KU's Little is injured

LAWRENCE, Kan. (AP) — Kansas junior guard Mario Little will miss two to four weeks after breaking his left hand at practice Tuesday.

Little, a junior college transfer, had returned to practice Dec. 5 after suffering a stress fracture in his lower left leg in mid-October.

Coach Bill Self said Little caught his hand in a teammate's jersey while changing directions.

"It'll be two weeks before he could do anything realistically," Self said Tuesday. "His hand caught and pulled his fingers apart and broke it. As of now we'll splint it and hopefully he'll be back full speed real soon."

Little averaged 15.2 points, 5.5 rebounds and 2.6 assists while at Chipola (Fla.) College and was ranked the No. 1 junior college player in the country before going to Kansas.
KU Seeks Sanctions Against Clothing Store

LAWRENCE (AP) — The University of Kansas is renewing its fight against a Lawrence clothing store for trademark violations.

A federal jury in July determined Joe-College.com, owner Larry Sinks and screen printer Clark Orth "willfully infringed" the university's trademarks on Jayhawk-themed T-shirts. Jurors ordered the defendants to pay $127,000 to the school.
**Governor’s Press Secretary Takes Position At KU**

TOPEKA (AP) — Gov. Kathleen Sebelius' press secretary, Nicole Corcoran, will be filling the newly created position of chief of staff for University of Kansas athletic director Lew Perkins.

"I'm very excited to be able to attract someone of Nicole's skills to coordinate my activities and the increased demands on my time," Perkins said Wednesday. "She will be a real asset to our team here at Kansas."

Corcoran said Perkins called last month to see if she would be interested and she then interviewed for the job. She will start at the university on Feb. 2. The governor's office has not announced a replacement for her.

At the University of Kansas, she will serve as the main clearinghouse for all requests to Perkins. She will oversee management of his schedule, coordinate his public appearances and organize special events.

Corcoran, 37, called the new job "a great opportunity" and said she was "humbled" to be part of the Sebelius administration.

She was Sebelius' press secretary when she was insurance commissioner from 1999-2002. She then worked in Sebelius' first gubernatorial campaign as her spokeswoman and has been with the governor since she took office in 2002.
SAMS students connect with KU ROTC cadets

Melissa Bower | Staff Writer

Maj. James Hill wanted a way to connect himself and other School of Advanced Military Students with incoming officers. So, he teamed up with the University of Kansas Army ROTC program to visit its students. Hill and other SAMS students in the 2009-01 class visited KU ROTC Dec. 4 in what he said he hopes will become a full-fledged mentoring program. During their visit, SAMS students talked about life in the Army and shared some social time with the KU cadets.

“They had lots of questions for us,” Hill said. “Especially about dual military families.”

Hill is setting up a blog site so that SAMS and KU ROTC students can stay in touch with one another. He’s organizing a few more visits so that the mentorship of KU cadets will continue with the next SAMS class.

Lt. Col. John Basso is professor of military science at KU. Basso said the mentoring of SAMS students is beneficial to his students.

“For the most part they are worried about doing well as officers — taking care of Soldiers, being technically and tactically competent, and being effective leaders in and out of combat,” Basso said.

While some ROTC programs include students who may not serve in the military, Basso said there are few of those in the KU program. All of the current KU cadets intend to become officers, Basso said. Many KU cadets are on scholarship and will at minimum serve four years in the Army, but some plan to enter a lifelong Army career. Some cadets are already drilling National Guard or Reserve Soldiers in the Simultaneous Membership Program.

Basso said while the KU ROTC staff have a broad range of military experience to share with KU cadets, including 15 combat tours among them, they don’t have the same expertise as some of the SAMS students.

“Our cadets really enjoyed hearing different perspectives on branches and on the Army,” Basso said. “For our senior class, MS IVs as they are called, this begins a semester long exchange with the SAMS group.”

Basso noted the KU ROTC and SAMS exchange program is part of a broad relationship between the university and Fort Leavenworth. KU has established an Officer of Graduate Professional Military Education and now has an office inside the Lewis and Clark Center. The university’s Dole Institute of Politics has provided several military and security related speakers, including Lt. Gen. William B. Caldwell IV, CGSC commandant and Combined Arms Center commander in 2007. Also, KU has provided a graduate degree program for wounded warriors, with the intention of allowing those Soldiers to serve as CGSC instructors.
University costs outstripping inflation

The state’s major colleges haven’t been shy about asking for more funding in recent years. The state Board of Regents did as recently as September, recommending that the state increase funding for higher education by 4 percent despite the slumping economy.

Three months earlier, the board approved tuition increases for the state’s six Regents universities. Nothing new there. College costs have risen sharply in recent years, so much so that a national study indicated the average family spent 28 percent of its income to send a student to a four-year school in Kansas in 2007 as opposed to 18 percent in 1999.

Now, though, it looks as if the university system may have squeezed students, their parents and Kansas taxpayers all it can.

Considering the state is facing a potential $141 million budget deficit by next June — a hole that could grow to $1 billion by June 2010 — the request for a 4 percent increase looks like a pipe dream. In fact, the Regents already have complied with a request by Kansas Gov. Kathleen Sebelius for state agencies to submit proposals for budget cuts.

Meanwhile, the economic downturn is bound to leave fewer students and families able to afford current tuition and fees, much less support further increases.

For better or worse, the financial crisis is forcing major colleges to take steps they should have been taking to a much greater extent in better times — reducing expenses and finding other ways to keep down the costs of higher education.

Regents statistics show significant growth in operating expenditures at the state universities. Expenditures zoomed from $454.5 million to $620.9 million at The University of Kansas from fiscal year 2002 to FY 2007, an increase of 36.6 percent. At K-State, the increase was from $432.2 million to $564.8 million — 30.7 percent.

Why? It certainly wasn’t because of a large influx of students. Head count at KU dropped 0.4 percent over those years, while K-State’s enrollment rose 2.4 percent.

As the universities’ budgets got bigger while the size of their student bodies held steady, the proportion of the universities’ operating expenses covered by the state declined.

To a large degree, the universities made up the gap with tuition increases. ...

None of this is to suggest the state’s higher education system doesn’t deserve support. It does for an array of reasons, from the educational and career opportunities it provides to thousands of Kansans to the money it pumps into the state economy.

For an idea of the potential economic development power of the system, look no further than the recent
preliminary decision by government authorities to award
the National Bio- and Agro-Defense Laboratory project
to Kansas State University. K-State’s animal research
facilities and staff were a key calling card in the state’s
successful bid to land the $450 million project.

It’s also worth noting that tuition and fees at KU and
K-State are cheaper than the average at other major
universities.

Still, the costs are rising much faster than inflation, and
they must be reined in.

Taxpayers and those who pay tuition can only be ex-
pected to do so much.  

--Topeka Capital-Journal
Law school honors new Rice scholars

LAWRENCE — Five first-year law students at the University of Kansas have been selected for the prestigious Rice Scholar Program, which offers full tuition scholarships to Kansas residents who have outstanding academic records and proven leadership ability.

The 2008-09 Rice scholars are Ashly LoBurgio Basgall of Great Bend, Joseph Jarvis of Lenexa, Kristen Koenen of Lenexa, Nathan Michel of Dodge City and Evan North of Lenexa.

They were recognized during an Oct. 23 scholarship reception, as were the more than 130 recipients of law school scholarships for the 2008-09 academic year.

Faculty members select Rice scholars from the pool of first-year law students based on merit, as evidenced by undergraduate academic achievement, Law School Admission Test score and record of leadership. The scholarship is renewable in the students’ second and third years of law school if they maintain a minimum grade-point average.

Trustees of the Ethel and Raymond F. Rice Foundation and former dean Martin Dickinson created the Rice Scholar Program in 1979 to honor the Rices and pay tribute to Raymond Rice’s dedication to scholarship, the legal profession and the KU School of Law. Since then, 145 outstanding Kansans have become Rice scholars.

Following his graduation from the KU School of Law in 1908, Raymond Rice became known as one of the great corporate lawyers in the country, with clients in Chicago and New York. Closer to home, he became general counsel for the Kansas Electric Power Co., fore-runner of Kansas Power and Light. A member of the law school faculty from 1913 to 1926, Rice served on the Kansas Board of Law Examiners for 26 years and reviewed thousands of candidates for admission to practice. Throughout his life, Rice dedicated himself to the highest standards of the legal profession and to public service.

The scholarship funds are managed by KU Endowment, the independent, nonprofit organization serving as the official fundraising and fund-management organization for KU. Founded in 1891, KU Endowment is the first foundation of its kind at a U.S. public university.

From Dodge City: A Baker University alumnus, Nathan Michel previously interned for a lobbyist law firm and is interested in legislative and commercial applications of a legal education.
Cross honored as scholarship recipient at KU

LAWRENCE – On Saturday, Nov. 15, the University of Kansas honored recipients of its most prestigious scholarships during halftime of the KU vs. Texas game in Memorial Stadium.

More than 680 undergraduates are recipients of one of six top scholarships offered at KU: National Merit, National Achievement, National Hispanic, Perfect Achievement, Summerfield and the Watkins-Berger.

Among the honorees were Andrew Garrett Cross, son of Bob and Jean Cross, Chanute. He is a Summerfield Scholar majoring in mechanical engineering.

This year’s scholars represent the largest group since 1999 when KU Chancellor Robert Hemenway initiated Scholars Day on the Field. About 650 are Kansans or are Kansas high school graduates. They represent 58 Kansas counties and 19 other states and countries.

Scholars and their parents were invited to attend the Scholars Day on the Field recognition program. The students and their parents received complimentary tickets. In addition, the scholars and their parents met with the chancellor and other university officials during a pre-game buffet at the Kansas Union. The chancellor joined the scholars on the field at halftime.

“Taking our most outstanding student scholars out on the football field at halftime is one of my favorite events of the year. It allows KU to introduce our most talented students to a broad audience and it gives our top scholars an opportunity to be recognized for their accomplishments in a unique setting,” Hemenway said.

KU currently enrolls:
- 205 National Merit scholars
- 20 National Hispanic scholars
- 9 National Achievement scholars
- 4 Perfect Achievement scholars
- 220 Watkins-Berger scholars
- 228 Summerfield scholars.

The National Merit scholarship is widely regarded as the most prestigious national award bestowed upon high school seniors.
KU’s Hemenway to step down in 2009

LAWRENCE (AP) — After 14 years as chancellor at the University of Kansas, Robert E. Hemenway is retiring next year to teach and write.

In a news release Monday, Hemenway announced his decision to leave the chancellor’s position next June 30.

Hemenway said there is no “good” time to step down. But he said the university’s many recent achievements mean “I will return to the classroom knowing the University of Kansas is in excellent shape and ready for the challenges that face our nation’s leading public universities.

In a message sent earlier to faculty, staff and students, Hemenway said he will take a sabbatical during the next academic year to work on a book about intercollegiate athletics and American values, and will then return to teaching and scholarly research at Kansas.

Donna Shank, chair of the Kansas Board of Regents, said the regents would appoint a committee to begin a national search for Hemenway’s successor.

“The people of Kansas and KU alumni worldwide have benefited tremendously from Bob Hemenway’s service,” Shank said in a news release. “The accomplishments of the university during his firm and progressive leadership speak for themselves. KU has grown in size, strength and reputation.”

Hemenway said he would stay committed to the university for the next seven months as it works through difficult economic times caused by the state’s budget shortfall.

Among other accomplishments cited by the university since Hemenway was named chancellor in 1995 was record enrollment, higher ACT scores and diversity of faculty, students and staff.
University of Kansas player takes diversion for shooting

Kansas freshman forward Markieff Morris has agreed to perform 20 hours of community service for shooting a 47-year-old Wisconsin woman with plastic BBs in August in a university dorm courtyard.

The 18-year-old Philadelphia native had been charged with battery for the Aug. 16 incident in which campus police said shots were fired from a room in the Jayhawker Towers.

The woman suffered minor injuries when she was hit in the arm with a BB. Officers seized a 3-foot-long black Airsoft rifle and medium-sized plastic bag of BBs.

Campus police said Morris admitted that he shot the Airsoft gun from his apartment window.

Kansas coach Bill Self says the agreement means Morris won't have to appear in court Friday.

"He has accepted a diversion to an infraction, and this agreement includes 20 hours of community service," Self said Wednesday at a news conference. "We've talked about this a lot, and I've told Markieff and our guys that obviously they have to make better decisions and be much wiser in their judgment."

Self said he and his staff should have done a better job educating players about campus and housing policies that forbid things like the Airsoft guns.

Both he and Morris said the diversion agreement brings the matter to a close.

"I've learned a lesson from this, and I apologize for any embarrassment this caused KU and the basketball program," Morris said in a prepared statement. "I'm going to do my community service so I can conclude this matter and concentrate on academics and the rest of the basketball season."

Morris and his twin brother, Marcus, are part of a recruiting class that was ranked No. 2 by Rivals.com. Marcus Morris ranked 29th nationally coming out of high school, and Markieff Morris was ranked 50th.

Kansas, last year's national champion, is off to a 7-1 start.
STAR\textsuperscript{r}ovations

Mediocre meanderings from the malnourished mind.
by Steve Telow

Starvations: Definition—a contraction of the title The St. Marys Star and the word “observations.”

SO, THE GOVERNOR WANTS TO BE PART OF THE CABINET. NOT

Were you amused or confused this week when Governor Sebelius said she withdrew her name for consideration regarding “high-octane federal jobs in Washington, D.C.,” as the Topeka Capital-Journal put it? Those jobs in question are positions on President-elect Barack Obama’s newly assembled cabinet. Why was it the governor kept showing up at places like Chicago where Obama was to make some initial announcements regarding cabinet positions? She stood out like a lost pup only to find the appointment she was hoping for went to someone else. Then, finally Obama made the announcement his cabinet was about full. Sebelius at that point realized there was not a Secretary of Labor or Energy position for her. So, what does she do? She graciously declines any further possible appointments and heads home for Topeka to resume her duties as governor. Well, I’m sorry, but it appears the governor is an opportunist and when the opportunity did not present itself on a national level, she quickly returned to the cozy confines of the capitol building. She cited the need to restore the fiscal good of Kansas and the general need to return to work as the primary cause of ceasing her pursuit of the “high-octane” jobs on the Hill in D.C. I prefer to think the governor didn’t want just any job she may have been asked to dedicate her powers to, which is fine. We are all called upon from time to time to perform duties we would rather not do. However, when you enter yourself into such an arena to serve, shouldn’t you be willing to take on any assigned task rather than selectively pick and choosing which positions you feel are worthy of your pursuit? In other words Ms. Governor, if you have so nobly volunteered yourself to serve under President-elect Obama, shouldn’t you dutifully engage in the position in which he has potentially selected you for? Didn’t think so. Welcome home. There are still plenty of people in the labor and energy industry wondering why you vetoed three times an energy plant in Western Kansas that would have provided plenty of jobs (labor) and lots of energy to the area, if not the region.

THE CLASS ON MASS.

Recently, I have been assigned to the road, again, and this time my travels have found me in Lawrence—home of the Jayhawks and the University of Kansas. Not realizing my destination to the degree it would be taking me down Massachusetts Street in Lawrence, that’s where I was headed. Equipped in a ubiquitous brown Ford Taurus with a K-State PowerCat plate on the front bumper, that’s where I was going, right down Mass. At 12th and Mass., there was no problem. Just the car, the plate and me. As I approached the tenth and ninth streets KU students just kind of glanced at the car and crossed the street in front of me knowing the crosswalks were a safe haven from one side of the street to the other. It then fully occurred to me, in some way perhaps, this brown car with a purple logo had impeded Jayhawk territory. Was I an enemy on treacherous grounds? I don’t know. Occasionally, I saw other PowerCat plates on vehicles approaching. Confidence bolstered, I waved to the oncoming vehicles. And in a 20-mile-per-hour zone with eye contact right down to the color of their eyes, I was snubbed. In what I deemed a hostile environment and seeing any purple in general, I thought a courteous wave would have been welcomed. But no. Nothing. Not even the Wildcats of Jayhawk land would return a friendly wave from the brown Taurus with a purple PowerCat tag.

Then, finally, a change of expression. As I approached the business
end of Mass Street and ready to cross the Kaw River, the Taurus was
caught in between traffic signals. Stuck in the crosswalk and oncoming
side traffic, there I was, halfway between the intersection and the cross-
walk. I could have rolled in front of kids trying to cross the street or I
could have hung the rear end of the car out to be clipped by crossing
traffic. But no, this young man with latté in hand glanced down at myself
and the vehicle and motioned me in front of him to cross his pedestrian
lane in full sight of the brown Taurus and the purple PowerCat.

DR. CLAUSSEN, PRIVATE EYE, MYSTERY SOLVED

I hadn’t had an eye exam in awhile, so my latest trip to see the eye
doctor was a real eye-opener. Dr. Verne Clausen, who examined my
eyes just the other day reported the health of my eyes to be OK and that
also, my vision wasn’t what it used to be. Accepting of that fact, I ea-
gerly awaited the arrival of my new set of specs and looked forward to
looking forward. These new glasses had all the features, that’s for sure.
They have the Sarah Palin, “Can I call you Joe,” type of frames with the
tinted lenses that only become tinted when the sun’s out and the antiglare
stuff that comes on the windshield of the stealth bombers. The only prob-
lem was, when I looked at road signs and howled at the moon at night, I
saw two of everything. At first glimpse, my vision was correct. But the
problem was, it was like a big brother looking after a little brother situa-
tion. My good eye was making up for my lagging eye and obscuring the
reality of the situation. One eye was wandering while the other was re-
main ing diligent—staying the course, if you will. This steadfast alle-
giance was so resolved it slipped past the initial examination. However,
when all the powers of both eyes were cranked up, the disparity of the
two was brought to light. Most doctors would have dismissed the
fuzziness, the ambiguity to the need for time to adjust to a new prescrip-
tion. Dr. Clausen personally delved into the matter where he discovered
one eye didn’t want to cooperate with the other any more and offered a
reasonable solution. This isn’t a blind endorsement of a man that prac-
tices eye care from St. Marys, Alma, Onaga and Wamego. We’re just
saying, it’s great to know you can still get quality, personal eye care in
this area without traveling miles and wondering how you are going to get
home after the doctor has dilated your eyes with that funny orange stuff.

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Questions, comments? Contact us at: starvations@oct.net