



## Hospital's nurses search for solutions

By Karla Dooley  
Contributing Writer

Poor patient care that could result from understaffing is weighing heavily on the minds of many of UK Hospital's 700 nurses.

Administrators say a lack of nurses is not the problem, but that issues of training and staff should be addressed.

Hospital management has been taking steps to settle the unrest since January, but to date the nurses are still unhappy.

Devauna Riley, a registered nurse who works on the sixth floor, said she fears not enough

care is being taken to ensure patients are being treated properly.

Patients have no continuity of care because no single nurse is responsible for them, and if patients have other problems than those they were originally admitted for, "it seems like we just blow them off," she said. "A lot of things fall through the cracks."

Riley said the grumbling among nurses started last summer, when nurses began caring for as many as six to eight patients each, rather than the five they had previously been responsible for.

"They had to close 6 South (Wing) because we didn't have

staffing," she said.

The understaffing has resulted in nurses being sent to work in areas of the hospital where they are unfamiliar with the routines, Riley said.

"I feel like my license is on the line every day I come in here," she said.

"Managed Care is driving all of this," said Louis Mucci, an R.N. in the Bone Marrow Transplantation at the Markey Cancer Center. "And nurses are absorbing most of the blow."

Both nurses said the stress levels on their floors are running high.

The need to "fill holes" in

other parts of the hospital has resulted in friction between the staff on his floor, Mucci said.

"They know their job, but it's not like it's their floor," he said.

And some nurses have even quit because they felt uncomfortable being moved to another area of the hospital, he said.

Riley thinks many hospital departments, such as clerical and housekeeping, are also understaffed, which creates problems for nursing.

"If other people did their jobs, we could do ours a little better."

Hospital administration has held 28 open forums to address the nurses' issues.

Karen Sexton, associate director of UK Hospital, said a lack of unlicensed personnel, not nurses, is the root of the problem.

"From an R.N. perspective, we are not staffing differently than we did five years ago," she said. "We are dealing with an issue of not being able to hire unlicensed personnel (who would act as an) extra pair of hands," she said.

"We are implementing things now to ensure that we are able to compete in the market for those individuals."

Sexton attributed the hospital's shortage of unlicensed workers to a low unemployment rate.

All professionals must deal with

the issue of moving from one department to another, no matter what their occupation, she said.

Cross training and better orientation are the keys to making the transitions smoother, she said.

"There are basics to providing care to patients," she said, "but there is a sense of unfamiliarity when nurses must leave their usual stations."

And not all nurses are dissatisfied with their jobs.

"I have no complaints," said Leslie Sorrell, also an R.N. in Bone Marrow Transplantation.

"It seems like the older nurses are a low unemployment rate."

See **NURSES** on BACK PAGE

### Building a new tradition



PHOTOS BY HEATHER PRICHARD *Special Contributor*

**TRASHY**  
Finance and marketing junior Julie Conrad (above, left) and Integrated Strategic Communications sophomore Mandy Adams picked up boards as part of Chi Omega's Habitat for Humanity warehouse clean-up. Melanie McCoy (right), a political science junior, mowed a skid during the clean-up.



## & Down & Dirty

### Fraternities, sororities search for Greek community project

By Mat Herron  
News Editor

To Kelly Hagan, trash is what it's all about.

Hagan, a biology junior, and members of Chi Omega social sorority got the chance to get up close and personal with trash and lumber Saturday as the group fanned out across Lexington to clean up several of the area's dirtiest lots.

"It was kind of fun getting dirty with a bunch of sorority girls," said

Hagan, a biology junior who worked at a lot on Jefferson Street.

For the project, the sorority went through Lexington Habitat for Humanity an agency that solicits the help of volunteers to provide low-income housing.

After they were given maps, three groups from the sorority cleaned up various parking lots, while the fourth worked in a warehouse off of Old Frankfort Pike.

Hagan's group had the worst of

See **HABITAT** on BACK PAGE

## Officials finding ways to stop hacking

By Joe Dobner  
Staff Writer

Some people steal cars.

Others, like the one who showed up on UK's networks recently, steal passwords.

A few weeks ago someone attacked UK computer systems, stealing passwords, disabling accounts and setting up explicit websites.

Administrators stopped the attacker before further damage was done, and now they are taking further precautions to make sure this does

not happen again.

The machine from which the attacker gained access to UK networks has been shut down.

"We'll most likely never find out where the attack was really coming from," said computer science professor Raphael Finkel on the machine being shut down. "I have no reason to believe it was anyone associated with the University."

System security has been beefed up in the college of engineering and in the computer science laboratory. The buggy utilities the attacker initially exploited have been patched, and the machines

that were attacked are now using TCP wrappers.

TCP wrappers work like contraceptive devices, providing a safe barrier between connected machines.

"So far as we can tell, we're pretty secure now," Finkel said. "We're denying access to cs machines from practically everywhere off campus."

Internet service providers students use, such as Microtec and Netcom, are not denied access.

Some of the local system administrators also

See **COMPUTER** on BACK PAGE

## Professor helping name heavenly body

By Aaron Sanderford  
Campus Editor

Imagine a surface so dark that a charcoal briquette is twice as bright.

Place that surface in deep space orbiting between Mars and Jupiter some 180,000,000 miles from the sun.

Draw a mental picture of an asteroid whose horizon is 40 miles long, and paint the thickness 31 miles at its peak. Taking a stroll around the deeply-cratered impression requires a 30-mile hike.

The rock is slightly more dense than water and less than half the density of a rock in your backyard.

Now imagine being asked to name the geological landscape of that asteroid, the third ever photographed up close — 253 Mathilde.

That is the challenge facing James Goode, an English professor at Lexington Community College.

He was notified by a team of researchers at Cornell University two weeks ago and asked to provide a theme for naming the surface features of Mathilde.

Celestial bodies and their features are named in themes to achieve consistency. The satellites of Uranus are named after Shakespearean characters, while the craters, hills and valleys of Venus are named after goddesses of love. One of the two other photographed asteroids has a surface theme of caves and grottos.

Only two naming trends are avoided: Nothing can be named after a living person, and nothing political can be contained in the name.

Jim Bell leads the research team at Cornell that contacted Goode. The group decided on a theme of coal mining and coal mining districts because of the dark coloring of the asteroid, he said.

A coal mining theme led Bell straight to Kentucky, where he began to search for an expert. A website was found for the Benham Mine Museum, a tourist attraction Goode helped found in his hometown of Benham.

Bobby Gothard, the curator of the museum, directed Bell's attention to the poet and mining aficionado at L.C.C.

Goode was raised in a coal family. His father was a coal miner. Both of his grandfathers worked in the coal industry. The mountain way of life fascinates him, and this was an offer he couldn't refuse.

"I don't know why, but people have always asked me about things I don't know about," Goode said. "I've been a lot of things in my life, and I've always had an interest in a lot of things, but nothing like this."

Given two weeks to come up with three themes, Goode called on his experience and on the help of a few colleagues.

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Andrews steered him to a large volume that contained the information Goode needed, but it was in a difficult format. Goode spent the next week and a half painstakingly highlighting, alphabetizing and organizing names of the world's coal deposits.

After getting them all down on paper, Goode then turned his attention to selecting a few names to linguistically represent each deposit's home country.

Bell said the work is a lot of fun, but it should be taken seriously. He said Goode has been a great help.

"You never know if you are going to pass this asteroid again," Bell said. "This stuff will be catalogued, and it may not be looked at for years, but you have to think big picture when you are doing something like this."

Goode couldn't agree more.

"Here's an opportunity to name something that will be called that forever," Goode said. "When he told me this would add to the permanent body of human knowledge, it seemed pretty important to me."



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# Marinik a life-long gymnast at heart

By Katy Crossen  
 Staff Writer

It's said that all things from Texas are big. Except for Misty Marinik. The 5-foot-1 junior from Temple, Texas is small in size, but her contributions to the GymKats are big in numbers. Marinik got involved in gymnastics at a young age just as she would shine. "I started doing gymnastics when I was 3," Marinik said. "My parents had triplets and they were getting all of the attention - they were scared I'd be a shy and lonely child, and I had all this hyperness in me, so they put me in gymnastics."

Marinik has since become one of UK's premier gymnasts this season, consistently competing in every event and contributing 9.8s and an occasional 9.9 to the GymKats' scorecard.

Thought Marinik had no idea gymnastics would take her as far as it has, she acknowledges that things haven't always been easy.

Since she was 3 years old, Marinik has been having the time of her life as a gymnast. "When I was growing up - from 3 to 8 - it was just fun for me, until my dad said 'We're going to try somewhere else (for coaching).'"

Then things started getting serious. Marinik lived away from home for seven years with her coaches, beginning in the sixth grade.

"I thought it was fun ... exciting," Marinik said. "But when I look back on it now, it was probably the worst time in my mom's life. I only saw my parents once a month, and I didn't get to see my younger sisters and brother grow up."

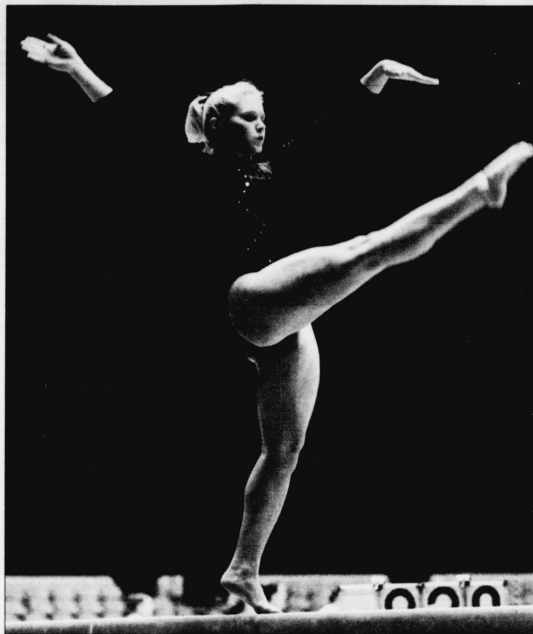
Marinik eventually became a competitive gymnast and has gained experience because of this hobby-turned profession.

But Marinik realizes her family has had to live without many of the good things which have accompanied Marinik's success.

"My family has sacrificed so much for me because this is a very expensive sport - I've traveled all around the world and they've barely left the state," she said.

This traveling Marinik's life has included trips to Germany, Italy and France for competition. She added that with age comes an appreciation for what her parents have made possible.

"It breaks my heart that (my parents) had to sacrifice so much for me, and they didn't get to share that moment with me because I had to by



JAMES CRISP Kernel staff

**ON HER TOES** UK gymnast Misty Marinik has blossomed into one of the GymKats' most potent performers. Her scores have been among the team's most consistent this season.

myself," Marinik said. "I didn't appreciate it then, but I do now."

**One and done**

Marinik wanted to continue her gymnastics career in college but was initially aloof about finding a collegiate home, until she visited UK.

"I really had no interest," Marinik said. "Coaches would call me and I was like 'Yeah, OK, whatever.' When (UK Coach) Leah (Little) called, it was the same thing. But when I got here, I just loved it."

Though Marinik fielded offers from Utah, Florida, Alabama and Washington, she visited only one campus.

She's been at UK ever since.

"Kentucky is a lot like home to me - everybody knows everybody," she said. "When I came to UK on visit, I loved the coaches and the girls - I really liked the team when I came on my recruit trip."

Off-the-floor life for Marinik in Lexington was an emotional turmoil. After living away from her parents for many of her formative years, Marinik had moved home for her senior year of high school.

She quickly became aware of the spoils of

enjoying her family on a daily basis. After growing accustomed to life at home, the transition to college life was hard for even this world traveler.

"When I came to school my freshman year, it was the hardest thing in my whole entire life to leave my family again," she said.

Marinik said it got a lot better her sophomore year, when she went home only twice.

**An eye on the future**

While gymnastics is a big part of Marinik's life, she says she's got other plans for the future.

"Aside from wanting to get married and having kids, I'd like to be in fashion merchandising, maybe retail," Marinik said. "I really want to go to design school in New York when I graduate - that's my ultimate dream, but I'm scared to live that one up."

But gymnastics will always be a part of her life.

"I don't think I could live without it," Marinik said. "I'd have to get involved with it somewhere - maybe be an assistant coach, maybe judging or the media - something so I can stay in touch with the sport."



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**Louisville guard arrested Sunday**

A second Louisville basketball player is in trouble with the law following a weekend altercation in the parking lot of a restaurant near campus.

Starting guard Marques Maybin was arrested early Sunday after allegedly threatening a police officer. He was charged with terroristic threatening, obstruction of a governmental order and disorderly conduct - all misdemeanors - and was released later Sunday from the Jefferson County jail.

Maybin's lawyer, Louisville attorney Jim Ellis, said Monday that reserve guard Cameron Murray also has been issued a summons warrant on disorderly conduct charges stemming from the same altercation.

According to police, officers were called to the parking lot of Masterson's restaurant near the school when managers said a crowd would not disperse about 2 a.m. EST.

**No answers for Tennessee**

Looking for a way to stop the No. 1 Tennessee Lady Vols? Auburn coach Joe Ciampi would start with Charles Barkley inside. LSU's Sue Gunter suggests drafting Michael Jordan for the job.

Arkansas coach Gary Blair has a better idea.

"I think they ought to send Tennessee straight on and let them play Columbus in the ABL and see who can come out," Blair said yesterday.

Instead, Southeastern Conference coaches get another shot at the 30-0 Lady Vols in the league tournament that starts Thursday in Columbus, Ga.

Compiled from wire reports.



# DiVersions

## Having a BALL

Leftovers make up three CD set

By Brett Dawson  
Senior Staff Writer

As eccentric musicians go, it's hard to top The Artist.

The former Prince has redefined himself — and renamed himself — more than perhaps any musician in recent history. But through it all, through the controversies and the perceived lunacy, one thing has remained a constant — he's always funkier than two-day-dirty socks.

The last two albums he's released — the stunning *The Gold Experience* and the masterful *Emancipation* — served notice that the man has returned to prominence if not platinum popularity. His latest release, *Crystal Ball*, reminds us that he really never left.

A three-disc collection of previously unreleased bootlegs and a few remixes, *Crystal Ball* is a slap in the face of the music industry, a just-cause-you-dared-me-I'm-gonna-do-it exercise in excess. From the get-go, The Artist goes all-out, ripping through the 10-and-a-half minute "Crystal Ball" with the kind of funk you thought he left back on *Sign O' The Times*.

*Crystal Ball* has a little of everything, from a completely improvised 15-minute jam with nothing more than a bass beat ("Cloreen Baconskin") to a song originally intended for use in a Broadway musical ("Strays of the World").

The music spans a range of periods in Prince's career. The funky, up-beat "Good Love" was recorded just after the breakup of *The Revolution*, around the same time as the infamous *Black Album*. "Crucial," a smooth ballad, was removed from *Sign O' The Times*, and replaced with the classic "Adore."

The liner notes, while sparse, give nice insight into each of the 30 songs presented on



**MIXED AND REMIXED**  
The Artist, formerly known as Prince, has released a massive three CD set, *Crystal Ball*, featuring remixes, bootlegs and other previously unreleased material. The set, which also contains an acoustic disc titled *The Truth*, is available in Lexington at Blockbuster Music in Turfhand Mall.

JAMES CRISP  
Kernel staff



MUSICreview

★★★★  
(out of five)

'Crystal Ball'  
The Artist  
(NPG Records)

*Crystal Ball*. The hilariously offbeat "Movie Star," for example, was included in the collection because it's the favorite bootleg of R&B crooner and Prince favorite D'Angelo. The collection's best ballad, "She Gave Her Angels," is a true story about the Artist's wife, Mayte.

That ballad stands alongside lesser-known tracks like "Don't Talk to Strangers" and "Sometimes It Snows in April" as one of the purple one's most heartfelt songs. The wailing guitar is reminiscent of "Purple Rain," and if there's any justice, "Angels" will become a concert classic, complete with swaying lighters.

Despite his like that, the collection isn't without its misses. When you're dealing with almost three hours of music, you're bound to have some tracks that could've easily been trimmed, and most of the remixes here fit that description. But *Crystal Ball* doesn't strive to be a top-to-bottom work of art. These cuts often

are less than perfect, and that's part of their appeal.

Besides the three *Crystal Ball* discs, the set contains a fourth disc, *The Truth*, an all-acoustic effort with stripped-down, smoothed-out numbers that serve as a warm contrast to the funk of *Crystal Ball*. The inclusion of the fourth disc makes the collection well worth its \$30 price tag.

Though it's almost a bonus gift, *The Truth* might be the best disc in the bunch.

The title track is a wailing, bluesy departure from just about anything The Artist has ever done, and the album's high point. "Don't Play Me" is about as cool as anything you'll hear anywhere. "Don't play me," he wails, "I'm the wrong color and I play guitar/My only competition is, well, me in the past ..."

Cocky? Sure. But when your bootleg material is better than a good two-thirds of the pop music releases in any given year, maybe you've got cause to be.

# Naked Emotion

Pittsburgh band makes national album debut

By John Foster  
Contributing Critic

Just east of downtown Pittsburgh, Pa., is a part of the city known as Oakland. Within a two-mile radius of Oakland there are three major universities and two colleges. The student population tops out somewhere around 50,000, and as you might guess, the live music venues thrive.

Among the standouts is Brownie Mary. Packed concerts and a lot of air time on several of the local stations drew the attention of recording labels. And now, five years after forming, Brownie Mary releases its national debut, *Naked*.

The lead singer, Kelsey Barber (she's naked on the cover, hence the album's title), sounds a little like a mix of Lisa Loeb and Veruca Salt. But Brownie Mary's success is based on equal parts sound and crowd-pleasing live show.

Barber sings baritone and stomps the stage exuding a presence that is stunning and seductive. Barber and guitarist Rich Jacques are the core of the four-member band. Between the two they wrote nearly the entire album. Says Barber, "I wanted to be singing about real life issues that still move me, something I believe in 100 percent."

Lyrical, two things come to mind. First, the band doesn't express anger at the world with vague and cryptic complaints, as is standard fare lately. It's a welcome relief to listen to



**HAIL MARY, FULL OF GRACE** Brownie Mary had a semi-successful LP debut with its new album 'Naked.'

a band that has something better to do than use the microphone to spew venom. Second, Brownie Mary expresses confusion with the world that is filled with some of those same vague and cryptic complaints.

For example, a montage of the confusion with corresponding track numbers proves this point: 2. "I'm Losing My Identity"; 3. "Tell Me What You're Really Thinkin'"; 5. "Wanting More Just to Feel Like I'm Heard"; 7. "I Fell Just a Little Behind"; 8. "Here I Wait for the Cold Shadows"; 10. "It's Hard Enough to Know Myself"; 11.

"We Just Sit Here Watching TV"; 11. "Right Back Where I Started From." Yes, there is a trendy inclination — "I'm lost, somebody help me." I kept hoping one song would grab and become more.

Musically, there aren't very many hard edges to be found on this album. That said, the first song, "Like I Really Do" starts with some distortion and heavy guitar that comes off fairly well. But from there it becomes progressive-ly mellow concluding with the almost country slow dance sound of "Silver," the final track.



MUSICreview

★★★★  
(out of five)

'Naked'  
Brownie Mary  
(Blackbird)

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# Viewpoint



## Blame for latest crisis rests on U.S. shoulders

### American policies continue to hurt innocent Iraqis

The battle cries ring loud once again. Washington continues to rally support for militaristic policies toward Iraq. The first Gulf War (more aptly called the Gulf Massacre — the killing of 100,000 Iraqi soldiers and thousands, if not tens of thousands of civilians) failed to dislodge Saddam Hussein.

Would further slaughter of the helpless Iraqi people do better? Is this "collateral damage" as the mainstream media puts it, or is it the relentless destruction of a civilian population?

per month, over half of which are children under the age of 5!

Hussein will not allow U.N. inspections of all facilities unless U.S. members are removed from the team. First of all, one U.S. member of the task force has proven to have ties to the CIA and was long posted in Saudi Arabia as an "intelligence officer." This seems like reasonable grounds for suspicion of U.S. spies.

Why is America unwilling to allow France, Britain or other nations to conduct these inspections? I would also like to bring to light that when the United States signed the Chemical Weapons Convention in the 1980s, there was one stipulation: that the President be allowed to bar inspection of specific facilities if it "compromised national security."



Luke Boyett  
Guest Columnist

Even if we do bomb Iraq, it won't accomplish our goal. We didn't get Hussein the first time and we won't get him now. The only feasible reason for the bombing is the destruction of his weapon stockpiles. Hussein cannot be allowed to stockpile weapons of mass destruction. The Iraqi arsenal barely compares to that of neighboring countries and is minuscule in comparison to just one percent of ours.

Furthermore, claims of Iraq having the resources to create biological and chemical weapons are largely unsubstantiated: The basis for these claims are 30 to 70 tons to possess biological and chemical weapons and we were to bomb these stockpiles, they would not be destroyed, but released into the ecosystem.

Besides, when did we care if Hussein used such weapons? The United States quietly averted its eyes when Hussein used chemical and biological weapons on the Kurds and Shiites. Let us also not forget that a large part of the Iraqi arsenal was funded or supplied by the United States during the Iran-Iraq war. Many existing weapons, if they still exist, did not get there without U.S. assistance.

I do not attempt to justify Hussein's actions. In the same light, I feel we cannot morally reconcile our own practices and policies towards Iraq, the most extreme being the recent OK of nuclear weapons in a first strike against Iraq.

That was in direct violation of the Nuclear Weapons Nonproliferation Act. In efforts to protect our economic interests, America has killed thousands of civilians because politics and money matter more than human lives.

Our leaders will continue this policy unless we raise our voices. I urge each and every person concerned with innocent lives to actively oppose violence or sanctions against Iraq and stress a purely diplomatic approach towards a solution.

Write your Congressman and the President more than once! Only relentless public pressure can affect government policy.

These sanctions, weapons of mass destruction in their own right, have thus far killed 1.5 million Iraqis, now at a rate of 10,000

Since the Gulf War, the United States has strictly enforced sanctions against Iraq in an effort to oust Hussein. While Hussein continues to live in luxury, Iraqi people are starving and dying from easily preventable diseases. Iraq has no access to medical supplies or even chlorine to purify drinking water, let alone food, clothing or other bare essentials.

These sanctions, weapons of mass destruction in their own right, have thus far killed 1.5 million Iraqis, now at a rate of 10,000

Guest Columnist Luke Boyett is a political science freshman.

## Buns of steel

We want to pump ... you up! Of course, that won't happen until major renovations are made to the Seaton Center or an entirely new complex is built. It's true that President Wethington has pushed up plans to give Seaton a face lift, but what is a fitness-challenged student body to do in the meantime?

We have a bone-crushing idea for the Student Government Association and other official bodies on campus: If we can't bring the gym to the students, let's send the students to the gym.

We envision a cooperative promotion between the SGA and one of the better-equipped gyms near campus like Fitness Now, Powerhouse Gym or World Gym. In exchange for the SGA promoting a single gym as the "Official Gym for UK Hardbodies," a gym would provide memberships to UK students at cut rate prices.

For this to be a legitimate discount to students, it truly has to involve significant savings

over the cost to the general public. For instance, \$15 to \$25 monthly fees just won't cut it. Instead, we are looking for a simple flat rate for the fall and spring semesters plus the summer. Perhaps something like \$40 to cover a student from September 1 through December 31; another \$40 from January 1 to April 30; and \$40 from May 1 to August 31.

That's only \$10 per month or \$120 for full month commitments and no sign-up fees. Further, the gym could offer a discounted yearly membership for \$100. These prices shouldn't break a gym financially because new money would be generated from students who otherwise wouldn't bother to sign up. It's mutually beneficial.

This would be a great savings to students who otherwise can't pay a hefty startup fee and commit to a multi-year, renewable contract. Further, it might ease overcrowding at Seaton until the long-overdue steps are taken to shape up UK's recreational facilities.

### IN OUR OPINION



Established in 1894  
Independent since 1971

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## READERS' forum

### Tempers flare in latest round of false alarms at UK

To the editor:

I must admit, if an atomic bomb was dropped on Washington, D.C., I wouldn't know it until my nose and ears started melting off from the fallout.

Why, you may ask? Because I spend my days walking around in a stupor induced from lack of sleep. However, it's not an adverse side effect caused by excessive partying or other college debauchery, with such a narrow mind and an itty-bitty brain, to answer, so I took to the streets in search of an answer.

I was in my duty, as a journalist and as a valued member of society, to answer this question. I've decided it is an awfully hard question for someone like myself, with such a narrow mind and an itty-bitty brain, to answer, so I took to the streets in search of an answer.

hours in below-freezing temperatures is a good idea. He really knows how to have a good time, doesn't he?

I'm not here to bitch about the RAs or the standing outside or even about getting woken up. I'm here to address the inconsiderate assholes out there like this guy who screw up life for the remaining 99.9 percent of the population.

Why is it that normal people go about their daily business, not bothering anybody, and along comes a rocket scientist who thinks it's fun to torment us?

"I'm sure you're saying, 'Well, if that person had a life, he wouldn't want to do that.' BINGO! That's the answer. So all you self-conscious, inconsiderate pricks out there — get a life, go home and leave the rest of us alone. You're not funny, you're a sick joke and we're all tired of your crap!"

What's truly sad is these people must be recognized by us before anything can be done. We should give them what they truly

deserve: our utter indifference and a swift kick in the ass. Instead we feed their ambitions by acknowledging that what they do is of some importance to us. I've got news for them. They are not cute or funny, they are annoying as hell.

To close my tirade on thoughtless morons, I would like to thank Haggin's own personal demon for making me see how truly sick and starved for attention people can be.

I will never hear another fire alarm without thinking, "Damn, not another one!"

For everybody else out there, the 99.9 percent of you who can constructively socialize with others, I leave you with this: Think about stuff before you do it.

A joke to one person is offensive to another. Respect others and you will in turn find you can respect yourself. Stand up for yourself, don't let these kinds of people control you. Screw them!

Chris Bradley  
chemistry freshman

### TALKback!

Readers are encouraged to submit letters to the editor and guest-opinions to the Viewpoint page in person or by e-mail.

Address your comments to "Letters to the Editor", Kentucky Kernel Editorial Editor; 35 Enoch J. Grehan Journalism Building; UK; Lexington, Ky. 40506-0092. Send electronic mail to kernel@pop.uky.edu.

Letters should be approximately 250 words; guest opinions should be no longer than 850 words.

All material should be type-written and double-spaced, but hand-written will be accepted if it is legible.

Include your name and major classification (for publication), as well as your address and telephone number for verification.

Check out the Kentucky Kernel on-line at www.KyKernel.com for more letters to the editor.

## Monty Python has nothing on our esteemed Mr. Rich

The age-old debate over "The Meaning of Life" has turned an important question into a cliché. On TV, in movies and in books, characters often discuss the meaning of life, but rarely does genuine debate occur.

It is my duty, as a journalist and as a valued member of society, to answer this question. I've decided it is an awfully hard question for someone like myself, with such a narrow mind and an itty-bitty brain, to answer, so I took to the streets in search of an answer.

I went to the center of all social activity, the mall. In the frenzy of the shopping scene, I came across an elderly gentleman sitting on a bench. Surely someone at his age has enough life experience to answer the unanswerable. So I sat down next to the old man and approached him with my question.

After the question crossed my lips, he paused, glaring across the hallway, gazing into nothingness. After a few moments of silence, I pressed him for an answer. He broke his gaze, turned to me and said, "The Meaning of Life is..."

He didn't finish his sentence because he was interrupted by the booming voice of his wife, "Harold, let's go to the McAlpin's underwear sale. You could use a few pairs." He looked back at me, got up, took his wife's bags and disappeared down the hall.

I was in stunned. In the time it took him to think it over, I'm sure he came up with an answer, but I was left empty-handed. Rather than stink over my loss, I returned to my quest for the meaning of life.

I left the mall and headed for the park. Children spend hours playing there, certainly they must have some time to ponder

their existence. I figured that if I could find just one child who had been spared a life of crass commercialism, then I could find the answer. The eight children all looked the same to me, so I pulled one from the fray and looked her over. Jessica was a good kid, covered in dirt with her shoes untied.

She was the perfect specimen, a child who had lived a life unaffected by the bickering of the adult world. I asked her my question and her answer was "cows."

Jessica told me that the meaning of life was cows, then hopped around and went back to playing with her friends. Now, don't get me wrong. I like milk as much as the next guy, but I am not willing to put all of my eggs in one basket.

Jessica's odd response needed some backing, so I surveyed the entire lot of children for a few minutes. I got one "Mommy," one "doggy doo," one "mud," one "cheese," two blank stares and one

answer that would have left a United Nations multi-lingual translator clueless.

I thought the dairy connection between cows and cheese might have had something to do with the meaning of life, that is until one kid pulled some cheese from his pocket, dropped it in the dirt, picked it up and then ate it.

Well, after failing to get an answer from the youngest and oldest our society has to offer, I decided to go with the college-educated answer. No, I didn't ask an adult because they are often too burned out on work and caffeine to be good for much else. That in mind, I decided to go with the wisest of all, the party-going college student.

After arriving at a party, I scanned the room for someone who looked as though they might hold the key to my quest. I approached a couch full of people having a good time at alcohol's expense. I pointed to a couple of them and asked my

question.

One of them, Dave, scratched his head and pointed to Paul sitting next to him. Professor Paul said, "Anyone who pontificates will realize that Natty Light bottles are good, but the Shockley is better." I can easily say that since I didn't have my Webster's handy, the college version of the meaning of life was going to be left without definition.

Disappointed, I left the party and decided to call off the search for the Holy Grail of all answers. Needless to say, if an old man, a bunch of rugrats and some intoxicated college students don't know the "Meaning of Life," then I guess the answer will be left up to the people in Hollywood. In fact, they are going to tackle the question next week, on a special episode of "Baywatch."

Kernel Columnist Ben Rich is a journalism junior. He can be reached at brich8@pop.uky.edu.



Ben Rich  
Kernel Columnist

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# Campus



## Open house spotlights engineering profession

By LaShanna Carter  
Staff Writer

National Engineers' Week started this week, and it will end with the UK College of Engineering's annual open house.

The National Society of Professional Engineers established National Engineers' Week in 1951. The week always takes place around the birthday of George Washington, a military engineer and land surveyor.

Now the organization is sponsored by 18 engineering societies and 12 major corporations with the help of hundreds of businesses, colleges, professional and technical societies and government agencies.

The purpose of the week is to increase public awareness and appreciation of the engineering profession.

Bob Dugan, director of Engineering Computing, and the coordinator of the week's events, said, "It is a time to show the public what engineering is all about, who they are, what they do and how they fit into society."

The role of engineers is often misunderstood in society, according to a booklet released by the College of Engineering for the week. Engineers are thought of as the people who "fix cars" and

"drive trains," but their importance is far greater than what is assumed.

"The open house is an excellent way for younger children to learn more about the engineering field and what a future in engineering involves," said Mike McGehee, an engineering sophomore.

Some UK engineering students had the chance to experience the open house when they were in high school.

"UK Engineering Day activities are great for students. I went to my first open house when I was a junior in high school," said Kim Glenn, a mechanical engineering junior. "Not only did it encourage me to remain in engineering, but it also helped me chose UK."

During National Engineers' Week, about 1.9 million engineers will be recognized for their achievements. They are responsible for planning, designing and directing the manufacture or construction of most every element of the world, from computer chips to airplanes.

The annual open house will take place on Saturday. This event is geared toward children in elementary, middle and high schools.

The children compete in a variety of contests that test their

imaginations and problem-solving skills. These contests give students a chance to learn through hands-on experience.

Some will build erupting model volcanoes. Others will test the physics of a 20-foot egg drop. In all, 10 competitions will be held for aspiring young scientists.

In addition to contests, self-guided tours of the engineering departments will be given, as well as information sessions, exhibits, displays and demonstrations.

The exhibits and displays are set up by the individual departments, and UK students will be at the booths. The demonstrations will be sponsored by 50 engineering and engineering-related companies in Kentucky and surrounding states.

Some of the exhibitors include Clark Material Handling Corp., Commonwealth Technology, Construction Specification Institute, Hitachi, the state Transportation Cabinet, Lexmark, Link-Belt, Lockheed-Martin, Mason & Hanger, Palmer Engineering, Toyota, Union Carbide and YH America.

Phillips Petroleum Company and Construction Specifications Institute are chairing the events.

Dugan said he expects between 1,200 and 1,800 people at the open house.

## Nurses

UK: Training, not staffing is real issue

From PAGE 1

completing a lot more." In addition to staffing problems, Riley also said the nurses at UK Hospital are paid \$2 to \$4 less per hour than nurses at comparable institutions.

The nurses will meet tonight at 8 at the Springs Hotel to discuss their concerns.

They met last Wednesday with representatives from the Kentucky Nurses Association, and they have been meeting regularly with union representatives, but have yet to find satisfactory solutions to their concerns.

"I'm not really sure that the nurses want a union," Riley said. "What we want is a say in the quality of care for the patient."

## Habitat

Greeks developing community project

From PAGE 1

the lots, and never made it back to the warehouse.

Overall, the members said, the experience was well worth the grime.

Most of the time, Greeks hold fundraisers for their philanthropies rather than hands-on activities.

The best thing is "probably the idea that we were actually doing work, something more than just raising money," said Betsy Ward, a biology senior. "We were really in the neighborhoods, really cleaning up. Getting more hands-on is always the nice thing."

The sorority got the idea to work with Habitat for Humanity after Kappa Kappa Gamma had worked on a house off campus for the agency earlier this year, Ward said. Chi-O had recently switched philanthropy officers and was interested in doing a project with the agency, she said.

For its philanthropy, the sorority doesn't limit itself to just one organization, Ward said. The sisters concentrate on literacy, sponsoring a Read Aloud program for younger children at schools such as Russell Elementary and Morgan Middle School. The group is currently working on a Read Aloud program for the elderly.

Habitat may soon get more help from the entire Greek community. Interfraternity Council President Josh Knipp and Panhellenic President Holly Harris are working on a Greek-wide philanthropy project that, if implemented, would have Greeks building or working on habitat houses every two years.

"We have a lot of different philanthropies, but we don't have just one single thing that we all can go in on. There's so much manpower, we can do so many things," said Knipp, a marketing sophomore.

Knipp proposes to get all fraternities involved in one big fundraiser, or see if they can donate money to go into a fund, and if they find another business to match it.

Knipp first got the idea when he was running for president last semester.

"We do a lot," Knipp said, "but it's all in different directions."

"When you have everybody putting energy into something like that, it doesn't take that much to do something big."

## A change of pace



Several former UK baseball stars signed autographs to help celebrate the opening of Valvoline Instant Oil Change on Nicholasville Road this weekend. A dollar from every oil change at every Valvoline in Lexington over the weekend went to the UK Children's Hospital.

HOBIE HILER  
Kernel contributor

## Computer

Officials offer ways to safeguard system

From PAGE 1

have set up a means of communicating with one another, so if one system gets compromised, the others are notified.

Users can do a number of things to keep their accounts from being broken into.

The first and most important, computer science professor Jim Griffiths said, is to not send an account's password over an insecure connection.

And most connections are insecure. Gene Spafford, a professor of computer science at Purdue, wrote in his book, *Practical UNIX and Internet Security*, that the only way to protect against eavesdropping in these networks is by using encryption.

All passwords are encrypted on the machine they allow access to, but the sort of encryption used to prevent a password from getting read while it travels around the network is the kind that encrypts the password before it gets sent.

That way, even if an attacker looks at the data being sent from machine to machine, as the one who attacked UK's machines did, the password can't be read.

This kind of encryption is available on most campus unix machines as ssh, or secure shell. It is used like other communications utilities, like telnet and rlogin.

Finkel recommends if at all possible, it should be used in place of these utilities.

For users attempting to connect to Unix machines from the student labs, currently no software is installed that will prevent passwords from being read over the network.

Users who connect from home can obtain an ssh client from Data Fellows ([www.datafellows.com](http://www.datafellows.com)) for Mac or Windows 95 for \$50 dollars. The unix version is free.

## EXCUSE US

The Kernel tries hard, but we're not always perfect. If we make a mistake, we want to correct it. If you've found a significant error, call us at 257-1915.

▼ A story in the Feb. 16, issue of the Kentucky Kernel, should have said that under Kentucky's child vehicle restraint law, a child must be 40 inches or 40 pounds to ride without a car seat.

▼ The teaser on the front of the Feb. 20 Kernel should have identified Mila Chitwood as a sophomore.

### An Invitation to Ashes and Lasagna

Wednesday, February 25  
Begin your observation of lent with Worship & Imposition of Ashes, 6:00 pm  
Lasagna & Fellowship, 6:30  
Hunter Presbyterian Church  
109 Rosemont Garden, 277-5126  
(off Nicholasville Road on mile south of UK)

## Societus Pro Legibus Annual Reception

← TONIGHT →  
Tuesday, February 24

Food will be available at 6:00 and the Program will begin at 6:30.

All Members Please Attend!

## MONUMENTAL SAVINGS



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Charles Simonyi Chair of Public Understanding of Science, Oxford University  
Zoologist • Darwinist • Author of the best-selling books *The Selfish Gene* and *The Blind Watchmaker*

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THE SCIENCE OF VALUES

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