



Defining a genre and a generation

Legendary Bob Dylan and revolutionary The Roots introduce new sounds for fans

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WOMEN'S SOCCER

Freshman Katie Fahey scoring all the goals

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FRIDAY

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KENTUCKY KERNEL

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UK requiring checks of new hires

By Evan Israel

news@kykernel.com

Safety just got a little more expensive for UK.

The university now requires background checks for all new employees, as well as those who have worked at the school for less than a year.

The policy, enacted by UK Human Resources and UK Legal Council, took effect on July 12 to comply with a law passed earlier this year by the Kentucky General Assembly. The required checks include all new employees, including

students, and those who have worked at UK in the past but didn't return until more than one full calendar year later.

The goal of the policy is to improve the school's hiring process.

"We wanted to extend our commitment in providing a safe environment," said Human Resources operations director Mary Ferlan.

The policy requires that new employees have their credentials verified, along with their criminal history and other information that helps UK in making hiring decisions.

The basic checks cost \$60 each; enhanced checks, which are used for search and health-care jobs, cost \$84 each.

Between July 12 and August 25, the school conducted background checks on 936 individuals and estimates a total cost between \$60,000 and \$70,000. The approximate cost estimate for an entire school year is \$420,000 to \$500,000.

Some campus organizations are questioning if the checks are worth the cost, particularly in hiring students.

"It's now a state law, so we do it,"

UK Dining Services executive director Jeff DeMoss said. "I think it's questionable, but I understand where it came from."

Dining services has yet to reject potential employees based on background check results. DeMoss isn't sure the background checks will be useful for the department, particularly since many students are young and might not have any type of criminal records.

"It's just another cost to do business," DeMoss said.

Once the department administrators

the background checks, the results are sent to Human Resources, which then accepts or rejects the potential hire.

"It's very simple," DeMoss said.

"It's cut and dry."

Although the policy makes the process of getting hired by the school more difficult, it doesn't necessarily make it impossible for someone with a record to get a job.

"Just because someone has a felony or misdemeanor doesn't mean we're not going to hire them," Ferlan said.

See **Checks** on page B2

UK to reopen Huguelet within days

By Shannon Mason

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Huguelet Drive is scheduled to reopen to the public within a few days, hospital officials said.

Michael Karpf, executive vice president of health affairs at UK, said Huguelet was paved in time for students to move into their dorms, but the Rose Street side of the road has yet to be made fully available to the public.

Bob Wiseman, vice president for facilities management, said that would change in the next few days.

Wiseman also said the Huguelet Drive-Virginia Avenue extension between Rose Street and South Limestone was "well underway" and will open in late October.

"Once we get the new road in, we'll close the old road in late November," Wiseman said.

The "old road" is the section of Rose Street from Huguelet to South Limestone Street.

"We're moving ahead," Karpf said of the Huguelet-Virginia construction. "We're pretty much on schedule."

Construction of the new parking garage on South Limestone between Transcrypt Avenue and Conn Terrace is also on schedule, Karpf said. In October, the first floor of the garage will be visible, he said.

The garage will have 1,500 spaces, with 700 open by September 2007 and the other 800 open by January 2008, Wiseman said.

Demolition of the current parking garage will be underway between September and November 2007, meaning construction on the new hospital building will begin in November or December of that year. The hospital will be built on the site of the current garage.

Although the new hospital will not be open until January 2010, plans of what will go in the hospital

See **Hospital** on page B2

Pilot's condition improves

By Shannon Mason

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The condition of the only survivor of Sunday's plane crash has been updated from critical to serious, according to UK Chandler Medical Center.

James Polehinke, the co-pilot of Comair Flight 5191, underwent his third surgery yesterday as planned since arriving at the medical center Sunday morning.

"He continued to show improvement, so they upgraded his condition," said Jay Blanton, director of public relations at UK.

In the news release, Dr. Andrew C. Bernard, a trauma surgeon and assistant professor of surgery at UK, said Polehinke's upgrade reflects overall clinical improvement.

Polehinke suffers from fractures in his face, spine, pelvis, left leg, right foot, right hand, three ribs and a breastbone. He had a collapsed lung when he arrived at the hospital but suffered no burn injuries.

The National Transportation Safety Board said Monday that Polehinke handled the aircraft during takeoff, but added on Tuesday that pilot Jeffrey Clay taxied the aircraft to the wrong runway. Clay was one of the 49 who died in the crash.

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Battle of brawn



Above: Members of the fraternity Sigma Pi, right, faced off against Sigma Nu last night at Goodbarn field in a fraternity tug-o-war event. The two fraternities, along with several others, competed to crown the champion tug-o-war fraternity.

Left: Sigma Pi members Zach Dimeo, right, a marketing junior, and Brian McMillan, left, a civil engineering sophomore, strain as they pull the rope against members of Sigma Nu last night.

PHOTOS BY ED MATTHEWS | STAFF



Fraternities faced off in a test of strength yesterday at Goodbarn field, competing in a tug-o-war tournament to take home bragging rights as the tug-o-war champion.

Physicist uses symmetry to describe laws of nature

By Juliann Vachon

news@kykernel.com

How would you have made the universe if you were God?

Students, faculty and visitors were faced with that question last night at the Center Theater in the Student Center.

Hosted by the UK physics and astronomy

department, A. Zee, a physicist at the Kavli Institute for Theoretical Physics at the University of California at Santa Barbara gave a presentation based on his book "Fearful Symmetry: The Search for Beauty in Modern Physics."

"If you were the creator, you would be faced with an impossible design dilemma," Zee said. "On the one hand, you want to make the world fun and interesting; and on the other hand, you want to see the beauty and predictability of sym-

metry."

In his first visit to Kentucky, Zee discussed the key role of symmetry — the idea of simplicity and unity despite transformation over time — in physics.

Zee used a compilation of images and ideas to illuminate the history of symmetry in nature and physics.

"People instinctively make things symmetric. See **Speech** on page B2

Newsroom: 257-1915; Advertising: 257-2872

SPEECH

Continued from page B1

cal," Zee said. "This notion shows up in physics as well."

According to Zee, physicists have used the simplicity and comprehensibility of symmetry to discover the laws of nature.

"Physicists only see parts of laws of nature, and they try to guess what they can't see based on what is symmetrical with that," Zee said.

He also suggested that the universe began with perfect symmetry and has become less symmetrical over time because of spontaneous symmetry breaking.

"Physicists look deeper into nature in hopes to find that things become more symmetri-

cal the deeper they go," Zee said.

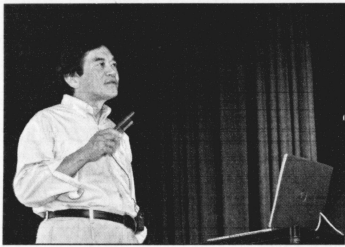
He compared this idea to the roof of a temple that would begin as a square, become an octagon and finally be a circle — the deepest and most symmetrical shape.

Family and consumer science senior Molly Pepper said she attended the speech for a class.

"I've never thought about physics in this way as something relatable to poetry, art and architecture," Pepper said. "I don't think physics is quite so boring anymore."

Lyle Goodwin, a physics junior, said he enjoyed how Zee explained how physicists are using symmetry to explore physics.

"Zee's speech helped show the way symmetry is becoming a substantial force in modern physics," Goodwin said.



ALLIE GARZA | STAFF

A. Zee speaks about his book, "Fearful symmetry: The Search for Beauty in Modern Physics" on August 31 at the Student Center Theater.

HOSPITAL

Continued from page B1

tal have been completed, Wiseman said.

Bob Williams, project manager with UK's capital project management division, said officials have already planned out what will go on each floor of the new hospital.

Included on the basement of the hospital will be the support area, central sterile area, environmental services, maintenance office and linen services, Williams said.

The emergency room, coffee shop, administration offices and lobby will be located on the ground floor.

The first floor will include a waiting area, gift shop, volunteer offices and a small cafeteria. Williams said half of the first floor will be shelved — built but not fitted for immediate use. Eventually, the first

floor will house a new, larger cafeteria and same-day intake patient facilities.

The second floor will be the surgery area, complete with pre-operation rooms, recovery rooms and eight operating rooms. The floor will be equipped for 24 operating rooms total, but 30 percent of the floor will be shelved until growth requires the usage and fitting out of the other rooms.

The pharmacy, house staff area, blood bank, lockers, mechanical space and the air-intake area will be located on the third floor.

The fourth floor is the first of six levels of patient rooms in both bed towers, Williams said.

The Rose Street construction, parking garage and new hospital are all parts of the first phase of the UK Health Care expansion.

The three-phase project, scheduled to finish in 2020, also includes building new critical-care and ambulance facilities.

CHECKS

Continued from page B1

"It's America. People do their crime, do their time."

Ferlan said if a potential employee had a criminal record, Human Resources would handle it on a case-by-case basis, paying attention to the applicant's overall history and the time any crimes occurred.

Not every place on campus is affected by the background checks.

The UK Bookstore, for ex-

ample, is a completely independent entity.

"We do our own interviewing, which may or may not be more stringent than the university's," store manager Chris Lawrence said.

As a result, students and other employees at the bookstore are not required to go through the university background checks.

Human Resources expects to have a breakdown of the number of potential employees who have undergone the background checks in each hiring department within the next couple of months.

FBI initiated student loans search for terrorists

By Richard B. Schmitt
LOS ANGELES TIMES

WASHINGTON — The Education Department acknowledged Thursday that, at the request of the FBI, it had scoured millions of federal student loan records for information about suspected terrorists in the five years since the Sept. 11 attacks.

The data mining — known as "Project Strike Back" — was aimed at determining whether terrorism suspects had illegally obtained college aid to finance their operations through identity theft or other means.

Authorities said the program was limited to "fewer than 1,000" persons who were considered witnesses or "subjects" of federal terrorism investigations. Most of the searches were

conducted in 2001 and 2002; the program was ended in June 2006.

The project — first disclosed by the Medill School of Journalism at Northwestern University in Evanston, Ill. — is similar to sometimes secret arrangements the FBI made with other federal agencies, such as the Social Security Administration, to gain information about terror suspects since Sept. 11.

But the idea of the government trolling through massive data bases containing information on ordinary citizens has concerned privacy advocates.

The sleuthing comes against a backdrop of even more aggressive moves that U.S. terror hunters have made since Sept. 11, such as the monitoring of

citizens' phone calls without a court order.

The FBI said the searches were triggered by intelligence indicating that terrorists were exploiting student visas and loan programs.

"This was not a sweeping program, in that it involved only a few hundred names," said FBI spokesman John Miller. "This is part of our mission, which is to take the leads we have and investigate them. There was no attempt to conceal these efforts, in that they were referenced in publicly available briefings to Congress and the General Accountability Office."

Under the program, the FBI gave the names to the Education Department's Inspector General, which conducted the searches.

The searches were limited to "names of subjects already material to counter-terrorism investigations," Miller said, adding that "no records of people other than those already under investigation were called for."

The FBI declined to say how the information was used or whether it led to arrests or prosecutions of suspects.

The Education Department said the FBI sought the information pursuant to an exemption to the federal Privacy Act that authorizes the release of personal data for a criminal investigation.

"We also analyzed the results for potential abuse of federal student aid, but no cases by our office resulted," said Mary Mitchellson, the counsel to the department's inspector general.

Unconventional wisdom: Women aren't as good at math ... or are they?

By Richard Morin
THE WASHINGTON POST

Strange but true: Women score much lower on math tests if they are first asked unrelated questions about gender issues. The phenomenon is called "stereotype threat" — a kind of performance anxiety discovered in 1995 when psychologists found that black students at Stanford University did significantly worse on intelligence tests if they were first asked to identify their race on the test form.

Since then, dozens of other experiments have confirmed that subtly cuing women or minorities to think unconsciously about their sex or race causes them to do poorly in areas where the stereotype suggests they are weak.

University of Texas psychologist Matthew S. McGlone wondered if there wasn't another side of the story. What if you prompted people to think about their strengths rather than their stereotypical weaknesses — would that be enough to improve performance in areas where they weren't supposed to do well?

In a novel set of experiments, McGlone, working with Joshua Aronson of New York University, found that the answer is yes. "The idea that something is immutable due to some biological factor can be

trumped," McGlone said.

Their ingenious study involved 90 students, half men and half women, at Lafayette College in Easton, Pa. The students filled out a questionnaire that first asked them general questions about campus life. In a second section, researchers varied the questions to get these students thinking in slightly different ways.

One group of students were asked whether they lived in a single-sex or coed dorm. Previous studies found even this benign question unconsciously activated male and female stereotypes, McGlone said.

Another group answered questions about why they chose to attend a private liberal arts college. The goal was to nudge these young women and men into thinking how smart and accomplished they were. "We were activating their snob schema," McGlone said with a chuckle. The remaining students, the control group, were asked to write about their experience living in the northeastern United States.

The students then took the Vandenberg Mental Rotation Test, a standard test of visual-spatial abilities linked to math performance in which objects are shown at different angles and the test-taker has to pick the identical pair. Previous studies found that men are three times as likely as women to do well

on this test, McGlone and Aronson wrote in a forthcoming issue of the Journal of Applied Developmental Psychology.

When they analyzed the data, they found that men in the control group did, indeed, perform 15 to 20 percent better than the women on the Vandenberg test, in line with previous studies. Among those who had been subtly cued to think about their gender, the gap was even wider — guys did "25 percent to 30 percent better than the women," again consistent with previous research, McGlone said.

The surprise came among those who were primed to think about their status as students at an exclusive private college.

The gender gap closed dramatically, as women's scores improved while men's stayed the same. "There was no significant difference between men and women," McGlone said. "With a pretty simple manipulation, we could significantly reduce this gap," which suggests that "there might be things that make all of these biological factors go away."

Add babies to the growing list of overweight Americans.

Harvard researchers studied 120,680 children younger than 6 and found that the prevalence of overweight children jumped 59 percent from 1980 to 2001.

The number of overweight infants up to 6 months old also

ballooned a whopping 74 percent during the 22-year study period, said Matthew Gillman, an associate professor at Harvard Medical School.

Feeling blue? Get married. Graduate student Adrienne Frech and sociologist Kristi Williams of Ohio State University found that depressed single people were far more likely to benefit emotionally from marriage than better-adjusted men and women.

The researchers used data collected by the National Survey of Families and Households, which interviewed a representative sample of Americans in 1987-1988 and then re-interviewed them in 1992-1994, including 3,066 people who were single at the time of the first interview. The researchers presented their study at the recent meeting of the American Sociological Association.

Frech and Williams suggested that depressed people may benefit more from marriage because they may be in more need of emotional closeness and social support. Then again, happy people are already feeling good about themselves, Williams suggested.

Richard Morin is a senior editor at the Pew Research Center. Versions of this column appear at washingtonpost.com and www.pewresearch.org.

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FEATURES

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Roots define hip hop; Dylan defines a generation

By Andy Kohler
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Bob Dylan
"Modern Times"

It has been said that Bob Dylan is a legend, an icon, a master songwriter and "the voice of a generation." And it's true. It has also been said that no man can escape his past. This seems to be true, too.

About 30 years after Dylan released the music most everyone is familiar with ("The Freewheelin' Bob Dylan," "Blonde on Blonde," "Blood on the Tracks," "Highway 61 Revisited"), it's hard to accept the fact that he's a different man and a different artist now. He's going to sound different. It would be cool if he could write an album

just like "Bringing It All Back Home" every time, but could we really listen to the same Dylan for 30 years straight? Maybe, but I'm sure he would be bored as hell playing the same songs for so long.

Dylan's new album sounds like, well, Dylan. At first it sounds like he has lost some of the passion and desire over the years, but as the album progresses, it is still there, just not as obvious. The lyrics are still great, and he sounds like he has smoked way too many cigarettes.

Most of the songs drag on for too long, and it feels like he is just going through the motions with this one. They are good motions, though. Some of the songs are great listens, but there's nothing that is truly

The Roots "Game Theory"

There are no bands or artists doing anything nearly as interesting as what The Roots are doing. Just love, The Roots' drummer, is a human metronome. Black Thought is the best MC today, and Capt. Kirk, the group's guitarist, will make your body work.

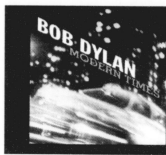
The Roots craft masterful albums, break whatever boundaries mainstream artists put in the way of hip-hop, ignore the formula for making a hit rap song and just do what they feel. "Game Theory" is the best album of 2006 so far. It transcends genres but is distinctively hip-hop. There is a message here,

and The Roots prove, again, that there is so much more to hip-hop than getting people to shake their butts.

There is also an underlying sense of frustration and anger running throughout the album, possibly a result of the death of MC J Dilla or a response to all the lack the band receives from the media and fans.

Even though the only hip-hop you will hear on MTV and radio involves bad grammar and the same old themes — violence, drugs, greed, etc. — The Roots show that, in the right hands, hip-hop can change and educate the world.

This is probably the third-best Roots' album ("Do You



memorable, except maybe "Rollin' and Tumblin'" or "Thunder on the Mountain." It has got to be hard trying to live up to such a renowned past, but it must take a lot of courage to try. If you are a Bob Dylan fan, give this a listen, because it is a solid effort from a living legend.



Want More?!?!?" and "Phenology" rank first and second, respectively), but it is still the best album of 2006. "Game Theory" is an amazing album, one that will get you dancing and thinking, exactly as music is supposed to do.

Slapfest showcases new sport at UK

By Audrey Patterson
features@kykernel.com

Most of us know Abner Doubleday and James Naismith's contributions to baseball and basketball, respectively. But who is Brad Bannwart? And what is slappyball?

In Henderson, Ky., in 1992, Bannwart, then a high-school freshman, was sitting around with some of his friends and decided to invent this new sport, Slappyball, as Bannwart and his co-founders called it, is a new twist on old sports.

"We were bored and tired of old sports," said co-creator Shaun Moffett.

"Slappyball is a unique sport that is like a combination of basketball and football," Bannwart said. Unlike these sports, however, slappyball involves more one-on-one contact with the ball.

"In (Slappyball) you're always involved, and there's never any ball-hogging," Moffett said.

Slappyball involves two teams of two players each. The object is to advance the ball down the field by passing. The players are not allowed to move with the ball by running or dribbling, and the 6-inch red ball must be thrown back and forth downfield.

Points are scored only by slapping the ball into the goal. Rules strictly state that the scorer's hand must be open in a

slapping motion, and all other ways of scoring — such as throwing or kicking the ball into the goal — will not count. Each goal is worth 1 point, and the game is played until one team reaches 6 points. With the exception of a halftime break after one team reaches 3 points, there is constant movement until a team has won.

"You are always an important part of the team and, unlike basketball or football, the game is always fast-paced," Bannwart said.

While Slappyball might be unknown to many, its mystery seems to bring a certain appeal. "I've never heard of this, and I'm surprised," said music education senior Becca Stofor. "I would definitely like to give it a try."

"It would definitely be interesting to watch, and I don't even like sports," said psychology junior Jessica Slagner.

UK alumni will be returning from Cleveland, Washington, D.C., and even as far as Minnesota this weekend to participate in Slapfest 2006, a slappyball tournament at UK. Saturday's tournament is considered the Super Bowl of slappyball.

"Slappyball is very easy to learn," Bannwart said. "If you can run, you can play." There is a \$5 dollar entry fee, and the proceeds will be donated to the American Cancer Society.

"This weekend is a great way to support a cause that has directly affected almost every person," Bannwart said. "Plus, you get to learn and play a fun team sport."

For the first time in Slapfest history, two fields will be available for play this year, allowing more students to participate.

There are four categories that contestants can enter: men's beginner and advanced, and women's beginner and advanced. The champions in the men's and women's advanced will receive a trophy and be able to boast that they are the "Official Slappyball World Champions."

If you're tired of boring and ordinary sports, come out and give something new a chance.

"Don't be afraid to try something new," Bannwart said. "If you play once, you will be addicted."

If you go

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To Participate: \$5 entrance fee, which will be donated to the American Cancer Society. Equipment is provided.

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Jonathan Smith, sports editor
Ellen Sawyer, features editor

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.

One year later, there's no substitute for competence

President Bush returned to the Gulf Coast this week and declared that a year's worth of rebuilding in the wake of Hurricane Katrina had created a "sense of renewal." Some renewal there definitely has been, but it has come slowly and clumsily. Areas such as New Orleans's Lower Ninth Ward remain choked with debris. Schools, public transportation and utilities have yet to resume anything like full service.

As of the end of June, the population of New Orleans stood at just 35 percent of its 2000 level. The scale of destruction was so significant — the storm destroyed nearly 19,000 businesses and more than 200,000 apartments and homes — that it would not be fair to expect complete rehabilitation one year later. But chunks of the Gulf Coast look as though reconstruction has barely begun.

The past year has generated three official reports on the disaster — from the House, the Senate and the White House — as well as numerous unofficial ones. Some of the ideas in

EDITORIAL COMMENTARY

This editorial ran in Tuesday's Washington Post.

these reports are digressions: With the Federal Emergency Management Agency having been disrupted by being folded into the Department of Homeland Security, it seems unwise to disrupt FEMA further by pulling it out of that department and restructuring it again. Equally, there's a debate as to whether the government's ham-fisted performance demonstrates that the response to future hurricanes should be left to private agencies: After all, Wal-Mart Stores Inc. and other businesses proved more effective than hapless federal agencies in quickly getting emergency supplies into the disaster zone.

But the truth is that reconstruction after a disaster requires billions in public money, so a strong government role is inevitable. Besides, individuals and companies can't sensibly commit to rebuilding unless they know that others

will do so. Because of this collective action problem, it falls to government to lead reconstruction.

The important post-Katrina lesson is not about less vs. more government, or about the government's organizational chart. It is about competence and leadership. The initial response to the storm was bungled, with New Orleans Mayor C. Ray Nagin being slow to order an evacuation and the federal government slow to step in with assistance. Even more shockingly, the realization of the full scale of the crisis did not improve the quality of government decisions. FEMA spent \$900 million on mobile homes that, because of its own regulations, cannot be used in flood plains. A Senate report has estimated that the agency allowed an additional \$2 billion to disappear in fraud and abuse. Bureaucracy has slowed progress repeatedly. Of the \$110 billion appropriated for rebuilding and assistance to victims, only \$44 billion has been spent.

This is a lesson in the danger of entrusting the emergency management agency to political loyalists rather than experts. It is a danger that exists quite independently of whether or not FEMA is part of a larger department: During the 1980s the agency was stuffed with political appointees with dubious credentials, which explains why its response to Hurricane Andrew in 1992 was similarly incompetent. In the wake of that disaster, the agency was overhauled, and another wave of reform is in the works: The Bush administration has appointed a new boss for the agency; it has installed new communications and logistical systems; and it has worked on prepositioning relief supplies in disaster-prone areas.

The test will be whether this and future administrations sustain this new seriousness — or whether the old complacency returns. That in turn will depend on whether there is more leadership than Mr. Bush provided in the first year, and a greater sense of urgency.

Follow the science: Pluto deserves new "dwarf planet" status

Unless you've spent the past week on an undersized rock on the edge of the solar system that can't even clear its own orbit, you've probably heard the news: Pluto is no longer a planet.

And that's the way it should be. Last week, the International Astronomical Union found that Pluto does not meet the criteria to be classified as a planet. Because it crosses into Neptune's orbit — not to mention its small size — Pluto just doesn't fit the bill. Now it's a "dwarf planet," grouped with some more recently discovered objects.

There's been an outpouring of emotion over the change. Popular sentiment seems to be that it's inappropriate for the IAU to change what we internalized as children — to modify the structure of the solar system, in a sense.

But this is exactly how science is supposed to work. If a fact becomes fixed and unchangeable, it has left the realm of scientific knowledge, where everything is subject to change as new information arrives.

KERNEL EDITORIAL

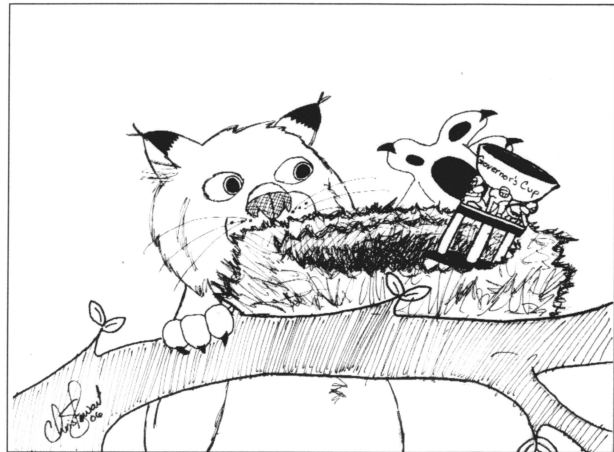
Since the discovery of Pluto in 1930, it had become increasingly clear that Pluto did not merit planetary status. Continuing to call it a planet would have been a victory of hidebound superstition over the scientific method.

Yes, schoolchildren will have to relearn the number of planets. But, in the process, they'll also be learning the ever-changing nature of science.

If you don't think we're right, take the words of another grade-school-science fixture: Bill Nye the Science Guy.

As he told ABC News, "If you brought Pluto close to the sun, like where Mercury is, it would have a tail like a comet and in a few millennia, it would volatilize. It would just disappear into space... I mean, is that worthy of a planet — a planet that just evaporates? For crying out loud."

We can't let unscientific emotions get in the way: Pluto, simply put, is not a planet.



CHRIS STEWART, Kernel cartoonist

No matter what your affiliation, get involved in campus politics

"George Bush is the Anti-Christ! Republicans are bigots and homophobes!" Ernie Fletcher took my daddy's state job away and Dubya wants Granny's Social Security check! The president let Katrina destroy New Orleans!" Freshmen, welcome to college; let the indoctrination begin.



BRENT BURCHETT
Kernel columnist

I hope UK's overwhelming liberal faculty — as documented in an April 2004 Kernel study — at least got through their syllabi before letting you know why Republicans are going to hell and how your conservative Christian values have no place in the "enlightened" university community. But have heart, friends: You are not in need of any ideological rectification; you need not remain quiet and intimidated in the classroom, and the opinions expressed by your unshowered teaching assistants and professors are not superior to your own.

But take these words with a grain of salt. During your four- to six-year tenure at UK, take advantage of highly intelligent and respectful professors you encounter in the classroom, like Horace Bartlow and Steve Voss in the political science department. If you are a conservative, professors will teach things inherently contrary to what you believe on a regular basis, guaranteed. It is your obligation to strengthen your opinions, challenge your political beliefs and learn what it is that you truly prescribe to. Don't take anything any faculty member says to be a 100 percent gospel truth — no good teacher would want you to do that anyway.

Understand the difference between a

DEBATE



respectable professor who asks you to back up your opinions and the one who uses his authority to make you feel inferior and inadequately informed. If you find yourself confronted with the latter, file a complaint with the Academic Ombudsman.

Be aware that liberal faculty members can be highly persuasive and extra sneaky, and many a conservative student has left a rousing lecture in the Classroom Building ready to burn some flags and stick it to the man. Indeed it's hard to make conservatism and Republicanism look sexy. We tried Ann Coulter, but it turns out she's a robot.

When you find yourself disenfranchised with liberal bias in the UK classroom, in the Lexington Herald-Leader (Miss)Leader and even in the reverent Kentucky Kernel, know this: You're not alone. Your fellow UK students are overwhelmingly conservative. I know, it's hard to believe. Liberals do a remarkable job of letting everyone else know they exist. While liberals regularly opine on the editorial page, rant at rallies in front of Patterson Office Tower, start petitions and whine on blogs, conservatives are actively trying to solve problems on campus and in the public arena by taking on unpopular causes and tough issues.

You don't have to agree with every decision made by President Bush or Gov. Fletcher to call yourself a conservative or a Republican — I know I sure don't. In the UK College Republicans,

whose next meeting happens to be Sept. 12 at 8 p.m. on the third floor of Commons Market, we have pro-lifers and pro-choicers, proponents of domestic partner benefits and those staunchly opposed to it, Baptists, Jews, Catholics, vegetarians, rednecks, preppies, punks, atheists and even a few registered Democrats. Visit our website at www.ukgop.blogspot.com for information about campaign events and meeting times.

I want to thank College Democrat chairman Richard Becker for proposing this weekly debate series, and thank the Kernel for supporting it. Becker and many other Dems on campus are an exception to the generalization I made about liberals. They were not satisfied with the way Student Government and their own College Democrat organization was operating on campus — and, rather than just complain, they took initiative and tried to change it. Look for a number of collaborative events this year from our two organizations as we attempt to get more students involved in the political process. I would point to the words of my friend and newly elected SG President Jonah Brown at Tuesday's State of the Campus Address, "We are consumed by our differences. There's still more that unites us than divides us."

Campus politics is a blast. Republican and Democratic students alike cheat themselves out of great memories, networking opportunities, valuable internships, leadership training, jobs after graduation and a chance to make a difference in the world if they stay on the sidelines during college. Our campus is in dire need of more passionate, motivated, involved and politically educated students. Maybe this column can help us find them.

Brent Burchett is a public service and leadership senior and chairman of UK College Republicans. E-mail kernel.opinions@gmail.com.

Help us make the Kernel better — in print and online

There seems to be a lot of controversy over exactly what the Internet is.



DARUSH SHAFI
Multimedia Editor

I know what it is — and it's not just a series of tubes. The Internet is a way for me to bring the news to you, and to bring it in many forms. It used to be that reporting and research meant going to the books or to the Rolodex. There are some days when I wonder how reporters did anything without the Internet and Google. We put the Internet to work for us in the news business, and now it's time for us to put the Internet to work for you.

Printed pages are still a favorite way to get the news, but as much as a print as any of us wants to be, there's one thing we have to admit: The printed page has its limits. Only so many stories and so many pictures can go in the paper. Forget about audio and video presentations, multimedia slideshows, blogs and the like. You won't find those in any newspaper nowadays, and for some time to come.

But audio and video, blogs and podcasts are the mediums that people are rushing to. For us in the news, we aim to make the news available in the forms you want it, and if that means making blogs and podcasts available, that's what we'll do. This is where I come in. My job is to make the magic happen. Putting the news and photos on-

line is just the beginning of my job. Redesigning the Kernel's Web site and making it more user-friendly is one of my top priorities.

I'll be adding more multimedia presentations, including audio from stories, picture slideshows, blogs from the various columnists and podcasts, too.

In the meantime, I want to give you, the Kernel's readers, your own opportunities to pitch in and have your voice heard, whether it be about the Kernel's multimedia opportunities or about the stories and pictures you see every day.

Currently on the Kernel's Web site, www.kykernel.com, there is a link on the left to our message board, where you can comment on the status of the work on the site. You can talk about what you like, what you don't like, what you want to see and what we should avoid.

Also, if you want to immediately make your opinion known on a story, photo, editorial or column that has appeared in the paper, you can leave a comment right at the bottom of the page, after the end of the piece.

By doing this, not only do you get to voice your opinion, but you also get to give the writer and the editors critical feedback, which helps us do a better job of reaching you.

In the end, the Kernel is a student newspaper, done by students, for the students. We want it to be the best it can be.

If you want to be a part of the process, whether it be just through your advice or by going hands-on and joining the staff, we welcome your input.

Darush Shafa is a journalism and English senior and is the Kernel's multimedia editor for 2006-2007. E-mail dshafa@kykernel.com.

Submissions

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

E-mail: kernel.opinions@gmail.com

Columnists needed

The Kernel is looking for new columnists to write for the Opinions page on a regular basis.

Columnists of all interests will be considered, but The Kernel especially seeks those who have an interest in campus and local issues.

Contact Wes Blevins at kernel.opinions@gmail.com

Fresh face gets off to great start

Ryan Wood
rwood@kykernel.com

As the fall semester gets into full swing, many fresh new faces around campus are still making the adjustment to life at UK.

Included in that group is freshman forward for the UK women's soccer team Katie Fahey.



Fahey

"It's very different," Fahey said of life away from her hometown of Ft. Wright. "Classes are going alright. I was expecting the worst and it hasn't been too bad."

One thing that has remained a constant for Fahey in her transition from high school to college has been her success on the field.

Heading into tonight's game against Eastern Kentucky, Fahey has scored all of the Cats (1-1-0) goals, including a game winner in last Sunday's match against Northwestern.

"You never know how freshmen are going to play coming into this environment," head coach Warren Lipka said. "Fahey has done a great job and adapted quickly."

But she isn't ready to take all the credit just yet. "It wasn't just me doing it out there," Fahey said. "The other girls play made me successful."

During her high school career at Notre Dame Academy, Fahey was a Northern Kentucky/Greater Cincinnati Athletic Association first team selection and was also named as the league's all-star game most valuable player. In addition Fahey was named as tournament MVP her junior year when her school won the state championship.

"We knew she was going to be a good player coming in," assistant coach Erica Whatley said. "We are very happy with her performance and hopefully she can continue on the path she is on and bring great success to UK."

Despite currently being the team's only goal scorer, Fahey wasn't originally tagged as a starter, coming off the bench in the season opening loss to

Cincinnati. Lipka felt he needed to find a new chemistry for his team in the next game against Northwestern.

"She played very well at Cincy and that's why we threw her into the mix at Northwestern," Lipka said. "She's a tough-nosed kid who works extremely hard and she's got good pace and great determination."

Originally slotted as a forward/defender, Lipka feels he may have found a home for her in the front of his offense.

"If she keeps on scoring goals like that, she ain't going to be in the back," Lipka said. "We have enough experience in the back that we can experiment with her up top and she's kind of taken to that position."

"She'll be in the first eleven against Eastern," Lipka said.

Sunday's showdown with Louisville at the UK Soccer Complex rounds out this weekend's Kentucky Invitational.

"I can't wait to play these in-state teams," Fahey said. "I've grown up here, I've seen everyone play."

"I've always wanted to get out there on the field and show what I can do."

No one is more pleased with Fahey's progress than her head coach, who feels scoring two goals in her first start is just a sign of things to come.

"She's proved that she deserves to be on the field," Lipka said. "Scoring two goals is a great way to start your college career. Hopefully she's going to be able to build from this and give her more confidence and get her more time for more opportunities."

Up Next

Who: Eastern Kentucky and Louisville
Where: UK Soccer Complex
When: Friday 7:30 p.m. (EKU), Sunday 2:30 p.m. (UofL)

Sports Briefs

Volleyball heads to New York

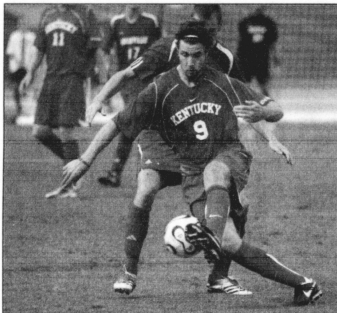
The UK volleyball team will head to Syracuse today for its first road trip of the season as it participates in the Big Orange Tournament. The Cats will play Syracuse University, Siena College and San Diego State.

UK enters the tournament after sweeping Western Kentucky 3-0 at home on Tuesday, a match where junior transfer Nicole Brittenker and sophomore Ashlee Fisher each had 12 kills.

Kentucky has faced off against both Syracuse and San Diego State before but has never played Siena College in its history. The Cats last played the Orange on Nov. 12, 2003 in Memorial Coliseum, where UK won 3-1. UK has not squared off against San Diego State since 1983.

O'Neill honored

Conference USA player of the week Riley O'Neill has earned more praise from the online magazine Soccer Times as the "Best of the Rest." The magazine has named O'Neill the second-best player of the week



ED MATTHEWS | STAFF

Senior forward Riley O'Neill has been named by the Soccer Times as this week's second best player in the nation.

in the nation, with Valparaiso player Paul Leitait named first in the nation.

In three games, O'Neill has scored four goals, including a hat trick in the season opener against Florida Atlantic.

Currently, O'Neill has 15 career goals and is the seventh-ranked highest goal scorer in UK history.

UK (2-0-1) will host Belmont this Saturday at 7 p.m. at the UK soccer complex.

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QUARTERBACKS PREVIEW

Andre Woodson was named starting quarterback this week, but Curtis Pulley is right behind him.

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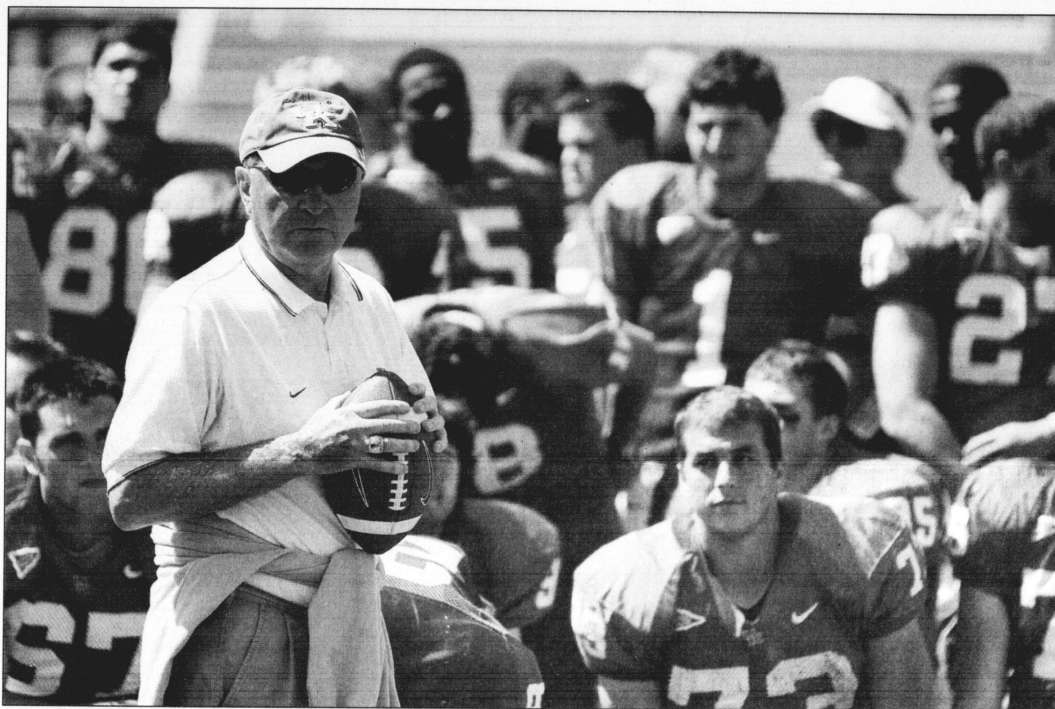
FRIDAY

September 1, 2006

PIGSKIN PREVIEW

A KENTUCKY KERNEL SPECIAL SECTION

LAST CHANCE?



Rich Brooks has only beaten two SEC schools in his tenure as head football coach. Fans speculated that Athletic Director Mitch Barnhart flirted with firing him after last season.

KEITH SMILEY | STAFF FILE PHOTO

Rich Brooks is 9-25 in his three years as UK's head coach. Athletic Director Mitch Barnhart decided to keep the man he hired to turn the football program around after another losing season. Did he make the right choice?

Barnhart made right call for UK, Brooks

Mitch Barnhart's heart told him the right thing to do.

As the debate raged on last fall about the job status of football coach Rich Brooks, everyone had an opinion on what UK's athletic director should have done. In the end, however, Barnhart looked inward for an answer. He elected to keep his coach.



CHRIS DELOTELL
Kernel columnist

"You have an ability in your heart to sense what's right and what's wrong," he said. "You start thinking 'What's the right thing to do, and what's reason-

able?' and you try to come to a conclusion. And I felt like in my heart that was the right thing to do."

He's right. Brooks' 9-25 record in three years at the helm has certainly been a disappointment. But firing him after last season would not have solved any problems. In fact, it would have created more.

A change in coaches would have meant a change in schemes, ideology and style. It would have meant scrapping the work Brooks and his staff have done to rebuild the program. It would have meant a betrayal of the trust of the players.

It would not have been the right thing to do.

"(Barnhart) knew that we wanted Coach Brooks to be here," sophomore defensive end Jeremy Jamon said. "We wanted him to be our guy. It meant a lot

(to keep Brooks). Barnhart knew where the players were coming from."

While Barnhart had the support of the team, he knew the decision would be unpopular with the fan base.

"In society in general, everybody is looking for the quick fix," he said. "If we don't like the way it tastes, we'll just spit it out and start all over again. Sometimes you have to acquire a taste for something."

"UK football fans have been really patient throughout history waiting for the ultimate prize, waiting for conference championships and BCS bowls," Barnhart said. "We want to bring them that ultimate prize, and I don't know that changing coaches every two or three years is the recipe for that."

The easy decision for the athletic director would have been to can Brooks and start over. It sure would have made

Barnhart's life a lot easier. He would have been praised for pulling the trigger. The fan pressure to win in football would have been relaxed for another two or three years, and Barnhart would have been able to come out of his office without being dogged by the questions about Brooks.

"The easy choice would have been to make a change," he said. "That would have been the easy way out."

But it wouldn't have been the right thing to do.

When Brooks came out of retirement four years ago to take the job, he vowed to build the program from the ground up. He promised to recruit freshmen, instead of quick-fix junior-college transfers. He waded through the muck of probation restrictions.

Brooks has done all of that. It is easy to view coaches as simply

pawns in a game. It is easy to want to toss the piece back in the box, pick out a new one and start again. But life doesn't work that way.

Brooks is, above all, a man who has dedicated the last four years of his life to building the UK football program the only way he knows how. He deserves a chance to be around to find out if it will work. If it does, Brooks will be the football coach at UK for a long time.

"He's a person of substance," Barnhart said. "He honors the game the right way. He respects the people around him and in the industry. He'll always do what's right for college football, and I hope college football is able to return that courtesy."

That would be the right thing to do. Chris DeLottell is an education sophomore. E-mail: cdelottell@kykernel.com.

2006 SOUTHEASTERN CONFERENCE

Editor's Note: This Southeastern Conference preview reflects the opinions of Kernel columnist Chris DeLotell.

EAST

Florida

Projected Record: 10-2 (6-2 Southeastern Conference)
Coach: Urban Meyer (9-3, 1 year; 48-11 overall, 5 years)
Key Players: QB Chris Leak, WR Dallas Baker, MLB Brandon Siler

The good: Meyer has had great success in his second year as head coach at Bowling Green and Utah. There is no reason to think that will change, as Leak has had time to learn Meyer's complex spread offense.

The bad: The schedule is the nation's toughest. Road games at Tennessee, Auburn and Florida State will be stiff tests. The Gators also play LSU.

The truth: They are the best team in a wide-open east. Leak will put it all together in his senior year, and the Gators beat South Carolina on Nov. 11 to clinch the division.

South Carolina

Projected Record: 8-4 (5-3)
Coach: Steve Spurrier (7-5, 1 year; 149-45-2 overall, 16 years)
Key Players: QB Blake Mitchell, WR Sidney Rice, CB Fred Bennett

The good: Any Spurrier-coached team has a shot at a championship, especially in this division. Mitchell, like Leak, will benefit from a year in the system. Defensive coordinator Tyrone Nix is one of the best.

The bad: The defense was hit hard by graduation. The Gamecocks might have to outgun the opposition, especially early in the year.

The truth: The talent is not quite there to win the league, but USC will be close. The division will be decided in Spurrier's return to Gainesville, Fla., on Nov. 11.

Tennessee

Projected Record: 8-4 (5-3)
Coach: Phil Fulmer (128-37, 14 years)

Key Players: QB Erik Ainge, RB Arian Foster, WR Jayson Swain
The good: It cannot be as bad as last year, when the Vols went 5-6. There is no quarterback controversy to tear the team apart, and David Cutcliffe returns as offensive coordinator.

The bad: A lack of experience on the offensive line and defensive front seven. An unproven running game must emerge, and Ainge has to regain his confidence.

The truth: The Vols will get out to a 4-1 start, but don't have the firepower or experience to win the division. They'll upset Florida on Sept. 16, but a loss at Arkansas will cost them the East.

Georgia

Projected Record: 9-3 (5-3)
Coach: Mark Richt (52-13, 5 years)

Key Players: QB Joe Tereshinski, DE Quentin Moses, S Tra Battle
The good: The defense will be tough. All three starting linebackers return, and Battle is a potential All-American.

The bad: Richt's offense was unable to win control of the quarterback job until last week. The gears might turn slowly on offense early in the year, as only four starters are back.

The truth: This is a "down" year for Georgia, but Richt always finds a way to win eight or nine games and contend for the division title. He'll do it again.

Kentucky

Projected Record: 6-6 (3-5)
Coach: Rich Brooks (9-25, 3 years; 100-134-4 overall, 21 years)

Key Players: QB Andre Woodson, RB Rafael Little, MLB Braxton Kelley
The good: This is Brooks' most experienced team. The entire starting offensive line is back. That is huge for Little, one of the nation's best backs.

The bad: Indecision at QB could cost the Cats. Woodson was named starter this week, but Brooks said sophomore Curtis Pulley will also see action.

The truth: Bowl hopes hinge on four games: Mississippi, South Carolina, at Mississippi St. and Vanderbilt. Win three of those, and UK will play a 13th game.

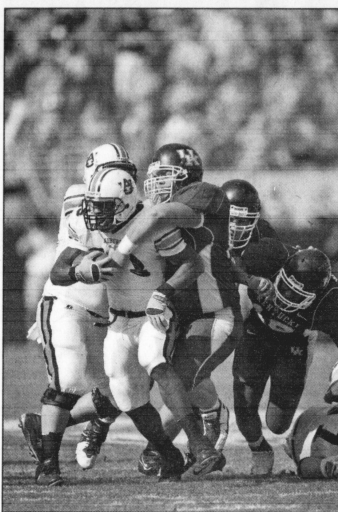
Vanderbilt

Projected Record: 3-9 (0-8)
Coach: Bobby Johnson (11-35, 4 years; 71-71 overall, 12 years)

Key Players: RB Cassen Jackson-Garrison, WR Earl Bennett, OLB Kevin Joyce
The good: Not much. The defense is one of the more experienced units in the division.

The bad: All-world QB Jay Cutler is gone, and so too are Vandy's hopes of competitiveness.

The truth: Last year's 5-6 campaign was a shot to break the decades-old bowl drought. It sure won't happen this year. Game of the year: Vandy at Duke on Oct. 28.



KEITH SMILEY | STAFF FILE PHOTO
Auburn senior running back Kenny Irons is tackled in this play by a herd of UK defenders. Irons is a preseason first team All-SEC pick on the team chosen to win the league.

WEST

Auburn

Projected Record: 11-1 (7-1)
Coach: Tommy Tuberville (60-27, 7 years; 85-47 overall, 11 years)

Key Players: QB Brandon Cox, RB Kenny Irons, OLB Will Herndon
The good: This is the conference's only hope for a national title. Irons, a Heisman trophy candidate, could explode. The defense is always one of the best in the country.

The bad: Cox must be more mobile. Both offensive tackles are inexperienced, and the QB could have make plays on the run.

The truth: The Tigers could go undefeated, but if South Carolina doesn't get them on Sept. 26, Alabama will ruin the perfect season in the Iron Bowl on Nov. 18.

LSU

Projected Record: 8-4 (5-3)
Coach: Les Miles (11-2, 1 year; 39-23 overall, 5 years)

Key Players: QB JaMarcus Russell, WR Early Doucet, FS LaRon Landry
The good: LSU might be the most talented team in the conference. Russell, Matt Flynn and third-stringer Ryan Perilloux could all start for most of the teams in the league.

The bad: Junior Alley Broussard must replace first-round NFL running back Joseph Addai. In experience at linebacker could lead to a slow start on defense.

The truth: After Arizona shocks them next week, the Tigers will be unable to recover in time for a league schedule that forces road games against Auburn, Florida and Tennessee. They'll disappoint.

Alabama

Projected Record: 8-4 (4-4)
Coach: Mike Shula (20-17, 3 years)

Key Players: RB Kenneth Darby, LE Wallace Gilberry, CB Ramzee Robinson
The good: The defense, which carried the Tide last year, will be again be outstanding. Darby is a grinder.

The bad: The losses of QB Brodie Croyle to graduation and WR Tyrone Prothro to injury will be too much for an already shaky offense to withstand.

The truth: The Tide will win some low scoring games, as they did last year. But the offense will be worse, and that will cause the defense to break more often. They'll be in the hunt for a West title until the final two games of the season: at LSU and against Auburn.

Mississippi

Projected Record: 8-4 (4-4)
Coach: Ed Orgeron (3-8, 1 year)

Key Players: QB Brent Schaeffer, RB BenJarvus Green-Ellis, MLB Patrick Willis
The good: Oxford, Miss., has become transfer central under sec-

ond-year coach Orgeron. Schaeffer, late of Tennessee, and Green-Ellis, from Indiana, will immediately pick up one of the league's worst offenses.

The bad: Orgeron's fiery personality sometimes gets the best of him. He made a few rash staff changes in the off-season, and game management must improve.

The truth: The Rebels will be the surprise team of the conference. This program could be competing for a West division title soon.

Arkansas

Projected Record: 6-6 (3-5)
Coach: Houston Nutt (57-40, 8 years; 93-62 overall, 13 years)

Key Players: QB Casey Dick, RB Darren McFadden, OLB Sam Olajubu
The good: The Razorbacks have a lot of experience, especially on the offensive line, where four starters return, and defense, with eight starters back.

The bad: Experience is great, but they weren't very good last year. The 'Backs won only two league games - against Mississippi and Mississippi St. There is no proven starting quarterback.

The truth: This team could surprise, but that hinges on quarterback play. Freshman Mitch Mustain will be starting by midseason.

Mississippi St.

Projected Record: 4-8 (2-6)
Coach: Sylvester Croom (6-16, 2 years)

Key Players: WR Will Prosser, DT DeJuan Robinson, MLB Quinton Culbertson
The good: The defense is good enough to keep it close.

The bad: It won't matter, because the offense stinks.
The truth: Bowl eligibility would be a minor miracle for Croom.

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Woodson, Pulley make giant strides over summer

By Jonathan Smith
jsmith@kykernel.com

Andre Woodson, by all accounts, is a totally different player.

Both mentally and physically, the junior quarterback says his game has improved significantly.

He's not the only one. "He's a totally different guy right now than he was then (freshman year)," said head coach Rich Brooks. "He's just approaching things a little bit differently mentally, and I think he understands our passing game and the offense much better than he did at any time last year."

Woodson began his transformation in the spring when sophomore Curtis Pulley made a charge for the starting spot. Pulley impressed the coaching staff enough to leave camp with the lead.

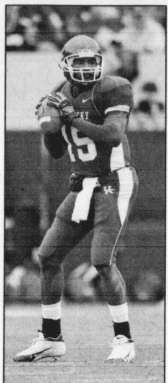
That's when Woodson got serious. "It was an eye-opener, obviously," said Woodson, the starter at quarterback in all 11 games last season. "At first I didn't take it very well."

After the initial impact of the switch, Woodson became more active in the weight room, reshaping his body. He also took charge on the practice field, leading and organizing the team during summer workout sessions.

Once all of his hard work was done, rumors swirled that one of the quarterbacks had taken a slight lead going into fall camp.

By all indications, it was Woodson. "It's all about how serious you're going to take this, and I've taken it to a different place," he said. "Right now I'm trying to push myself as hard as I can."

Along with having to im-



KEITH SMILEY | STAFF FILE PHOTO
Sophomore quarterback Curtis Pulley led the quarterback race after the spring, but lost the job in the fall to junior Andre Woodson.

prove as a leader, Woodson has had to cut down on the mistakes, head coach Rich Brooks said.

To better prepare Woodson, Brooks allowed the defense to hit Woodson in fall camp, a change from last year.

"I'm looking for as few negative plays as possible," Brooks said. "That means not taking a sack when you don't have to take a sack, not fumbling the ball, not throwing a lot of interceptions."

Pulley played well enough in the fall to stretch the decision until this week. Woodson's stats last year — a 57.7 completion percentage, 1,644 yards and six touchdowns — dwarfed Pulley's numbers, but quarterbacks

coach Randy Sanders said Pulley was in the competition because of his running ability and improved passing.

"The athleticism he brings to it is obviously positive," Sanders said. "He's got to continue developing and understanding what the offense is trying to accomplish each play."

Pulley said he opened the door for a quarterback controversy by maturing considerably between his freshman and sophomore years.

"I'm a whole lot better passer, and a more focused person on the field," Pulley said. "I'm more into the game and have a better grasp of the playbook. Now I won't be limited to doing certain things; I can do the whole offense."

Sanders added that the tight competition forced both players to get better.

"The great thing about competition is, you have to go out and work and improve yourself everyday on the practice field," Sanders said. "As a coach, that's the greatest thing you can have in competition, because guys get better every day."

When Rich Brooks named Woodson as the starting quarterback for the Louisville game, he said Pulley would see action at the position throughout the season.

Offensive coordinator Jaker Phillips said that under that scenario, he is confident that both quarterbacks can perform on the field.

"I think we are in a position that we can be pretty good at quarterback regardless of who the quarterback is," Phillips said.

But for now, it's Woodson. A much different Woodson. "This off-season, I've done wonders in stepping my game up," Woodson said. "I feel like I've gone up a few levels."



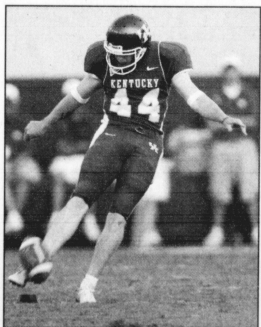
KEITH SMILEY | STAFF FILE PHOTO
Junior quarterback Andre Woodson talks to his team in a huddle last season against Auburn. Woodson won the starting quarterback job last week after working on his leadership over the summer.

Ball safe in Little, Burton's hands

By Jonathan Smith
jsmith@kykernel.com

Rafael Little and Keenan Burton, two of UK's most dynamic players, will be returning kicks again this fall for the special teams.

Too bad they can't kick. With the graduation of four-year starter, kicker Taylor Begley, and the inconsistencies of last year's punter Tim Masthay, Rich Brooks said the



KEITH SMILEY | STAFF FILE PHOTO
Sophomore kicker Tim Masthay struggled last year as a freshman, but should be much improved this year, Rich Brooks said.

kicking game is one of the team's biggest question marks heading into the season.

Brooks said earlier this week that the kicking game is a work in progress and that sophomore J.J. Housley will begin the season as the starter. Junior Brian Scott and freshman Lones Seiber are listed as possible starters on the depth chart along with Housley. Seiber ability is someone murky because he sat out the first two weeks of fall camp with a hip-injury.

"When you have a guy like Taylor Begley who has done it for four years, you knew what you were getting out of him. There were no surprises basically," Brooks said. "Now we have to go back and find another Taylor Begley. I feel good about the people competing there."

Masthay struggled last year as a true freshman, averaging only 36.4 yards per punt. Brooks said Masthay took his lumps during his first-year, but should be much improved this year.

"You're going to see a totally different Tim Masthay than you did a year ago," Brooks said. "He has tremendous talent. I think you could see the talent last year but you could also see that he probably was forced in to the role a year before he should have been because we didn't have anybody else."

Last season Little was fifth in the nation in punt return average at 16.9 yard per return. Burton, who injured himself on a kickoff return in the Idaho State game last year, has returned two kickoffs for touchdowns. Burton said he thinks the duo can set the offense up in better position to score.

"I want to make it exciting," Burton said. "I want to give the fans something like Raf (Little) does. If he can do it on punt return and I can do it on kick return then I feel like we're going to be good when it comes to field position."

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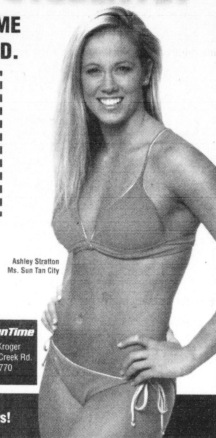
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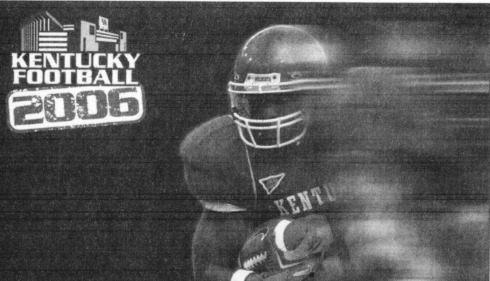


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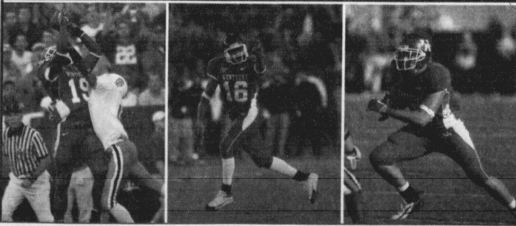
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The Kernel's Preseason Top 25 Power Poll

- | | | |
|------------------|-------------------|---------------------|
| 1. Auburn | 10. California | 19. Georgia |
| 2. Texas | 11. Louisville | 20. Michigan |
| 3. Ohio State | 12. Louisiana St. | 21. Tennessee |
| 4. Notre Dame | 13. Miami (Fla.) | 22. Texas Christian |
| 5. Southern Cal | 14. Penn St. | 23. Georgia Tech |
| 6. Iowa | 15. Virginia Tech | 24. South Carolina |
| 7. West Virginia | 16. Florida St. | 25. Texas Tech |
| 8. Clemson | 17. Utah | |
| 9. Florida | 18. Nebraska | |



Krystal Ball

Staff picks for the weekend of Sept. 2

Jonathan Smith

West Virginia 31, Marshall 20
Notre Dame 45, Georgia Tech 28
Florida St. 20, Miami (Fla.) 17
California 27, Tennessee 26
Southern Cal 38, Arkansas 24
Oklahoma 20, Alabama-Birmingham 19
Oregon 27, Stanford 21

Eric Lindsey

West Virginia 35, Marshall 10
Notre Dame 24, Georgia Tech 14
Tennessee 17, California 14
Southern Cal 38, Arkansas 10
Miami (Fla.) 13, Florida St. 10
Oklahoma 42, Alabama-Birmingham 7
Oregon 28, Stanford 3

Chris Miles

UK 23, UofL 20
Notre Dame 45, Georgia Tech 17
California 31, Tennessee 25
Arkansas 18, Southern Cal 17
Miami (Fla.) 24, Florida St. 21
Oklahoma 35, Alabama-Birmingham 14
Oregon 28, Stanford 17

Darius Shafa

UK 21, UofL 18
Georgia Tech 24, Notre Dame 14
Tennessee 14, California 3
Southern Cal 31, Arkansas 10
Florida St. 14, Miami (Fla.) 10
Oklahoma 10, Alabama-Birmingham 0
Oregon 7, Stanford 3

Sean Rose

UofL 48, UK 14
Georgia Tech 34, Notre Dame 28
Tennessee 31, California 28
Southern Cal 58, Arkansas 13
Florida St. 42, Miami (Fla.) 38
Oklahoma 14, Alabama-Birmingham 10
Oregon 32, Stanford 21

Hilly Schiffer

UofL 21, UK14
Notre Dame 34, Georgia Tech 24
Tennessee 21, California 17
Arkansas 40, Southern Cal 21
Florida St. 21, Miami (Fla.) 14
Oklahoma 24, Alabama-Birmingham 14
Oregon 14, Stanford 7

Ryan Wood

UofL 24, UK 21
Notre Dame 28, Georgia Tech 21
California 21, Tennessee 7
Southern Cal 35, Arkansas 7
Florida St. 31, Miami (Fla.) 28
Oklahoma 10, Alabama-Birmingham 7
Oregon 14, Stanford 3

Chris DeLotell

UofL 28, UK 20
Notre Dame 31, Georgia Tech 20
California 21, Tennessee 20
Southern Cal 28, Arkansas 17
Miami (Fla.) 17, Florida St. 14
Oklahoma 34, Alabama-Birmingham 0
Oregon 35, Stanford 14

Megan Boehnke

UofL 38, UK 14
Notre Dame 35, Georgia Tech 24
California 27, Tennessee 23
Southern Cal 38, Arkansas 17
Miami (Fla.) 17, Florida St. 14
Oklahoma 24, Alabama-Birmingham 10
Oregon 28, Stanford 17

Keith Smiley

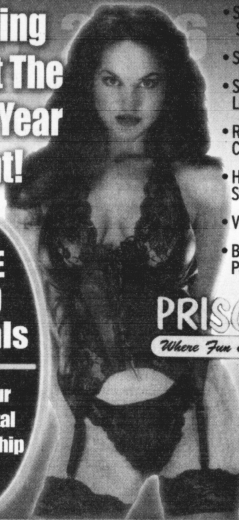
UofL 55, UK 10
Notre Dame 27, Georgia Tech 17
California 25, Tennessee 7
Arkansas 18, Southern Cal 6
Florida St. 32, Miami (Fla.) 12
Oklahoma 12, Alabama-Birmingham 3
Stanford 32, Oregon 23

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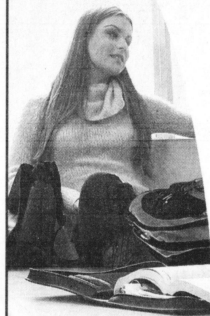
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