

Employee hit on Limestone



Left: Four Lexington police officers examine a UK Physical Plant Division truck that hit a UK employee around 7:45 p.m. yesterday on South Limestone Street.

The pedestrian - Mary Margaret Collier, a UK spokeswoman - had the walk signal, but the truck driver - James Haney, a PPD employee - had a green light also, Lexington police said.

Below: Communication junior Kathleen Biondi (left) witnessed the accident, which was across from Wildcat Textbooks, last night. Meghan Cooper, a history senior, stands by Biondi.

KEITH SMILEY | STAFF

UK spokeswoman hit by truck across from Wildcat Textbooks

By Dariush Shafa
THE KENTUCKY KERNEL

A UK spokeswoman was hit by a UK Physical Plant Division utility truck and suffered serious injuries while crossing South Limestone Street last night.

Mary Margaret Collier, 59, director of media relations, was crossing South Limestone at about 7:45 p.m. when she was struck.

Collier was taken to the UK Medical Center, and as of 9:30 p.m., she was being taken to surgery in critical condition with a head injury. At 11:30 p.m., she was listed in serious condition.

According to Lexington Police Lt. Ken Stuart, Collier was wearing dark-colored clothing. Lexington Police Lt. J.J. Lombardi, an accident reconstruction unit commanding officer, also said witnesses reported Collier was wearing

something as she crossed the street.

Jay Blanton, executive director of public relations and marketing, wasn't surprised that Collier was leaving work at that time.

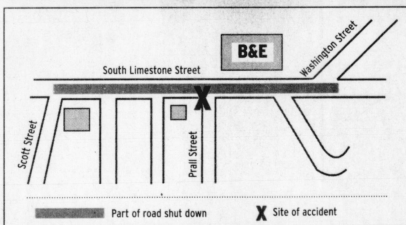
"Working late is the norm for her, not the exception," said Blanton, a colleague of Collier's.

Lombardi also said the driver of the truck James Haney, 63, of Lexington, is a PPD employee. Haney declined to talk at the scene and paced back and forth worriedly while waiting for police to talk to him.

"He (Haney) had a green light, but she was outside of the crosswalk," Lombardi said. Lombardi said Collier did have the walk sign.

Political science senior Todd Newbern was in a car behind the utility truck and

See Accident on page 2



Prof to discuss her advances in medicine

By Elizabeth Troutman
THE KENTUCKY KERNEL

Sylvia Daunert hopes to show female students at UK that there are no limits to what women can achieve in the field of science.

The UK chemistry professor will present her own accomplishments in science at the Distinguished Professor of the Year Lecture tonight. Her lecture will focus on several projects she is conducting in collaboration with Mark Madou, a professor at the University of California.

The Distinguished Professor Award recognizes an outstanding professor based on research, service and teaching abilities. It is the highest honor a professor can receive at UK.

Daunert balances her career with a family of three children, ages 16, 14 and 3. She aims to prove that women can have a career in science and a family.

"It is something I really want to stress because we have so many bright women," she said. "I don't want any misconception that because this is a very demanding career, you

can't have children."

The 45-year-old native of Barcelona, Spain, said she had a love for science at a young age.

She received tenure in 1994. She said working in science came natural to her, but she recognizes her colleagues' support as the key to her success.

"You develop into a certain type of scientist - the more you move on, the more you study, the more you develop into it," she said. "You need to look into new things constantly."

Daunert said many women who have graduated from her research group are now outstanding women in the field.

Her most notable project is the development of the "smart pill," which is an implantable pill that will serve as a sensory device in the body to administer medication. The device is designed for diabetes patients, among others, to monitor levels of insulin needed in

the body. She has been working on the smart pill for about four years.

Currently, the Food and Drug Administration is reviewing Daunert's pill, which needs its approval before being made available to patients. Daunert estimated the FDA should approve it in about five years.

Daunert is also working on research on the genetic engineering of proteins from jellyfish to be used for diagnostic tests for humans. She said the proteins of jellyfish enable scientists to detect conditions such as pregnancy.

Her research is funded by NASA, the National Science Foundation, the National Institute of Health, private corporations and the U.S. Army. Her research was recently featured on NBC News.

She attributes her success to the students who work with her. "They (My accomplishments) belong to my research group - the graduates and undergraduates that have been through my lab."

The lecture is at 7 tonight in the Singletary Center's Recital Hall.
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SG presidential candidate hears students' ideas

By Tricia McKenny
THE KENTUCKY KERNEL

Candidates on one of three presidential tickets for Student Government focused on students' concerns during an open forum last night.

Presidential candidate Will Nash and running mate Michelle Bishop met with about 20 students and SG Senate candidates in the Commons Market.

As part of the duo's "Focusing on You" campaign, Nash and Bishop told students their plat-

form includes plans to follow through with a restructured dead week and improve undergraduate advising, student representation in Lexington's government and access to campus for students with disabilities.

"We want students to realize we are focusing on the average student," said Nash, a political science and economics junior.

Bishop, an accounting and finance junior, said one way to improve campus life for all students is through student representation in city government.

"UK makes up such a huge part of the city, we should definitely have a say and a vote (in Lexington-Fayette Urban County Government)," she said.

Other student concerns addressed at the forum included increasing SG funding for club sports and other student organizations by about \$20.

"We hope to increase the amount of money student organizations can apply for by being more conservative in other areas (of the SG budget)," Nash said.

"Everything on our platform

is feasible, and a lot of research has gone into it," Nash said.

Some students at the forum agreed.

"I really liked their platform and that they had feasible goals," said Suzanne Benninger, a foreign language and international economics French sophomore who attended the forum.

Students can vote in the SG elections next Wednesday and Thursday at campus locations.

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Woman raped in dorm

By Dariush Shafa
THE KENTUCKY KERNEL

A UK student was raped in a residence hall before Spring Break and reported it to UK police, but she does not intend to press charges, according to a UK police report.

The date rape took place March 6 in Keeneland Hall between 1:30 a.m. and 8 a.m. The student later reported it to police three days later. Alcohol or drugs were not a factor, according to the report.

Police have the name of the man accused of the date rape but have not arrested or charged.

"They're going to keep investigating," said Maj. Joe Monroe of the UK Police Department.

The hall director of Keeneland Hall declined to comment.

Carol Jordan, director of the Center for Research on Violence Against Women, said news of the rape is distressing, but the fact that it was reported may be a sign of change at UK.

"It's with terrible sadness that any of us hear of another case, but we understand that more cases reported does not mean that more cases have occurred, but that we are creating a climate at UK that tells women that they can reach out for help if they need it," Jordan said.

"It's with terrible sadness that any of us hear of another case."

Tony Blanton, associate dean of students, said UK police made the information available to campus administrators and Director of Public Safety Ken Clevidence informed Vice President for Student Affairs Pat Terrell himself.

"I'm not sure where it went from there," Blanton said. "Terrell probably would have made contact with the victim and talked to the victim, and if she didn't want anything done, it probably didn't go anywhere from there."

Because the student didn't wish to prosecute, there isn't much administrators can do.

"We did know about it from campus police, and our understanding was the victim didn't want us to take action," Blanton said. "If the victim doesn't want it to be addressed through the disciplinary system, there's not much we can do about it."

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'Sex and City' author heads lecture lineup

By Crystal Little
THE KENTUCKY KERNEL

Lectures from nationally acclaimed authors, workshop sessions, film screenings, art exhibits and a performance by a Grammy-nominated singer/songwriter are only a few of the events featured at the 28th annual Kentucky Women Writers Conference.

The conference begins at noon tomorrow with a convocation and keynote address by Ann Telanes, a Pulitzer Prize-winning editorial cartoonist, and will end Saturday with a poetry reading from a recent U.S. poet laureate.

Organizing the forum has taken its five-person staff a full year, said director Rebecca Howell, an English lecturer at UK.

"An incredible amount of work goes into making sure we meet the needs of our graduates and the need," Howell said. "As a teacher, I understand this need. We wanted to bring writers who had an impact on students' everyday lives."

Lectures from Alexandra Robbins, author of *Pledged: The Secret Life of Sororities*, and Candace Bushnell, author of *Sex and the City*, have garnered a lot of excitement from students in particular, said Howell and project facilitator Evie Russell.

"We've had an overwhelming response from students," Russell said. "It's wonderful to see the community and the university's excitement come together, and to see the literary community come alive in this area."

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Accident

Continued from page 1

was one of the first to try to help.

"She fell down kind of violently," Newbern said. "Another gentleman and myself tried to help her, but she wasn't very responsive. I really didn't have a chance to think. I saw it happen, and I guess it was just instinct to help someone else."

Following the accident, South Limestone was closed from Washington Avenue to Scott Street, and police diverted traffic around the area for several hours while accident reconstruction units surveyed the

scene.

Colliver's accident — as well as at least one other fatal accident in the same area within about two months — is leading Lexington Police to call it a trouble spot. Last month, UK Chandler Medical Center employee Leroy Saunders, 58, was killed while crossing South Limestone across from the Medical Center, less than a mile away from where Colliver was hit.

"That little stretch of road is racking up (incidents) there," Stuart said.

Bianton said everyone is hoping for the best.

"Her colleagues are very concerned, and she's in our thoughts and prayers, and we're very hopeful things will work out for the best," Bianton said.

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Lexington police officers talk with James Haney, 53, the driver of the UK truck that struck UK employee Mary Margaret Colliver last night.

UNIVERSITY OF KENTUCKY CRIME REPORT


Selected UK police reports from March 8 through March 21:

- March 8: Harassing communications at Agricultural Science North Building reported at 4:15 p.m.
- March 8: Theft at Peterson Service Building reported at 9:18 p.m.
- March 8: Drug/Marijuana use at Kirwan III reported at 10:09 p.m.
- March 9: Theft at UK Medical Center reported at 12:37 p.m.
- March 9: Rape at Keeneland Hall reported at 2 p.m.
- March 9: Assault at UK Medical Center reported at 2:16 p.m.
- March 11: Slashed tire at 300 Alumni Drive reported at 1:02 p.m.
- March 12: Harassing communications at Blazer Hall reported at 12:31 a.m.
- March 13: Drug and narcotics violations at 310 S. Limestone St. reported at 2:19 a.m.
- March 15: Theft at Chemistry-Physics Building reported at 10:39 a.m.
- March 17: Robbery at Fifth-Third Bank on Euclid Avenue reported at 10:54 a.m.
- March 18: Criminal mischief to vehicle in Student Center parking lot reported at 8:37 p.m.
- March 20: Theft at 330 Hilltop Ave. reported at 8:39 p.m.
- March 21: Damage to side door of Thomas H. Morgan Biological Sciences Building reported at 9:22 a.m.
- March 21: Theft from Haggin Hall reported at 2:53 p.m.
- March 21: Theft of wallet at Johnson Center reported at 3:07 p.m.
- March 21: Three subjects igniting objects in yard at Jewell Hall reported at 8:10 p.m.
- March 21: Theft of a bike from rack outside Holmes Hall reported at 10:30 p.m.

TAKEN FROM MEDIA BLOTTER AND ONLINE CRIME LOG
COMPILED BY STAFF WRITER DARIUSH SHAFA
E-MAIL: DSHAF@KYKERNEL.COM



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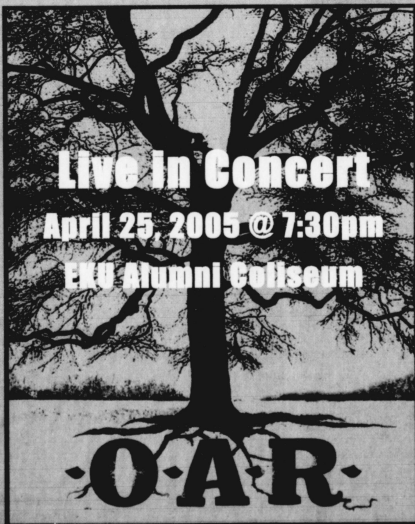
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7:00 p.m.

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Singletary Center for the Arts

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I bet it's not worth an uncertain payoff

Long Beach, Washington: home of the world's biggest frying pan.
Savannah, Georgia: burial site of the great Yamacraw Chief Tomochichi.
Bracketville, USA: famous for its beautifully crafted Cinderella stories and champion student population.

No different than last year, the NCAA Final Four tournament teams have been entering the airport runways of Bracketville, causing a mass finger-pointing session by all visitors wondering which team will be the next champion.

Sixty-four teams around the nation were invited to this madness in March, with only one of those teams having the chance of becoming the winner.
But with such places in this country as Las Vegas, famous for its laissez-faire prostitution and gaming laws, the winning team will sit in second place to the money-hungry gamblers who will really win big after it's all said and done.
From the work cubicles of Initech, to the water fountains inside of the Classroom Building, people are congregating everywhere, discussing their Final Four predictions.
There are some who talk basketball merely to sound up-to-date with current

events, but I'm willing to bet most of us have some sort of monetary value riding on the outcome of this game-by-game 19-day tournament.
We're all familiar with the innocent \$2 entry-fee pool, where the one who picked the most game-winners will walk away in April with maybe a couple c-notes. Elsewhere, gambling on college sports is a major addiction, where riches only you and I can imagine are at stake.
Bill Ursel, director of a problem gambling community operated by the Canadian Mental Health Association, recognizes the serious problems gambling can cause.
"For some who gamble, the impulse to wager is uncontrollable," Ursel wrote in an article for the Gaming Studies Research Center of the University of Nevada Las Vegas. "For these people, gambling is no longer a recreational activity, or even an attempt to rationally balance risk and reward, but a problem."
Society doesn't make problem gambling any easier. With ESPN's airing of the World Poker Tour and "Tilt," gambling seems to surround us.
From sports to card games, gambling is a dangerous activity that can make or break anyone, especially us college students. Picture losing not only the money in your checking account, but also your car — just because you thought you had the winning hand in a simple game of blackjack.
College may seem like the perfect time and place to pick up gambling. The

method seems so easy — why not place a few sure shot bets online, or even with a bookie, and try to score some fast dough? Wouldn't that be nice?
Anyone who's visited a casino and actually gambled knows how it feels to see his or her money disappear.
It's an addiction. You bet, you lose, you bet some more, you lose some more — all in hopes of winning your money back. In the end, you're stuck with an empty wallet and an empty glass of well-bourbon and melted ice.
If you're going to gamble, know your limits. Much like creating a budget, know how much money you're willing and able to lose. Once that amount has vanished, as hard as it may seem, quit. Also, don't be afraid to quit while you are ahead, should you reach that good of a run.
For those of you who visited Las Vegas for Spring Break and experienced the wrath of excessive gambling, learn from your mistakes and stick to the free booze and cheap steak dinners next time. If you or anyone you know has an addiction with gambling and has a desire to stop, contact Gamblers Anonymous for immediate help.
Visit www.gamblersanonymous.org for more information.
Just remember what the ancient Greek playwright Euripides once said: "There is in the worst of fortune the best of chances for a happy change."
Play hard. Play smart.



Kenny Moyer
FINANCE COLUMNIST

Kentucky Women Writers Conference

Schedule of Events

Thursday
Who: Ann Telnaes, Pulitzer Prize-winning editorial cartoonist
What: Convocation and keynote address
When: Noon to 1:30 p.m.
Where: William T. Young Library Rotunda
How much: Free

Who: Alexandra Robbins, author of *Pledged: The Secret Life of Sororities*
What: Lecture and Q&A
When: 3 p.m. to 4:30 p.m.
Where: Worsam Theater, Student Center
How much: Free

Friday
Who: Candace Bushnell, author of *Sex and the City*
What: Lecture and book signing
When: noon to 1:30 p.m.
Where: Singletary Center for the Arts
How much: Free to conference registrants; tickets cost \$5.50 for students and \$11 for the general public. Tickets can be purchased from the Singletary Center; call 257-4929 for more information.

Who: Carrie Mae Weems, artist
What: Lecture and slide presentation
When: 4 p.m. to 5 p.m.
Where: Singletary Center for the Arts Recital Hall
How much: Free

Who: Elaine Brown, former Black Panther Party leader
What: Lecture
When: 7 p.m.
Where: Garrick Theater, Transylvania University
How much: Free

Saturday
Who: Christine Fugate, filmmaker, and Donna Hilbert, poet
What: *Grief Becomes Me* film premiere
When: 12:30 p.m. to 1:30 p.m.
Where: Downtown Arts Center
How much: Free

Who: Ito Hiroimi, poet
What: Poetry reading
When: 12:30 p.m. to 1:30 p.m.
Where: Downtown Arts Center
How much: Free

Who: Kentucky's feminist writers, including Martha Gehring, Leah Kendrick, Gail M. Koehler, George Ella Lyon, Carol Maurrelio, Linda Maxwell, Ann W. Olson, Melissa Bell Pitts and Lauren Zabicki
What: Kentucky feminist writers will read in celebration of their newly published anthology, *Hot: Writing by Kentucky Feminists*
When: 3 p.m. to 4 p.m.
Where: The Carnegie Center for Literacy and Learning
How much: Free

Who: Tift Merritt, Grammy-nominated singer/songwriter
What: Solo performance
When: 5:30 p.m.
Where: Lexington Public Library Rotunda
How much: Free

Who: Louise Glück, poet laureate, and Dana Levin, APR/Honoliman Prize recipient
What: Poetry reading
When: 7 p.m.
Where: Lexington Public Library Rotunda
How much: Free

For a full schedule of events and for more information, visit www.uky.edu/WKW.

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Holy Saturday Easter Vigil - 7:30 p.m.
Easter Sunday - 8 & 10 a.m., 12p.m. Masses
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NCAA TOURNAMENT

Smith: UK must limit Bogut's touches

By Ben Roberts
THE KENTUCKY KERNEL

The biggest thing standing between the Cats and a trip to the Elite Eight might just be the biggest thing they've seen all season.

At seven feet tall, Utah's Andrew Bogut is averaging 20.4 points and 12.4 rebounds per game this year, and was the driving force behind the Utes' 29-5 season and first Sweet 16 berth since 1998.

Virtually unheard of outside of the Beehive State at the beginning of the season, Bogut's breakout year earned him Mountain West Player of the Year honors and put the sophomore center on just about everybody's All-American team. He was announced yesterday as the leading vote getter for the Associated Press All-American team.

But UK head coach Tubby Smith didn't need to hear that information to know that Bogut isn't your one-dimensional seven-footer that simply catches the ball in the post and drops it in the bucket.

Not only is Bogut an exceptional post player, he's an above average passer, defender and outside shooter — and he would actually rather do those things away from the basket.

"Bogut is probably more effective from the perimeter — that's part of his game," Smith said. "He's able to lure other post players out there and then flash to the basket."

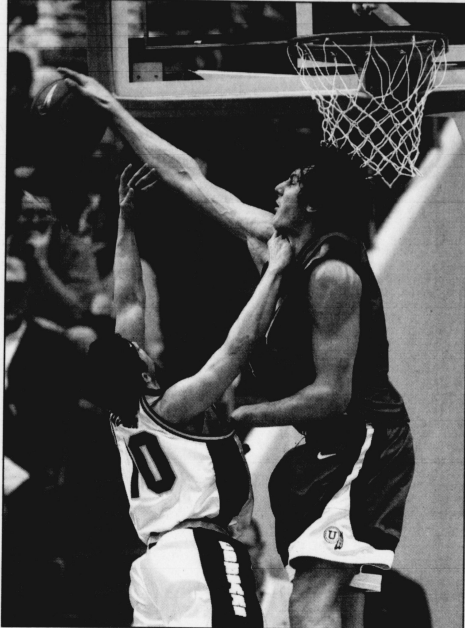
To combat Bogut's game, Smith said he's planning to utilize backup centers Lukasz Olszak and Shagari Alleyne in addition to freshman starter Randolph Morris.

Bogut played the full 40 minutes in each of Utah's first two tournament wins over Texas-El Paso and Oklahoma, and Smith wants to keep a mixture of fresh bodies on the Utah center when the two teams play Friday.

Morris is coming off one of the best games of his UK career — an 11-point, 12-rebound performance against Cincinnati — and Alleyne's nine minutes in the win over the Bearcats was the most of the court the sophomore had seen since Feb. 19.

When his young center do match up with Bogut, Smith said he would prepare them for the player's unorthodox style of play and remind them of his seven assists in Utah's second round victory over Oklahoma.

"That's something he really took advantage of — being able to see over



Utah center Andrew Bogut was the leading vote getter for the Associated Press All-American team. Bogut (right) averages 20.4 points and 12.4 rebounds per game for the Utes (29-5).

the defense and hit people cutting to the basket," Smith said. "You don't find many big guys that are as talented passers as he is. And that's something we have to be aware of if we trap."

Smith usually brings one of his perimeter players down in the paint when he traps opposing post players, but he said yesterday he didn't know

if he would stick with that game plan when defending Bogut or trap with two frontcourt players instead.

He said the key to containing Bogut would be to limit his touches, but said that would be "virtually impossible" given his mobility and knack for losing his defender.

In fact, when asked how he planned to counter the All-American center, the UK coach opened the room to suggestions, soliciting members of the media for some free advice.

"What do you think?" Smith asked those in attendance. "I'm looking for help."

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Graduate School Dissertations

<p>Name: Sokol Chavensk Program: Nursing (PhD) Dissertation Title: Factors Influencing Depression in the Adolescents</p> <p>Major Professor: Dr. Ann Faden Date: 03/20/2005 Time: 1:00 PM-3:00 PM Place: Box 313 GSB Bldg.</p>	<p>Name: Qing Chao Choo Program: Civil Engineering Dissertation Title: Investigation of Rectangular Concrete Columns Reinforced or Pre-stressed with Fiber Reinforced Polymer (FRP) Bars or Tendons</p> <p>Major Professor: Dr. Isaac E. Hank Date: 03/23/2005 Time: 10:00 AM Place: 120 ORR Bldg.</p>	<p>Name: Xiang Bao Program: Organic Chemistry Dissertation Title: Studies in Benzoin Peeking and of Polymorphism in Two Crystal Systems</p> <p>Major Professor: Dr. Carolyn Beck Date: 03/24/2005 Time: 1:30 PM Place: 120 ORR/Phy Bldg.</p>	<p>Name: Elizabeth G. Hunter Program: Gerontology Dissertation Title: Demographic, Policy, and Beliefs: Toward a Model of Legacy</p> <p>Major Professor: Dr. Graham B. Rowles Date: 03/25/2005 Time: 10:00 AM Place: Box 3274 Westinghouse Bldg.</p>
<p>Name: Hanyi A. Karam Program: Civil Engineering Dissertation Title: Development of a Predictive Model for Estimating Mean Soil Fill for Industrial Development</p> <p>Major Professor: Dr. Bruce E. Ralston, Co-Chair Dr. Michael Katsuki, Co-Chair Date: 03/28/2005 Time: 8:00 AM Place: Raymond Bldg. Box 120</p>	<p>Name: Patrick Joseph Lawless Program: Biology Dissertation Title: Toxic Limonene Fractions of Gleditsia Uniflora: Studies</p> <p>Major Professor: Dr. Jerry Rankin, Co-Chair Dr. Carol Rankin, Co-Chair Date: 03/23/2005 Time: 8:00 AM Place: Morgan Bldg. Room 305</p>	<p>Name: Esther E. Long Program: Geography Dissertation Title: Identity in Evangelical Ukraine: Negotiating Nationalism and Transnationalism</p> <p>Major Professor: Dr. John Paul Jones III, Co-Chair Dr. Susan Roberts, Co-Chair Date: 03/25/2005 Time: 3:00 PM Place: Miller Hall #1 (Basement)</p>	<p>Name: Shannon Eral Mathews Program: Gerontology Dissertation Title: Communication Networks and Dynamics in Field of UK Care of Older Women: A Grounded Theory Approach</p> <p>Major Professor: Dr. John Freeman Watkins Date: 03/25/2005 Time: 1:30 PM-3:00 PM Place: 3274 Conference Room Westinghouse Bldg.</p>
<p>Name: Patrick Joseph McElrath Program: Psychology Dissertation Title: Correlates and Ethical Implications of Self-Reported Cheating and Academic Dishonesty</p> <p>Major Professor: Dr. Mark Proffitt, Co-Chair Date: 04/01/2005 Time: 2:00 PM Place: Keith Hall 2011</p>	<p>Name: Peng Han Program: Civil Engineering Dissertation Title: Modeling, Simulation and Analysis of Multi-Scale Fatigue Propagation Bridge Piers</p> <p>Major Professor: Dr. Isaac E. Hank Date: 03/23/2005 Time: 10:00 AM Place: 120 Raymond Bldg.</p>	<p>Name: Leslie Lynn Phillips Program: Educational & Counseling Psychology Dissertation Title: Examining Five State Occurrences and Motivational Perspectives of At-Risk High Practitioners</p> <p>Major Professor: Dr. Linda Brown-Weiss, Co-Chair Dr. Tom Smith, Co-Chair Date: 03/30/2005 Time: 1:00 PM-3:00 PM Place: 122 Taylor Ed. Bldg.</p>	<p>Name: Herman Bin-Shur Program: Mechanical Engineering Dissertation Title: Experimental and Numerical Study of the Effect of Mold Vibration on Centrifugal Blows</p> <p>Major Professor: Dr. Alan Saba, Co-Chair Dr. Marwan Kharabza, Co-Chair Date: 04/01/2005 Time: 2:00 PM Place: 173 NGAN Bldg.</p>
<p>Name: Margaret Patricia Reid Program: Public Administration (PhD) Dissertation Title: After the Adoption and Safe Families Act: Detention of Children in Licensed and Unlicensed Kinship Care</p> <p>Major Professor: Dr. Edward J. Jennings Date: 03/23/2005 Time: 10:00 AM Place: 108 POF</p>	<p>Name: Karl Metz Program: Educational & Counseling Psychology Dissertation Title: Factors Contributing to Losses of Control and Self-Control in Adolescents Who Are Having Sexual and Their Relationships</p> <p>Major Professor: Dr. A. Thompson Probst Date: 03/23/2005 Time: 10:00 AM Place: 108 Siskey Hall</p>	<p>Name: Bo Su Program: Civil Engineering Dissertation Title: Effects of Railroad Track Structural Components and Subgrade on Dynamic and Displacement of Soil Induced Vibration</p> <p>Major Professor: Dr. Jerry Ross, Co-Chair Dr. Michael Tahaoui, Co-Chair Date: 04/01/2005 Time: 10:00 AM-12:00 PM Place: 120 Raymond Bldg.</p>	

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IN OUR OPINION

Grad rates several degrees too low



As a way to publicize UK's plans for reaching top-20 status, banners were hung at one point along campus walkways proclaiming the institution's six big goals for improving in the rankings. One sign read: "Goal II: Attract and Graduate Outstanding Students."

More than a few passers-by chuckled as they read the sign.

If educating students is truly UK's core mission, a more appropriate ranking of goals should include graduating students as its first goal. Before UK can reach for national prominence — as Goal I states — students need to get what they came here for: a degree.

To really be competitive among other universities, UK needs to get serious about making sure students graduate. In comparing

UK's graduation rates to its benchmarks' rates, UK grossly fails to measure up. U.S. News and World Report's recently profiled universities across the country looking at various categories including graduation rates. Schools are given rates for students who are able to graduate in four years and then in six years.

For the entering class of 1997, UK had the lowest of its 19 benchmarks in the four-year category except North Carolina State, which at 27 percent had the same rate as UK.

UK Director of Institutional Research Roger Sugarman explained that the six-year rate is the one to pay attention to because it allows for the consideration of more students. The average time it takes students to graduate across the nation is closer to five years, he said. Six years gives even more buffer room.

But the six-year measurement is even more disturbing. According to the rates listed in the U.S. News and World Report profiles, UK was dead last among its benchmarks with just 61

percent of students graduating within six years.

Those numbers are accurate, Sugarman said, and of great concern to administrators. And the news gets worse as Sugarman said he got numbers for the entering class of 1998 this week, and the rate was 59.6 percent. Since the 1992 entering class, UK's graduation rate had increased steadily every year until this year, he said.

UK ranks at the top among the other institutions in the state, though. Sugarman said that Murray State is the closest to UK with 57.3 percent, but many other colleges are much lower. UoL has a 33.3 percent rate, he said.

Despite the high ranking among other schools in the state, the national comparison is frightening.

"The administration is very concerned with students graduating," Sugarman said. "It's something we talk about all the time."

A big part of the problem is students who leave between their first and second years. Sugarman said that half of the students

who fail to get their degrees drop out during that time frame.

A key element in whether students stay at UK is how connected the students feel to the campus. "We know that the students' ability to get their degrees is tied to partly to academics but also to their social needs," Sugarman said. To help, UK tries to find ways to make students get connected to the university community.

Students who are involved with activities outside the classroom tend to fare better when it comes to returning and finishing their degrees.

It's good that administrators are aware of the disturbing numbers and have an idea of how to help, but there obviously needs to be a bigger change given the rates they are now.

Whatever the formula, UK needs to put some serious thought and work into getting students to graduate.

Benchmark Graduation Rates

College	6-year rate	4-year rate
Virginia	83%	92%
UCLA	53%	87%
Michigan	65%	85%
UNC	69%	83%
Penn State	48%	82%
U. Illinois	58%	81%
Wisconsin	42%	79%
Florida	49%	77%
Texas A&M	32%	75%
Georgia	40%	72%
Texas	36%	71%
Maryland	43%	70%
Purdue	31%	66%
U. Iowa	38%	65%
N.C. State	27%	63%
Ohio State	29%	62%
UK	27%	61%
Arizona	29%	55%
Minnesota	28%	54%

* sorted by 6 year graduates

GRAPHIC BY AMANDA FINNEY | STAFF

they can move on with degrees.

The rates are nothing to laugh at, even though the signs may have caused more than a few giggles on

the way to class. If UK can't get serious about improving its graduation rates, the whole push to become a top-20 institution will become a joke.



AARON SMITH, THE KENTUCKY KERNEL

Film industry discriminates against gays

For years now I've bristled at the use of phrases such as "That's so gay" meaning that something is "bad" or "dumb."

I've never been able to understand how a person could use a word that describes sexuality in a sense that gives value or worth. Would that person conversely use the phrase "That's so straight" to describe the opposite — i.e. something "good" or "cool"?

Most people that I've confronted about this issue immediately respond by saying that they are not homophobic and aren't intending to insult gay people.

But still, it begs the question how did "gay" become so synonymous with "bad"? So much so that it has infiltrated our language to the point of everyday use among those who would consider themselves "open-minded?"

My indignation at the idea of gay-bad came to a boiling point the other day when I went to go see Pedro Almodovar's *Bad Education*.

The NC-17 rating made me a bit leery of going to see it, given that I have a hard time stomaching violence.

I had heard the film dealt with priests and pedophilia, so I was also nervous that it would contain some sexually graphic scenes involving children.

What I saw in *Bad Education* was a creative, thought-provoking noir, with no nudity, and comparatively tame sex scenes.

So why the NC-17 rating? I discussed this issue with my boyfriend on the way home from the film, and the only reason we could come up with was that the sex scenes involved two men.

The issue didn't bother me until I returned home and turned on the television, and in the first five minutes of a primetime episode of "Law and Order" I saw a much more overt depiction of heterosexual sex.

How was this considered acceptable for any primetime television viewer when *Bad Education* was given the only rating just short of pornography?

For all of the plausible reasons *Bad Education* was given an NC-17 rating, it seems wholly inconsistent with the ratings of other films with pedophilic content.

All of the scenes in *Bad Education* that concern the interaction between the priest and the children are tastefully done (as tasteful as pedophilia can be portrayed). The acts were eluded to, but in no way portrayed.

Conversely, other movies with pedophilic content, like *Melvin Van Pee-*

ble's *Sweet Sweetback's Bad Asses* and Adrián Lyne's *Lolita*, were granted an R rating.

Sweetback features a 13-year-old boy, played by Van Peeble's own son, Mario, having sex with a prostitute.

Granted, when this movie was originally released in the '70s, it was given an X rating, but it has since been changed to R.

Two definitive examples as to why I believe the MPAA erred in making *Bad Education* NC-17 are *Velvet Goldmine* and this year's Oscar nominee *Sideways*.

For example, *Velvet Goldmine*, a film about the glory of the glam-rock years, contains almost all of the objectionable elements found in *Bad Education*, and even a few more.

In addition to portraying drug use, masturbation and elusions to homosexual encounters — it contains a protracted full frontal nude scene with Ewan McGregor. *Bad Education* has little more than a few bare chests.

My final argument as to why I think the MPAA is discriminatory toward male homosexuality is the ratings of movies portraying sex between women.

The Wachoski brothers' *Bound* and the favorite film of many teen boys, *Wild Things*, both have sex scenes involving two females.

However, according to www.imdb.com, *Wild Things* director John McNaughton deleted a scene with Matt Dillon and Kevin Bacon showering together, claiming that it was "gratuitous."

The idea that films can-

not portray male homosexual contact without being given an NC-17 rating is ridiculous.

Scrolling through the list of other movies that shared an NC-17 rating, *Bad Education* seemed out of place among the sexually explicit and violent.

Why are we as a society so much more willing to let our children see extreme violence but shield them from sex?

The idea that gay men can only serve as comic relief, or as the mentally scarred, or as drug abusers seems to pervade the film industry.

But more than that, the idea that a filmmaker cannot make an intelligent film portraying sexual encounters between two men who don't fit those stereotypes without receiving an NC-17 rating is even more bothersome because it seems to negate their right to engage in consensual sex with plenty of heterosexual couples participate.

It seems that those in the entertainment industry are counterproductive in fostering a positive and accepting image of homosexuality.

Thus far the ratings system seems to reinforce the stereotype that homosexuality is deviant when it's not.

In all the "progressive" and so-called "liberal" entertainment industry should reevaluate the message that it sends when issuing ratings, and make it a point not to add to the perception of and discrimination against the gay community.

Hillary Canada is a journalism senior. Email opinions@kykernel.com.

Mortality of our parents one of life's sad realities

Realizations can be painful.

They can stun. They can awe. And they can jade. The last psychological step into adulthood is taken when we perpetually idealistic college students peek through a shattered looking glass and see our parents for what they truly are: real people. Real, fallible people.

They're capable of making mistakes — more than their fair share, even. They're not the omniscient entities fondly remembered from childhood; parents are merely human, and it's a bit of a startling realization.

And even more disturbing? Watching their mortality take its toll from the sidelines.

Now, I'm not one to wear my heart on my sleeve. I definitely don't want pity here. You've been warned.

My situation is, perhaps, a little different from most — my parents had me late in life (they never told me I was an accident, but I safely assume it's true, as my mom was 36 and my dad was 45 when I was born).

And with that kind of timing, children — including this columnist — usually see their parents succumb to illness sooner than others, whose parents were younger when they conceived. Not always, I know, but usually.

Again, I realize my situation is a little different than most: When I was four, my mother was diagnosed with multiple sclerosis. I've watched her body slowly bow to this frightening, silent foe, as she's gone from walking with a cane to primarily using a wheelchair to becoming nearly bedfast.

When I was nine, my father was diagnosed with leukemia. I wasn't sure what that meant, really, only that there was something bad happening in his body. I saw the treatments take its toll on his health. When I was 15, he died of heart failure. Through the whole ordeal, my mother remained strong — at a time when I expected her to break down, she comforted me.

Since I've been in college, and as her health has declined, my mom has become more dependent on me. No longer able to stay by herself, she moved from our hometown, two-and-a-half hours away, to Lexington last spring. I moved from my apartment off Richmond Road to suburbia just off Yates Creek Road past Man O'War Boulevard.

The transition felt odd at first. After living on my own for nearly three years, moving back "home" was more than a little disconcerting.

It's not that my mom imposed a curfew or any other arbitrary suppressive measures, but still, it was just strange.

But we quickly settled into a domestic routine — despite some of my late-night journalistic endeavors — and being a primary caregiver is both satisfying and daunting. And it entails a lot of worrying, and a lot of checking in at home — things at which a lot of 21-year-olds probably scoff.

In a way, I'm grateful for my current situation. Though I'm not saint by any means, I realize this is one time in my life where I don't have obligations other than school and the Kernel, and I can devote time to taking care of my mom.

If this had happened after graduation, after I'd gotten a job in another city (I'm keeping my fingers crossed for a New York publishing house) or after I'd gotten engaged and/or married, there would definitely be more issues to deal with than there are now.

I'm also grateful for my awareness; I have a grasp, maybe more firmly than the rest of my peers do, on the impermanence of all things. It makes the time I get to spend with my mom all the more special.

And at the same time, my heart hurts for my fellow students who, blissfully unaware of their parents' mortality, may be blindsided in a few years.

Crystal Little is a journalism senior. Email clittle@kykernel.com.

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Send a guest column or letter to the editor to Opinions Editor Andrew Martin or Assistant Opinions Editor Ben Roberts. Please limit letters to 250 words or less. Be sure to include your full name, class and major with all submissions.

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Cats head outdoors for dual wins

By Chris Johnson
THE KENTUCKY KERNEL

The UK men's tennis team turned to its inside-outside game to sweep a doubleheader of in-state opponents yesterday, defeating both the Murray State Racers and the Eastern Kentucky Colonels at the Hilary J. Boone Tennis Complex.

In the afternoon session, No. 30 UK (10-6) swept the singles and doubles matches in a 7-0 victory over Murray State that was played outdoors — a change from previous home matches that didn't affect the UK players very much.

"It's been nice weather. We've been able to practice outdoors recently," said senior Tigran Martirosyan, who with freshman Marcus Sundh, took the pivotal second doubles match for the Cats to clinch the doubles point.

"But living in Kentucky, we get used to the weather here, and we can adapt pretty quickly to playing inside."

The Cats swept all six singles matches, worth one point apiece, to rein in the Racers and claim their first victory of the day — the team's first win since beating No. 37 South Carolina March 11.

The rains came in the evening, and the Cats took to shelter for their match against EKV, again sweeping singles matches to win 6-0.

"I thought we played pretty well," said head coach Dennis Emery.

"We were a little rusty from not playing in 10 days, but we didn't lose any matches, and it's tough to do any better."

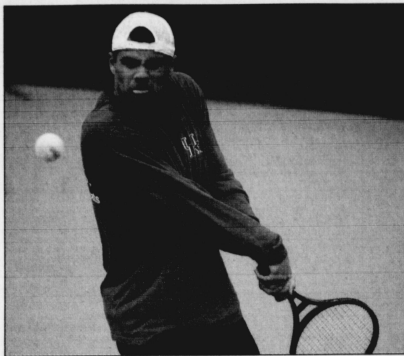
Martirosyan took the highest-profile singles match, defeating Tom Wospi 6-3, 6-1.

"I consider my serve one of my strengths," Martirosyan said. "I rely on it a little more than I used to; it was pretty easy for me to hold serve today."

"All I had to do was break him a couple of times, which I did in the second set."

Senior Matt Emery, junior Alex Hume, freshman Nolan Polley, Sundh and junior Casey Rubin also bested the Colonels in singles matches during the nightcap.

The Cats went outside the conference schedule in the doubleheader to stay



Left: Senior Matt Emery returns the ball during his 6-1, 6-1 singles win over Murray State's Chris Morgan yesterday at the Hilary Boone Tennis Complex.

CHRIS REYNOLDS | STAFF

Below: Junior Nate Emge defeated Murray State's Fadi Zamjout 7-5, 6-0, at No. 1 singles yesterday.

HILLY SCHIFFER | STAFF

warm for the brunt of their season schedule.

The next seven matches UK will play, including Saturday at No. 20 LSU, are all against ranked opponents, none of which lower than the No. 61 Arkansas Razorbacks.

"We have to peak at this point of the season," Martirosyan said. "It's going to be a challenge for us."

"We always play the best schedule in the nation," Dennis Emery said. "Players either step up and win or they don't."

The Cats will be hoping to turn their season around, after they dropped to 1-3 in Southeastern Conference play when they lost at Florida March 13.

Two of the matches against Florida ended at 7-5 in the third set, Martirosyan said. "(Now) we're getting into our comfort zone."

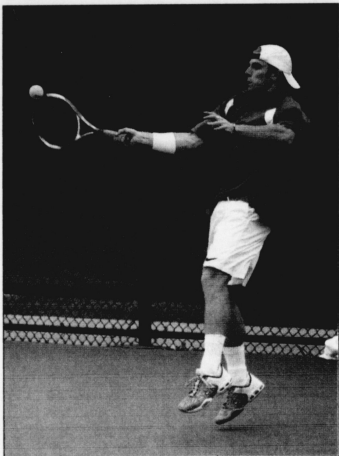
Dennis Emery likened the match to losing in the last five minutes of the game.

"We played well against Florida," he said. "No question, every year the SEC is the top conference in the nation."

"We need to get back to the way we usually play, which hasn't happened so far," Martirosyan said, referring to UK's start in conference play.

"These are going to be two tough matches, which should decide if we have a successful season or not."

The Cats went outside the conference schedule in the doubleheader to stay



No. 30 KENTUCKY V. MURRAY STATE 0	No. 30 KENTUCKY 6, EASTERN KENTUCKY 0
Men's Doubles UK, Alex Hume, Nolan Polley, def. MSU, Fadi Zamjout, Hunter Gerlach, 6-3 UK, Tigran Martirosyan, Marcus Sundh, def. MSU, Chris Morgan, Yuri Pompeu, 8-4 UK, Matt Allender, Casey Rubin, def. MSU, Clayton Clark, Jeff Lester, 6-6	Men's Singles UK, Nate Emge, def. MSU, Fadi Zamjout, 7-5, 6-0 UK, Matt Emery, def. MSU, Chris Morgan, 6-1, 6-1 UK, Nolan Polley, def. MSU, Yuri Pompeu, 6-3, 6-1 UK, Marcus Sundh, def. MSU, Jeff Lester, 6-4, 6-4 UK, Casey Rubin, def. MSU, Hunter Gerlach, 6-1, 6-2 UK, Matt Allender, def. MSU, Craig Jacobs, 6-6, 6-0

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WED: \$1.25 Wells, \$4.50 Domestic Pitchers
DJ Jason

THU: \$2.00 NIGHT, \$2.00 Bortle, Draft or Well, DJ Nick Downs

FRI: \$1 WELL NIGHT, Karaoke

SAT: POWER HOUR \$1.50 Draft, well or glass of wine. Live Music

MON: \$1.25 Miller Lite Bottles

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Saturday, March 26:
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Thursday, March 24
All profits will benefit the Bluegrass Domestic Violence Program and Kentucky Heartwood.

The University of Kentucky's African American Studies and Research Program Presents

11th Annual Black Women's Conference

"Black Women and the Body"
Wednesday, March 30 - 6:30 p.m.
Town Hall Meeting Lecture - Student Center Theatre
Black Women, Beauty, and the Market.
Speaker: Professor Maxine Leeds Craig, Assistant Professor, Department of Sociology and Social Services at California State University, East Bay. Author of *Ain't I a Beauty Queen: Black Women, Beauty and the Politics of Race*.

Thursday, March 31 - 10:00 a.m.
Anna J. Cooper Address - Student Center Room 206
I Know You See Me in the Video . . . Video Vivens, Hip-Hop Magazine Centerfolds, Black Women, and Body Image.
Speaker: Professor Gwen Pough, Associate Professor in the Writing Program and the Department of Women's Studies at Syracuse University. Author of *Check It While I Wreck It: Black Womanhood, Hip-Hop Culture, and the Public Sphere*.

Thursday, March 31 - 12:00 Noon
Mary McLeod Bethune Luncheon - Student Center Grand Ballroom
Pluck and Guts: Re-naming Our Daughters.
Speaker: Professor Nikko Finney, Associate Professor of Creative Writing at the University of Kentucky. Award winning poet and author of *Rice and The World is Round*.

Tickets are on sale NOW, \$15.00, call (859) 257-3593

Thursday, March 31 - 2:30 p.m.
Panel Discussion - Student Center Room 206
Black Women's Bodies on Public Display.
Moderator: Ms. Ann Grundy
Panelists: Ms. Kim Parker-Brown, Ms. Saida Grundy, Professor Clarendia Phillips, and Professor Karen Tice

Thursday, March 31 - 5:00 p.m.
Doris Y. Wilkinson Distinguished Lecture - Student Center Theatre
Ain't Your Mamma Aunt Jimima: Maternal Obsessions and the Black Female Body.
Speaker: Professor Kimberly Wallace-Sanders, Assistant Professor in the Graduate Institute of Liberal Arts and the Department of Women's Studies at Emory University. Author of *Skin Deep, Spirit Strong: The Black Female Body in American Culture*.

All events, except where noted, are free. For more information see: http://www.uk.edu/AS/AASRP/black_womens_conference/