



Dog days of summer

### Basking in laziness

Before each summer begins, we all make a list, whether on paper or in our head, of all the things we hope to accomplish. I am no different. The only problem is that after looking back on my list, I'm beginning to realize some of my goals might be a smidge out of reach. In fact most of them are completely impossible. But I'll let you fine readers be the judges. So, for you reading pleasure/pain/annoyance/torture, here's the list.

- I wasn't able to avoid seeing the "Titanic" duplicate of a movie, "Pearl Harbor." I was just waiting for Ben Affleck to sit on the front of his plane and squeal something about being "King of the World."

- I never made it into an issue of Playboy.

- I wasn't able to get my design into UK's new website. For some reason, the editor didn't think incorporating the www.amihotnot.com concept was much of a vision.

- My plans for world domination were thwarted early when the bouncer at Kamikazes wouldn't take my fake ID. I know going there probably wasn't much of a start, but it's more than any of you have done.

- I won't be able to get into the Guinness Book of World Records for being the laziest man in the world. They considered writing these articles too much work.

- My financial situation hasn't improved like I was hoping it would either. Being a shoeshine boy isn't as glamorous or profitable as they make it out to be.

- I haven't been able to keep atrophy from developing in every muscle in my legs. For some reason, I figured dragging myself from the couch to the TV twice a day was enough exercise.

- My attempts to start up a rock/rap/alternative/jazz band failed when the grumpy bass guitar player punched the one-eyed saxophonist for looking at him funny.

Jonathan Ray  
Ray\_editor@hotmail.com

I do however get to go on vacation. By the time you read this, I'll be on Delray Beach, Fla., being lazy again.

### THE '411'

Tomorrow's weather



75 57  
Hi Lo

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# SUMMER KENTUCKY KERNEL

June 21, 2001

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office. 13



## CAMPUS NEWS

# Employees say benefits still an issue

**Health insurance: Workers gather to remind UK trustees that they have not given up the fight**

By Scott Sloan  
EDITOR IN CHIEF

Health insurance hasn't been forgotten.

Nearly 75 people gathered in the Student Center Free Speech Area prior to the Board of Trustees meeting Tuesday to show the trustees they are not satisfied with the new health insurance rates.

At the board meeting, the 2001-2002 UK's operating budget with the increased insurance

rates was passed. "We're not happy with the board's decision," said David Lautzenheiser, a plumber at UK. "They basically ignored the staff and the faculty."

Lautzenheiser said the gathering was more of a remembrance than a protest.

Russell Williams, the staff trustee, cast the only nay vote for the budget. Williams said the vote was "largely symbolic."

"I felt (the rates) still put an unfair burden on some burden

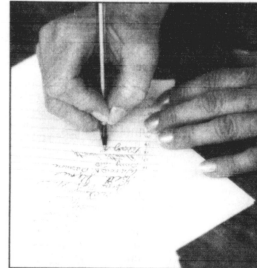
on some employees as well as most retirees," Williams said.

The rates were lowered prior to the decision deadline when it was announced UK would pick up almost \$600,000 of the proposed increases, according to Vice President for Fiscal Affairs George DeBin.

Despite the outcome of the vote, most employees held out hope for the future.

"I hope that the new administration and President Lee Todd will attempt to find a way to ease the burden on employees," said Deborah Florez, a physical plant department building operator, who spoke at the gathering.

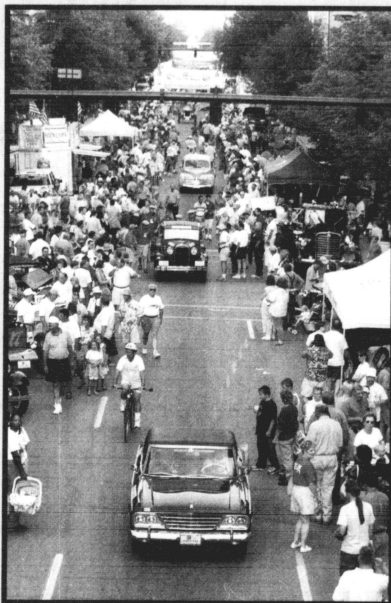
Faculty members and employees signed petitions Tuesday at the Student Center Free Speech Area to express their displeasure with UK's insurance rate increases.



DWAYN CHAMBERS | PHOTO EDITOR

## ANTIQUE AUTOS

# Classic cars make a move on downtown



**Pedal to the metal: Historic cars in the History Channel's Great Race cruise through Lexington**

By Lamin Swann  
STAFF WRITER

Nostalgia.

Main Street along the urban downtown Lexington was transformed into a main street that of older Lexingtonians would remember from the World War era, due to the History Channel's Great Race roaring through Tuesday evening with thousands cheering.

The Great Race, in its 19th year, a transcontinental rally race with up to 120 pre-1951 vehicles and pre-1960 sport cars, is the world's richest vintage car competition with a share of \$275,000 in cash and prizes.

The race, which is judged more on time and pace than speed, started in Atlanta, Ga., on June 17 and ending in Pasadena, Calif., on June 30, will travel across the nation, stopping in 44 cities along the way.

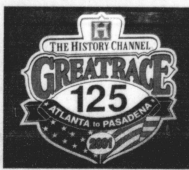
The cities will host the racers as an a.m. or p.m. pit, a lunch or overnight stop. Lexington was the third overnight host for the Great Race.

As spectators enjoyed seeing the classic vehicles up close, the drivers and navigators equally enjoyed talking about their vehicles with the spectators.

Schotzie, a German shepherd was sitting under the front of a 1941 Cadillac convertible like their was no time in the world, as Wayne Hoag, the navigator of the Cadillac, was chatting with onlookers.

"This is the best part of the race, talking to the people," said Hoag, from Truckee, Calif. He is a veteran of the Great Race, competing for the eighth time.

Teams consist of a driver and a navigator, which can be more than two people, rotating day by day or legs of the race, and com-



## Back to the future

The History Channel Great Race made its way through downtown Lexington Tuesday as thousands watched. The race began in Atlanta, Ga., and will conclude in Pasadena, Calif. Spectators enjoyed a classic car show and met with the drivers and navigators of the autos.

pete in four separate classes — Pro, Expert, Sportsman and X-Cup, a division for high school students.

15-year-old Mark Lopez of Filmore, Calif., is in the X-Cup division with his team racing a 1928 Ford Model A pick-up truck.

A part of the Fight Against Smoking Team, Lopez and eight others spend an academic year, restoring an old car as a part of a class. Principles and Practices in Automobile Restoration at Filmore High School, then entering the Great Race.

Growing up around old cars, Lopez enjoys seeing the cities and towns along the race.

"Everyone is so nice, treating us like celebrities," he said. "I feel like a celebrity."

Competing in the Great Race is not just roaring up your grandfather's old jalopy in the barn and a fresh coat of paint and wheels.

"You got to be crazy and have more than extra pocket change," said Bob Coker of Winston Salem, N.C., while leaning against his 1937 Buick Roadmaster convertible. The entry fee is \$6,500.

## ACROSS THE POND

# EU says no to US use of the death penalty

**Capital punishment: Many Europeans jeer President Bush on recent trip for executions**

By Antti Peltonen  
INTERNATIONAL CORRESPONDENT

"I have no comments for you in Tim McVeigh. You Europeans are so different," said Karen Branden, a Terre Haute Tribune Star reporter.

Branden was one of ten members of the media watching McVeigh's execution behind the glass June 12 at Terre Haute, Ind.

Several members of the European media, who were interested in the details of the execution, asked her questions about McVeigh's last day. But more than the execution day, the European media was interested in reasons why McVeigh became the first person to be executed by the United States federal government since 1963.

The case of "the Oklahoma Bomber" has been followed closely by the European media since April 19, 1995, when the bombing took place that killed 168 people at the Alfred P. Murrah federal building. The European point of view about McVeigh has also been clear throughout the process. Almost no one believes he should not have been punished. Most say he should have been sent to prison for life without the possibility of parole. But despite his crime, and the children killed during the bombing, many Europeans have difficulties accepting the death penalty.

President Bush called the execution, which took place just days before he began his European tour, justice and said the victims had finally received restitution. "This young man chose his destiny himself," Bush said.

Justice or not, the explanation did not satisfy European protesters who followed Bush during his trip to Europe.

Adding fuel to their desire was the impending execution of Juan Raul Garza, a Texan marijuana trafficker, convicted of killing one man and ordering the deaths of two others.

Garza was executed Tuesday morning at the federal penitentiary in Terre Haute, Ind.

Prior to his execution, Garza expressed remorse for his crime and the pain it had caused.

Anti-death penalty demonstrators throughout Europe have not been hesitant to express their opinions.

Amnesty International described the execution as "victory of revenge over justice" and said that McVeigh's death was a step backwards in the fight for the human rights. Amnesty officials said the McVeigh case gave the United States a possibility to show it no longer supports the death penalty. A chance it failed to use.

The European Union opposes the death penalty and said the United States should eliminate capital punishment.

"The death penalty belongs in the past," said Antonio Maria Pereira, a Portuguese civil rights activist. "It is barbaric."

The European media, which has nicknamed Bush "serial killer," has noted that the United States and Japan are the only western countries where the death penalty is still in use. The last EU nation to abolish state-sponsored executions was France, which eliminated them in 1961.

A day after McVeigh's execution, the French newspaper Liberation had a title in the front page that said, "Murders murderers."

"The biggest newspaper in Germany, Bild, wrote that it did not feel sorry for McVeigh but still opposed his death."

"Even this kind of killing that has been made in the name of justice makes us murderers," the newspaper wrote. "No one can be the God of life and death. We must say 'no' to our desire for revenge."

The Associated Press and Reuters contributed to this story.

THE SAGA OF SGA

# Appeals end after long trial

**SGA Supreme Court: Justices declined to hear Election Board of Supervision Chairman's appeals regarding campaign overspending**

By Andrea Uhde  
CONTRIBUTING WRITER

The claims filed against newly-elected Student Government Association President Tim Robinson alleging campaign expenditure violations have come to an end.

Following a spring of tension, the SGA Supreme Court affirmed the ruling of the Election Board of Claims by declining to grant a discretionary review of the case in response to the appeals brought.

Robinson and Vice President Caroline Harralson were accused of overspending in their campaign and inaccurately reporting their expenses. Accusations included not reporting the fair market value of

Robinson/Harralson campaign T-shirts and posters.

The SGA Constitution stipulates presidential and vice presidential candidates cannot spend more than \$600 on their campaign.

Robinson's opponents and Matthew Johnson, the SGA Election Board of Supervision chairman, claimed the \$599.89 Robinson reportedly spent was only an estimate that hid his excessive spending.

Robinson immediately denied the claims.

The claims were heard by the Election Board of Claims which ruled that while Robinson's funding reports were unclear, the claims could not be proven. Robinson and Harralson were ordered to perform

community service to resolve the dispute.

This decision, however, did not appease the students, including Johnson, who filed the suits. The seven justices of the SGA Supreme Court were notified of Johnson's appeal soon after the Board of Claims' decision.

The Supreme Court refused to hear Johnson's appeals, opting to let the Board of Claims' decision stand.

While Robinson was relieved with the outcome, Johnson was not.

"(The Court) had a job to do and they didn't do it," Johnson said.

Robinson said he will go ahead and do what he was elected to do and move past the con-

trovery.

If Johnson or others want Robinson to be removed from office, it would require two consecutive two-thirds votes by the SGA Senate, which according to Senate Chairman Edwin Orange is unlikely.

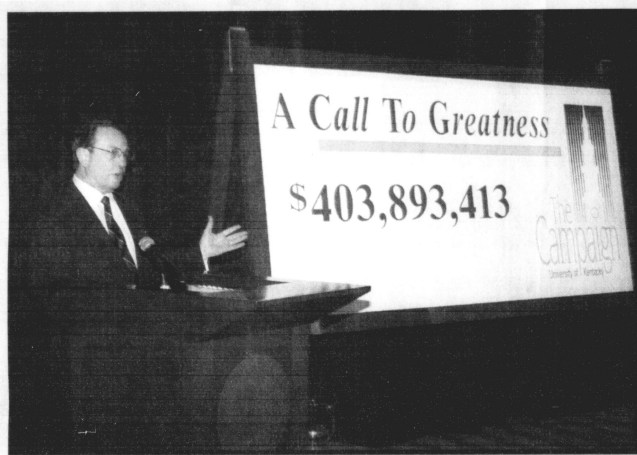
Fifteen of the Senate's 38 members campaigned with Robinson during the past election.

"I think most of the Senate feels like the Board of Claims did its job and the Supreme Court did its job," Orange said.

Joshua Robinson, a Supreme Court justice who was not involved with the case due to final exams, said, "the matter is closed."

"It ends everything," he said.

Johnson, on the other hand, still maintains his position. "I can honestly say I feel good with what I've done," he said. "I took care of it as far as I could."



UK President Charles Wethington announced Friday that UK has surpassed its goal of raising \$400 million in capital campaign funds by the end of his presidency. The campaign is seeking to raise \$600 million total.

DWAYN CHAMBERS | PHOTO EDITOR

CAMPUS NEWS

## No long break for some students

**Summer vacation: Medical students have little time off and lots of classes and exams but most say it will be worth it in the long run**

By Erika Simpson  
CONTRIBUTING WRITER

It's the first week of August. You've been out of school since the first of July, and you're sipping a cool drink on your porch, careful to stay in the shade, because temperatures are in the 90s. Suddenly, panic hits you. You have to go back to school.

Although most UK students probably cannot imagine their lives without the blessed summer break, those who are medical students actually feel grateful for their year-round class schedule.

"We feel so lucky to be in medical school," said Jacquelyn Holt, a first year student.

Unlike most undergraduate students, these aspiring first-year physicians and therapists

take advantage of a five-week break during the summer, a normal spring break and a condensed Christmas "vacation." Thus the students may not have enough time to take the vacation they really desire.

Even so, the brevity of the breaks does not phase Joel Knight, a first year student.

"It's a nice break," he said. "You're refreshed and ready [when you return]."

This summer, the first-year students take one class from 8:30 a.m. until noon and may have an afternoon class on other days of the week. Depending on upcoming exams, studying may range from three to eight hours per day.

Before you shake your head and draw your own conclusions,

consider the fact that these students do get free time.

"We typically have afternoons off," Holt said.

Knight and Holt both agree that studying amidst this gorgeous summer weather can be a bit of a challenge.

"It is harder to get motivated," Knight said.

A typical school year for medical students begins July 29 and ends around June 29. With the block system, first-year students may take an average of three classes, seven seven credit each, between Aug. 1 to Nov. 1. They then begin a new set of classes.

The United States Medical Licensing Exams, which students call the "boards," begin June 1. Students must pass

these exams to be licensed physicians; however, this does not make them official physicians. They must then go on to take other boards within their field of specialization.

First-year students take Step 1 in June but do not take Step 2 until after their third year of schooling. Step 3 comes after the student's first year of residency.

Upon graduation, Holt said she will feel "relieved and nervous" about what is to come.

Although Holt does not know what kind of physician she wants to be yet, she said, "You know it's going to pay off."

Thus, the summer vacation that so many of us hold dear may not be as crucial to life as we thought. The sacrifice of a couple of months of sipping cool drinks on the porch is well worth it to our future generation of physicians.

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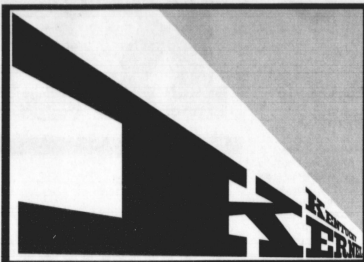
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<p>Name: Jason Berberich Program: Chemical Engineering Dissertation Title: Whole Cell Biocatalysis in the Presence of Supercritical and Compressed Solvents Major Professor: Dr. Barbara Knutson Date: June 27, 2001 Time: 10 a.m. Place: 305 ENRS</p>	<p>Name: David W. Kuo Program: Pharmaceutical Sciences Dissertation Title: Structural Features of Poly (ADP-ribose) Diphosphate: Targeting the Genome for Therapy Major Professor: Dr. Wayne Jacobson Date: June 25, 2001 Time: 1 p.m. Place: PH 220</p>
<p>Name: Kevin Henry Crow Program: History Dissertation Title: Medication and Specifics: The Roman Legion Tradition and Late Antique and Early Medieval Rituals Concerning Magic and Divination Major Professor: Dr. David Gargus Date: July 26, 2001 Time: 1 p.m. Place: 176 Patterson Office Tower</p>	<p>Name: Ramiel Sankhan Program: Mechanical Engineering Dissertation Title: Design Optimization of Helix Bearing Systems Using Genetic Algorithms Major Professor: Dr. Jay S. Kim Date: July 26, 2001 Time: 12:00 noon Place: 305 ENRS</p>
<p>Name: Sefa Tarhan Program: Biosystems and Agricultural Engineering Dissertation Title: Fermentation Kinetics and Modeling of Non-growing Clostridium Thermocellum Major Professor: Dr. Sue Hales Date: June 27, 2001 Time: 1:30 p.m. Place: 105 Agricultural Engineering Building</p>	<p>Name: Gail Qian Program: Materials Engineering Dissertation Title: Multiscale Carbon Nanotube CVD Synthesis, Modification, and Composites Applications Major Professor: Dr. Gail Cantello Date: June 25, 2001 Time: 1:30 p.m. Place: 619R ASTRC Building</p>
<p>Name: Justin Turner Cooper Program: Chemistry Dissertation Title: The Effects of Instruction in a Paired Associates Learning Strategy on an Intervention for College Students with Learning Disabilities Major Professor: Dr. Deborah Smith-Slaten Date: June 28, 2001 Time: 10 a.m. Place: 105F TTC-Taylor Education Building</p>	<p>Name: Christopher Mason Landwehr Program: Chemistry Dissertation Title: Modification of Neuronal Protein and Lipid Distribution in Altered Models Relevant to Alzheimer's Disease and Behavioral Modification of a Putative Transporter in the Alzheimer's Disease Brain Major Professor: Dr. Alan Butterfield Date: June 28, 2001 Time: 10 a.m. Place: 105 Chemistry Physics Building</p>

VIRTUAL REALITY

# Lara Croft 'raids' silly plot and comes back with winner



PHOTO FURNISHED

### The writings on the wall ...

Lara Croft (Angelina Jolie) reads hieroglyphics and sees something no one else can see in the new Simon West film, *Tomb Raider*.

**Must see:** Jolie, Voight make a fluff plot line believable under heavy action

By Alan Slone  
SCENE EDITOR

Video games rarely make good premises for movies.

Take for example, the early '80s release, *The Wizard* — a story of a budding video game champion is on his way to the Nintendo World Championships. Not exactly what I'd call Oscar-winning material.

Another bottom-of-the-barrel movie, *Super Mario Brothers*, takes the popular Nintendo Atari game and tries to put it into a futuristic world with real life actors. Not a pretty picture.

Tomb Raider should have been one of those movies.

But it wasn't. Lara Croft, played by Angelina Jolie, is an incredibly fit English girl following in her father's steps as a tomb raider — a profession that is quite popular, according to the

movie. Her father, Lord Croft, has been missing for more than 15 years, lost in the field, but as the movie goes to show, is never forgotten.

Lara is awoken one night to the sounds of a ticking clock and finds a clock among her father's personal belongings in a (gasp!) hidden room. The suspense builds as she tries to find what the clock is used for. After a bit of a search, the clock is used as a key to unlock pieces of a relic that will give its possessor the abilities of a god.

The clock, wanted by members of the Illuminati secret society, is stolen in an incredible shoot-out scene inside Lara's house that is sheer action movie brilliance. If this had occurred in any other movie that wasn't of the action movie genre, it would fall flat on its face).

Lara is visited by her father, played by Jolie's real-life father Jon Voight, who tells her to stop the Illuminati's quest, basically setting up the rest of the not-so-deep plot line.

The movie, while full of fluff and good taste, is not unlike candy — it's good, fun and a treat. But a steady diet of it would lead a person to be in great pain — and if you have seen anything lately that resembles an action flick (i.e. *The Sixth Day*, *Proof of Life*), you will probably realize that even action flicks have standards. *Tomb Raider* lives up to them all.

In short, *Tomb Raider* is the kind of movie that you don't think you'll like, but you find yourself cheering every time something blows up or gets shot up — and that's a good thing. Go out — it's summer. Have fun. Watch things that are nothing but eye candy.

Just don't get used to it.

Grade: B

### WHAT'S NEW? Box office



PHOTOS FURNISHED

**crazy/beautiful**  
Kirsten Dunst stars as a sex kitten in what appears to be another remake of her previous acting roles. Opens June 29th.



### A.I.

Kubrick's unfinished work on artificial intelligence versus humans. Haley Joel Osment stars. Opens June 29th.

### WHAT'S NEW? Video



### Proof of Life

Russell Crowe and Meg Ryan try to salvage a good movie from people holding good dialogue hostage. In stores.

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### A GUIDE TO WHAT'S HAPPENING AROUND UK

# On Tap...

For the week of June 21 - June 27

### THURSDAY

Starlight Lounge Live. AIA. 9 p.m. Tickets cost \$103.

Backstreet Boys. Rupp Arena. 7:30 p.m. Tickets range from \$40 - 96.50.

### FRIDAY

William Wegman: Fashion Photographs. The Speed Art Museum. Louisville. Runs through Aug. 12. Tickets cost \$7.

Steven & Kyle. Kitty O'Shea's. 9:30 p.m. Cost TBA.

### SATURDAY

Catawampus Universe. Lynagh's. 10 p.m. Tickets cost \$5.

Big Band and Jazz Fest at Ecton Park. Ecton Park, Lexington. 7 p.m. Free admission.

### SATURDAY

Chicago. Verizon Wireless Music Center, Nobelsville, Ind. 7:30 p.m. Tickets range from \$17.75 - 32.75.

Bare Assets. Kitty O'Shea's. 9:30 p.m. Cost TBA.

### MONDAY

Minds Wide Open. An art exhibit at the MetroLex Gallery. 8:30 a.m. to 6:30 p.m. Free admission.

### WEDNESDAY

The Groobees. Lynagh's. 9 p.m. Tickets cost \$5.

### Coming Soon

Ray's Music Exchange. Lynagh's. June 28. 10 p.m. Tickets cost \$5.

Rammstein. Bogart's. June 28. 8:30 p.m. Tickets range from \$15 - 30.

Tony Bennett. Riverbend Music Center, Cincinnati. July 1 at 8 p.m. Tickets range from \$17.25 - 52.75.

Janet Jackson. Rupp Arena. July 22 at 7:30 p.m. Tickets range from \$34.75-77.75.



### Sorry Miss Jackson

Janet Jackson (Miss Jackson, if you're nasty) comes to Lexington on July 22 at 7:30 p.m. at Rupp Arena.

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So Many Choices

**George, George, George.**

President George W. Bush's tour of embarrassment throughout Europe has finally ended. On behalf of all Americans, I would like to thank him for making us all look like redneck fools. Still he is the president. Shame on the Floridians. But it could be better or worse. Think of all the other people named George who could be president.



**George Lucas**  
The man could erase the entire national debt by making two more Star Wars movies.

**George Harrison**  
His new top-secret weapon: a Yellow Submarine loaded with ballistic missiles.



**George Clooney**  
This guy is out of sight. He can perform open-heart surgery and balance the budget without breaking a sweat.

**George Steinbrenner**  
Watch out residents of Luxembourg. He bought the World Series; he can probably buy your entire country and make it the new Camp David.



**George Foreman**  
Campaign slogan - "The Lean, Mean, Fat-Reducing Machine."

**George of the Jungle**  
Swinging his way to Washington, it's George, George, George of the Jungle.



**George Costanza**  
Three words: Vice President Kramer.

**George Carlin**  
He would keep the censors busy during the State of the Union.



**Curious George**  
His solution to poverty: Bananas for Everyone.

—Scott Sloan  
ScottSloan@hotmail.com

# IALOGUE

Editorial Board

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4 THURSDAY, JUNE 21, 2001 | KENTUCKY KERNEL

MIXED EMOTIONS

## Good or bad? You decide. Power play

TEXT ONLY



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**Center of attention**

The new UK homepage has sparked debate about the status of women and minorities at the University of Kentucky. Love it or hate it, it's here to stay. Tell us what you think, e-mail your opinion to [dialogue@kykernel.com](mailto:dialogue@kykernel.com)

**READERS' FORUM**



**Criticism of Women's Studies faculty untrue and unnecessary**

To the editor:

In his column on June 14 ("Bigotry police make a mountain out of a ditch"), Clay McDaniel ponders the lives of the Women's Studies faculty who recently complained about the latest design of the UK web site. He suggests that they are unhappy, bored, overly sensitive and confused.

I can shed some light on this issue. I have many friends in the Women's Studies program and find that these people not only laugh and have fun, but also spend much of their time actively engaged in a variety of social and political issues that affect not only the students, staff, faculty of UK, but also those who are not directly associated with UK.

To say that my colleagues misinterpret reality seems ludicrous in light of the fact that most of their work places them amidst the real lives of real people who have suffered from the real abuses of racism and sex-

ism. While I accept the fact that McDaniel disagrees with those who find the web site offensive, and support his right to state his opinions, I find commentary that portrays the lives of my colleagues (or anyone else) in vulgar and perverse ways to be both irresponsible and offensive.

McDaniel's ad hominem attack fails to refute the views with which he disagrees and undermines his own credibility as a journalist.

KEITH K. SCHILLO  
DEPARTMENT OF ANIMAL SCIENCE  
WOMEN STUDIES PROGRAM

**Alan Stone**

SUMMER SCENE EDITOR

## Nothing more than murder: death penalty unjustifiable

On June 12, you and I put a man to death. We had done it before — and we have done it again.

You and I have blood on our hands. We are responsible for halting beating hearts, minds with thoughts and emotions that loved. We committed murder, cold and calculated. In case you don't remember where you were last Tuesday, I of course don't mean this in the most literal of senses. I do mean, however, that as a State, we helped kill a man.

How so? Our government, in its wisdom and democratic system, has decreed that killing a person for his or her actions is an acceptable act, in certain situations. We are the Government. We, willingly or unwillingly, condemned a man to die.

Can you sleep at night? If you can, that's fine. I bet that Juan Raul Garza's family can't. Timothy McVeigh's family probably can't either. They, like the victim's families, have to deal with the pain of losing a loved one.

Most people would argue, "Yes, but these people are reaping what they sow. They deserve to die." I challenge anyone to give me a good reason why we, as humans, have the right to take a person's life.

I'll stop those that are running for their books — you'll never give me a good enough reason. My reasoning comes from my own experiences, my own accountability. I will never agree with killing people to show that killing people is wrong.

For example, the main argument for the death penalty is that it will deter violent crime — not unlike spanking a child, the negative punishment will stop people from committing certain crimes if they know what will happen to them. Did you know that the murder rate in states with death penalty is around eight percent? Not a lot, you think? What if I told you that the average murder rate in abolitionist states is about four percent, or half what their death penalty counterparts have?

The follow up usually is, "Well, how are we going to finance these in-

carcerations? Not only is the death penalty a fitting punishment, but it keeps jails from crowding up worse than they are now." This is perhaps the most fallacy-riddled argument of them all. Did you know that an average execution takes up almost \$2 million of taxpayer money, from point of arrest to execution? The average cost of life without parole for an inmate, however, is only half a million. For almost a sixth of the cost, we can house people in prison for the rest of their lives, and avoid accidentally killing the wrongfully accused.

This happens. It's not just a bad TV or movie drama — people who are actually innocent are condemned to die by our government. Over 82 people have been released from prison death rows since 1972 — that's 82 people that would have died if the state had a say in it. I don't know about you, but when a person's life comes into play, I'd rather have 100 percent accuracy.

So the appeals process is enough, right? Wrong. Take for example, Illinois. Since they reinstated capital punishment, 12 people have been exonerated from their crimes in post-execution investigations. Just those 12 alone are worth looking at the system again.

I do not condone what any criminal has done. Criminals are just that — people who have committed un-own accountability. I will never agree with killing people to show that killing people is wrong.

In these rules, our forefathers set that each man has the right to "life, liberty, and the pursuit of happiness." This, religious implications aside, is the main reason why we cannot kill in the name of justice — we allow all of our citizens to find these things. We cannot allow this bloodshed anymore.

Summer Scene Editor Alan Stone is a music industry junior. His views do not necessarily represent those of the Kernel.

IN OUR OPINION

## Power play

Funding could pay poor's utilities

Shining the light on America's poor may be taking on a completely different meaning.

Congress will vote soon, possibly as early as this week, on whether to raise the Low-Income Home Energy Assistance Program funding to help our nation's poor pay its utility bills. This surge of support for LIHEAP is desperately welcome, overcoming past inclinations to kill the program.

This concept is thought by many to be Congress' direct response to the ongoing energy deficiency in California, among other parts of the country. As much as \$300 million may be appropriated for the current-year emergency fund, according to the House. This sum is twice as much as previously requested by President Bush.

We feel that while the current energy crisis continues to be fought, a budget increase for this once-obscure program would be beneficial for low-income families. This would provide compensation and prevent utilities such as air conditioning and heating cut from being cut off for lack of payment.

Though only 5 million households are set to receive subsidies this year, 29 million are currently eligible for assistance. Providing more funds for those in need comes with various concerns as well as benefits. One has to wonder where exactly this \$300 million hike in the budget is being appropriated from for emergency relief.

Another item of interest is the exquisite irony of the program in the first place. If utility payments were not so high in the first place, there would be no need for the budget increase for the poor. However, our current energy crisis continues to push the price of utilities, whether regulated or not, ever higher. Thus it is obvious low-income households will not be able to make payments with our assistance.

Our nation will continue to battle such problems as frigid winters and global warming. However, not all of our population is able to defend themselves. Though the cost may be high, we welcome the opportunity to provide everyone not only a fighting chance against Mother Nature's various moods but also against our nation's utility bill.

**CONTACT US**

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Send your letters via the postal service for only \$3.34 — it's that cheap. Send your thoughts to 035 Grehan Building Lexington, KY 40506-0042

**Length & style**

Letters should be approximately 250 words; guest opinions should be no longer than 700 words. All material should be type-written and double-spaced.

**Include this info**

Include your name and major classification for publication. For verification include your address and telephone number, which will be kept confidential.

The Kernel reserves the right to edit all material received.

**Clay McDaniel**

KERNEL COLUMNIST

## Capital punishment: the mark of a civilized society

The question at hand: Is capital punishment befitting of modern society in general, and the United States in particular? Does the greatest civilizing force in the history of the world, save perhaps the British Empire, have the right to systematically rid itself of the most dangerous threats to that civilization? In other words, should capital punishment be considered justifiable homicide?

Popular opinion says yes, as three-quarters of the population voice their support for the use of the death penalty. That number might be high, though, considering the recent case of Timothy McVeigh, who, as an educated white man, could not easily be transformed into a victim by those opposed to the practice.

That leads us to the old yet emotionally poignant argument, "Can't you see that we're taking a human life?" The problem with this argument is that it is one supporters of the death penalty will readily concede, the only difference being that they qualify the state-taking of lives of heinous criminals as reasonable, and even preferable.

Preferable to what? Well, before the state first implemented the death penalty, there was a death penalty. It's practitioner was not the system but rather armed vigilantes. Violent mobs would act on their passions and pursue what they believed was the only true justice. The state stripped the individual of that right, implemented a thing called due process and limited the instances in which the gravest of all punishments could be carried out. Murder one, we call it, and one who commits such a crime almost certainly knows the consequences beforehand.

Add to that the likelihood that someone not sentenced to death will sooner or later return to the streets, and that the rate of recidivism in this country is remarkably high, and it soon becomes hard to deny that, in this case, public opinion might not be so foolish after all.

So, is capital punishment befitting of modern society? Not only is it befit-

ting, it is the very product of modern civilization. But that was the easy question. The more interesting of the two is whether or not the state-taking of lives is justifiable. While that question could easily be the topic of a series of columns, it can be partially unraveled by answering a similar, leading question — is it ever justifiable for the state to kill?

Only the staunchest of pacifists would say "no," for the primary reason we field a military is to protect our people and our way of life from those who would rather us and our way of life not exist at all, and if lives are lost in that defense, then so be it.

Capital punishment can be viewed in much the same light. We live in a free society, the freest on the planet, and perhaps in the history of the world. Along with that individual freedom comes an equally profound responsibility to abide by certain rules, perhaps the most fundamental being "live and let live." When an individual voluntarily violates that bond, the entire justification for a free society is jeopardized, and the state then has the responsibility, indeed the moral obligation, to speak for its own.

That is what the state does when it condemns a murderer to death row. It recognizes the complete disregard for the rules of respectable civilization, and exercises for the people as a whole what is considered a just punishment. In this case, the state plays the role of a telescopic lens, gathering together millions of individual beliefs, emotions, sympathies, vendettas, and pleas, and mediates a solution.

It is a solution born out of democracy, arrived at through due process and retained by the overwhelming support of a population not quite ready to value human life above anything and everything else.

To those opposed, that's quite a lethal combination.

Kernel Columnist Clay McDaniel is a finance senior. His views do not necessarily represent those of the Kernel.





UK BASKETBALL

## Bogans, Prince both return

**Out of the hat:** Coach Smith excited his All-SEC performers are coming back to Rupp

By Steve Jones  
SPORTS WEEKLY EDITOR

Keith Bogans is coming back to UK.

In a statement issued yesterday, Bogans announced he has withdrawn his name from the NBA draft and will return to the Cats.

In the statement Bogans said he was excited about the prospects of continuing his college career and said his removal from the draft will only strengthen his ambition to play pro basketball in the future.

"I was in a win-win situation," Bogans said. "My dream is to play in the NBA someday, but after testing the system, it's in my best interest to return to Kentucky. I'll now have the chance to continue playing college basketball for one of the best coaches in the country while helping my team compete for the national championship next season."

During remarks made yesterday outside his Memorial Coliseum office, Bogans' coach, Tubby Smith, was upbeat — without doubt because

one of his best players will be back with the Cats in 2001-02.

"I think he'll come back with renewed vision and purpose and to prove that he can play at the next level," Smith said.

Bogans attended a pre-draft camp in Chicago last week in an effort to show his skills to NBA scouts.

Smith, who had watched Bogans in Chicago, said the intense atmosphere at the pre-draft camp hurt the 6-foot-5 guard's play.

"I thought he was just a little nervous," Smith said. "It's a stressful situation up there. You got all these NBA scouts sitting there evaluating kids, and it's pretty tough. You really have a lot of sympathy for those young men who are up there auditioning for a lottery and a way of life."

Bogans was also hampered in Chicago by a hamstring injury that prevented him from playing the last few days of the camp.

Bogans, a junior that led UK in scoring last season with 17.0 points per game, will return to Lexington next week to



**Still in the game**

Tayschaun Prince, the SEC's reigning Player of the Year, officially announced he will be back with the Cats next season. Prince's teammate, UK junior guard Keith Bogans, has also removed his name from the NBA draft.

DWAYNE CHAMBERS | PHOTO EDITOR

enroll in summer school.

In comparing Bogans' decision to return to the one made by Jamaal Magloire in 1999, Smith said Bogans could use the college game as an arena to improve his NBA stock in the future.

"He'll focus in on what we're trying to accomplish here," Smith said. "That's inspiring and a great motivator for him to come back and answer some of his critics."

In addition to the announcement that Bogans will remain a senior, Tayschaun Prince also spoke yesterday about his own removal from the draft earlier this month.

Prince, the SEC's Most Valuable Player in 2001, said he is in no rush to leave UK.

"There's nothing to be disappointed about," Prince said. "I have fun playing college basketball. The NBA is a dream, but the NBA can wait."

Will Messer

SPORTS WEEKLY COLUMNIST

## Ripken's retirement rekindles years gone by

Cal Ripken, Jr., is retiring, and I suddenly feel the weight of 20 years on my post-teen but pre-adult shoulders.

Don't misinterpret me; this was no epiphany.

The decision of my boyhood hero to walk away from the game he's played for 21 years served rather as a lightning bolt that vividly lit my clouded brain.

For the clouded brain is a clouded one: cluttered with old friends, faded dreams, dusty pictures and semi-forgotten experiences that were once thought to be life-altering.

Of course the sun sometimes does peek through to provide a glimpse of the future; casting its golden wash on new friends, more life-altering experiences and two-letter aspirations like B.A., J.D. and M.D.

My period of adolescence has been marked by lots of letting go and grabbing hold that is, letting go of the past in an effort to grab hold of the future.

All of this hasn't been terribly difficult, yet, but Ripken's decision has created a dilemma. Old memories, memories I have long since let drift away, have now glowingly resurfaced.

I can see glimpses of summer days spent on the tennis court adjacent to my house. There is a baseball bat, not a racquet, in my nine-year-old hands. On my head rests a cheap reproduction of an Orioles helmet, the kind you can buy at the ballpark for \$10.

The memory isn't fluid, for I let it go long ago. I had to; my friends moved away and the house is being sold. But I still have that ugly three-toned hel-

met tucked away in my closet. Orange bill, black back, white front, cartoon bird and all. Sure it's a little scuffed, but it's all I've got. I let go of everything else.

There are other memories, too.

Graduation was only two years ago, but a different person accepted my diploma. It seems surreal now: the sweltering May humidity, the blue cap and gown — but only weeks before I walked the line I had walked in the Florida sand.

My dad, my brother and I had driven down to take in spring training, and with it Ripken and my beloved O's.

It seems that Ripken plays a role in all my memories, maybe not the lead role, but he's always waiting in the wings, or at least had a hand in writing the

screenplay.

He also plays a role in my future.

I managed to grab hold of an internship for this summer and in July I'll be moving to D.C. — you can bet I'll make my way to Camden Yards to see Ripken.

Only now my trips to the ballpark will be bittersweet, for the Ripken farewell tour has begun.

But much of adolescence is bittersweet, and so is the process of letting go and grabbing hold.

Come February I will have earned the legal right to drink. But I won't be able to toast my childhood, teenage or adolescent hero; instead I'll be forced to toast a retired legend while my soon-to-be-old shoulders try to withstand the weight of 21 years.

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