

Copy 2

THE Kentucky Kernel

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'We are serious about this'



UK president Lee Todd talks about the university's Top 20 Business Plan during its unveiling yesterday in the Worsham Theater. The chart behind him depicts how much more money UK will need from the state each year in order to reach top-20 status by 2020.

President Todd presents his Top 20 Business Plan outlining the costs and criteria for UK's goal of top-20 status

By Megan Boehnke
THE KENTUCKY KERNEL

President Lee Todd presented his Top 20 Business Plan yesterday, which defines for the first time how much it will cost the university and Kentucky to reach the state-mandated goal of becoming a top-20 university.

The plan, which Todd revealed to 130 students, faculty and staff in a forum in the student center, includes criteria for measuring where UK currently stands among 88 public research institutions —

35th — and determines the costs of cracking the top 20 by 2020, as mandated by Kentucky House Bill 1 in 1997.

"I would hope that this plan adds a reality to our top-20 push, that we are serious about this," Todd said.

The first phase in the plan is to halt enrollment until 2006, while at the same time adding 27 faculty members each year over the next three years. After several years of growing freshman classes, Todd wants to decrease the student-faculty ratio and get it "back on track," he

said. This means that the university will need to invest more money into the plan early, inevitably increasing tuition costs. "While the cost will go up, the goal is to increase the value of your diploma from this research institution," Todd said.

If the university receives the annual increases from the state legislature that it hopes to, students' tuition will increase by 9 percent each year until 2012 and 4 percent each of the following eight years.

"(The plan) differentiates us and tells them (legislature) that we are serious about this," Todd said. "I know if we don't ask, we won't get it."

See Plan on page 2

Provost finalist visits campus

By Sean Rose
THE KENTUCKY KERNEL

About 10 years ago, Terry S. King was on UK's campus for a scientific meeting as the head of an engineering department. This time, he wants to stay.

King is the dean of the college of engineering at Kansas State University and one of two finalists for the job of UK provost. He will speak at a public forum from 8:30 to 4:30 this afternoon in the Center Theater in the Student Center giving background on himself, his vision for UK and taking questions from the audience.

UK's former provost, Mike Nietzel, left last spring to become president of Southwestern Missouri State University.

Though King is applying for one of the chief administrative roles at UK, he said the administrators should not lose touch with what goes on in the classroom.

"It's important for the administrators to see that happening, to participate in it and understand it," King said in a phone interview Friday. "The ability to interact with students becomes so important."

King spent seven years as the head of the engineering department at Iowa State University and has been at Kansas State for the past eight and a half years.

King said he sees UK's key issue right now is its push to become a top-20 public university.

"It's my view that it's the overriding, dominating issue over time," King said. "That is a major undertaking."

"It's absolutely imperative that a provost make sure the academic side is running smoothly."

He said if he were to be hired, his role in the UK's efforts to become a top-20 college was to manage resources and provide leadership concentrating on certain issues.

"It's a matter of marshalling resources and creating an environment where that can happen," King said. "I feel it's very important to develop a limited number of priority areas and put the resources behind those priority areas so we can accomplish them."

See Visit on page 2

Plan draws praise, questions

By Dariush Shafa
THE KENTUCKY KERNEL

Students, staff, faculty and administrators got their first look at the Top 20 Business Plan, the university's first model of how to meet the state-mandated goal of making UK a top public research university.

In a presentation yesterday morning in the Student Center's Worsham Theatre, Todd lined out the university's overall plan of action and how much money will be required for UK to meet the goal set out by the state legislature in House Bill 1 of 1997.

"I squeezed this (forum) in because I felt it was important," said public service and leadership senior Miguel Carlin.

Some students thought the plan was clear in stating the university's goals.

"As a student, the Top 20 Business Plan provides a straightforward and transparent plan that's going to help the state of Kentucky and what is next for UK," said Ryan Quarles, a diplomacy and agricultural economics graduate student and the student representative to the Kentucky Council on Postsecondary Education. "I think it was realistic, particularly when it came to numerical data."

Quarles said he is especially positive because the university has put forth a plan of action.

"I'm positive because as a student here for four years now, there's been a

"I'm positive because as a student... there has been a lot of discussion about top-20 but nobody really knows what top-20 was"

Ryan Quarles
diplomacy and agricultural economics graduate

See Reaction on page 2

Composite Score: How UK measures up

35

UK's rank among 88 public research institutions

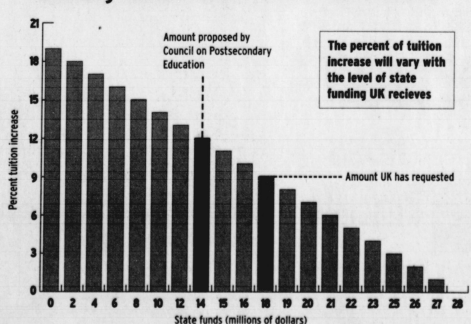
The nine aspects of composite score

Undergraduate	Faculty recognition
ACT/SAT Scores	Citations
Student/Faculty Ratio	Awards
Six-year Graduation Rate	
Graduate Education	Research
Doractores Granted	Federal Expenditures
Postdoctoral Appointments	Non-Federal Expenditures

Growth Targets: How UK gets there

	2004	2020	Increase
Undergraduate	18,492	24,962	6,200
Graduates, First Professional	7,252	8,002	750
Postgraduate Appointments	295	670	375
Total Students	26,039	33,364	7,325
Faulty	1,920	2,545	625
Research Expenditures	\$298million	\$768 million	\$470 million

Charting Tuition: What it could cost students



The percent of tuition increase will vary with the level of state funding UK receives

GRAPHIC BY KEITH SHIMLEY | STAFF

Mayoral candidates offer visions for downtown

By Shannon Mason
THE KENTUCKY KERNEL

Two out of the four candidates for Lexington's 2006 mayoral race presented their visions for downtown Lexington last night at the Downtown Lexington Corporation's annual meeting.

At the meeting, which was the first public forum for the candidates, Jim Newberry, a partner at the law firm of Wyatt, Tarrant and Combs, and Bill Farmer Jr., urban county fifth district councilman, revealed their plans for downtown in 5-minute presentations.

Incumbent Mayor Teresa Isaac and Charles Martin are also candidates in the 2006 mayoral election, but were not present at the DLC meeting. DLC officials said Isaac had been called out of town and only said that Martin had been invited.

Newberry opened his presentation by stating his feelings toward downtown.

"I don't like downtown," Newberry said. "I love downtown."

Newberry said he looked for the area from Transylvania University to UK to be the academic center for the region and looked for downtown Lexington to be the arts and cultural center of the region.

"I'm a big believer in downtown Lexington," Newberry said.

Newberry said he was a strong supporter of the College Town Plan. He said the College Town Plan focuses on the area from Euclid Avenue to High Street and from Upper Street to Rose Street.

In this plan, Newberry said Limestone Street

See Mayor on page 2

Newsroom: 257-1915

Plan

Continued from page 1

If the legislature approves the budget proposed by the Council for Postsecondary Education during the upcoming session, UK will receive \$13.7 million — leaving the university to lobby for only \$4 million more. Should UK not receive the funding it needs, it could mean a steeper tuition increase, Todd said. "It's a living plan," he said. "We will look at it every two years and see how we are doing from the previous year."

By 2020, UK hopes the plan will help it achieve five growth targets:

- Increasing enrollment by 7,000 — to 34,000
- Increasing the graduation rate by 12 percentage points — to 72 percent
- Increasing the number

of faculty by 625 — to over 2,500

Increasing research expenditures by \$470 million — to \$768 million

Increasing engagement in Kentucky's schools, farms, businesses and communities

"It's important to lay out how we are measuring ourselves," Todd said. "There was a 'Top 20' out there but nobody knew what that was. We have a path and a definition that will allow us to have more concrete conversations about this."

The plan, which the Board of Trustees will vote on one week from today, calls for UK to contribute 40 percent of the overall cost over the next 14 years, with tuition and state funds making up the rest.

"We know that Kentucky is not a wealthy state," Todd said. "In order to achieve this, we have to pick up some of this ourselves."

"We're putting a stake in the ground and consolidating that conversation around the plan."

Lee Todd
UK President
on the Top 20 Business Plan

UK hopes to increase fundraising and replace \$21 million from the university's general fund expenditures with endowments — especially scholarships. The Singletary, Wethington and Governor's Scholars/Governors School for the Arts scholarships all come out of the school's general fund.

Also, the university plans to reallocate funding already in the budget by having "fewer people paid more," Todd said.

Through it would mean some job cuts, the first goal of the university will be to

place employees into other vacancies in the university. At the same time, Todd also wants to work toward increasing the salaries of faculty by 5 percent.

Even though funding may be tight in the state, Todd said he is hopeful that the legislature will support the business plan and deliver the additional funding. By improving UK's status, Todd believes Kentucky benefits as a whole.

"If we cannot invest in this institution, we'll always be a low-income state," he said. "I think it is a reasonable price tag for the value we are investing in."

If nothing else, Todd believes the overall business plan focuses the discussion about UK's top-20 drive. "We're putting stake in the ground and consolidating that conversation around the plan," he said.

E-mail
mboehnke@kykernel.com

Reaction

Continued from page 1

lot of discussion about top-20 but nobody really knew what top-20 was," Quarles said. "This plan provides the framework."

In the plan, Todd projected a 9 percent tuition increase every year until 2012 and a 4 percent increase every year after that until 2020.

"Planning to have a tuition increase every single year is always a hindrance for students but planning for it makes it harder," said Student Government President Becky Ellingsworth. "Students may have to get a second job or transfer to a school that costs less."

Other students felt the plan needed to be clearer.

"I think you're going to need to boil it down," Carlin said. "Then students will understand it and be more apt to respond to it. They may not like it, but they'll at least understand where the administration is coming from when they say they want to be a top-20 institution."

Some members of UK's staff said they are underrepresented by the plan. Staff Senate Chairman Kyle Dippery said members of the staff were concerned about the role they would play in the plan.

"A lot of the staff is concerned that we don't show up in the plan," Dippery said. "We don't want to be overlooked."

Despite that, Dippery was pleased with the presentation overall.

"I think it was pretty good," he said. "I think he

(Todd) has done a good job of laying out what we mean by top-20 and how much it's going to cost."

Dippery also said despite any ambiguity concerning the staff's role in the plan, they will support it.

"I think what we'll find is the staff is committed to doing as much as we can to make this work," Dippery said.

Ashley Hayden, vice president of the Student Activities Board, said she was concerned about the school's recent diversity issues and how they fit into the plan.

"He didn't speak much on diversity, but I'm curious as to how they're going to reach black alum who typically don't give the same percentage as white alum," she said.

She agreed, however, with Todd's commitment to recruiting more African American students, but keeping the quality of students high. Sukei Bhavsar, a professor in the physics and astronomy department and director of the Honors Program, voiced a question about how the university plans to handle the issue of quality.

"These are all valid measures," Bhavsar said of the planned moves. Todd spoke about "B" grades, but all quantifiable. It's much easier to measure quantitative measures.

"All of these things need to be done in our progress,"

Carlin said one of the advantages was the flexibility available in the plan, which will be voted on by the Board of Trustees next Tuesday.

"This isn't a solid document," Carlin said. "This isn't set in stone and it's up for discussion and dialogue with students, faculty and staff."

E-mail
dshafa@kykernel.com

Quality of life: What a top-20 university means			
Quality of life measures	U.S. Average	Average in states with top-20 university	Ky. Average
Population with bachelor's degree or higher (2000)	27.2 percent	28.4 percent	19 percent
Median Household Income (2003-2004)	\$44,436	\$46,856	\$36,786
Population below poverty line (2003-2004)	12.6 percent	11.7 percent	16 percent
Percent of population on Medicaid (2001)	17 percent	14.7 percent	19 percent

Visit

Continued from page 1

King said one of his priority areas at Kansas State was increasing the diversity of the engineering faculty. To accomplish this he rebated 30 percent of the salaries of any woman or minority that was hired. This money had to be taken from another part of the budget, he said.

"That's where the leadership has to come in," King said. Associate Provost of Undergraduate Education Philipp Kraemer said the position of provost is "critical" to UK's mission.

Before President Lee Todd introduced the provost system in 2001, Kraemer said UK had "in a sense, two campuses in one." There was a vice chancellor of the medical center and a vice chancellor of the rest of the academic programs. "Under the current system

the provost is the head of all academics and works closely with Todd.

"A provost model is the proper academic framework to really foster the kind of collaboration and correlation of university activities across our entire campus," Kraemer said. "We just gained the strength of the whole."

When King was asked if he thought he could provide the leadership necessary for the office he replied simply, "Sure do," King said.

He said the office helps facilitate UK's goals.

"One has to find ways to make it possible for the university vision to be implemented by individual faculty members and students," King said.

King said he was drawn to UK because it was a land-grant university and he understood the mission of such a school was to educate the state's children.

"I'm totally in tune with the philosophy and approach of land-grant universities," King said. He was also attracted to the size of UK and its variety of programs.

The other finalist, Kumble Subhaswamy, the dean of arts and sciences at Indiana University, will be at UK for his forum Monday. All students, faculty and staff are encouraged to attend both forums. Evaluation forms for the candidates are available at www.uky.edu/Provost/search.html.

King said he was looking forward to having a dialogue with those at the forum and that he was pleased with the search process.

"My goal has always been to make whatever unit I'm apart of get better," King said. "I take real pleasure in helping people make teams to move the institution forward."

E-mail
srose@kykernel.com

FYI

Meet King from 3:30 to 4:30 today in the Center Theater of the Student Center. Evaluation forms for the candidates are available at www.uky.edu/Provost/search.html.

Mayor

Continued from page 1

would be a commercial area and Martin Luther King Jr. Boulevard would be a residential area.

Newberry also said he hoped to increase transportation from the two college campuses to downtown. "Eventually, I would like to see a shuttle service or trolleys set up to help link Transylvania, downtown and UK," Newberry said.

Farmer began by addressing the current state of downtown Lexington.

"Downtown changes daily," Farmer said, adding that the downtown area is more vibrant now than it has been in many years.

Farmer reflected on the fact that Rupp Arena will be 30 years old and said he can imagine when a new arena will need to be built.

"There is opportunity for development in downtown Lexington," Farmer said.

Farmer said UK has a valuable relationship to the city.

"UK is probably the most important partner this city has," Farmer said, adding that it is important to keep UK's graduates in Lexington.

"Having those people stay here and create new businesses is important," he said.

Farmer said that when the Lexington-Fayette Urban County Government voted to close Rose Street in order for UK HealthCare to expand, a great partnership was developed.

Farmer also said that the employees at the hospital would be important to downtown Lexington as well.

The mayoral primary is May 16.


E-mail
smason@kykernel.com

CORRECTION

In Friday's story "New parking structure to be ready for spring semester," The Kernel listed the incorrect cost of the two parking garages currently under construction. Parking Structure 7, near the Johnson center, and Parking Structure 6, on Virginia Avenue, together cost \$22 million to build. The Kernel also gave the wrong number of parking spaces to be added to South Campus in the same article. Seventeen new spaces will be added.


To report an error, please call The Kernel newsroom at 257-1915 or e-mail asichko@kykernel.com

Take a break from all the stress and relax with The Kernel's Finals Guide and Kernel Kickback next week.



FREE EVENTS AT YOUR **STUDENT CENTER**

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JUMBLE

Unscramble these four jumbles, one letter to each square, to form four ordinary words.

DRUGO

LURTY

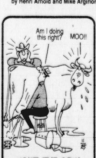
DIELEY

ACTUFE

Answer: _____


Yesterday's Jumbles: ALBUM, OBESSE, GRASLY, MAGOPE
Answer: Usually found at Thanksgiving dinner — A "POBBLER"

THAT SCRAMBLED WORD GAME
by Henri Ancelet and Mike Appligan




WHAT THE COW EXPERIENCED WHEN THE NOVICE TRIED TO MILK HER.

Answer: _____



COMEDY CARAVAN

WEDNESDAY DECEMBER 7TH 8:00 PM



Ross Duncliffe

LAUGH YOUR STRESS AWAY

TEACHER RECRUITMENT FAIR

Teachers and Student Teachers are invited to attend the Ohio Valley Educational Cooperative (OVEC) Teacher Recruitment Fair on Monday, December 12, 2005 from 1:00 p.m. to 4:00 p.m. Recruiting representatives from the following OVEC school districts will be on hand to interview for possible openings: Anchorage Independent, Bullitt, Carroll, Eminence Independent, Franklin, Gallatin, Grant, Henry, Oldham, Owen, Shelby, Spencer, Trimble, and West Point Independent. Candidates are encouraged to bring a resume and/or portfolio. The Fair will be held at the OVEC Office, 100 Alpine Drive in the Hi-Point Business Center just off KY 10, just 3 miles north of I-64 (Exit 33) at Shelbyville, KY. For more information call (502) 947-3535 ext. 202 or visit the website: www.ovec.org

AA

Student Chef | More than Ramen

Holiday parties bring back childhood nostalgia

When I was about six years old my stay-at-home mother, who was known for her elaborate cooking and party planning, established an annual "Gingerbread Party" for my sister, my friends and myself.



Elizabeth Troutman
KERNEL FOOD COLUMNIST

This early tradition, in which the four of us spent countless hours after school molding and pasting slabs of gingerbread to plates covered in tissue paper, was hard work. We made the gingerbread from scratch, the icing paste from scratch and put together the naked gingerbread houses, which included a paste-on fireplace for the roofs and two little gingerbread people, for our friends to come and decorate.

We wrote out our invitations to our friends in green and red markers. We built more than 40 houses, about eight inches high and six inches wide, every year. We started our work the first week in December and held the party the week before Christmas, nibbling pieces of warm gingerbread along the way.

The three of us, with the direction of my mother, mixed melted white chocolate with peppermint pieces and dried the pieces on wax paper. Then we broke the thick slabs of candy into pieces for our guests.

We rolled powdered sugar with peanut butter and dipped the little balls in melted chocolate to make buckeye candies. We

mixed our family recipe for the fluffiest, sweetest rum cake in our mother's kitchen mixer and watched the glorious cakes rise in the oven while Mom simmered the homemade icing.

These parties were always a success. Three little girls and their friends stuffed their bellies and gingerbread houses with candies through a Saturday afternoon. There was spiced tea and hot chocolate. My mother taught us how to achieve holiday celebration through planning and patience.

The season brings a nostalgic delight back to college students who are yearning for the relief of family togetherness. But the holidays, no matter what you celebrate, also mean warm and familiar home-cooked recipes and flavors that are revived in the winter.

Holiday party planning requires an awareness and love for flavors of the holidays. It is the one time of the year that it is acceptable to go overboard with planning to achieve a successful party or gathering. Consider the potential of holiday parties: They bring friends, co-workers, couples and families together. For students, they are a refreshing alternative to packed house parties or spending cash at the bar.

The first essential item for holiday planning is proper decoration. As for any seasonal party or event, there is a certain tone that must be before the arrangements. Arranging wreaths, lighting on patios, holiday candles and Christmas trees are often a fun way for roommates to join together. It is important to remember that a clean house is essential for a holiday gathering, and it is usually

comforting to have a clean house before the decorations are even put up.

No holiday party is complete or even desirable for guests without a proper invitation. If you think this idea is cheesy or over-the-top, think about the pleasure of receiving a Christmas card, but with a proposal. An invitation hints that the party is exclusive. The invitation also adds a personal touch to your effort by letting guests know their attendance is important to you.

A third component to successful holiday parties is a proper drink. Egg Nog, although not always popular, is a traditional and impressive ingredient to a formal party. My mother always made hot chocolate and spiced tea for holiday parties, which are both very simple and tasteful beverages that add warmth to the party. I suggest serious planners avoid instant hot chocolate mixes. A great recipe for hot chocolate is on the back of the Hershey's Cocoa can. To spice up your hot chocolate, add Peppermint Schnapps and a peppermint stick.

Finally, food is probably the most important part of a successful holiday party. When free food is involved, most student guests are lured by consumption alone. Simple recipes for holiday candies are quick, inexpensive, delicious and preserve well.

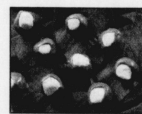
Bourbon balls and buckeyes (named for their resemblance to the nut) are easy favorites that can be chilled and kept for parties. The process of constructing a buckeye is fun and simple, but can be messy. It requires simple, inexpensive ingredients and dodges complicated molding and forming. Wax paper, tooth picks and two-mixing bowls are

Recipe: Buckeye Candies

- 1 cup of peanut butter
- 2 sticks of butter
- 1 pound of powdered sugar
- 16-ounce package semi-sweet chocolate morsels
- Paraffin

Cream the first three ingredients together and roll into one-inch thick balls. Melt the chocolate and paraffin in a saucepan on low heat. DO NOT BOIL. Use toothpicks to dip the balls into the chocolate. Set on wax paper at room temperature until dry.

Note: Paraffin is available in the baking aisle of most grocery stores. The product is packaged in cakes and is necessary for the chocolate to stick securely to the balls.



necessary. Try this recipe at home with friends or roommates for a fun part of party planning, or just an excuse to indulge in a holiday favorite.

E-mail
etrouman@kykernel.com

'The Hurting Part' brings family togetherness to the main stage

By Melissa Smith Mallory
KERNEL THEATER CRITIC

For much of the American population, the holidays often become a nightmare. With so many people in the same room who have known each other for years, drama is inevitable. There are always about 300 small children running around the house and it's so loud you can't escape the noise, even by stepping out of the house.

But, it's family, people you love and who love you, whether they want to or not.

In UK's newest play "The Hurting Part," two couples are torn from their families in Eastern Kentucky to find better jobs in Dayton, Ohio. These couples are trying to deal with being away from home around the holidays, as well as facing painful reminders of what happened in the past, before they left the mountains.

The breathtaking set makes entering the Guignol a lovely experience. With panels of scrim lit beautifully throughout the play, a raised platform with a porch roof for the bluegrass band, and a kitchen area for the main action of the play, the dichotomy between what these people have and what they want to return to is so easily visible.

The story begins by establishing why these four people aren't home for Christmas and just how painful that is for each of them. Staged as a one act, the play runs for 75 minutes without an intermission. The first scene takes up the majority of this time and progresses like the molasses they eat with their biscuits.

Thelma, played by theatre senior Dara Tiller, and Patty, played by theatre senior Lauran Osborne, sit in the kitchen, each telling the other about her past and reminiscing about being home. Once their husbands enter the story, the rest of the play progresses suitably.

Both Tiller and Osborne are excellent as mothers displaced from their children and their homes. They are able to make the plot and their pain viable.

Their husbands are slightly less believable in their roles, although this may be due to the fact the perspective comes mainly from the two women. Craig Branch, also a theatre senior, as Patty's husband Darrell, Craig Branch, also a theatre senior, is able to express love with few words better than Josiah Correll, a senior theatre major, who plays Simeon.

Simeon's final actions show the love that is depicted in Thelma's dialogue and in the memories of their relationship, but his character up to that point doesn't. The lack of his perspective about the past and his callousness about the present create a gap of emotion between Simeon and Thelma.

One of the best aspects of the production was the live bluegrass band placed right in the middle of the stage. The music helped to tie the present to the past beautifully, also adding a musical interpretation of the pain present in the play.

The play, running through this weekend, is under the direction of guest director and UK theatre alumna Sullivan White.

Silas House's script casts fantastic images of the mountains and makes it easy to understand why home is so important to these people. He is able to show what is special about their homes.

As the holidays approach ever so quickly, so many of the themes depicted in this play are relevant and relatable.

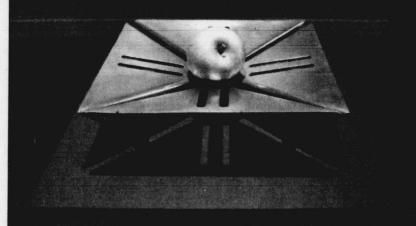
It's a nice reminder of how to appreciate those 300 little cousins and the migraine-inducing noise level, if only because it's family.

E-mail
features@kykernel.com

GIVING FRUIT A GOOD HOME



Top: Katie Sharp, an architecture senior, polished her piece for the Habitat for Fruit exhibit in the Rasdall Gallery in the Student Center. The gallery will be open daily from 11 a.m. until 5 p.m. during the week through Friday, Dec. 16.



Right: An apple sits on one of the pieces on display. The objective of Habitat for Fruit was for architecture students to design, create and graphically document a structure to contain a collection of mixed fruit.

PHOTOS BY BRAD LUTTRELL | STAFF

Office of Student Activities, Leadership & Involvement

CAMPUS CALENDAR

VISIT THE WEB SITE FOR EVENT DETAILS OR TO POST YOUR OWN UK EVENT.

The Campus Calendar is produced by the Office of Student Activities, Leadership & Involvement. Registered Student Orgs. and UK Depts. can submit information for FREE online ONE WEEK PRIOR to the MONDAY information it to appear. Call 257-0867 for more information.

Tuesday 6 th	Wednesday 7 th	Thursday 8 th	Friday 9 th	Sunday 11 th
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> •The Thomas D. Clark Study, 10:00 am, James W. Stuckert Career Center, Academic Enhancement Programs •Fencing Club Practice, 8:00 pm, Buell Armory, UK Fencing Club •James W. Stuckert Career Center Drop-In Hours, 3:00 pm, James W. Stuckert Career Center •TaekwonDo practice, 6:30 pm, Alumni gym loft, UK TaekwonDo Club •Society of Telecom, Scholars Meeting, 5:00 pm, Magpie Room (Grehan Building) •Alpha Phi Omega Activities Meeting, 7:30 pm •Basic Needs Planning Meeting, 6:00 pm, in front of the SVC office, Basic Needs •UK Greenthumb Meeting, 6:30 pm, Room 106 Student Center •Men's Volleyball Open Gym, 8:00 pm, Alumni Gym, Men's Volleyball Club •Circle of Love Gift Drop-off, 7:30 am, 206 Student Center, Student Volunteer Center 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> •Comedy Caravan-FREE SHIRTS, 8:00 pm, Cats Den, Student Center Directors Office •Preview of 2006 Kentucky General Assembly, 7:00 pm, Theater, Henry Clay High School, CCCLU •James W. Stuckert Career Center Drop-In Hours, 3:00 pm, James W. Stuckert Career Center •Rose Street, James W. Stuckert Career Center •The Thomas D. Clark Study, 10:00 am, Thomas D. Clark Study, Academic Enhancement Programs 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> •The Thomas D. Clark Study, 10:00 am, Thomas D. Clark Study, Academic Enhancement Programs •James W. Stuckert Career Center Drop-In Hours, 3:00 pm, James W. Stuckert Career Center •Fencing Club Practice, 8:00 pm, Buell Armory, UK Fencing Club •TaekwonDo practice, 6:30 pm, Alumni gym loft, UK TaekwonDo Club •Prayer and Praise, 9:00 pm, episcopal Lutheran chapel between the ADP and TRIDELT houses, Campus Crusade for Christ •Men's Volleyball Open Gym, 8:00 pm, Alumni Gym, Men's Volleyball Club •LoveLine with Dr. Drew Pinsky, 7:00 pm, Memorial Hall, The UK Student Activities Board •Amnesty International meeting, 7:00 pm, Student Center Rm 228, Amnesty International •RSA General Assembly Meetings, 5:30 pm, 359 Student Center, Resident Student Association •Campus Crusade for Christ, 7:30 pm, Worship Theatre in the Student Center, Campus Crusade for Christ 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> •Internship Information Session, 11:00 am, James W. Stuckert Career Center - 408 Rose Street, James W. Stuckert Career Center •James W. Stuckert Career Center Drop-In Hours, 3:00 pm, James W. Stuckert Career Center •Rose Street, James W. Stuckert Career Center •CF Dinner and Fellowship, 7:00 pm, CSF Building on Woodland Ave. (across from Cooperstown App.), UK International Christian Fellowship (UK ICF) 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> •Shopping Shuttle for Students, Various campus pick-ups, Parking & Transportation •Services/Student Government •UKUFO, 10:00 pm, Seaton Field, recreation •Bluegrass Area Jazz •Ambassador's Christmas Concert, 7:30 pm, Memorial Hall, Bluegrass Area Jazz Association

GO CATS!

IN OUR OPINION

Rid Kirwan dorms of vermin

As if living in a cramped cinder-block-walled room and sharing a bathroom with 20 other people wasn't bad enough, residents in Kirwan low-rises have been reporting a constant presence of mice in their residence halls this semester.

Although mice can often pester homeowners and others who may live in conventional residential areas, vermin should not have to be a concern for UK students living on campus. Considering how much students pay for dorms at a school that has been consistently ranked in the Princeton Review's "Dorms Like Dungeons" list, the inhabitants of campus housing deserve better than to have mice running around their rooms.

In addition to the predictable annoyance and disgust that results from an infestation of mice, there also exists the threat

of disease being spread in the dorms, an environment in which bacteria and viruses already thrive.

"There is potential for hantavirus syndrome," Smith, diversity program coordinator for the Kentucky Department of Fish and Wildlife, in a Kernel article yesterday. "Many mice carry the disease, and if the conditions are right, it can be transferred."

Fortunately, UK has taken some steps toward eradicating the mouse problem, including consulting Terminus pest control and UK pest-control technicians.

"I've been here for four years, and occasionally, we get reports, we set traps and that's it," said Brenda Stammer, UK's director of housing, in a Kernel article yesterday. "This year, it has been an ongoing saga."

Most students already live off-campus, and more will leave unless UK ends the mouse infestation on South Campus as swiftly as possible

Whatever the cause of the problem — the recent construction of dorms on South Campus, the poor quality of the Kirwan low-rises or the uncleanliness of students — it's inescapable that mice plague the halls of dorms that are quite costly to live in.

To live in a double room in one of the older residence halls costs \$3,663 —

not including the mandatory meal plan costs — for the school year. That's \$373.67 per month over nine months. For little more than that, a student can easily find an off-campus apartment with much more space, a kitchen and a private bathroom.

This high cost of living on campus means it's incumbent on UK to provide students incentives to do it. But the price, among other factors, discourages plenty of students — only about 31 percent of undergraduates live on campus, according to UK's online admissions FAQ.

That number will decline even further if the dorms gain the reputation of being vermin-infested. If for nothing else than the sake of its own coffers or, even better, for the sake of students' health and well-being — UK would do well to solve the mouse problem quickly.

LETTERS TO THE EDITOR

Get over Morris

Let this serve as a memo to Kernel columnist Chris Johnson and the rest of "Wildcat nation," which is in grave danger of drowning in excessive pride: Get over it. Randolph Morris isn't playing for UK right now, and chances are he won't again. As far as I'm concerned, good riddance.

It is a mystery to me why so many UK fans, not to mention the coaches and teammates that Morris so publicly snubbed, are continuing to clamor for his reinstatement. Am I the only one who is offended by Morris's arrogance and the expectation that he could enter the draft, make an agreement with an agency and then (when no one else wanted him) frolic back to Lexington and enjoy college fame?

The Wildcats didn't lose to North Carolina because Morris wasn't playing. If his absence had any effect on the UNC loss, it was as a distraction. It seems to me that the basketball team's focus is a little off. Instead of being so concerned and preoccupied with the ongoing UK-Morris-NCAA debacle, perhaps the team should concentrate on building a winning season without him. Morris is not the answer to the Wildcats' problems — he is one of their problems.

The basketball team has no shortage of talent, and there is no reason why the Wildcats can't lead Tubby Smith to the Final Four this season. It would do the team and everyone else well to remember how Morris has treated UK and return the favor.

CAROLINE COOPER
broadcast journalism junior

Expand the eRruption Zone

Yes, Rupp Arena is the mother of all college basketball arenas, but it is not as intimidating as the media — especially UK media — makes it out to be.

Rupp holds over 24,000 people, but only about 5 percent of that space is reserved for students on any given game day. If you look at any other college basketball arena on TV, the only people you see surrounding the court are those with paint covering more than half of their bodies. At UK, most of the seats surrounding the court are dedicated to people who have wrinkles covering more than half of their bodies. That's just lame.

A majority of the lower arena needs to be reserved for the people who are going to make opposing teams fear Rupp — the students. During the recent North Carolina game, I was seated in section 231 row X, and while there really isn't a bad seat at Rupp, I didn't feel like the loyalty of the student fans is being honored by putting us in the rafters.

Serious consideration should be given to reserving more seats for the students and expanding the eRruption Zone to include more than just one baseline — how about most of the lower level? If it isn't possible to get more room at Rupp, then maybe UK should consider moving one of the season's big games (in future seasons) into Memorial Coliseum and having an "only students allowed" game. The most-winning team in college basketball should be surrounded by the rowdiest fans in college basketball.

BRIAN MOORE
undergraduate studies freshman

Not all good cities are big

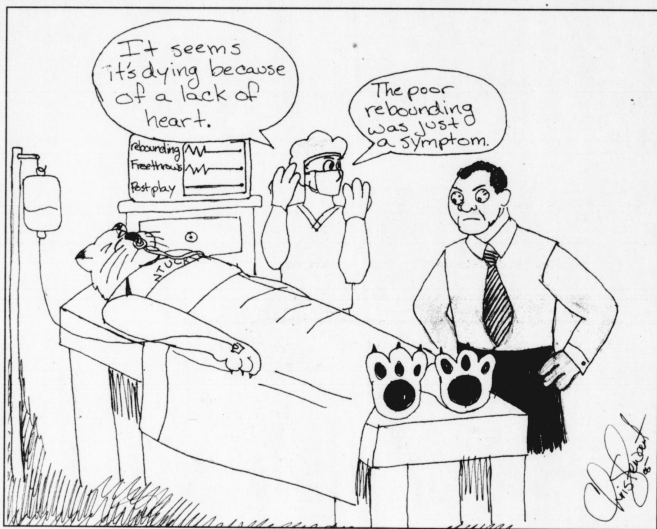
I was surprised at Jonathan Meador's Dec. 1 column, "Cultural deprivation leads to depression," but I waited patiently for some stalwart defender of Lexington to appear in the next issue of *The Kernel*. Instead, I was greeted by an even more disheartening "Yes, Lexington is worthless" letter by Delaurah Kamrani yesterday. Perhaps it's because I'm a born-and-raised Central Kentuckian, but I happen to resent such assertions. Neither author even hinted at the concept that different people like different places. Instead, both assumed that any location that wasn't a big city wasn't worth living in. I'll forgive this to a degree in the spirit of rational debate, but I can't let it go unanswered.

In regards to the atmospheric concerns of Kamrani, I can only say that if she manages to find any place in this country where one is not pressured to believe something he or she doesn't want to believe, then please let us all know so that we can go there and live in peace. Until such a haven is found, however, much of life will remain dealing with differing belief structures — whether in Kentucky or Europe.

No, Lexington doesn't have an amazing nightlife by the standards of Cincinnati, and no, Lexington doesn't have the cultural or artistic presence of New York. Still, that doesn't mean that it's worthless or doesn't have its own sense of culture. Walking down the streets of San Francisco, I never saw a quiet, peaceful Triangle Park at night, with its beautiful fountain and elegant lights.

It is that quiet dignity that sets Lexington apart from other cities and gives it a beauty all its own. Whether visiting the Opera House for a ballet, or stopping by the dignified Phoenix Park on a warm summer night, Lexington has a heart and soul unlike any other city. Maybe bigger cities with their countless ways to get quick, easy thrills can give some people more satisfaction without having to put forth any effort, but give Lexington just the briefest benefit of the doubt and put forth an effort to understand her — she can become a wonderful place to live.

CHAD REESE
philosophy freshman



CHRIS STEWART, THE KENTUCKY KERNEL

My finals-week move is crazy, but worth it

I continually doubt my sanity, even on my best days.

But, like most of us, I especially doubt it during the oxymoron we all love to hate: Dead Week. This semester, however, I've reached an all-time high on the lunacy scale: I'm moving into a new apartment.



Crystal Little
Kernel Columnist

Yes, in the midst of Dead Week and finals. Yes, right before Christmas. Yes, my lease begins 11 days before Dec. 26, when I'm scheduled to fly to London to participate in a study-abroad program during the winter intercession.

Daft, thy name is Crystal. I'll still be living out of wrongly labeled boxes come Dec. 25. I'm sure, tearing them apart to find the appropriate hair dryer I need to take to England.

The really crazy part in all this is that the madness started on a whim. My lease has been up on my current apartment for a good while, and I was

driving toward campus one day on Fontaine Road and saw a sign for an apartment for rent — one of those lovely ancient, red-brick apartment houses with ivy growing along the wall, gorgeous old hardwood floors and quaint diamond-esque door-knobs.

I've always wanted to live in one of those — they're so elegantly understated and hip and appealing. And within walking distance from Starbucks in Chevy Chase.

So I called the number on the sign posted out front and viewed the apartment, with its old-fashioned charm and fireplace and high ceilings and more than 900 square feet of space and a covered, walk-out porch.

I fell in love. In love. Until this point, I hadn't realized how unhappy I was at my current place just off Richmond Road, which I've had for more than two years. I just feel like I've outgrown it, and I am ready for a change. My new apartment might not be everyone's idea of perfect, but it's perfect for me. It has so much potential and so much personality — and it certainly doesn't hurt that it's nearly twice as big as my old one. It also feels like my first real, grown-up abode, especially with graduation

looming on the horizon next semester.

But now, surrounded by haphazard boxes of bedding and books and kitchen accessories — probably all mislabeled in their respective cardboard squares — and trying to finish a project for class that's due in less than 12 hours that I just started an hour ago ... well, I'm kind of starting to doubt my mental mettle.

I still love my new place — but I'm wondering if rational thought shouldn't have trumped emotion in this one instance.

I mean, really — moving during Dead Week and finals? Not the wisest choice. I can't even put the lid on a Sharpie without getting the ink all over my hand. I'll not be the best at rapid packing. I'll probably leave something important, like my iPod, in the refrigerator.

But then I think about the hardwood floors, the fireplace, the French doors in the bedroom — and it's all worth any amount of temporary insanity. Yes, even during Dead Week and finals.

I may not be coherent or even cognizant by next week, but I'll have a really awesome apartment.

Crystal Little is a journalism senior. E-mail clittle@kykernel.com.

Submissions

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

E-MAIL

opinions@kykernel.com

Note to Readers

The Opinions page provides a forum for the exchange of ideas.

Unlike news stories, The Kernel's unsigned editorials represent the views of a majority of the editorial board.

Letters to the editor, columns, cartoons and other features on the Opinions page reflect the views of their authors and not necessarily those of The Kernel.

Online Poll Question

Do you believe that UK can become a top-20 public research university by 2020, as mandated by House Bill 1 of 1997?

Yes
No

Vote online at kykernel.com

Cats head south to regroup

Sophomore Rondo has strep throat, likely to sit out

By Josh Sullivan
THE KENTUCKY KERNEL

Two days later, Saturday's 83-79 loss to North Carolina was still weighing heavily on the minds of the UK men's basketball team.

"It seems like the whole team is down," said junior forward Rekalin Sims before yesterday's practice. "It's stuck in our minds right now, thinking of the little things we did wrong. It's hard to handle the loss and get over it ... it was like somebody passed away yesterday."

The Cats get the chance to do a little healing tonight as they take on the Georgia State Panthers (2-2) in Atlanta.

"We didn't show up in the North Carolina game, so we've got to come back and show up in this game," Sims said.

Head coach Tubby Smith says the Wildcats have been plagued by lackluster post play early this season.

"We didn't rebound the ball like we've been harping on and it cost us (against North Carolina)," he said. "We refuse to put bodies on anybody, we just don't have a physical presence right now."

The Tar Heels out-rebounded UK 37-30 on Saturday. Fifteen of those boards came on the offensive end, many during critical stretches when UK was trying to claw its way back into the game.

Sims felt personally responsible for UK's struggles underneath.

"I didn't rebound the way I should and we came out with an 'L,'" he said.

Sims finished the game



Senior guard Ravi Moss and the UK men's basketball team look to rebound from Saturday's 83-79 loss to North Carolina by traveling to Atlanta to face Georgia State tonight. Tipoff is set for 8 p.m. on ESPN.

with two rebounds, a season low for the junior college transfer. He said it was hard to watch the film from the game the next day.

"I was embarrassed, to see me getting scored on as much as I did and missing rebounds," Sims said.

"It was like somebody passed away yesterday."

Rekalin Sims

UK junior forward on the Cats' mood after the loss

Though Smith was disappointed by the Cats' inside play, he was pleased with their shooting on Saturday. For just the second time in 28 games, UK lost while hitting over half of its shots from the field. But he says more offensive effort is needed.

"We're just not getting a

lot of fluidness," Smith said. "We need to get more movement in our offense. There's a lot of standing around."

In particular, Smith called on sophomore point guard Rajon Rondo to be more of a threat on offense.

"He's got to take the jumper sometimes," Smith said, "because they're just collapsing - the defense around him."

Rondo scored a career-high 20 points against North Carolina, but eight came on four driving layups in the last 30 seconds of the game while the Tar Heels were protecting the perimeter.

He likely won't get a chance to take any jumpers tonight against the Panthers.

"Rajon has strep throat

right now. He probably will not play," Smith said.

But the Cats should get back sophomore guard Joe Crawford, who missed the last three games with a knee injury. Smith says the wingman should be available to play tonight.

No matter who plays and who doesn't, Smith says it's important the Cats come out strong in Atlanta tonight.

"Whenever you have a tough loss like we did, especially at home, there's always going to be that negativity around your program until you get the next win," he said. "Hopefully, we can go down to Georgia State and get over this."

E-mail
jsullivan@kykernel.com

Women's hoops seeks best start in 20 years

STAFF REPORT

If there's anything UK women's basketball coach Mickie DeMoss wants to continue in her third season, it's the Cats' unbeaten streak.

Off to its best start in seven seasons, UK (5-0) faces North Carolina A&T at 7 tonight in Memorial Coliseum.

"They are struggling a bit at 0-5, but have had some close games lately," DeMoss said. "They cause a lot of havoc, forcing 22 turnovers a game and average double figures in steals."

"They will throw different looks at us that will help us against some teams down the road."

A win tonight would give UK its best start in nearly 20 years. The 1984-85 Cats started the season 6-0 before losing to Indiana by one, and finished the season 16-12.

After entering the tough Southeastern Conference schedule, DeMoss knows wins will be much harder to

come by. Last season, UK broke from the gates to an 11-4 start before getting into the SEC. But in conference play, the Cats finished 4-10.

With the loss of forward Sara Potts to graduation last season, junior forward Jenny Pfeifer has filled some of the long-range shooting void the all-time 3-point shooter left open.

Pfeifer leads the team with 12 made 3-pointers, hitting 50 percent from the outside this season. She also leads UK with 12 points per game.

Tonight will be the first meeting between UK and North Carolina A&T.

The Cats improved to 5-0 by beating Florida International 71-56 in Memorial Coliseum on Thursday.

UK hosts Georgetown University on Thursday and hits the road to play Detroit-Mercy on Saturday.

E-mail
sports@kykernel.com



DeMoss

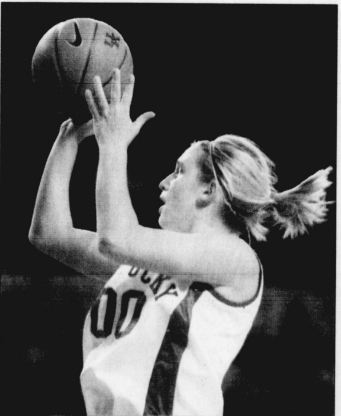
"They are struggling a bit at 0-5, but have had some close games lately."

Mickie DeMoss

UK women's basketball coach on tonight's opponent, North Carolina A&T

NEXT GAME
7 • Tonight
UK vs. North Carolina A&T
MEMORIAL COLISEUM
TV: HSN
RADIO: BIG BLUE SPORTS NETWORK
830 AM

A&T
0-5



Keith Smiley | STAFF

Freshman point guard Carly Ormerod takes a shot during UK's win over Stetson on Nov. 22 in Memorial Coliseum.

SPORTS BRIEFS

Former UK golf standout earns PGA card

WINTER GARDEN, Fla. — Former Wildcat golfer John Holmes earned medalist honors yesterday at the PGA Tour qualifying tournament and is among 32 players on their way to the 2006 PGA Tour.

Holmes, 23, of Campbellsville, Ky., shot a 3-under 69 on the last day of the tournament, finishing with a 24-under-par. He finished three strokes ahead of second-place Alex Cejka. Holmes' 32 birdies was a tournament-best. He also had a second-best three eagles.

The top 30 (and ties) qualifying tournament players earn PGA Tour cards for next year.

Three football Wildcats

All-Southeastern Conference

Three UK football players were named to the Associated Press' All-Southeastern Conference team yesterday. Sophomore tailback Rafael Little was named to the lists' first team, senior safety Muhammad Abdullah was named to the second team and sophomore linebacker Wesley Woodyard received an honorable mention.

Little led the SEC and ranked fifth in the country in all-purpose yards and punt return yards. Little averaged 180 all-purpose yards a game and rushed for 1,045 yards and nine touchdowns during the Cats' 3-8 season. He was also UK's top pass receiver (46 receptions).

Abdullah was third among defensive backs for tackles in the SEC (81) this season. It's the third straight season he has received All-SEC honors.

Woodyard led the Wildcats with 100 tackles this season — seven for loss.

Gymnastics in preseason Top 25

The UK gymnastics team was ranked No. 23 in the GymInfo preseason coaches' poll, released yesterday.

The Wildcats were one of six Southeastern Conference gymnastics squads listed in the poll.

UK rounded out a list headed by No. 4 Alabama, No. 6 Florida, No. 7 Louisiana State, No. 15 Auburn and No. 20 Arkansas.

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Sexual Health Study: Women Only

This anonymous study invites UK and LCC female students to take part in a survey about sexual behaviors and beliefs pertaining to sexually transmitted diseases and cervical cancer. **Women who self-identify as lesbians** are especially encouraged to participate in this survey. To participate you must:

- Be female between 18-25 years of age
- Have had sex with 2 or more partners (male or female) in the past 3 months
- Be a full time UK or LCC student

Your participation and the answers you provide are entirely anonymous. The survey can be completed in about 30 minutes. You will be compensated \$20 for your time. For more information contact Richard A. Crosby, PhD at 257-9678 ext. 82065.

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