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WKU Student Affairs, "UA12/2/1 College Heights Herald, Vol. 90, No. 2" (2014). *WKU Archives Records*. Paper 6372.

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COLLEGE HEIGHTS
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SHOOTING OCCURS OFF CAMPUS

NEWS, PAGE A3



WILD EGGS OPENS FOR BRUNCH

LIFE, PAGE B1

AUGUST 28, 2014 > WESTERN KENTUCKY UNIVERSITY > VOLUME 90, ISSUE 02

Delta Tau Delta fraternity closes

BY KAE HOLLOWAY
NEWS@WKUHERALD.COM

After 47 years on the Hill, the WKU chapter of Delta Tau Delta will close, pending further appeals in January 2015.

Their suspension went into effect on July 22 after the fraternity's Arch Chapter voted to suspend due to repeatedly poor academic performance and low membership.

"First, they were sixteenth out of 16 groups on campus academically, and their membership numbers were well below the campus average for several years," Jack Kreman, chief operating officer of Delta Tau Delta, said.

Along with not being able to operate in the name of Delta Tau Delta at WKU, Kreman said members are not allowed to meet or recruit.

Delta Tau Delta representatives will be able to go in front of the Arch Chapter and appeal to reinstate their chapter in January in Indianapolis. Current members of the group will be considered alumni in good standing as soon as a decision is made in January, but for now they are suspended members.

"If the chapter is successful, it will be returned to good standing," Kreman said. "If the chapter is unsuccessful, the charter will be withdrawn and we will work with Western Kentucky University officials to determine the best time to return to campus."

Charley Pride, director of Student Activities, said that if the fraternity is reinstated after the appeal, operations would return to normal and have no effect on Student Activities' dealings with campus Greek affairs.

"If Delt recognized them, they would operate it like it would normally be as one of our fraternity chapters," he said.

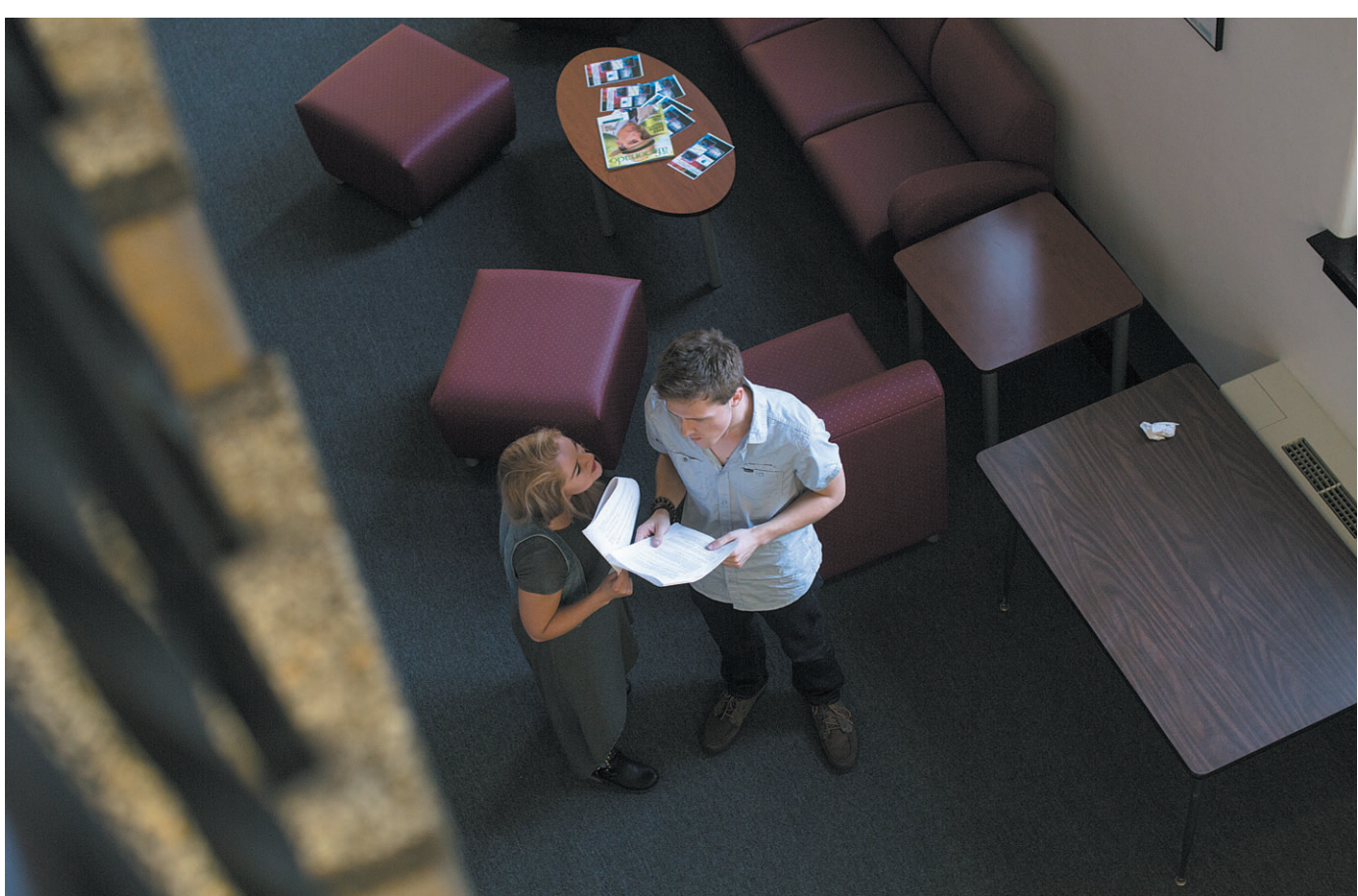
Pride said it wasn't altogether surprising that the fraternity was having issues.

"They had been having membership problems over the last couple of years," he said.

Ben Liebman, president of the Epsilon Xi chapter of Delta Tau Delta, declined to comment.

The fraternity had 12 members on the roster at the time of their closing.

They initiated more than 600 members since they first came to WKU in February of 1967.



PHOTOS BY ALYSSA POINTER/HERALD

E.B. McKinney (left), 22, of Glasgow, and Isaac Barnes, 20, of Lexington, practice for a role on the second floor lobby of Gordon Wilson Hall, before entering the audition room for call backs, with hopes of attaining a part in the upcoming play "Six Characters in Search of an Author," on Tuesday, Aug. 26.

CASTING CALL

AUDITIONS CREATE CRUCIAL FIRST WEEK FOR THEATRE MAJORS

BY MACKENZIE MATHEWS
LIFE@WKUHERALD.COM

For most students, the first week of classes will be the easiest this semester.

However, for theatre majors like Lexington senior Susan Creech, it defines everything.

To add to the stress, this is the first year the theatre department will hold auditions for all fall productions throughout the first week of school.

"For the department to function well, it's better, but a little more stressful on us," Creech said. "We are preparing SEE **MAGICAL BOOK** PAGE A2



Sarah Hall, 21, of Dawson Springs, practices a character role in the hallway outside of the audition room, at Gordon Wilson Hall for the upcoming musical "The 25th Annual Putnam County Spelling Bee" on Tuesday, Aug. 26.

Students attend special celebration in DSU

BY JESSICA VOORHEES
NEWS@WKUHERALD.COM

Students gathered early Tuesday on the first floor of the Downing Student Union for a small ceremony to celebrate the near-completion of the building's renovation.

The DSU faculty hosted the celebration, which featured giveaways and raffles from various campus organizations, such as the Academic Advising and Retention Center and the Center for Career and Professional Development. Students passed through DSU between classes to visit the booths and grab a free snack and a T-shirt. There were also tours of the renovated building.

David Emerson, associate director of Student Activities and Union Operations, said the ceremony was put on "to celebrate for our students' crowning moment."

During the event, new food options in DSU were a popular topic of discussion, including Steak 'n Shake and RedZone, which now has extended hours.

Students had varying reactions regarding DSU's opening.

Morganfield junior Riley Robinson said she feels welcome in the renovated building.

"It's a friendly environment," she



MIKE CLARK/HERALD

DSU Manager David Emerson (left), Vice President of Student Affairs Howard Bailey, Student Government Association President Nicki Seay and President Gary Ransdell cut the ceremonial ribbon during the Downing Student Union opening on Tuesday, Aug. 26 in Bowling Green.

said.

Powderly sophomore Miranda Lear said the constant construction was not a welcome sight on campus and she's happy it's over.

"Students can actually see the beauty of the campus," Lear said.

President Gary Ransdell closed the

ceremony by cutting a ribbon and urging students to make DSU "the heartbeat of student life on campus."

There will be more opening ceremonies throughout the semester, including a community dedication Friday at 4:30 p.m. and a President's Circle Gala on Sept. 5.

WHAT YOU SHOULD BE READING TODAY

» **Football:** WKU faces a challenge with opening home contest against BGSU **B6**

» **Opinion:** Check out a list of the best and worst bathrooms on campus **A4**

» **Life:** Hitcents Park Plaza provides WKU students with new options **B1**

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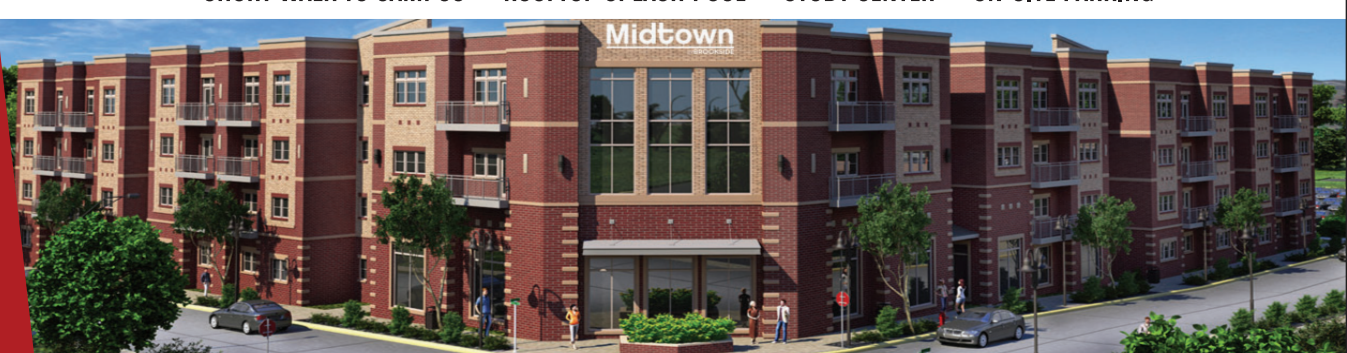
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MAGICAL BOOK

CONTINUED FROM FRONT

songs and monologues and reading multiple, different scripts."

Fall semester auditions began yesterday with "Harper and the Magical Book," "Six Characters in Search of an Author" and "The 25th Annual Putnam County Spelling Bee."

Creech will be trying her hand at directing later this semester, so her audition for "Six Characters" holds her final chance to perform before graduation. The pressure to perform at her best will arise upon entering the audition room, then the nerves will set in, she said.

"There's the unknown – you're just waiting for answers, for someone to tell you what your semester is going to look like," she said.

Theatre is a major built on participation, so there is the added concern to get involved in shows in order to contribute to the department. Productions also help create bonds between students and professors.

The timing was not the only change to hit the auditions. Two new professors entered the scene to shake up some dynamics. Bradley Vieth and Julie Barber saw students perform for the first time Monday night during musical auditions, creating a completely equal playing field.

Mayfield senior Julia Badger finds the audition process helpful before stepping outside college.

"They're nerve-wracking to me, but I feel like they're very fair here," she said. "In the real world, you could get (type) casted and kicked out immediately, but here it's about developing your talent."

The preparation needed for auditions largely depends on the show, but most theatre majors are accustomed to preparing a monologue or song prepared.

Playwright Anna Lee McFadden, a Nashville senior, planned fun auditions for the children's show, "Harper and the Magical Book."

"It will consist of improvisation and cold readings to see actors' energy compared to the show's," she said.

Energy will be necessary for a show about a magical book that enlivens its



Students quietly read over the "Six Characters in Search of an Author" script in the hallway of Gordon Wilson Hall before auditioning in front of a panel on Monday, Aug. 25.

characters when read aloud.

"It's really about supporting children's literacy, but also finding yourself in difficult situations," McFadden said.

The main stage shows: "Six Characters" and "Spelling Bee" required more work.

The former revolves around a fictional cast trying to prepare a show, when they are interrupted by six characters from an unfinished play. The latter focuses on an adolescent spelling bee and the hilarity it provokes.

Each production put on by the department offers opportunities for the multitude of theatre students, but they all have to start with auditions.

"There's so many people and so little parts in just one play, so having a straight play, a musical and the children shows really help," Badger said. "It's great because if I don't make it in these shows, there will be others."

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SGA officials prepare for new year

BY AARON MUDD AND TREY CRUMBIE
NEWS@WKUHERALD.COM

As students return from summer break, officers in the Student Government Association are settling into their new positions, including Crofton senior Nicki Seay, who is beginning her first semester as SGA president.

Seay said her job involves two roles — leading SGA and coming up with ideas and initiatives, but also representing WKU students. “But outside of SGA, many administrators here on campus see me as the, you know, the official voice of the student body,” Seay said.

As president, Seay works with Administrative Vice President Liz Koehler and Executive Vice President Nolan Miles.

Seay said her first priority is encouraging student involvement on campus and improving student life. Seay also wants to help

students stay at WKU and achieve their graduation goals.

“One of our specific ways that we’re doing that is we are expanding our summer and winter term need-based scholarship program,” she said.

This year SGA increased the scholarship program from last year’s \$6,000 to \$21,000 because of an anonymous donation, Koehler said.

Koehler, who is responsible for tracking SGA’s spending and budget, said she also values student involvement on campus.

“I think when students get more involved on campus that helps make their grades better and they’re more likely to stay on campus, which will help, in the overall, our retention rates,” she said.

Miles also wants to encourage student involvement in WKU’s student-led organizations, which he said have been lacking promotion.

A part of Miles’ role is finding people to serve on various university

committees that deal with different aspects of WKU.

“These are committees that the student government has a voice on to represent the student body,” Miles said.

In the past, SGA has had problems with attendance. SGA’s policy has been to bring up senators who have missed three meetings for judicial review. If that senator doesn’t have a good excuse, he or she may face consequences. Enforcement of that policy would be up to SGA’s chief justice, Seay said.

Seay also said she wants to make SGA a worthwhile experience so senators will be more inclined to attend meetings, by making sure they feel valued.

“Me and a couple of the other executive members do agree that we’re going to make SGA an engaging and exciting place to be,” Seay said.

SGA’s first official meeting of the semester is Sept. 2.

CRIME REPORTS

• Bowling Green freshman Anton Jackson reported damage to his vehicle while in Alumni Square Garage on Aug. 25. Estimated value of damage is \$600.

• Police responded to a report of three subjects possibly breaking into cars on Aug. 25 in the Adams Street Lot. Police located three juveniles who were possibly in connection with the incident. Estimated value of damage is \$100.

LOOK ON WKUHERALD.COM FOR AN INTERACTIVE CRIME MAP

Student shot in reported burglary

BY TREY CRUMBIE
NEWS@WKUHERALD.COM

In the early hours of Monday morning, students were alerted of a burglary that occurred on the 1300 block of High Street near campus.

Ronnie Ward, public information officer for the Bowling Green Police Department, said officers were alerted of the burglary at 1:38 a.m.

The WKU alerts were sent around 2 a.m. Although the two text alerts mentioned a burglary where the suspects were armed with handguns, the more explicit information of what had happened wouldn’t be revealed until later.

Ward said six men were living in the house, where the suspects demanded money from them. When police arrived, the suspects were gone.

Bob Skipper, director of Media Relations, confirmed that the men were students.

One of the students, Bowling Green

junior Spencer Renfro, was shot and air lifted to Vanderbilt University for medical care. At least two other students suffered minor injuries.

Ward did not know the exact condition of the victim, but said he was alive as of Aug. 27.

Ward said the suspects were described as four males with masks or bandanas over their faces. They fled the home in a dark colored sedan.

Ward said it was unknown if the suspects took anything in the burglary as of Aug. 26.

Capt. Dominic Ossello of the WKU Police Department, said WKUPD was not involved in the investigation because their main area of concern is WKU’s campus.

Despite this, WKUPD has jurisdiction throughout Warren County, and is still aware of a crime that occurs off campus, Ossello said.

“We’re all interconnected through communications,” he said.

NEW STOP ADDED TO GREEN LINE

BY TREY CRUMBIE
NEWS@WKUHERALD.COM

There are several new changes to the Topper Transit service.

Jennifer Tougas, director of Parking and Transportation, said a temporary stop was added to the Green Line—the Priceless IGA on Scottsville Road.

Tougas said the stop was added due to request from students.

The White Line also stops at Campus Evolution Villages, while the Red Line has a stop at The Columns.

Tougas said the new stops were added for student convenience.

“(To) make it easier for people to get to and from campus,” Tougas said.

Last semester, due to the loss of about 500 parking spaces over the last two years, several changes were made to both parking and the Topper Transit services. Changes include new transit stops and re-zoned parking lots.

Tougas said that about 4,900 people used the Topper Transit Service

IMPORTANT BUS STOPS

Green Line: Priceless IGA (temporary), Big Lots, Kroger, Barnes & Noble, Walmart, Target and Greenwood Mall

Red Line: Alumni Square Garage, The Columns, 11th Avenue, Helm Library, Mass Media and Technology Hall

White Line: South Campus, Campus Evolution Villages, Cherry Hall, the Valley, Helm Library, Mass Media and Technology Hall

Purple Line: Pointe at Western Apartments, Daystar Village Apartments, Campus Pointe Apartments, College Suites, Overtime Sports Bar & Grill, Regents Drive and Normal Street, Chestnut Street and Ogden Drive, Tidball’s, 8th Avenue and State Street, College Street and Park Row, 13th Avenue and College Street, and Keen Hall

on Monday, the highest ridership ever for the first day of classes.

“It reflects that the new routes are working really well,” Tougas said.



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OPINION



Have an opinion? Tweet us @wkuherald or find us on Facebook at WKUHerald as well. Let us know your thoughts about the editorial, or write us with what is on your mind.

BATHROOMS OF THE HILL: RANKED AND REVIEWED



SHINERS

AUGENSTEIN ALUMNI CENTER

You haven't felt luxury until you've used this restroom. With deep sinks, wooden stall doors and TV screens embedded in the mirrors, this truly is the greatest latrine to grace WKU.

VAN METER HALL

Tucked in the corners of the auditorium entrance, these bathrooms are a spacious getaway. One could get lost in the majesty as they wander these sexy stalls.

MUSIC REHEARSAL HALL

This little-known hideaway is located above a stairwell awash with musical splendor. The timeless 'Occupied' sign on the door keeps you safe and secure as you enjoy this private retreat from choir's song.

HEALTH SERVICES BUILDING

No matter how bad you may feel when you enter this building, you'll at least feel happy once you hit the throne. Rumor has it that their toilet paper's been privatized too.

DOWNING STUDENT UNION

DSU is too fresh and too clean to hold a single ounce of filth. The bathrooms, though widely trafficked, are always clean. Their proximity to the food court offers a clean transition from food intake to close.

STINKERS

GARRETT FOOD COURT

The second you enter the narrow hallway leading to this nightmare you feel as though you are thrown into a horror film. If the dim lighting and messy floors aren't enough to keep you away, the aftermath of Home Zone's comfort food may sway you.

CHERRY HALL

Everything seems to be going surprisingly smooth in Cherry's facilities until you try to shut the stall door. To successfully lock yourself inside your chamber, one must somehow levitate above the toilet and maneuver the door shut. The graffiti is not for the faint of heart.

SNELL HALL

All the math and all the science couldn't save the Da Vinci's adjacent restroom from complete destruction everyday. Stepping inside is like entering a trap designed to stick toilet paper to your shoe.

MASS MEDIA AND TECHNOLOGY HALL

The upper floors are generally safe, but the first floor restrooms are subject to the constant pilgrimage of essay-writers, syllabi-printers and coffee-drinkers.

IVAN WILSON CENTER FOR FINE ARTS

FAC's johns are truly an adventure. The odd angled walls and broken doors are almost charming until you remember that you are lost in the maze that is FAC with only a leaky faucet to keep you alive. Keep an eye out for the comfy couch adorning a ladies room somewhere in this building.

TWEETS FROM THE HILL

@ClaytonAmy13: So President Gary Ransdell said Hey and winked at me today. I think that means I've got a guaranteed 4.0 this semester #WKU
— Sent 1:37pm · 26 Aug 2014

@corianslinger: I love when trying to find a parking spot turns into hunger games. You would kill for a spot and hope the odds are in your favor. #WKU
— Sent 12:24pm · 26 Aug 2014

@momo8212: I hoped that maybe wku would spare some money to put longer doors in the women's bathroom but that didn't happen #WKU
— Sent 2:00pm · 26 Aug 2014

@sarahbrafford12: So let me get this straight @wku...I paid \$90 for a parking permit so that MAYBE I'll get a parking spot. If I'm lucky #WKU — Sent 3:56pm · 26 Aug 2014

@JordanBean12345: I pay \$20,000 a year for hot ass classrooms #WKU #WKU18
— 10:57am · 26 Aug 2014

@Kickerson1: The "Jesus Hates You" Guy at #wku gets people so hype lol
— 5:38pm · 26 Aug 2014 ·

@JosephCrafton: literally everything at UK is better than WKU
— Sent 12:24pm · 26 Aug 2014

DRY CLEAN ONLY

Southern fashions show history, wealth



BY KAE HOLLOWAY
OPINION@WKUHERALD.COM

Just a few short days before the start of this lovely, humid semester, I was flying to a lovely, yet more humid, city in the south known as Charleston, South Carolina — although this time I don't mean 'lovely' sarcastically.

I went to Charleston with an open mind. What I learned, what I saw and what I purchased gave me a new perspective on style in the Holy City, particularly those that were preppy, touristy and unique to the city. None were styles I necessarily felt compelled to adopt daily, but it all held a deep variety and quaintness that, as my Nana said many times, would make me want to jump into an island dress and run back to this little slice of the South.

The wealthy prep
Wealthy and preppy takes on new

meaning in Charleston. Belmond Charleston Place's grand staircase leads directly to a Gucci and Louis Vuitton. That just screams wealthy.

To use a southern term, folks are crowding through museums, browsing through markets and clutching palmetto roses wearing their Sunday best every single day. Or they look like they just came from a fraternity or sorority recruitment for 40-year-olds.

The pastels of the men's Ralph Lauren polo shirts and the women's Lilly Pulitzer sun dresses pair perfectly with pastel buildings on every cobblestone street.

In Charleston, where the streets are stone instead of concrete and the buildings are bubble gum-colored instead of uniform red brick, it fits like a breeze from the Atlantic.

The tourist

The two staples to spot a tourist are immediate to pick up on. They usually have a folded up map or pamphlet of paper acting as a fan and a long maxi dress that was mistakenly packed. Charleston days are the equivalent of being in a sauna for six hours. It's beautiful and it's charming, but it is hot as hell.

Don't be the tourist in Charleston. Prepare for the heat and pack your shorter dresses, tank tops, shorts and sandals for the day. Save your long dresses for late night dinners or theater shows.

The true Charlestonian

Of course there were big, corporate chain stores. King Street was lined with historical buildings that had been

transformed into an expansive H&M and a multi-story Urban Outfitters. Gaggles of tourists lined the street to explore the stores, regardless of them being available in every major city. Just a few blocks over, however, lay a tie to the roots of old Charleston style and traditions that couldn't be found in the fluorescent lights of Forever 21.

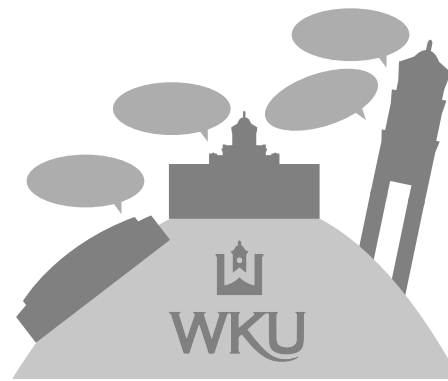
People dress with a certain ease I haven't seen in other cities. The vibrant, hand-dyed, sewn dresses, paired with accessories either weaved from palm trees or sculpted from metals and turquoise, made their southern drawls and outgoing personalities even more special.

Their easy-going presence and style make it feel as if they are about to offer you a glass of sweet tea and let you sit on the porch a spell, not try to sell you a dress similar to the one on their back, or a bracelet slightly different from the one on their wrist.

The true heart of Charleston, however, was found in the people making unique handmade baskets, jewelry, scarves and dresses, surrounded by the marble and pastel buildings and palm trees.

If you ever visit the charming and humid Holy City, go beyond the wealthy or chain storefronts and search for these unique, one of a kind little places. You'll find bracelets, dresses and more that you'll love for years, and it'll have more meaning than finding it on a clearance rack at J. Crew.

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This psychological thrill ride takes viewers deep below Parisian streets. Read more in our review on Tuesday, Sept. 2.



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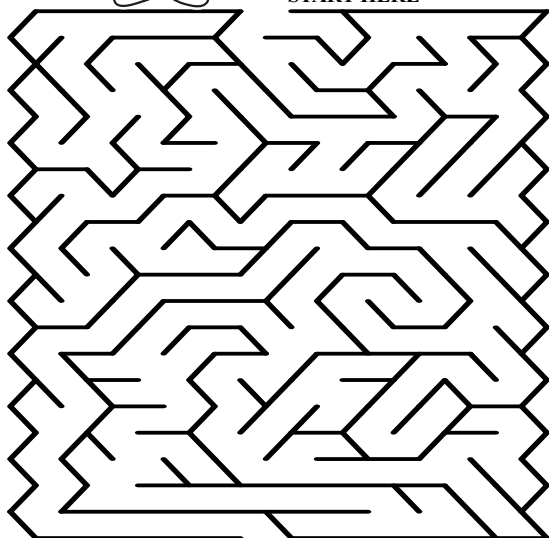
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 PHOTO

HARRISON HILL/HERALD

President Gary Ransdell participates in the ALS Ice Bucket Challenge in front of Guthrie Bell Tower on Friday, Aug. 22. Amyotrophic lateral sclerosis, also known as Lou Gehrig's Disease, is a neurodegenerative disorder.

AN ICY BLAST



WILLIAM KOLB/HERALD

ABOVE: Members of the coed honors fraternity Phi Sigma Pi participate in the ALS Ice Bucket Challenge on Monday, Aug. 25, after being nominated by Eastern Tennessee State University's Epsilon Xi chapter.

WILLIAM KOLB/HERALD

RIGHT: From left: Potter College of Arts and Letters Dean David Lee, Ogden College of Science and Engineering Dean Cheryl Stevens and Gordon Ford College of Business Dean Jeffrey Katz participate in the ALS Ice Bucket Challenge after being nominated by Provost Gordon Emslie.



MIKE CLARK/HERALD

WKU football Head Coach Jeff Brohm participates in the ALS Ice Bucket Challenge with help from senior linebacker Terran Williams, right.



EGGS GONE WILD

Wild Eggs makes brunch upscale

BY KIERSTIN KIRK
LIFE@WKUHERALD.COM

Angela Reeves, a WKU alumna and Bowling Green native, always knew she wanted to be in the restaurant business.

"I worked as a server...during college and graduate school and loved it," Reeves said. "I grew so passionate about the industry and knew long term that's where I wanted to be."

The opening of Wild Eggs, a new breakfast, brunch and lunch restaurant on Campbell Lane, allowed Reeves to finally enter the industry as general manager of the restaurant, along with close friend and "eggsecutive" chef Andy Henderson.

The two worked together at Mariah's while Reeves attended college. There, they talked about how they wanted to emerge into the restaurant business together and decided that Bowling Green should be introduced to the
SEE **WILD EGGS** PAGE B2



PHOTOS BY ALYSSA POINTER/HERALD

TOP: Kalamity Katie's Border Benedict from Wild Eggs.

ABOVE: Wild Eggs opened at 804 Campbell Lane, Suite 100 on June 21.

REVIEW
HOW DO YOU LIKE YOUR EGGS?

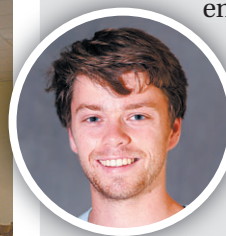
BY JOHN GREER
OPINION@WKUHERALD.COM

Amid a glut of similar diner-style breakfast joints, the recently opened Wild Eggs provides Bowling Green patrons with a uniquely satisfying morning and early afternoon option.

It's immediately apparent upon entering Wild Eggs that the décor loyally adheres to the restaurant's name. Adorning the muted, pastel walls of the restaurant are stark close-ups of playfully arranged eggs.

Most of the restaurant's interior design focuses on this iconic oval shape. This ranges from the cascade of multicolored eggs encased in glass to the egg-shaped salt and pepper shakers that sit on every table.

One look at the menu also
SEE **REVIEW** PAGE B2



Hitcents Plaza offers taste of old, new

BY TYLER ANDERSON
LIFE@WKUHERALD.COM

Bowling Green is home to a multitude of dining destinations. From Japanese cuisine to American classics and Italian treats, restaurants dot the streets. The new Hitcents Park Plaza seeks to stand out from these, offering a selection of five restaurants which aim to keep customers coming back for food and fun.

The plaza opened in April of this year at the corner of E. 8th Avenue and College Street, directly across from SKyPAC and Hotrods Stadium. The construction is part of a revitalization effort of the Bowling Green downtown district, which has lost traffic due to major developments along Campbell Lane and Scottsville Road.

Offerings at the plaza include the Pagoda Asian Café, Tres Molinos Mexican Grille, Brick and Basil pizzeria and 643, a bar and grill experience.

MR Group, the owners and operators of Hitcents Park Plaza, also brought an established Bowling Green eatery into the mix.

Mariah's Restaurant has been part of the downtown landscape for more than three decades. It was moved from a historic brick building on State Street, just a block away from its new venue in the plaza.

Jodi Fleming is currently the general manager of all five restaurants housed in the plaza, and was previously the general manager at Mariah's for 32 years.

Fleming said as far as business is
SEE **HITCENTS** PAGE B2



JEFF BROWN/HERALD

Customers eat dinner outside of Mariah's on Tuesday, Aug. 26 at Hitcents Park Plaza.

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Novo Dolce offers unique environment

BY STEPHANIE JESSIE
LIFE@WKUHERALD.COM

Around the corner from Riley's Bakery, hidden behind Penn Station, is a little piece of New York City, transplanted into Bowling Green.

Novo Dolce Gastro Pub is a place described by co-owner Jake Petrovic and general manager Jenny Van Buren as "modern", "relaxing" and, ultimately, "fine-dining in a bar atmosphere."

The modern-industrial style pub was started in May 2012 by Petrovic and co-owner and head chef Sasa Mandrapa as a basic sandwich and

espresso shop off Old Morgantown Road. The pub made its move to the new, larger location off 31-W in April, adding a full-service kitchen and bar.

"On this side of town, there are no restaurants, no bars," Petrovic said. "Everyone has to go to the other side of town. This is like a neighborhood bar."

The idea behind a gastro pub is giving the customer a chance to enjoy fine-dining with a laid-back, bar atmosphere. Petrovic said gastro pubs originated in London in the early '90s and have become popular in cities like New York and Miami.

"It is a true gastro pub," Dan Chaney, WKU project manager and

Novo Dolce enthusiast, said. "That phrase gets tossed around a lot, but this is real."

Van Buren said that Novo Dolce is introducing something new to Bowling Green.

"We wanted to do something that not everybody has. Something that you can eat every day, but is different," Van Buren said.

The menu includes a variety of pastas, burgers, coffees and homemade gelato daily. Specials are posted on the pub's Instagram, @novodolcegastropub, daily.

"The food is spot on, there is a great drink selection...it doesn't even feel

like Bowling Green," Chaney said.

Specials are chosen weekly based on what's available at local farms and markets.

"It's cool because we'll get different things based on what the farmers have that week or what's in season," Van Buren said. "Our chefs get to be creative in deciding our specials for the week."

The full, regular menu and hours can be found on www.novodolce.com, along with connection links for Facebook and Instagram.

"It's the food, it's the atmosphere, it's the ambience," Petrovic said. "That brings people back."

WILD EGGS

CONTINUED FROM LIFE

concept of a "gourmet dining experience at the breakfast and lunch hours."

Henderson has always been interested in the concept of breakfast, so when Reeves mentioned the idea to Henderson, he couldn't help but get "eggcited."

"It's not just the food that gets me, it's the cloth napkin, the 'real' silverware and china...and the smiles you get from the staff as they deliver a dining experience you wouldn't get anywhere else at 7 a.m.," Henderson said.

The goal of the restaurant is to ensure guests receive the same dining environment that they would experience at an upscale restaurant, but for less.

Prices usually range from \$10 to \$12 for meals, but there are also prices as low as \$5. Reeves described the atmosphere of the restaurant as a fun, lively environment, with good music and bright decor.

"The main attraction is the opportunity to give the guest an enlightening

way to start their day," Henderson said.

Reeves said she and Henderson would like to see both parking and kitchen prep space expanded, but Reeves believes the main improvements will come through further training and more time with open doors and filled seats.

"We have a wonderful program and training team, but it's been a big learning curve for us all starting from the ground up," Reeves said.

The team isn't settling down in Bowling Green and plans on expanding in the future. They want to branch out and have been looking to open in neighboring cities such as Owensboro, Nashville and Elizabethtown. They plan to expand fairly quickly. There are currently four Wild Eggs locations in Louisville and one in Lexington, not run by Reeves and Henderson.

"I had no doubt Wild Eggs would go over well in Bowling Green, but was very moderate with projections for our business plan," Reeves said. "So far we have greatly exceeded expectations."

HITCENTS

CONTINUED FROM LIFE

concerned, "most of the restaurants are meeting expectations, with one or two falling a bit short."

Mariah's, despite many Bowling Green residents opposing its relocation, is among those that are meeting business expectations.

"Our facilities now allow us to handle even larger crowds," Fleming said. "We can seat more people, our banquet facilities are larger and there's great outdoor seating."

Pagoda Asian Café, an Asian cuisine restaurant, has become a favorite lunch destination for Tompkinsville WKU graduate Alisha Martin.

Martin said that while WKU has recently updated their food offerings on campus, students should "venture out and enjoy what the city has to offer."

When visiting her sister on campus, Martin makes it a point to stop at Pagoda. She said the restaurant eas-

ily has some of the best Asian food in Bowling Green.

"I wish that we'd had somewhere like this on campus when I went there," Martin said.

But the plaza is not home to restaurants only. It also features a multi-story car garage, and office spaces are currently being leased.

Trivia nights, cornhole tournaments and concerts provide entertainment for those walking or dining in the plaza. Prospective customers can find information about future activities on the plaza's recently-launched website.

Fleming said she and her coworkers also use social media to keep customers updated about daily specials and events. It's part of their plan to strike repeat business.

A grand opening ceremony will take place on Sept. 8, with festivities and special events throughout the day.

"We want to get the community involved," Fleming said.

REVIEW

CONTINUED FROM LIFE

underscores the theme. While Wild Eggs serves breakfast staples like biscuits, gravy, oatmeal and pancakes, it also offers more amusing and inventive egg-based dishes that draw inspiration from international cuisines.

The food succeeds in rising to the expectations of the upscale décor and

enticing menu.

Because of the difficulty involved in poaching eggs and making hollandaise sauce, the eggs Benedict is one of the hardest dishes to perfect in the breakfast kitchen. It represents a good test of Wild Egg's culinary quality.

The Kalamity Katie's Border Benedict consists of chorizo-topped, green-chili-cheddar corn cakes, two

poached eggs, queso fundido, pico de gallo, sour cream, green onions, avocado and a side of skillet potatoes.

As with any eggs Benedict, the richness of the runny yolks shine through, but the overarching theme is balance.

The corn cakes' sweetness contrasts nicely with the spicy layer of chorizo sausage laid overtop. The bright acidity of the pico de gallo prevents the fat-

tiness of the yolks and queso fundido from overwhelming the dish.

The only minor misstep can be found with the potatoes. While flavorful, they failed to provide the crispy textural component that could have lifted the meal to greater heights.

Fortunately, Wild Eggs more than ably fills Bowling Green's upscale breakfast and brunch void. The food justifies repeat visits.

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WKUHERALD.COM

Husband and wife start garden program for special needs adults

BY ANNA LAWSON
LIFE@WKUHERALD.COM

Bill Greer and his wife, Carol, have always been involved in their daughter's life. While she participated in Special Olympics, they saw her reach her fullest potential, make new friends and learn new skills. However, when they would go home, they noticed that she didn't have as many opportunities as she wanted.

Together, the Greers created a solution for their daughter and many other special needs adults just like her. They have organized Top Crops, a community garden for special needs adults. The duo thought of the idea as a way to offer an opportunity for these adults to show off their skills and learn something new.

"The garden is all about learning. They learn about gardening and responsibility. They go out and harvest Friday then sell the vegetables and herbs on Saturday," Bill Greer said. "They are learning how to garden, and they are selling a product that leads to better health for the community."

Top Crops has been around for about a year now, but it took almost two to get it organized and running.

"It started out as lots of small conversations," Bill Greer said. "Then we took the simple idea and made it better and better."

The special needs adults in the program work hands-on by preparing soil, planting seeds, growing the plants and then selling the plants in farmers markets. The garden is located on the WKU farm on Nashville Road.

Top Crops sells their produce on Saturdays from 8 a.m. to 1 p.m. at the Community Farmers Market on Nashville Road. They also have a Facebook page available for the public who want to be involved.



WILLIAM KOLB/HERALD

Top Crops co-founder Carol Greer lends a helping hand to her daughter, Ginna, 21, while watering plants at the WKU Farm. Ginna and other participants with disabilities frequently visit the farm to water and weed plants, pick fruits and vegetables and gain practical life skills by selling crops at the Bowling Green Community Farmers Market.

The Greers make it a top priority that the special needs adults are interacting with the community and that the garden benefits the community in many ways.

"The community gets to be around people who may have challenges but don't let their challenges stop them from doing their best and accomplishing their goals," Bill Greer said.

Alex Embry, a 25-year-old with Down Syndrome, has been working with Top Crops for about a year. His father, Rod Embry, has been able to watch his son grow through the program.

"He enjoys being with friends and other people," Rod Embry said. "He likes being with people who have a common goal."

Rod and Alex Embry have a special connection to the crops they grow.

"One of my favorite memories was when we brought crops home and cooked them in our meals," Rod Embry said. "Seeing the plants grown and using them at home was really great."

He hopes to see Top Crops grow and get more people involved, both in the planning and in the growing.

"There is a high level of work involved in the planning and preparation. Having more people would reduce some burden that is on the Greers," he said.

Bill Greer hopes to see Top Crops grow and incorporate more special needs adults.

"Students who are studying nutrition could come in and teach a class. Students who are majoring in special education could get some hands-on experience," he said.

At the beginning, the Greers wanted to keep it small to work out any problems.

"I would love to start selling to local restaurants. However, I want it to stay focused on being a learning environment," Bill Greer said. "It's all about helping them be the best they can be. They remind us that everyone is capable and that the community isn't just folks around our neighborhood; it is all of us."

Farmers markets provide city with homegrown options

BY WHITNEY ALLEN
LIFE@WKUHERALD.COM

Over the past five years, Bowling Green and other cities around the world have experienced a boom in farmers markets. Now that WKU students are back for fall, those local markets are feeling the boom as well.

Currently, there are three farmers markets in Bowling Green and 147 markets in Kentucky. In addition to these, there are countless roadside stands.

Joe O'Daniel, a local farmer, sells his produce at Southern Kentucky Farmers Market (SKY) in Bowling Green. O'Daniel grows produce and raises livestock on his 116-acre farm in Warren County.

Although O'Daniel always knew he wanted to be a farmer, that isn't where his career began. O'Daniel helped tend his family garden as a child, which sprouted into a passion for farming.

"All my uncles on my dad's side farmed," O'Daniel said. "I grew up in the farming community and everybody was farming around me."

Now instead of being surrounded by farming family members, O'Daniel sells his produce alongside local farmers at the SKY Farmers Market, located at the Medical Center.

Like some of his customers, O'Daniel was once a student at WKU, where he earned horticulture and business degrees. O'Daniel purchased his farm in 1987, but he continued working at a local factory and eventually made the transition to full-time farming in 2000.

As O'Daniel's experience as a full-time farmer has developed, so has the local food scene. Martin Stone, an associate professor of agriculture at WKU and a founder of Community Farmers Market, said the type of consumers in the market have changed in recent years.

"What we see at our market is a bunch of university students and young couples," Stone said. "It never used to be that way. It used to only be people with expendable income."

O'Daniel and other farmers in the area are gearing up for fall crops and markets.

In terms of produce, there will be no shortage in selection this fall, said Community Farmers Market vendor, Gary Robbins.

"You can get anything you want," Robbins said.

Community Farmers Market is open year round on Tuesdays from 2 to 6 p.m. and on Saturdays from 8 a.m. to 1 p.m. on Nashville Road. **SKY** is located on the corner of Chestnut Street and the 31W Bypass on Tuesdays from 7 a.m. to 1 p.m. and at The Medical Center on Saturdays from 7 a.m. to noon. **The Warren County Farmers Market** is located in front of Hobby Lobby on Tuesdays, Thursdays and Saturdays from 6 a.m. to 1 p.m.



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THE **WKU** Store

Stewart: WKU in "great shape" entering Conference USA

BY KYLE WILLIAMS
SPORTS@WKUHERALD.COM

After 32 years and 133 total championships in the Sun Belt Conference, WKU has finally begun its first sports calendar year as a member of the Conference USA.

Conference realignment brings with it many benefits, but it can also be a challenge for evolving athletic programs in terms of competition. However, WKU Athletic Director Todd Stewart said that since several of the department's goals have been stabilized in recent years, the Hilltoppers will enter C-USA with some momentum.

"We're in great shape for a number of reasons," Stewart said. "All of our goals fall under one of three areas and right now I think we're really strong in all three of those. Certainly one is to win. We're in the business of college athletics and they keep score at the games, and if they keep score we want

to win it." Success hasn't come easy, but it has come often in particular sports for the Hilltoppers in recent years. WKU captured the Bubas Cup last season, which is given annually to the Sun Belt school that allots the most points based on its performance throughout the athletic year.

The school has won the honor six times, but last year was the first since 2008. Ten WKU programs finished in the top three of the Sun Belt league standings in 2013-2014.

"That speaks, I think, to the depth of our athletic department," Stewart said. "You don't win it by just being strong in one or two sports. So that, coupled with the conference championships that we've won, are (sic.) good."

Stewart said the second aspect of the department's three-pronged, goal-setting approach is academic success. That goal, per Stewart, has

been strengthened due to the current 75 percent graduation rate for WKU student-athletes, which is roughly 25 percent higher than the university's overall rate.

"The credit for that goes to our coaches for demanding that and recruiting true student athletes and our athletes for having the discipline and the dedication in the classroom," Stewart said. "It matters for them to fulfill the obligations associated with that."

Last, but certainly not least, is athletic community service. WKU student athletes, coaches and staff are given the opportunity to impact numerous organizations through the Hilltoppers with Heart community service program, which began in 2011 and has grown ever since.

"Three years ago we had 500 hours of community service," Stewart said. "Two years ago we had 750 hours, and this year we had about 1,200 hours

of community service and I certainly anticipate that growing every year."

If WKU does hit the ground running in its new conference, the benefits will come in abundance. Television exposure, revenue totals, overall relevance and postseason opportunities will undoubtedly increase as a member of the C-USA.

The Hilltoppers will also welcome the opportunity to rekindle rivalries with old foes such as Middle Tennessee, Marshall, UAB, Charlotte, Old Dominion, Southern Miss and L.A. Tech. while beginning new bouts with schools like Rice and UTEP.

"You're known by the company you keep," Stewart said. "...I really feel, and all of us feel, the schools that we will



Todd Stewart

now start playing on a regular basis are ones that our fans will identify with much better than they did many of the Sun Belt schools. My expectation is that brings energy and excitement to our venues greater than what we've had."

Before the Hilltoppers can fully reap the benefits of their new digs, they have to compete, and according to Stewart, he believes they'll waste no time in doing that.

"I wouldn't expect us to take a step back," Stewart said. "I would expect us, and our coaches feel the same way, to compete favorably and successfully in all of our sports. The level of competition, particularly in some sports, will be more difficult, but again I think, based on the leadership we have in place right now with our coaches, we're prepared for that. I would expect us to have a bigger impact in Conference USA than we even had in the Sun Belt."

SIDELINES

CONTINUED FROM SPORTS

newcomers is overwhelming, but I wake up every day excited to get back in here because this is a group that every day, light bulbs are going to come on."

Part of the formula to Hudson's success has been his ability to understand and read the cards he's dealt, and right now, he knows he doesn't have as many aces in the hole just yet.

Five freshmen — Jessica Lucas, Jackie Scott, Sydney Engle, Amara Listenbee and Alyssa Cavanaugh — are the youth highlighting this Lady Topper team that replaces the five seniors from the 2013 class that featured a list of school record holders.

Ashley Potts holds the all-time digs record with 1,879 digs and won three-straight Sun Belt Conference Defensive Player of the Year awards. Melanie Stutsman is WKU's all-time assists leader with 5,294 assists. Paige Wessel is second in school history in hitting-percentage (.367).

Those people are gone. Only two seniors outline the squad this season, middle hitter Heather Boyan and defensive specialist Mollie Pajakowski.

Junior middle hitter Noelle Langenkamp has been selected as the Conference USA Preseason Player of the Year.

Those Lady Toppers are the leaders of this team, but five freshmen make this one of Hudson's most challenging of his 20 years.

"If we come out of the gate on fire it wouldn't surprise me. If it takes us three or four weeks to figure some things out, it wouldn't surprise me," Hudson said.

"What I want is for them to almost embrace the fact that things are going to go wrong. It's going to happen. There's no way around it. I don't want

them to be shaken by that, I don't want them to be surprised about that."

Boyan has been in the same shoes these five freshmen stand in. Hudson said he and Boyan discussed not long ago about how far her career had come since her freshman year. Boyan played in 41 sets as a freshman. Her next season, she was named Second-Team All-Sun Belt Conference.

"It's weird that it's gone this fast and here I am in the last season," Boyan said. "We definitely have a lot of talent this year. We might have a young team, but I think we have a lot of potential to go far and do big things."

"You have five people coming in and they don't know the culture of our program and what we do here. It puts more pressure on the upperclassmen to make sure we set that example to let them know how we do things here."

The Lady Toppers were humbled after last season's end in the first round of the Sun Belt Tournament in which they were expected to repeat as champions bound for a third-straight NCAA Tournament appearance.

WKU volleyball has earned respect across the country as a strong program. Now they're looking to earn respect once again in Conference USA.

For the first time in a while, Hudson's Lady Toppers will consider themselves the 13th best team out of 13 competitors in the league.

"We've never played a part of this league and we don't want anything given to us as a part of this league," Hudson said. "We'll start at No. 13 and see how far we can work our way up throughout this season and figure out where we land at the end."

"It's a when, not if, with this group. This is going to be a really good team. How long that will take remains to be seen."

BRIEF: WKU TENNIS ADDS TWO SIGNEES FOR 2014-2015

WKU first-year women's tennis Head Coach Jonatan Berhane announced Wednesday the signing of two new Lady Toppers, Tereza Hejlova and Cassie Pennington, to the 2014-2015 roster.

Hejlova has had a successful career in her home country, the Czech Republic, holding a top national ranking. Her career-high ranking in the Women's Tennis Association is 1140, and she's notched victories over the No. 465 ranked player in the world at the time, Ysaline Bonaventure, and the No. 22 ranked player in the under-18 division, Viktoria Malova.

Pennington hails from Greenwood High School in Bowling Green. She's captured the Region 4 title in five consecutive years and has made it to the quarterfinals of the Kentucky State Tournament.

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CROSS COUNTRY

Cross country set to open season in Nashville

BY ALEXUS RICHARDSON
SPORTS@WKUHERALD.COM

On Friday, the WKU men's and women's cross-country teams will be packing their bags for Nashville, where they'll be competing in the Belmont Opener for the start of the 2014-2015 season.

Both teams will be racing at Percy Warner Park for the second consecutive year. The race will be classified as a regular season bout, but the distances will be shorter in comparison.

Head Coach Erik Jenkins said the opener will give the team a decent gauge as to where they are and what they need to be working on.

"You can go all out and try to be the Belmont champion, but it doesn't mean anything if you're not the Conference

USA champion later on down the road," Jenkins said. "So it's a constant building process. We want to go out and have a good showing and keep building towards the ultimate goal, which is to win championships and advance people to the NCAAs, but you need these meets to build the strength and stamina and also, the race patterns, to be successful."

Many of the returnees from last year, including Katie Lever, are confident they won't disappoint in the opener, which was also the case a season ago.

"The bar was set so high last year that there's no excuse to not reach them this year and exceed them, really," Lever said.

There will be a lot of new faces competing for both the

women and men. However, sophomore Peter Agaba, who was the second-best freshman in the conference championship last year and finished in the top-10, is returning. Senior Sean Hurd, who was injured last season, and senior David Mokone, who placed fifth in the opener last season, are also returning.

Some of the teams competing on Friday include Purdue, Murray State, Vanderbilt, Tennessee State, Belmont and other regional teams. The women's race will start at 5:30 p.m. CDT and the men's will start at 6:30 p.m. CDT.

"Everybody is competing, we're just going to go out and race to the best of our ability," Jenkins said. "At that time, we will work to being ready in November."



LUKE FRANKE/HERALD

WKU sophomore cross country runners Baylee Shofner and Taylor Carlin compete in the Vanderbilt Commodore Classic on Sept. 14, 2013.

FOR TOPPER SPORTS NEWS GO TO WKUHERALD.COM

FOOTBALL

CONTINUED FROM SPORTS

First-year Head Coach Dino Babers, who tallied a 12-2 record and a No. 2 national FCS ranking at Eastern Illinois last season, leads BGSU this year. Babers spent four seasons at Baylor prior to his stop at EIU, thus making him known for his up-tempo style of play.

EIU ran the Baylor-style offense under Babers and finished last season with the best offense in the FCS. The Panthers averaged 589.5 yards per game and 48.2 points per game, leading the FCS in both categories. Babers' defensive units also ranked top 30 in scoring defense, red zone defense and passing defense efficiency in 2013.

In two years with Babers as his head coach, EIU quarterback Jimmy Garoppolo threw for 8,873 yards and 84 touchdowns. Last season, Garoppolo was named the Walter Payton Award winner, which is virtually the FCS' Heisman Trophy.

Thomas, who ranked top 20 nationally last season with 15 passes defended

and five interceptions for the Hilltoppers last season, said WKU has known what to expect from its first opponent.

"We've been definitely keeping up the tempo on offense," Thomas said. "Making sure that we stay up-tempo and make sure that the pace is fast because we know our opponent is going to have a fast-paced offense. We've been doing a lot of conditioning to get our bodies in shape, especially the young guys getting acclimated into our scheme."

Brohm said the Hilltoppers have worked on tempo throughout the spring, summer and fall, and added that the team just needs to line up correctly and get the plays in before BGSU has a chance to catch them off guard.

With such a formidable opponent between WKU and its first win in its inaugural Conference USA season, Brohm wasn't bashful when asked how significant a victory would be.

"It would be a huge win for us - without question," Brohm said. "We're, like everyone else, going to take one game at a time, but this is a very good opponent...it's going to be a test."

GAMEDAY

CONTINUED FROM SPORTS

any age. "TopperTown" is free of charge and will open exactly three hours prior to kickoff. It will be located across the street from Downing Student Union in front of Parking Structure 2.

The WKU gameday app is free of charge and will allow Hilltopper fans to connect with the team before, during and after the game. The app has several features, which include live audio, real-time Instagram and Twitter feeds from teams and fans, gameday guides, which include all necessary information regarding the game, stadium and parking maps, live conference and top-25 scores and stats, and even weather alerts.

"This (app) is really geared towards the gameday. It will include football, both basketballs and baseball," Michael Schroeder, Assistant Athletic Director for Communications, said.

"When fans are coming to the game or even inside the game, this is going to be a valuable way to find out where they need to go and find important information."

The food and beverage stands also received upgrades, made possible by on-campus hospitality provider, Centerplate. As a result, many new options are available to fans, including several local favorites: Moonlite Bar-B-Q, Steamer Seafood, Chop Shop burgers, steak po-boy, Philly cheesesteak, soft tacos and "Topper" fries.

"We are pleased to offer these new options for fans so when they come to campus for gameday this year, there is a sense of newness and freshness with everything they do from when they step on campus to when the game ends," Schroeder said. "We really think when people walk away from the game they will say, 'This is something I can't get anywhere else right now.'"

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SPORTS



» Pick up a Topper Extra tomorrow for extensive Hilltopper football coverage leading up to Friday's game.

SIDELINES

Lady Topper volleyball embraces youth

BY ELLIOTT PRATT
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I was three years old when Travis Hudson began coaching volleyball at WKU.

That's crazy to think about, but what's crazier is that five of Hudson's newest players were either born the same year he began coaching or didn't yet exist on this earth.

When you've coached that long at one place you're doing something right. Hudson's formula, for the majority of his career, has been right.

When you're entering your 20th season of coaching, you get tired. Hudson, in all his success in bringing the Lady Toppers to the top 25 the past three seasons, admits he is tired.

"It's hard for me to explain to people how I feel going into this one because I am truly exhausted," Hudson said. "The amount of work with that many

SEE SIDELINES PAGE B4

WKU announces gameday enhancements

BY BILLY RUTLEDGE
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The switch from the Sun Belt Conference to Conference USA isn't the only change fans will notice this Friday when WKU takes on Bowling Green State at 6:30 p.m. in Smith Stadium.

Monday, the WKU athletics department announced enhanced football gameday plans for the 2014 season, which include family fun with "TopperTown," new dining options, new tailgating zones and a new gameday application for smartphones.

A children's play area called "TopperTown" will return this fall, featuring inflatables, balloon artistry, face painting and other games for kids of

SEE GAMEDAY PAGE B5

FOOTBALL

NOTHING EASY



MIKE CLARK/HERALD

Freshman linebacker Masai Whyte grabs a tackling dummy during football practice on Tuesday, Aug. 26 at Smith Stadium.

TOUGH TASK AHEAD OF TOPPERS IN SEASON OPENER

BY KYLE WILLIAMS
SPORTS@WKUHERALD.COM

During WKU football's Monday morning press conference, redshirt senior defensive back Cam Thomas said the team's goal this season is to run the table, making a win against Bowling Green State University on Friday its first priority.

With a new conference, a new head coach, a new field and new game day attractions, it's hard not to share Thomas' excitement about the upcoming football season. However, the Hilltoppers' first test won't be a walk in the park.

The Falcons are coming off a 10-4 season that yielded a Mid-American Conference Championship.

BGSU returns 16 starters – eight on offense, six on defense and two from special teams.

"This first one we're playing is an outstanding opponent," Head Coach Jeff Brohm said. "They've proven themselves last year, they have a lot of people coming back, and they're a very senior-laden team, especially on defense. Also, their quarterback and running back is back. Of course, they're picked to finish first in the conference, so it'll be a great test for us. But that's what it's all about. That's why you play the game."

Redshirt juniors Matt Johnson and Travis Greene, BGSU's starting quarterback and running back from a season ago, highlight the returners on offense.

Johnson allotted 3,467 passing yards and 25 touchdowns last year

while completing 64.2 percent of his passes and tossing just seven interceptions.

Greene rushed for a single-season program record 1,594 yards for 11 touchdowns and also hauled in 18 receptions and two receiving scores.

The Falcons led the MAC in rushing defense, passing defense and scoring defense a season ago and return two all-MAC performers at the linebacker position in redshirt seniors D.J. Lynch and Gabe Martin.

Lynch, an outside linebacker, led the team with 85 tackles a season ago, eight for a loss. He also added two sacks and a fumble recovery. Martin, despite playing in only seven games, earned all-MAC honors and recorded 36 tackles and two sacks.

SEE FOOTBALL PAGE B5

VOLLEYBALL

Lady Tops open season with UNLV Invite this weekend

BY JONAH PHILLIPS
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The Lady Topper volleyball team will kick off its inaugural season in the Conference USA this Friday in Las Vegas with a weekend full of non-conference play at the UNLV invitational.

WKU opens the weekend against UC Riverside at 3:30 p.m. CDT.

For five out of the 12 Lady Toppers on the roster, this will be their first collegiate match-up and for this reason, Head Coach Travis Hudson is looking for more than just a couple notches in the win column.

"This is a different kind of an animal," Hudson said. "Everyone wants to put a win total on it, or wins and losses. I'm trying to keep it simple for this group

NEXT GAME
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VS. UC RIVERSIDE

right now." The simplicity that he is looking for this weekend, and wants to flourish on through the season, is the team's ability to render a "competitive response."

"If we lose a match we shouldn't have lost, I want a competitive response. If we win a game that we probably shouldn't have won, I want a competitive response out of that, too," he said.

Hudson is not dwelling on the little things, but rather looks at this weekend as a stepping-stone to a successful season – one that will show a good gauge of where the young team stands.

Senior Heather Boyan is hap-

py with what the team has been able to accomplish in practice in the preseason, especially in terms of all the new athletes getting on the same page.

"We have been working hard on the culture of our team," Boyan explained, "and part of that is having everyone be a leader. I think that we are at a point where we are all holding each other accountable, and it is working out very nicely."

Hudson stresses that his team is "a group where light bulbs will be switching on every day", and for that reason he is not entirely sure what to expect on the team's first weekend of competition.

"If we came out of the gate on fire, it wouldn't really surprise me," Hudson said. "If it took us three or four weeks to figure things out, that wouldn't sur-



MIKE CLARK/HERALD

Junior middle hitter Noelle Langenkamp of Cincinnati, Ohio, spikes the ball against South Alabama in E.A. Diddle Arena, November 15, 2013.

prise me either." "I know come November we are going to be a team to be reckoned with, and that is what's so exciting about coaching to me."

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