

Tuesday
March 29, 2005

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THE KENTUCKY Kernel

Celebrating 33 years of independence

SG still seeking workers
for polling places
Page 3

Lexington police were ready
for riots after a UK win
Page 3

Tuition hike may be less than expected

By Adam Sichko
THE KENTUCKY KERNEL

This morning, the Board of Trustees is expected to approve a tuition increase smaller than what UK's administration initially proposed. But the new figure is still the third straight double-digit tuition and fees increase.

In a special meeting called specifically to approve next year's tuition and mandatory fee rates, the board will vote on a proposed 12.5 percent tuition increase for in-state students — lower than the previous proposal announced in early February. Before the state legislature began its 2005 session, UK was pre-

pared to establish a 16.4 percent increase, and for most of the session, UK proposed a lowered 14.5 percent increase.

"I hope (students) see that we tried to balance the price they have to pay with the quality that we should provide," said Angie Martin, vice president of planning, budget and policy. "At this time, it's a good balance."

"This institution has not been able to give reasonable salary increases to faculty and staff," she said. "It is critical that we have a good salary pool for faculty and staff next year."

Martin said UK was able to provide more

money for faculty and staff salary pool raises, but she declined to comment by how much the administration increased the proposed 3 percent salary pool raise.

For next school year, a 12.5 percent in-state tuition increase means lower-division students will pay \$647.50 more, while upper-division students will pay \$665.50 more.

For out-of-state students, the proposed 7 percent tuition increase means lower-division students will pay \$853.50 more, while upper-division students will pay \$875.50 more.

Under the 12.5 percent tuition increase,

See Tuition on page 2

\$647.50

Expected in-state, lower-division increase

\$665.50

Expected in-state, upper-division increase

\$853.50

Expected out-of-state, lower-division increase

\$875.50

Expected out-of-state, upper-division increase

Provost search draws criticism

By Adam Sichko
THE KENTUCKY KERNEL

President Lee Todd will announce a 16-member provost search committee at today's Board of Trustees meeting — and it's already caused a stir among UK faculty.

University Senate Chairman Ernie Yanarella met with Todd yesterday afternoon and reported to the Senate council that Todd chose four of the five faculty members on the committee. For the fifth faculty spot, Todd will select one of four professors nominated by the council.

After the university's first provost search — which occurred after Todd installed the provost model at UK in July 2001 — members of the council argued in a resolution that in future search committees and task forces, they should have a greater say in what faculty members are selected to serve.

"In terms of the Senate council choosing its own faculty representatives, Todd and (Todd's chief of staff Doug) Boyd have reiterated, in no uncertain terms, that 'it ain't gonna happen,'" Yanarella said. "(Todd) was quite adamant about that."

"He considers it his or other administrators' responsibility to assure that broad representation takes place within committees, so he's not willing to cede that authority to another body," said Yanarella, a political science professor.

Through UK spokesman Jay Blanton, Todd declined to comment on the search committee until today's board meeting.

Those councilmembers who criticized Todd's decision and perceived resistance cited the controversy from the first provost search. Provost Mike Nietzel took the position on an interim basis and said he wasn't interested in the position on a full-time basis. But the university search committee nominated Nietzel for the job, and he has served in the post full-time since late October 2002.

"The president had, in some people's eyes, stacked the committee to do his bidding," said Jeff Dembo, a dentistry professor. Chemistry professor Bob Grossman said the faculty unfairly cannot select even one of its representatives to the committee.

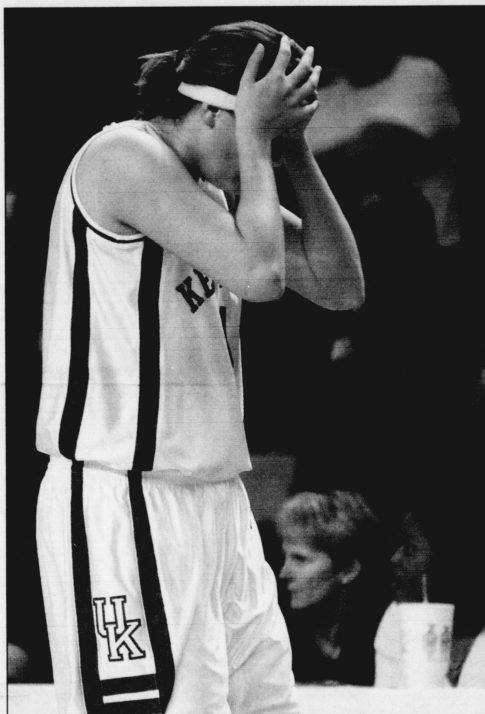
"Even the students get to set forward one person (the Student Government President), but the faculty don't," he said. "That's a serious problem."

"You would think (Todd) would have learned something from the last provost search about getting people on-board in terms of the process."

The SG president will represent the students on the committee, which also in-

See Provost on page 2

WNIT SEMIFINALS West Virginia 80, Kentucky 75 (2OT)



KEITH SHIMLEY | STAFF

UK freshman center walked to the Cats' bench frustrated with herself over a costly foul late in the first overtime session of the Cats' 80-75 double-overtime loss last night in the semifinals of the WNIT.

Unlikely rally ends in tears

Another UK basketball season ends in double overtime

By Lindsey Keith
THE KENTUCKY KERNEL

The youth of UK finally caught up with the Cats 45 minutes into a marathon match with West Virginia last night.

UK freshmen Sarah Elliott and Samantha Mahoney combined to miss five critical free throws in two overtimes as the Mountaineers defeated the Cats in 80-75 in the semifinal of the Women's National Invitation Tournament at Memorial Coliseum.

"We just did not hit our free throws when we needed to," said UK head coach Mickie DeMoss. "We just fell short in the second overtime."

UK (18-16) ran out of

steam after fighting back from 22 points down against West Virginia (21-12) with just less than 17 minutes left in regulation.

The Cats responded by going on a 16-0 run that brought them within six of the Mountaineers with under six minutes to go.

"We had to exert a lot of energy to get back into the game," DeMoss said. "Maybe that had to something to do with it (missing the free throws)."

After the Cats ended regulation on a 31-8 run and holding the Mountaineers scoreless for 11 minutes down the stretch, UK stood on the brink of playing for a WNIT championship and the chance to end the season with a win.

"We are all pretty emotional; we battled and fought hard," DeMoss said. "But at the end of the season only two teams are going to end with a W, and that is the NCAA and WNIT winner."

Senior forward Sara Potts led the Cats, scoring 21 points in the second period, and hitting a jumper with less than 10 seconds remaining to send the game into overtime. Potts ended the game with 29 points and eight rebounds.

"She has such a will to win and to leave it all on the floor," DeMoss said. "She is playing like, 'Let's go play, and just give me the ball.'"

See WNIT on page 6

BOT voters met with Internet voting problems

Faculty election may be a week longer; Senate council debates cheating rules

By Adam Sichko
THE KENTUCKY KERNEL

Internet problems prompted the University Senate Council to add an extra week of voting for a faculty spot on the Board of Trustees in a meeting full of intense debate yesterday.

According to data from the council, 320 faculty members voted yesterday for either incumbent Michael Kennedy, a geography professor, or Jeff Dembo, a dentistry professor. But about 50 complaints of Internet or login problems arose, so the council decided to make paper ballots a second voting option.

"We are really intent on moving toward all-electronic voting," said University Senate Chairman Ernie Yanarella. "Unfortunately, the snafus we've experience demonstrate that as long as we have a university whose computing system has such variability in terms of Web browsers, the Senate council is going to have to make adjustments to make sure all those faculty who do wish to vote will be able to."

"Part of the problem clearly is voter education," said Yanarella. "Certainly, some faculty just don't know the appropriate IDs and passwords; they don't use them very much."

A printable ballot will be posted on the University Senate's Web site today, Yanarella said.

"While at the same time preserving anonymity of the vote, we will check those outside envelopes against the electronic vote to be sure that people aren't double-dipping when it comes to the vote," he said.

Dembo said he had some reservations on the timing aspect, but both he and Kennedy agreed to the new parameters of the

See Meeting on page 2



Grossman

Bob Grossman

on why cheating rules should be changed

"Students can do the same thing in different classes and receive nothing more than a slap on the wrist."

Some faculty doubt winter session's merit

By Elizabeth Troutman
THE KENTUCKY KERNEL

Members of the University Senate Council are skeptical of results from a comprehensive report concerning UK's first winter intersession last December.

Faculty members said they are concerned that the short-term classes fail to provide students with adequate education. Kaveh Tagavi, a chemistry professor, said he has doubts that certain courses can be taught within a three-week period.

"I think it's too short," he said. "I have a concern, but they say it is working."

"If it would be shown they (students) learn the material and like it, I have no problem with it. It just sounds too short."

The report, conducted by Phil Greasley, the dean of university extension, reflects student evaluations distributed at the end of the intersession. The Senate argues that the evaluations reflect students' preferences and opinions and not the overall course value.

"We have not evaluated it in terms of its educational value," said Mike Cibull, a pathology professor. "I think it's about customer satisfaction. What I would like to know is, did they learn anything? How do we test if they learned anything?"

Other faculty members were concerned about the salary instructors receive for a load of three course hours. Instructors receive less than \$3,000 for the three-week intersession.

"How is it that summer pay has not increased in 15 years?" asked Tagavi. "That's really going in the wrong direction. It's not as if it's a high salary."

Three of the 12 classes offered over the intersession were Internet courses. The report addressed problems off-campus students encountered on UK Blackboard, an online program that allows students to complete course work and class discussion through e-mail.

More than 30 students dropped courses because of Internet difficulties. The report proposed a daily service during the winter intersession to assist students with technology problems.

See Winter on page 2

Provost

Continued from page 1

cludes some deans and one person from the outside business world, Yanarella said.

As the elected representation of the entire faculty at UK, the Senate council should have the inherent right to select

the members of this committee, said voting student member Braphus Kaalund.

"This body, like it or not, is the body of the faculty," Kaalund said. "It's wrong to bypass the faculty senate. We can't take this lying down."

But others pointed out that the 2003 Senate resolution is a document — not legally binding Todd to do anything.

"What we're really doing here is whining," said Mike Cibull, a medicine professor. "The point is that Todd does-

n't have to follow this rule. That's a problem we're not going to solve today.

"This place would be paralyzed if Todd selects a provost who the deans can't work with," Cibull said.

The resolution's wording doesn't help much, Yanarella said.

"It lends itself to interpretation," he said. "It defied my ability to see, in those words, a specific and stated indication that we would choose those faculty representatives."

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Tuition

Continued from page 1

lower-division, in-state students will pay \$198 less next school year than they would have with the previously proposed 14.5 percent increase.

President Lee Todd praised "the strong commitment to higher education demonstrated by Governor Fletcher and the General Assembly," manifested in part by an \$18.66 million addition to UK's operating funds.

The administration had about \$11 million to \$12 million that wasn't earmarked — money that Todd said "allowed us to significantly reduce the impact of that (tuition) increase, while also providing for badly needed salary increases and funding for scholarships."

Martin said need-based student

scholarships, for example, increased by \$500,000 for next school year.

"This all predicated on the assumption that this is our picture of the 2005-06 budget at this time," she said. "We're continuing to fine-tune the budget, with the board's approval."

The board will approve the bulk of the budget in June.

But the recalculated figure, while appreciated, still hasn't changed the "No" vote of Student Government President Rachel Watts on the "pretty significant" increase.

"Even though it is lower, the trend of the matter is that we are seeing a fact that tuition's continuing to go up in a somewhat unpredictable way," said Watts, the board's student representative. "Every student I've talked to, not one of them is in favor of this increase."

Faculty trustee Michael Kennedy said it's a difficult balance between lowering tuition and ensuring that quality

faculty and staff remain at UK.

"The idea is to provide a minimum tuition increase that will also ensure a really good education," said Kennedy, a geography professor. "We could make it less, but then we can't effectively raise faculty and staff salaries to keep them from leaving."

"We're doing the best we can with the money we've got," he said.

Watts advocated a long-range approach to establish rates and increases.

"As far as the plan I saw, it all makes sense," Watts said. "But then again, we're in the same situation next year — what if the funds aren't there again?"

Martin said UK is beginning to look ahead like Watts wants.

"I have to say that the institution is looking to continue to develop a long-term strategy for students to make it more stable for parents, more predictable," Martin said.

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Meeting

Continued from page 1

election.

Additions and changes to a new academic offenses proposal for UK, initially proposed in late January, drew contentious debate at the meeting.

The proposed policy assigns an "XE" or "XF" to classes on a student's transcript where the student was caught committing an academic offense. Senate

councilman Bob Grossman, who created the policy, said he's trying to protect students who fall victim to unlawful dealings with such instances.

Grossman wants to protect students who are innocent and catch those who are "truly dishonest."

Grossman amended his proposal in several ways yesterday, working to "ameliorate concerns that an 'XE' is too harsh." For instance, students who receive a penalty less than an "E" can appeal that to a board of the department's faculty members, strengthening the lower levels of the appeals process.

Currently, "the student can do the

same thing in different classes and receive nothing more than a slap on the wrist," Grossman said. "That practice needs to be ended."

But mechanical engineering professor Kaveh Tagavi said the "X" mark on a student's transcript is too harsh.

"Has there been a groundswell from the faculty that makes it necessary to have an 'X'?" Tagavi questioned. "Putting an 'XF' is a huge departure" from current procedures, he said.

The council is scheduled to vote Monday to recommend the Senate approve the proposal.

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Winter

Continued from page 1

Instructors in the report indicated that classes promoted student learning. About 50 percent of students rated the courses "excellent."

The report included possible fall and

spring semester schedule changes to expand the length of the intersession. The suggestions included eliminating the one-day fall break and starting fall semester on a Tuesday rather than a Wednesday.

Ernie Yanarella, chairman of the senate, said the results suggest the intersession benefited students.

"The general sentiment is that the intersession was a success," Yanarella said. "I was hoping that if this were to

be permanent it would expand its range of courses."

The senate agreed more information is needed to fairly assess the academic quality of the intersession. Provost Mike Nietzel will address the senate's concerns at a meeting next week.

The senate will request the attendance of Grossman to clarify information in the report.

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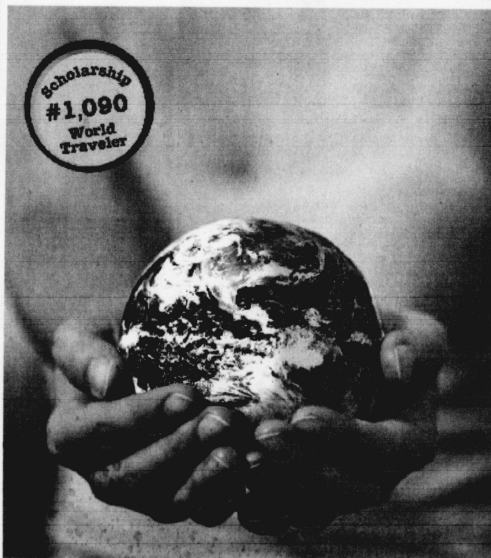
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Green Thumb referendum fails to make it on ballot

By Tricia McKenny
THE KENTUCKY KERNEL

A student group hoping to measure student opinions on environmental issues will not be able to use a referendum on the Student Government ballot this year.

UK's Green Thumb Environmental Club hoped to garner student support on an SG election ballot referendum to provide funding for renewable energy sources for the UK community.

The group's request for a referendum was unanimously denied by the SG Elections Board because it did not comply with the SG rules to place a referendum on the ballot, said Cody Belcher, board of elections chairman.

"Because there were

problems with the format and content of Green Thumb's signature sheets, we could not allow them a ballot position," Belcher said.

If approved, the attempted referendum would have increased student fees by \$6 to \$8 each semester to \$6 for research into renewable energy sources for the UK community.

Green Thumb, which has about 20 to 30 members at UK, modeled the referendum after successful programs at schools such as the University of Tennessee, University of North Carolina and the University of Virginia.

Students at UT approved an \$8 fee increase by a 60 percent majority. UNC approved a \$4 increase by 74 percent, and 87 percent of

UVA students approved an increase of \$7 per semester.

"These additional fees have provided enough funding for several new renewable energy programs at these universities, including bringing UNC \$200,000 a year that has been used for solar panels for a water-heating system in one of the dorms, according to the UNC Renewable Energy Special Projects Committee.

"By allowing students to vote for this small increase for renewable energy, we hope it will help the entire community," said natural resources senior and Green Thumb member Ben Abell in a previous interview with The Kernel.

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SG still seeking poll workers

By Tricia McKenny
THE KENTUCKY KERNEL

Student workers are still needed to work one of nine polling places for Wednesday and Thursday's Student Government elections.

SG has received a limited response from student organizations willing to work the polls, and the Board of Elections is encouraging students and organizations to stop by the SG office to sign up to work a polling location, said

Cody Belcher, Board of Elections chairman.

"The elections board does not want to be forced to close polling places simply because there are not enough workers, so I encourage any interested organization or person to stop by the SG office as soon as possible and ask to sign up for a spot," Belcher said.

Any student or organization can sign up in the SG office to work an election poll. Students working a

polling location must also attend a mandatory training session at 7 tonight in the SG office in the Student Center.

"If someone wants to work a time and location, they can come to the training session and sign up there," Belcher said.

"Working the polls is a great way for a student or an organization to earn money."

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City police prepared Sunday for UK win

By Darlusch Shafa
THE KENTUCKY KERNEL

Lexington Police were preparing Sunday night for crowds celebrating a UK win over Michigan State University, sending about 100 extra officers out to patrol the streets.

"Typically on a Sunday second shift we'll have in the ballpark of 35 officers," said assistant police chief Bill Thompson. He said there were 137 officers on standby Sunday night, ready to deal with possible problems.

"It's protecting property and people," said Lexington

Police Lt. Ken Stuart. Stuart said officers were setting up at Maxwell Elementary on Woodland Avenue and were going to guard against a repeat of the events of 1986.

Following UK's national championship win in 1986, crowds filled the street, and 300 officers in riot gear were called out.

Ten people were arrested and 23 were treated for injuries at the UK Chandler Medical Center.

"We're going to allow them to party, but we're not going to allow them to destroy property or hurt

people in the process," he said.

While police are still working on the paperwork, including the cost from the officers' overtime pay, Thompson said it was necessary to help keep people and property safe.

After UK lost to Michigan State, the extra officers were sent home.

"It's just proactive planning and preparedness," Thompson said. "You can't wait until something happens and then just call it in."

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Airline safety program behind schedule

By Sara Kehaulani Goo
THE WASHINGTON POST

WASHINGTON — The government's plan to develop a new way to screen airline passengers is running behind schedule and so far hasn't proved it can protect the privacy of travelers, a report by the Government Accountability Office said Monday.

The Transportation Security Administration has accomplished one out of 10 items critical to developing

Secure Flight, a program that aims to assess the risk posed by each airline passenger and determine the amount of screening for each at the checkpoint.

The TSA said it plans to launch the program in August with two unidentified airlines. But the GAO report cast doubt on that schedule, saying the TSA has already slipped behind by four months, and many of the to-do items hadn't been completed.

"It is uncertain how well Secure Flight will perform or whether it will be ready for operational deployment by August 2005," the GAO report said.

Secure Flight plans to collect information about passengers from airlines or reservation companies 72 hours before each flight and compare passenger names and dates of birth against names on various "watch lists" of criminals or suspected terrorists.

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Office of Student Activities, Leadership & Involvement					
WWW.UK.Y.EDU/CAMPUSCALENDAR					
CAMPUS CALENDAR					
Visit the web site for event details or to post your own UK event.					
<p>Tuesday 29th</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • NABA General Meeting, 7:15 PM, B & B building RM. 215 • Becoming A Leader Student Workshop, 8:00 AM, Gallery-WT, Young Library • UK Reading Club Meeting, 8:00 PM, Buell Army/Barker Hall • Baptist Student Union presents "TWT," 7:30 PM, 422 Columbia Ave • Spring Union, 8:30 PM, Quad at K&C Complex • Lethal Student Union Meeting, 8:00 PM, Student Center 228 • UK Anem Club Meeting, 8:00 PM, Center Theatre, Student Center • UK Berean Bible Study, 8:00 PM, Student Center, Room 113 • Allison MacCamp Art Show, 11:00 AM, Powell Gallery • Alpha Phi Omega Meditations Meeting, 8:30 PM, 823 Student Center • Berean University Fellowship (B.U.F.), 7:30 PM, Student Center Room 105 • BMSD, 7:00 PM, Student Center Food Court • UK Greek Varsity Meeting, 7:00 PM, Student Center, Room 105 	<p>Wednesday 30th</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Table Française, French conversation group, 8:00 PM, Student Center, Room 228 • Luvandis Society Meeting, 7:30 PM, Student Center, Room 228 • Student Organizations Center Focus Groups, 8:30 PM, 105 Student Center • UK Honor Ski Club, 2:00 PM, Converson Room 305A • Lutheran-Spiritual Campus Ministry Workshop Service, 8:05 PM • UK Judo Club practice, 8:00 PM, Alumni Gym Loft • All son MacCamp Art Show, 11:00 AM, Powell Gallery • Central KY FCA Meeting, 8:00 PM, Uptown in the Conversons Mall • "The Rock," 9:00 PM, Baptist Student Center on Columbia Ave. • UK Judo Club practice, 8:00 PM, 8:30 PM, Student Center RM. 230 • Comedy Caravan, 8:00 PM, Cats Den • CatsFor Christ Meeting, 7:00 PM, Student Center, Room 230 	<p>Thursday 31st</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • UK Phi Alpha Delta Pre-Low Meeting, 8:00 PM, Student Center, Room 228 • OUL, 7:30 PM, Washburn Theater Student Center • The Well, 7:00 PM, Student Center, Room 211 • Weekly Founders's Focus Workshop Meeting, 7:30 PM, Student Center, Center Theater • UK Climbing Club, 7:00 PM, Johnson Center Climbing Wall • Einstein & Beyond Lecture Series, 7:00 PM, 107 Thomas Hart Morgan Biological Sciences Building • C&P Presents "Synergy," 8:00 PM, C&P Building/corner of Woodland and Columbia • UK Lambda, 7:30 PM, Room 221, Student Center • Alpha Kappa Psi Bowling Night, 8:00 PM, Southland Bowling Lanes • UK Reading Club Meeting, 8:00 PM, Buell Army/Barker Hall • Baptist Student Union's Freshman Focus Group Meeting, 7:30 PM, 422 Columbia Ave • Opera Verdi Europe's NDA, 7:30 PM, Student Center for the arts, Concert Hall 	<p>Friday 1st</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Saba Class, 3:00 PM, Martin Luther King Jr. Cultural Center, 124 Student Center • C&P Dinner and Fellowship, 7:00 PM, St. Augustine Chapel, Rose ST 	<p>Saturday 2nd</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Wishing Chair 10th Anniversary Concert, 7:00 PM, Memorial Hall • UK Softball vs. South Carolina (DH), 1:00 PM, UK Softball and Soccer Complex 	<p>Sunday 3rd</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Ultimate Frisbee, 10:00 PM, Seaton Field • UK Softball vs South Carolina, 1:00 PM, UK Softball and Soccer Complex

Opinions

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IN OUR OPINION

Time to turn off condemnation faucet

When the Lexington-Fayette Urban County Council voted Thursday night to override a veto from Mayor Teresa Isaac, that should have ended the debate about whether to condemn Kentucky American Water Co.

But, as has become standard with this protracted battle, the issue may not be dead for long. Members of a group called "Let Us Vote Lexington" are refusing to give up their fight for local ownership of the water company.

Here's where we are now with the issue:

• In February, the council approved a resolution to end the condemnation pursuit of Kentucky American. Condemnation and the ensuing legal battle have cost

the city more than \$1 million.

• Isaac vetoed the resolution March 11.

The council voted 9-4 Thursday night to override the veto, effectively ending condemnation efforts and prohibiting further spending except for money spent to reach a settlement.

"I am pleased that a long, drawn out process is coming to an end," Vice Mayor Mike Scanlon told The Kernel on Thursday night. "I am happy that substantially this is behind us now and that a corporate citizen can go back to managing the water

company." We couldn't agree more.

Before last November's council elections, nine of the 15 members supported condemnation. After the election, nine members opposed it.

The voters of Lexington clearly expressed their opinions on condemnation at the ballot box then.

But "Let Us Vote" is going ahead with their efforts to put the condemnation question directly to voters.

They'll need more than 18,000 signatures. According to the Lexington Herald-

Leader, the group had collected more than 6,000 signatures in late February, and group members said they were collecting petitioners at a rate of nearly 1,000 per week.

The water ownership issue in Lexington has played itself out. Voters have already said — loudly — they want the condemnation process to end. Council members affirmed their opinions by overriding Isaac's veto last week.

Lexington has plenty of pressing issues — schools, police funding, development.

The efforts of "Let Us Vote" would be much more effective if put to use on solving real problems, rather than waste more time, energy and money pursuing an end voters have said they no longer want.

The voters have spoken, the council has acted and it's time for condemnation activists to concede defeat.



DARIUSH SHAFI, THE KENTUCKY KERNEL

LETTERS TO THE STUDENT BODY

Nash and Bishop offer students experience, real change in SG

While I wasn't surprised with the Kernel's endorsement of a presidential candidate yesterday, I do find fault with the logic they used to arrive at such a conclusion. Endorsing a candidate who has never attended a Student Government meeting and has absolutely no experience within SG would be similar to choosing a new editor who had never read a newspaper, let alone worked for one.

Over the past three months, Michelle and I have been tirelessly working to keep with as many students and student organizations as time will allow. We've hosted forums to receive student input and advice on the direction their SG should take. We've met with more than 50 campus leaders, both administrators and students, to share and receive feedback on our platform ideas. Only through these actions have we been able to gain a clearer understanding of the changes that students want to see — something no other candidate has done. Now we're ready to lead!

Other candidates may try to entice you with programs and services that seem very useful, but I assure you these promises are empty. When crafting our campaign, Michelle and I made two pledges to each other: We would follow all of the election rules, and we wouldn't make promises we couldn't keep. Today I'm happy we've been able to keep our pledge. Other candidates have not done the same.

On Wednesday and Thursday, UK and LCC students will have the opportunity to forever change the direction of their governing body. If your goal is to elect someone with no experience, then vote for someone else. If your goal is to keep student government the same as it has been in years past, then vote for someone else. But if your goal is to see real change in the way students live and learn at UK — if your goal is to see follow-through on all of the promises made — you already support the Nash/Bishop campaign. Now all we need is your vote. Thank you for your support.

WILL NASH
SG presidential candidate

Ellingsworth and Burns will work through SG to put UK students first

Here at UK we have the opportunity to make great strides in the way students live, work and pursue their dreams. My running mate, Kyle Burns, and I are running a campaign based on putting UK students first. That means we have to make student rights a priority.

To accomplish this goal we are following Three E's: educate, empower, and elevate. The first step in improving our rights is making sure we — as students and citizens — know what our rights are. Knowledge is power. We want to empower students with the knowledge that when they walk into an office with a problem or question that Student Government walks in with them. These and all of our efforts are leading to one ultimate goal of elevating what it means to be a UK student — putting UK students first.

In addition to this core theme we have numerous plans for improving SG and lobbying for improvements at UK, which include:

- Providing free taxi service to students on Friday

and Saturday nights.

• Providing free on-campus DVD delivery through SG's video service.

• Creating a SG Lobbyist Corps to prevent future tuition hikes.

• Posting transcripts/videos of the Senate meetings on the SG Web site.

• Sending a representative to a meeting of every student organization.

• Improving online professor ratings and providing online syllabi.

We want to raise the bar for officials in SG and at the university city and state levels when it comes to serving student interests. You can learn more about our platform and other issues on our website at www.ukstudents-first.com.

I ask for your vote for SG President this Wednesday and Thursday. Together, as a student body, we can achieve a true cultural change on campus and in the community. Together we will succeed in putting UK students first.

BECKY ELLINGSWORTH
SG presidential candidate

Students wanting a meaningful SG should vote Wednesday or Thursday

In years past, roughly 10 percent of the campus population has voted in the annual Student Government elections. The majority of these participants in both voting and candidacy have been members of Greek societies. This past voter turnout is unrepresentative of the general UK population, and has resulted in an SG that reflects that very same problem. Between school, work and an active social life, it doesn't seem worthwhile to the average UK student to go out to the polls and vote, let alone become informed on what or whom they are voting for.

As a faculty, the professors have an opportunity and a duty to help change this. The duty to which I speak is one of education, and the opportunity to do so is through offering class incentives for voting in SG elections. With additional incentives, more UK students will be motivated to not only participate in elections, but also educate themselves on the issues at hand.

I ask that you look at the format of your class and find an individual plan of action. Make a pact with your class. If a student promises to vote, offer a day extension on a paper, a percentage point on a homework assignment, etc. Recent concerns of grade inflation might make some uneasy in doing a temporary class incentive program such as this. For you, how about ending your class 10 minutes early so people will have time to vote?

The options are countless and limited only to your creativity.

Thursday's editorial in The Kernel alluded to striving toward a more representative SG at UK. Herein lies the chance to make that possibility a reality. A more educated and involved UK can and will result in a more representative — and effective — SG.

Alan Greenspan jumpstarts the economy by adjusting the interest rate; you can jumpstart SG by getting students involved. Instituting these incentives is a step in the right direction. It's a step toward education. Most importantly, it's a step toward the betterment of UK as a school, an institution and a community.

TOMMY CUNNINGHAM
SG presidential candidate

A look at the 2008 election presidential picks and pans

The past couple of weeks have been depressing. I don't even want to think about federal overreaching, religious maniacs and Tom DeLay's nonexistent ethics right now — much less write about them.

So, instead, I'm going to time-travel. Since pretending it's the past wouldn't do much good ("Dennis Kucinich deserves the Democratic nomination!"), I'll immerse myself in the future.

That said, here are my picks for the major-party presidential candidates in 2008:

For the Democrats, Sen. Russ Feingold, D-Wis., is the clear choice.

In spite of all the chatter over Sen. Hillary Clinton, D-N.Y., it's obvious she can't win. If eight months of slander on talk radio and TV could bring John Kerry down, imagine what a decade-and-a-half of even viler treatment will do to Clinton.

Feingold, on the other hand, isn't yet well known enough to be hated by 40 percent or more of Americans. For those who do remember him, the reason is probably the very popular McCain-Feingold campaign finance bill.

Feingold is a progressive maverick, unafraid to vote his conscience. That, of course, cuts both ways: Though he was the only senator to vote against the horrendous Patriot Act, he was also the only Democrat on the Senate Judiciary Committee to vote in favor of the nomination of the extremist John Ashcroft for attorney general.

What's most important, however, is his ability to win. In 2004, Feingold — running for re-election as one of Wisconsin's U.S. senators — far outperformed Kerry in Wisconsin, one of the "swing states" of the upper Midwest. Kerry won the state by 11,000 votes; Feingold won by more than 300,000.

Feingold's strong record on labor issues will help him in such crucial states as Missouri, Ohio and Iowa, which were lost by Kerry to a tepid supporter of labor.

My choice for the Republicans has already announced that he is considering a bid — former House speaker Newt Gingrich.

After moral values played such an important role in the 2004 election, the GOP should seriously consider Gingrich, who is a foe of abortion and gay marriage. Keeping in line with the traditional Republican stance on family issues, which President Bush has ignominiously ignored, Gingrich divorced each of his first two wives while they were seriously ill and has admitted having an affair with a congressional aide.

No hard-right extremist, Gingrich falls well within the Republican mainstream on the role of the federal government. That's why he and his GOP colleagues worked to shut it down during Clinton's first term, in order to prevent the passage of Clinton's budget.

And although he resigned in disgrace as Speaker of the House in 1998, Gingrich doesn't have the same skeletons in his closet as other Republican contenders. Having been missing from Congress, he hasn't had the opportunity to sanction the torture of U.S. prisoners or the gutting of Social Security.

Perhaps, in all seriousness, Gingrich would do the one thing the GOP has been afraid to do during the Bush years — go back to advocating small government.

As for Gingrich's chances of winning, I'll just say we may be looking at the first 49-state sweep since 1984. (Get out your blue crayons, kids.)

These speculations aside, here's my greatest hope for 2008: that by then, we'll have something more important to discuss than a hospitalized woman in Florida.

Brenton Kenkel is a philosophy and political science freshman. E-mail: bkenkel@kykernel.com.

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Cats' WNIT loss was a double dose of bizarre

After Sunday's double-overtime regional final in Austin, Texas, I thought I'd seen all of the fantastic.

Last night, bizarre continued to be the buzzword for UK basketball — but not due to a wacky 3-point shot at the buzzer to be endlessly reviewed by instant replay.

This time, there was a grueling 22-point comeback by the UK women's basketball team.

As the Cats trailed West Virginia by two with less than 10 seconds left, and a familiar sight drove the baseline.

Senior forward Sara Potts fired a crisp shot from eight feet. Swosh.

But despite one overtime, then another, a second straight comeback wasn't in the bag and UK fell 80-75 in the semifinals of the Women's National Invitation Tournament.

"I feel like I played three games tonight," said UK head coach Mickie DeMoss. "We had to exert a lot of energy — and it may have caught up with us."

For the first half and four minutes of the second, UK

was being beaten — and beaten up.

During one five-minute stretch nobody scored, but players were toppling all over the place, some fouled, some not.

Turnovers plagued UK throughout the night and if you asked the Memorial Coliseum crowd, so did the officials.

Boos cascaded down to the officials during every time out.

The mascot even got into the act, holding up an eye chart, much to the chagrin of one official.

Even a sarcastic freshman guard Chanté Bowman high-fived the referee when an out-of-bounds call went to the Mountaineers midway through the second half.

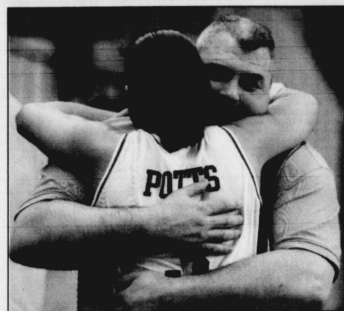
The good, the bad and the ugly continued — except with a 22-point deficit, the Cats didn't roll over, they got tough.

"West Virginia was playing very physical," DeMoss said, "and obviously the officials were calling it that way. Once we adjusted, we started getting calls and got back into the game."

So down 49-27, the thought of losing didn't appear to enter anyone's mind.

"This team never gives up," said Potts, who had a third-straight, out-of-this-world game, scoring 29 points and grabbing eight rebounds.

After staging another mini-comeback to force a sec-



After her final game for UK, senior forward Sara Potts hugged her father, Dave Potts. Potts scored 29 points, ending up with 1,563 career points.

ond overtime, UK couldn't keep up with Mountaineer guard Meg Bulger, who scored eight of West Virginia's 12 points in the second overtime.

"It was not a pretty stat," Bulger said of WVU's 11-minute scoring drought in the second half. "Luckily, we pulled together in the game."

Potts, who leaves as the most prolific 3-point shooter in the history of the UK women's basketball program, believed bright things lay ahead for the Cats, but was sad to say goodbye.

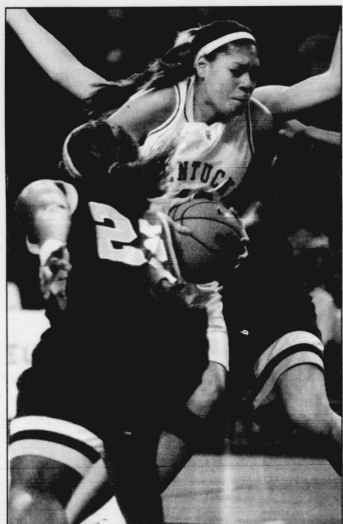
"It really helped this team

know what it takes to win," Potts said. "They have to learn how to fight from the start instead of being down."

"I'm sad but I just can't cry. I'm too mad to cry. I'll probably happen later when I'm trying to go to sleep or something."

But Potts walked off the court as a leader. One that wasn't afraid to look the bizarre in the eye — and swosh.

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UK senior forward Keiko Tate struggled to drive the ball in the paint. UK made 24 of 67 shots in last night's season-ending loss to West Virginia.

WNIT

Continued from page 1

West Virginia seemed to have an answer for every clutch shot the Cats would drain, and the answer always seemed to be sophomore phenomenon Meg Bulger.

Bulger finished the marathon game with 31 points and 11 rebounds. She scored nine of those points in the second overtime period, sealing the win for the Mountaineers.

"She (Bulger) is a very talented player," DeMoss said. "She can do a lot of things, and she is a very good and versatile all-around player."

But Bulger and her teammates had no answer for the improbable comeback of the Cats in regulation.

"Your offense sometimes gives you more intensity on the defensive end," DeMoss said.

"When we knocked down some shots, we picked up the intensity on the defensive end."

Both teams played as physical as the referees would let them in the 50-minute marathon.

"They came out aggressive and did not back down," said senior Mountaineer

Sherell Sowho. "They (UK) wanted to be in the championship game as bad as we did."

Potts ends her illustrious career with 1,563 points.

Despite the Cats coming up short, Potts leaves the Cats having played in March instead of sitting at home. She leaves the Cats with a highlight reel that will play in fans memories for years, and she leaves the Cats waiting for the next Potts to emerge.

"There is a lot of tears and a lot of mad people (in the locker room)," Potts said. "I can't cry right now I am to mad, but it will probably happen right when I am trying to go to bed."

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lkeith@kykernel.com

WEST VIRGINIA SO, KENTUCKY FS (2OT)

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