

KENTUCKY KERNEL

CELEBRATING 37 YEARS OF INDEPENDENCE

Former residents reflect on times in Boyd, Jewell halls

By Hayley Schlotter
news@kykernel.com

Lauren Ditsch remembers a day when she hit a golf ball into a dorm bathroom — and how the golf game among Boyd Hall residents continued to Memorial Coliseum.

"The second floor girl's bathroom was the first 'hole,' and the only rules were that whoever had the fewest strokes won," Ditsch said in an e-mail. "And if by chance a window or a light got busted, it was every man for himself."

From "shower parties" to study groups, the residents found creative ways to get through the school years. But Boyd and Jewell Hall, both located on North Campus, will not reopen next year because of low occupancy, UK announced last month.

Ditsch, an accounting senior who lived in Boyd for two years, said that the atmosphere of Boyd separates it from other dorms. She said that sense of community has existed in Boyd since her father lived there in the late 1970s.

David Ditsch, now a member of UK's faculty, said the small

number of people living in Boyd Hall made it easy to be close to everyone in the building.

"There was something satisfying about being a survivor of Boyd Hall's tiny rooms, pipes hanging from the ceiling, no air conditioning, a heating system that was hotter than the door hedges of hell and bathrooms with no urinals," Ditsch said in an e-mail.

"They're just buildings, but they have a sentimental value to me as a UK student."

PAULO STOCHAJ
Biology senior

Paulo Stochaj, a biology senior who lived in Jewell Hall and had several classes in Boyd, said Jewell was a cozy living atmosphere and it would be a waste for it to just sit there.

"They're just buildings," Stochaj said in an e-mail, "but they have a sentimental value to me as a UK student."

Johannah Oldiges, an English senior who lived in Boyd during the 2004-05 school year, said she got to know most of the people who lived in the dorm with her.

"People would study in the study room together, hang out in the TV area, and the best part was that anyone passing by could join the group already hanging out," Oldiges said in an e-mail.

See Dorms on page 7

Smoking ban changes could be on the horizon

By Jill Laster
jlaster@kykernel.com

In the next few years, UK President Lee Todd would like to see students lighting up after class much farther than 20 feet away from classroom buildings.

A ban on smoking anywhere on the UK campus is possible in the next year or two, Todd said in an interview yesterday after the Board of Trustees, the university's highest governing body, had a first reading on a change that would shift control of UK's smoking policy to the president.

How the university will enforce the smoking regulations is still undecided, Todd said, and there are no definite plans yet to change UK's smoke-free policy. The board's vote on changing who controls the smoking policy could come as soon as the next meeting in April.

Right now, the board must authorize changes to the tobacco policy. Todd said the shift in authority is so he doesn't have to go to the board every time the administration considers policy changes.

In 2006, the state legislature mandated that all public universities formally adopt a smoking policy. In November 2006, the

Board of Trustees approved a policy that required smokers to stand 20 feet from entrances, exits, windows or air intakes. Smoking in all university-owned or -operated buildings, including parking garages and pedways, is also prohibited.

No committees met to change regulations after the campus policy took effect in November 2006, said UK spokesman Jay Blanton. Blanton said the idea of officials all over main campus looking for smokers is unrealistic.

"To some extent, you're relying on peoples' willingness," Blanton said. "You expect people not to litter, you expect people not to cheat."

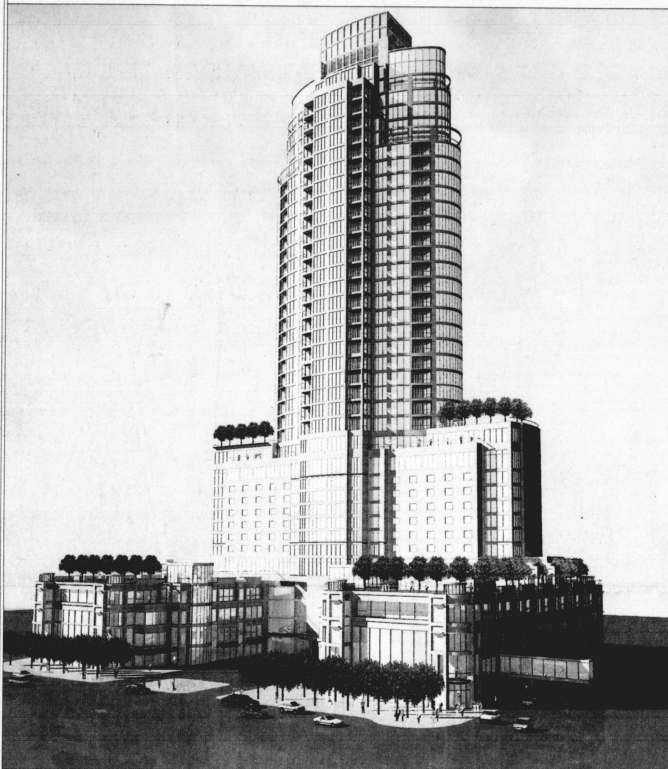
Although no plans are in place for the main UK campus, the medical center is planning a complete ban on smoking.

Right now, the UK Hospital has designated smoking areas, and Good Samaritan Hospital has one. In November, those areas will be eliminated by the medical center's ban, which has been under discussion since early in the school year.

Some hospital employees question whether the ban can be

See Trustees on page 7

40-story tower planned for downtown block



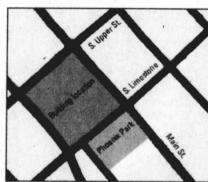
The proposed CentrePointe development would feature a 243-room hotel, 77 condominiums and more than 123,000 square feet of retail and office space in a 40-story tower. Construction could begin as early as August, the developer announced yesterday.

Proposed \$250 million development would feature hotel, displace local entertainment

By Rebecca Sweeney
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Construction of a 40-story hotel, which would expand the Lexington skyline while displacing downtown bars and music venues that college students frequent, could begin in August, developers announced yesterday.

In addition to a 243-room hotel, the CentrePointe development would include 77 condominiums, more than 123,000 square feet of retail and office space, and 1,100 parking spaces, at a total cost of



ED MATTHEWS | STAFF

about \$250 million.

The complex will be built on the block bordered by West Main, South Upper, West Vine and South Limestone streets. The area, known as the Rosenberg Block, currently includes local establishments such as The Dame, Mia's,

Buster's and Joe Rosenberg Jewelers. "Since the Woolworth building was torn down on this block several years ago, there has been a gaping hole in our downtown," Mayor Jim Newberry said at a news conference. "However, there are also still some important businesses on this block, and we will work diligently to try to help them find new locations downtown."

The proposed building will be constructed with energy-saving materials and design and will include a big screen on the side that could be used for public movies as well as viewing the 2010 Alltech FEI World Equestrian Games, Newberry said. People would be able to see public art and the screen from a redeveloped Phoenix Park.

The park will be cut down in size by

See Hotel on page 7

Despite health risk, students flock to tanning beds before break

By Courtney Lacy
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Tanning beds near campus have seen business spike in the weeks leading up to Spring Break, but while students may be doing tanning salons a favor, tanning does no favor for the skin, said Susan Griffith, a doctor at the UK HealthCare Clinic.

Many people try and build a base tan at a tanning bed to avoid burning in the actual sun, but this practice is dangerous, Griffith said.

"There is no safe way to tan," she said. "Every study shows a direct link between tanning beds and skin cancer."

Even with the results of these studies, Griffith said she

does not believe that the number of people tanning has declined.

"People worry about the effects of X-rays on their bodies, but not about the effects of harmful rays on their skin," she said. "Some people just don't realize that a tan is really sun damage."

Heather Roby, a middle school education sophomore, said she feels like she looks better when she has a tan, and tanning could help her avoid getting burned over the break.

"If I am going to be out in the sun a lot during the break, I feel like my visits to the tanning bed will keep me from getting burned over the break."

A 15 to 30 minute visit to the tanning bed is equal to an



SABRINA HOUNSHELL | STAFF

Elementary education freshman Hannah Workman tans at Tan 101 on Rose Street yesterday.

entire day at the beach, and the dark skin a tanner develops from the radiation is the skin's biological response to injury, according to the University Health Service Web site.

Finance freshman Lacey Storie said she has been tanning for 15 minutes four times a week to get her skin ready for Spring Break, and said she is not really worried about the potential health risks.

Roby said she is concerned about her tanning habits leading to skin cancer, and while she continues to tan, she limits her visits.

"I normally do not tan more than once a week, and I only tan prior to certain occasions," Roby said.

Roby and Storie are not the only students seeking a glow for the break.

Sarah White and Stacy Kaenzig, employees at Tan 101, located in the Coliseum Plaza at the corner of Rose Street and

Avenue of Champions, said the establishment's business always doubles during the weeks prior to Spring Break.

"Business is steady year round," White said, "but before the break, there is always a wait for all of the beds."

Corey Alexander, an employee at Tan Zone on Waller Avenue, said students are tanning like crazy the week before Spring Break.

"We are busy in the spring, but the week before the break is nonstop," Alexander said.

The University Health Service site emphasizes the effects of unprotected and prolonged exposure to UV radiation. The risks include skin cancer, premature aging and alteration of pigmentation.



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Wreck your room...Not your car

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 an 8 — The love of a true friend is one of your most valuable possessions. Make sure you let the person know how much you value the input.

Taurus (April 20 - May 20) Today is a 6 — Sometimes you're just too shy to ask the question that's on your mind. That will be less of a problem in the next few weeks. Be aware of your timing.

Gemini (May 21 - June 21) Today is a 7 — Be looking around for new career opportunities. Expand your influence. Check out all those foreign markets. You'll find something you can use.

Cancer (June 22 - July 22) Today is a 7 — It's almost fun to do book-keeping now. It's calming, in a way. This is particularly true if it looks like you've made a big profit. If you don't see it yet, keep looking.

Leo (July 23 - Aug. 22) Today is a 7 — A very efficient person has the whole thing figured out. Allow this individual to prove his or her case. It's quite possible that you'll profit from this argument.

Virgo (Aug. 23 - Sept. 22) Today is a 7 — Luckily, you enjoy your work. Hopefully, you find it fun. There won't be time for much less, so you might as well get into it.

Libra (Sept. 23 - Oct. 22) Today is a 9 — A stroke of luck brings you something you've always wished you could have. Don't get stuck in material stuff; this could be about peace of mind.

Scorpio (Oct. 23 - Nov. 21) Today is a 7 — Review all the alternatives before making your decision.

Choose the option that benefits your family the most and you'll be satisfied.

Sagittarius (Nov. 22 - Dec. 21) Today is a 7 — Continue to study a subject you love, and you're likely to become an expert. This is the natural way of things. Relax and enjoy it.

Capricorn (Dec. 22 - Jan. 19) Today is a 7 — You have lists, heaven knows, and a plan all worked out. Don't get excited and forget it all in the passion of the moment. Maintain objectivity.

Aquarius (Jan. 20 - Feb. 18) Today is an 8 — Your self-confidence has grown by leaps and bounds, due to your recent successes. Go ahead and feel good about the person you've grown up to be.

Pisces (Feb. 19 - March 20) Today is a 7 — A loved one is getting more persistent. Turnabout is fair play. Find out what he or she really wants, and return the favor. Share your dreams.

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LOVE LIVES

Will Smith: 'You can bet on Jada'

THE DISH

When Essence honored Jada Pinkett Smith at a luncheon in Beverly Hills on Feb. 21, Will Smith took it as an opportunity to tell us just how great she is. "You can bet on Jada," says the star, 39. "You can hang your heart, life, dreams and wishes on her and know she is not going to drop them." But Pinkett Smith, 36, also likes to tease. "My husband just finished producing me on 'The Human Contract,' and we barely made it through," she says of her drama directorial debut. "I am just saying that to be funny. But when you are working together on the set and then you have to go home together, it gets hard!"

the biggest romance since Rob and Amber [Mariano], host Jeff Probst tells us. "The attraction between them was instant." Indeed, just two days before the game began, ex-model Kimmel, 23, gushed to us of the photographer, 26: "I love Ozzy. ... He's adorable!"

Lord of the Rings' Sean Bean Ties the Knot!

"Lord of the Rings" alum Sean Bean exchanged his own set of rings with Georgina Sutcliffe in London on Feb. 19. The thrice-divorced English actor, 48, wed the actress, 29, before 15 loved ones at noon in the Marylebone Register Office, and then celebrated at Brown's Hotel. The next day, the couple of three years started their honeymoon close to home. "They both travel so much," explains a friend. "So it's actually a treat for them to be staying together in Britain!"

Dennis & Kimberly Tote the Tots to NYC

"We're having a blast!" Dennis Quaid told us of jetting to New York City with his wife, realtor Kimberly, and their 4-month-old twins, Thomas and Zoe, for his Vantage Point premiere on Feb. 20. "We make funny faces at them and see how they react. They just discovered each other, actually. One of them looked at the other one last week and did a double take ... startled, like, Who are you?" The actor, 53, recently said that everything changed for him af-

ter he and his wife, 36, watched the little ones suffer through the trauma of a hospital-administered medication overdose last November. "After a really horrific two weeks," Quaid said, "I will never take another day for granted in my life. Because if they hadn't made it, I never would have had another happy day in my life."

Jason & Angie's Presidential Pick

"There are a lot more people in L.A. voting for McCain than you think," John McCain supporter Angie Harmon tells us. "We have an underground Republican party!" But her candidate isn't the only person for whom the actress, 35, is lobbying. Her hubby, former pro footballer Jason Sehorn, 36, says his wife also wants a baby boy. "Being an athlete, I don't want boys to have the pressure," says the dad to girls Finley, 4, and Avery, 2. "So it's not something I pray for, but she does!"

Ginnifer Only Wants Her Chris!

A one-man woman off camera with boyfriend Chris Klein, 28, Ginnifer Goodwin tells us that ladies thank her for sharing her TV hubby on "Big Love." "They say that their husband would've loved to have brought more women into the bedroom — until they saw my show!" laughs the actress, 29.

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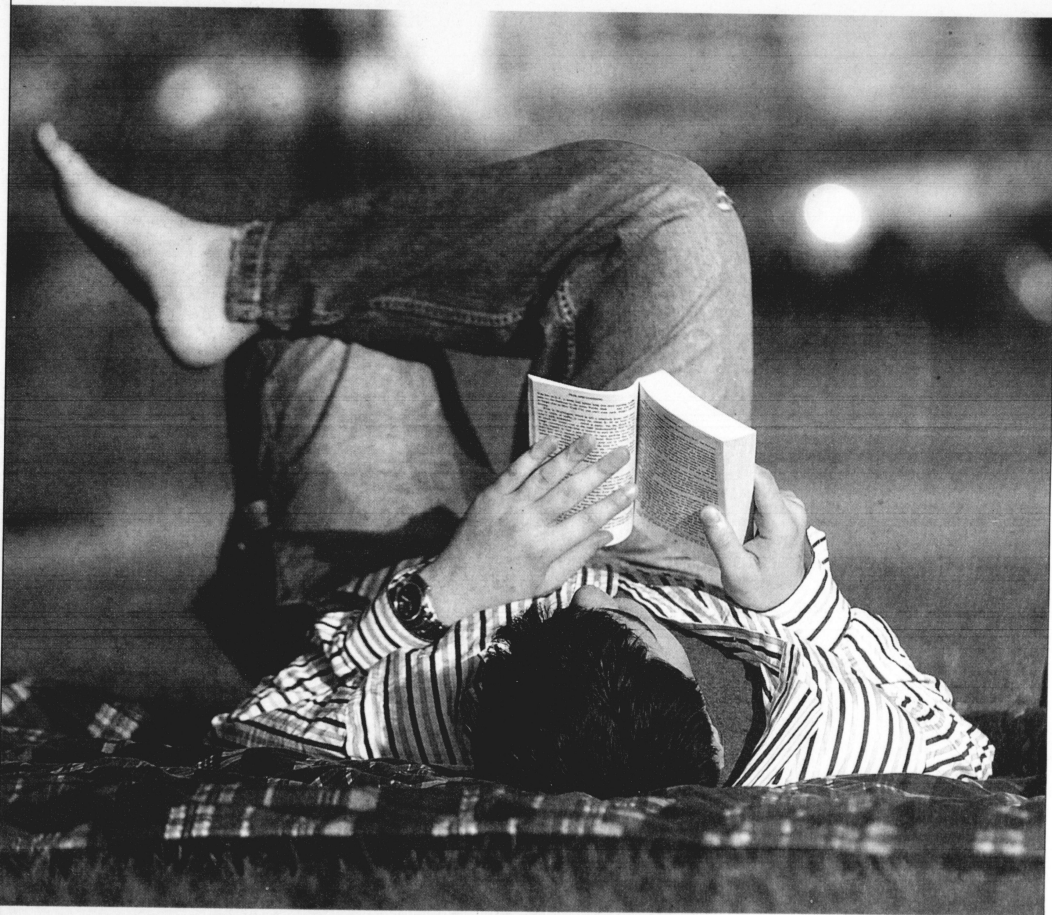
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BETWEEN THE LINES



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A man walks down the sidewalk at the end of Funkhouser Drive in the rain yesterday afternoon. After unseasonably warm weather on Monday, the high for today is expected to be in the lower 40s*

UNIVERSITY OF KENTUCKY
CRIME REPORT

UK Police reports from Feb. 26 to March 3

- Feb. 26** Suspicious car reported from Memorial Coliseum at 6:13 a.m. regarding a car that followed a female until she entered the building.
- Feb. 26** Theft of laptop reported from Joe Craft Center at 9:05 a.m.
- Feb. 26** Theft of desk phone reported from the Health Sciences Research Building at 1:13 p.m.
- Feb. 26** Theft of laptop reported from Ralph G. Anderson Building at 4:15 p.m.
- Feb. 26** Arrest following alcohol intoxication reported from Samaritan Hospital at 9:31 p.m.
- Feb. 27** Drug and marijuana use reported from UK Hospital at 12:49 a.m.
- Feb. 27** Theft reported from UK Hospital at 6:06 p.m.
- Feb. 27** Drug and marijuana use reported from Kirwan Tower at 7:18 p.m.
- Feb. 28** Theft reported from King Alumni Building at 9:27 a.m.
- Feb. 28** Theft of two laptops reported from Kentucky Clinic at 10:24 a.m.
- Feb. 28** Theft of cash and clothing reported from the Eighth floor of Blanding Tower at 1:30 p.m.
- Feb. 28** Suspicious person reported from Keeneland Hall at 8:42 p.m. regarding a 50-year-old man behind the bushes jumping out with handcluffs.
- Feb. 29** Arrest following alcohol intoxication reported from Avenue of Champions and South Limestone at 12:39 a.m.
- Feb. 29** Theft of purse reported from the Oswald Building at 2:13 p.m.

- March 1** Suspicious persons reported from Blanding IV at 1:06 a.m. regarding two white males in hoodies looking into female dormrooms, hiding in bushes.
- March 1** Arrest following traffic stop reported from Colfax Street and South Limestone Street at 1:53 a.m.
- March 1** Arrest following alcohol intoxication reported from Patterson Hall at 3:27 a.m.
- March 1** Alcohol intoxication reported at 4:09 a.m. from Haggin Hall where the front desk staff were concerned with student's state.
- March 1** Theft reported from UK Hospital at 9:54 p.m. regarding a homeless person possibly stealing from purses.
- March 1** Drug and marijuana use reported from Blanding II at 10:29 p.m.
- March 2** Alcohol intoxication reported from Samaritan Hospital at 1:38 p.m.
- March 3** Arrest following alcohol intoxication reported from UK Hospital at 5:09 a.m.
- March 3** Theft reported from the Johnson Center at 1:17 p.m.
- March 3** Theft of cell phone reported from Samaritan Hospital at 12:53 p.m.
- March 3** Injury accident reported from Boone Faculty Center at 2:42 p.m. regarding a collision between a vehicle and a wheelchair.

Compiled from reports at UK Police Department
by staff writer Alice Haymond.
E-mail ahaymond@kykernel.com.

NEWS BRIEFS

UK signs contract with music downloading service

Students can now download music for free through Ruckus, a music discovery service that offers more than 3 million songs. Student Government and the Information Technology Department negotiated a contract with the service, according to a campus-wide e-mail sent yesterday. To register for the service, click the "sign-up" link on the Ruckus Web site (www.ruckus.com).

Summer course revolves around bicycle field trip

Students can pedal their way through a class and across the South this summer. The Honors

Program is offering "HON 301: Slavery, Freedom, Race, and Memory" in the United States, which will allow five to 10 students to bicycle from Mobile, Ala., to Cincinnati, Ohio, tracing a route taken by many slaves following the Underground Railroad to freedom.

The group will cycle an average of 35 miles each day and will stop for an hour-long class every other day, said Richard Baily, creator and instructor for the course. The reading material will cover history, literature and sociological studies.

Although Honors courses are usually restricted to members of the Honors Program, this course is open to all students. An informational meeting will be held today at 4 p.m. in room 1145 of Patterson Office Tower.

BREAST PAIN IS A COMMON PROBLEM



Breast pain is one of the most common complaints in women, especially those of reproductive age. If you are a woman aged 18 or older, have cyclical breast pain, regular menstrual cycles and are not currently using hormonal birth control, you may be interested in a clinical research study.

Kentucky Medical Research Center is conducting a clinical research study for women who experience the uncomfortable symptoms of breast pain.

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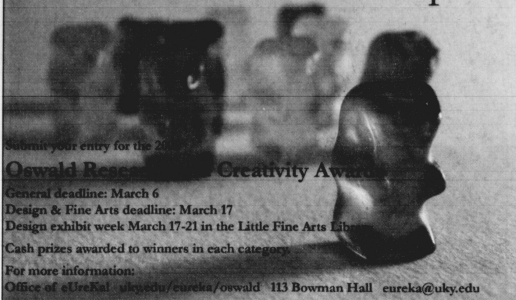
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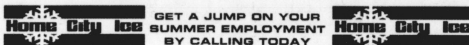
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SPORTS

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Slow-down style of play not Cats' intention

By Travis Waldron
twaldron@kyjournal.com

Twenty thousand orange-clad Tennessee fans stood still. Five blue jerseys stood just as still. One orange ball pounded into the floor, over and over again. All as the big orange numerals above the basket ticked closer to zero.

Countless times, Tennessee fans had gotten their hopes up. Another shot clock violation was coming. And countless times, UK players dashed their hopes with the quietest sound in the gym: the swish.

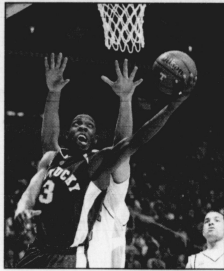
UK ran an imperfect style of basketball to perfection Sunday in Knoxville, stalling for 34 seconds at a time before finally hitting pay dirt. Doing enough — just enough — to hang with the Volunteers for 59 minutes and 57 seconds.

But slowing the game to a crawl wasn't the game plan going in, said head coach Billy Gillispie.

"We haven't set out at any time to say, 'Hey, we're going to hold the ball or we're going to be slow,'" Gillispie said. "We're not going into the game saying we need to keep it in the 50s or 60s or 80s or 90s or whatever. We're going to play the game as it unfolds."

Senior guard Joe Crawford said Tennessee's defense forced UK to slow down, and the Cats worked with what they had.

"They were pressuring us a lot on the wings," Crawford said. "When we saw it



ED MATTHEWS | STAFF
Senior guard Ramel Bradley rises for a reverse layup against a Tennessee defender in UK's 63-60 loss to the Volunteers on Sunday.

was working, we kind of went with it, and we were getting good shots."

Gillispie would like to run more. He favors getting out in transition, using the defense to set up the offense. But so far this season, his team hasn't been able to do that.

The Cats are eighth in the Southeastern Conference in steals, making it hard to create easy baskets on fast breaks.

"We're going to always try to break at

the opportunity," Gillispie said. "This team hasn't created too many turnovers to get our defense going and scoring easy baskets. That's what I'd like to see us get better at."

So instead, the Cats have resorted to doing what they seem to do best: creating opportunities by using every second possible on the offensive end.

"We find ourselves going down in the shot clock a lot," sophomore guard Derrick Jasper said. "But we have talented players like Joe and Ramel (Bradley) that can create their own shots."

Crawford and Bradley have kept the Cats successful in situations that would force many coaches to reach for the antacid.

"They're clutch players," Gillispie said. "They've been great all year. They've made big play after big play. ... Those guys made timely shots so far, and hopefully that continues. They've been everything to us."

"I couldn't be more proud of two guys."

On a team that's seen its bench shortened due to injuries — Bradley, Jasper and sophomore forward Ramon Harris all played 40 minutes at Tennessee — a slow tempo may seem like the only way to keep the Cats in games against deeper teams.

But Gillispie said the Cats just need to keep doing what they do well.

"Our team has played pretty much to their strengths," Gillispie said. "We've maximized our opportunities to get five guys back and play five-on-five."

Favre tells Packers he's retiring; agent points to club's actions

By Tom Silverstein
Milwaukee Journal Sentinel

MILWAUKEE — Quarterback Brett Favre told Green Bay Packers coach Mike McCarthy on Monday night that he was going to retire.

But his agent, James (Bus) Cook, told the Milwaukee Journal Sentinel on Tuesday morning that he believes Favre wants to play another year and didn't get the sense that the Packers wanted him back all that badly.

"It's my opinion," Cook said of the Packers' lack of interest. "I know he wants to play one more year. I do not know much conversation there was (between Favre and the Packers) and I don't think anyone forced him to make that decision. But I don't know that anyone tried to talk him out of it."

Cook said that Favre feels physically and mentally capable of playing at least one more year.

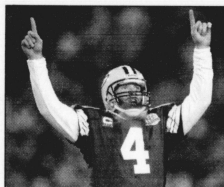
"I think he wanted to play," Cook said. "I think he's still got it. He knows he's still got it. I think he felt he could play one more year. I don't know if they told him they really wanted him to play. That's just the feeling I got."

Cook was asked whether he thought Favre could be talked into returning: "I don't know," he said.

McCarthy said recently that he and general manager Ted Thompson sat down during the bye week of the playoffs and evaluated tape of Favre to determine whether he could still play. McCarthy said that they came to the conclusion that he was still able to play the game at a high level.

During the off-season, there were reports that Thompson had not done much to encourage Favre to return and that Favre's feeling was that the Packers weren't fired up about bringing him back. After reports surfaced of Favre's uneasiness about Thompson's lack of communication, Thompson

told reporters at the combine that he called Favre to talk about the future.



JEFFREY PHELPS | MILWAUKEE JOURNAL SENTINEL
Green Bay Packers quarterback Brett Favre, seen here during the NFC Championship game on Jan. 20, announced this week that he will retire.

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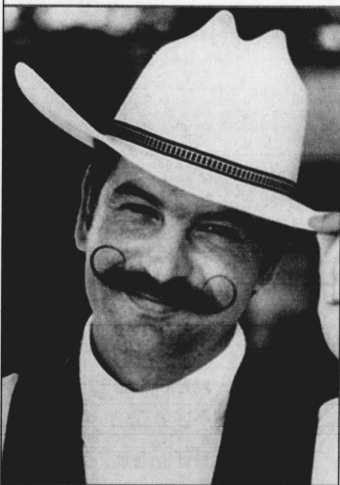
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Carroll's power surge pacing UK's offense

By Matthew George
mgeorge@ukkernel.com

The offensive numbers the UK baseball team has put up this season have been downright impressive. The Cats (9-0) have scored 10 or more runs in every game and are batting .376 as a team.

But the individual power surge showcased by senior right fielder Sawyer Carroll might be the most impressive of all.

Carroll has already belted five home runs through UK's first nine games, two more than the Henryetta, Okla., native hit all of last season. He also leads the team in batting average (.600), slugging percentage (1.333) and RBIs (23).

But Carroll said his approach at the plate is not that much different than it was a season ago, when it took him 29 games to hit his first home run and he finished the 54-game year with just three total long balls.

"It's really not that big of a change," he said. "I'm really just trying to hit more fly balls and not so many line drives. I mean, line drives are good, but you have to pick your spots when you can try and lift the ball."

Carroll led the Southeastern Conference with 23 doubles in 2007 and was selected by the



Senior Sawyer Carroll, senior, high fives his teammates after scoring a run in UK's 15-5 home-opening win against Oakland.

Washington Nationals in the 18th round of the MLB draft. But Carroll turned down a six-figure contract to return for his senior season and one more shot at leading ninth-ranked UK to Omaha, Neb., site of the College World Series.

"When he decided to come back, I told him his swing didn't need to change," head coach John Cohen said. "What needed to change was his body a little bit. He's just dedicated himself to eating the right things and getting bigger and stronger the

right way, and he has."

Extensive weight training in the summer and fall helped Carroll transform the 190-pound frame he brought with him as a junior transfer from Seminole Community College. Cohen said his right fielder now weighs in at 217 pounds, and the added strength is the main reason he's hitting for more power.

Whatever the cause, Carroll's production is already being recognized across the country. Yesterday, he was named the Collegiate Baseball Writers As-

sociation National Player of the Week. The honor came a day after Carroll was named Southeastern Conference Player of the Week and the Collegiate Baseball Newspaper National Player of the Week.

And for good reason. The senior batted .667 to lead UK to a 6-0 week, and notched two doubles, a triple and 17 RBIs. Carroll has also homered in four consecutive games, a feat believed to be the first of its kind in school history.

"He's got as good of hand-eye coordination as anybody I've ever coached," Cohen said.

Carroll has the chance to build upon his long-ball streak in today's 4 p.m. contest against Evansville (0-7) at Cliff Hagan Stadium.

And even if he continues to hit home runs, Carroll said his newfound power has not given him any more confidence at the plate than he had before.

"It doesn't feel any different," he said. "Nah, I'm just trying to knock in runs and win games."

With 15 straight losing seasons, Pirates have become Bad News Bucs

By Jim Salisbury
The Philadelphia Inquirer

BRADENTON, Fla. — Remember last summer and how the Philadelphia Phillies constantly were reminded that they were approaching the ignominious distinction of becoming the first professional sports franchise to reach 10,000 losses?

Now it's the Pittsburgh Pirates' turn to deal with the friendly reminders that they have suffered more than a few losses, especially recently.

The Pirates are riding a streak of 15 consecutive losing seasons. One more and they will tie the major-league record set by, you guessed it, the Phillies from 1933 to 1948.

Last season, as the 10,000th loss approached, members of the Phillies organization, from the front office to the field, did their best to ignore all talk of the ignominious milestone. The loss came July 15 and quickly was forgotten as the team surged down the stretch to win the National League East for the first time in 14 years.

New Pirates president Frank Coonelly wants his team to take a similar approach in dealing with its streak of losing seasons.

"In my first meeting with the team, I told the players they don't own it, it's not their streak," Coonelly said last week. "They are the '08 Pittsburgh Pirates. The streak will be mentioned in newspapers, but they should not feel they are defined by it."

That said, breaking the streak of losing seasons is not necessarily the Pirates' goal

this season.

"We want to build and sustain a championship-caliber team," Coonelly said Friday. "Winning 82 games is not going to make you a championship-caliber team. We're optimistic we can be a winning team this year, but our long-term goals are more important than simply snapping the streak this season."

Coonelly, 47, joined the Pirates late last season after nine years as Major League Baseball's senior vice president and general counsel of labor. From day one, the former high school hockey player has said he intends to change the culture of losing that has grabbed hold of one of baseball's oldest and most storied franchises.

It's a big job, and Coonelly intends to start at the bottom, by focusing on a farm system that was ranked 26th among 30 teams by Baseball America. Coonelly's seriousness about the farm system showed in his first hire. First-year general manager Neal Huntington has an extensive background in scouting and player development after spending a decade in the Cleveland Indians' front office.

"Building and sustaining a championship-caliber team starts with developing a broader and deeper farm system," he said. "There's no question it's not as broad as it needs to be."

Coonelly believes that his club can contend in the NL Central this season. If the Pirates don't, veterans such as outfielder Jason Bay could be dealt for young players who will

help in the rebuilding. Otherwise, the Pirates will be reconstructed through the draft.

That raises a fascinating issue.

During his time in the commissioner's office, Coonelly regularly doled out economic advice to clubs, particularly when it came to player contracts and signing bonuses for drafted players.

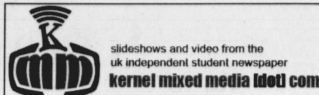
Several years ago, in an effort to curb escalating draft costs, the commissioner's office instituted guidelines for signing bonuses. Each pick in the draft was assigned a value, and teams were encouraged to follow the guidelines, which became known as the slotting system. Coonelly and former MLB executive Sandy Alderson are the founding fathers of the slotting system.

While some teams, such as the Phillies, follow the slotting system religiously, others, such as the Red Sox, Yankees and Tigers, aren't afraid to bust slot if it means signing a premium talent.

It will be interesting to monitor the Pirates' economic approach to the draft under Coonelly. They have the second overall pick in June. Would they bust slot?

"We'll pay attention to the slot, but we'll take the best available player that we believe we have a chance to sign," Coonelly said. "If we think a player's value is over the slot, we'd certainly consider it."

Coonelly was such a star and important cog in the commissioner's office that he occasionally was mentioned as a possible successor to commissioner Bud Selig, when and if he ever retires.



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Requirements:
*Applicant must be enrolled full-time on the UK Lexington campus for the semester prior to and during the term as editor.

*Applicant must be in good academic (minimum 2.0 GPA), disciplinary and financial standing with the University at the time of application and during the term as editor.

*Applicant must have a minimum of one year's publications experience and be familiar with the operation of a daily newspaper.

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Applications may be picked up in Room 026 Journalism Building and must be returned by 3 p.m. on Wednesday, March 12, 2008.

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Students to challenge myths about Africa

By Robin Pircher
news@kynews.com

A campus group wants to give students a more familiar outlook on a mysterious continent — with tales of people who work and spend their free time playing music or talking about fashion.

The African Students Association will be hosting "Dispelling the Myths: The Africa they don't show you" tonight to clarify questions about Africa through a true-or-false game.

"In the media, Africa is portrayed as having issues of war and hunger, but there is so much more that we want to let students know," said Naitore Kiohora, president of the African Students Association.

The event seeks to reverse those common misconceptions and give students a different perspective of Africa, said Kiohora, an integrated strategic communications senior. Students who attend will write out their questions and assumptions about Africa for the ASA members to talk about.

The members will also give a presentation on various aspects of continent, including fashion, music and geography.

Kiohora encouraged students to come, ask questions and learn more to pass along. It is important to gain information about countries outside of the United States and take a peek into other people's heritage, Kiohora said.

The discussion, which anyone is free to participate in, is at 7 p.m. in the Martin Luther King Jr. Cultural Center.

There will be a free raffle for gift cards to local restaurants and CD stores. Charlee Doom, an agricultural economics senior who has been to Africa and plans to attend the event tonight, said she thinks more of her own experiences on the trip rather than the stereotypes about the area.

"When I think of Africa, I think of culture, family and religion," Doom said. "This sounds like a great opportunity for students to be involved and to encourage diversity."

TRUSTEES

Continued from page 1

effectively enforced. "I don't see it happening. There's too many of them (smokers)," said Lisa Durrum, a UK Hospital employee who has smoked for more than 30 years.

Although the ban would prevent secondhand smoke near the hospital, Durrum said, smokers would go somewhere else nearby, like the Speedway on South Limestone Street or the hospital parking garage, to smoke.

Casey Mills, a staff assistant in the general surgery department of UK Hospital, said many employees would go to smoking areas at the Veterans Affairs Hospital down the road, which is federally owned and cannot eliminate its two designated smoking areas.

About 100 people are currently on 10 subcommittees looking at issues including how a smoking ban on hospital grounds will affect research, patients and their

families, smoking cessation, and policy, said Murray Clark, associate vice president for medical center operations.

Clark said UK will look at what other hospitals have done when it makes the switch. "We're taking lessons from them and we think it's doable," Clark said.

Along with a reading on UK's tobacco policy yesterday, the Board of Trustees also approved four candidates for honorary degrees. Former Gov. Paul Patton, former UK basketball coach Tubby Smith, and former UK professor and Faculty Senate parliamentarian Clifford Blyton will receive their degrees May 4. Former Indian President Avul Pakir Jainulabdeen Abdul Kalam will receive his degree during a visit to campus from March 23 to 25.

The Board of Trustees also approved hiring Judy "JJ" Jackson, currently of Vassar College, as vice president for institutional diversity. Jackson has already accepted the position and will begin July 1.

HOTEL

Continued from page 1

a third to bring in more parking. The plan allows for 500 parking spots in a two-level garage below the park, but it also calls for the library parking garage next to the park to be extended.

Nick Sprouse, a talent finder and general manager of the Dame, located on West Main Street, said the possibility of the Dame relocating is not out of the question. "We're open to ideas, but The Dame will not be the same in any other location," he said.

Developer Dudley Webb said he does not think The Dame and the hotel can co-exist on that block.

"That's not to say that The Dame doesn't have a place down here, we want it to be here," Webb said. "We're not anti-bands or anything like that — we want live music."

But Lexington will need some kind of entertainment district to draw people downtown and support the people the complex would bring in, said Harold Tate, president and executive director of the Lexington

Downtown Development Authority. "The only thing we have is on the block we're talking about here," Tate said.

Construction of the proposed building would take about two years and create 2,500 jobs annually. About 900 jobs will be created after CentrePointe is completed, said Darby Turner, an attorney representing the Webb Companies.

Turner said the developers are hoping to fund the project through Tax Increment Financing, a state program that helps cities reclaim deteriorated areas of town by using the tax revenue that will be generated by the new development.

If approved by the Urban County Council and the state, the financing would allow developers to recover between \$80 and \$90 million, Turner said.

Many council members got their first look at the plans for the hotel at yesterday's Urban County Council meeting and said they were impressed by what the plans would do for Lexington.

"It's beautiful," said Councilwoman at Large Linda Gorton. "If I were an out-towner, I'd want to stay here."

Turner said an aggressive schedule could have the hotel finished in time for the World Equestrian Games in 2010, which had some council members worried.

Dick DeCamp, the 3rd district councilman, said he thinks the plan for CentrePointe is hasty and on too large of a scale for downtown Lexington.

"We need to take our time so we leave something 30 or 40 years from now, not just for 2010," DeCamp said.

"This is a huge project for the city and what we do is going to determine, I think, a lot of the future of Lexington," he said.

If the project proceeds as planned, developers of CentrePointe hope to have a public hearing in April. Tate said the city and developers would consider any suggestions or concerns at that time before the plan moves back to the council for approval.

"Since the Woolworth building was torn down ... there has been a gaping hole in our downtown."

JIM NEWBERRY
Lexington mayor

DORMS

Continued from page 1

"That's how friendly Boyd was. It was really a community."

Even at times when the building's age was a factor, the sense of community made mishaps bearable, she said. Oldiges and her roommate had to move in with another student for a period of time because part of the ceiling in their room collapsed.

"The best part is, rumor has it that the ceiling collapsed after one of the boys upstairs did a cannonball off his top bunk," she said in the message. "But I can neither confirm nor deny that story."

UK graduates agree that Boyd and Jewell brought residents together. "Boyd Hall had a pretty eclectic group of people," said John Vice, who lived in Boyd Hall during the mid-1990s. "We shared the same tastes. We would stay up all night discussing philosophy and playing cards."

But Vice also said that the condition of the dorms could be improved. He said many nights during August and September were spent in the lobby, because it was the only part of the building with air conditioning.

As long as there were rooms to replace the ones being closed, Vice said it would be possible to create that atmosphere in better conditions.

Many students still think the buildings should be used for sentimental reasons: The group "Save Boyd Hall" on Facebook currently has almost 200 members who share memories about what made Boyd Hall an important part of their UK experience.

Once written off, McCain caps comeback with GOP nomination

By Matt Stearns
McClatchy Newspapers

DALLAS — Eight years after his first bid for the White House ended in a painful defeat and nine months after his second appeared to have sputtered to an embarrassing end, John McCain capped a spectacular political comeback yesterday with a four-state sweep that clinched the Republican presidential nomination.

Victories in the Texas, Ohio, Rhode Island and Vermont primaries put McCain, the presumptive nominee for weeks, officially over the top in the number of delegates needed to win the nomination. His one remaining significant opponent, former Arkansas Gov. Mike Huckabee, dropped out and said he'd do "whatever he can" to help the Arizona senator.

McCain now turns his focus to unifying and inspiring his party, raising money and honing a general-election campaign theme. He has the luxury of doing all that as the Democrats continue their lengthy tussle for a nominee.

"Now we begin the most important part of our campaign: to make a respectful, determined and convincing case to the American people that our campaign and my election as president, given the alternatives presented by our friends in the other party, are in the best interests of the country we love," McCain said.

McCain is to fly to Washington today, where he'll have lunch with President Bush in the White House. Afterward, they'll make a joint appearance in the Rose Garden, where McCain will receive the endorsement of the man who vanquished him eight years ago in a bitter race.

At McCain's election-night party in a hotel ballroom here, a poster was unveiled with the number "1,191," the number of delegates needed for the nomination and a signal that, at long last, it was McCain's night.

"I want to thank all of you here, and all the Republicans, independents and independent-thinking Democrats in all parts of this great country who supported our campaign for the nomination and have brought us across the finish line first — an accomplishment that once seemed to more than a few doubters unlikely," McCain told a ballroom of screaming supporters, a grin flashing on his face.

It was supposed to be a lot easier: McCain began his 2008 campaign as the GOP front-runner. But his campaign fell apart last summer amid unrealistic fundraising expectations that were never met, a clash with his party's base on immigration changes and an unpopular war in Iraq that McCain never wavered from supporting, even when it wasn't clear whether the controversial troop surge that McCain championed would succeed.

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■ KERNEL EDITORIAL

Want to get smokers away from doorways? Move the ashtrays

Smokers have learned to follow a simple rule for lighting up: Take it outside. It's a basic practice that goes a long way toward keeping secondhand smoke away from nonsmokers.

UK wants more, though. The official campus policy prohibits smoking within 20 feet of doorways, windows and air intakes.

At least, that's the on-paper version of the policy, which was adopted in 2006. In practice, few people know about the rule, and the ones that do are free to flaunt it because of lax enforcement.

If UK is serious about keeping smokers far away from the buildings that they frequent, then it first needs to relocate some ashtrays.

Currently, smokers are getting conflicting signals: The rules say they should stay a full 20 feet away from practically all buildings, but the receptacles for cigarette butts are often only a few steps from doorways and other off-limit areas.

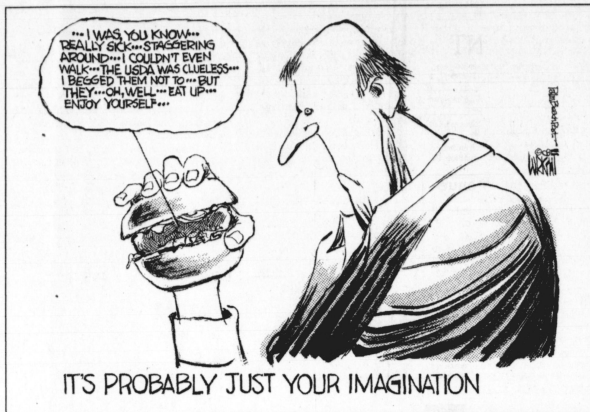
Placing an ashtray near a building is basically no different than hanging signs stating "Smoke Here." Moving all of the campus cigarette receptacles to at least 20 feet away from all doors and windows would eliminate most of the university's enforcement woes.

But before administrators set out across campus with tape measures and dollies, they should reconsider whether the current policy is reasonable or even necessary.

With many buildings in close proximity, finding a spot at least 20 feet from all doors and windows could be difficult. And the policy could easily backfire if that spot were someplace like a high-traffic sidewalk or an outdoor common area.

A better policy would be one already adopted by the majority of smokers: Be courteous. As long as smokers aren't clogging doorways, congregating by open windows or blowing smoke at passers-by, then there's no need to push them farther and farther away. With even the slightest wind, it's questionable whether the secondhand smoke of a few cigarettes will be any more dangerous than the exhaust from the thousands of cars that drive down South Limestone Street each day.

People who smoke on UK's campus also happen to be students, faculty and staff. Instead of dreaming up new ways to push them away, university officials should realize that smokers and nonsmokers can easily coexist outdoors.



DON WRIGHT, The Palm Beach Post

Yes, Republicans like McCain, and so will the general public

I hear many Democrats talk about how they are excited about their candidates this year because they can finally vote for someone instead of against someone. This declaration is usually followed by some misguided perception that Republicans are not all that thrilled with John McCain.



THOMAS ROBERTS
Contributing columnist

There is no question that McCain was not among the so-called frontrunners that the media created in January 2007. In fact, most people on both ends of the political spectrum assumed his campaign was dead as late as last summer. However, he got popular at just the right time.

Looking at the Democrats just six months ago, Hillary Clinton was the unquestioned nominee. Now she is barely hanging in the race.

Nobody knew or cared about Barack Obama in January 2007. He was just another face in the crowd at the Democratic debates. Now, though, everyone is jumping on board the Empty Speech Express. Why? Because he got popular at the right time.

While some may say he glad you're not a Republican this year, De-

pendents thanks in large part to his uplifting speeches, which are void of any details, McCain has proven his ability to win independents as well. As he has said in many of his victory speeches, he will always put his nation before his party. I don't see anything wrong with that.

More importantly than his speeches or ability to win independents, McCain has a proven record. He has a record of fighting for lower government spending, specifically targeting congressional earmarks. He has a record of supporting lower taxes, a strong national defense and the rights of the unborn. All of these are tenets of conservative Republican beliefs.

The idea that Republicans are not going to support John McCain is ludicrous. He has a great range of support, including former President George H. W. Bush, evangelical Christian conservative Sen. Sam Brownback, moderate conservative Gov. Charlie Crist and a host of other Republican leaders.

When you make the comparison between McCain and either of the Democrats left standing, the choice is clear. When you look at McCain's record, he has consistently fought for Republican principles. Make no doubt about it: Republicans will choose McCain over Obama or Clinton any day.

Thomas Roberts is the chairman of UK College Republicans. E-mail opinions@kykernel.com.

When the people speak, conventional wisdom falters

The following editorial appeared in the Detroit Free Press on Sunday.

This has not been a good year for "conventional wisdom" in politics. That's what happens when people get involved. They triumph over pundits every time.

By now, the country was supposed to be heading toward November with Mitt Romney or maybe Fred Thompson, acceptable choices for the Republican "establishment," carrying the GOP presidential banner against U.S. Sen. Hillary Clinton, who had the most formidable money-raising machine on the Democratic side (and a husband who was very helpful at that sort of thing).

No Republican candidate could win the nomination without appeasing the party's right-wing base, the experts said. No Democratic hopeful, the experts said, could knock the Clinton campaign apparatus.

And all of this was to be etched in stone as the 24 primaries and caucuses on Feb. 5, "Super Duper Tuesday." Instead, we have Arizona Sen. John McCain, at 71, taking the Republican

nomination thanks to hordes of independent voters who like his "straight talk" joining GOP pragmatists who realize he is the best chance for the party to win in November.

U.S. Sen. Barack Obama of Illinois, meantime, has forced Clinton into playing catch-up. Obama's message of hope and unity has captivated millions of voters, especially young people, who are tired of the nation's political and ideological battles. Obama, who is black, is also winning majorities of white voters, undercutting the "conventional wisdom" that minority candidates do better in opinion polls than in elections.

Primaries, especially on the Democratic side, have drawn impressive turnouts. A campaign that was supposed to alienate people has actually engaged them. The political establishments have been knocked for a loop by ordinary people getting involved — and giving money.

Whatever the outcome — and this election is far from settled — it has been a surprisingly healthy year for democracy.

■ LETTER TO THE EDITOR

Sexual 'freedom' isn't so liberating

Carrie Bass' recent editorial could have been written in 1967. The problem, of course, is that the '60s and the Sexual Revolution aren't past history. We can't be the "first generation to push positive sexuality out into the open," because our parents already did that. The stodgy, repressed squares of legend are not our parents, but our grandparents. Of course, the Sexual Revolution didn't create the utopia of happy, healthy, shameless, swinging sex it sought. It left a legacy of sexually transmitted diseases, fatherless children and unstable homes. But rather than admit that the Summer of Love failed to deliver as promised, Carrie believes that the vision still can be realized — it just needs the right cocktail of pharmaceuticals, prophyliactics and abortion machinery to work.

Let's pause for a moment and consider the fact that in any other sphere of life, an activity that requires constant chemical and mechanical intervention is the very definition of "unhealthy." If my diet requires frequent angioplasty and heavy medication in order to keep me alive, I'm not realizing my culinary needs in a healthy way. Nor do I really need better pharmaceuticals or more efficient access to surgery. I simply need to change my diet. In a similar manner, we don't consider chemical suppression and mechanical augmentation to be a "healthy" ideal for any of our other bodily systems. Healthy activity doesn't require blinding my endocrine or lymphatic systems with chemicals or mechanical augmentation, so why should my reproductive system need this? If we treated sexuality like we treated the rest of health, we'd realize that healthy sexuality shouldn't require frequent surgery and medication.

The problem is that the enemy of sexual liberties is not the backward Victorian mores of the World War II generation. It is human nature itself. Healthy, humanizing sexuality embraces the natural reproductive, vulnerable character of sex, instead of chemically suppressing and mechanically eliminating its natural fulfillment. An ideal which continually suppresses essential realities of human nature through pharmaceuticals and machinery is fundamentally dehumanizing. Rather than liberating our nature, the ideal of mechanized technique represses it. In my opinion, monogamy and procreation are more liberating.

Joshua Strodebeck
Mechanical engineering graduate student

Submissions

Send a guest column or letter to the editor to Opinions Editor Linsen Li. Be sure to include your full name, class, major and phone number (for confirmation).

E-mail opinions@kykernel.com

In covering politicians' hypocrisies, journalists should give sex a rest

The flap over the big New York Times story about Sen. John McCain's ties to lobbyists centers, understandably, on its most sensational allegation: That his dealings eight years ago with an attractive young woman, a lobbyist with blue-chip clients, were so frequent and so cordial — at a time when his 2000 presidential campaign was revving up — that aides got worried and warned him that people might suspect romance.



EDWARD WASSERMAN
Syndicated columnist

The Times has taken a lot of heat for reporting this. McCain and the lobbyist both deny ever having an affair, and the article offered nothing to suggest the aides had good reason for grinding their teeth — no evidence of weekends in Bimini, room-service breakfasts for two, amorous glances or even warm handshakes.

So the grounds for even raising the possibility of a romance were mushy. But my concern is not with whether McCain had an affair, it's to what degree that matters — and whether the press is right to regard the private, discreet, consensual sex of public officials as newsworthy.

Let's be clear that if this were simply an allegation that as chair of one of the Senate's most powerful committees McCain showed favoritism toward the clients of a per-

sonal friend, it would not have stirred up such a fuss. What gives this tale its propellant isn't the suggestion of official misconduct, but of private sex. And I'm questioning whether — even if true — that's legitimate grist for the media mill.

Sure, everybody — even presidential candidates — ought to conform to basic norms of moral behavior. But when they don't, when is it our business? If somebody who holds a position of public trust behaves like a swine in his or her personal life, do the rest of us have a right to know about it — and by extension, do we have a right to demand that the press, as our surrogates, ferret out that news and bring it to us?

For many years the press was silent about the closeted improprieties of the powerful, and the roster of presidential mistresses was closely held, if you'll forgive the expression. No longer. Nowadays, journalists subscribe to the notion of "character."

"Character" imagines some seamless continuity between inner self and outer behavior, between the most private and the most public. It implies that sordid details about a public official's private life that would otherwise be none of our business because our business because they reveal habits of mind and predispositions that will help shape public performance.

There is some truth to that, but how much isn't clear. After all, statesmen of vision and compassion may be horrors back home — tyrannical, sullen, abusive. Consider Lincoln's melancholia, Churchill's drinking,

Roosevelt's mistress, Kennedy's women.

Obviously it's almost irresistible to want to expose public figures who are crude, deceitful or explosive in their personal relations while treating the rest of us to sanctimonious blather about values.

But don't even jerks have privacy rights? Do you really want reporters assigned to a private relations beat, or interviewing dozens of people about whether some legislator made a pass at them or had gay trysts?

Besides, the hypocrisy really need to know about doesn't require such intrusions; it's about the inconsistencies between public word and public deed: The politician who extols family values and slashes day-care funding, who professes concern for soldiers and blocks an inquiry into shabby medical care for veterans, who cuts backroom deals that sell out policy pronouncements. Or a war hero who's running for president as a maverick, who claims to resist the blandishments of lobbyists, but who accepts perks from rich guys and intervenes with regulators to appease his benefactors.

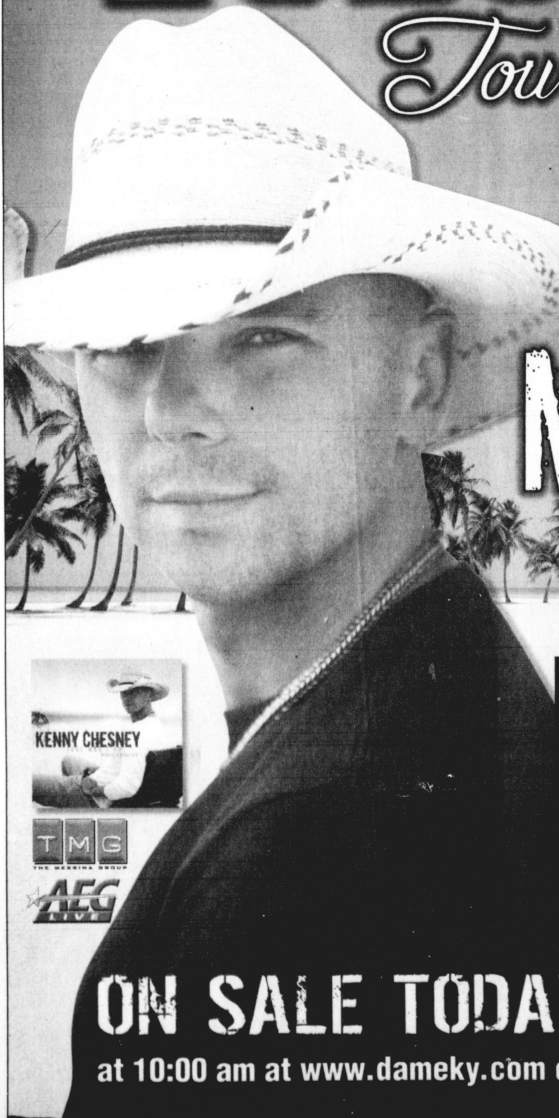
Nobody needs evidence — let alone mere suspicions — of some after-hours roll in the hay to understand whether such conduct is problematic. Let journalism get back to its proper focus, public immorality, and give sex a rest.

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