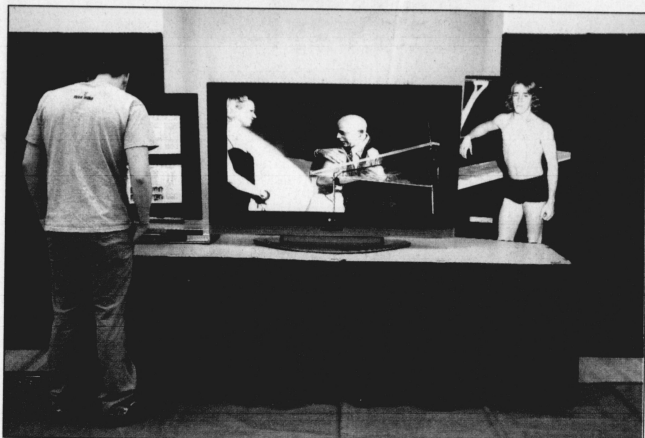


KENTUCKY KERNEL

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FEARLESSNESS EMBODIED



PHOTOS BY ED MATTHEWS | STAFF
A member of the UK swim team pauses in front of an article about diving coach Mike Lyden during a memorial service yesterday.

'He lived what he taught'

Community celebrates life of family man, 'perfect diving coach'

By Leila Kalegi
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Laughter echoed off the blue-padded walls of the UK basketball practice courts yesterday as family and friends listened to stories at a memorial service for diving coach Mike Lyden.

Lyden lived by a motto: "Bigger is better." He kept that motto in mind as a father trying to choose which branch he would hang the family swing from. About two-thirds up the hill behind his house, he found the perfect one, but friends thought he was crazy.

To John Brucato, UK's assistant swimming coach and a close friend of Lyden, the branch would have been high enough to fling his daughter, Brittany, onto the neighbor's roof — the one across the street.

The story was just one indication of Lyden's fearlessness, Brucato said.

The UK diving coach since 1993, who led the program to its first national championship in 2006, died Friday after a two-year fight with cancer. He was 51.

"Mike lived what he taught," Brucato said at the memorial service. "Fear never holds you back. Fear never held Mike back as a diver, never held him back as a coach and never held him back with his fight with cancer."

Stories of Lyden's love for the sport of diving, the outdoors and his family



Patrick Lyden talks about his brother, diving coach Mike Lyden, during yesterday's memorial service in the Joe Craft Center.

brought comfort to those who knew him, as more than 300 people packed the Mary Queen of the Holy Rosary Catholic Church for the funeral and the Joe Craft Center for the memorial service to celebrate the life of the man who had become familiarly known as "Iron Mike."

"Mike would have wanted everyone to sit and talk about the things that mattered most to him — they've done and memories they have of Mike," swimming coach Gary Connelly said.

Those close to Lyden knew the things that mattered most to him were his family, his wife, Emily, and three kids: Jessica, 17, Jack, 16, and Brittany, 10.

Lyden was especially proud of Jack's accomplishments as a guard on

the basketball court and a wide receiver on the football field for Lexington Catholic High School, Brucato said. And members of the diving team knew that if they asked about one of Jack's games, Lyden's explanations would give them at least a 30-minute break from their workouts.

During his career, Lyden was named Southeastern Conference Diving Coach of the Year nine times, including three consecutive seasons from 2005-07, and NCAA Women's Diving Coach of the Year in 1996. Twelve of the divers he coached at UK combined to earn 51 All-America selections. In March 2006, then-junior diver Taryn Ignacio — who Lyden first coached at



Mike Lyden

See Lyden on page A3

One year later, Va. Tech tragedy still impacts UK

By Alice Haymond
ahaymond@kykernel.com

A year ago today, Christy Giles glanced up at the TV in her office on Oldham Court. She could not believe the scenes that were flashing across CNN as the anchors and reporters described a mass shooting at Virginia Tech University. By the end of the day, the student shooter had killed 32 members of the university community and himself.

"Personally, I don't know if you can be prepared for that, mentally," said Giles, the director of the Office of Emergency Management at UK.

"All the training in the world can't prepare you for that level of a tragedy." As she watched the events unfold on April 16, 2007, all Giles could think about was what people at UK would do if it were happening on this campus, she said.

The Office of Emergency Management had been on campus since 2004, working with evacuation and disaster plans for buildings, coordinating lines of communication between administrators during crises and sending out campus safety alerts to UK Public Relations and the mass media.

Its presence was known and felt among administrators, Giles said, and these lines of communication had always been clear. But at the time of the Virginia Tech shooting, the office did not have many ways to communicate directly to students, employees, parents and other community members.

Since then, the office has created ties to the community by updating its Web site (www.uk.edu/em) and posting other Internet notifications on UK's homepage, and also in-

stalling the UK Alert system, which allows people to sign up for emergency notification by phone, e-mail, text messages and fax.

"We have a much broader vision of communication and of keeping people informed more up-to-date," Giles said.

Dean of Students Victor Hazard said UK has learned three main lessons from the tragedy, all of which relate to improving communication: increased awareness, a sense of communication between departments and stronger collaboration across campus.

"We have a greater degree of networking now than we had before," he said. "Plans are in place until something happens, and how we communicate during the interim will be key to how we act during a crisis."

For administrators and students, the most shocking realization about this crisis was that it happened on a college campus.

"I always feel safe at college because there are so many people around," said Jessica Fuson, a merchandising, apparel and textiles sophomore. "But after the shooting that day, she thought about how open the campus was and how, unlike high school, there were no barriers or metal detectors on university boundaries."

"It's just the college environment, which is scary because that's what makes it feel so safe at the same time," Fuson said.

Director of Public Safety Anthony Beatty also noticed the threat the campus environment posed after the tragedy at Virginia Tech.

See Safety on page A3

LEGISLATIVE WRAP-UP

State approves budget with 6% cut

By Jill Lester
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It's over. After 60 days of deliberations, the legislature brought the 2008 session of the General Assembly to a close by approving a budget for the next two years. The budget adds another 3 percent cut to higher education on top of a 3 percent cut already in place.

The budget doesn't include tax increases or rely on funding from Gov. Steve Beshear's failed plan to bring casinos into Kentucky. Instead, it will raise money by taking more from the state lottery revenues each year, restructuring the state's debt and not replacing about 3,400 state workers after they retire this year.

The House and Senate passed their budget a day after Beshear returned the document with 10 line-item vetoes.

The vetoes included changes, like cutting \$1.2 million from the ConnectKentucky program, which aims to make broadband Internet access available throughout the state, and a move that stopped the Horse Racing Authority from collecting assessments from tracks that take less than \$1.2 million per day on average.

FIVE HOT ISSUES FROM THIS YEAR'S SESSION

Casino gaming

One of Gov. Steve Beshear's key campaign issues was casino gaming, expected to bring in revenue to Kentucky as the state faced a \$800-million deficit the next two years. In February, Beshear introduced a plan to allow Kentuckians to vote on a constitutional amendment allowing 12 casinos in Kentucky, including one shared between Kanieland and Red Mile racetracks in Lexington. However, the bill failed to gain the support needed to move out of the House.

Domestic-partner benefits

A bill banning domestic-partner benefits at public universities and other state institutions easily passed the Senate in a 30-5 vote in January. However, when a House committee voted, the bill failed 9-6, stopping it from getting to the House floor. The bill, similar to one that failed last year, would have impacted the domestic-partner benefits offered at UK and the University of Louisville. About 60 UK employees currently use the domestic-partner benefits package, said UK spokesman Jay Blanton.

Concealed carry law

The debate over whether to allow students to carry concealed weapons on campus if they

have a license for the weapon provoked strong reactions on both sides of the aisle and on UK's campus. Some, such as members of the organization Students for Concealed Carry on Campus, said it was a matter of Second Amendment rights. Others, including UK President Lee Todd, said allowing weapons on campus would endanger students. The bill never made it out of the House committee where it was started.

Cigarette tax

When the House of Representatives created its draft for the 2008-10 state budget, one way it recommended bringing in money was by increasing Kentucky's cigarette tax. The cigarette tax would nearly double, up 25 cents per pack from the 30 cents currently levied. When the House and the Senate negotiated a budget to send to the governor, though, both the cigarette tax and a 1.5-cent gas tax were left out.

Primary elections

With a May 20 primary, Kentucky normally does not have much say in who each party chooses as the presidential nominee. A bill pushing up the primary to Feb. 5 passed in the House in January and was approved by the Senate the next month. The change would take effect during the next round of presidential primaries in 2012.

Police check truck for evidence in hit-and-run

By Juliann Vachon
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Lexington police are performing tests on an impounded pickup truck they think may have struck and killed UK freshman Connie Blount early Sunday in a hit-and-run incident, the father of the victim said yesterday.

Police told Jack Blount they impounded the truck Monday night and are now looking for forensic evidence that could determine if it was involved in the incident that killed his daughter.

"I am just happy that they were so confident that they had found the right vehicle," he said.

Police declined to comment on the situation yesterday but said in a news release that the Collision Reconstruction Unit was "working diligently to fol-

low leads and conclude the investigation."

Connie Blount, 18, of Park City, Utah, was crossing the intersection of South Broadway and West Maxwell Street at about 2:15 a.m. when a pickup truck, described as a light-colored extended-cab Chevrolet, hit her and then fled south on South Broadway, police said Sunday. Blount died hours later at UK Medical Center from her injuries.

Police said they suspect Connie and her friend, a male in his late teens or early 20s, were crossing at a crosswalk while the light was green for vehicles. Police said the two had been drinking that night, but they do not think that Blount and her friend had enough to impair their ability to

See Blount on page A3



ED MATTHEWS | STAFF

A candle burns next to a makeshift memorial for Connie Blount last night near the corner of South Broadway and Maxwell Street, where she was hit and killed by a truck early Sunday.



Connie Blount

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HOROSCOPES

By Linda C. Black

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

Aries (March 21 - April 19) Today is a 7 — It's easy to figure out what needs to be done. Be quick and win the game, the prize and well-earned applause. Leave the competition in your dust.

Taurus (April 20 - May 20) Today is a 7 — For a sense of delicious security, go through comfortable routines. Include the whole family. Make plans for the future while reminiscing about past good times.

Gemini (May 21 - June 21) Today is a 6 — Postpone an outing with friends. You need to defrost the refrigerator or do something else the general public never needs to know

about. Grab some private time.

Cancer (June 22 - July 22) Today is a 7 — You can provide the information somebody else is worried about. You know where to find it and they don't. Offer your assistance.

Leo (July 23 - Aug. 22) Today is a 7 — Your hard work is paying off and not a moment too soon. The bill collectors will be delighted and there's enough left over for food. You're doing good!

Virgo (Aug. 23 - Sept. 22) Today is a 7 — You and your sweetheart have reason to celebrate. You have the resources you need. Now you just have to agree on your priorities, and go shopping.

Libra (Sept. 23 - Oct. 22) Today is a 7 — Find the perfect thing for your home in your own attic or garage. Some of the other stuff you can take to the dump. Create yourself some space.

Scorpio (Oct. 23 - Nov. 21) Today is a 7 — The idea is so simple. Why didn't you think of it before? It's a

way to make your job a lot more fun, and quality doesn't suffer. You're brilliant.

Sagittarius (Nov. 22 - Dec. 21) Today is a 7 — You're getting a boost in your climb up the ladder to success. Don't get distracted by the view. Keep climbing and don't look down.

Capricorn (Dec. 22 - Jan. 19) Today is a 7 — Try something a little more radical than you've ever done before. It's OK to step outside your comfort zone. You have magical powers.

Aquarius (Jan. 20 - Feb. 18) Today is a 7 — Put your financial affairs into order now, while you're in the mood. The more treasure you can hide away, the better you'll sleep at night.

Pisces (Feb. 19 - March 20) Today is a 7 — If you don't know the answer, ask your friends or an expert. Don't waste a lot of time trying to figure it out without enough information.

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THIS MINUTE

Jodie's silly light side!

THE DISH

No more drama! Foster tells us about her new kids' fantasy flick

She may be known for intense films such as "The Silence of the Lambs," but Jodie Foster swears she is more silly than serious. "I'm not a heavy person — really, I'm not!" she tells us. The L.A. native, 45, shows off her comedic chops in the new family fantasy "Nim's Island" (in theaters now), in which she helps a girl (Abigail Breslin) search for her missing father (Gerard Butler). Bonus? Foster can watch the film with her sons, Charles, 9, and Kit, 6. She talks to us.

Q: Would you describe yourself as funny?

A: I'm witty. I think my humor is kind of language-based, but my natural humor is sort of dry and nasty, and kind of R-rated.

Q: Did you see similarities between your younger self and your 12-year-old costar, Abigail Breslin?

A: Because I was a child actor from the time I was 3, I do see pieces of myself in her. That's a whole different world now. It's much harder to be a healthy young actor now than it was when I was young.

Q: Would you ever let your sons go into acting?

A: Every once in a while my older son will say, "I want to be on TV." I go, "That's nice." I'd like them to be interested in the

behind-the-scenes because, to me, that's the real world that I live in. I'd be scared of them being actors.

Q: Do they watch any of the films you made as a child?

A: They've seen two movies of mine from when I was a kid, and they're bored with it! I asked them, "Don't you want to see 'Freaky Friday' again?" and they were like, "No!"

Top four on 'Biggest Loser'

Trainers Jillian Michaels and Bob Harper handicap the final contenders for Us.

Ali Vincent

Why she'll win: "She has shown nothing but dedication," Harper says of the single 32-year-old Arizona hairdresser (and former champion synchronized swimmer), who has lost 99 pounds. "I would put my money on Ali."

Why she won't: The other three are gunning for her. Says Harper, "They know she is a big threat."

Mark Kruger

Why he'll win: After losing 116 pounds, the 35-year-old married Massachusetts sales rep is down to 169. "He's an awesome athlete," Michaels says. "He won most of the challenges."

Why he won't: The father of two may be too small now! "He doesn't have that much more to lose," says Michaels. What's Kruger's goal? "To weigh less than Bob!"

Kelly Fields

Why she'll win: The divorced 5-foot-6 nurse, 38, started at 271 pounds and has lost 93 so far. "Kelly has a lot to lose and it put her in competition with the men," says Harper. "She's a really hard worker and has done great every single day."

Why she won't: Fields has struggled with self-doubt. "I was always heavy and never popular," she has said.

Roger Shultz

Why he'll win: The Alabama radio talk-show host, 40, was the heaviest contestant. He's lost 144 pounds and, as Michaels says, "when everyone else hits their goal, he can keep losing."

Why he won't: He doesn't always push himself. "He didn't win one challenge."

Heidi's new skincare line

Auf Wiedersehen, wrinkles! She's conquered the fashion world, and now Heidi Klum has her sights set on a new realm: beauty. The supermodel and "Project Runway" host, 34, recently teamed up with experts at TV ad giant Guthy-Renker to create In An Instant, a five-step anti-aging regimen that minimizes fine lines and evens out skin tone. The allure? "I want to look good, but I'm not trying to look 19," Klum tells us.

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Basketball: Men's SEC Basketball Tournament; Atlanta, GA. Women's SEC Basketball Tournament; Nashville, TN.
Whisper Blackberry Ball. NCAA Men's Basketball Tournament; Anaheim, CA. UK Basketball; Pitt State

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City council candidates pledge to listen to students

By Robin Pircher
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Candidates for the 3rd District seat on the city council told students yesterday that if elected, they would consider what local people wanted in their community — not just what would be good for downtown business and development.

"Big interest doesn't overtake the common good of the people," said Jonathan Rodgers, one of the five candidates who spoke last night at a forum in the Student Center's Worship Theater.

Rodgers and the other candidates spoke about community issues near

campus, including the proposed downtown development project CentrePointe, campus safety and last semester's discussions about off-campus housing for students.

Students and members of the community were scattered throughout the theater to listen to proposals for the 3rd District, which includes UK.

Running candidates introduced themselves, described their ties to campus and explained what they propose to do if elected. Each of the candidates or one of their family members has attended UK, and they stated ways they could keep in touch with students and the ideas students bring to them.

Responsibilities of the newly elected 3rd District councilmember will include the changes to downtown because of the CentrePointe project. The development would take away hotspots where students spend their evenings and weekends, said candidate Garry Weston. Weston said he hopes to become the bridge between campus, community and city.

Identifying who constituents are and what they want is the first step in decision making, said Eric Thomason. He said he plans to be a voice for students.

Candidate Don Pratt said he believes his honesty and courage provide

a better solution.

Diane Lawless said that through her experience as the previous executive director of the Bluegrass Rape Crisis Center, she has accrued empathy and respect for people.

Rodgers said he favors the preservation of art and entertainment centers in Lexington's 3rd District and is an advocate for making sure Lexington maintains its culture and creative heart.

Lexington residents have a community interest in the downtown development, Lawless said, which is why they need a representative who listens to their concerns.

"Decisions should not be made behind closed doors," Lawless said. "This is why it is important to have leaders and council members. We hear what you have to say and decide the next step."

The last day to register for the May 20 primaries is April 21. Student Government is working with Kentuckians for the Commonwealth to help register voters.

"You as a student body have a large say in what happens," Pratt said. "Encourage you to register and vote."

The platform of each candidate is available on the SG Web site (www.uksga.org) and each candidate's Web site. Links are available at www.kentuckyelection.org.

Kinesiology junior Shelley Kaylor, the swimming and diving team's student athletic trainer, looks at pictures of diving coach Mike Lyden and his family during a memorial service yesterday.



ED MATTHEWS STAFF

LYDEN

Continued from page A1

age 12 — earned UK its first national diving title with a record-setting dive on the platform.

While he's known for diving, Lyden's real legacy is his kids, Connelly said. Lyden would want people to tell stories to his kids about him so they could get to know the real Mike and know how much he loved them, Connelly said.

If there was ever any doubt about Lyden's influence, it was removed by the number in attendance at Lyden's service and memorial, said senior diver Karl Retrum.

"I thought it was an amazing turnout," she said. "Showing him and his family support, it's evident that he touched people's lives."

"I think the support was tremendous from the community," said senior swimmer Will Vietti. "It was fitting because Mike was an outstanding guy and will be missed by a lot of people."

The number was so substantial that the funeral procession blocked many of Lexington's main roads, in-

cluding the intersection of South Broadway and Waller and the intersection of South Broadway and Main Street.

"The number of people was overwhelming," Connelly said. "Looking out my window, I had a line of cars in front and behind me while stopping at a major intersection."

"Mike would have loved that he stopped traffic."

The turnout was not limited to just family, friends and current members of the UK athletic department. UK President Lee Todd, Athletics Director Mitch Barnhart and head football coach Rich Brooks were also in attendance. Connelly said that with one exception, every UK diver Lyden ever coached was there.

The day was not meant to mourn the loss of a coach and friend, Connelly said, but to remember the times shared with Lyden.

"Mike was an amazing person, and incredible guy to be with — a family man, and I've said it before, the perfect diving coach," Connelly said.

SAFETY

Continued from page A1

"For college administrators it certainly made us realize that campuses are very vulnerable by creating an open atmosphere that is conducive to learning," he said.

Because of the vulnerability, it is necessary to prepare for an emergency situation, but just as important to learn how to prevent it, Beatty said.

"Now we are in more of a preventive mode than we were before Virginia Tech," he said. "What caused the person to do what they did, and how do you intervene?"

One campus initiative that targets that question is a recently formed group of administrators called Students of Concern. The panel identifies students going through personal problems or

stressful situations and helps them find resources on campus, such as the Center for Counseling and Testing, the Office of Student Financial Aid or an academic adviser.

Many of the preparative measures depend on cooperation from students, faculty and staff, Beatty said. By now, he said everyone on campus should have signed up for the UK Alert system because it is integral in getting information out to the campus community in the case of an emergency. The system launched in January and now has 13,000 subscribers.

Giles, who manages UK Alert, said she hopes more people will sign up during the summer and next school year. After the initial uses of the system revealed problems, such as when a tornado warning only reached about a third of the people who had signed up for alerts, the system has been improved,

she said. To subscribe, visit www.uky.edu/UKAlert.

Beatty said everyone on campus must be involved in emergency tests, which include fire drills, building evacuations and emergency scenarios on campus. In the past, he said, many people have questioned why UK has those drills and whether it is an extreme precaution.

"The reality is, we have to be prepared, and that's why one has to take the exercises seriously," he said.

Yesterday, when Giles reflected on the how her job has changed since the Virginia Tech shooting, she said she does the same work that she did before the incident. The difference lies in how people from outside her office view the importance of emergency management.

"It was more of a back-burner issue if you will," she said. "Now it's more apparent that things can happen."

BLOUNT

Continued from page A1

walk home safely.

Blount's body underwent an autopsy Sunday. Toxicology reports that will show whether she was intoxicated will not be available for another one to three months.

Jack Blount said he and his wife traveled to Kentucky on Sunday and stayed until yesterday, meeting with police, doctors and friends who had been with Connie late Saturday night and early Sunday.

Upon arriving in Kentucky, they found a community of support — hundreds of friends, professors, administrators and city officials who wanted to express how much Connie had meant to them, he said. Hundreds of people attended a memorial service for Blount on Monday before the family took her body back to Utah yesterday.

"The amount of support we've received is unreal," Jack Blount said.

Services for Blount are scheduled in her hometown. Visitation will be tomorrow from 6:30 to 8:30 p.m. at the Park City Community Church. The funeral is at 10 a.m. Friday at the same location, and Blount will be buried immediately afterward at the Park City Cemetery. All services are open to the public.

Friends from across the country have told the Blounts that they will travel to Park City for Blount's funeral on Friday, Jack Blount said.

Erin Whitney, a friend of Blount's who lives in Utah and went to high school with her, said the incident has "rocked Park City to its core," and it is hard for the community to imagine Connie returning to her home for the final time, unable to speak with the friends and family who were miles away when she was killed.

But the town, which Whitney said

has experienced 6 or 7 deaths of young people in the last two years, has a built-in support system. After news of Connie's death, friends who had left for college or work immediately started reconnecting to help one another through the tragedy, Whitney said.

"It just hurts knowing that she's coming back here and we're not going to be able to spend time together," Whitney said yesterday. "But we support each other with anything and everything."

The Blounts are working with UK to create a scholarship in Connie's name that would go to a student studying equine science. Jack Blount said many people have asked how they could donate money in his daughter's name.

Connie Blount was a horse lover who started riding when she was 10. She collected more than 150 trophies in hunter-jumper equestrian competitions and was on UK's equestrian team.

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■ KERNEL EDITORIAL

UK's budget crisis makes peer tutoring even more important

As UK administrators figure out how to deal with next school year's tight budget, they should recognize peer tutoring as a cost-effective retention tool, not an easy target for cuts.

But prospects for The Study, UK's main center for peer tutoring, are looking dim as of now. If additional funding doesn't come in soon, The Study will have to cut some programs, the Kernel reported yesterday.

Provost Kumble Subbaswamy needs to do what he can to make sure cuts to The Study are as light as possible, keeping them in line with the 6 percent overall reduction in UK's state funding.

The short-term savings from a major cut wouldn't make up for the damage it would do to retention and undergraduate education.

The tight budget makes retention even more tenuous than ever. With UK lacking the money to hire new faculty, class sizes are likely to swell, leaving students — especially freshmen — with even less of the personal attention they need to succeed. When these students are doing poorly in their classes but have nowhere to reach for help, they're more likely to drop out.

Peer tutoring helps UK prevent these losses by giving individual help

to struggling students. If there are substantially fewer tutors at The Study, students in academic trouble will be left looking to overworked teaching assistants, unqualified friends or expensive private tutors for help instead.

UK has shown its willingness to spend money on improving retention. This school year, the university purchased an electronic system to identify students at risk of dropping out, at an installation cost of \$24,000 and annual fee of \$28,650. The Kernel reported Jan. 17. That \$28,650 would arguably be better spent on 2,865 hours of tutoring at The Study than on automating work academic advisers should be doing.

If the university cannot come up with more money, Student Government needs to step in. That's exactly what happened in 2006 when The Study faced a budget shortfall. SG set aside \$65,000 of its budget to fund peer tutors. Granted, SG had a significant budget surplus at the time. That won't be the case next year, but President-elect Tyler Montell and the Senate should find a way to support The Study as much as possible. Budget crises force organizations to separate their wants from their needs. For UK students, peer tutoring is certainly a need.

The tight budget makes retention more tenuous than ever. With UK lacking the money to hire new faculty, class sizes are likely to swell, leaving students with even less personal attention.

Consider military's needs in writing new GI Bill

The following editorial appeared in the Chicago Tribune on Monday:

The men and women who have served in Iraq and Afghanistan have done a dangerous, arduous task with the professionalism that has long distinguished the American military. The demands of these conflicts, requiring many troops to do multiple tours, have put heavy burdens on these troops and their families. That's especially true of Reserve and National Guard personnel, many of whom never expected to see combat.

So the nation has reason to be grateful. And Sen. James Webb, D-Va., a former Navy secretary, thinks that gratitude should be made tangible through a generous new GI Bill to help veterans go to college. His co-sponsors include Hillary Clinton and Barack Obama. John McCain says he hasn't made up his mind.

The proposal reflects a commendable impulse. But it may not be the optimal form for that impulse to take.

The original GI Bill of Rights, which opened up college to millions of World War II veterans, was meant largely to compensate draftees for having their lives disrupted and being paid poorly for the privilege. But today's soldiers don't fit that description. They are all volunteers, and as such they have to be compensated enough to lure them from civilian employment. According to the Congressional Budget Office, average earnings in the Army have risen by 40 percent, adjusted for

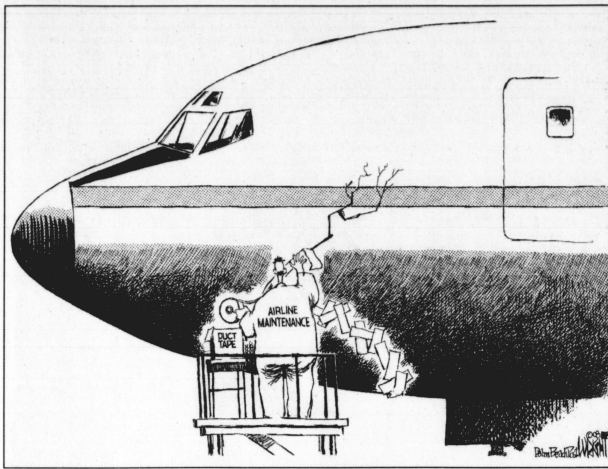
inflation, since 1999, and they have more than kept up with the civilian sector.

Richer college benefits would no doubt help keep the ranks filled — but probably not as much as other methods, such as the hefty bonuses (up to \$40,000) that are now commonly paid for enlistment and re-enlistment. After all, not everyone wants to get a college degree. The Army also has been experimenting with bonuses to help veterans buy homes or businesses when they complete their service.

Over the last three decades, the Pentagon has had to learn how to tailor benefits and incentives to get the most bang for its bucks. That task means it has to pay close attention to the needs and desires of the people it wants in uniform.

When it has trouble filling important specialties, it can boost cash bonuses for those alone. An across-the-board increase in educational perks would be less efficient because it would go to everyone. It might have the unwelcome effect of prompting some soldiers to leave the service when their skills are badly needed. It would also be very expensive — as much as \$4 billion a year, according to Webb.

After everything military personnel have endured in the last seven years, few Americans would object to providing them with greater rewards. The Webb bill provides an opportunity for Congress and the American people to explore how best to do that.



DON WRIGHT, The Palm Beach Post

Long primary won't stop Dems from taking the White House

It would be difficult for me to say that the past few months have been good ones for the national Democratic Party. It seemed that just a few months ago that a Democratic victory in the presidential election was inevitable, and that the fall campaign would be just a coronation — whoever the nominee happened to be.

However, over the course of the primary season, the rhetoric from Democratic candidates has gotten increasingly nasty. This fact, coupled with the fact that Republicans quickly decided on nominating John McCain, has had bad effects on the national polling for Democrats.

Real Clear Politics' most recent polling averages for match-ups between Barack Obama and McCain give Obama a very slight edge, and those for Hillary Clinton and McCain have McCain with a slight lead, despite both Clinton and Obama having significant advantages in October and November of last year. The initial reaction from Democrats would obviously be to worry.

However, I'm not at all worried. This is what I have realized: The Democrats in this election speak much more directly to the issues which Americans care about than McCain.

McCain is running for president on the issues of fear and hate, which won George W. Bush the last election. The events of Sept. 11, 2001, created a lot of fear in Americans. Republicans managed to play off of this fear to win elections in 2002 and 2004. By pushing us to unnecessary war, warning us of phantom menaces and even pushing immigration legislation that played on our base fears of those different from us, Republicans managed to scare us into electing them.

McCain is attempting to do the same thing now — he has said he is willing to stay in Iraq for 100 years and refuses to set a timeline for withdrawal. He has made overtures about "a strong military in a dangerous world," obviously attempting to play on fear again.

It is too bad for McCain: Americans have moved past our fear. We now realize that we live in a world where our actions don't occur in a bubble. Now we are seeking a president who will represent our interests to the world in a friendly and non-aggressive tone. A President Obama or a President Clinton would do much better than a President McCain.

Not only are the Democrats better poised on foreign policy issues, but the domestic issues Obama and Clinton are running on will help move

America forward. Obama and Clinton have both rolled out extensive plans relating to health care and the envi-

ronment, issues McCain has said very little about. Americans are beginning to notice that these issues will define the future and have begun caring about them much more.

So, despite the fact that divisive rhetoric between the two Democratic candidates has pushed down their polling averages, I am not worried. The truth is that the Democrats running in this race have spoken to the issues that Americans care about. Therefore, the inevitability of a Democratic president in 2009 still exists in my mind.

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

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Many students depend on The Study to get through challenging classes

I know many of you have visited The Study, our local peer tutoring service on campus, and those of you who haven't are missing out on a very valuable resource. But don't you worry: Perhaps soon enough you won't even know what you were missing out on because the new Study will look much different.

Academic Enhancement at The Study is in danger of undergoing severe budget cuts. This absurd decision will have monumental effects on all of us who utilize this helpful resource. However, it is also going to affect the incoming freshman next year, who may have a larger class than ever. How are we supposed to be provided with adequate services when UK is continuing to take away resources while we continue to have more and more people who need them? If there's a 9 percent tuition increase for the coming fall, why are we losing services our current tuition is supposed to provide for us?

I am a freshman this year, and I have been regularly visiting The Study since last semester, when I thought I was going to die in my chemistry class. It is no exaggeration to say that last semester I visited The

Study twice a week on a regular basis, and daily a good week before exams. I am a "regular" there. This semester, I'm there once a week to work on biology. Without those tutors, I would not have done as well in my classes and would have been more likely to not continue in that particular course.

Perhaps you don't quite understand the severity of the impact it had on my grades. Thinking back, I'm not sure I would have passed a single chemistry homework assignment. I would have had no one to help explain the same problem over and over without a second thought. It's often hard to repeatedly ask a teacher a question or have him or her explain a specific idea. The tutors at The Study have already been through these classes and can understand you at a different level than any professor could. The setup of The Study also allows for you to work with other students in your specific subject, who may be encountering the same problems as you.

However, The Study is more than just tutoring for me — some of these tutors have become so much more than that. I keep coming back because I am surrounded by people who will send me a message wishing me good luck on a test, give me genuine advice on selecting classes for the fall or even talk about future career plans. I wish more people knew what

was going on so they could help take action. I have been made aware that nothing has been finalized with regard

to the budget, but I could not help but want to voice my concern about the threat of there being any cuts from the program, however small they may end up being.

I know students are starting to take action with petitions to support The Study, and I truly hope that whoever is making the budget decisions takes these actions not as demands, but simply as a cry for help from students who use or would use The Study's services. I really cannot imagine not having this program that so many students have become accustomed to in past years.

Sarah O'Nan is a biology freshman. E-mail opinions@kykernel.com.

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Send a guest column or letter to the editor to Opinions Editor Linsen Li. Be sure to include your full name, class, major and phone number (for confirmation).

E-mail opinions@kykernel.com

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Outkast returns to roots with 'Royal Flush'

With no album in sight, Big Boi and Andre 3000, who collectively form the hip-hop duo Outkast, have teamed up again to re-



LANDON ANTONETTI
Kernel columnist

lease a funk-inspired single called "Royal Flush." The track is the lead single off of Big Boi's upcoming album *Sir Luscious Left Foot*, named after one of Big Boi's many aliases.

Outkast, whose 2006 album *Idlewild* found them exploring the musical styles of a fictional town in Georgia during the Depression-ridden 1930s, have returned to their funky roots with this trunk-rattling single. We also find them delivering their most political lyrics to date, speaking out against George Bush, the war and the misdirection of today's youth.

This banger also reunites the gentlemen of Outkast with their longtime East Coast compadre, the Wu-Tang Clan's Raekwon the Chef, Raekwon, who first teamed up with Big Boi and "Dre" on "Skew It on the Bar-B" (from Outkast's 1998 album "Aquemini"), delivers a top-notch verse complete with skilled wordplay and plenty of cocaine references to boot.

The Isley Brothers-inspired beat comes compliments of Outkast's trusty production team, Organized Noize, consisting of Sleepy Brown, Rico Wade and Ray Murray. Not only have they provided the backdrop for some of Outkast's hits, but they've also produced for the likes of Ludacris, UGK and Curtis Mayfield, the late composer for Superfly.

Big Boi has revealed that Organized Noize will handle most of, if not all of, the production on his solo venture. No other guest appearances are known right now, except for Mary J. Blige on the track "The World Is Too Big," which appeared in Big Boi's recent ballad "Big."

As of now, *Sir Luscious Left Foot* is slated for a July release. Andre 3000 has also been rumored to be releasing a solo project this year, but a single has yet to appear. After their respective solo projects are done, it's been said that they will return to the studio to cut another Outkast album, dispelling all the rumors that the duo has broken up.

Whether they're doing their solo projects or performing together, both artists are making waves in 2008 — on the big screen, on stage at the opera house and in the recording studio.

Landon Antonetti is an undecided sophomore and production director at WRFL. E-mail: features@kykernel.com.

UK softball continues to play through pain

By Bobby Reagan
breagan@kykernel.com

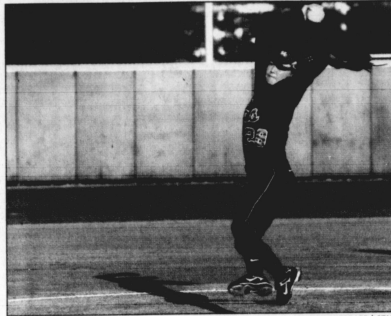
The UK softball team has put the word "battled" into full effect during its 2008 campaign. Lately, the Cats have had to fight through pain and injury just to have enough players to field a team.

Sophomore pitcher Amber Matousek, the Cats' ace on the mound before suffering an undisclosed injury, has been pitching through pain for much of the season. Matousek said that although playing through the pain is difficult, she is just happy that she can still contribute to the team.

"I've always wanted to go out and help and be able to play," Matousek said. "It's the hardest thing I've done, but I know you have to be positive and be there for your teammates." At times, UK (15-27, 3-16 Southeastern Conference) has struggled to put the required nine players on the field.

Head coach Rachel Lawson said while she never wants any player to get hurt, a team can draw benefits from a shortened roster. With few substitutes available, players are able to get comfortable in their positions, she said.

"When people aren't doing well or are a little banged up, it's never easy to not be able to sub them out," Lawson



KRISTIN SHERRARD | STAFF
With injuries plaguing the UK softball team's roster, sophomore pitcher Jennifer Young has had to carry the load for the Cats on the mound.

said. "With that being said though, it's nice coming to the ballpark and knowing you're going to be a starter."

Lawson, who is in her first year with the Cats after serving the previous three as head coach at Western Kentucky, said this is the first time she has seen a line-up so thin. Audrey

Meyer, a senior outfielder, said she has become used to injuries plaguing her team.

"Last year I can't even count or remember how many girls were injured and missed time," Meyer said. "However, this year the girls that are hurt are just pushing through the pain

and trying not to think about it."

While Meyer said it is not easy going out and playing in a double-header or every game of a series with an injury, it is something that the team knows they have to do. Despite the short bench, Meyer said the Cats are more concerned with picking each other up than about who is hurt.

"We don't think about when a girl goes down who is going to come in. It's when she goes down who is going to be there to pick her up," Meyer said. "It's that way with everything our team does this year. If there's an error committed, it's not whose fault it is, it's how can we make this situation better."

With a depleted staff, sophomore pitcher Jennifer Young has had to carry the load for UK on the mound. She has pitched seven of the last 12 games, something that takes an immense toll on a body. Lawson compared the way a player feels after pitching a game to being in a car accident.

But according to Lawson, UK is facing the brunt of the injury bug at the plate.

"It definitely has played a part on our offense, because when people aren't playing well or a pitcher is beating us, we have to keep going back and facing her," Lawson said. "But, we are pretty lucky, we're playing softball every day."

SPORTS BRIEFS

UK Hoops assistant steps down

Vonn Read has decided to step down as assistant coach of the UK women's basketball team, UK Athletics announced. He informed head coach Matthew Mitchell of his decision yesterday afternoon.

"My experience coaching at the University of Kentucky has been tremendous," Read said in a news release yesterday. "I've had the opportunity to work with very talented head coaches and players. I really appreciate the opportunity Coach Mitchell gave me to be on his staff this past season. He is a great coach and I learned a lot from him this year. With Coach Mitchell at the helm, along with some very talented players, this program has a very bright future."

Read joined UK as a member of former head coach Mickie DeMoss's staff in 2005. The Milwaukee, Wis., native spent three seasons on the Cats' sidelines, where he was responsible for coaching post players and assisting in scouting and recruiting.

"We are sad to see coach Read go," Mitchell said. "We appreciate his contributions to the Kentucky program

over the last three years. We wish him well in his future endeavors."

A national search to find Read's replacement will begin immediately.

Baseball notches 20th straight non-conference win

Junior outfielder Collin Cowgill blasted his 13th home run of the season — part of a 2-for-3, four RBI night — to lead the No. 17 UK baseball team over Cincinnati 9-4 yesterday.

The win marked the Cats' 20th consecutive non-conference victory.

Playing in its first true non-conference road game of the season, UK (26-8, 7-8 Southeastern Conference) pounded out 10 hits against the Bearcats while sophomore starter Clint Tilford worked four innings, giving up just one earned run on four hits. Senior reliever Aaron Lovett allowed three hits and one run in three innings pitched to pick up his second win of the season.

The Cats host Morehead State University today at Cliff Hagan Stadium at 6:30 p.m.

Students offer solutions to global warming

By Rosalind Essig
news@kykernel.com

UK students and thousands of others across the United States will get a chance to "chill out" tonight and learn about youth-inspired approaches to solving global warming.

As part of Earthdays in the Bluegrass, UK will broadcast the results of a nationwide contest titled "Chill Out: Campus Solutions to Global Warming" in Memorial Hall at 7. College students submitted their efforts toward making their campuses more sustainable.

UK did not participate in the contest, but it will broadcast the winning entries that were voted for on YouTube.com and more than 180 sites from around the country.

Last year's winners established student fees to fund sustainability projects, installed energy-saving software on computers and finished the largest solar panel installation

east of the Mississippi River.

Residence Life Recycling and Greenhumb, a student environmental organization, are hosting the event as part of a month long series of environmental awareness events in April.

Caroline Messerschmidt, a dietetics senior and assistant coordinator of Residence Life Recycling, said the broadcast focuses on different campus efforts to be more environmentally friendly and will help generate more ideas and solutions.

College students can prevent further effects of global warming by changing everyday habits and using their voices, not just sitting back and watching things happen, Messerschmidt said.

Before the broadcast, Earthdays in the Bluegrass will host a concert starting at 6 p.m. outside Memorial Hall. The concert will feature the Red State Ramblers and Clack Mountain String Band.

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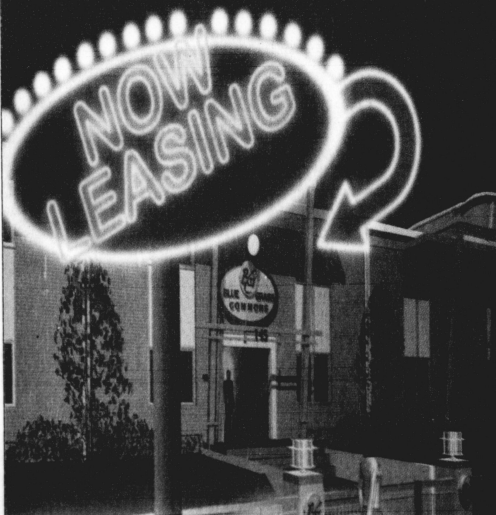
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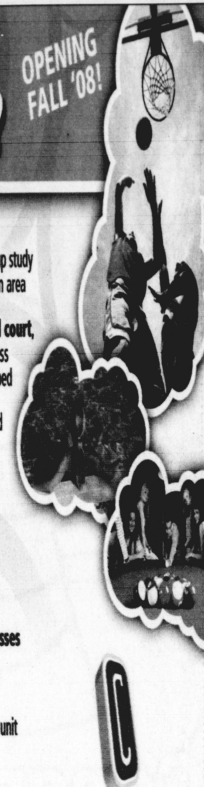
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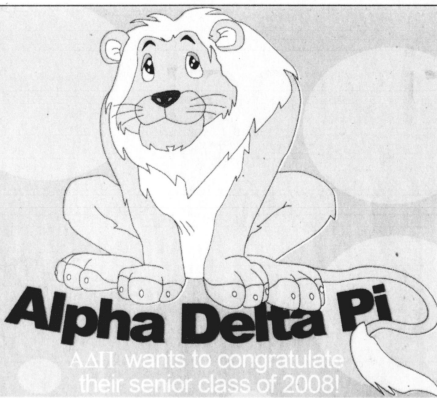
Congrats Seniors,
We'll miss you all!

Pi Phi Seniors 2008

Jenny Butt	Allison Pachtman
Madison Christiansen	Ashley Parker
Melissa Davis	Erin Pfabe
Katlyn Dench	Julie Rank
Kate Eads	Mallary Snyder
Lesley George	Brit Stadnik
Lauren Henson	Charlene Stumler
Caitlin Kelley	Rachel Tafel
Caroline King	Brooke Takacs
Hilary Long	Lindsey Todderud
Gwen Massie	Katie Walker
Jessica Mountjoy	Lauren Walker
Erica Newcomb	Allison Warner
	Megan Weber

We ♥ Our Seniors

Amanda Adkins	Leslie Mason
Natalie Arrowood	Erica Metzler
Diana Baulch	Lauren O'Nan
Betsy Benjamin	Jenna Orr
Lindsay Brandenburg	Rebekah Phillips
Brittany Browning	Michelle Pollock
Cara Collard	Sammie Ray
Kristen Cripe	Kathleen Sherry
Ashley Downey	Jen Sidun
Jessica Durbin	Amanda Sutton
Molly Eckerline	Heather Taylor
Alex Elliot	Amanda Thaxton
Jenna Foltz	Barrett Thomas
Megan Harris	Kelly Thompson
Kathleen Hayden	Megan Thompson
Lauren Jackson	Lindsay Wesley
Kristin Kaminski	Mackenzie Wise
	Natalie Calkins
	Kate Hansen
	Dawn Regan
	Michelle Huber



Chelsea Bankemper	Kelly Leech
Allison Bethel	Kristen List
Amanda Brown	Jayne Mitchell
Erin Brown	Megan Nethery
Sally Cathcart	Ravin Orrender
Cara Childers	Lori Reifert
Emily Cox	Lauren Rogers
Lauren Dugger	Amanda Scott
Christy Feldhaus	Meredith Shaw
Maggie Fennell	Molly Smith
Erica Gillespie	Sara Stout
Lauren Goodin	Kelly Sullivan
Brittany Hampton	Shannon Toney
Lindsey Humkey	Lauren Wenstrup
Katie Klein	Emilee Young

We will miss you all!

Congratulations to the Seniors of Kappa Alpha Theta



Emily Adelman	Sarah Kays
Megan Alexander	Jessica McQuiston
Sarah Beard	Whitney Mobley
Kate Beebe	Mallory Moore
Sarah Caldwell	Jenna Mullen
Kelly Compton	Kathleen Norcia
Teresa Dattilo	Samantha Peterson
Kate Donohue	Tommy Phelps
Bridget Downs	Melanie Regan
Kelly Eisenmenger	Brittany Schuler
Katherine Elliott	Fowlen Sensing
Nicole Eovino	Lauren Shacklette
Jenny Ethridge	Shelley Sizemore
Liz Gant	Meredith Storm
Abby Grow	Bailey Switzer
Lucy Hagan	Alyson Wellman
Sarah Henderson	Jessica Wellman
Jamie Hoskins	

We will miss you all!

Senior Sendoff

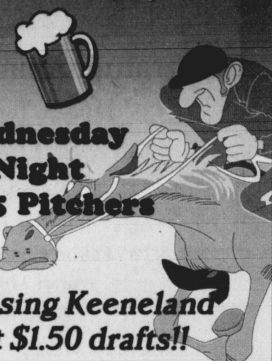
CAMPUS PUB

Patio Open!

Wednesday Night

\$5.75 Pitchers

Bring your losing Keeneland ticket & get \$1.50 drafts!!



KA Loves their seniors

- Katie Wilcox
- Laura Bowling
- Kristi Briggs
- Macy Bundy
- Becca Carr
- Maggie Coulter
- Claire Jones
- Jessica Kincaid
- Abbey Sanders
- Jessica Simms
- Alyson Workman
- Katie Wetterer
- Cassie Zimmer
- Tori Spence
- Julie Stevens
- Jesse Vice
- Jennifer Baumgardner
- Elaine Phipps
- Laura Jones
- Emily Zengel




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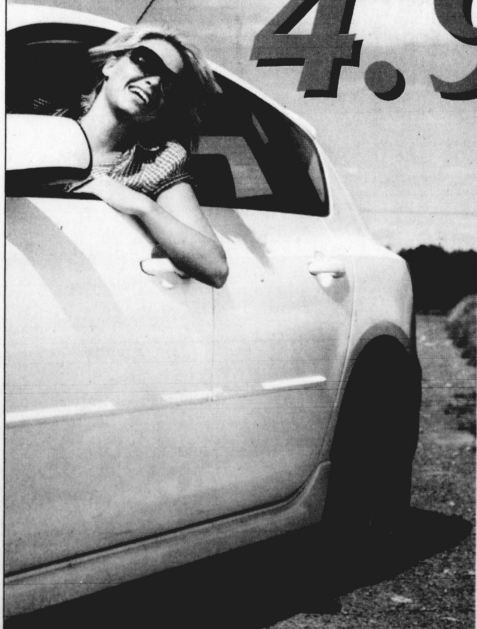
Happy Driving!

with rates as low as



4.99% APR*

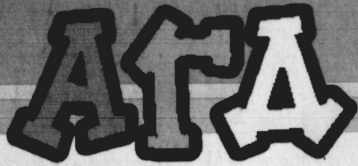
you'll have something to smile about!

*Annual Percentage Rate is based on credit history and subject to change. Restrictions may apply. See a representative for details.



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Meghan Garner	Allyson Hill
Mary Lauren Powell	Rachel Martini
Rachel Ran	Meghan Edwards
Carissa Niemeyer	Jennifer Von Deylen
Sarah Huyck	Krysta Clark
Sarah Hughes	Meghan Mornar
Kristen Hofmeister	Natalie Deering
Sarah Rainey	Holly Sisk
Brittany Vinson	Megan Herde
Rebecca Haggard	Lindsay Rhollans
Katie Layfield	Christina Criollo
Aly Rutledge	Whitney Whitmer
Kristina McCloud	Breanna Morris
Kristen Groen	Jessica Huber
Natalie Kaelin	Fran Gentry
Trisha Zimmerman	Kerry Knapp
	Kelly Morris



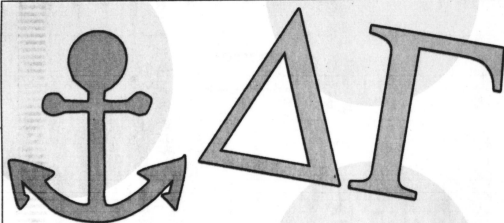
SIGMA KAPPA SORORITY

ΣΚ

Congratulations Seniors 2008

Danielle Tourigney
 Sarah Dolly
 Mallory Watts
 Erin O'Brien
 Jessica Hill
 Fallon Chamberlin
 Sarah Mullins
 Nicole Rauen
 Kate Lowe
 Kristen Harrington
 Brittany Loveless
 Sarah Dunaway
 Tara Vonderheide
 Jennifer Partin
 Ellen Lyon
 Elizabeth Workman
 Jennifer Patrick
 Emily Gross
 Sara Boden
 Whitney Sanders
 Leann Caudill
 Stephanie Brown
 Ashley Noll
 Lindsey Cottrell
 Jenny Haslam

Good Luck! We will miss you all so much!



The sisters of Delta Gamma would like to thank our seniors for their commitment and dedication to Delta Gamma.

Ashley Allison	Amanda Powell
Megan Beach	Kelly Pratt
Rebekah Bennet	Amy Price
Robyn Boeckman	Ashleigh Reifenberger
Erin Broederick	Summer Schneider
Lauren Comer	Page Schrader
Erin Doherty	Lindsay Schultz
Mary Allison Doyle	Amanda Schumm
Amy Hambrick	Liz Sikorski
Emily Kaufman	Jill Stevens
Taylor Lantz	Racheal Stump
Molly McCleese	Ashley Sweet
Katie Madon	Ashley Taylor

Congratulations!

We Will Miss Our Senior Turtles!

AMANDA LOTT	KATIE HUNTER
AMY GOODLETT	KELLY JO CORNELIUS
ANNIE FUGAZZI	KELLY LAUKHUFF
ASHLEY COLLETTE	LAUREN BAXTER
BETHANY VAN METER	LINDSAY EATON
BRETTA HULCHA	LINDSAY LENHOF
BRITTANY MARCUM	LINDSAY NALL
BROOKE WHEATLEY	MEGAN APPLLEGATE
CHERYL DUONG	MELISSA LAFIONATIS
CHRISTINA ARMSTRONG	MOLLY COSGROVE
CLAIRE KUNKLE	NATALIE SEGERS
ELIZABETH PETRUN	SARAH BANKS
JENNICA WHITFIELD	SARAH OREAR
JESSICA EISOLD	SARAH ROBINSON
JULIE NORTHROP	SARAH SCOTT
KELLY BORA	TRACY LYKINS



Delta Zeta Seniors

EyeMax



Dr. Carpenter, Dr. Parr, Dr. Rich, Dr. Maggard, Dr. Marston

- Comprehensive Eye Care
- Contact Lenses
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Free Wireless Internet

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SAE & KAO present

BBQ '08

Proceeds go to the VIP Center

PRESENT THIS COUPON AND RECEIVE \$1 OFF ADMISSION!

\$5 - all students welcome!
Thursday, April 17
5:00-8:00 PM
SAE House, 410 Rose Lane
Live music by...
Jonathan's Mchete



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Shop around the world.
From our eclectic array of stylish, eco-conscious jewelry, gifts & accessories ethically produced clothing



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CHECK OUT THE NEW HAPPY HOUR

- 4-7 EVERYDAY
- 1/2 PRICE APPETIZERS

We'll see you soon!
2270 Nicholasville Rd.
Lexington, KY 40502

2008 ALPHA OMICRON PI GRADUATING SENIORS

LOREN BOWLING
MEGAN BRINKMAN
KELLY BUCY
JENNY BUI
NATALIE HAJJAR
AMBER HALL
CHELSEY HASTINGS
JENN LAIDLAW
BROOKE LEWELLYN
BROOKE LEWELLYN
CHRISTI MAJORS
TARA MORRISON
KATIE NELSON
ASHLEY PEAVLER
SARAH ROARK
KAILEY SCHULZ
LAUREN HALLEY SMITH
KALLIE TURNER
STEPHANIE WILSON
ANN-MICHELLE YATES



Delta
Delta
Delta
Seniors 2008

Brittany Bell	Linsey Jankins
Cassie Blec	Amanda Jo Johnson
Ashley Blackburn	Mallory Kirtley
Cathy Cappe	Allison Lamp
Hannah Carroll	Ashley Marksbury
Annie Dances	Laura McBurnie
Laura Davis	Elizabeth Paxton
Makenzie DeRessett	Breake Perrin
Kristina Derick	Catherine Roberts
Lauren Edwards	Jessica Ross
Kim Esselin	Karen Anne Schuman
Ashley Fischer	Emma Scharfenberger
Traci Fugate	Sarah Small
Lindsey Harloway	Katherine Stack
Ragan Harbin	Cassie Swartz
Melissa Hill	Laura Wesley

and in the years after,
we'll always remember
our Kappa Days

Rachel Botto
Robyn Brandenberg
Brenna Brooks
Alli Brown
Kathryn Buck
Rachel Chiffwood
Caf. De Rivera
Jamie Gardner
Becky Garner
Laura Hagan
Susan Hall
Molly Hamilton
Sommerville Harris
Mallory Inzetta
Candace Jessup
Kelle Kiesewetter
Whitney Krebs
Mary Kate McGuire
Julie McMahon
Erin Schroering
Julianne Steiner
Ginnie Taber
Kristina Viola
Alli White
Meghan Woolum
Kate Fischer
Katie Manning
Andrea Waleitch
Lauren Ranck
Melissa Hauntz

Congratulations to the 2008 senior class of Kappa Kappa Gamma

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- Walk to campus
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Limited availability

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BOWL

MONDAY - "Bowl Your Brains Out!"
UNLIMITED BOWLING
2 for 1 Drink Specials
10 PM - 1 AM
\$9.95 per person

TUESDAY - "Cosmic College Night!"
AT SOUTHLAND \$10.95 per person
"Bud Bowl!"
AT EASTLAND \$7.00 per person
\$1.00 16 oz. Drafts

WEDNESDAY - UNLIMITED BOWLING
AT SOUTHLAND \$9.95 per person
DOLLAR MANIA
AT EASTLAND
15 Cover 10 Games 1 Shoes 1 Drafts
BOTH LOCATIONS: 9PM-1AM

THURSDAY - "Thirsty Thursdays"
AT EASTLAND
Unlimited Bowling, Shoe Rental & Drink Specials
9 PM - 1 AM
\$11.00 per person

FRIDAY & SATURDAY - "GLOW BOWL!"
11:30 PM - 2 AM
\$12.00 PER PERSON MIN 3 PER LAKE OR \$48.00 UP TO 6 PLAYERS

WE CAN ALSO ACCOMMODATE
• Date Parties
• Fundraisers
• Greek Get Togethers
• Faculty/Staff Outings
• CATERING AVAILABLE

