

2007-08

HOOPS PREVIEW



Billy Gillispie welcomed lofty goals when he first arrived in the Bluegrass. Tonight he begins the journey to return UK to prominence.

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Player-by-player analysis of the men's roster



#11
Senior guard
Samantha
Maloney

THE 'G' FACTOR

By Travis Waldron
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In late December 1954, *The Philadelphia Inquirer* wrote, "Apparently the University of Kentucky basketball dynasty is to continue forever."

No one knew then that UK's dominance of the college basketball world would continue for the next 50-plus seasons, and the *Inquirer's* statement has stood as a testament to the UK way of basketball since it was written.

But now, mired in a 10-season Final Four drought, the UK program has found itself on the brink of a new era, one headed by a man UK fans have come to know simply as "Billy Clyde."

Billy Gillispie, only the sixth UK coach since 1930, inherits a program aching for the fresh start the new coach offers. Previous head coach Tabby Smith endured a 10-year ride filled with a national championship and numerous late-season let-downs. Finally, the fan frustration came to a breaking point over the last two seasons.

UK limped to a 22-13 season two years ago and a similar 22-12 record last year, each ending in the second round of the NCAA Tournament.

Still, the Cats — ranked No. 22 in the ESPN/USA Today preseason poll — are a talented team, Gillispie said.

"These guys have been very well coached, and they've been very well taught," he said. "I've never gone into a situation where the team won as many games as they did. Usually that's not when coaching changes occur. I'm very fortunate to be in this position, for many reasons, but you don't

usually inherit as many good players as we've inherited."

Gillispie has started the new era by seemingly doing everything right — signing blue-chip recruits, getting fans excited and handling the media with the charm of the Southern gentleman he says he is.

But Gillispie knows as well as anyone that none of that matters to UK fans if he doesn't do something else just as well: win basketball games.

"It's easy to be fantastic when we haven't lost any games," Gillispie said.

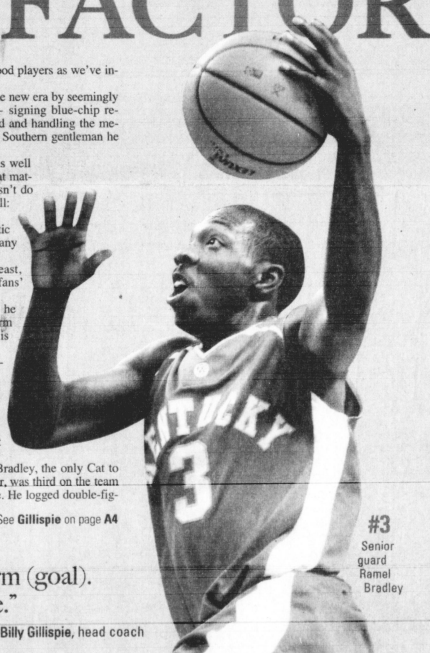
Gillispie's goals, at least, are in line with the fans' expectations.

"Win every game," he said. "That's the short-term (goal). And the long-term is win every game."

UK's success this season will likely depend on the depth and experience of the backcourt. The top-three returning scorers are all guards, and five played in at least 29 games.

Senior guard Ramel Bradley, the only Cat to start all 34 games last year, was third on the team with 13.8 points per game. He logged double-fig-

See Gillispie on page A4



#3
Senior guard
Ramel
Bradley

Win every game. That's the short-term (goal).
And the long-term is win every game."

— Billy Gillispie, head coach

Mitchell helps Cats put the past behind

Players mentally tougher after disappointing season

By James Pennington
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With the beginning of a new season, the UK women's basketball players can finally put last year's disappointments behind them.

Last season was filled with late-game meltdowns when the Cats failed to pull out close games. While first-year UK head coach Matthew Mitchell doesn't like to speculate on what happened late in games last year, he has taken a different approach to making sure his players are more focused and prepared at the end of games.

"Our minds are very powerful

tools," Mitchell said, "and we're trying to sharpen our players' minds as well as their bodies."

Mitchell knows the Cats can only be mentally tough during their games if the players are given opportunities to test their mindset in practice.

Last season, 11 of the Cats' 14 losses were by 10 points or less. Despite so many close games, Mitchell is not using last year's results as a motivational tool for his team.

"We honestly have not had one conversation about last year," Mitchell said. "That's not anything I think can benefit us right now."

The Cats came into last season ranked No. 15 in the Associated Press preseason poll. With such high expectations to fill, the team finished with a

disappointing 20-14 overall record, including a 6-8 record in Southeastern Conference play.

Of the eight conference games the Cats lost last season, three were in overtime.

Since UK fell just short in so many close contests last year, senior guard Chante Bowman said the team must improve in crucial situations.

"We were upset when we lost those close games last year," Bowman said. "We need to continue to put in the work and progress as a team."

Mitchell said even with four returning starters, the Cats are not the most talented team in the SEC. However, that isn't stopping him from preparing his players to work hard.

"It's our job as coaches to point them in the right direction, but they're the ones who ultimately have to get it done," Mitchell said. "I stress that the only way to prepare for that is to give your absolute maximum from a pre-

pared standpoint."

All the players said they're striving for the goal Mitchell set.

"We want to be known as a hard-working team, because that makes us so proud of ourselves," said freshman guard Amber Smith. "We want to go out there and give it everything we have."

With the Cats' first exhibition game against Kentucky Wesleyan on Thursday, Mitchell and this year's UK Hoops players are excited to hit the floor at Memorial Coliseum to prove what hard work on the practice court can do for a team.

"We will not be the most talented team in the SEC this year, but we do have enough talent that if we maximize our talents and come together as a team, we can be very special," Mitchell said. "We try not to fool the players into thinking just anything can happen. We're going to have to work hard in order to be that team."

TOP PHOTO BY KEITH SMILEY, ABOVE PHOTO BY BRAD LUTTRELL, LEFT PHOTO BY ELLIOTT HESS | STAFF

WOMEN'S BASKETBALL ROSTER

00 Carly Ormerod



Class
Junior
Position
Guard
Height
5' 8"
Hometown
Louisville, Ky.

For the third-straight season, it will be Ormerod's responsibility to pilot UK's offense from the point guard position. Known for her great ball-handling skills and heady play, Ormerod led the Cats in both assists (122) and steals (41) to go along with 9.9 points per game in 2006-07. Her take-charge attitude makes her the ideal floor general for the Cats this season.

1 Eleia Roddy



Class
Junior
Position
Forward/Center
Height
6' 3"
Hometown
Columbus, Ohio

A torn ACL cost Roddy her entire 2006-07 season, but the forward was able to redshirt and gain another year of eligibility. The Cats will rely heavily on Roddy's aggressive play in the frontcourt in 2007-08. Expect to see Roddy in the starting lineup as long as she stays healthy.

2 Chelsea Chowning



Class
Senior
Position
Guard
Height
6' 0"
Hometown
Louisville, Ky.

A former Kentucky Miss Basketball runner-up, Chowning returns to the Bluegrass for her final year of college eligibility after spending the spring of 2007 playing amateur club basketball in Germany. Chowning played at Xavier, where she averaged 2.7 points per game, from 2003 to 2005 before transferring to UK's College of Pharmacy.

4 Sarah Elliott



Class
Senior
Position
Center
Height
6' 6"
Hometown
McKee, Ky.

Elliott will no doubt be the anchor in the middle for this year's UK Hoops team. The Cats' greatest post threat was last year's leading scorer, averaging 13.5 points per game. The 6-foot-6 senior blocked a team-high 50 shots, averaged 7.0 rebounds per game as a junior and has the potential to control the paint defensively this season.

5 Carly Morrow



Class
Freshman
Position
Guard
Height
5' 11"
Hometown
Chattanooga, Tenn.

Referred to by some scouts as a "certified gym rat," Morrow was recruited for her abilities as a pure outside shooter. As a freshman, Morrow could already be one of the Cats' most potent outside threats, and with her work ethic and time in the gym, she will only get better.

10 Ali Lomax



Class
Freshman
Position
Guard
Height
5' 9"
Hometown
Lake Oswego, Ore.

The Oregon native passed up several scholarship offers from schools in the Pacific Northwest to walk on at UK after averaging 10.0 points, 5.5 rebounds and 5.0 assists per game as a senior in high school. Her father, Neil, played 10 seasons as quarterback in the NFL for the Arizona Cardinals, and her older brother Nick is a redshirt sophomore quarterback for Boise State. With her lineage of athletics, Lomax is expected to provide the Cats with gritty defense and intangibles.

11 Samantha Mahoney



Class
Senior
Position
Guard
Height
5' 10"
Hometown
Detroit

Mahoney averaged 12.4 points as a junior last season while averaging more than 30 minutes a game. The Detroit native could be the Cats' greatest scoring threat with the ability to penetrate and finish strong near the basket or step outside and knock down perimeter jump shots. The senior started all 34 games for UK last season.

12 Lydia Watkins



Class
Sophomore
Position
Guard/Forward
Height
6' 1"
Hometown
Hopkinsville, Ky.

After missing her entire senior season of high school with a back injury, Watkins stepped into UK and averaged 9.8 minutes as a freshman. Playing with eight screws in her back, Watkins displayed fearlessness on the court, taking eight charges for the Cats last season. With a full season under her belt, Watkins should continue to see consistent minutes as a reserve for the forward and guard positions.

15 Brittany Edelen



Class
Sophomore
Position
Forward
Height
5' 9"
Hometown
Springfield, Ky.

At just 5-foot-9, Edelen played both the small forward and power forward positions last season, and she is arguably the Cats' best raw athlete. The undersized Edelen excels at rebounding and can knife her way to the basket and finish. The sophomore pulled down 1,752 rebounds in her high-school career at Washington County — the fifth most in state history — and will continue to be a dominant force on the boards for UK this season.

20 Chante Bowman



Class
Senior
Position
Guard
Height
5' 11"
Hometown
Detroit

Bowman is known much more for her leadership and defensive presence than her scoring prowess (she has averaged just 3.7 points per game for her career). The senior has started 91 of the 96 games she's played in, thanks in large part to her tremendous energy and strong work ethic. Bowman will continue to provide those intangibles to the team as a starter again this season.

21 Jenn'e Jackson



Class
Junior
Position
Forward/Center
Height
5' 11"
Hometown
Radcliff, Ky.

The injury to Roddy last year thinned UK's frontline considerably, which forced Jackson to take on more responsibility as a sophomore. She was the first substitute off the bench in 19 games for the Cats last season, averaging 10.1 minutes, and she showed flashes of what she is capable of defensively, blocking a career-high four shots against Ole Miss on Jan. 14. Jackson showed vast signs of improvement last year, and if she can become more physical, she might be poised for a breakout season during her junior campaign.

24 Amber Smith



Class
Freshman
Position
Guard
Height
5' 5"
Hometown
Winter Haven, Fla.

Smith will back up Ormerod at the point guard position this season. As a high school senior, Smith averaged 7.0 points and an impressive 8.2 assists per game. The freshman compensates for her 5-foot-5 frame with blinding quickness and tremendous body control, giving her the ability to get into the lane and finish over bigger defenders.

25 Amani Franklin



Class
Sophomore
Position
Guard
Height
5' 11"
Hometown
Decatur, Ga.

Franklin got better and better with every game she played last season. As a freshman, Franklin averaged just 3.0 points in nine minutes per game, but she came on strong toward the end of the season, scoring a career-best 17 points against Florida on Feb. 25. The Cats hope Franklin picks up right where she left off last season, and with continued improvement, she could develop into one of UK's most explosive scorers.

32 Catina Bett



Class
Freshman
Position
Center
Height
6' 5"
Hometown
Gadsden, Ga.

Bett averaged a double-double in points and rebounds in both her junior and senior years of high school. An active player in the paint, Bett possesses the touch around the basket and the size to make an immediate impact in UK's frontcourt. Bett is likely to play behind Elliott and Roddy, but she could be the first Cat called upon off the bench.

34 Victoria Dunlap



Class
Freshman
Position
Forward
Height
6' 1"
Hometown
Nashville, Tenn.

A versatile swing player, Dunlap can score both from the outside and off penetration. The two-time Tennessee Miss Basketball finalist plans to compete for UK's track and field team as well. As a high-schooler, Dunlap became Brentwood Academy's all-time leading scorer and rebounder with 1,442 points and 584 rebounds. Fans should expect major contributions from this freshman in the near future.

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Head coach Matthew Mitchell addresses his team after a scrimmage at Big Blue Madness on Oct. 12.

ELLIOTT HESS | STAFF

2007 - 2008 Southeastern Conference breakdown

The following are the projected final standings for each team in the Southeastern Conference, as predicted by the Kernel sports staff.

EAST



Tennessee senior guard Chris Lofton, considered one of the country's best 3-point shooters, leads a talented Volunteers' squad that is expected to contend for a national championship.

Tennessee

Last season: 24-11 (10-6 SEC)
Postseason: Lost to Ohio State in the regional semifinals of the NCAA Tournament
Head coach: Bruce Pearl (46-19, 3rd year)
Key returners: F Ryan Childress, F Wayne Chism, F Duke Crews, G Chris Lofton, G Jajuan Smith, G Ramar Smith
Key losses: F Dane Bradshaw
Fresh faces: F Steven Pearl, G/F J.P. Prince, F Tyler Smith, G/F Cameron Tatum, C Brian Williams
Outlook: The Volunteers appear to have all the right pieces to the puzzle for an SEC Championship and a deep run in the NCAA Tournament come March. Lofton, one of the country's best 3-point shooters, leads a talented and experienced team loaded with guards. If Iowa transfer Tyler Smith can contribute right away in the post, the Vols will have very few weaknesses, if any.

Kentucky

Last season: 22-12 (9-7 SEC)
Postseason: Lost to Kansas in the second round of the NCAA Tournament
Head coach: Billy Gillispie (1st year)
Key returners: G Ramel Bradley, G Joe Crawford, G Derrick Jasper, G Jodie Meeks, F Perry Stevenson
Key losses: C Randolph Morris, F Bobby Perry
Fresh faces: G Alex Legion, F Patrick Patterson, G A.J. Stewart, C Morakinyo Williams
Outlook: Gillispie immediately injected a dose of heightened expectations the second he arrived on UK's campus. With veterans Bradley and Crawford returning and a stellar recruiting class coming in, the Cats should give Tennessee a run for their money in the SEC East. But the departure of Morris leaves the Cats thin in the paint, a heavy burden that first-year player Patterson will have to deal with.

Florida

Last season: 35-5 (13-3 SEC)
Postseason: Defeated Ohio State in the national championship game
Head coach: Billy Donovan (261-103, 12th year)
Key returners: G Walter Hodge, F/C Marreese Speights
Key losses: F Corey Brewer, G Taurean Green, C Al Horford, G Lee Humphrey, F Joakim Noah
Fresh faces: F Adam Allen, G/F Nick Calathes, G Hudson Fricks, G Jai Lucas, F Chandler Parsons, G/F Shane Payne, F Alex Tyus
Outlook: No team in college basketball lost more to the NBA and graduation than Florida. Still, don't expect the Gators to flop in the SEC this year. Donovan reeled in a number of high-school superstars in this year's recruiting class, and many of them should see minutes right away. The success of Florida will depend heavily on freshmen performances.

Vanderbilt

Last season: 22-12 (10-6 SEC)
Postseason: Lost to Georgetown in the regional semifinals of the NCAA Tournament
Head coach: Kevin Stallings (144-108, 8th year)
Key returners: G/F Shan Foster, G Alex Gordon, F Ross Neltner
Key losses: G/F Derrick Byars, G Dan Cage, C Ted Skuchas
Fresh faces: F Keegan Bell, G/F Charles Hinkle, F Darshawn McClellan, C A.J. Ogilvy, F Andre Walker
Outlook: Losing Byars will be tough for the Commodores, but having Foster back should cushion the blow. Tennessee is the obvious favorite to win the SEC East, but behind them it's wide open. Vanderbilt could lead the charge for second if Foster can continue to put up big numbers and if Stallings can get some solid contributions from his big boys down low.

Georgia

Last season: 19-14 (8-8 SEC)
Postseason: Lost to Air Force in the second round of the National Invitation Tournament
Head coach: Dennis Felton (58-63, 5th year)
Key returners: F Takaia Brown, G Sundiata Gaines, G Billy Humphrey, G Mike Marcar, G/F Terrence Woodburn
Key losses: F Steve Newman, G Levi Stukes
Fresh faces: F Chris Barnes, G Troy Brewer, F Jeremy Jacob, F Jeremy Price, G Zac Swansay
Outlook: Felton has won just one NCAA Tournament game since taking over for former head coach Jim Harrick. Felton isn't quite on the hot seat yet, but he will be if he doesn't guide his team to the tourney this year. The Bulldogs bring back a wealth of experience, but every young move will be looked at under a microscope this season.

South Carolina

Last season: 14-16 (4-12 SEC)
Postseason: None
Head coach: Dave Odom (114-86, 7th year)
Key returners: F Dominique Archie, G/Dwayne Day, G Brandis Raley-Ross
Key losses: G Tre Kelley, G/F Bryce Sheldon, F Brandon Wallace
Fresh faces: G Branden Conrad, G Trevor Deloach Jr., G Devon Downey, G Zam Fredrick, F Michael Holmes, F Sam Muldrow III, F Austin Stead
Outlook: USC was bad last season. They likely won't be much better this year. The Gamecocks lost their best player in Kelley and don't return anybody who amounts to much of a scoring threat. Cincinnati transfer Downey is a speedy guard who can put up points in a hurry, but he alone won't be able to dramatically improve USC this season.

WEST

Alabama

Last season: 20-12 (7-9 SEC)
Postseason: Lost to Massachusetts in the first round of the NIT
Head coach: Mark Gottfried (67-99, 9th year)
Key returners: F Alonzo Gee, F Richard Hendrix, G/F Mykal Riley, G Ronald Steele
Key losses: F/C Jermaine Davidson
Fresh faces: G Senario Hillman, F Justin Knox, G Rico Pickett
Outlook: The return of a healthy Steele could make all the difference for the Crimson Tide this season. The senior was hindered by injuries all last year, but if the explosive guard can regain his speed, Alabama should expect a comfortable stay in the top 25.

Arkansas

Last season: 21-14 (7-9 SEC)
Postseason: Lost to Southern California in the first round of the NCAA Tournament
Head coach: John Pelphrey (1st year)
Key returners: G Patrick Beverley, G Gary Ervin, C Steven Hill, F Charles Thomas, F/C Darian Townes, G/F Sonny Weems
Key losses: None
Fresh faces: G Marcus Britt, G Nate Rakestraw, G Levan Patsatsia, F Michael Sanchez

Outlook: The Razorbacks return basically the same team that underachieved last year, which ultimately led to Stan Heath's firing. But under former UK legend Pelphrey and a bevy of experienced players, the Razorbacks should contend in the SEC West. Whether or not Pelphrey can get everyone enough touches on a talented senior-laden team is the biggest question surrounding Arkansas in the 2007-08 season.

Mississippi State

Last season: 21-14 (8-8 SEC)
Postseason: Lost to West Virginia in the semifinals of the NIT
Head coach: Rick Stansbury (185-104, 10th year)
Key returners: G/F Jamont Gordon, G Ben Hansbrough, F/C Charles Rhodes, G Barry Stewart
Key losses: G/F Reginald Delk, G/F Richard Delk, G/F Dietric Slater
Fresh faces: F Kodi Augustus, F/C Elgin Bailey, G Riley Benock, G Brandon Bolen, F/C John Harris, F/C Brian Johnson, G/F Raven Johnson, G Phil Turner
Outlook: Expectations are quickly rising in Starkville, Miss. The Bulldogs have one of the best inside-out presences in the SEC with the combination of Gordon and Rhodes. Stansbury has added to the talent down low with a huge recruiting class that features Raven Johnson, a prolific scorer, and Brian Johnson, a Louisville transfer.

Auburn

Last season: 17-15 (7-9 SEC)
Postseason: None
Head coach: Jeff Lebo (43-48, 4th year)
Key returners: F Korvotey Barber, G Rasheem Barrett, F Josh Dollard, F Quan Prowell, G Quantez Robertson, G Frank Tolbert
Key losses: None
Fresh faces: F Tyrell Lynch, C Boubacar Sylla, G Larry Williams Jr.
Outlook: The Tigers return their top seven leading scorers from a year ago. But will that be enough to help them finally return to the postseason for the first time since 2002? That question remains to be answered. No SEC team returns the amount of experience the Tigers have, but does that really matter if their players aren't that good?

Louisiana State

Last season: 17-15 (5-11 SEC)
Postseason: None
Head coach: John Brady (184-126, 11th year)
Key returners: G Terry Martin, G/F Tasmin Mitchell, G Garrett Temple
Key losses: F Glen Davis, F Darrell Lazare
Fresh faces: F Garrett Green, F Anthony Randolph, G Bo Spencer, G Marcus Thornton, F Quintin Thornton

Outlook: The Tigers should be hungry for the season to start after an extremely disappointing 2006-07 year. Rebounding from last season will be easier said than done, though, with the loss of Glen "Big Baby" Davis. If LSU wants to compete in the SEC West, they'll have to rely on Mitchell and Martin to carry them offensively and hope blue-chip recruit Randolph can fill the absence of Davis in the middle.

Ole Miss

Last season: 21-13 (8-8 SEC)
Postseason: Lost to Clemson in the second round of the NIT
Head coach: Andy Kennedy (21-13, 2nd year)
Key returners: C Dwayne Curtis, F Kenny Williams
Key losses: G Todd Abernethy, G/F Bam Doyne, G Clarence Sanders
Fresh faces: F Kevin Cantinol, G Trevor Gaskins, G Zach Graham, G David Huertas, F Wesley Jones, F Will Poole, G Chris Warren, F Terrence Watson, F Malcolm White
Outlook: Kennedy did an amazing job in his first year as head coach of the Rebels and almost led Ole Miss to an NCAA Tournament appearance. But as promising as the future looks for the Rebels under Kennedy, it probably won't appear that way this year. The losses of Abernethy, Doyne and Sanders will prove too hard to replace, as the Rebels are likely to struggle in the 2007-08 season.



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MEN'S BASKETBALL ROSTER

1 Alex Legion



Class Freshman
Position Guard
Height 6' 4"
Weight 159 lbs.
Hometown Inkster, Mich.

Legion is another impact guard whom head coach Billy Gillispie will have in his arsenal. After a coaching change at Michigan, Legion opted out of going there and instead chose UK. He's big, he can handle the rock, and he'll be breathing down Derrick Jasper's neck for playing time. Legion transferred to Oak Hill Academy (Va.) to finish his high-school career. There he averaged 19.6 points while shooting 53 percent from the field and 42 percent from 3-point range.

2 Matt Scherbenke



Class Sophomore
Position Guard
Height 6' 0"
Weight 175 lbs.
Hometown Detroit

Scherbenke, a transfer from Oral Roberts, comes in as a prolific 3-point shooter. In high school, he shot an amazing 47 percent from beyond the arc at powerhouse high school Oak Hill Academy (Va.). He has a number of his teammates playing ahead of him, so he has to make the best of every open shot that comes his way.

3 Ramel Bradley



Class Senior
Position Guard
Height 6' 2"
Weight 199 lbs.
Hometown New York

Last season Bradley was a factor on both sides of the court, leading the Cats in assists (3.7) and steals (1.3). He assists 13.8 points per game, but his consistency and choices on the court still remain a question mark. If he can manage his hot streaks with better decision-making, he could be a difference-maker for the Cats.

5 Derrick Jasper



Class Sophomore
Position Guard
Height 6' 6"
Weight 213 lbs.
Hometown Paso Robles, Calif.

Jasper started the final 27 games last season at the point guard position, but he'll have to improve his jump shot if he wants to stay in the starting lineup. As a freshman he posted a .613 shooting percentage, but he rarely shot the ball, giving way to his teammates a little too much. The Paso Robles, Calif., native was second on the team and third among Southeastern Conference freshmen last year with 2.9 assists per game.

12 Mark Krebs



Class Sophomore
Position Guard
Height 6' 5"
Weight 200 lbs.
Hometown Newport, Ky.

Krebs is a transfer from Thomas More College, where he averaged 9.3 points and 2.4 rebounds per game. The sophomore played high-school ball at Newport Central Catholic High School (Ky.), where he was named All-State in 2005.

13 Michael Porter



Class Sophomore
Position Guard
Height 6' 2"
Weight 191 lbs.
Hometown Modesto, Calif.

Porter will likely be the fifth guard choice in a guard-heavy rotation. The sophomore will need to improve his assists-to-turnover ratio if he wants to see more playing time. Last year, he recorded just 24 assists against 22 turnovers.

15 A.J. Stewart



Class Freshman
Position Forward
Height 6' 8"
Weight 207 lbs.
Hometown Jacksonville, Fla.

Stewart possesses tremendous upside and will challenge for a role off the bench. The freshman can run the floor well for his position, but he'll need to bulk up if he wants to hold his own on the low block in the SEC. He helped lead Arlington County Day (Fla.) to three straight high-school championships.

20 Kerry Benson



Class Freshman
Position Guard/Forward
Height 6' 5"
Weight 185 lbs.
Hometown Louisville, Ky.

Benson is an athletic wing player who makes the most of every situation. Benson averaged 15.1 points, 8.1 rebounds and 3.2 steals as a senior at Peaslee Ridge Park High School in Louisville. Although his play will be very limited, he'll do the little things that won't show up in the box score.

21 Perry Stevenson



Class Sophomore
Position Guard
Height 6' 9"
Weight 192 lbs.
Hometown Lafayette, La.

Stevenson is long and lanky and is known primarily as a shot blocker. The sophomore swatted seven shots in his first collegiate game, which set a UK record, and was among the SEC freshmen leaders in blocks per game. If he can improve around the basket, he could be a crucial part of the Cats' interior game.

23 Jodie Meeks



Class Sophomore
Position Guard
Height 6' 4"
Weight 212 lbs.
Hometown Norcross, Ga.

Meeks was a spark off the bench for the Cats last season. As a freshman, the Norcross, Ga., native showed signs of maturity and tremendous upside. He's quick and poised, and he can attack the basket or pull up for the jumper. Meeks averaged 8.7 points per game in just over 22 minutes a game. If the sophomore can continue to improve his jump shot, he'll be a more vital point to the Cats' attack and push the other guards for playing time.

25 Morakinyo Williams



Class Freshman
Position Guard
Height 6' 11"
Weight 270 lbs.
Hometown Solihull, England

The flight across the big pond was long for the England native, but the result was being a respectable collegiate player will be even longer. Williams is big and has a basketball frame, but whether he can finish around the basket with much more talented players remains to be seen. The Cats would gladly take half the production Williams turned out during his senior season at Bishop Ireton, where he averaged 14 points and 10 rebounds per game.

30 Dwight Perry



Class Sophomore
Position Guard
Height 6' 0"
Weight 180 lbs.
Hometown Durham, N.C.

The cousin of Bobby Perry probably won't see the floor that much this season. He started in the first round of last year's NCAA Tournament against Villanova because UK incorrectly filled out the scorecard prior to the game. The sophomore saw action in four games as a freshman last year.

32 Joe Crawford



Class Senior
Position Guard
Height 6' 5"
Weight 221 lbs.
Hometown Detroit

Crawford is the only McDonald's All-American remaining from the three recruited in the 2004 class. He averaged 14 points per game last season, and he is the team's leading returning scorer. The senior showed signs of turning the corner last season, but his occasional slumps counter his great play. Crawford will definitely need to thrust himself into the role of a true leader on the court this season if the Cats are going to be successful.

34 Ramon Harris



Class Sophomore
Position Forward
Height 6' 7"
Weight 216 lbs.
Hometown Anchorage, Alaska

Harris has untapped talent that wasn't unveiled last season. He's a wing who can slash to the basket if he's used in the right system. The problem is that type of system he could thrive in, with backdoor cuts to the basket, is not one the Cats played last year, and it likely won't be used under Gillispie either.

40 Dusty Mills



Class Freshman
Position Guard
Height 5' 7"
Weight 150 lbs.
Hometown Noblesville, Ind.

Mills joins the team as a walk-on. The freshman from Noblesville, Ind., played high-school ball for the Noblesville Millers.

42 Mark Coury



Class Sophomore
Position Forward
Height 6' 8"
Weight 230 lbs.
Hometown West Bloomfield, Mich.

Coury played in nine games as a walk-on last year. As a freshman, he scored four points and three rebounds in 10 games. While he likely won't be a major factor, his minutes could increase because of the lack of depth in the frontcourt.

43 Jared Carter



Class Junior
Position Center
Height 7' 2"
Weight 250 lbs.
Hometown Georgetown, Ky.

Carter's presence on the court has been nonexistent since his freshman year because of injuries and inconsistent play. Over his career, the big man has seen limited playing time and has averaged just 1 point and 1.6 rebounds per game. After sitting out last year with an injury, he re-injured his shoulder in a pickup game this summer. If he can bounce back from a second surgery, he will be a much-needed boost on the frontline.

54 Patrick Patterson



Class Freshman
Position Forward
Height 6' 9"
Weight 219 lbs.
Hometown Huntington, W. Va.

The freshman from Huntington, W. Va. comes to UK as the most highly sought recruit in nearly a decade. Patterson was named a McDonald's All-American after averaging 17 points, 12 rebounds and four blocks per game his senior season. His bulky presence will be needed to fill the massive hole left by Randolph Morris.

Good or bad, don't blame the Cats' season on Gillispie

Billy Gillispie is going to be good. That much we know.

He's an indefatigable and passionate worker, and his record speaks for itself.

But how good will Gillispie be in his first season as the head coach at UK?

He can coach 'em up the same way he did at Texas El-Paso and at Texas A&M, but it won't matter much because the Cats are only going to go as far as their players take them.

That might sound trite, but it's true. Everyone is expecting Gillispie to come in and get every five-star recruit he targets and bring the Cats back to the elusive Final Four. If he does take UK to the promised land this year, it will be based on how his current crop of Cats deal with their new coach, and if all of the players fixed their individual faults by themselves this summer.

No scheme a coach draws up can protect how freshmen adjust to playing big-time college basketball.

A lot is expected from recruits Alex Legion and A.J. Stewart.

Legion and A.J. Stewart. Legion has been lauded for his scoring ability, especially in the mid-range jump-shooting area. Stewart will be called on to use his athleticism to be a force in the post and on the glass.

Gillispie figures to use both of them extensively. His coaching tactics will translate some on the court, but freshmen are going to be freshmen.

If a lot is going to be expected out of those two, even more will be demanded out of Patrick Patterson.

Patterson is going to step in for Randolph Morris. When Morris left UK, he was playing as well as any player in the nation. He was unstoppable in the Southeastern Conference and NCAA tournaments, as he averaged 17 points and 8.6 rebounds in his final 10 games.

That's what Patterson is going to be expected to replace. He has a good chance to start every game in his UK career, however long it lasts. Gillispie can't coach those expectations.

"He's a great player," Legion told a reporter at UK's media day. "You should be expecting great things from him in the future."

"The future meaning today," he added. "Then there's the improvement of the returning players."

Did Derrick Jasper work hard enough on his own to improve his erratic jump shot? How will Jodie Meeks handle the task of being a go-to player? Can Perry Stevenson cut down on his one good play, one bad play ratio? Will Jared Carter ever be healthy?

How can a tough zone defense or a fast-paced offense answer these questions? Last, and most importantly, will the seniors finally take over this team and get it to the next level? Can Ramel Bradley cut down on the turnovers and bad shots? Will Joe Crawford be aggressive on every play of every possession of every game? Gillispie can adjust those things slightly, but at this point in the players' careers, the onus is on them.

Bradley and Crawford have started a combined 88 games, and they've appeared in 195 career games. By now, they know what is required.

"I think it's been real tough on me and Ramel," Crawford said. "Knowing we have the ability to do something but never doing it or finishing it out, I think it's been real tough."

Speaking of tough, that is one quality that Gillispie will bring to this group. Just about everything else is up to the players.

Jonathan Smith is a journalism senior. E-mail jsmith@kykernel.com.

GILLISPIE

Continued from A1

ure points in 22 of the final 25 games.

Senior guard Joe Crawford's scoring ability came on late when he averaged 15.8 points per game and shot 40 percent from 3-point range in SEC play. He was limited by a knee injury through much of the preseason, but he insists he is leaner and in better shape for

his senior year. And Jodie Meeks, a sophomore guard, was named a Freshman All-American by Collegeinsider.com after scoring in double figures in 14 of his last 18 games.

Add freshman guard Alex Legion, a highly touted jump shooter who led high-school seniors in 3-point shooting last year, and the Cats have four talented scorers in the backside. Well, now we've got the grass, so everybody's excited to see if it is greener."

It has been six months since Gillispie became UK's head

coach, but tonight the Cats will step on the court for their first game under Gillispie's reign and begin to put the past behind them.

Heading into his final year, Bradley can't wait to get it underway.

"There's been a lot of excitement," Bradley said. "That's how it is when you have a change. People always think the grass is greener on the other side. Well, now we've got the grass, so everybody's excited to see if it is greener."



BILLY GILLISPIE head coach

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Proposed USP changes gain student support at forum

By Stephanie Short news@kykernel.com

Student Government hosted the first student forum yesterday to discuss the proposed changes to the University Studies Program.

Though still concerned about certain aspects of the new plan, most of the 17 students who attended and asked questions for more than 45 minutes said they approved of the revisions by the end of the forum.

"I was leery before I came to the

forum, but now I am really excited," said Keri Borden, a biology sophomore. "I'm so excited about the idea of teaching students to think critically."

Fifteen of the 30 credit hours in the proposed set of requirements would focus on critical thinking, civics and ethics, said Phil Kraemer, associate provost for undergraduate education, who explained the revisions at the beginning of the forum. The remaining 15 hours are designed to provide a liberal-arts education and to help students transition into college, he said.

Yesterday's meeting was designed to hear students' opinions and allow them to ask questions, Kraemer said.

Some students expressed concern about aspects of the proposed plan, such as the change to offering some required courses in five-week, single-credit sessions instead of in full semesters. Students said they worried this approach would only provide an abbreviated version of course topics.

"The intent here in these modules are not content-driven is to expose students to one very complex problem

that the faculty member is very driven or excited about," said Steven Hoch, dean of the College of Arts and Sciences.

Questions and concerns were discussed, but the overall response of the students was positive. By contrast, faculty members at an Oct. 23 forum voiced a mainly negative opinion, saying the new plan would unduly increase instructors' workload.

At yesterday's forum, Ty Clements, an SG executive cabinet chairman, said he thought the new curriculum is a

good idea.

"After listening to this, I like what they are doing," Clements said. "A lot of very educated people have put a lot of time into this. You're not going to learn everything, but this helps show you what you need to learn."

Kraemer said students should avoid taking all of the USP courses during their freshman year. With the new plan, some courses are designed specifically for seniors, he said, which he hopes

See USP on page B5

MAKEUP AND MISCHIEF



PHOTOS BY ELLIOTT HESS | STAFF

After nursing senior Domonique Brown painted 7-year-old Kayla Adkins' face, Adkins insisted it was her turn to paint Brown's face.



Kayla Adkins, 7, and Thomas Ashley, 7, run out of the haunted house that members of Zeta Phi Beta sorority created last night in the Student Center as part of their Safe Halloween Party.

As if the haunted house, beanbag throw, jump rope, bingo and face-painting weren't enough, there was free candy too. Last night at the Student Center, members of the Zeta Phi Beta sorority created a haunted house for children.

Taking the chairs and tables and adding a little black cloth, nursing senior Domonique Brown and other sorority members constructed a haunted house that would have kids running for the rest of the night. This is the fifth year that Zeta Phi Beta has put on the event.

College-town planners seek help from UK

By Erin Melwing news@kykernel.com

Students from the UK College of Design are working to help unify UK, Transylvania University and downtown Lexington by planning expansion ideas for what many call the college-town community.

College town is the area of neighborhoods and restaurants between UK's campus and downtown that are occupied and visited by both students and the Lexington community, said Harold Tate, executive director and president of the Downtown Development Authority.

"The project is about how somebody can bridge the gap between UK, Transylvania and downtown," said Katlyn Dench, an architecture senior who is one of 17 students from the College of Design working with the Downtown Development Authority.

"The purpose is to bridge the gap while keeping the individual characteristics of each area."

The proposed projects vary in size and purpose, and they range from building skyscrapers to making changes and additions to public services offered to community members, Dench said.

"These projects, although they're all different, they're all Lexington," Dench said.

Joey Klare, an architecture senior, is developing a plan for a bike station that would include a locker room and café.

"There's a big push to revitalize downtown Lexington between Rose Street and Broadway," Klare said. "There are a lot of

See Development on page B5

"A lot of positive things come out of the college-town area — not just couch burnings."

HAROLD TATE
Downtown Development Authority president

Man hit by train went to BCTC, remains critical after surgeries

By Juliann Vachon jvachon@kykernel.com

After multiple surgeries, a Lexington man planning on attending Bluegrass Community and Technical College in January is still in critical condition after a train hit him early Saturday morning.

Logan Murray, 20, was struck by a train while walking home from a Halloween party at about 4:30 a.m. Saturday, Lexington police said. He was struck at the Rosemont Garden crossing in Lexington on Rosemont Garden and Edison Drive.

Murray was enrolled at BCTC in the fall semester but had withdrawn from classes, said family friend Penny Kilcoyne. He was planning on returning to BCTC in January, she said.

Kilcoyne, 46, said Murray, who was taken to UK Chandler Hospital, has undergone three surgeries, in which doctors removed part of his liver and stopped internal bleeding.

"Now they're going to focus on his broken bones," she said.

Murray's family has been by his side since the police showed up at their door early Saturday morning.

See Accident on page B5

NEWS BRIEF

Student reports being robbed on campus

A male student reported to UK police at approximately 2:50 a.m. on Tuesday that he had been robbed at the corner of University Drive and Complex Drive, according to a campus-wide safety alert e-mailed yesterday at 9:26 a.m.

The student was walking down University Drive toward Commonwealth Stadium when he saw three male subjects get out of a SUV-like vehicle, said Maj. Joe Monroe, UK's interim police chief.

The men pushed him to the ground, implied they had guns, demanded the student's wallet and took his cell phone, Monroe said, adding that the student said he didn't see any weapons.

The e-mail urged students who are accosted to comply with assailants' demands and report the crime by calling UK police at #UKPD (#8573).

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Sculptors to shape sand skeleton in Day of the Dead festival

By Megan Wimpy news@kykernel.com

Students from UK's Arts in the Community class will be creating sand sculptures tomorrow night outside the Living Arts and Science Center to celebrate the Day of the Dead.

About 12 students will work on a large skeleton sand sculpture, a traditional art form practiced in Oaxaca, Mexico, at the Day of the Dead Festival tomorrow from 6 to 9 p.m. Students and community members are invited to learn more about the art form and try making their own sculpture.

"This class is a really good partnership with the community because it offers students real experience working with the public," said Marty Henton, who teaches the A-E 545 course. "It's not just about the art, but getting it out there to the community."

The festival will begin with live music, traditional dancing and Day of the Dead food and crafts, and it will end with a parade-like procession from LASC's North Martin Luther King Boulevard location to the Old Episcopal Burial Ground at the corner of East Third Street and Elm Tree

Lane, said Heather Lyons, the center's executive director.

The cemetery will be transformed into a community altar with live music and candles to teach the audience about the history and traditions of the holiday, which celebrates both the lives of loved ones who have died and the continuation of life, Lyons said.

"One of the primary reasons involved in celebrating the Day of the Dead is to help people learn about this rich holiday by bringing together different cultures," Lyons said. "We were able to use Lexington residents to share their traditions from their native country."

The altar will be used to remember relatives, friends and loved ones with pictures, flowers and other traditional offerings.

Lyons said the event is open to the public and that guests are encouraged to donate \$2 to fund LASC's Discovery Program, which is putting on the festival.

The festival could draw between 50 and 350 guests, Lyons said. It is the center's first celebration of this traditionally Mexican holiday.

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Horoscopes

By Linda C. Black

To get the advantage, check the day's rating: 10 is the easiest day, 0 the most challenging.

- Aries (March 21 - April 19)** Today is a 5 — Conditions are easing up on you, but it hasn't quite happened yet. Hold off on any major decisions or moves for another day.
- Taurus (April 20 - May 20)** Today is a 6 — Don't feel like a party pooper if you decide not to go out. Let the party come to you. It'll be lots more fun that way.
- Gemini (May 21 - June 21)** Today is a 5 — You're doing well, but don't go flashing your money around. That's not wise. Pretend you're barely getting by and you'll gather up more treats.
- Cancer (June 22 - July 22)** Today

is an 8 — A person who's usually good with words doesn't seem to understand your subtle, non-verbal innuendoes. Come right out and say what's on your mind.

Leo (July 23 - Aug. 22) Today is a 6 — Not a good time to try a new method. Don't ask for an extension, either. Do the job you said you would, quickly and well. That will work best.

Virgo (Aug. 23 - Sept. 22) Today is an 8 — Be calm, patient and well-disciplined around one who's falling apart. Words won't help nearly as much as a display of your inner strength.

Libra (Sept. 23 - Oct. 22) Today is a 5 — This oral exam is not easy, but it could be very important. Be polite, follow the routine you've been taught and don't argue. Remember the password. You can do this.

Scorpio (Oct. 23 - Nov. 21) Today is a 9 — Delays and other minor frustrations do get in the way. Consider them inconsequential and keep plugging toward your goal. Or

just have it delivered.

Sagittarius (Nov. 22 - Dec. 21) Today is a 5 — Listen to your friends before making a big financial decision. Don't have that be your only resource, however. They could be wrong. Ask your banker, too.

Capricorn (Dec. 22 - Jan. 19) Today is an 8 — Words said in anger can cut like a knife, but sometimes they also reveal stuff the speakers holding back. This skill will serve you well.

Aquarius (Jan. 20 - Feb. 18) Today is a 6 — One urgent matter is followed by another. These are not all your fault, but you are asked to fix them. Even if you're not in the mood, you are good at this. You'll do fine.

Pisces (Feb. 19 - March 20) Today is a 10 — You should be in a marvelous mood, floating on cloud 9. Still, you should listen to critics, as some of them have a good point. And if there's a payment that's late, definitely get that into the mail. ...

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THE WEEK IN BRITNEY

THE DISH

She rolls her car over a photographer's foot!

It's her second motoring mishap in just over two months: As the singer was turning her Mercedes to exit a Beverly Hills parking garage on October 18, she was swarmed by photographers — and accidentally ran over a TMZ.com snapper's leg.

Though the photographer (only his first name, Rick, has been released) walked away from the scene, a source tells Us, "He has been having nerve problems with his foot and leg." (TMZ.com auctioned off his tire-treaded sock on eBay, with early bidding topping \$1,000 and proceeds to benefit the Children's Defense Fund.)

At presstime, an incident report had not been filed with the local police, and the source says Rick is still weighing his options: "He likes Britney and doesn't want to sue, but he hasn't decided for sure."

Custody battle rages on

A Spears source is claiming bad cellphone reception is the reason the singer, 25, missed a court-mandated conference call October 17 — and temporarily lost her weekly overnight visit with Sean, 2, and Jayden, 13 months.

"She didn't follow the rules outlined [by the judge]," says a source close to her ex, Kevin Federline, 29. Spears' infraction, however, was forgiven. On October 20, she spent an uncharacteristically low-key day with her

kids (and monitor). The family took a ride in her car in the afternoon, then stayed in at her Beverly Hills home that night.

She makes over her kissers

Fake hair. Fake tan. And now fake lips? On October 18, Spears visited a Beverly Hills medical building and left with a fuller pout. Local plastic surgeon Anthony Youn (who did not treat Spears) tells Us she likely received \$1,200 Restylane or Juvederm injections in both lips: "She seems to have completely obliterated the cupid's bow on her upper lip."

Bye-bye, reunion:

She turns away her parents

When Spears' parents, Lynne and Jamie, learned their daughter had missed her court-scheduled phone call October 17, Jamie drove all around town to look for her. Why not just dial her up? Despite Britney's recent reunion with her mom, the daughter-parent relationships remain strained.

"They don't even have her number," a Spears insider tells Us. "They have no way to get a hold of her." (In fact, when her parents tried to visit her at home on October 19, they couldn't get in the front gate.) Says an insider, "The family is in a really bad place right now."

No pay yet for her dancers

The backup dancers from Spears' infamous MTV Video Music Awards performance like-

ly can't get her song "Gimme More" out of their heads — and with good reason. A source says they have yet to be fully compensated for their work leading up to the September 9 event.

"The dancers were paid for the actual show and some of the rehearsals, but not all of them," an industry insider tells Us.

The problem may stem from Spears' being dropped by her management agency, The Firm, on September 17. "Her management usually pays the dancers," explains the source. McDonald/Selznick Associates, which booked the dancers, had no comment.

Britney's revenge song

It's Britney — ranting. When Spears' new CD, "Blackout," hits stores October 30, the track that will have fans talking is this anti-Federline rant:

Why Should I Be Sad?
Written By Pharrell Williams
(selected lyrics)

They couldn't believe I did it,
that I was so committed ...
I just dove inside it blind ...
Exchange my vows and said it all,
on the ledge prepared to fall ...

I sent you to Vegas,
with a pocket full of paper ...
but it just seemed that Vegas only
brought the plays out of you ...
Lavish homes and fancy cars,
even got the drop Ferrari ...

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FEATURES

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Spooky rock can make Halloween a 'thriller'

Today's the big day. Halloween. It's a time for carving apples, eating ludicrous amounts of candy corn and, occasionally, dressing up as one of Satan's helpers.



JOHN CROWELL
Kernel columnist

It is in the spirit of this final Halloween activity that I compiled this list of Halloween-appropriate music groups. Any one of them sets an excellent musical backdrop to the spooky goings-on of Halloween, and they genuinely rock in their own right.

The Misfits

The Misfits are basically the KISS of horror-themed punk rock. Like KISS, the group has inspired a host of fan loyalty and merchandising, from T-shirts and tattoos to jewelry and wall-clocks. And, like KISS, they make a habit of rocking hard.

This Halloween, try adding a few Misfits songs to the party mix. From "I Turned into a Martian" to "Teenagers From Mars" and "Night of the Living Dead," the Misfits' lyrics are filled with references to B-movie horror films and similarly spooky pop culture.

The roaring guitars and angry bass lines of the Misfits' songs complement the Halloween terror culture. They have traditionally stuck to punk music with a dark tint, but occasionally, as with 1983's "Earth A.D.," they venture into metal territory as well.

The Misfits have dressed for Halloween throughout the last 20 years. Throughout

their member switches and incarnations, they have maintained a strict dress code of black leather, ghoulish makeup, and constant scowling.

For a taste of spookiness, go download the Misfits' historic song "Halloween," a song that current groups like AFI and the Offspring have paid tribute to by covering. The Misfits obviously inspired a generation of dark, goth-themed punk and will most definitely inspire listeners to have a terrifying holiday.

Bauhaus

Bauhaus is the original British goth band, and perfect music for applying all those layers of makeup and fake blood.

The group shared the Misfits' love of horror but preferred to sound more like "The Castle of Otranto" than "Invasion of the Body Snatchers." Bauhaus songs read a bit like 19th-century prose, featuring lines such as "In a crucifixion ecstasy / Lying cross chequed in agony / Stigmata bleed continuously / Holes in head, hands, feet, and weep for me," which comes from "Stigmata Martyr." It's pretty somber (and sometimes hokey) stuff, but it went on to inspire groups like the Cure.

Try spinning some Bauhaus this Halloween, especially their early meandering and threatening single "Bela Lugosi's Dead." If you want a dose of horror from a literary perspective, their dark themes and menacing music will leave listeners feeling like they took a listen from Dracula's iPod.

A Silver Mt. Zion

A Silver Mt. Zion is the kind of generally instrumental long-form music one might appreciate in the wee hours of the morning af-

ter most of the partying has died down. The group, an offshoot of Canada's apocalyptic Godspeed You! Black Emperor, explores the use of vocals and traditional sound structures in ways Godspeed never has.

The vocals often center on social or political topics, but the music and singing contains undeniably lonesome and poignant tones throughout. The guitars and piano always sound scarce and far away, as if the band were recording in a gothic sanctuary by themselves. The singing of songwriter Erim Mennuck, when it does come to the forefront, sounds lost and mournful.

Some of the musical devices are disturbing as well. Many songs use out-of-context sound samples with noise elements, such as "Sit in the Middle of Three Galloping Dogs" from 2000's "He Has Left Us Alone but Shifts of Light Sometimes Grace the Corners of Our Rooms..." In "Galloping Dogs," captured audio of an end-times preacher warning of imminent destruction and corruption plays while the band concentrates on creating white noise and guitar wails.

The music of A Silver Mt. Zion is often not only terror-themed, but actually terrifying.

Horror-themed music is certainly not for everyone at every time. However, at this time of year, paying attention to spooky music created over the years can lead to better party mixes and more terrifying times. Everyone likes getting scared on Halloween, and sometimes the perfect soundtrack is all that is needed.

John Crowell is a journalism senior and public relations director for WRFL. E-mail: jcrowell@kykernel.com.

Discovery's 'Mythbusters' still happily blowing stuff up

By Susan Young
The Oakland Tribune

Really, does it get any cooler than testing out the classic cartoon joke involving a trail of gunpowder and a big explosion?

Not for "Mythbuster" Adam Savage, who deems this blow-up one of his favorites. You can't swing a comatose Sylvester without hitting a rerun of "Mythbusters" on Discovery Channel, but finding fresh episodes can be a challenge since the network rolls out a few at a time throughout the year. The good news is that fans can look forward to seven new episodes beginning Wednesday.

"We lit a line of gunpowder to a keg leading to an explosion," Savage says of the segment airing Wednesday. "It was one of the more minor explosions we've done on 'Mythbusters,' but more deeply satisfying from a cartoon perspective."

The series has gone beyond merely be-

ing a hit cable series. It's a cultural icon, based in co-host Jamie Hyneman's special effects studio on San Francisco. The No. 1 question the 'busters get asked is if they will ever run out of myths?

"We say we'll run out of ideas when people ever stop believing stupid things," Savage says. "We just finished one that has confounded us our entire careers."

The episode, which airs in December, finds Savage and Hyneman tackling a question baffling everyone from bloggers to pilots: If a plane is traveling at takeoff speed on a conveyor belt, and that conveyor belt is matching the speed in reverse, can the plane take off?

"We put the plane on a quarter-mile conveyor belt and tested it out," says Savage about the experiment using a pilot and his Ultralight plane. "I won't tell you what the outcome was, but the pilot and his entire flight club got it wrong."

Savage often describes "Mythbusters"

as "Jackass meets Mr. Wizard." And when you think about wacky stunts done on the show, Tory Belleci's name invariably pops up. On the Nov. 14 "Supersized" two-hour episode, Belleci will attempt to wakeboard from the back of a cruise ship.

Not, he says, the craziest thing he's had to do on the show. In fact, this season also has him testing out whether your pants can catch fire while being dragged behind a horse. Other seasons have seen him sticking his tongue onto a frozen pole and getting in a pen with a bull to see if the animal would indeed charge him because he was wearing a red outfit.

"When I was in the arena with the bull or with the crocodile, everything inside my body was saying don't do it, but you know you have to do it," Belleci says. "I feel like I spent my whole life preparing for this job. I loved playing with fire and at 19 I was almost arrested for making a pipe bomb. Everything I used to get in trouble for I'm now doing as my job."

ALCOHOL RESEARCH STUDIES AT UK

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UNIVERSITY OF KENTUCKY CRIME REPORT

UK Police reports from Oct. 23 to Oct. 29.

- Oct. 23** Bomb threat reported from the Oswald Building at 12:31 p.m.; BCTC students were evacuated in response.
- Oct. 23** Theft reported from the Student Center at 5:46 p.m.
- Oct. 24** Theft of a wallet reported from the Barnhart Building at 4:13 p.m.
- Oct. 25** Marijuana use reported from Haggin Hall at 12:47 a.m.
- Oct. 25** Alcohol intoxication reported from the front lobby of UK Hospital at 4:27 a.m.
- Oct. 25** Theft of copper wire from an air-conditioning unit reported from Kentucky Clinic North at 10:52 a.m.
- Oct. 25** Theft of a purse reported to UK Police Department at 1:20 p.m.
- Oct. 25** Theft of a wallet reported from W.T. Young Library at 4:58 p.m.
- Oct. 25** Alcohol intoxication reported from Samaritan Hospital at 9:14 p.m. The subject was reportedly disorderly, throwing bedpans.
- Oct. 25** Criminal mischief reported from the R3 parking lot near Blanding III at 10:52 p.m.
- Oct. 26** Burglary reported from UK Hospital Medical Center on Regency Road at 6:58 a.m.
- Oct. 26** Theft of a cell phone reported from the Kentucky Injury Prevention and Research Center at 10 a.m.
- Oct. 26** Burglary reported from the Student Center at 11:38 a.m.
- Oct. 26** Theft of a laptop reported from the Student Center at 12:06 p.m.
- Oct. 26** Criminal mischief reported from Greg Page Apartments at 3:12 p.m.

- Oct. 26** Alcohol intoxication reported from Baldwin Hall at 10:48 p.m.
- Oct. 27** Alcohol intoxication reported from Kirwan I at 12:19 a.m.
- Oct. 27** Alcohol intoxication reported from Samaritan Hospital at 1:14 a.m.
- Oct. 27** Alcohol intoxication reported from Shively Sports Center at 2:37 a.m.
- Oct. 27** Criminal mischief reported from Commonwealth Stadium at 3:57 a.m.
- Oct. 27** Alcohol intoxication reported from Kirwan I at 12:19 a.m.
- Oct. 27** Burglary reported from the Kentucky Clinic at 7:54 a.m.
- Oct. 27** Assault reported to UK Police Department at 9:53 p.m.
- Oct. 27** Alcohol intoxication reported from Greg Page Apartments at 10:28 p.m.
- Oct. 27** Noise complaints reported from Greg Page Apartments at 10:58 p.m. and 11 p.m.
- Oct. 28** Alcohol intoxication reported from South Limestone Street and Transcript Avenue at 8:16 a.m.
- Oct. 29** Theft following an on-campus domestic situation between roommates reported to UK Police Department at 12:58 p.m.
- Oct. 29** Theft reported from UK Hospital at 2:12 p.m.
- Oct. 29** Alcohol intoxication reported from Cardinal Rehabilitation Unit at Samaritan Hospital at 6:57 p.m.
- Oct. 29** Alcohol intoxication reported from UK Hospital at 9:49 p.m.

Compiled from reports at UK Police Department.
Compiled by staff writer Jill Laster.
E-mail jlaster@kykamel.com.

Democratic candidates boosted by contributions from women

By **Christy Hoppe**
The Dallas Morning News

AUSTIN, Texas — Soccer Moms have tilted elections, but it's always been Sugar Daddies who have underwritten the victories. Until now.

Campaign data and interviews show that women are opening up their pocketbooks in unprecedented numbers and their cash infusion has helped catapult leading Democratic candidates beyond the Republican frontrunners in money raised.

Experts say that it could be the presence of Sen. Hillary Rodham Clinton as the first viable female candidate for president, disillusionment over the Iraqi war or a powerful push by women for change.

Regardless, public numbers and the campaigns of Clinton and Sen. Barack Obama confirm that more than half of their contributions came from the checkbooks of women.

"This is unprecedented," said Debbie Walsh, director of Rutgers University's Center for American Women and Politics.

"I think the trend you're seeing is that clearly this election is engaging women, energizing women, and that they're digging down and giving," Walsh said.

Over the past decade, women have provided 28 percent of political donations — including gifts to political action committees, candidates, political parties and presidential and congressional races, according to a study released in June by the Women's Campaign Forum.

In the 2004 presidential election, of those who gave \$200 or more, 41 percent of Democrat John Kerry's donors were women, compared with 30 percent of President Bush's contributors.

"There's a lot that has deterred women from being a part of the money game," said forum director Iana Goldman. "It might be personal resources. Or that it seems a fairly distasteful financing system for campaigns."

Women have preferred to evoke change in their communities by giving to charities instead, she said.

"But for better or worse, money matters in politics," she said.

A study by the nonpartisan Center for Responsive Politics, based on contributions to presidential candidates as of Oct. 16, decided the gender of donors by splitting the donations based on first names.

Of contributions over \$200, half of the donors to Clinton and 46 percent of those to Obama were from those with common female first names. Comparatively, 30 percent and 28 percent of the donors to Republican frontrunners Mitt Romney and Rudy Giuliani, respectively, were women.

Because many women are smaller givers — less than \$200 — and those numbers were not part of the survey, the percentage of female donors for all campaigns is probably higher.

While the number of female donors has soared, men still are writing bigger checks. Even in the Clinton and Obama campaigns, men have given more money — 56 percent of the money raised.

But the number of female donors is not lost on the Clinton and Obama campaigns, who have actively been courting female contributors.

"Women voters clearly provide a far higher ratio of our contributors," said Ann Lewis, senior adviser to the Clinton campaign.

"We know it is historically high for a presidential campaign. And we also know that the numbers will continue to grow," Lewis said.

Women might make the difference, but it will be for the Republican candidate, said Amber Wilkerson, a spokeswoman for the Republican National Committee.

"At the end of the day, voters of all walks of life are going to support candidates who stand with American taxpayers and hardworking families. So it really doesn't matter how much the Democratic candidates raise, we really believe their liberal values and their policies to raise taxes and increase the size of government are still completely out of touch with voters," Wilkerson said.

She pointed out that Election Day is still more than a year away and said it is too early in the process to see or analyze trends.

Ramona Oliver of Emily's List — the largest political action committee in the nation with 100,000 members, 90 percent of them women — said all the numbers and indicators do show a trend, and she believes the purse strings are being loosened by women who are excited by the prospect of the first female president.

Emily's List drives donations to female candidates who favor abortion rights and is strongly supporting Clinton's campaign.

"There are women out there who are supporting Obama or (John) Edwards, or a Republican candidate, who still get excited about the idea and think it would be a fabulous thing to have a woman president," Oliver said.

Noel strikes Haiti, Dominican Republic

By **Frances Robles and Jacqueline Charles**
McClatchy Newspapers

MIAMI — Rescuers in Haiti spent part of Tuesday plucking people from their rooftops.

Emergency workers counted seven dead there, and another 30 in the Dominican Republic. And in Cuba, they braced for the menacing consequences of up to a foot of rain on soil already soaked by weeks of record-breaking downpours.

Tropical Storm Noel's deadly path was most evident on the island of Hispaniola, where rivers swelled beyond their banks, sending currents of raging water down village streets in both Haiti and neighboring Dominican Republic. Dramatic television footage showed people in southern Dominican Republic clinging to tree roots protruding from the edge of a raging river with one hand, with the other outstretched to grasp the children being carried away by the current.

"I woke up to find water up to my knees. I got two of my children out, and when I went back for the others, it was already up to my chest," Melinda Peguero, a mother of four from San Cristobal, Dominican Republic said by telephone. "My house is still standing, but it is filled with mud. I can't even open the door."

Peguero was among the nearly 25,000 people forced from their homes, including 3,000 who

were in shelters Tuesday. Some 6,500 homes were damaged, the government said.

The Dominican government confirmed the deaths of 30 people late Tuesday and reported another 15 missing, while access to nearly 40 communities was still cut off.

"It's been really chaotic because bridges and roads were ruined. There are little towns we have not even been able to get to, because the water is just too high," said emergency operations spokeswoman Yesmin Simon. "And the deluge has not stopped."

In Haiti, Prime Minister Jacques-Edouard Alexis visited the Cite Soleil slum, much of it covered with inches of rainwater, as officials spent much of the day trying to rescue people stranded on rooftops south of the capital of Port-au-Prince in the town of Jacmel. Leogane and remote areas where torrential downpour caused severe flooding.

United Nations officials reported that a child was killed by flooding in the northern Port-au-Prince community of Blagrate. Cazeau, Haitian officials also reported two deaths in Ganthier, near the border with the Dominican Republic. Authorities were still checking into reports of other deaths Tuesday night, as they surveyed the damage to scores of ramshackle homes.

Nearly 3,000 people had to be evacuated from nine different communities, including the seaside town of Jacmel, southeast of Port-au-Prince.

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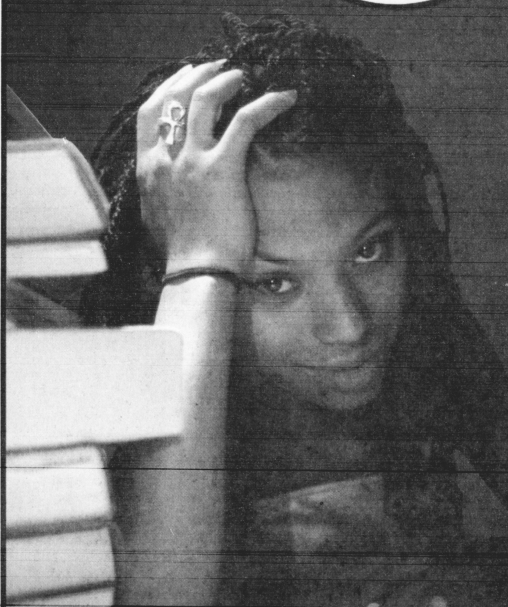
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B5

USP

Continued from page B1

will encourage students to take these classes throughout their college-career.

"Don't regard USP as something to get out of the way," he said. "You've got to embrace the whole opportunity. You need to squeeze as much out of the curriculum as you can."

The University Senate could vote on the proposed requirements as early as December. Kraemer said it is still being revised and that student opinion will be considered.

"This is a proposal that will no doubt go through some revision and change," he said. "It is your education. It's not mine. It's not anyone else's. Students need to take that very seriously."

For additional information and details of the proposed plan, visit UK's Web site for general education (www.uky.edu/GenEd).

DEVELOPMENT

Continued from page B1

empty areas with possibility for development in the college area."

The new college-town boundaries would encompass Broadway to Fourth Street, Elm Tree Lane through Rose Street, and Euclid Avenue over to Bolivar Street — which connects back to Broadway.

"We want to look at this area and see how we can use this area as an economic development tool," Tate said. "This isn't just a way to unify the area, it's a way to enhance and encourage new development in this area that will help UK, Transylvania and downtown Lexington."

Efforts to expand this community boundary have been in effect since 2003, Tate said. Since then, public meetings and studies have resulted in new ideas and recommendations for the college-town area. Mayor Jim Newberry and

UK President Lee Todd are now looking into where the college-town boundaries should be, and they're discussing related issues.

Tate said he thinks the college-town atmosphere will contribute to the city by integrating university performances, art galleries and lectures into the downtown area, which will offer new learning experiences for the community.

"A lot of positive things come out of the college-town area — not just couch burnings, and we need to make that more public," Tate said.

Tate projected the expansion and development will be completed over the next 20 years. The students working on the project said they want to see their plans carried through.

"Because we're working within a contact that is our city, we may someday see these projects happen," Dench said. "Essentially because of our project, some things may be done about the city like basic improvements."

ACCIDENT

Continued from page B1

"They're just trying to be strong," Kilcoyne said. The train was operated by Norfolk Southern. Robin Chapman, a spokesman for the company, said the 31-car locomotive weighed 5,558 tons and had its horn and emergency whistles blowing while approaching and passing through the crossing, as is standard at any intersection.

The train crew saw Murray standing between the rails at the crossing, Chapman said.

The speed limit for a train in that area is 40 mph, he said, but he could not confirm how fast the train was traveling Saturday morning.

A train about the same size as the one that hit Murray traveling at about 40 mph needs about a mile of stopping distance, Chapman said.

Kilcoyne said she talked to three neighbors near the railroad crossing and asked if they had seen or heard anything the morning of the accident.

The neighbors she spoke with said they did not hear the train's horns or whistles, Kilcoyne said.

"My question is, did the train ever ring the bell or blow the horn?" Kilcoyne said. "None of this is making any sense to me."

The accident was recorded as a personal injury, and the police are not investigating the case any further at this time, Lt. Dwayne Holman said Monday.

Freshman Senate Voting

Freshman Senate Elections begin today and will run through tomorrow evening. Freshmen can vote online or at voting locations throughout campus.

The locations are:

- South entrance to the William I. Young Library: 7 a.m. – 7 p.m.
- Center for Student Involvement in the Student Center: 8 a.m. – 7 p.m.
- Business and Economics Building: 2 p.m. – 3 p.m.
- UK Bookstore (Wednesday only): 10:30 a.m. – 12 p.m.
- Classroom Building (Wednesday only): 12 p.m. – 1:30 p.m.
- Commons Market (Thursday only): 10:30 a.m. – 12 p.m.

To vote online, students can go to the Student Government Web site (www.uksga.org) and select the Freshman Senate Elections link. A user ID and password are required to vote online.

Fire marshal: Beach houses not covered by fire code

By Martha Quillin and Jerry Algeod
McClatchy Newspapers

OCEAN ISLE BEACH, N.C. — Bigger beach houses all along the North Carolina coast are packing people into places where sprinklers and other fire safety measures are not required, state fire marshals say.

"We have hundreds of these homes identical to the one that burned up in Ocean Isle," said Doug Remaley, fire marshal for Dare County on the Outer Banks. "Is there something we can do about it? No. Because the building code council classifies them as single-family homes. The fire code does not apply."

On Sunday, seven South Carolina college students staying in an Ocean Isle Beach house died when the structure caught fire before 7 a.m. In all, 13 students were staying in the house.

The state's Building Code Council writes the rules that govern building construction in the state, using international and national standards and making amendments as it sees fit. It is often criticized as being stacked in favor of the building industry and unwilling to impose rules that would increase building safety when the costs are deemed too high.

That's been the case with fire safety regulations, Remaley said.

Fire safety is addressed in two ways: in the

state building code, which dates to the 1930s, and the fire code, established in response to the Imperial Foods chicken plant fire in Hamlet that killed 25 people in 1991.

The building code, which applies to residential as well as commercial construction, dictates such things as building materials, the number of ways into and out of a dwelling and the number and placement of smoke detectors.

The fire code applies only to commercial buildings and to multi-family housing of three units or more, where it prohibits hazards such as grills on wooden deck and obstructions to common hallways. It does not apply to single-family homes, even those such as a current offering in Corolla, on the Outer Banks, that has nine bedrooms, sleeps 28 and rents for almost \$13,000 a week in season.

The house that caught fire Sunday morning had six bedrooms. Authorities have not determined the cause of that blaze, which raged through the two-story house in minutes.

Ocean Isle Beach officials say the deadly blaze was an anomaly. It was the first major structure fire in seven years, said Fire Chief Robert Yoho, a firefighter in the town for 23 years. He said the house was a private dwelling and not a rental property.

Yoho said the house had smoke alarms, which are required by the state, but did not have a sprinkler system, which is not required.

Congress questions voting-rights chief who made 'clumsy' remarks on race

By Greg Gordon
McClatchy Newspapers

WASHINGTON — The Justice Department's embattled voting-rights chief took responsibility Tuesday for approving a controversial Georgia law that required voters to produce photo IDs, contending that data showed the law wouldn't make it harder for blacks to vote.

In long-awaited testimony to a House Judiciary subcommittee, John Tanner also apologized for what he called a recent "clumsy" public statement defending the Georgia decision. He told a Hispanic group early this month that the ID requirement didn't unfairly impact poor, elderly blacks because African-Americans "don't become elderly the way white people do. They die first."

Saying he was bound by department policy, Tanner declined to confirm that he reversed the recommendation of career staffers who had urged that the department use its authority under the Voting Rights Act to challenge the Georgia law. A federal judge later

blocked implementation of the law, likening it to a Jim Crow-era poll tax because poor voters lacking driver's licenses were required to buy a photo ID card.

A former Voting Rights Section statistician, Toby Moore, promptly challenged Tanner's testimony, telling the panel that Tanner had engaged in "deliberate misuse of statistics" in enforcement decisions.

Moore also contradicted Tanner's denial that the four career staffers who made the recommendations were reprimanded, saying each was called in and privately told his work "was not up to Justice Department standards."

Tanner asserted that the Voting Rights Section filed 18 suits in 2006, double the average for the preceding 30 years, and is functioning well. He also said all decisions "are based solely on the facts and the law."

But Michigan Democratic Rep. John Conyers, the full committee chairman, said that sounded odd, noting that only one suit has been initiated and filed on behalf of African-American voting

rights under the Bush administration.

Conyers, who's in his 22nd House term, told Tanner that since 2000 he's heard more charges of voting irregularities than at any time in the decades he's served on the committee.

He said the committee must further explore the Voting Rights Section, calling it "the most sensitive" part of the Justice Department.

Former department voting rights employees and civil rights groups have rained criticism on Tanner and the department for the Georgia decision. They charge that political appointees backed voter ID laws and other measures aimed at curbing voter fraud, something they called a nonexistent problem as part of an administration strategy to deter Democratic-leaning minorities from voting.

Soon after Tanner took the helm, the unit faced a decision whether to approve or object to the Georgia law under the 1965 Voting Rights Act, which gave the department 60 days to decide.

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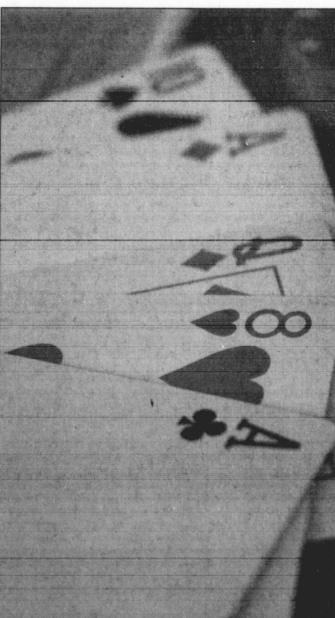
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The opinions page provides a forum for the exchange of ideas. Unlike news stories, the Kernel's unsigned editorials represent the views of a majority of the editorial board. Letters to the editor, columns, cartoons and other features on the opinions page reflect the views of their authors and not necessarily those of the Kernel.

KERNEL EDITORIAL

Course catalogues lacking instructors offer little help

The schedule books available to students for the Spring 2008 semester failed to include the names of instructors assigned to each class. This mistake caused an undue burden for students and should remind UK administrators that even tasks as routine as printing schedule books should be prudently overseen.

Leaving the names of the instructors out of the books was an accident, according to an Oct. 25 Kernel article, but Associate Registrar Bruce Manley said he was unaware as to what specifically went wrong during the printing process. He then suggested that students take advantage of the online database, which is compiled and actively updated by the Integrated Research Information Systems team.

It's good that steps have been taken to assure that students can locate instructors' names through the Web version of the course catalogue, but the printing mistake causes many students unnecessary problems that could have been avoided.

Instructors' names are vital to many students scheduling their classes for next semester. Students often need to contact the professor of the class to receive an override of the course's prerequisites before they can add the class.

Moreover, it might be necessary to get more information from the instructor about the expected workload a class might have in order to properly assess whether or not the time required outside of the class will coordinate well with the rest of a student's schedule.

These reasons make listing the instructor's name along with the course very important to the scheduling process.

Although UK has taken the right steps to alleviate this problem by posting instructor information online, this solution is still problematic to many students on campus.

For some, Internet access is not readily available, forcing students to walk to the library to do something they could have easily done as they sat in the hallway waiting for a class to start. Printed schedule books are many times easier to navigate, as they do not force students to rely on the speed of their current connection to look up classes.

At a time during the semester when students are busy with midterms, advising and organizing schedules for next semester, having to locate a computer to find instructor information is just another chore to add to the list. It makes the already frustrating task of scheduling classes that much more burdensome.

UK, however, should be recognized for its continuing efforts to make class information readily available for students online, despite the various problems it may cause. It shows that UK recognized a mistake that was made in printing the Spring 2008 schedule books, and this type of acknowledgment should be commended.

But if mistakes like this happen in future printings, UK should consider abandoning the printed schedule books altogether.

Although we believe that printed books are more accessible for students as they plan their schedules, they are a waste of money if students have no choice but to use the online database to prepare their schedules anyway.

We recognize that leaving out the instructor names was a mistake that will hopefully not be repeated, but it is important that UK uses mistakes like this to re-evaluate the process behind designing and printing schedule books to avoid future problems.

Manley said in the Oct. 5 Kernel article that these problems would hopefully be resolved by the printing of the Summer 2008 schedule books, and UK students should expect nothing less.



PATRICK MICKA, Kernel cartoonist

LETTERS TO THE EDITOR

Cartoonist didn't deserve attack

Although Marcie Crim presented some interesting facts about Actors Guild of Lexington in her letter that appeared in the Kernel on Monday, she was far too harsh on Kernel cartoonist Tom Wilkins.

It is neither the job nor the responsibility of cartoonists to consider all of the empirical facts before drawing. Cartoonists are jesters of human nature and opinion first and foremost, and Tom Wilkins has demonstrated a keen awareness of student opinion at UK. His characters have real-world appeal and mirror people who can be found every day on campus.

In fact, his cartoon regarding the AGL was meant to draw attention to the embarrassing lack of a good artistic culture in downtown Lexington, not necessarily to single out the AGL as part of our artistic problem. As an artist himself, it is in Mr. Wilkins' interest to promote the arts in this city.

Although I am as bitter as Crim about the lack of arts in Lexington, I support Tom Wilkins as a Kernel cartoonist. His superb drawing style and keen wit are a breath of fresh air for me.

Michael Evans
Chemistry senior

Reporter misinterpreted source

I believe my message was misunderstood by your reporter in Tuesday's Kernel article "Watkins encourages students to fight institutional racism," and since there is an important distinction, I would like the opportunity to clarify it.

I fully expected the discussion with Boyce Watkins to be focused on racism against black people. What I was also hoping for was some discussion about how I, as a white member of the campus community, can help in the struggle to eliminate such racism.

Discrimination against any of us should be seen as an affront to all of us and thus I believe we should all commit to being part of the solution. Although I did mention my Jewish faith, it was not to say that there is discrimination against me too, although that is true; rather, it was in response to why I feel passionately about ending all discrimination.

"Tikkun Olam," which means repairing the world, is a mission for all of us, and I hope we can work toward that with a collective voice.

Janice Kuperstein
Associate professor
College of Health Sciences

Beshear has sound plans, deserves to be governor

If you didn't know already, Kentucky's state election is less than one week away. On Nov. 6, our next governor and lieutenant governor, attorney general, secretary of state, auditor of public accounts, treasurer and agricultural commissioner will be selected. Now, I've spent quite a bit of ink in this space explaining how and when the Democratic candidates will be elected, but I fear that I have neglected perhaps the most important piece of the puzzle: why our candidates ought to be elected.



ROBERT KAHNE
Contributing columnist

As you more than likely have gleaned from his TV commercials, Steve Beshear grew up in a small town in Western Kentucky called Dawson Springs. He says that it was there that his family instilled in him the values of faith, integrity, hard work and respect. Beshear left Western Kentucky and was able to attend the University of Kentucky for both undergraduate and law school (where he at one point served as Student Government Association president).

In 1974, Beshear was elected to the Kentucky House of Representatives. There, he sponsored legislation that doubled the neo-natal capacity at UK Hospital and was intensely involved in passing the constitutional amendment revolutionizing Kentucky's judicial system, making it one of the most progressive in the country. In 1980, Steve Beshear was elected attorney general. In that capacity, he cracked down on food-stamp fraud and streamlined consumer-complaint policies.

In 1983, Beshear was elected lieutenant governor with Martha Lane Collins. As lieutenant governor, Beshear created and headed the Kentucky Tomorrow Commission, which sought to identify and solve problems facing Kentucky. Steve Beshear has a long history of fighting for Kentucky in the public sector, and these experiences have given him a great glimpse into what it will take to fix Kentucky.

The four main issues I see in this campaign are health care, education, the economy and ethics. Beshear is miles ahead of Republican Gov. Ernie Fletcher in every one.

On health care, Steve Beshear has a detailed

plan called "Keeping Kentuckians Healthy" to cover all children, to keep young adults (including college students) covered by their parents' health insurance until they are 25, to help small businesses cover their employees, and to maintain and strengthen the safety net for those not covered by private health insurance.

On education, Beshear has a plan called "It Starts With Schools," which would invest in early-childhood education, ensure that basic skills are taught at a young age, value teachers and parental input, modernize schools and promote academic excellence.

On the economy, Beshear offers his "Jobs First" plan, which provides incentives to businesses in high-growth industries with well-paying jobs, calls for an ethics plan that ensures Kentucky's government is an engine for progress and not a drag on development, and ensures that higher education is a possibility for every Kentuckian so that these new jobs can be filled by Kentuckians.

On ethics, Beshear has pledged to respect the merit system, work to change the method for appointing Executive Branch Ethics Commission members, enforce the code of ethics, reform the governor's pardoning power, disclose legal defense-fund contributors and ensure all government deals with private firms are public, along with a host of other reforms that will ensure that corruption is much more difficult.

Fletcher has failed Kentucky. In 2003, he promised to clean up the "good ol' boy" system in Frankfort. All he did was get 14 members of his administration — as well as himself — indicted. After pardoning his entire administration and gleefully the Fifth Amendment, he cut a deal saying the investigation was proper. Now he says it was a witch hunt.

Fletcher doesn't deserve another term, and Kentuckians are rightly ready to boot him out of office.

So, on Nov. 6, be sure to vote. I hope you vote for Beshear and the rest of the Democratic ticket (Jack Conway for attorney general, Crit Luallen for auditor, Todd Hollenbach for treasurer and Bruce Hendrickson for secretary of state). We have a chance to take back our state and to usher in a new era of competent government. If we elect these Democrats, work will finally begin on the most crucial issues facing Kentucky.

Robert Kahne is the president of UK College Democrats. E-mail opinions@kykernel.com.

Vote for Republicans over unqualified Democrats

Senate Minority Leader Mitch McConnell, R-Ky, was recognized for his work in conservancy last week by the Olmstead Parks Conservancy in Louisville.

While I think he deserves the award, I respect the right of other people to criticize him for it. Whatever their beliefs, McConnell's opponents should be able to protest his stances if they choose to do so.

However, I was in Louisville on Friday when he received the award from the Olmstead Conservancy, and I was appalled at the complete lack of decency shown by the protesters. As members of the conservancy arrived, the hecklers yelled and harassed them personally with chants of "McConnell raped the environment" and "Shame on the conservancy."

Once again, McConnell is fair game. Private citizens, on the other hand, should not be subjected to such tasteless jeers.

Anyway, we have one week left until the election. In the past week, there have been several polls that have come out. As I'm not a pollster or a statistician, I won't comment on the methodologies.

However, I have to admit I am confused as to the variation.

For the gubernatorial race alone, there have been at least three polls. The SurveyUSA poll showed Democratic candidate Steve Beshear with a 20-point lead over Republican incumbent Ernie Fletcher. The Herald-Leader/WTVQ poll showed Beshear with a 15-point lead. Finally, a poll from KYPolitics.org showed the race even.

The gubernatorial confusion aside, there have been two consistent factors in this year's election season.

The first is Secretary of State Trey Grayson's solid performance. I've mentioned his stellar fundraising and complete dominance of the issues over his opponent. Each time I hear Democratic candidate Bruce Hendrickson speak, I am even more sure that he is unqualified to be secretary of state.



THOMAS ROBERTS
Contributing columnist

The first clue that Hendrickson isn't qualified for the office should have been the fact that teachers, his former colleagues, refused to endorse him. And if that was not enough, Grayson has been endorsed by the Kentucky Post, the Lexington Herald-Leader, The (Louisville) Courier-Journal, and The Kentucky Standard in Bardstown.

In its Grayson endorsement, the Lexington Herald-Leader stated that Hendrickson was "unprepared for the job." Moreover, the endorsement concludes by saying, "it would be a disservice to ... the people of Kentucky to deny (Grayson) another four years in office."

Now I don't know how much any of you keep up with these endorsements, but when a paper known for being hostile toward Republicans endorses a Republican with such admiration, you know he must be doing something right.

The second factor in this year's election is the race for commissioner of agriculture. Republican Richie Farmer should handily defeat Democrat David Lynn Williams. Outside of his fame from his UK basketball days, Farmer has done better than expected in his position.

He has worked to promote the Kentucky Proud initiative, and he has fought to protect consumers through high-tech fuel testing.

Furthermore, Farmer has done all of this while cutting expenses and decreasing the waste in the Kentucky Department of Agriculture. Even more impressive, he was elected president of the Southern Association of State Departments of Agriculture.

On a side note, Farmer's opponent, Williams, is a man with a record.

When running for office, usually you would highlight your record. However, Mr. Williams' record is one that has made the Democratic Party run away.

According to an article published by Community Newspaper Holdings, Inc., Williams was charged with menacing and harassing just this year after he allegedly threatened his niece by saying he would "knock (her) through that damn door."

I wonder why even the Kentucky Democratic Party fails to mention him.

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

Weekly Poll Question

Who will you vote for in the upcoming gubernatorial election?

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Freshmen exceeding Skinner's expectations

By Kenny Colston
kcolston@kykernel.com

When head coach Craig Skinner wrapped up recruiting last summer, he knew he had a talented group of players coming to play volleyball for UK.

But even with all the talent Skinner signed — his recruiting class was ranked eighth by PrepVolleyball.com — he had no idea those same freshmen would be making the splash they have so far this season.

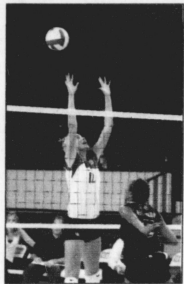
"You never know for sure," Skinner said. "But we knew they had character and that they wanted to work very hard. They wanted to be great individuals as well as a great team."

The six freshmen have made an impact since the moment they reached campus and have amazed Skinner and his coaching staff.

"As a coach you hope to give motivation to your players," Skinner said. "But this class gives us motivation as coaches."

Those six freshmen are led by middle blocker Lauren Rapp, who has started in all but one of UK's 25 matches this season and has been named Southeastern Conference Freshman of the Week three times already, a school record. Rapp has meshed well with two other All-SEC players, senior Nicole Britenriker and junior Queen Nzenwa, at the middle blocker position, while ranking in the top three of every offensive category for the Cats.

But the contribution from the freshman class hardly ends there. Outside hitters Sarah Mendoza and



BRITNEY MCINTOSH | STAFF
Freshman outside hitter Blairie Hiler blocks the ball against Eastern Kentucky on Sept. 4 at Memorial Coliseum.

Blairie Hiler have each started 12 matches for the Cats. Mendoza is the current SEC Freshman of the Week after recording double-digit kills in both home games over the weekend. Defensive specialist Laura Stokowski has played in more than two-thirds of UK's games, and defensive specialist Annmarie Behr has seen action in four matches.

While the young Cats have contributed a lot this season, the increased playing time is not something any of the freshmen have taken for granted.

"I didn't think I'd get as much playing time as I have been getting," Hiler said.

The idea of limited playing time was shared by Rapp, who figured she would be spending most of the season on the sidelines — along with her freshmen teammates.

"I didn't think we could play that much," Rapp said. "I thought we would have to wait our turn to play, but we've played well so far."

The players attribute their success to how much they've stuck together since arriving on campus during the summer. It's a relationship that helps the team play better, Stokowski said.

"We are all very close," she said, "which helps a lot with chemistry."

The players are also friends off the court: Stokowski said all six freshmen room together, hang out together and even study together every day.

"We are always together," Hiler said. "We are super close, a big family."

And while the freshmen have all stuck together, Skinner attributes their success to their willingness to learn from the returning players.

"We have a phenomenal group," Skinner said. "But the freshmen have looked at the returning players for how to run the program. They are all driven to be successful."

With such a close relationship and a drive to succeed, the six freshmen see the sky as the limit. While they all admit to "making freshman mistakes," all six say they have the talent and comfort level with each other to rise all the way to the top.

"We have so many good players that came in," Rapp said. "We can win the SEC and get better as we get older."

Conference tourney berth opens possibilities for Cats

By Laura Pepper
sports@kykernel.com

Despite limping through a rough start to begin the season, the men's soccer team gave itself a chance to salvage its season with a huge win last weekend.

Thanks to a 2-1 victory on Saturday over Florida International, the Cats clinched a spot in the 2007 Conference USA Tournament.

The Cats will have to put it all on the line during the C-USA tournament, because without a first-place finish and the NCAA bid awarded for winning the tournament, UK has a slim chance of going to the NCAA Tournament with three regular season games remaining.

"We would have to win out, then win one or two in the tournament," head coach Ian Collins said. "It's a long shot, but it's possible."

All signs indicate that UK will have to win three straight in Birmingham, Ala., at the conference tournament, based on what happened last year. The 2006 Cats posted an impressive 14-5-2 record, including multiple stays in the top 25, but at the end of the year they were shocked to find out that they weren't one of the 48 teams that made the NCAA Tournament.

"It would be great to win this year to make up for last year and get a spot in the NCAA Tournament," junior midfielder Brad Frederick said. "If we win the next three games, it will give us a lot of confidence going into the C-USA Tournament."

that we can use to our benefit."

The Cats' win on Saturday ensured that UK will not be the one team out of the nine-team conference that will be left out of the C-USA Tournament. If the season were to end today, the Cats would be the No. 2 seed because they have gone 4-2-0 against conference foes.

"They kept fighting and working," Collins said. "They now know how to win close games when they lost them early on in the season."

Now that the Cats are firmly in the C-USA Tournament, they'll focus their attention on the remaining three games against No. 7 Indiana, Southern Methodist and South Carolina.

One of Collins' focuses in the two weeks leading up to the tournament is getting the team ready to play multiple games in just a few days span.

"We need to try to find a balance; we need to practice hard," Collins said. "The players have to save enough gas to play three games in five days."

After helping the Cats bounce back from their early-season adversity, Frederick said he believes the Cats will finish the season strong to ensure they don't suffer last season's disappointment.

"We show that we are a team that fights, and one that fights to get back to the top," Frederick said.

The Cats will try to continue their fight to the top today when they take on perennial powerhouse Indiana at the UK Soccer Complex tonight at 7.



ED MATTHEWS | STAFF
Junior defender Brad Frederick makes a slide tackle against Tulsa on Oct. 10 at the UK Soccer Complex.

SPORTS BRIEFS

Jasper out indefinitely with a knee injury

Sophomore guard Derrick Jasper won't play tonight in the men's basketball exhibition game against Pikeville College. The sophomore guard is out indefinitely with a knee injury.

Jasper had an arthroscopic procedure performed to remove loose cartilage in his left knee in June and was expected to return to practice Oct. 12, head coach Billy Gillispie said. Jasper returned to practice as expected and practiced through last Monday, when he re-injured the knee, Gillispie said. Gillispie isn't

sure when Jasper will return to action.

"I know he's frustrated, and I'm definitely frustrated because we definitely need him," Gillispie said. "He makes a difference for our team in a lot of different areas."

Jasper started 27 games last season, averaging 3.9 points per game.

McClinton to miss final three games of season

Junior free safety Marcus McClinton will miss the final three

games of the season after suffering a cracked scapula (shoulder blade) in Saturday's loss to Mississippi State, head coach Rich Brooks announced yesterday.

McClinton, who has started in seven of the Cats' nine games this season, has 27 tackles on the season with one interception and two pass breakups. For his career, he has recorded 126 tackles and six picks.

Brooks said McClinton could return for a bowl game if the Cats advance to postseason play.

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