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Candidate: Local culture key for design school

By Jill Laster
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As some UK students began leaving campus for Thanksgiving, others packed the seats and aisles of 209 Pence Hall to hear from the second candidate for the dean of the College of Design.

More than 125 students, faculty, staff and alumni attended an open forum to hear Mehrdad Hadighi, one of three candidates, talk about his experiences as well as his outlook on being a dean.

"One of the major jobs of the dean is to put bits and pieces that are already going on and be able to express it to the university," Hadighi said.

Hadighi, a professor and department chair at the State University of New York at Buffalo, emphasized the importance of connections between the College of Design and the rest of UK.

"We have to produce stuff, but we have to be able to project what we produce here in a rigorous way," he said.

The three separate disciplines in the College of Design will also need to stay connected, Hadighi said.

The College of Design, with about 400 undergraduate students and 50 graduate students, was created four years ago by combining the College of Architecture with the School for Interior Design and the Historic Preservation Program.

The main challenge of the new dean will be to find out how to combine all three disciplines, said Danny Ruberg, president of UK's chapter of the American Institute of Architecture Students.

"It's just really interesting where the college is going," said Ruberg, an architecture senior. "The new dean is going to be important in that."

When Hadighi first arrived in Buffalo, N.Y., about 12 years ago, he said he found the structure of silos there to be a fascinating part of the local culture.

Similar to the silos, Hadighi said UK's College of Design must also find its "seed of culture," something local

See **Dean** on page 3

City to discuss off-campus housing reform

By Katie Jo Cox
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The Lexington-Fayette Urban County Council will discuss a proposal today that would regulate the availability of off-campus housing for UK students if implemented.

Councilman David Stevens, who serves the 5th district, east of campus, is sponsoring a proposal to discuss the regulations today at 1 p.m. at a planning committee meeting on the second floor of the Lexington Government Center on Main Street.

The regulations being discussed would be similar to those of Pennsylvania State University, where only three non-related students can live in an off-campus house at a time and where no student residential unit can exist within approximately 180 feet of another student home.

If implemented at UK, the regulations would render about 75 percent of student houses surrounding campus ineligible for student occupation, according to the University Area Housing Association.

While Stevens brought the proposal up for discussion, he said he thinks the Penn State policy might be too drastic for the UK community.

"It's just being used to provoke discussion," Stevens said. "If we adopted everything in (the proposal), it might be a bit extreme."

Stevenson visited Penn State earlier this year with UK's Assistant Vice President of Community Engagement Lisa Higgins-Hord and the school's Vice President of Facilities Management Bob Wiseman.

The discussion on applying similar regulations at UK came in response to complaints about student behavior, which seemed to reach an apex after the UK football team upset the University of Louisville in September. After the win, coaches were burned outside in student-populated neighborhoods, and a house on State Street was condemned.

Non-student residents have said such behavior is caused by the high student concentrations in certain areas.

"We've been working through the years to fix the issue," said Stevens, who has served on the council for 14 years. "If you were a permanent resident on any of these streets, you'd find it intolerable, and the few remaining (non-student) residents would like to see something happen."

Student Government President Nick Phelps said the proposal for discussion.

See **Housing** on page 3



Architecture seniors Caitlin Fedor and Graham Gordon look at different designs students submitted for the "Expanding Boundaries — Envisioning Colleegetown" exhibit during the Gallery Hop on Friday evening.

Envisioning a 'colleegetown'

Design students create proposals to link UK with downtown and Transy

By Erin Melwing
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UK College of Design students shared visions this weekend in an exhibit downtown of a Lexington complete with a new skyscraper and bike paths.

The students' displays, part of "Expanding Boundaries — Envisioning Colleegetown," made their debut in Logan's of Lexington clothing store in Victorian Square for Friday's gallery hop.

"We're trying to identify opportunities for development and revitalization for downtown and college areas of Lexington," said Joey Klare, an architecture senior who is one of the 17 students from the College of Design involved with the project.

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

Development Authority.

One of the students' priorities for the project is bridging the gap between UK, Transylvania University and downtown. The new colleegetown boundaries would encompass Broadway to Fourth Street, Elm Tree Lane to Rose Street, and Euclid Avenue to Bolivar Street, which connects back to Broadway.

"Each student has proposed either a new building or an aspect of infrastructure," said J.T. Pennington, an architecture junior. "There are two sky-

scrapers, a bookstore, a center for the homeless, student housing projects and many other projects as well."

Many of the students developed plans concerning an aspect of society that they are personally interested in.

Klare, a cyclist, made plans for a bike station that would be located at the corner of Limestone and Vine streets and would help encourage people to commute via bicycle. The station would include amenities such as

See **Colleegetown** on page 3

UK denies suit's claims of sexual discrimination

By Alice Haymond
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UK has denied claims that the university police department discriminated against women on the basis of gender during their employment there, responding to the lawsuit in late October.

After that response, the seven women who filed the suit on Oct. 10 asked for additional documents and information regarding the case on Nov. 13 and 14, said their attorney, Robert Abell. UK has 30 days to respond, Abell said.

Abell said he expected UK's denial and is still confident in the case the women have made.

The suit names the defendants as the Board of Trustees, interim Police Chief Maj. Joe Monroe, former Vice President for Auxiliary Services Kenneth Clevidence and Alexandra McConnell, an administrative staff assistant in the police department.

The suit said women received harsher disciplinary action than men did and that UK officials retaliated against those who reported discrimination.

The women who filed the suit are Lisa Blankenship, Laura Marco, Bobby Carpenter, Brenda Palmer, Tiaa Chilton, Gina Wilson and Lori Creech. Three of the women are currently employed as officers in the department, three are former officers, and one is a former civilian staff member. Their complaints date back to the summer of 2005.

According to the lawsuit, Blankenship and Chilton met with UK President

See **Suit** on page 3

Advocates call for more investigation in student's death

By Rebecca Sweeney
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Members of the UK community gathered last night at the Student Center to promote more investigation into a Georgetown College student's death.

Patrice K. Muhammad, co-founder and editor of The Key Newsjournal, a newspaper that focuses on Central Kentucky's black community, spoke last night and presented facts about the March 31 death of Remy Okonkwo, who was of Nigerian descent. The event, "Break the Silence: What happened to Remy Okonkwo?" was the latest of the Talk with ME series, presented by the Mu Epsilon chapter of Delta Sigma Theta Sorority Inc.

Okonkwo's death was ruled a suicide after his body was found hanging in his fraternity's kitchen the night after attending a social hosted by his fraternity's sister sorority, Kappa Delta, Muhammad said.

Several unanswered questions in the police department's investigation are prompting organizations, includ-

ing the National Association for the Advancement of Colored People, to request a reconstruction of the crime scene and more investigation, Muhammad said.

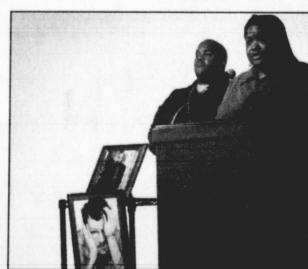
"This report was all about proving that his death was a suicide, all about proving how demented and strange he was," Muhammad said.

Muhammad said the police report said a suicidal text message was left on Okonkwo's cell phone that never got sent, but the message was lost after a police officer removed the phone's battery thinking it would save the message.

"Remy's step-father asked how his hands were tied, but details like that were not told in the report," Muhammad said.

The investigation also presented Okonkwo's demeaning character as evidence for a suicide, Muhammad said, which conflicted with what his high school counselor told police.

Police also neglected to follow through with some interviews, Muhammad said, because they were focused on proving their theory of sui-



Patrice K. Muhammad, co-founder and editor of The Key Newsjournal, spoke last night at "Break the Silence: What happened to Remy Okonkwo?" the second installment of the Talk with ME series at the Center Theatre in the Student Center.

ALIE GARZA
STAFF

icide instead of considering the possibility of homicide.

"We don't know what happened to Remy, but we do know that an incomplete investigation has occurred," Muhammad said. "And both the state and the FBI is only reviewing the insufficient investigation, not reinvestigating the death of Remy."

Joyce Bell-Murphy, Okonkwo's mother, spoke at the event and told the audience her son was happy in his fraternity and was excited about attending the social, so something must have happened between the time he left his date and when he died.

See **Okonkwo** on page 3

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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 6 — You're getting more impatient, but caution is advised. Be quick without being impetuous, especially where money's concerned.
Taurus (April 20 - May 20) Today is a 7 — Discover another gold mine, right in your own backyard. It's the projects you promised you'd do, and haven't found the time. Money saved is money earned, by the way.
Gemini (May 21 - June 21) Today is a 7 — Try not to play favorites to avoid hurting anybody's feelings. A

friend who's usually tough-skinned is especially sensitive now.

Cancer (June 22 - July 22) Today is a 7 — You can improve your list of chores. Figure out what you want to do more, and what you'd like to do less. Be ready with an offer than can't be refused.
Leo (July 23 - Aug. 22) Today is a 7 — You want to get away and you might be able to succeed. There's a delicate matter to handle first, however. Forget that for your peril.
Virgo (Aug. 23 - Sept. 22) Today is a 7 — You can afford a renovation you've been thinking about. Look again and discover a secret source of wealth. It could be the materials you'll use to do the job.
Libra (Sept. 23 - Oct. 22) Today is a 7 — Delegate when you discover you can't do it all by yourself. Toss the ball to a teammate, the rewards will more than cover the costs.
Scorpio (Oct. 23 - Nov. 21) Today is a 7 — More work is required, but that's OK. You've been looking for

ways to increase your pocket change. Take on a new job.

Sagittarius (Nov. 22 - Dec. 21) Today is a 6 — A particularly difficult confrontation could almost cause you to lose your temper. This isn't going to help, as you know, and it could be quite expensive.
Capricorn (Dec. 22 - Jan. 19) Today is a 7 — Questioning your own judgment is a valid exercise. It's useful every once in a while, and part of growing up. The overall outcome looks good.
Aquarius (Jan. 20 - Feb. 18) Today is a 7 — You're naturally inquisitive. Put those talents to work. Help your friends get rid of what they have in abundance. Best case: they'll make a profit.
Pisces (Feb. 19 - March 20) Today is a 7 — A project begun soon can be quite lucrative. There are a couple of glitches to be worked out before you begin. You know what they are.

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THE DISH

Down-to-earth model
Le Call is helping the actor ease back into normal life

Owen Wilson is stepping out with a new blonde stunner — and it's not Jessica Simpson. Hot Stuff has learned that Wilson's current squeeze is One Model Management catwalker Le Call, 25. The pair (who met through friends) have been dating casually for several weeks but are seeing a lot of each other, a source close to Wilson tells Us. "She's a sweet girl with a great heart," says the source. "She helps keep Owen grounded." Despite being photographed around the Big Apple, the troubled funnyman, 39, and Call, a Cape Girardeau, Missouri, native living in NYC, haven't been hitting the club scene. Adds the pal: "They enjoy biking and doing outdoorsy stuff." That's a departure from Wilson's flirtation with Simpson, 27, with whom he was spotted in early November living it up at bars in Manhattan and Santa Monica, California. Notes the source: "Owen needs someone like Le. She has been a great sense of comfort for him."

CIA recruits Hollywood

The CIA is tired of being represented negatively in films like Rendition and Syriana. "We're painted as killers," says a CIA insider. Hot Stuff has learned that the agency is send-

HOT STUFF

Owen Wilson — his mystery girl revealed!

ing its "entertainment liaison" Paul Barry to Hollywood each month to meet with stars, producers and screenwriters — even offering to bring them to Langley, Virginia, to tour CIA facilities. Actress Kristy Swanson, 37, who recently met with Barry (whose duties include consulting on film scripts), tells Us, "I found it hugely informative. It's not every day you have lunch with a CIA agent!" Adds Barry, "Kristy reminds me of the working moms at the agency."

introduced husband Seal, 44, on stage at the fifth anniversary of NYC hot spot Butter on November 5, her ex-husband, hairdresser Ric Pippino, listened from the back. "It was awkward," says a source. Having a less uncomfortable time were exes Mandy Moore, 23, and DJ A.M., 34, who hung out in the DJ booth. Says an insider, "They're just friends."

Howard K. Stern: 'I'm broke!'

Things have gotten even harder for the embattled Howard K. Stern. Since the passing of his partner (and only client), Anna Nicole Smith, the attorney claims he's having trouble making ends meet. "I am basically broke," Stern, 38, tells Us. "There's this impression that I am somehow making money off of Anna's death. It couldn't be further from the truth." Stern adds he is "juggling" more than a dozen related lawsuits and owes his parents "hundreds of thousands of dollars." As for the disturbing clown video circulating on the Internet? "That was an hourlong video that was stolen and cut down to less than a minute," he tells Us. "It was meant to make Anna and me look bad."

Heidi & Seal's ex run-in

As Heidi Klum, 34, lovingly

Hilary & Mike: Altar-bound?

Are wedding bells in the works for Hilary Duff, 20, and her beau Mike Comrie? A source close to the New York Islanders skater, 27, says he's shopping for an engagement ring. "They're serious," says the insider, who adds that despite dating Duff for only four months, "he's whipped. He never goes out with his boys; he's all about Hilary." (Comrie's rep couldn't be reached.)

Sarah Michelle's name change

For their fifth anniversary, Sarah Michelle Gellar made a unique declaration of love to hubby Freddie Prinze Jr., 31. "She officially changed her name to Sarah Michelle Prinze as a surprise," says a source close to the actress, 30. Gellar will use her maiden name for work, but legally, she's a Prinze. "On their anniversary, she showed him her new driver's license. He thought it was so sweet."

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HOUSING

Continued from page 1

cussion going before the council today was not being taken seriously. Phelps said he and other student representatives would be at the meeting to "make sure something this insane doesn't happen."

"(Stevens) put it down there to make a point that changes are needed," Phelps said. "Hopefully we'll see some less extreme legislation to follow this."

The UAHA met with students last week in the Student

Center to discuss the possible implications of the proposal. UAHA Officer David Burton said students should get involved in today's meeting.

"It's important for students to let their voices be heard," he said. "If they wanted to get together and have a voice, (today) would be the time to do it."

The major problem seems to be with the student population in the Elizabeth Street area, Stevens said. Students occupy about 90 percent of the property there, he said.

"Some of these neighborhoods have taken two bedroom houses and made them into

something that up to 10 students can live in," Stevens said.

If any regulations are passed in the future, Stevens said current housing owners would probably not have to change the way they operate their homes unless they either sold their property or decided to not allow students to live there.

Stevens, who is also a member of the University-Community Caucus, a subcommittee of the National League of Cities that consists of representatives from communities with large universities, said off-campus student housing should be licensed so that inspectors can

make sure the houses are safe for student occupation.

"We've had difficulty being able to inspect these houses," he said. "There's danger in some of these places, and we want to make sure some of these elements are removed from these houses."

Stevens also said he believes spreading out off-campus student housing is a feasible idea and possible solution.

"If you don't have concentration problems like the Elizabeth Street area, it isn't so bad," he said. "We're not trying to get rid of students; we want them to be better accommodated."

COLLEGETOWN

Continued from page 1

indoor storage, locker rooms, showers and an on-site bicycle mechanic.

Pennington incorporated his interest in sustainable design into his project by utilizing photovoltaics, which capture energy from sunlight, and geothermal heating and cooling.

He developed plans for a skyscraper that would house residential units and office space, allowing people to live and work in the same building. The proposed site is located between Vine and High streets.

Pennington also included a FedEx Kinko's and a recreational facility for a YMCA in the plans to absorb what is currently on the site.

Before the public was admitted to the showing Friday, a

group of professors and local professionals viewed and critiqued the projects, Pennington said.

"As a group, we received a lot of feedback on how to better incorporate the projects and infrastructure together," Klare said.

The students are now working on integrating ideas instead of having 17 individual assignments.

"My part of the project will now be tied into four other projects, such as the bus-transit center, the other skyscraper on High Street, a park system and a bicycle path," Pennington said.

Students will put finishing touches on their projects through the rest of the semester in preparation of the final presentation Dec. 7. Until then, projection images from the exhibit will be displayed in Logan's of Lexington's windows.

OKONKWO

Continued from page 1

Bell-Murphy said in an Associated Press article that she believed her son was killed, and if not, was harassed and threatened into killing himself. The Kentucky Commission on Human Rights requested in September that the FBI further investigate the death.

"It doesn't matter what happened, I just want to know the truth," said Bell-Murphy last night. "That's why I'm here; I need to know what happened."

Muhammad told students if they want to take action to help Okonkwo's family, they should contact the Justice Resource Center, a community activist organization in Louisville working to get the FBI more information about Okonkwo's death.

Brittany Ingram, a corporate communications senior and vice president of Delta Sigma Theta said she was shocked at how much information was not available about what happened.

"We all need to write letters, protest and get this case reopened," Ingram said. "I feel like students, faculty and staff need to start talking about how we feel, because communication is the key to everything."

Marybeth Rafiuddin, director of student diversity engagement at UK, said as a civil rights activist, she thinks the UK community should advocate for what needs to be done to find the reasons for the flaws in the investigation.

"I think too often colleges and universities get too involved with their image and forget how these incidents affect the families and communities around them," Rafiuddin said.

SUIT

Continued from page 1

Lee Todd in late April or May of 2005 to discuss their concerns about what would happen if Monroe were appointed as chief of the UK Police Department. The university was in the midst of a search for a new police chief, a position that has not been permanently filled since November 2004.

The lawsuit stated that Todd decided to take an active role in the search after meeting with the women, but the defendants' response denied that claim.

While UK acknowledged in its response that the two women met with Todd, it defended itself against the women's concerns about mismanagement within the department. The response also refuted concerns that Monroe had taken a discriminatory and stereotypical attitude toward women.

In the 2005-06 search, Monroe was one of the final two candidates for chief. The other candidate, former North Carolina Central University Police Chief McDonald Vick, was hired in February 2006.

His appointment lasted until he resigned in July 2006 after information came to light that he had paid a former NCCU officer \$25,000 to drop a harassment complaint against him.

The lawsuit filed against UK claims that Clevidence knew about the sexual harassment allegations against Vick but failed to disclose them. UK's response denies that claim.

The lawsuit also addresses the case of Blankenship, who was fired in July for health reasons. According to the lawsuit, she suffered a work-related injury in October 2006 and took a temporary leave on disability status, which UK's response confirmed.

The lawsuit states that UK told her in July that it could not accommodate her state of "total temporary disability" that would not allow her to return to work. The response denies that account.

On July 18, Monroe sent her a letter informing her of her termination from UK police, which the response confirmed.

Monroe, who has been the acting police chief since July 2006, declined to comment on the case, as did UK spokesman Jay Blanton.

DEAN

Continued from page 1

and unique, to be competitive.

"I don't think that we ever tried to beat Columbia or Cornell (at Buffalo)," he said. "We can't beat them at their own game, so we made our own game."

Eric Baxter, the student representative on the search committee, said the new dean will have to work to increase interdisciplinary interaction in a changing college.

Seeing the candidates in person provided a perspective phone interviews and resumes could not provide, said Baxter, an architecture senior.

"You see presentation quality, you see if they have any kind of charisma," Baxter said.

"The biggest key is how they communicate their idea," he said. "They have to represent the school."

The third candidate, Nichole Wiedemann of University of Texas at Austin, will be at an open forum Nov. 29 in Pence Hall. After the last forum, the committee will make a recommendation, and the provost will select the new dean.

NEWS BRIEF

UK loses Big Blue Crush competition to Tennessee

University of Kentucky blood donors came out in strong numbers for the Big Blue Crush blood donor competition, but fell short of beating out their rival Volunteers of the University of Tennessee.

The competition brought one of the best weeks of dona-

tions in the almost 40-year history of the Kentucky Blood Center, with Kentuckians donating 2,896 units of blood during the five-day competition, according to the Kentucky Blood Center Web site. Tennessee donors gave 3,266 units of blood to the Medic Regional

Blood Center in Knoxville, Tenn.

"Kentucky blood donors have helped guarantee a reliable blood supply for Kentucky patients during the holiday season when blood donations typically drop," said Jim Tinker, a spokesman for the Kentucky

Blood Center, on the organization's Web site.

The Kentucky Blood Center is a non-profit organization that aims to provide adequate blood supply for 67 Kentucky hospitals and clinics with the help of blood donors in 62 counties.

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Office of Student Activities, Leadership & Involvement

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CAMPUS CALENDAR

The Campus Calendar is produced by the Office of Student Activities, Leadership & Involvement. Registered Student Orgs. and UK Dept. can submit information for FREE online ONE WEEK PRIOR to the MONDAY information is to appear. Call 257-8867 for more information.

Tuesday 20 th	Wednesday 21 st	Thursday 22 nd	Friday 23 rd	Saturday 24 th	Sunday 25 th
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Networking 10:12:00 PM Oliver H. Raymond Bldg., Room 112 Cassidy Elementary 8:00 AM Cassidy Elementary Volunteering at Landsdowne Elementary Landsdowne Elementary Networking 10:1 1:00 PM James W. Shuckert Care Old Master Works on Paper from the Collection 12:00 PM UK Art Museum in the Singletary Center for the Arts Volunteering at the Hope Lodge 6:00 PM The Hope Lodge (right next to Commonwealth Stadium) Yates Elementary 2:45 PM Cassidy Elementary Volunteering at the Carnegie Center 3:00 PM Carnegie Center LTMS 11:00 AM Cassidy Elementary UK Art Faculty Exhibition 12:00 PM UK Art Museum in the Singletary Center for the Arts 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Volunteering at the Carnegie Center 3:00 PM Carnegie Center Volunteer w/ Beaumont Buddies 4:00 PM Beaumont Middle School Old Master Works on Paper from the Collection 12:00 PM UK Art Museum in the Singletary Center for the Arts Bingo at Mayfair Manor 3:00 PM Mayfair Manor Cassidy Elementary 2:45 PM Cassidy Elementary Cassidy Elementary 8:00 AM Cassidy Elementary UK Art Faculty Exhibition 12:00 PM UK Art Museum in the Singletary Center for the Arts LTMS 11:00 AM Cassidy Elementary Learn to Knit 7:00 PM Student Center Rm 203 Volunteering at Landsdowne Elementary Landsdowne Elementary 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Volunteering at Landsdowne Elementary Landsdowne Elementary UK Art Faculty Exhibition 12:00 PM UK Art Museum in the Singletary Center for the Arts Cassidy Elementary 8:00 AM Cassidy Elementary CCO Board of Directors Meeting 5:00 PM 106 Student Center Old Master Works on Paper from the Collection 12:00 PM UK Art Museum in the Singletary Center for the Arts CCO Board Meeting 5:00 PM CCO LTMS 11:00 AM Cassidy Elementary Yates Elementary 2:45 PM Cassidy Elementary 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Cassidy Elementary 8:00 AM Cassidy Elementary Bingo at Mayfair Manor 3:00 PM Mayfair Manor LTMS 11:00 AM Cassidy Elementary Crafts at Ashland Terrace 1:30 PM Ashland Terrace Sing-A-Long at Ashland Terrace 11:15 AM Ashland Terrace Italian Conversation Practice 5:00 PM Coffee Island Volunteering at the Carnegie Center 3:00 PM Carnegie Center Volunteering at Landsdowne Elementary Landsdowne Elementary UK Art Faculty Exhibition 12:00 PM UK Art Museum in the Singletary Center for the Arts Manicure Magic at Mayfair Manor 1:30 PM Mayfair Manor Yates Elementary 2:45 PM Cassidy Elementary Old Master Works on Paper from the Collection 12:00 PM UK Art Museum in the Singletary Center for the Arts 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Crafts at Ashland Terrace 1:30 PM Ashland Terrace Volunteering at the Carnegie Center 10:00 AM Carnegie Center UK Art Faculty Exhibition 12:00 PM UK Art Museum in the Singletary Center for the Arts Old Master Works on Paper from the Collection 12:00 PM UK Art Museum in the Singletary Center for the Arts Volunteering at the Ronald McDonald House 10:00 AM the Ronald McDonald House right next to Commonwealth Stadium 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Old Master Works on Paper from the Collection 12:00 PM UK Art Museum in the Singletary Center for the Arts Compline Service 9:00 PM Maxwell Street Presbyterian Church Vampire Weekend - FREE Show! 8:00 PM Old Tarr Distillery (899 Manchester St.) UK Art Faculty Exhibition 12:00 PM UK Art Museum in the Singletary Center for the Arts

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UK, U of L join to speed up drug testing

By Jesse Montana McCoy
jmcocoy@kykernel.com

UK and the University of Louisville signed an agreement yesterday with international biotechnology company Amgen Inc. in an effort to decrease the time it takes drugs to move from the research stage to patient testing.

The agreement spurred from UK and U of L's desire to work together with industrial companies. Agreement talks began in fall of 2006, said UK Associate Vice President for Research Chuck Staben.

"I think (the agreement) will facilitate bringing clinical trials and research to the

university, particularly from Amgen," Staben said.

The agreement includes clinical trials funded by Amgen, a California-based biotechnology company with a distribution center in Louisville, at UK's Chandler Medical Center and U of L's three affiliated hospitals of Norton Healthcare, Jewish and St. Mary's Healthcare, and the University of Louisville Hospital.

It takes about 10 to 14 years for a drug to go from the lab to be released as a pharmaceutical, Staben said.

The new agreement aims to deduct two to four weeks from the time it takes to re-

view and approve the terms and conditions of clinical trial agreements, according to a UK press release.

"What may be even more significant is agreeing to work with an industrial partner," Staben said.

UK and U of L partner together on statewide issues frequently, but this is the first partnership between the two based around clinical trials, Staben said.

UK is looking forward to participating with U of L and Amgen, he said. The partnership is not exclusive, he said, and UK is open to similar agreements with other companies.

Prof's argument against Air Force gains national attention

By Hayley Schlotter
news@kykernel.com

A UK professor's article suggesting that the U.S. Air Force be eliminated and its responsibilities absorbed by other branches of the military is receiving national attention.

Robert Farley, an assistant professor in UK's Patterson School of Diplomacy and International Commerce, wrote an article titled "Abolish the Air Force," which was printed in this month's issue of *The American Prospect*. A summary of the article was also featured in the Nov. 9 edition of *The Chronicle of Higher Education*.

The article examined the origins of the U.S. Air Force as a branch of the Army and its role after gaining independence from the Army in 1947.

"The Air Force is most effective when operating in support of the Army, and least effective when carrying out its own independent campaign," Farley wrote in the article.

Strategic bombing used against Germany and Japan in World War II does not fit into modern military missions, which focus on countering terrorism and insurgency, according to the article.

While he thinks the Air Force should not be independent, Farley said it still makes important contributions to U.S. military campaigns.

Dissolving the Air Force into other military branches would reduce the amount of bureaucratic procedures when the U.S. is fighting wars, he said in the article. The change would also force careful con-

sideration of military decisions and move the U.S. away from fighting the "cheap and easy war," Farley said.

In an interview with the *Kentucky Kernel*, Farley said the dissolution of the Air Force is not likely to happen in the near future.

Decision makers would have to "sit down and have a thorough reconsideration of our security," he said, which would most likely occur only after a security disaster. "Not in the sense of 9/11 (but in) some sort of consideration after the Iraq war, when we sit down and see that the institutions we have didn't work," he said.

Farley said he expected the Air Force would react negatively to his proposal.

John Davison, a former UK Air Force ROTC member and retired U.S. Air Force officer, said his initial reaction to the article was that Farley was "off base."

While Davison said he did not think Farley had a good idea of what the Air Force provides to military campaigns, he agreed that combining military branches would have some benefits in terms of bureaucratic procedures.

"I'd be in support of all the forces combined into one," Davison said.

After working with the Army on several occasions, Davison said he found that the different forces "speak very different languages."

Combining all the military branches, not just dissolving the Air Force, would lead to better communication and more efficient use of resources, he said.

Colleges compete to raise funds with IM's

By C.J. Conklin
news@kykernel.com

Microsoft is reaching out to college students across the nation in a new initiative that uses instant messaging as a tool to raise awareness and funds for charities.

UK is the only school in Kentucky taking part in Microsoft's I'm Initiative, which started in March and uses Windows Live Messenger downloads as a way to raise money for different organizations dedicated to social causes, said Derek Tehrani, a UK student who is promoting the program on campus.

Every time a conversation is started in Windows Live Messenger, Microsoft donates a portion of its advertising revenue to one of 10 organizations. Windows will give each organization a minimum donation of \$100,000 during the first year of the program, according to its Web site.

Windows Live Messenger is similar to AOL's Instant Messenger, Tehrani said.

Thirty-two schools across the nation are in the midst of a

three-month competition to see which school can get the most students to sign up.

Each school has two student representatives who are in charge of advertising the program.

Tehrani, a political science senior, and sophomore Lindsey Hancock have hosted multiple raffles for the Greek community and are planning other events to make students aware of the program, Tehrani said.

About 250 students at UK have already downloaded the program, Tehrani said. With only three weeks remaining in the competition, Hancock and Tehrani are using their \$1,000 budget to do more advertising and meet their goal of 500 student downloads at UK.

"The students who have downloaded are very supportive," Tehrani said. "I went around offering \$2 to any student who would download the program, and most of them downloaded it but wouldn't take the money."

Tehrani and Hancock will also be "dorm-storming" after Thanksgiving break, Tehrani said, going from room to room,

To download Windows Live Messenger free and donate to one of 10 organizations, visit: imforacause.com

offering free food or candy for every student who downloads the program. They will also give out energy drinks at the library to every student who downloads the program.

The initiative has generated more than \$200,000 for organizations, and Microsoft is looking to extend that number by getting students involved.

Carie Lewis, Internet marketing manager for the humane society, one of the organizations benefiting from the program, said her organization hopes students join Windows Live Messenger to help make a difference.

"The benefits go beyond monetary donations," Lewis said. "This program will help us reach out to people who may not know about the breadth of our work to help animals. We're

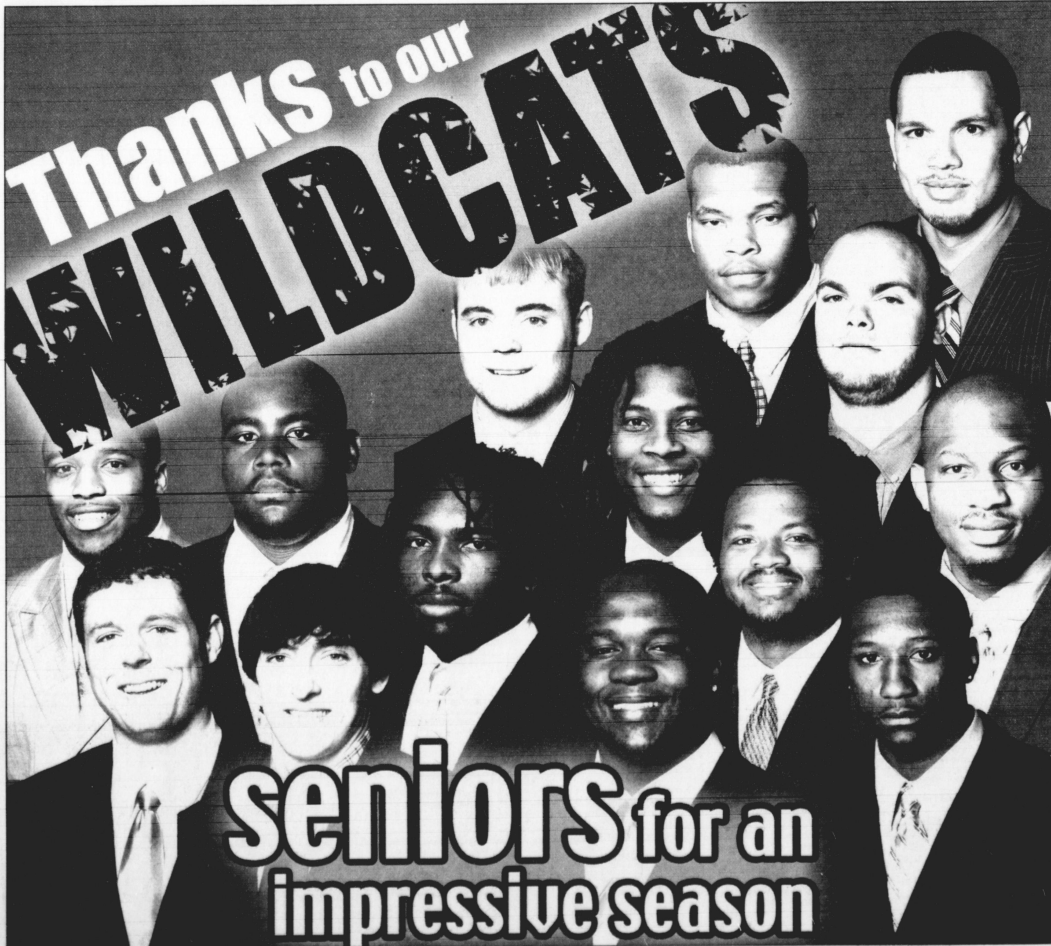
getting great brand recognition, and since Microsoft is targeting a college-aged demographic, it helps us reach out to them as well."

Kristine Templin, director of corporate partnerships at the American Red Cross, another organization that receives donations, said the I'm Initiative has already been successful in helping engage a new generation of activists at the American Red Cross.

"We think that the I'm Initiative will be a great way to help us raise funds, awareness and support for our mission," Templin said, "particularly from younger activists who want to help but don't necessarily have the ability to make a cash donation."

Students can add the program by visiting the I'm Web site (imforacause.com). After selecting UK as their school, students can pick one of 10 organizations for Microsoft to donate to, including the American Red Cross, the Humane Society of the United States, the National AIDS Fund and the Susan G. Komen for the Cure Foundation.

please recycle the kernel.





Seniors Andre Woodson, Roger Williams, Keenan Burton and Wesley Woodyard walk into Commonwealth Stadium on Sept. 1. Saturday will be the final time the seniors will play on C.M. Newton Field as UK players.

Seniors relish final days in blue

By Eric Lindsey
elindsey@kykernel.com

When the UK seniors exit Commonwealth Stadium on Saturday, they will walk off C.M. Newton Field for the final time as players.

The 15 seniors will not walk away with the best senior class record in the history of UK football. In fact, they will not even leave with a career winning record. They will not have the best single season record, and they might not have a Tennessee win on their resumes if they do not defeat the Volunteers on Saturday.

But the seniors will have a legacy. Many of the fans in attendance for Saturday's Senior Day, the UK senior class will be remembered as the group that turned the program around regardless of whether or not the team wins, head coach Rich Brooks said.

"These guys have done something that nobody expected them to do," Brooks said.

"They've accomplished things, in the two years that they were juniors and seniors, that hasn't happened around here in 30 years. That's very significant."

The 10 redshirt seniors have a 24-36 record for their careers, and the five remaining true seniors have a 20-26 record. But those players have transformed the UK football program from the perennial laughing stock of the Southeastern Conference to a team that has posted a 15-9 record the last two seasons, and one that has been a top-25 contender this year.

"Our class, we came in and were the ones that wanted to work and wanted to challenge everybody," senior linebacker Wesley Woodyard said.

Now the Cats' seniors face the ultimate challenge that no class has accomplished since 1984: defeating the Tennessee Volunteers.

The Vols' 22-game winning streak against UK is the longest winning streak of one team against any opponent in the na-

tion. To make matters worse, the Cats are in their worst slide of the year, having lost four of their last six games after starting the season 5-0.

Win or lose on Saturday, Brooks said the seniors' legacy should not be tarnished by UK's recent struggles. But senior quarterback Andre Woodson said the Cats' season hinges on what happens this weekend.

"We definitely just have to step it up," Woodson said after the loss to Georgia on Saturday. "Everything we fought through — with adversity and fighting through critics — this last game means a lot more to us than anything else. Obviously, I think our entire career is riding on that game."

The Cats annually play the Vols for their final game of the season, but unlike most years, this game has major bowl implications for both teams. A UK victory would result in a better bowl game. For No. 19 Tennessee, a win would crown them champions of the SEC

East, setting up a date with Louisiana State on Dec. 1, in Atlanta for the SEC title.

More importantly for the Cats, a UK victory would engrave the senior class as the group that finally got over the hump against the Vols, said senior wide receiver Keenan Burton.

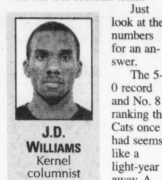
"We can be the class that beat the No. 1 team, that's fine. We can be the class that beat the No. 8 ranked team, that's fine. But if you're the class that gets the (first) win against Tennessee in 22 years, I don't think that will ever be forgotten," Burton said.

Burton and the seniors, including junior offensive tackle Joe Fischer, who is forgoing his senior year of eligibility to graduate early, will be honored before the game. For Burton, it is a bittersweet end to a career.

"It hasn't even hit me yet," Burton said. "I feel like I just got here. It's been a fun ride; it's been special. When that time comes, it's going to feel like a ton of bricks."

Cats let year slip away, now they'll try to save it against Tennessee

You don't have to be a brain surgeon — or a school nurse for that matter — to understand what's gone wrong with the UK football team.



J.D. Williams
Kernel columnist

Just look at the numbers for an answer. The 5-0 record and No. 8 ranking the Cats once had seems like a light-year away. A once potent offense has been replaced by inconsistency and lackluster performances across the board. At times this season, the Cats looked like they could beat any team in the nation, and they probably could. But nowadays UK is having a hard time beating Vanderbilt, let alone Tennessee, who they play Saturday.

For the Cats, one loss caused it all. And as more losses came pouring in, the confidence of UK came pouring out. It couldn't be more obvious than on the offensive side of the ball. UK head coach Rich Brooks said, "offensively, the team has been out of sync since the Florida game."

When Florida came to Commonwealth Stadium on Oct. 20, they took more than a win back to Gainesville, Fla. The Gators took the will to overcome right out of the Cats. The then-second loss in three games manifested into a cycle of tumbling into, pulling out of, and then falling right back into Southeastern Conference quicksand. It's turned into four losses in six games, which is where UK didn't think it would be. Brooks said the loss to Florida led to the loss to Mississippi State.

"(The Mississippi State game) we had a hangover from the tough loss and the expectations of what would have happened if we had been able to beat Florida," Brooks said. "That was an emotional let-down that led into the Mississippi State game."

The Cats didn't land on

their feet after taking those two falls and are now facing a disappointing end to the season after a historic start.

"From where we put ourselves five weeks ago, I'm disappointed," Brooks said. "I said before the season started that if we weren't a factor in the SEC East race that I would be disappointed. We were a factor but not quite in the way I anticipated."

Brooks anticipated UK would be a contender for the SEC title game and not playing to keep another team out, as they will be doing this weekend when the Cats host Tennessee. The Volunteers will be as potent as ever because a win in Lexington will guarantee a trip to Atlanta for the SEC championship game, something UK was eyeing with all the top players returning from a year ago.

As a more experienced team with a Heisman hopeful and all the NFL prospects returning, the Cats were looking forward to a better performance than the 8-5 record from last season. But the Cats' current 7-4 showing puts them in the same position they were a year ago.

"They've been just so-so after looking to be great. UK would have to beat Tennessee and win the following bowl game to accomplish anything this season."

"We felt like we were a better team than what we were last year," junior linebacker Braxton Kelley said. "We have let the season slip out of our hands when we had it right there in our grasp to take and have a great season. Right now we can only settle for a good season, that's only if we win this game."

"If we don't win, the season is done."

Already overwhelmed with enough disappointments, the Cats better seek out a way to beat Tennessee to say that they accomplished anything this season.

And with 22 consecutive years of losing to the Vols, it doesn't take a brain surgeon to figure out that won't be easy.

J.D. Williams is a journalism senior. E-mail: jwilliams@kykernel.com.

krystalball

Picks for Week 13

THIS WEEK'S GAMES

- #11 USC vs. #6 Arizona State
- #19 Boise State vs. #15 Hawaii
- #4 Missouri vs. #2 Kansas
- #20 Connecticut vs. #3 West Virginia
- #8 Virginia Tech vs. #16 Virginia
- Alabama vs. Auburn



Matthew George
Asst Sports Editor
Record: 47-24
Last week: 3-3
USC
Hawaii
Missouri
West Virginia
Virginia Tech
Auburn

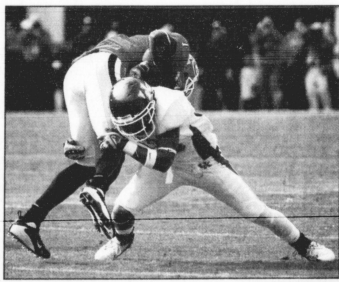
J.D. Williams
Asst. Sports Editor
Record: 45-26
Last Week: 3-3
USC
Hawaii
Kansas
West Virginia
Virginia Tech
Auburn

Eric Lindsey
Sports Editor
Record: 43-28
Last Week: 2-4
USC
Boise State
Kansas
West Virginia
Virginia
Auburn

Corey Price
UK fan
Record: 42-29
Last week: 3-3
USC
Boise State
Missouri
West Virginia
Virginia Tech
Auburn

Jonathan Smith
Sports columnist
Record: 41-30
Last week: 2-4
USC
Boise State
Kansas
West Virginia
Virginia
Alabama

Travis Waldron
Staff writer
Record: 39-32
Last week: 4-2
Arizona State
Hawaii
Missouri
West Virginia
Virginia Tech
Auburn



Sophomore free safety Calvin Harrison tackles Georgia's Mohamed Mas-saqoui during UK's 24-13 loss to the Bulldogs on Saturday in Athens, Ga.

Recycle the Kernel

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- o Cooks I & II
- o Meeting Concierge

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

KERNEL EDITORIAL

Extend holiday spirit this Thanksgiving by helping the needy

This holiday season, students should extend the holiday spirit to those who are less fortunate.

With Thanksgiving two days away and winter break just around the corner, students will get to enjoy spending time with the family as well as delicious food in abundance. At the same time, students should realize there are people who are struggling with poverty or are separated from their homeland and families during this festive season.

We often forget about the origin of Thanksgiving, which was intended to show gratefulness for what we have been given. There is no better way to give thanks to what we have received than giving back to our community.

There are many ways to help the needy this holiday season. Participating in food drives and winter-clothes drives is a common way to get involved.

Campus and off-campus organizations are already making a difference among the community with these drives.

The first International Clothing Drive, which is co-organized by the International Student Council, African Student Association, and Muslim Student Association, collects donated winter clothes that will go to

international students and families, the Kernel reported yesterday. The drive began Sunday and runs through Dec. 7.

"We are trying to help families that come from warmer climates that don't have the clothes for the winter," said Hedayo Awe, president of ISC and secretary of ASA, in the Kernel article.

The organizers will donate clothing to the Office of International Affairs, Kentucky Refugee Ministries and the Church of All Nations; they also hope to make the drive an annual event, the Kernel reported.

In the 13th annual "Kids Helping Kids" food drive, which was organized to benefit God's

Pantry Food Bank, Fayette County public school students donated 97,500 pounds of food, according to God's Pantry Food Bank's Web site. It was the largest food drive in the organization's history, the Web site reported.

In addition to the above options, giving blood and becoming an organ donor are two alternative but equally significant examples of charity.

When students sit in front of the Thanksgiving dinner table wearing a new sweater and enjoying the turkey, they should remember that while this is the season for celebration, it is also the season to remember those less fortunate and to include them in the season of giving.

Students should realize there are people who are struggling with poverty or are separated from their homeland and families during this festive season.

LETTER TO THE EDITOR

Column inaccurately portrays illegal immigration

In his column that appeared in the Nov. 16 Kernel, Javier Puerto commented on my letter to the editor that ran Nov. 13. He has his opinions. I have mine. And he and I are not going to solve the problem of illegal immigration. He and I are miles apart and looking at this issue from very different backgrounds and perspectives.

I question the credibility of anyone who believes it is okay to violate U.S. laws and hide behind "due process of law by the Fifth and Fourteenth Amendments of the Constitution."

If it is OK to violate immigration laws, is it also OK to rob a bank, drive without a license, drive without insurance and participate in identity theft by stealing Social Security numbers from legal citizens?

A 2006 MSNBC article reported, "9 million people pay taxes using wrong Social Security numbers." They went on to say that "many — if not most — of the 9 million mismatches are immigrants using the wrong SSN."

Mr. Puerto took exception to my comment that illegal immigrants are taking jobs from U.S. citizens. Ap-

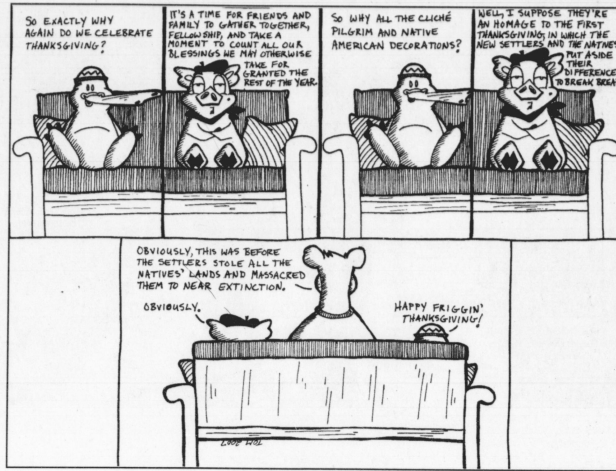
parently he has not gone to a construction job site, seen men roofing houses since the last hailstorm or seen lawn-maintenance workers recently. These low-paying, entry-level jobs were previously done by the local citizens who have since been displaced by Hispanic immigrants, some of whom are working off the books.

Mr. Puerto quoted the chief Social Security actuary as saying, "About three-quarters of other-than-legal immigrants pay payroll taxes." How about the other 25 percent?

He also wrote that illegal immigrants add an estimated \$7 billion each year to Social Security and Medicare. What he doesn't mention is that illegal immigrants cost the federal government billions more per year, as the Center for Immigration Studies and a 2006 article in The Washington Post reported.

The issue of illegal immigration will continue until voters empty the legislative branch of the federal government and elect lawmakers who will enforce immigration laws.

Carl Ross
Lexington resident



TOM WILKINS, Kernel cartoonist

Corrupt system should be blamed for college students' political apathy

Would you trade your vote in the 2008 presidential election for an iPod Touch?

According to a recent poll done at New York University, 20 percent of students would do just that.

The poll also showed two-thirds of students willing to sell their vote for a year's tuition, and 50 percent of students said they would give up their right to vote for the rest of their life if given \$1 million.

The knee-jerk reaction to this poll would be to label the results as typical of the everyday apathetic college student. It's another chance for pundits to use phrases like "iPod generation" in an attempt to portray college students as interested in nothing beyond the newest gadget and the next party.

But characterizations like this, which are only fueled by this recent poll, distract us from the real problem.

The political system in America is absolutely broken beyond words right now. Despite what Democrats would like you to think, this recent effort to elect Democrats into state offices has nothing to do with society being excited about "progressive" policies.

What we're in the middle of is a massive disappointment in our corrupted government and a desire for some sort of change — which at this time means Democrats instead of Republicans.

If electing Democrats into office really were the powerful mandate that people tout it as, you wouldn't have seen a depressingly low 37 percent turnout for registered voters in the recent Kentucky elections.

Like the students at NYU, everyone in America is tired of the moral bankruptcy strung throughout government and would just rather think about the newest iPod that's come out instead of casting another vote.

Am I supposed to believe that Gov.-elect Steve Beshear will restore my faith in Frankfort just because he's not a Republican?

The celebration over Beshear as someone who will restore faith to the people astounded me this past election. Beshear has been a part of the same political system in Kentucky that has left us at the bottom of many national state rankings.

After decades of Democratic rule, I'm being told that four years of a Republican governor is the sole reason Kentucky is ranked embarrassingly low in things like health and education.

Thanks, but I'll pass on logic that is so counterintuitive to common sense.

Fortunately, the mess that has been created by politicians in these past years isn't reflective of the sys-

tem as a whole. Good people have been elected to our high offices before, and they have done great things for our nation while there.

While trading a single presidential vote for a new iPod or a year's tuition might not be such a bad idea during a time of such political waste, no amount of money should ever tempt you to give up your right to vote forever.

It's very likely that one day in the future, big changes will be possible if the right candidate is elected. These are the moments we wait for and make us value our right to vote.

Talking heads across the country will take this recent poll at NYU as cannon fodder for their talking points. They will manage to spin the results to fit their own agendas as they lament the apathy they believe is so widely present among college students.

But none of them will get it right, because it's not just students who are losing faith.

Americans have lost faith in the broken and corrupt system that runs our government. We aren't tired of Republicans or Democrats — we're tired of politicians. We aren't gathering in waves to support the triumph of a new leader because we don't see the point. We'd just rather listen to our iPods and watch another episode of "The Colbert Report."

And who's to blame us?
Brett Nolan is a philosophy and political science sophomore. E-mail bnolan@kykernel.com.

Finals week is just around the corner; here are some tips to prepare yourself

Ladies and gentlemen, this is not a test. Today really is the Tuesday before Thanksgiving Break. Go ahead and check that syllabus. See?

No class Thursday, Oh, and the University Senate gave us Wednesday off too, so don't feel bad about sleeping in tomorrow morning.

So whether you're spending the holidays in your dining room back home or in a local restaurant, enjoy the days off.

The catch? When you get back to school, you only have two normal weeks left for that serious marathon of studying before taking your finals. I am not going to lie to you: It can be awful.

Freshman year, I heard about a guy in Haggin Hall who studied for 18 hours for a final exam; he then tried to take a 15-minute nap, only to wake up three hours after the exam began. Needless to say, all of his hard studying did not pay off.

You can really lose your mind during the dead week and finals week, but you have to stay positive and look for the silver lining. Fortunately for

you, help is on the way: Your friends in Student Government have some tips to keep you happy this finals week.

Advice No. 1: Finals week can be a great time to see people you haven't seen in months.

William T. Young Library is so wild during finals week that finding a seat and an Ethernet hookup there is like trying to find a smile at Barry Bonds' house right now. But if you want to see every one of your Facebook friends, take one lap around the library fifth floor on Sunday night. That guy from my English 104 class sophomore year? I think I saw him on the third floor between cores two and three.

The library during finals week is like a Mark Zuckerberg Christmas. And like Christmas, it's an event that only happens once a year. So bring the textbooks and some headphones — this is one party you won't want to miss.

Advice No. 2: Look for free food. Plan ahead — if you play your cards right, you may not have to pay for any food the whole week.

Statistically speaking, the best chance students have at getting free food is either the first two weeks of school or the last two. If isn't an exact science by any means, but programs like Crunch Brunch, which is always a blast, show that although tests are

evil, the university isn't. Between the breakfast food and kicking it with President Lee Todd and Mrs. Patsy Todd, you may even forget about those exams for a little bit.

That's not the only road to free food either. If you have a meal plan, you need to face the reality that all meals don't roll over like your AT&T cell-phone minutes, so use them. If you aren't hungry, chances are that one of your off-campus friends is. Remember, the holiday season is about giving, not receiving.

Advice No. 3: Always keep in mind that Winter Break is just around the corner.

The best part about finals week? It's the end of the semester. There is a light at the end of the tunnel, and for most of us, there are no books there.

There may be family, friends, bowl games, ski trips or snow. Any way you look at it, you're done with finals, and that's what matters. Even if you don't do well on your exams, you should at least give yourself a pat on the back for surviving the experience.

Learning can take a lot out of you. This is why it is important to take time to relax. But don't get too loose: The band is getting back together Jan. 9, and we're going to need you to play.

Tyler Montell is UK's Student Government Senate president. E-mail opinions@kykernel.com.

Cartoonists Needed

The Kernel is looking for a cartoonist to draw pieces for the Opinions page on a regular basis. Those who have an interest in campus and local issues will be given special attention, although cartoonists of all interests will be considered.

E-mail opinions@kykernel.com

Submissions

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

E-mail opinions@kykernel.com

Weekly Poll Question

Should illegal immigrants be allowed to obtain Kentucky driver's licenses?

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Amy Adams (left) and Patrick Dempsey star in "Enchanted," from Walt Disney Pictures.

Dreamy, yes, but Dempsey is also 'Enchanted'

By Lynn Carey
Contra Costa Times

He's played a geek, a stud, a mobster and a future president, but it was Patrick Dempsey's role as a doctor in TV's "Grey's Anatomy" that's made his character, nicknamed McDreamy, a household word with anyone even remotely attentive to popular culture.

Now Dempsey, 41, is about to amass a new, much younger audience in the PG-rated "Enchanted." But truth be told, his turn as the romantic lead will appeal to female fans of all ages. It's not as though they didn't fall for him 20 years ago, when he was in "Can't Buy Me Love" or "Loverboy." Now he's getting magazine covers and, in the case of Entertainment Weekly, a whole portfolio of photos of him with that two-day stubble and that hair.

Dempsey's next starring role on the big screen will be in May, when his comedy "Made of Honor" premieres. A family man... he and his wife have 9-month old twin boys, and a 5-year-old daughter, Talulah... he prefers non-violent movies.

With the ongoing writer's strike, his day job on TV is uncertain, at least for now. But Dempsey has plenty of hobbies, such as racing cars and rebuilding an old farmhouse in his home state of Maine.

When we caught up with him on the phone earlier this month he was quite good-humored, especially for someone who'd done 90 press interviews

in the previous 24 hours.

Q. Why did this role in "Enchanted" appeal to you?

A. "As a parent, there are only so many movies you can take your kid to. I don't want to do violent movies. I thought this one, if executed properly, would be smart, funny and different."

Q. Do you read fairy tales to your daughter?

A. "Oh yes. Definitely. And with 'Enchanted,' there is so much depth. Symbolically, it's very empowering, because at the end, Giselle saves the man."

Q. What did your daughter think of the movie?

A. "She loved the animation, she loved the dresses, she loved the chipmunk, and the big dance number at the end. She didn't like the dragon or the mean queen."

Q. What about the parts with her father?

A. "She didn't talk about that so much! She just wanted to know when she could spend time with the Princess again. Amy (Adams) is great with the kids."

Q. How does it feel, having a Barbie doll made of you?

A. "It's so funny, the other day my wife and I peeked in to watch Talulah playing with the Giselle doll and my doll. It was surreal. She sings all the songs. The morning after she saw the movie, she opened the window to do that call to the animals."

Q. Did they want you to sing in the movie?

A. "It goes against the character. But if there's a sequel, I'm going to demand my own

song!"

Q. You probably can't walk down the street without people shouting "Hey, McDreamy!" And magazines devote entire issues to you. How does it feel?

A. "It's funny, after being in this business for so long. It's amusing, and fun, but I kind of take it all with a grain of salt. I'm just enjoying the ride."

Q. What advice would you give the young geeks of today?

A. "Be patient. But it's hard to be."

Q. With your dyslexia, do you have tricks to help you with your lines?

A. "There are lots of things you do. You write them all out, and go over them until you remember them."

Q. You seem to be following in Paul Newman's footsteps ...

A. "I wish!"

Q. ... with the acting and the car racing. If you were to create a food like he did, a "Dempsey's Own," what would it be?

A. (Laughs.) "That's funny. Maybe an ice cream. I like vanilla Cherry Coffee."

Q. OK, some friends wanted me to ask you a few questions. What kind of shampoo do you use?

A. "I have no idea."

Q. And how do you keep a day's growth of whiskers all the time?

A. "They use sideburn razors."

Q. What's next?

A. "Finishing up the 'Grey's' season. Then we'll have to see what happens, with the writer's strike."

Multiple choices: Try something new while TV writers strike

By Joanne Weintraub
Milwaukee Journal Sentinel

All the late-night talk shows have been in reruns for more than a week. Soon to follow, most likely, are prime time's most popular comedies and dramas.

"24" is in limbo, and ABC's "Cashmere Mafia" is all dressed up with no place to go. "Saturday Night Live" aired the Jon Bon Jovi episode for the second time in five weeks.

The Writers Guild of America strike, now in its second week, is transforming November, which usually brings a bumper crop of goodies, into the cruelest month for couch potatoes.

In 1988, the last time Hollywood's TV and movie writers went on strike, they were gone for 22 weeks. With the two sides still far apart on the main issues, some insiders say that this labor or dispute could last that long or even longer.

What's a TV watcher to do? You could grumble about all the reruns — both the outdated "Daily Shows" out there now and the old "Ugly Bettys" around the corner. Or you could try something different.

Here are some ways to get your TV fix during the strike. Make the most of the programming that's still out there. If you've been thinking of getting TiVo or another digital recording system, now is the time. If you're still using a VCR, find the manual — or the nearest 12-year-old kid — and figure out how to record shows.

Reality shows won't be affected by the strike — and, no, not all reality is junk. Among the current crop, CBS' "The Amazing Race," ABC's "Dancing With the Stars" and Bravo's "Project Runway" are fun and family-friendly.

A&E has a show in the works called "Celebrity Garage Sales," hosted by Illeana Douglas, and ABC hopes to have "Dance Machine" — which involves "ordinary people, extraordinary circumstances and a whole lot of money" — on the air by January.

On a less appetizing note, CBS is reportedly talking to the producers of the Ultimate Fighting Championship about the possibility of airing some of their no-holds-barred, mixed-martial-arts bouts. Sen. John McCain has likened the sport to "human cockfighting."

The quality of broadband video on the networks' Web sites isn't quite the same as watching on your big-screen TV, but it's better than it used to be.

You can watch full episodes of the season's two best new shows, "Pushing Daisies" and "Reaper," at www.abc.com and www.cwtv.com, respectively. At www.nbc.com, you'll find episodes of the underappreciated "Friday Night Lights," the best drama on network TV, going back to the end of last season.

Many other shows are available for free, some as full episodes and some as two-minute recaps.

Pining for "24"? Check out the top-notch British espionage series "MI-5," with four volumes out and a fifth due in January. Dreading the day when "The Office" goes into reruns? Get your giggles from a nearly forgotten but truly hilarious Fox comedy of eight years ago, "Action," starring Jay Mohr as a fabulously cynical movie executive.

More suggestions, including some recent releases:

Comedies: "Extras," "Curb Your Enthusiasm," "The Larry Sanders Show," "Undeclared," "Arrested Development," "The Bernie Mac Show," "Friends," "Travis," "Cheers," "Everybody Loves Raymond," "Everybody Hates Chris," "My Name Is Earl," "SportsNight," "Barney Miller," "The Office" (British and American versions), "30 Rock," "Dream On," "Seinfeld," "Coupling" (British version), "Absolutely Fabulous."

Dramas: "The Sopranos," "The Wire," "Six Feet Under," "Big Love," "Deadwood," "Freaks and Geeks" (comedy-drama), "My So-Called Life," "The Shield," "Rescue Me," "The West Wing," "Heroes," "24," "Lost," "Buffy the Vampire Slayer," "Life on Mars," "Firefly," "Friday Night Lights," "Life Goes On," "Family," "Twin Peaks," "The State Within," "Upstairs, Downstairs," "Rumpole of the Bailey."

For those concerned about the labor issues involved, the striking writers get nothing from shows you watch for free on network sites or pay to download on iTunes and similar services, which is one of the demands fueling the strike.

Writers, actors and others involved in the creative process do, however, get a small percentage of the proceeds from video sales and rentals.

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