

# KENTUCKY KERNEL

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## Ice delay throws off student routines

By Courtney Lacy  
news@kykernel.com

The two-hour delay yesterday morning gave some students more time to sleep in or study, but it left others confused and frustrated with the rare and sudden change in the university's schedule.

Zach Wilder, a civil engineering junior, said it gave him more study time and a chance to get homework done instead of waiting to do it at the last minute.

"I would be awake anyway, and I would be on campus anyway," he said.

But some students found yesterday's unpredictable class schedule maddening, especially when the weather continued to affect classes past 10 a.m.

Whitney Ellis, a kinesiology junior, said she had an exam later in the morning and was frustrated when she arrived at the classroom only to find that class had also been canceled.

"It would be one thing, obviously, if it was before 10 o'clock," Ellis said, "but I had a test, and I had trouble getting here, and it was canceled."

Users of UK Alert, the emergency notification system, found out about the delay between 6:10 and 7 on Tuesday morning via text message, phone, e-mail and other mediums, said UK spokesman Jay Blanton.

"So, we had a pretty extensive alert system in place that was utilized," Blanton said.

The decision to delay opening the university is uncommon, he said.

See **Delay** on page 8

## Panel shares economic, social roots of racial tension

By Rebecca Sweeney  
rsweeney@kykernel.com

It wasn't until she passed her exam in English as a second language and moved to her home school that Flor Zulema Hernandez became aware of racial issues between blacks and Hispanics.

"In the English as a second language program, you're excluded from what's going on around you," Hernandez said during last night's diversity dialogue, titled "Strong Divisions and Shared Dreams: Exploring the dynamics of relationships between Latinos/Hispanics and African-Americans/Blacks." The discussion was sponsored by the Student Diversity Engagement and the Office of Multicultural Student Affairs.

Hernandez, a marketing senior, moved to the United States from Mexico when she was 9 years old and said there was some misunderstanding among her peers about where she was from, the foods she ate and the way she spoke.

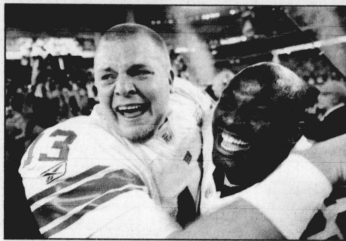
"The reason I was accepted (by blacks) is because I learned to adapt to their culture," Hernandez said.

Hernandez thinks minorities can do more for the country if they unite.

"There are many things we have to fight for, and if we unite and work

See **Diversity** on page 3

## IN HEFTY COMPANY



TOP PHOTO BY KARL MONDON | MCT. ABOVE, BELOW PHOTOS BY ELLIOTT HESS | STAFF  
Above: After celebrating at Super Bowl XLII a week earlier (top), former UK star Jared Lorenzen is back home in Fort Thomas, Ky., with his wife, Tamara, and daughter, Taylor. Below: Lorenzen points to the framed jersey in his basement that he was presented with from UK. He received the jersey on Senior Day in 2003 at Commonwealth Stadium.

## From Kentucky star to Super Bowl champ, Lorenzen returns to his hometown a Giant hero

By ERIC LINDSEY  
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Two Sundays ago, Jared Lorenzen was standing on the sidelines in the biggest sporting spectacle of the year.

Nearly 100 million viewers tuned in to watch the New York Giants' improbable upset over the New England Patriots, but few, if any, were fixated on the third-string quarterback familiarly known as UK as the Hefty Lefty.

This past Saturday, Lorenzen was on the sidelines again. He wasn't pulling for one of the most improbable wins of all time, but he was cheering with as much exuberance as he did for Eli Manning and his Giants teammates in Super Bowl XLII.

"Shoot the ball, Taylor. Shoot it!" Lorenzen says as his 5-year-old daughter pulls up for a jump shot at the local YMCA in Fort Thomas, Ky., a small suburb south of Cincinnati.

Cramped in a gym in Lorenzen's hometown, the former UK star stands on the sideline twirling a basketball. A once-empty corner of the gym is now filled with family, friends and fans hoping to get a peek of the coveted Super Bowl ring — which Lorenzen won't receive for another three or four months.

One fan walks past and congratulates Lorenzen. Another wants an autograph. Most, if not all,

already know the Fort Thomas legend. But few have spoken to a Super Bowl champ.

"It's cool that you get these kids that just want to talk to you about the experience, and then you get grandparents that want to talk about the same thing," Lorenzen later said.

Midway through the fourth quarter, Lorenzen's daughter is substituted from the game. Instead of heading to the opposite sideline to sit with her teammates clad in orange T-shirts, Taylor dashes for the quarterback who looks more like an offensive lineman. Lorenzen picks up his daughter and lifts her into the air like a toothpick. As Lorenzen kisses her on her forehead, another fan walks past and says, "Good to have you back." Lorenzen can't help but smile.

The quarterback — nicknamed everything from Hefty Lefty to J-Load to his personal favorite, BBQ (Big Beautiful Quarterback) — led the Cats from 2000 to 2003. While under center, he set records in career total offense, passing yards, completions and passing touchdowns. Only his touchdown mark has been broken.

Lorenzen, who just completed his third year with the Giants, was undrafted out of college. A player who once tipped the scales at 322 pounds, he will likely never see the field as a full-time NFL

starter. Still, Lorenzen's father, Joe, sat in attendance on Super Bowl Sunday and was as nervous as Archie Manning, Eli's father.

"I don't know what I would have done if he would have gotten into the game," Joe said. "Just watching him on the sidelines was somewhat surreal."

"I couldn't imagine the emotions I would have felt if that would have happened," he said. "It was just an awesome experience."

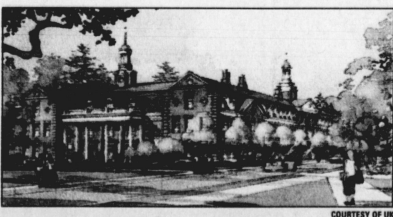
Lorenzen admits he had little chance of playing in the game. Stuck behind Super Bowl MVP Eli Manning and backup Anthony Wright, the 6-foot-4 285-pound quarterback was relegated to the role of cheerleader.

Leading up to the Super Bowl, Lorenzen posed as the opposing team's quarterback to prepare the Giants' defense for each game. But on game days, Lorenzen stays off the field, watching the opponent's safeties and cornerbacks, looking for any weaknesses Manning might miss.

"He can't see everything," Lorenzen said.

Lorenzen has thrown just eight passes for 28 yards in his NFL career, but that didn't stop him from rushing the field once the confetti filled Uni-

See **Lorenzen** on page 5



The proposed College of Law building would use Federal-style architecture, which dates back to the late-18th century.

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## Law building's proposed design spurs criticism

By Hayley Schletker  
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Looks aren't everything, but some in Lexington have been debating how the new buildings on UK's campus should be designed.

Two of the new buildings that will add to the array of architecture on UK's campus by 2012 opt for different architectural styles: A new College of Law building, whose proposed design is Federal-style architecture, and a new complex for the College of Business and Economics with a more modern proposal.

"Any institution that has aspirations to be in the top 20 should never allow a major piece of architecture to mimic a long dead style," said Lexington architect Graham Pohl about the proposed design for the College of Law building.

UK should use the opportunity to create designs that "might best express the intention, the vision and the character of the institution and the community," he said.

In a Feb. 2 letter to the editor in the Lexington Herald-Leader, Pohl said new architecture on UK's campus should incorporate modern ideas, such as green

architecture and more modern materials, rather than the 225-year-old Federal-style that "suggests legitimacy and erudition."

"Does UK imagine that their buildings must make similar pretensions to garner appropriate levels of respect?" Pohl said in the letter.

Warren Denny, UK's university architect, said the building's design is based on a study of the College of Law's needs. Among other things, it considers the building's location, near the Taylor

See **Architecture** on page 4

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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 7 — Your careful spending now helps you advance in your career. Get something you need to go further in a more efficient fashion. This could mean replacing a worn-out tool.

**Taurus (April 20 - May 20)** Today is an 8 — Sure, there's somebody who thinks you can't accomplish your dreams. Somebody may even make you take off your shoes before you can fly. Don't give up, persevere.

**Gemini (May 21 - June 21)** Today is a 7 — Something you already have is worth more than you thought. How long has it been since you had your secret stash appraised? Couldn't hurt to know.

**Cancer (June 22 - July 22)** Today is a 7 — Let your gang know what or whom you need. They'll have good recommendations. It's always best to choose a friend of a friend over a stranger.

**Leo (July 23 - Aug. 22)** Today is a 6 — More assignments are coming in, but are you making more money? You will, if you keep this up. The practice is making you perfect.

**Virgo (Aug. 23 - Sept. 22)** Today is a 9 — You're very lucky now, especially in love. It's also a good time to travel and set your long-range goals. Start things you've been thinking about.

**Libra (Sept. 23 - Oct. 22)** Today is a 7 — If you invest some effort, you can get an excellent deal. Look around for household items that just need a little work. This goes for real estate, too.

**Scorpio (Oct. 23 - Nov. 21)** Today is a 7 — Let a person who's been there and done that give you a couple of pointers. No need to learn everything the hard way. Use some-

one else's experience.

**Sagittarius (Nov. 22 - Dec. 21)** Today is a 5 — You're making the money you'll use to accomplish a wide variety of things. Enjoy your labors, with that in mind. It's tough now, but things work out.

**Capricorn (Dec. 22 - Jan. 19)** Today is an 8 — A person you think is wonderful feels the same way about you. Conditions are excellent for making plans. Do something you really enjoy.

**Aquarius (Jan. 20 - Feb. 18)** Today is a 6 — You have more than you realize. All your treasures aren't in your pocket by any means. Count your blessings, too. Be generous in your assessment.

**Pisces (Feb. 19 - March 20)** Today is a 7 — All of us have stories we've carried around for years about who we are and what we can do. Revise and reject any of those currently hampering progress.

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## THE DISH

### HOT STUFF

Hayden Panettiere:  
Who gets my vote?

Here's one undecided voter who expects to be wooed: Heroes star Hayden Panettiere. At an Old Navy event Jan. 30 in L.A., she told us she was "not yet prepared to say" which candidate she's supporting. "I had a conversation with Barack Obama. I'm waiting to hear from Hillary Clinton."

And the most pressing issue for her isn't the Iraq war or the economy — it's, uh, the whales. A source says that when she attended a Feb. 1 dinner with Chelsea Clinton, 27, at West Hollywood eatery Ago, "Hayden made it clear to Chelsea she'll vote for whoever will help save the whales."

Hopefully, Panettiere is better informed about politics than her personal life. Rattling off a list of things she claimed appeared in us (but never actually did), she attacked an us reporter about "inaccuracies" involving her relationship with Milo Ventimiglia, 30, at the Jan. 30 event.

"You guys say untrue things," she said. "I'm not living with him. I'm not pregnant. There is no engagement." Hayden, lesson No. 1 of politics: Know your facts before speaking!

**Mary-Kate & Ashley cutting staff**

Is business not booming for Mary-Kate and Ashley Olsen? A source tells Hot Stuff that the twin moguls, 21, recently laid off several employees from Dualstar Entertainment Group, which markets their Mark-Kate

and Ashley brand of videos, clothes and home goods (and had \$15.4 million in sales in 2007) — because it has been a "tough year" economically.

"And it's been hard emotionally for them, because they were really close with their team," adds the source. (A rep for Dualstar says, "The changes we are currently making — which include a number of talented new hires — are directly related to Mary-Kate and Ashley's recent successful ventures into luxury brands and contemporary fashion.")

Also weighing on Mary-Kate's mind: the death of Heath Ledger, whom she dated exclusively for four months before he passed. "She was really hit hard," says a pal. "She had started developing major feelings for him."

**Katharine McPhee's 'I Do!' details**

In true "American Idol" form, Katharine McPhee's Feb. 2 nuptials to Nick Cokas, 43, were filled with music. Performers included "Idol" alum Mandisa, a gospel choir and Ail Woodson of the Temptations, who told Hot Stuff, "It was the most exciting wedding I've ever been to."

McPhee, 23, wore a strapless Manuel Mota gown and Neil Lane jewels (and she picked out her Badgley Mischka bracelet sandals "the morning before the wedding," a source says). Following the ceremony,

which was held at the Beverly Hills Presbyterian Church, the bride and groom and 300 guests (including bridesmaid Kellie Pickler, groomsman Charlie Sheehan — Tori Spelling's ex-hubby! — and Rumer Willis) continued celebrating at Vibiana in downtown L.A. Says Eddie Zaratsian — owner of Tic-Tock Couture Florals, which did the flowers — "They looked so in love."

**Dave & Emily: It's over!**

Was it a case of sibling rivalry? "Brothers & Sisters" star Dave Annable, 28, has split from Emily VanCamp, 21, who plays his half sister on the ABC drama. "It was a friendly breakup," says a source. "Dave is not really too heartbroken." Indeed, on Feb. 1, he was flirting with women at the Wyclef Jean concert in Scottsdale, Arizona. Says the source, "He just wants to have fun and be a single guy again."

**Jerry defends his Tom spoof**

Jerry O'Connell's parody of Tom Cruise's infamous Scientology video hit the Web on Jan. 22. Days later at the SAG Awards, his wife, Rebecca Romijn, joked to us of Cruise's presence at the affair. "Is there gonna be a confrontation?" O'Connell isn't too worried. The actor told us at the VH1/Pepsi Super Bowl bash Jan. 31, "It's all in good fun."

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## Scientist welcomes idea of alien life

By Jennifer Graham  
news@kykernel.com

Author and scientist Jeff Bennett has never seen physical proof that life on other planets exists but said he considers the science behind potential extraterrestrial life forms "inherently cool."

"There are so many philosophical implications with it," Bennett said. "It isn't just a question of whether or not they are there."

Bennett, author of "Beyond UFOs: The Search for Extraterrestrial Life and Its Astonishing Implications for Our Future," is holding a talk tonight at 7:30 in room 155 of the Chemistry-Physics Building. The Society of Physics Students is hosting the speech.

"I'll mainly be talking about the science behind life on other planets," Bennett said. Bennett said he has explored the idea of extraterrestrial life forms through his work as an astronomer.

As for whether or not life exists on other planets, Bennett said he has not seen proof.

"Nothing has led me to believe that there is life, but it isn't unreasonable at all," he said. "If we are here, then why couldn't something similar

have happened on other planets?"

Sophomore nursing major Crystal Canary said she is not sure what to believe in regard to life on other planets.

"There could be (life on other planets), but I don't really believe there is, because if they exist, why haven't we found them?" Canary said.

Bennett believes exploring and possibly discovering life elsewhere in the universe could completely change humans' set way of thinking.

"Today, we are the center of the biological universe, but if we see that others are out there, it could change the way we think about ourselves," Bennett said. "The possibility of life beyond our world gives students a chance to explore something different instead of always thinking about mundane things, like, 'What am I going to do at my job?'"

Assistant physics professor Chris Crawford said students attending the speech will get the chance to learn more about a topic they might not otherwise research.

"There are a lot of unknown questions we've never been able to answer," Crawford said, "and people are interested in those answers."

## Student leaders want more open conversations

By Jill Lester  
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UK student leaders and the university's new top diversity official have said they would like to meet again to discuss the culture on campus and ways it can improve.

Leaders of 12 student organizations at UK first met for a candid discussion with Vice President for Institutional Diversity July "J.J." Jackson on Monday. Having more meetings like it could help bring unity to campus diversity efforts, said National Pan-Hellenic Council President Aria Higgins.

"We have an abundance of power on this campus, and our voices need to be heard from a collective body," Higgins said. "We all have the same goal of seeing the university being on one accord as far as recruitment and retention. We need to tap into our resources in order to see the changes that were brought up in the meeting make it to campus."

Jackson, currently at Vassar College in Poughkeepsie, N.Y., was selected last month to take on the newly created role. As

vice president for institutional diversity starting July 1, Jackson will be responsible for coordinating diversity efforts among students, faculty, staff and administrators. She will also advise the president and the provost on how university decisions will affect UK's diversity goals.

Jackson said her role at UK will not be to intervene or replace student affairs personnel. Instead, meetings like Monday's among student leaders are intended to foster dialogue and let Jackson know the culture of UK's campus before she arrives, she said.

Future meetings with other student leaders and with Jackson will be easier after Monday's gathering, said Mehmet Saracoglu, president of the Interfaith Dialogue Organization.

"I think given that most of us met Dr. Jackson for the first time, we didn't know how open she was for ideas and exchange with students, and I think it will be easier to bring things up if it wasn't mentioned yesterday," Saracoglu said.

Patrick Nally, a marketing and integrated strategic communications junior, said

some of the changes that should be discussed include establishing a religious center on campus and a diversity office that is globally and internationally based.

Regular meetings among campus leaders should be expanded to include more people, Nally said, and could help bring more understanding among student-led groups.

"The big group that's looking down and the little group that's looking up need to move toward the middle," Nally said. "You'll never be at a place in life where you can't learn from each other."

Student Activities Board President Grace Hahn said leaders should look at themselves not just as the heads of their organizations but as representatives of the entire campus as well.

"There are so many great student leaders that have a lot of knowledge to offer other groups," Hahn said. "I also hope to see many more meetings of the type we had yesterday (Monday) where student leaders take the time to sit down and talk about the issues surrounding everyone on campus."

## DIVERSITY

Continued from page 1

toward a common goal, we would be so much more powerful," she said.

Wesley Robinson, a Spanish and journalism junior, said he learned about racial tensions between Hispanics and blacks when he was no longer allowed to play with his Hispanic neighbors because they associated his skin col-

or to gang-related activities.

"I thought it was interesting because we had been neighbors for several years and had established that character rapport," Robinson said.

Audience members asked questions about whether Hispanics were taking blacks' jobs, and Robinson said the competition over jobs aggravates the arguments between blacks and Hispanics.

"African-Americans are largely individualistic. We wouldn't be able to boycott a bus sys-

tem today because we do things as one family or one group," Robinson said. "Hispanics get together and might ride with 15 people in one car just to make sure everyone gets to work."

Hernandez said she doesn't think people should have to fight for low-income jobs in a nation that values social mobility and opportunity.

Mahjabeen Rafiuddin, the director of Student Diversity Engagement, said last night's diversity dialogue offered "a

better and more in-depth understanding that there are challenges and issues we need to work on together."

Rafiuddin said the diversity dialogues are organized to connect issues from the community and campus.

"We definitely need to continue to invest time and energy in bringing the two minority communities together in a safe space," Rafiuddin said.

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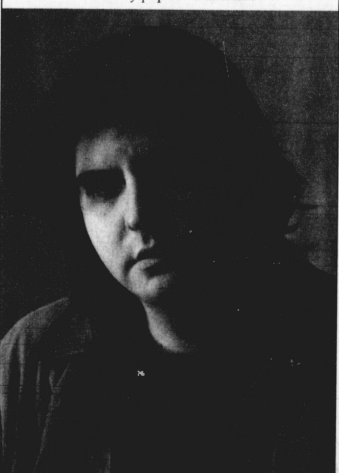
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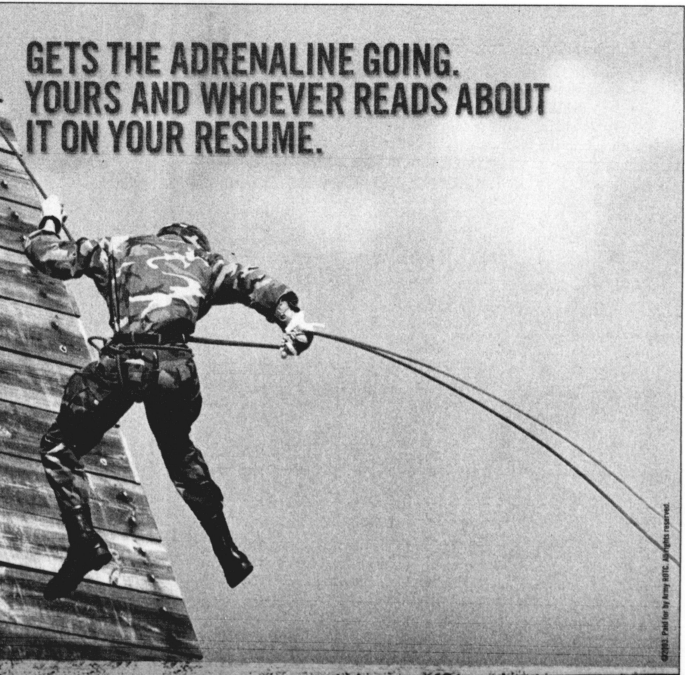
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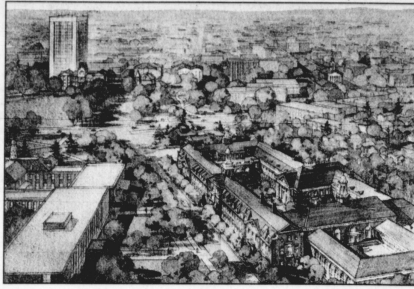


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The proposed College of Law building would be located on Scott Street, near the intersection with South Limestone and across from the Taylor Education Building. The design calls for a quad of six connected buildings around three courtyards.



RENDERINGS COURTESY OF UK

## ARCHITECTURE

Continued from page 1

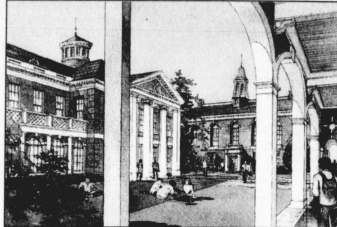
Education Building on Scott Street, where it would be surrounded by some of the oldest buildings on campus.

A building's environment plays a large role in how it should be designed, said fourth-year architecture student Katlyn Dench, so it is not unreasonable for the new law building to have an older style.

"Designing buildings, you always want it to fit in," Dench said. "While it's appropriate to keep in mind modern styles, you can pay homage to the more traditional styles by updating them to fit your needs."

In contrast, the new Business and Economics building will have a more modern design, Denny said, and that style will contribute to UK's landscape by creating a section of campus with a different feel.

"Most people see them as in the same grouping, but the new Business and Economic building sits between a new dorm that is very modern, and Memorial Coliseum, which is



art deco and appears modern," Denny said.

Some architecture students said there could be a compromise between using modern techniques and traditional styles.

Dara Solomon, a fourth-year architecture student, said she felt UK could move forward in its design while still keeping the styles of older buildings in mind.

"There's always a way to incorporate a new style if it's done well," she said. "This campus is a nice campus, but we're stuck 10 years behind. Schools like UC (University of Cincinnati)

have all kinds of designs going into their new buildings."

David Stout, a fifth-year architecture student, said the school was taking strides by achieving national Leadership in Energy and Environmental Design Silver certification, but it needs to move forward in design as well.

"This is a classical university. That's what people are comfortable with. But this is a different time," Stout said. "This campus needs something new and fresh. This university is about generating ideas."

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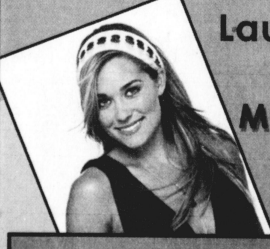


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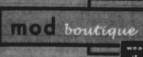



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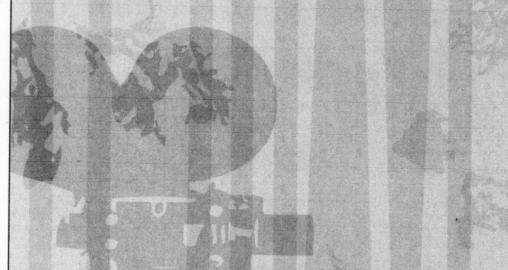
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**LORENZEN**

Continued from page 1

versity of Phoenix Stadium, or from tearing through the crowd to kiss his wife, Tamara. "I grabbed my hat, grabbed Eli's hat and started just going nuts," Lorenzen said of the postgame celebration. "I found (Tamara), jumped around — hugs, kisses, crying, it was just an odd feeling."

"Like coach (Tom Coughlin) told us before the game, this is the pinnacle of our profession," Lorenzen said. "It doesn't get any higher than this. And for us to feel that, and then to know that our family felt that too, was awesome."

Sharing tears with his family was a sweet ending to a long season. Lorenzen said. Besides traveling to every game — Tamara braved the minus-23 degree wind chill at the NFC Championship in Green Bay, Wis. — Tamara and Taylor rarely see him at home during the grueling 10-month span of mini-camps, blazing summer workouts and the season.

"It's real tough," Lorenzen said after his daughter's basketball game. "This is the first basketball (game) I've gone to, and there's only two left. You miss a lot of stuff. You just can't be around the family all the time, and it's difficult, especially on the little one."

Sitting down on Saturday to catch a few minutes of the UK-Alabama game is a luxury the Lorenzens haven't had with a Super Bowl to worry about. With little more than a post-Super Bowl party later that evening on their minds, Lorenzen and Tamara finally kick back in their quaint one-story house while their black Labrador scratches at the glass door.

Just as Lorenzen starts to finally relax, he jumps up and points at someone on television he used to know while in Lexington. Lorenzen says he just received a text message from her a few days earlier.

Then, as UK guard Ramel Bradley nails a 3-pointer, Lorenzen asks how many games the Cats have won in a row. Before anybody can answer, Taylor yells from the shower. "It's too hot," she shrieks from a back room.

Lorenzen looks at Tamara, who doesn't budge from the couch. After months of waking up in the morning to take care of Taylor, of rushing to soccer and basketball practices, and of keeping up the house, Tamara wants a break. With little hesitation, Lorenzen says, "I'll check on her," and saunters to a back room.

"It's hard sometimes, and I take it out on him occasionally, but he understands," said Tamara, who married Jared in July. "I just get tired. He let me sleep until 9:30 the first two days (after he got back from the Super Bowl parade), so I was happy."

Lorenzen understands the strain he puts on his family being away all the time, but with few football careers lasting longer than 10 years, Lorenzen says it's a "short-term deal."

Now, he is home. At least, for a while. Lorenzen will have to report back to New York on March 31 for spring workouts and



**Above:** Minutes after his daughter's basketball game, Lorenzen passes out Oreo cookies at the Fort Thomas YMCA. **Below:** Lorenzen, a third-string quarterback for the New York Giants, signs an autograph for a waitress at the local Applebee's in Fort Thomas, Ky.

PHOTOS BY ELLIOTT HESS STAFF

mini-camp — if he decides to re-sign with the Giants. Lorenzen, a restricted free agent, said he is happy with the team, but with Manning entrenched as the starter in New York, Lorenzen wouldn't mind pursuing other options if he was given a chance to play.

"I'm happy where I am. I'm comfortable with where I am," Lorenzen said. "But there's a part of me also that wants to have a chance somewhere. It's just human nature. I look at some of the teams around the league, and I would love a chance to play."

Sitting on the sidelines is a far cry from Lorenzen's days in high school and college. At Highlands High School in Fort Thomas, Lorenzen played football, basketball and baseball. And at UK, he started all but six games.

Lorenzen said he has great memories at UK, most notably his first game at Louisville freshman year, where he rushed for a career-long 33 yards and tossed his first touchdown pass. He also endured years of probation, three head coaches and the dreaded "Bluegrass Miracle" in 2002, when Louisiana State scored a last-second touchdown on a 75-yard Hail Mary.

Still, Lorenzen called his time in Lexington special. He keeps tabs on the current Cats

and thinks head coach Rich Brooks has done a tremendous job with the team. Departing senior quarterback Andre Woodson will be a star in the NFL, he added.

Woodson's success at quarterback in recent years, leading the Cats to their first back-to-back bowl games since the 1950-51 seasons, has made people in Lexington almost forget the days of Lorenzen. But in Fort Thomas, Lorenzen's legend has only grown.

Pictures of his high school and college days hang from the walls of a local Applebee's, and people from all over the restaurant walk by to pat Lorenzen on the back or ask him about his Super Bowl experience.

Lorenzen's family hasn't been to the Applebee's in their hometown for more than a year, but the lore of Lorenzen has noticeably changed from their previous visits. People approached the quarterback in the past and occasionally asked for an autograph, but never like they do now. As Lorenzen watches Taylor bounce around the restaurant, the waitress asks the Super Bowl champ to sign an autograph for the fourth time — this time for a co-worker.

"It never gets old," he said, "and I hope it never does."

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# OPINIONS

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### ■ KERNEL EDITORIAL

## Speed up system for sending campus warning messages

UK's emergency notification system faced its first major tests last week — and failed both.

Text and phone messages from UK Alert about a tornado warning Feb. 6 reached only 4,500 of the 7,000 properly registered users, many of whom did not get the warnings until the storm had passed. The next night, when shots were fired during a fight at Greg Page Apartments, messages about the incident were not sent until five hours later.

Of course, it would be unreasonable to expect the system's first test to go off without a hitch. But the trial run should have come shortly after signups started Jan. 14, not during a tornado warning three weeks later.

With an early test, UK could have anticipated the low rate of successfully sent messages, which was 61 percent during the storms and went only slightly up to 65 percent in the first run after the shooting. Technical fixes could have been worked out before, rather than in the wake of, two potentially life-threatening situations.

However, the handling of the gunshot incident shows that technology isn't UK Alert's only problem. UK officials need to tighten their procedures for sending messages about campus security threats, by both speeding up the reporting process and recognizing that it should not be used when there is no urgent threat.

UK police got a report at 7:37 p.m. Wednesday about the incident; by about 9 p.m., police had confirmed that shots were fired amid a fight and notified the Office of Emergency Management, which runs UK Alert. However, officials waited to send a message until 12:34 a.m., when they had enough information to include full descriptions of the suspects.

"Had this been a situation where there was an active shooter, we would have had the message out in a few minutes," UK spokesman Jay Blanton told the Kernel.

But UK Alert's purpose is to keep people out of immediate danger, not to just let them know what's going on. If officials could afford to wait three hours to alert campus, they should have done so through a campuswide e-mail instead of UK Alert.

When students and employees get a message from UK Alert, they need to know it demands their attention. That won't happen if UK gets in the habit of using the system for untimely notifications.

Moreover, indications of how the system would perform in case of a truly pressing emergency are not reassuring: At the earliest, the first round of messages would have been sent an hour and a half after the shooting. If there were an active shooter on campus, the consequences of such a long delay would be unthinkable.

Without a doubt, UK has come far since a year ago — when there would have been zero, rather than 4,500, messages about the tornado. But there is still progress to be made before UK Alert will reach its full potential.

To avoid a repeat of last week's blunders, UK police and the Office of Emergency Management need to develop stronger guidelines for which situations merit UK Alert messages and to streamline the incident-reporting process.

What UK doesn't need is a system that sends late, less-than-critical messages — one that endangers campus by preserving the illusion of security without actually providing it.

### ■ LETTERS TO THE EDITOR

#### In elections, remember the sanctity of life

While I am in agreement with Carrie Bass on the need to heavily weigh presidential candidates' abortion views this election, I write as a man who will vote pro-life.

An enduring principle of America has been the sanctity of life. National forefathers perceived the right to a life of religious freedom as crucial enough to brave the Atlantic Ocean and forge a new world. Our predecessors viewed the right to a free life worth the outpouring of at least 618,000 lives to end slavery. Our grandparents and great-grandparents saw the right to an equal life important enough to risk being disowned, imprisoned and even killed until years of protest brought women the right to vote in 1920 and struck down racial segregation in 1954.

Now another question of life has been raised: Should we extend to the unborn this same view of equal, sacred life as an inalienable right? Roe v. Wade, avoiding the tough question of when life begins, resolved that the child was granted rights as a living being only after becoming "viable" — capable of living outside the mother's womb on its own.

Most dissenting views against Roe

v. Wade come from the enduring historical debate asking when child is alive. Scarcely, medical analyses of life-like behavior return an ever-diminishing value: A baby is full-term within 38 weeks, responsive to its mother's touch within 26 weeks and bears a heartbeat within 40 days.

Even somehow setting that aside, here's what few realize: Tragically, studies have shown that women post-abortion are 4.7 percent more likely to suffer breast cancer, 90 percent are likely to report psychological trauma, 96 percent are likely to report they feel they took a human life and seven times more likely to commit suicide than women post-birth.

At the very least, we should postpone abortion until science and law defines life's commencement: at the very worst, we are a nation of "life, liberty and the pursuit of happiness" — and 48 million silent murders since 1973. In my mind, absolutely nothing justifies taking that risk.

I entreat you to choose life. Your mom did.

David Rempfer  
Computer science junior

#### Calls for Phelps' resignation are baseless

After reading the recent Kernel articles encompassing the controversy over an e-mail sent from UK Student Government President Nick Phelps to a select few of his friends, I feel compelled to share my disgust with the latest diversity outcry on campus and the outright irrational and idiotic assault being waged on Phelps.

While I could spend quite some time debating the validity of the e-mail being offensive to some (for reasons I have yet to understand), my purpose for writing this letter is to shed light on the absurdity surrounding the personal attacks on a great leader.

First of all, Phelps did not author the message; he simply forwarded it on to a few of his friends and fellow student leaders. I have read the e-mail multiple times, and I have yet to figure out how people can accuse him of being anti-Muslim or a bigot full of hate.

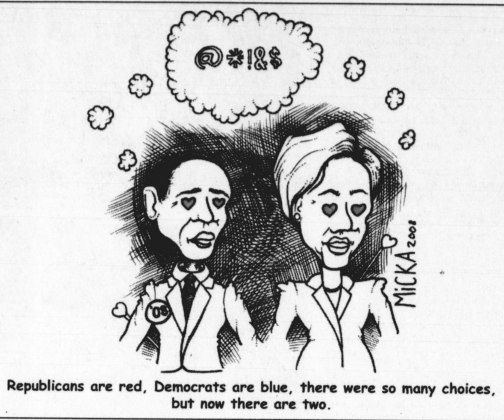
It sounds like the very people screaming for diversity don't truly understand the meaning of the word. Maybe if they would practice what they are so quick to preach, then this world would be in a much better situa-

tion and it is at this time. And, anyone who knows anything about our country knows that we are under attack from radical Muslims (jihadists) who want nothing more than to see the United States completely destroyed. If that doesn't bother you, then you have no business being in our country.

Secondly, the call for Phelps to be impeached or censured is utterly ridiculous, especially considering the leading voice of this movement, UK College Democrats President Robert Kahne, has been entangled in ethical and offensive displays of opinion made public just a few short years ago. Kahne's attempt to infiltrate an opponent's headquarters to sabotage her campaign, as well as making comments in his blog about wanting to do something like the Spanish inquisition and kill all of the Republicans most definitely neither grants him a credible position in this debate nor the right to slander Phelps.

Seriously guys, grow up.

Amey Sagraves  
Political science alumna



PATRICK MICKA, Kernel cartoonist

## Get over your inferiority complex: We're lucky to be from Kentucky

It seems like many of the young voters I have spoken with are somewhat apathetic about Kentucky's presidential primary in May. The blame seemingly lies in the fact that Kentucky's primary is so late in the game.

Naturally, many people assume that the candidates already will have been decided by the other state primaries.

Carrie Bass  
Kernel columnist

this I respond: "It ain't over 'til it's over."

The Democratic nominee in particular remains unsettled, so we young Kentuckians should not count ourselves out yet.

However, I suspect that behind the veneer of "it won't even matter" lies a far more dangerous feeling that Kentucky is not only irrelevant in the presidential primaries, but is also a nonentity in general.

I wish sometimes that Kentuckians could be more like New Yorkers, rocking a bold accent and signature attitude, being obscenely snobby about local cuisine and talking to everyone about how much they love where they live.

We already have the rabid-sports fan thing down. Why not embrace a larger sense of Kentucky pride (apologies to any copyrights pertaining to the grocery labels)? Why can't we be proud of our state like we are

proud (sometimes) of our basketball team?

I am aware of the stereotypically negative aspects of our commonwealth, and I am no less immune to resenting the expected overalls, bare feet and illiteracy. So what?

Aside from being the home and namesake of the most internationally recognized fast-food chain besides McDonald's, Kentucky boasts numerous other credentials that are a little less grand and a little more refined.

Kentucky is the only place in the world where bourbon-whiskey is produced. That bourbon is poured into glasses at the chicest bars in major cities all over the world and served to unsuspecting patrons who never guess that their favorite drink is manufactured by a bunch of "hillbillies" and "rednecks." The horse industry also adds some yuppie-points to Kentucky's scorecard.

On a less pretentious note, Kentucky is practically bursting with subcultures from east to west.

In Paducah, the Artist Relocation Program has been envied and copied by communities nationwide. In Whitesburg, Appalachia produces progressive documentaries and short films that cover every subject from sports to the environment. Lexington ranks 10th in a list of America's most educated cities with a population of more than 250,000, according to the U.S. Census Bureau. Everywhere, there is fabulous food grown and raised right next door.

Any doubts about the uniqueness and beauty of the Kentucky landscape? Check out Mammoth Cave,

Daniel Boone National Forest and the lakes.

I am traveling to Chicago in a

Why not embrace a larger sense of Kentucky pride? Why can't we be proud of our state like we are (sometimes) of our basketball team?

few days, and I know that, as I fly back over the horse farms in Woodford and Fayette counties, I can breathe a sigh of relief at the greenery that is still lush even in the middle of winter, knowing that I am far, far away from the endless, flat, depressing cornfields of Illinois.

We may not know it, but we are so lucky.

We have a beautiful environment, good food, fun Bluegrass music, slow accents and culture coming out our ears. If nobody else knows or sees how amazing Kentucky really is, who cares? We have to know first that Kentucky is not the slum of America, and then maybe everyone else will follow.

Step one in accepting our Kentuckian selves is turning out to vote like it's nobody else's business but ours, even if we are the last people in America to do so.

Carrie Bass is an art history senior. E-mail opinions@kykernel.com.

## Even though Phelps didn't resign, let's keep up progress on campus

It's been a wild week for the College Democrats. I hope you have been following the Student Government e-mail scandal this week. I believe that the events that have occurred since Feb. 4 encapsulate a larger debate being played out in the campus as a whole. Let me try to use this space this week to shed light on what has occurred, from my perspective, and how the College Democrats feel that we should advance forward from this situation.

Robert Kahne  
Contributing columnist

I was made aware on Feb. 4 that SG President Nick Phelps forwarded a bigoted e-mail about Barack Obama, and I met with a few campus leaders to talk about the issue. After becoming familiar with what had happened — that Phelps had sent the e-mail to an SG listserve without a disclaimer and that it had permeated the larger campus — I came to the conclusion that the best course of action would be for him to resign. On Feb. 5, I was contacted by several media outlets, including the Kernel, the Herald-Leader and WFPK radio in Louisville, and shared with them my opinion. That

same night, UK College Democrats met in order to determine our course of action. We voted, and save one officer, we were all in favor of calling for Phelps' resignation. We wrote him a letter and delivered it to him the next day.

When we delivered the letter to him on Feb. 6, it became obvious that his resignation was off the table. Phelps was very polite in his meeting with us, and although we had a disagreement of opinion, I felt the meeting was productive. The progress continued into the night. That evening, the SG Senate had its regular meeting, which began with a very heartfelt apology. Students were allowed to speak, and many great and productive comments were heard.

College Democrats tempered our position after it became obvious that Phelps would not resign and the Senate would not impeach him. We decided to ask Phelps to provide us with a list of things he was doing to address and atone for his mistake. Phelps seemed to agree with this. One of the final speakers was Patrick Nally, who offered a great comment about making progress going forward.

Things would have been wonderful had they ended there. However, Phelps found it necessary to make another comment, this one much less heartening. In his second comment, Phelps found it necessary to say

(among other things) that he was proud of the statements he made because they "started a conversation," and that he would look back on this moment in 20 years when he was on CNN as the turning point in his life. Nick's second comment was very disappointing — this is a sentiment shared across the group that was upset originally.

While I found Phelps' second comment unsettling, I find it no more disturbing than the original e-mail that touched off this whole ordeal. Phelps obviously has a long way to go before he can rehabilitate his respectability among me and others; however, I take heart because I feel that Phelps truly wants to take the steps necessary to do so.

Finally, I want to end on a personal note. Some have accused me of making ridiculous statements in an attempt to get into the press. Because when I say that this could not be further from the truth. This whole ordeal has been no fun for me. I would rather make news for building people up rather than bringing people down: I have only done what I have done because I felt like certain things needed to be said. I still respect Nick Phelps a great deal. I look forward to the day when he agrees to be my Facebook friend again.

Robert Kahne is the president of UK College Democrats. E-mail rkahne@gmail.com.



## Vandy crushes UK in its worst loss since 1989

By Travis Waldron  
twaldron@kentucky.com

After suffering its first loss of the season to UK earlier in the year, No. 24 Vanderbilt returned the favor in record fashion last night.

The Commodores blitzed the Cats right from the start, crushing UK 93-52, while handing the Cats their worst defeat since 1989. The margin of victory was also the largest in the series' history.

As dominating as Vandy was, UK was equally as bad, putting together its worst scoring half in the shot clock era. The Cats shot 20 percent from the field and scored just 11 points in the first half. The rest of the game hardly seemed to matter as the 'Dores cruised to a 41-11

halftime lead. Vandy's Ross Nelner, a Fort Thomas, Ky., native, outscored UK 13-11 in the first half and finished with 15 points. 'Dores' guard Shan Foster added 20 points.

Vandy (21-4, 6-4 Southeastern Conference) dominated UK in every category in the first half, out-rebounding the Cats 14-10, turning the ball over just once to UK's 12, and hitting 15 field goals, including three 3-pointers. Meanwhile, UK (12-10, 6-3) took just 15 shots and three 3-pointers.

UK had never been held un-



Foster



Patterson

der 16 first-half points in the shot clock era and hadn't been held under 25 this season. No team had scored 70 or more points in regulation against the Cats in conference play before last night.

Senior guard Ramel Bradley tied the game at three with a 3-pointer early in the first half, but after that, it was all Vandy. The 'Dores immediately went on a 13-0 run and added another 13-0 run later in the half. The Cats went 12:19 without a field goal, including 9:45 without any points at all, before halftime.

Freshman forward Patrick

Patterson had three fouls before his first point. Bradley and Patterson scored 21 and 10 points respectively, but most came in the second half when the outcome of the game was no longer in doubt.

Vanderbilt shot 55 percent overall, blitzing the Cats in a way that brought back reminders of the way UK dominated teams during its run through the league in the mid-1990s.

In 1991, the Cats trailed Louisiana State by 31 points before coming back to win, but that kind of run wouldn't be duplicated last night. Vandy picked up right where it left off in the second half, pushing the lead as wide as 43 eight minutes into the half before cruising to the 41-point win.

## DELAY

Continued from page 1

and because the decision was made just shortly before 6 a.m. Tuesday, composing a broadcast e-mail would have been largely ineffective for 8 a.m. classes and office openings.

"That's why we concentrated our efforts on informing the media, working with emergency management on the alert being

distributed quickly and posting a news item on the page of the site," Blanton said.

"Given the time involved, we think we made the right decisions to reach the most people in the shortest amount of time."

According to the National Weather Service in Louisville, there was an average of three inches of snow and rain accumulation across Fayette County. Colder temperatures and freezing rain will continue through

this afternoon. Blanton said the addition of the UK Alert system is a huge boost to the notification effort and another reason why he hopes people will continue to sign up for the "critically important service."

The decision to delay classes was a collaborative decision between the UK Police Department, Physical Plant Division, and Lexington's Division of Environmental and Emergency

Management, said Christy Giles, director of UK's emergency management office. It was based on information from local and state law enforcement agencies, as well as streets and roads departments.

"A recommendation is made if delays and cancellations are warranted, as they were with the sudden ice formations on the roads and campus sidewalks early Tuesday morning," Giles said.

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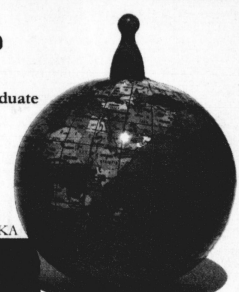
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- Wing Zone®** - S. Waller Avenue