 8 p.m.
Where: Natasha's Café
Admission: \$10

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Do you have a charity drive?
The Kernel would like to hear about it.
Is your on-campus organization hosting a food, clothing or toy drive that will be going on the week of Dec. 1? Please e-mail news@kykernel.com by Nov. 28 with your group's name and information about your drive such as dates and what you are collecting. Also provide your name and a contact number.

Advertise in the Kernel's *Welcome Back Issue*
Space Deadline: Dec. 8
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Call 257-2872 to Reserve your spot today!

Local Hospitals Participate in the Great American Smokeout



Beginning November 20, 2008, many health care providers in our community went completely tobacco-free on their campuses as part of the American Cancer Society's Great American Smokeout campaign.

Hospitals and health care providers are models for promoting healthy lifestyles in our community, and our mission is to care for our community in a healthy environment for our patients, visitors and staff. Hospitals and other providers are offering support as we adopt this new healthy environment policy and will assist anyone interested in quitting tobacco use. Many resources are available in our community.

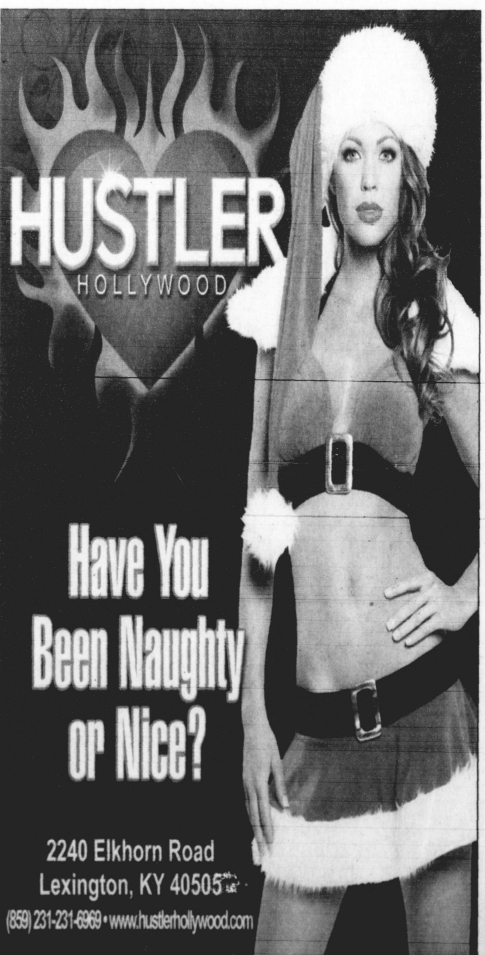
Kentucky's Tobacco Quit Line 1-800-Quit-Now
For more information on the Tobacco-Free Health Care Collaborative, visit <http://www.kytk.com/TobaccoFreeMain.htm> or contact a health provider directly.

TOBACCO FREE HEALTHCARE COLLABORATIVE
The Great American Smokeout used with the permission of the American Cancer Society.

Tobacco-Free Collaborative participating health care facilities:

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- Bourbon Community Hospital
- Cardinal Hill Rehabilitation Hospital
- Central Baptist Hospital
- Fliegel Memorial Hospital
- Georgetown Community Hospital
- Highlands Regional Medical Center
- St. Claire Regional Medical Center
- Saint Joseph - Berea
- Saint Joseph - East
- Saint Joseph Hospital
- Saint Joseph - Jessamine
- Saint Joseph - London
- Saint Joseph - Martin
- Saint Joseph - Mount Sterling
- Three Rivers Medical Center
- UK Albert B. Chandler Hospital
- UK Good Samaritan Hospital
- Kentucky Children's Hospital
- UK Gill Heart Institute
- UK Markey Cancer Center
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