

MSU Clip Sheet

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A sample of recent articles of interest to Morehead State University

INSTITUTIONAL RELATIONS MOREHEAD STATE UNIVERSITY UPO BOX 1100 MOREHEAD, KY 40351-1889 606-783-2030
THE COURIER-JOURNAL • THE FORUM • SUNDAY, MARCH 2, 1997

HIGHER ED: AN INDEPENDENT LOOK

BY JOHN B. BEGLEY

The author is chancellor of Lindsey Wilson College in Columbia, Ky. He served as president of the college from 1977 until earlier this year.

A LOT HAS been said recently about Kentuckians' access to higher education. There appears to be a growing opinion among the commonwealth's leaders and policy makers that a college education costs too much and something must be done to fix the problem.

But when Gov. Paul Patton and the General Assembly's leaders meet later this spring to discuss post-secondary education, one hopes they will realize that for the last two decades the state's independent private colleges have been on the cutting edge in addressing access to higher education.

For the last 20 years, I was president of Lindsey Wilson College here in Adair County. When I became president in 1977, fewer than 225 students were enrolled at Lindsey Wilson, which at the time was a junior college.

When I was named the college's chancellor earlier this year, more than 1,300 students were enrolled, and Lindsey Wilson had evolved into a vibrant four-year liberal arts college with a nationally ranked master's program.

Our success at Lindsey Wilson has been tremendous, but we are not the only Kentucky independent college that has grown over the last 20 years. Bellarmine College and Spalding University in Louisville have been two vibrant institutions, and Campbellsville University has added to the quality of life in South-Central Kentucky. That is to name only three.

All of this happened during a time when public perception grew that an independent

college education was becoming too expensive for lower- and middle-class families.

What's the explanation for the discrepancy between myth and reality?

One reason is dedication.

While the cost of a college education has increased over the last 20 years, Kentucky's independent colleges have implemented several innovative measures to ensure that no qualified Kentuckian is turned away from their doors.

At Lindsey Wilson, for example, we have

Over the last two decades, Kentucky's independent colleges have taken a number of steps to expand access of students and to diversify programs.

an open-admissions policy that promises every young person a college education if they are dedicated and prepared to make the necessary sacrifices to earn a college diploma. Many of the young people we have touched have been the first in their families to attend college — about 70 percent of our students are first-generation college students — and a number of them have come to us with developmental needs.

It's a mission that has demanded a lot from our faculty and staff, but the rewards have been even greater.

Another way independent higher education has remained accessible to all Kentuckians is through a strong commitment to institutional aid. At Lindsey Wilson, 96 percent of our student body receives financial aid. In addition to about \$4 million in federal and state aid, we will give more than \$3.1 million in institu-

tional aid to students this year, a major commitment from a college with a \$14 million budget.

But just like the state's other independent colleges, we know that 80 percent of our alumni will settle in Kentucky after graduation. When you consider that a college graduate earns \$600,000 more over a lifetime than someone without a college degree, \$3.1 million is one of the best investments Lindsey Wilson can make in Kentucky.

Lindsey Wilson graduates will contribute to the commonwealth by becoming educators, mental health care workers, business leaders and government officials. It is our hope that they will graduate from college imbued with a sense of civic responsibility to make the commonwealth a better place for all Kentuckians.

Another way independent colleges have remained accessible is through the Kentucky Tuition Grant. This 25-year-old state-funded program is one of the best bargains for Kentucky taxpayers because it reduces demands on the state's public sector and invigorates the commonwealth's higher-education marketplace with diversity and choice.

Independent higher education has been part of our commonwealth for more than two centuries. But during the last two decades, the state's independent colleges and universities have quietly played an integral role in ensuring that all Kentuckians have access to a college education.

One hopes that our state's leaders will continue to appreciate that contribution and work to strengthen it when they meet later this spring.

Special to The Courier-Journal

LEXINGTON HERALD-LEADER, LEXINGTON, KY. ■ MONDAY, MARCH 3, 1997

N.C., Kentucky schools had different missions

BY ANGIE MUHS

HERALD-LEADER EDUCATION WRITER

HICKORY, N.C. — North Carolina and Kentucky's different approaches to their community colleges and technical programs have deep historical roots.

Catawba Valley Community College, like most of North Carolina's community colleges, started its life as an "industrial education center," focusing on technical and vocational programs tailored to the local job market.

The mission of providing training for the work force remained paramount — even as the system grew to include a liberal arts college transfer program.

Kentucky, on the other hand, started its community college system to make a university education more accessible to the public. The idea was that students attended community college near home for the first two years before transferring to another university.

Meanwhile, the Kentucky Tech postsecondary vocational schools offered technical and vocational programs.

There are two other key differences in the systems.

In North Carolina, no one in the

community college system has academic tenure. That's not true in Kentucky's community colleges, which have academic ranks and tenure.

The other major difference is in the power structure. Kentucky's 14 community colleges fall under the University of Kentucky; their local boards are advisory and major decisions are made in Lexington.

The Kentucky Tech system, which includes 29 post-secondary schools, is run by the Workforce Development Cabinet, which is part of state government.

In North Carolina, the community college system falls under a statewide, free-standing board that was established in 1981. But most of the day-to-day decision-making rests with the local governing boards, not with the systems office.

"Each president of a community college is a little duke in his dukedom," said Ferrel Guillory, writer in residence at MDC Corp., a Chapel Hill-based non-profit corporation that studies economic development and work-force training issues.

The Daily Independent, Ashland, Kentucky,
Friday, February 28, 1997

Geveden presents college proposal

PADUCAH — State Rep. Charles Geveden has given Gov. Paul Patton a copy of a bill that he introduced during the 1992 legislative session that proposes changing the way the state's colleges are managed.

Geveden's bill, which was not debated during the 1992 session, proposed that the community colleges and regional universities be governed by a single board.

Each regional school currently has its own governing board with community colleges managed by the UK board of trustees.

Under Geveden's plan, UK and U of L would continue to be managed by their own boards of trustees.

Colleges' industry ties pay off in N.C.

Schools provide workers, training

■ **Yesterday:** North Carolina's public university system routinely wins national praise. Ask leaders there how it happened and they'll say there's no magic formula.

■ **Today:** Community colleges in North Carolina and Kentucky have big differences in emphasis, history and culture — but North Carolina's system is recognized nationally for its work with local industries.

BY ANGIE MUHS

HERALD-LEADER EDUCATION WRITER

HICKORY, N.C. — A quick trip around the campus of Catawba Valley Community College in western North Carolina illustrates that what a community college is can depend on where you are.

You would find a parking lot roped off for a semi-truck driving school and a high-tech knitting machine in a mini-hosiery factory —



for Higher Education

SECOND OF TWO PARTS

vocational programs that you wouldn't find in Kentucky's community college system.

You'd find the liberal arts programs meant to help students transfer to four-year universities — but at Catawba,

unlike in Kentucky, they're not what the college was primarily founded to do.

In short, you'd find that a community college in North Carolina isn't exactly the same thing as a community college in Kentucky.

But in both states, most agree that community colleges are crucial to the state's future prosperity.

"A state, to step up as an economic force, cannot do it without a strong community college system," said William Friday, the former president of the University of North Carolina system.

The North Carolina system has been recognized nationally, including in a recent front-page Wall Street Journal article, for its work with local industries.

It's a theme that permeates the Catawba Valley's campus.

The Furniture Center features several large rooms, which contain an upholstery lab, sewing machines and many of the same machines that would be found in furniture plants.

The Hosiery Center's space is crammed with sock-knitting machines, ranging from antiques to sleek computerized machines with \$40,000 price tags. It even teams up with the college's English as a Second Language program to offer customized courses for the growing number of mill workers who are Hmong and Hispanic immigrants.

The college almost always gets called on when new industries are thinking about locating in the area, said its president, Cuyler Dunbar.

That might be anything from training in a high-tech skill to teaching literacy courses — an area in which community colleges are a primary player statewide.

A couple of years ago, Alcatel, which makes fiber-optic cable, was thinking of expanding a plant near Hickory. But it was worried about getting trained workers.

The college, with some state funding, offered training at its campus for potential workers while Alcatel was still building the plant. Now the college is hoping to start an associate degree program in fiber optics, Dunbar said.

"By the time they walked into that brand-new plant, they had a lot of trained workers," Dunbar said. "It worked beautifully, and to me, that's what a community college is all about."

But that partnership works only if the community college respects business's views and needs, said Dan St. Louis, who directs the Hosiery Center.

When it does work, though, the effort can pay off for the college. Most of the machines in the hosiery and furniture centers, for example, have been donated or lent to the college by plants or manufacturers.

"The industry's gone down to Raleigh and raised Cain to get us money before," St. Louis said. "Because they saw we were doing what they wanted, they stuck up for us down in Raleigh."

A few hours away, in the urban Raleigh-Durham area, the story is similar.

Durham Technical Community College once flew two instructors to a Motorola plant in Texas to learn what managers wanted from workers before the company opened a plant in the Research Triangle. The college then taught those skills to future workers.

It also teaches skills at an IBM plant and offers registered nursing courses for nurse's aides at Duke University's Medical Center — at the hospital.

"Colleges have to realize it's a new day and the campus is just a headquarters," college President Phail Wynn Jr. said. "When there's a need, we'll take it there."

And the college was ready to move when asked, said Bernard Farmer, the director of the City of Durham's Office of Employee Training and Development, which asked the college to teach basic literacy and GED classes to city employees.

Re-engineering needed

But the differences in emphasis, history and culture, experts say, illustrate why policymakers can't just look at another state's system and think that they could come up with one-size-fits-all answers.

"It's worked well here because it started out this way and people are used to it," Dunbar said.

North Carolina's community college system, after all, is not without its occasional controversies and challenges.

For example, much like in Kentucky, one concern has been improving coordination and communication — both within the system and between it and universities, said former Gov. Bob Scott, the system's president from 1983 to 1995.

The result is a systemwide re-engineering that, among other things, is converting the colleges' calendar to semesters from the quarter system. It is also trying to make it easier for students to transfer without losing credits.

James Dixon, the system's vice president for academic and student services, said some students have had trouble transferring between community colleges.

"It was enough to give us pause," he said. "We want to be sure that English 101 at Asheville-Buncombe Tech is the same thing as English 101 at Edgewood Community College."

■ BOBSLEDDING

Shimer finishes second: Brian Shimer captured a silver medal yesterday in the final World Cup four-man bobsled race of the season. The former Morehead State football player from Naples, Fla., finished second in the overall season standings, which combine two-man and four-man results. He was fifth in four-man World Cup points. Reto Goetschi-piloted Switzerland I won with a combined time of 1 minute, 47.02 seconds. Shimer's USA I finished in 1:47.43.

N.C. had to battle to reform colleges

■ **Today:** North Carolina's public university system routinely wins national praise. Ask leaders there how it happened and they'll say there's no magic formula.
 ■ **Monday:** Community colleges in North Carolina and Kentucky have big differences in emphasis, history and culture—but North Carolina's system is recognized nationally for its work with local industries.

BY ANGIE MUHS

HERALD-LEADER EDUCATION WRITER

CHAPEL HILL, N.C. — If North Carolina's higher education system were a basketball team, it would be loaded with enough talent to make Rick Pitino drool.

A quick look at the Tarheel State suggests why it's become nationally acclaimed as one of the top public post-secondary education systems.

for Higher Education

FIRST OF TWO PARTS



Bill Friday shares credit with previous presidents of the UNC system and state financial support.

page Wall Street Journal article — for their work in helping to attract industry to the state.

Throw in the nationally known Research Triangle Park, and it's no wonder Kentucky is only one of several states that have looked to North Carolina with envious eyes.

The two states differ greatly in how the government runs higher education. But they have wrestled with many of the same issues.

Much as in Kentucky, a governor in North Carolina 25 years ago vowed to reform what he said was a

higher education system that lacked a central vision and was teeming with unnecessary competition.

North Carolina ended up with a radical shake-up — a "shotgun marriage," in the former governor's words.

It isn't clear yet what — if anything — Kentucky will end up with. Gov. Paul Patton has said he intends to call a May special session to tackle post-secondary education, but hasn't yet put forth a plan.

As people talk about what Kentucky might aspire to become, North Carolina's experience has sparked some talk. Is North Carolina at its current status because of its decision to put all universities under a single board? And could copying parts or all of it work elsewhere?

Escaping mediocrity

Those are questions that Bill Friday, who ran the UNC system after the merger, and former Gov. Bob Scott, who pushed it through, are used to fielding. The answers, they warn, aren't so easy.

Scott, who later was president of North Carolina's community college system, was the first person to testify at Patton's task force on post-secondary education in June.

But when Scott recalls the factors that led him to take action, his description of the past mirrors many of the complaints thrown at Kentucky's higher education.

North Carolina's colleges all wanted to be all things to all people, Scott said last week. They scrapped among themselves, and each was bent on its own agenda.

It was, Scott believed, a recipe for mediocrity.

What Scott proposed — and eventually got passed by the state legislature in 1971 — was that all four-year colleges would be run by a statewide governing board. The community colleges were put under a separate board in 1981.

Supporters of the flagship, at Chapel Hill, worried that consolidation would mean less money and attention for their school, dragging it down and hurting quality. Others feared that the state's historically black institutions also wouldn't get attention from a large board.

Still, the plan passed — but not without considerable upheaval. "Bloody" is how Scott remembers the political fight.

Former Gov. Jim Holshouser, the Republican minority caucus leader, supported the plan. The fight wasn't so much partisan as regional, he said.

"Putting the coalition together was hell, frankly," said Holshouser, who was elected governor the next year. "It's almost a miracle it came off."

It helped that Friday, who was president of the six-campus UNC system, emerged as a natural leader for the new, expanded system, said Ferrel Guillory, a writer-in-residence at MDC Corp., a Chapel Hill-based non-profit corporation that studies issues of economic development and education.

Guillory said the other key factor was political. "It was doable politically because the Democrats were clearly in control," he said.

Education

Comparing North Carolina and Kentucky

FEDERAL SUPPORT FOR RESEARCH AND DEVELOPMENT

NATIONAL RANK 1993-94	UNIVERSITY	FEDERAL OBLIGATIONS 1993-94
23	North Carolina	\$148.6 million
72	North Carolina State	\$49.6 million
76	Kentucky	\$48.5 million

MEDIAN ANNUAL TUITION AND REQUIRED FEES

	1995-96	
	IN-STATE	OUT-OF-STATE
Kentucky	\$1,970	\$5,330
North Carolina	\$1,618	\$8,432

	POPULATION JULY 1995	ANNUAL ENROLLMENT*
	Kentucky	3.86 million
North Carolina	7.20 million	238,919

DEGREES CONFERRED BY PUBLIC UNIVERSITIES

	DOCTORAL
	Kentucky
North Carolina	750

Two-year graduates

North Carolina's community colleges are producing more associate-degree graduates than Kentucky's. They also produce more graduates of shorter-than-two-year programs, but that's because their community colleges include programs that in Kentucky fall under the Kentucky Tech system.

LESS THAN FOUR-YEAR DEGREES CONFERRED

UNIVERSITY	1994-95	
	ASSOCIATE	OTHER
Kentucky	4,938	83
North Carolina	13,195	8,976

* Includes full-time and full-time equivalent students

SOURCE: Southern Regional Education Board HERALD-LEADER

Even after the new system was in place, change didn't come smoothly.

"I've often said that there had to be a number of retirements and some funerals before it really came about," Scott said.

Ready with critical mass

It's clear that many of North Carolina's successes have happened for reasons unrelated to its structure — everything from better state funding to a rivalry with the private Duke and Wake Forest universities to a relative lack of political meddling in policy decisions.

UNC had already consolidated some programs as early as the 1930s, said Friday, who retired from the UNC system in 1986 after 30 years as president.

Friday, who now heads the William R. Kenan Jr. Charitable Trust, also credits prior UNC presidents for realizing in the 1920s the importance of research and pumping up Chapel Hill's science departments.

That meant Chapel Hill and North Carolina State were able to benefit when the U.S. government began pumping research money into universities, said Charles E. Bishop, a senior fellow at MDC Corp.

"Carolina was ready with that critical mass," said Bishop, a former vice president at UNC.

The surge of the Research Triangle Park also fed the cycle.

COLLEGES: 'It's almost a miracle it came off'

(Cont'd)

"It almost becomes the chicken and egg," said MDC's Guillory. "The park is here because the universities are here, but now that the park is here, the universities are better."

Friday also credited strong financial support from the state for higher education.

State appropriations, adjusted for inflation, slipped in North Carolina by 10 percent over the last decade. But in Kentucky, state support fell by 28 percent in the same time frame, according to the Southern Regional Education Board, which tracks trends in both states.

Even so, having one board running the show can be credited for successes in streamlining unnecessary duplication and in planning.

When the merger went through, for instance, six universities were seeking law schools. North Carolina already had two public law schools.

No new ones were needed, the board decided.

Tight rein on new programs

A single board makes it easier to scrutinize new programs early, said Roy Carroll, the system's senior vice president and vice president for academic affairs.

Universities must ask for permission even before planning new programs; the board has granted that go-ahead for only 26 percent of such requests since 1976.

But the system's potential downside could be a slight loss of flexibility, said Bishop.

Civic leaders in some cities have complained about being slighted. For instance, Winston-Salem has lobbied for an engineering school. And Charlotte has argued that UNC-Charlotte should be a major research university, Bishop said.

The single board isn't perfect, but it works, Holshouser said.

"I don't think I can say that it removes institutional ambitions, because it hasn't here," he said. "But what the taxpayers have a right to expect is that those ambitions fit together, and it makes that happen."

Friday praised the system's coordination and efficiency and said he was satisfied the 16 campuses still enjoyed flexibility and input.

But he cautioned that Kentucky might be able to achieve its goals by a different mechanism. And the state should realize that major change will take more money and more time than just a couple of years, he said.

But while it might be tempting to draw conclusions about what Kentucky should do based solely on North Carolina's outcome, the issue isn't that simple, Friday said.

"Structure is a means to an end, not an end," he said. "It's so important that what you do be relevant to your history and background and culture."

UK won't give up colleges lying down

The scuttlebutt around Frankfort, according to Rep. Harry Moberly, the House budget chief, is that Gov. Paul Patton is leaning toward splitting the state's community colleges away from the University of Kentucky and putting them together in some way with vocational-technical schools.

That, Moberly observed with a good bit of understatement, will be a real political battle.

UK doesn't want to give up the community colleges. They have long been a key part of the university's political power base, each boosting UK's profile and clout in its area.



BILL ESTEP

Estep covers politics and government for the Herald-Leader. This column includes his opinions and observations.

With 14 campuses spread across Kentucky, UK has influence in a lot of places with a lot of people, including a lot of legislators.

Patton has a tough sales job in front of him if he proposes taking the community colleges from UK. The university has gotten out in front of the governor in its campaign to hang onto the community colleges.

University officials have even used that most sacred of institutions — Wildcat basketball — their push, urging listeners during the halftime radio show to let lawmakers know they support UK keeping the community colleges.

Members of the Kentucky Association of State Employees and the Kentucky Community College Faculty Alliance, which hosted yesterday's conference on higher ed where Moberly spoke, asked him and two other lawmakers on the

panel to place odds on whether the legislature would approve taking the community colleges from UK and combining them in some way with the vo-tech schools.

Sen. Lindy Casebier, an educator and chairman of the Senate Education Committee, took the safe bet and said he didn't know.

80-20 against, estimated Rep. Joe Barrows, D-Versailles. Barrows is the House Democratic whip, a job that includes counting noses when it's time to vote.

50-50, Moberly said, although he added that the odds may be less favorable for such a proposal.

Moberly, D-Richmond, said it may be more likely the legislature would approve a plan to keep the community colleges under UK, but give them more autonomy and incentives to communicate and coordinate with the vo-tech schools and regional universities.

Whatever the odds on Patton's plan, there is no urgency for changing higher education in Kentucky right now, and no consensus on what needs to be done even if changes are made.

Asked their view on the biggest problem in the system, the three legislators each cited a different issue — competition and lack of coordination between schools, the perception that accountability is lacking, and inadequate funding. They're all right.

Patton has been working overtime on a plan to remake higher education in Kentucky, which lawmakers believe they'll see at a task force meeting March 10. That's just under two months until the special session he plans to call May 5.

If the governor, in two short months, can forge a consensus on what needs changing and how to accomplish the reform, and overcome whatever fight UK puts up, he'll deserve his own halftime radio show.

McBrayer back at work

The white-haired guy who helped engineer Patton's 1995 win has some life left in him yet.

Former state Democratic Party chief Terry McBrayer underwent quadruple-bypass surgery Dec. 9 after experiencing chest pains at the White House. He came through well, returned to work full time three weeks ago, exercises twice a day and says he feels great.

The surgery was traumatic, McBrayer said, but "It beats the alternative."

LEXINGTON HERALD-LEADER, LEXINGTON, KY. ■ FRIDAY, FEBRUARY 28, 1997

Morehead, EKU lead women

NASHVILLE — Morehead State forward Amy Kieckbusch and Eastern Kentucky Coach Larry Inman have been selected the Ohio Valley Conference women's player and coach of the year.

Tennessee Tech center Diane Seng also was honored as the league's freshman of the year.

Kieckbusch, a 5-foot-11 forward from Mishicot, Wis., led the OVC and ranks fourth nationally in scoring

with a 24.6 average. Kieckbusch is second in the OVC in field-goal percentage (79.5 percent), free-throw percentage (79.5 percent) and steals (3.0).

Kieckbusch also set a Morehead State record for points in a season with 639 and tied the school's single-game scoring mark with a 41-point effort against Tennessee State.

Inman captured coach of the year honors for the third time in the past seven years after leading Eastern Kentucky to its first outright OVC regular-season title.

UK, Western papers take student press awards

HERALD-LEADER STAFF REPORT

LOUISVILLE — The Kentucky Kernel, the University of Kentucky's student newspaper, and the College Heights Herald of Western Kentucky University each won nine first-place awards yesterday in a statewide competition sponsored by the Kentucky Intercollegiate Press Association.

In addition, the College Heights Herald's Kevin Kelly, from Lexington, was named Student Journalist of the Year for the second year in a row. Kelly is a graduate of Lexington Catholic High School.

Morehead State University's newspaper, The Trail Blazer, finished first in six categories, and Eastern Kentucky University's paper, The Eastern Progress, captured five firsts. The Murray State News won four first-place awards.

Awards were presented at the association's annual convention in Louisville.

Student newspapers at all Kentucky colleges and universities were eligible to compete in the contest that was judged by the staffs of the Herald-Leader, the Cincinnati Enquirer and other newspapers.

In a separate division for small

schools, Jamie Rhodes of The Concord at Bellarmine College was named Journalist of the Year for the second straight year.

Here is a list of winners by category in the major schools division:

Deadline Reporting: 1. C.D. Bradley, Murray State News; 2. Stephen Lega, College Heights Herald; 3. Dug Begley, Louisville Cardinal (University of Louisville.)

Deadline Copy Editing: 1. David Gross, The Trail Blazer; 2. Amy Ponder, Murray State News; 3. Beth Whisman, Eastern Progress.

News Story: 1. Mandy Wolf, Murray State News; 2. Carmen Miller, Louisville Cardinal; 3. Brenna Reilly, Kentucky Kernel.

Investigative Reporting: 1. Danetta Barker, Eastern Progress; 2. Caleb Brown and Michael Lindenberger, Louisville Cardinal; 3. Chris Campbell and C.D. Bradley, Murray State News.

Continuing News: 1. Kathy Reding, Kentucky Kernel; 2. Gina Hold and Chris Mayhew, The Northerner (Northern Kentucky University); 3. Dug Begley, Louisville Cardinal.

Analyses and Special Reports: 1. Jennifer Smith, Kentucky Kernel; 2. Sherry Wilson, Jason Hall, Darryn Simmons and Marie Holthaus, College Heights Herald; 3. John Stamper, College Heights Herald.

Personality Profile: 1. Teak Phillips, College Heights Herald; 2. John Daniels, Louisville Cardinal; 3. Joshua Hamman, Louisville Cardinal.

Feature Story: 1. Melissa McGuire Cornett, The Trail Blazer; 2. Denise Higgins, Murray State News; 3. John Abbott, Kentucky Kernel.

Review: 1. David Gross, The Trail Blazer; 2. Gabrielle Dion, The Northerner; 3. Dug Begley, Louisville Cardinal.

General Interest Column: 1. Chris Hutchins, College Heights Herald; 2. Joshua Hamman, Louisville Cardinal; 3. Jennifer Almjeld, Eastern Progress.

Editorial: 1. Hyla MacGregor, The Trail Blazer; 2. Lance Williams, Kentucky Kernel; 3. Diana Schlake, The Northerner.

Editorial Cartoon: 1. Joe Welsh, Murray State News; 2. Stacy Curtis, College Heights Herald.

Opinion Page: 1. Spring 1996 and Fall 1996 staff, Kentucky Kernel (tie); 3. Spring 1996 staff, College Heights Herald.

Sports Game Story: 1. Jason Datillo, Kentucky Kernel; 2. Kevin Kelly, College Heights Herald; 3. Aaron Sanderford, College Heights Herald.

Sports News Story: 1. Brian Simms, The Eastern Progress; 2. Melissa McGuire Cornett, The Trail Blazer; 3. Jay G. Tate, Kentucky Kernel.

Sports Feature Story: 1. Kevin Kelly, College Heights Herald; 2. Aaron Sanderford, Kentucky Kernel; 3. Ty Halpin, Kentucky Kernel.

Sports Column: 1. Kevin Kelly, College Heights Herald; 2. Aaron Sanderford, Kentucky Kernel; 3. Jay G. Tate, Kentucky Kernel.

Overall Layout: 1. Fall 1996 staff, Kentucky Kernel; 2. Fall 1996 staff, Eastern Progress; 3. Spring 1996 staff, College Heights Herald.

Front Page Layout: 1. Mary Ann Lawrence, Fall 1996, Eastern Progress; 2. Lance Williams, Spring 1996, Kentucky Kernel; 3. Epha Good, Fall 1996, College Heights Herald.

Feature Page Layout: 1. Jon Grant, College Heights Herald; 2. Jamie Neal, Shannon Ratliff, Tim Mollette and Victor Cuellar, Eastern Progress; 3. Jennifer Almjeld, Eastern Progress.

Sports Page Layout: 1. (tie) Epha Good, College Heights Herald, Kevin Kelly, College Heights Herald; 3. Tracie Purdon, Kentucky Kernel.

Best Special Section: 1. Brenna Reilly/Summer 1996 Staff, Kentucky Kernel; 2. Chris Easterling, Tracie Purdon, Fall Staff, Kentucky Kernel; 3. Chris Easterling, Erin Bachner, Spring Staff, Kentucky Kernel.

Original Illustration: 1. Joe Welsh, Murray State News; 2. Victor Cuellar, Eastern Progress; 3. Jamal Wilson, College Heights Herald.

Comic Strip or Panel: no winners.

Informational Graphics: 1. Tim Mollette and Jamie Neal, Eastern Progress; 2. Tim Mollette, Mary Ann Lawrence, Jennifer Almjeld and Kristy Gilbert, Eastern Progress; 3. Tim Mollette, Brian Simms and Chad Queen, Eastern Progress.

News Photo: 1. James Crisp, Kentucky Kernel; 2. Kurt Fattic, College Heights Herald; 3. Teak Phillips, College Heights Herald.

Feature Photo: 1. Jason Clark, College Heights Herald; 2. Chad Stevens, College Heights Herald; 3. James Glover, College Heights Herald.

Sports Photo: 1. Patrick Witty, College Heights Herald; 2. Helena Hau, Kentucky Kernel; 3. Chad Stevens, College Heights Herald.

Photo Essay: 1. Teak Phillips, College Heights Herald; 2. James Crisp and Matt Barton, Kentucky Kernel; 3. James Crisp, College Heights Herald.

Advertising Design: 1. Jason Kaufman, Kentucky Kernel; 2. Burt Bucher and Lisa Murphy, Eastern Progress; 3. Lee Miller, The Trail Blazer.

House Ad: 1. Lisa Murphy, Monica Keeton, Eastern Progress; 2. Rusty Manseau, Kentucky Kernel; 3. Jon Grant, College Heights Herald.

Advertising Art: 1. Jeremy Cox, The Trail Blazer; 2. Burt Bucher, Eastern Progress; 3. Tracie Purdon, Rusty Manseau, Kentucky Kernel.

Advertising Copy: 1. Bill Powell, Kentucky Kernel; 2. Peter Bauer, The Trail Blazer; 3. Rusty Manseau, Kentucky Kernel.

Advertising Campaign: 1. Jeremy Cox, The Trail Blazer; 2. Sean Townsley, The Northerner; 3. Cathy Jones, Kentucky Kernel.

THE COURIER-JOURNAL • SUNDAY, MARCH 2, 1997

Black women earn degrees at double the rate of men

Both groups post gains in college; gap is puzzling

By RENE SANCHEZ
The Washington Post

A progress report on the status of blacks in American higher education reveals an extraordinary gender gap: Black women are now earning college degrees at twice the rate of black men.

Black women earned 52,097 bachelor's degrees in 1994 — up 55.4 percent from 1977, the earliest year included in the report. Black men earned 30,086 bachelor's degrees in 1994 — a 19.6 percent increase from 1977.

The differences are more profound in law and medicine: Among black women, the number of degree earners has soared 219 percent. But for black men, it has increased only 5 percent.

The number of black men earning master's degrees since the 1970s has actually dropped by 10 percent. It has risen 5 percent for black women.

Researchers said last week they are somewhat puzzled by these trends, especially since black women overall tend to earn lower college-admission test scores than black men and take remedial courses more often. Gender

gaps in enrollment and degrees also are evident among white students, but they are not nearly so large.

"It's something we're definitely going to investigate," said Michael Nettles, who coordinated the report for The College Fund, a coalition of the nation's historically black colleges and universities that was once called the United Negro College Fund.

The report, which relies on data from the Department of Education and other studies, draws a broad portrait of the success of black students at the nation's colleges and universities compared with a generation ago.

Its conclusions are mixed. Overall, college enrollment among blacks has increased slightly in the last decade, but African Americans continue to be underrepresented on campuses in proportion to their share of the overall population.

Even with the gains black students are making, they have yet to reach parity with white students. Today, about 21 percent of whites ages 25 to 60 have bachelor's degrees, compared with 14 percent of blacks.

Black students also are still more likely than whites to drop out of college, and they depend much more than whites on financial aid. Nearly one-third of black students attending four-year universities had family incomes below \$20,000, compared with 9 percent of white students.

"The data show that African Americans have made considerable pro-

gress, but many hurdles remain," said William Gray, the College Fund's president.

Some of the report's most striking findings focused on gender. Overall, the number of black women going to college continues to exceed the number of black men. In 1976, black women were 10 percent more likely than black men to attend college; today, that figure is nearly 25 percent.

The report also details how, as undergraduates, black women tend to gravitate toward business or management studies. As graduate students, a high number of black men study education, and black women tend to earn degrees in public administration.

One figure that also struck researchers is that a majority of black women — 55 percent — who are attaining degrees come from the neediest backgrounds. "Many of these statistics are real cause for celebration for black women," Nettles said.

The report detailed other findings: More black students are taking graduate school admissions tests, and their scores are rising. Only 3 percent of college students who receive doctorates are black.

About 5 percent of university faculties are black, and they receive tenure less often than white faculty. Also, since the 1970s, the percentage of black students attending historically black colleges has declined.

Information for this story also was gathered by Cox News Service.

MSU Clip Sheet

A sample of recent articles of interest to Morehead State University

INSTITUTIONAL RELATIONS MOREHEAD STATE UNIVERSITY UPO BOX 1100 MOREHEAD, KY 40351-1689 606-783-2030
LEXINGTON HERALD-LEADER, LEXINGTON, KY. ■ WEDNESDAY, MARCH 5, 1997

Patton plan would make tech schools independent

BY ANGIE MUHS

HERALD-LEADER EDUCATION WRITER

Gov. Paul Patton wants to remove the Kentucky Tech post-secondary technical schools from the state's Workforce Development Cabinet and make them an independent system, a key aide said yesterday.

The move would be part of Patton's effort to overhaul the state's post-secondary education system. Patton has said he intends to call a special session on the subject May 5, but has not yet presented a plan.

Details of the governor's feelings, though, are starting to leak out: He also has, over past months, made no secret of his views that technical education is a critical component of post-secondary education — and that Kentucky Tech schools and the state's community colleges must work together more efficiently.

Making Kentucky Tech an independent system "is one strong gut feeling he's got, and what he's inclined to do at this point," said Ed Ford, Patton's deputy cabinet secretary and point man on the effort.

"He is concerned that the technical schools are being strangled in the bureaucracy in state government," Ford said. "But he's said that if he's wrong, he's open to anyone who can show him why he is."

Ford said no decisions have been made on whether to change the way community colleges are governed. They are now run by the University of Kentucky. Some have suggested that they should be run by an independent board.

"We are concerned with an end — a system of technical institutes and community colleges that can cooperate," Ford said. "Whatever path it takes to get us there, we're willing to travel that route."

Right now, no single entity has oversight over both systems. The Council on Higher Education, which coordinates community colleges, does not have any say in Kentucky Tech.

Ford said Patton thinks Kentucky Tech schools would get more recognition as "equal partners" in post-secondary education if they were an independent organization.

The Kentucky Tech schools, in Patton's thinking, would be viewed as "technical colleges," which would be run as a system by an independent board, Ford said.

They could possibly fall under the oversight of the Council on Higher Education, if it still is the coordinating board, Ford said.

"As a group, they would have the same stature and standing as a regional university," he said.

It isn't clear yet what would be done with Kentucky Tech's 54 secondary-school centers, Ford said.

Rodney "Biz" Cain, the Workforce Development Cabinet secretary, said he supported Patton.

"I could see more agility, being outside government," he said. "Government doesn't have a lot of agility. It's like turning a big ship — you'd better start turning it pretty far in advance."

At least one industry group also said it would be likely to support the plan, for generally the same reasons Patton and Cain cited.

"My experience with Frankfort in general and Kentucky Tech in particular is it's so difficult to implement change," said Ron Schilffarth, co-coordinator of Vision 21, a business advisory group. "They have to run things through so many wickets."

Schilffarth said Patton had laid out several different models of how to run Kentucky Tech and community colleges during a meeting with Vision 21 two weeks ago.

One of those models also involved making the community college system independent, which Vision 21 would support, Schilffarth said. But he said he didn't know whether Patton would try to do that.

"I did not get the impression that he would not try," Schilffarth said. "But he said it would be the most challenging one to do."

For now, Kentucky Tech employees want to hear more about any plan before they decide, said Charles Wells, legislative and political director for the Kentucky Association of State Employees.

About 400 Kentucky Tech faculty members belong to the group, Wells said.

Teachers there are primarily concerned about whether their benefits, working conditions and salaries would change, Wells said.

"If they could show us that folks would be as well off or better under a new system, I think it would go a long way to satisfy their concerns," Wells said.

THE COURIER-JOURNAL • WEDNESDAY, MARCH 5, 1997

UK trustees approve selling 43 acres to development firm

Associated Press

LEXINGTON, Ky. — The University of Kentucky trustees yesterday approved selling part of the school's South Farm property to an Atlanta firm for \$18.3 million.

JDG Development Co. was the high bidder for the property at Nicholasville Road and Man O' War Boulevard. The 43-acre tract was cut off from the rest of the South Farm property when Man O' War was completed.

UK President Charles Wethington said money from the sale will go toward construction of a plant sciences building for the College of Agriculture. He said UK will ask the 1998 General Assembly to approve

construction plans.

The rest of South Farm has been identified as the site for further development of Lexington Community College.

In personnel action, the trustees:

■ Approved Donald E. Sands, chairman of the chemistry department and a former vice chancellor for academic affairs, as acting dean of the College of Arts and Sciences.

■ Appointed John H. Herbst, a 23-year employee in UK's student activities program, as director of the UK Student Center.

■ Named Dr. Robert Melvin Mentzer Jr. professor and chairman of the department of surgery in the UK College of Medicine.

LEXINGTON HERALD-LEADER, LEXINGTON, KY. ■ TUESDAY, MARCH 4, 1997

COLLEGE SPORTS

Study: Women's numbers lag: Although more than half of college students are women, most Division I athletes still are men, despite the efforts of Title IX sponsors to even the score, a survey by USA Today shows. The survey, published yesterday, said two-thirds of the athletes still are men. The survey was commissioned to study effects of 25 years of Title IX, the legislation that was to have brought equality to women in college athletics. The newspaper surveyed 303 NCAA Division I schools.

Community colleges forge a bigger role

BY ROY SILVER

Discussions regarding higher education reform in Kentucky have primarily focused on governance. Any informed decision about the role of our community colleges has to be grounded in an understanding of our mission. The vision statement crafted and adopted by the faculty, staff and administration of Southeast Community College in Cumberland, is illustrative of the collective community college mission. We are "the catalyst for educational, community and economic development, opening the door to a brighter future."

The typical student in the 14 community colleges within the University of Kentucky system is 28 years old and two-thirds to three-quarters are female. Our system is currently undergoing a reorganization. This promises to decentralize decision-making and allow us to be more responsive to the needs of the communities we serve.

In the book, *The Community-Building College*, the authors challenge community colleges to become "a community-building institution that aims to improve all aspects of community life." Our communities have a core of common interests and common organizations. Community colleges are obligated to provide leadership, in partnership with other organizations, to better articulate our common interests.

Community colleges can affirm the importance for the creation of a learning community. Our programs typically meet the needs of lifelong learners. We are enmeshed in communities struggling to overcome the burden of an economy that falls short in its production of sustainable employment opportunities and schooling that adequately trains. These conditions frequently produce fragmentation and division.

Community colleges should revitalize organizations and individuals through a network of partnerships. We partner with change drivers, (e.g., business, education, government and grassroots leaders). This can help with the creation of a sustainable economy and life long learning.

At our best, community colleges advocate an acceptance of community as campus and client. The goal is to provide programs that teach the skills required to respond to community problems and individual needs. We champion the empowerment of citizens, community renewal, extensive access, technological innovations and ongoing assessment.

What community colleges require from the state is a mechanism by which we and communities construct a collective image of the future. We can transform this vision into programs and services.

An example is the Rural Community College Initiative, funded by the Ford Foundation. Southeast and Hazard Community Colleges are part of this undertaking.

Using the initiative program, community-building colleges developed a strategic plan that is more an array of suggested paths rooted in shared community values. Community colleges are positioned to remove the physical and psychological obstacles to admission. We can bring a unity of purpose to economic, cultural, educational and social planning.

Southeast Community College has established the Pine Mountain Community Development Corp. in partnership with area banks. It provides small business loans and technical assistance for the people of Bell, Harlan and Letcher counties. We will inaugurate the Southeast Scholars Program, a scholarship fund wedded to a mentoring

program in partnership with area middle schools and a leadership academy that will broaden our leadership base.

Hazard is actively engaging its community with a series of "roundtable" public discussions. They have opened the door for new partnerships that are conceiving local solutions for regional problems. In the fall, the initiative program will be brought to Prestonsburg and Somerset Community Colleges. These colleges will have the opportunity to initiate their own process of community building.

These important steps are taking place within the present structure. Will the changes produced by a special legislative session further the mission of the community building college?

Roy Silver is an associate professor of sociology and team leader of the Rural Community College Initiative at Southeast Community College in Cumberland.

WEDNESDAY, MARCH 5, 1997 ■ LEXINGTON HERALD-LEADER, LEXINGTON, KY. ■ COMMUNITY 19

ROWAN COUNTY

Eugene C. Norden, assistant professor at Morehead State University, has been named College/University Teacher of the Year by the Kentucky Music Educators Association.



Norden

Norden, who earned a bachelor's degree from Western State College of Colorado and a master's from Morehead, has been a member of the university's faculty since 1968, when he became assistant director of bands.

He was director of Morehead's bands from 1981 to 1985. Today, he primarily teaches music education courses and saxophone.

He is an evaluator and trainer for the Kentucky Teacher Internship program and coordinates Morehead's annual middle-school instrumental clinics, and, for several years, the summer band camps.

Smith to head Pikeville College

Former vice president at Muskingum College

By **GEORGE WOLFFORD**
OF THE DAILY INDEPENDENT

PIKEVILLE — Pikeville College has chosen Harold H. "Hal" Smith, vice president of Muskingum College in New Concord, Ohio, as its 16th president.

Terry Dotson, chairman of Pikeville's board of trustees, announced the selection last week.

Smith succeeds William H. Owens, who will retire on June 30 after 12 years in the position.

Dotson said Smith was selected from a pool of more than 100 candidates drawn by a national search.

"Hal will be a good transition to continue Bill Owens' work," Dotson said. "His ties to Kentucky and his experience in working in a small, church-related college environ-



Hal Smith

ment are valuable assets."

Smith said he was drawn to Pikeville by the commonality of experiences. "The things I've been doing at Centre and Muskingum are things

Pikeville's been doing for a long time. I want to come back to Kentucky to see if we can play a role in Pikeville's future.

"My three children are all in college now, in their own lives, and it's a good opportunity for us to return. The opportunities are really good and this is the right time to do it."

Smith and Owens worked together for years at Centre College, where both taught and served in administrative positions. Both men are Kentucky natives: Owens was born in Hazard, Smith in Southgate.

Smith said he'll come to Pikeville "a couple of days a month" between now and June 1, when he takes over. Owens said he will be consulting with Smith on several building projects now going on at the college.

Included are projects that focus on the opening this fall

of the Pikeville College School of Osteopathic Medicine. Owens said the Science Building will be renovated to accommodate the school, with plans under way for adding a floor. The administration building and the Derriana Building — a dormitory unused for 15 years — are also being renovated.

Owens said the college has doubled enrollment to 800 students and tripled its endowment during the dozen years he's been there.

"We've done a lot of campus renovation and construction and just made the place more attractive, safer and more accessible for students, faculty and staff," he said. "Remember, we're the school that sets on the hill with 99 steps."

Smith said he has no specific changes in mind for the school. "I know a lot's been done in the last 10 years. The institution is quite strong, with a good foundation, and I want to continue in that."

MSU Clip Sheet

MSU ARCHIVES

A sample of recent articles of interest to Morehead State University

INSTITUTIONAL RELATIONS MOREHEAD STATE UNIVERSITY UPO BOX 1100 MOREHEAD, KY 40351-1689 608-783-2030
THE COURIER-JOURNAL • FRIDAY, MARCH 7, 1997

Patton: Colleges not ready for future

Governor cites evidence to back his reform effort

By ROBERT T. GARRETT
The Courier-Journal

FRANKFORT, Ky. — Gov. Paul Patton offered a multicount indictment of Kentucky's public system of higher education yesterday, saying it isn't ready to meet new challenges and has failed to yield an acceptable return on the investment taxpayers have made in it.

Patton's indictment was contained in a "fact book" his office released after sending it to state lawmakers. It offers data and anecdotes that support recommendations he is expected to make by the end of the month to his task force studying higher education. Patton plans to convene a special session of the General Assembly on the subject, beginning May 5.

INCLUDED IN HIS BILL of particulars on the state's postsecondary education system were:

■ Duplication is widespread. Nearly half of the 1,142 degree programs offered by the state's universities and community colleges are "low performance." That means that in 1996 they had only a handful of graduates — in bachelor's degree programs, fewer than 10; in master's degree programs, five; and in doctoral programs, three.

For instance, five state university campuses offer a bachelor's in German language and literature. But all told, such programs produced only nine graduates last year.

■ Degrees being earned don't match the jobs of the future.

Among 15 states in the Southeast and Midwest, Kentucky ranked last in 1994 in the number of bachelor's degrees its colleges and universities granted in computer science, engineering and sciences per 1,000 high-school graduates. Kentucky had only 53 such graduates per 1,000 high-school graduates, compared to an average of 69 in the other states.

Similarly, Kentucky was next to last among the 15 states in its production of associate degrees, which generally are two-year programs, in skilled trades.

BUT A RECENT REPORT by the Workforce Development Cabinet estimated that job growth in computers, mathematics and related occupations "will grow the fastest of all occupational groups in Kentucky through 2005." Moreover, in Kentucky, growth of jobs in precision production and craft and repair occupations is expected "to increase at twice the national growth rate."

■ Spending on research and development in Kentucky trails the national average. Such spending can produce spinoff businesses that accelerate a region's economic growth. But in 1994, even though it ranks 24th among the states in population, Kentucky ranked 35th in academic "R&D" — spending a comparatively modest \$126 million.

Among the 15 states with which Kentucky competes for jobs, it was last in 1994 in total R&D expenditures per capita (only \$30).

■ The state's high percentage of high-school dropouts is a drag on growth in personal income. Only 13 percent of the state's adult population has completed a bachelor's degree, compared to the national level of 20 percent. Among its competitor states, only Mississippi in 1990 joined Kentucky in having more than 35 percent of its adults lacking a high-school education.

As a candidate for governor in 1995, Patton said his major goal was to reform education and remove impediments to business activity so that per-capita income in the state could catch up with the national average in 20 years. Today, Kentucky's per-capita income is 81 percent of the U.S. average. Its 14 competitor states (Alabama, Florida, Georgia, Illinois, Indiana, Louisiana, Mississippi, Missouri, North Carolina, Ohio, South Carolina, Tennessee, Virginia and West Virginia) have an average per-capita income equal to 95 percent of the U.S. average.

PATTON'S FACT BOOK attributes the system's woes to a lack of statewide leadership and coordination. "There is no statewide strategic vision to drive the postsecondary education system as a critical economic engine for the state and its regions," the report says.

The Courier-Journal reported yesterday that Patton is likely to propose that the state Council on Higher Education be strengthened; that incentives for excellence and cooperation be created in the state's funding formula for higher education; and that the University of Kentucky's 14 community colleges be detached and operated in tandem with the state's 24

postsecondary technical schools, under a new board.

"That several universities offer the same degree program and none of them graduate more than five to 10 students each year raises a basic question about the adequacy of leadership by the Council on Higher Education and the incentives in the financing policies," Patton's fact book says.

THE REPORT implicitly criticizes UK for having too broad a mission and for resisting proposals to jettison "lower division and workforce programs," meaning the community colleges, and instead focus on "specialized upper-division and graduate programs."

It cites numerous vocational programs that are duplicated by the community colleges and Kentucky Tech, "sometimes on adjoining campuses." The report says students are "caught between the systems," when it comes to transferring course credits or finding the right mix of technology classes and academic instruction.

The state's system makes no sense, the report says. The funding formula encourages four-year institutions, which are mindful of enrollment-driven funding, to latch onto students who are better suited for Kentucky Tech's programs. But rigid state personnel policies that cover tech-school teachers, but not community-college faculty, prevent Kentucky Tech from offering night or weekend courses to nontraditional students who have work and family commitments.

KENTUCKY TECH schools often receive more respectful treatment, in negotiating what course credits can be transferred from private or out-of-state colleges than they do from UK's community colleges, the report says.

The lack of cooperation isn't limited to UK, the report says. It notes, without specifying where this is the case, that a Kentucky Tech school lacks access to the Internet "because of insufficient phone lines. Next door, on the same campus, the regional university has a T-1 line with immediate and direct access, but this service is inaccessible to Kentucky Tech."

Patton lists problems with higher education

Report says system inefficient, political

BY BILL ESTEP
AND JACK BRAMMER

HERALD-LEADER FRANKFORT BUREAU

FRANKFORT — The system for educating Kentuckians after high school is too political and inefficient, helping to keep Kentucky poorer than it should be, according to a plain-spoken review released by Gov. Paul Patton.

How do you fix it? Stay tuned.

Patton, who wants lawmakers to reform higher education in a special session planned for May 5, released a report long on criticism but short on solutions yesterday.

Its conclusions — that universities don't graduate enough students with four-year degrees, don't do enough to drive economic development and don't produce national-quality research — were not news to critics of Kentucky's billion-dollar system of post-secondary education.

But while it did not include recommendations for changes, Patton's first in-depth statement on higher education may signal his agenda.

Observers are bound to read much into the report and ponder whether Patton plans to take the state's community colleges away from the University of Kentucky, change the formula for funding universities, or set up a technology-delivered "virtual university" to spread access to education.

Patton stressed he has not decided on any proposals — particularly regarding the sensitive issue of UK's community colleges.

"I haven't decided what to do," he said last night.

Some observers think Patton wants to strip the 14 community colleges from UK, but fears doing so because the resulting fight against that step would overshadow other reform proposals.

"Is the fight worth it?" seems to be the question Patton is pondering, said Rep. Harry Moberly, chairman of the House budget committee.

There will probably be plenty to wrestle with as Patton tries to

push change in the entrenched, politically powerful system of higher education.

Aims McGuinness, the consultant who wrote Patton's report, said the state needs to coordinate between community colleges and vocational-technical schools; focus on excellence in select programs at regional universities; cut duplication; and target funding to achieve specific goals.

One main goal for targeted spending should be improving research and technology to make education more widely available. McGuinness said.

Reaction to the report yesterday was low-key because most legislators hadn't read it yet. Soon after getting it, though, some legislators complained that there is a lack of access to education in parts of Kentucky.

Senate budget chairman Benny Ray Bailey, D-Hindman, told Patton's budget director, Jim Ramsey, that southeastern Kentucky lacks a four-year public university.

"Any thought about moving or creating a university for that part of the state?" he asked.

Ramsey said the governor is also concerned about expanding access to education.

These are some of the problems cited in the report:

- There is too much duplication among the state's universities, community colleges and vocational-technical schools.

vo-tech schools and two-year colleges in the same town duplicate some courses, and the formula for funding post-secondary education offers no incentive for universities to cut duplication.

Universities also have too many programs that produce few graduates, the report said.

- The state has no effective way to set post-secondary education policy and coordinate offerings.

That means, for instance, that some Kentucky vo-tech schools have been able to form course-transfer agreements with schools in other states but not in Kentucky.

One key reason is that the Council on Higher Education, which is supposed to coordinate higher education, has fallen short, robbed of any real power because of politics.

Leonard Hardin, chairman of the council, issued a statement saying he agreed completely.

- There is a lack of planning on using technology to create wider access to post-secondary education.

- There are financial barriers for students. The Kentucky Higher Education Assistance Authority gave money to 25,000 students in the 1995-96 school year, but didn't have enough to help 14,000 others who wanted help.

The report said Kentucky needs to put an extra \$100 million to \$300 million into post-secondary education in the next few years to keep up with spending in nearby states.

Moberly said the state can come up with \$100 million if the economy stays good and Patton can hold the line on spending elsewhere.

LEXINGTON HERALD-LEADER, LEXINGTON, KY. ■ FRIDAY, MARCH 7, 1997

At least 200 UK students protest budget cut plan

BY JENNIFER ALMJELD
HERALD-LEADER STAFF WRITER

At least 200 University of Kentucky students and staff members blew the whistle on proposed university budget cuts yesterday.

At noon, protesters dressed in black filled the square in front of the Patterson Office Tower to voice their opinions of UK administrators' 1997-98 budget proposal to the school's board of trustees.

The exact percentages or amounts by which the budget would be cut have not been disclosed. But yesterday, protest organizers distributed handouts that outlined the problems they think cutbacks will cause:

- Bigger classes
- Fewer sessions of each class
- Fewer teaching assistants
- Increased workloads for faculty

"We were hoping to connect these cutbacks with real student and faculty lives," said Mary Curran, a resident assistant. "This is not just an abstract proposal. It will affect everyone here."

Organizers said the rally's main goal was to make people more aware of the budgeting process.

"We want more students asking questions," said student Meredith Redlin. "We want more undergradu-

MORE →



On the NET

The text of Gov. Patton's statement is available via Kentucky Connect at <http://www.kentuckyconnect.com>

Highlights of the text will be published in the Sunday Herald-Leader, page E2.

PROTEST: UK students voice budget concerns

(Continued)

ates involved."

Students poured out of nearby classroom buildings and joined the demonstrators circling the administration building. The demonstrators blew whistles and chanted "Show us the money" and "It doesn't add up."

Those unable to attend the rally expressed themselves in other ways.

"Some members of my class were wearing black ribbons in support," said Shaunna Scott, an associate professor of sociology.

"I think many of the faculty are concerned about these cuts too," she said.

Carolyn Gallaher, a teaching assistant in the geography department for more than three years, said students should be more involved in devising the budget.

"We have no voice, no way to give our input," Gallaher said. "The budget process has been very closed off, and the numbers we are getting don't add up."

Protesters also enjoyed a skit by five students in the roles of teaching and resident assistants, staff, faculty, scholarships and quality education — all shackled together behind a student dressed as UK President Charles T. Wethington Jr.

Not long after the rally began, protesters were urged to move to the free speech area of campus by Dean of Students David Stockham. Stockham's invitation was received with angry shouts and more whistle-blowing as the crowd remained where it was.

"Certainly people should be able to express themselves, but they shouldn't interfere with the rights of others in that area," Stockham said. "We want them to have their First Amendment rights, but they need to understand the rules and regulations of the university."

Many protesters disagreed with Stockham.

"You have a right to be here, a right to say what you believe," Vincent DeCasino, a graduate student in geography, shouted to the crowd.

Rally organizers were not concerned about disciplinary action.

"We feel we have the right to speak as long as we're not blocking any streets or bothering anyone," said Dana Patton, a graduate student in political science.

Officials dislike Patton plan

Say community colleges should stay with UK

By **GEORGE WOLFFORD**
OF THE DAILY INDEPENDENT

ASHLAND — The idea of stripping the state's community college system from the University of Kentucky has never been a popular one in Ashland.

So Gov. Paul Patton's proposal to do that is not playing very well with Ashland Community College officials.

The Louisville Courier-Journal reported this morning that Patton wants to place the 14 two-year schools and 24 post-secondary technical schools under a board that would be created to oversee them.

UK has overseen the community colleges since their creation in the early 1960s. It has fought off past attempts to detach the community colleges, but none of those had a governor's blessing.

Patton has said he intends to convene a special session of the legislature May 5 to reshape Kentucky's higher education system.

Patton, who was touring flood areas Wednesday, could not be reached for comment. His communications director, Melissa Forsythe, would only say, "There is no plan right now. There is thinking."

The chairman of ACC's advisory board said this morning it was premature to comment before any formal announcement of the governor's plan.

"However, I know of no support from the legislative delegation in our service area or from our board," said Greenup attorney Bruce Leslie.

"You've got to wait and see what he's saying. I've heard that rumor, but this particular proposal isn't a brainchild of Governor Patton. It's been around as long as we've had community colleges and votech schools."

ACC's faculty representative, who also represents all 14 faculties on the UK board of trustees, was stronger in his distaste for the idea.

"My first preference is to stay with the University of Kentucky," said Jimmy J. Miller. "I believe I agree with (UK) President Charles Wethington and others who have raised the issue. No one has shown there is any advantage in changing the governance."

"If we're not affiliated with and actually attached to the Lexington campus, then I would want a standalone system, without the tech schools. I agree there ought to be all kinds of joint, coordinated programs between the two systems, but the mission statement set by the legislature years ago is as valid as when it was written. If we dilute the community colleges and vocational schools, we do a disservice to the citizens of this state," Miller said.

Patton also wants to pour more cash and effort into enhancing national prestige for UK's graduate-level and research programs, as well as for selected programs at the University of Louisville and the six other state universities.

Even as Patton prepares to propose that UK give up the community colleges, an important part of its political-support network, he also is close to proposing that he give up a gubernatorial prerogative — direct appointment of university trustees. He would give that power to the Council on Higher Education, which coordinates the universities.

Democratic legislators friendly to Patton, such as House Budget Committee Chairman Harry Moberly of Richmond, have said they believe the governor has only a 50-50 chance of success in wresting the community colleges from UK.

UK President Charles Wethington refused to comment Wednesday, saying, "I would not comment on anything of that sort unless I heard that directly from the governor."

Patton's advisers have expressed concern that UK supporters may seethe over the community-college question, and lose sight of the benefits he wants to confer on his alma mater and the other universities.

Former Gov. Edward T. "Ned" Breathitt, chairman of the UK board of trustees, said Wednesday, "We've taken polls, and it's overwhelming support in all the (14) communities" for staying under UK's control. "They want a UK degree," Breathitt said. "They don't want a degree from some board."

THE ASSOCIATED PRESS
contributed to this story.

UK's community colleges spread education and skills

BY ROLLIN J. WATSON

"It is an ancient Mariner,
And he stoppeth one of
three" to tell a tale of woe
to an uncaring stranger, Samuel
Taylor Coleridge told us in "The
Rime of the Ancient Mariner." The
long grey beard and the glittering
eye in this case may belong to a
sagacious professor, who like the
ancient mariner, may have made
the mistake of killing a good bird,
like an albatross, although he is un-
aware of his egregious error. It may
be that it is he, not the University
of Kentucky, who is killing the al-
batross.

I recall Coleridge because a pro-
fessor wrote in a Feb. 23 letter to
the editor that the University of
Kentucky community colleges are
an albatross that hangs about the
flagship university's neck. The
metaphor of the albatross is badly
misplaced. The poem, after all, was
about a remorseful man who had
killed a good and innocent creature
and was spending his life in lamen-
tation for a dreadful mistake.

The professor defended UK's
need to concentrate on enhancing
its reputation as a research institu-
tion while ridding itself of the two-
year colleges. After comparing the
community colleges to an albatross,
he wrote, "How in the world is an
associate-degree-granting institu-
tion going to help a university gain
prestige in its graduate programs?
On the contrary, it seems clear that
it can only drag it down."

What he fails to recognize is
that a sound foundation provides
lasting support for the upper levels
on an edifice.

There are four crucial matters
to consider about UK and its com-
munity colleges.

First, the lesson in Coleridge's
poem is that we should not kill the
good bird, the albatross, or in this
case, the community colleges, lest
we live to regret it. The point here
is that danger lies not with UK —
which has seen that the supportive
community colleges can be part of
a great research university — but
with well-meaning people who de-
stroy something unknown to them.

One political reality is that

thousands of successful Kentuck-
ians got their start in a community
college. Another is that Kentucky is
not North Carolina and should not
want to be. Yet another is that
states where branches of higher ed-
ucation are closely related have the
best university systems. The flag-
ship University of North Carolina
at Chapel Hill, traditionally a
strong research university, has lost
ground in recent years, and its
community colleges are not the
most highly rated in the country.
With far better funding than Ken-
tucky, North Carolina's system of
higher education is fragmented, not

**The best flagship research
universities use supporting
institutions to disseminate
practical research
and provide incentives
for further research.**

free of internecine warfare.

Second, consider the example of
William Rainey Harper, who built
one of the nation's great research
universities at the University of
Chicago. Harper, acknowledged to
be one of the pioneers of the Ameri-
can research university, not only
saw great benefit in university ex-
tension work, but he also started a
junior college because he saw that
it could enhance his efforts to cre-
ate a first-class research university.

Another research university pi-
oneer, David Starr Jordan, founding
president of Stanford, was an early
advocate of the junior college as a
supporting institution for the re-
search university.

Funded separately from UK, the
community colleges do the work of
preparing undergraduate students
in general education and technical
studies so that universities can con-
centrate their efforts on upper-level
and graduate work. In Kentucky,
the community colleges educate
one-third of all students in higher
education while using only 10 per-
cent of the public allocation of

funds. How can this be a drain on
UK?

The drain on UK emanates
from too many competing state uni-
versities, not from the meager re-
sources used by the community col-
leges.

In recent times, many of the
more progressive states have seen
Harper's point, as they have begun
pulling the community colleges
closer to the flagship universities.
The best flagship research universi-
ties use supporting institutions to
disseminate practical research and
provide incentives for further re-
search.

Third, UK is a land-grant insti-
tution that serves an entire state.
Its community colleges enable UK
to give broad public exposure to
applications of research. The com-
munity colleges, for instance, now
are taking "lean manufacturing"
created by the Robotics Center at
UK and supplying that knowledge
to industry around the state, just as
they are making practical applica-
tions of medical, dental and other
technological research in remote
sections of the commonwealth.

Fourth, UK President Charles
T. Wethington Jr. knows perfectly
well what he is doing in standing
up for the community colleges. Per-
haps more than any leader in high-
er education since John Oswald,
who began to revitalize UK in the
early 1960s, Wethington has a vi-
sion for a great flagship research
university. He has brought more
Merit Scholars to UK than any oth-
er president. We might ask who, af-
ter all, had the courage and the
wisdom to build a much-needed re-
search library and who works tire-
lessly to extend the resources of
UK to the entire state while he is
busy raising millions of private dol-
lars to enhance the university's re-
search efforts?

Wethington knows that the
community colleges give efficient
delivery to, and public support for,
further research. Community col-
leges extend the services and the
influence of UK to the entire com-
monwealth.

■ Rollin J. Watson is president of
Somerset Community College.

UK doctors told not to speak badly of other physicians

Associated Press

LEXINGTON, Ky. — The University of Kentucky Chandler Medical Center now requires faculty physicians to sign an agreement forbidding them to make "disparaging remarks" about doctors in private practice, or their patients.

UK residents — doctors in training — are required to sign a similar pledge.

It is not a gag order, insisted Dr. Emery Wilson, dean of the medical school and the author of the new policy.

Wilson said the idea is to combat a tendency by doctors at large facilities like UK's to discount the quality of care in smaller towns or hospitals.

He said the pledge will foster better relations between the university and doctors out in the state at a time when the university increasingly needs the patients those doctors refer to UK Hospital for treatment.

The policy won't prevent UK doctors from reporting any suspected malpractice cases to the Kentucky Board of Medical Licensure, Wilson said.

"I could see where somebody would say this is all being used to protect doctors, but that has nothing to do with it," Wilson said. "I feel like it's one of the most positive things we've done in a long time."

The University of Louisville medical school has no such covenant, officials there said.

The "Covenant With Kentucky Providers" will be part of the annual employment contracts that UK faculty doctors will sign in May and June. A doctor who doesn't sign, in effect, would terminate his or her employment.

The covenant covers about 500 UK clinical faculty members who see patients referred by outside doctors. The policy does not apply to 100 or so doctors who do research at UK.

The covenant says, in part: "I understand that my comments and actions reflect on the University of

Kentucky and the entire UK Health-care enterprise. I will not make disparaging remarks about my patients, their families, their physicians, their homes or heritage, nor will I tolerate anyone who does."

UK doctors will be obligated to do other things under the agreement. For example, a doctor who sees a patient referred from an outside physician would have to report back to that doctor within 24 hours on the diagnosis and treatment.

According to the agreement, a UK physician who makes disparaging comments or violates other provisions could lose a large part of the UK pay he or she receives for seeing patients. For many, that would constitute much of their total pay.

A resident who violated the covenant potentially could have his or her training terminated, according to the agreement.

Wilson said he's periodically heard of incidents in which UK doctors disparaged doctors in private practice, or ridiculed rural areas of the state. But a recent incident involving a UK physician and a Kentucky hospital prompted him to go ahead with the covenant, he said.

Wilson said the UK physician complained that the hospital didn't provide X-rays of a patient it referred to the university for treatment. The UK doctor then wrote to the patient offering assistance if the patient wanted to take legal action against the hospital.

Wilson said he thinks no UK physician should ever encourage a patient to take another doctor to court.

There has been no public opposition from the UK faculty so far, and Wilson says most faculty members accept the idea of the covenant.

Checks with some nearby medical schools in Tennessee, Ohio and West Virginia turned up no institutions with such a policy.

And the Association of American Medical Colleges says it knows of no medical school in the country with such a requirement for faculty members.

Thinking big, and small

REPORTS that Gov. Paul Patton is strongly inclined toward severing the state's 14 community colleges from the University of Kentucky should cheer all who hope for an aggressive reform of public higher education. We say this not because we are prepared to embrace his proposal. In fact, there is no proposal yet. In such circumstances, UK President Charles Wethington was wise to say that he will not respond until he has heard directly from the Governor about a specific plan.

Still, Mr. Patton's apparent preference on community colleges is very good news. For one thing, it suggests he intends to tightly coordinate the operations and missions of the community colleges and the state's 24 post-secondary technical schools. That would be a boon to local and regional economies. More important, it is strong evidence that the Governor continues to think ambitiously and in terms of systemic change.

Unfortunately, a particularly ominous sour note was immediately struck by former Gov. Edward T. Breathitt, the chairman of the UK Board of Trustees. Mr. Breathitt warned of "a conflict of epic proportions, which would endanger the whole proposal." It is reasonable to construe his remarks as a threat that UK would fight to scuttle Mr. Patton's entire reform program in order to protect its

control of the community colleges.

UK deserves — and most assuredly will have — a key voice in shaping reform. However, Mr. Breathitt especially, as an ex-governor who fought some titanic legislative battles of his own, should understand that he did higher education no favor by prematurely drawing such a clear line in the dirt. We hope that, upon reflection, he will reserve his judgments and his ammunition for later.

For the moment, however, as we await specifics from the Governor, it is important to remember that, in principle, separating UK and the community colleges

is in the interests of both. We think a united system of community colleges and technical schools under a separate board would be more responsive to the local needs of employers and the work force.

But such a divorce could also enable UK to streamline its bureaucracy and focus on its central mission as the state's flagship university — becoming the center of excellence for teaching, research and advanced study. Whatever the final form of Mr. Patton's proposals, it is clear that UK stands to gain far more than it can lose, even if its interests are viewed in their most parochial terms.

If this moment of opportunity is not to be lost, it is imperative that UK — and its board chairman — act as the state's standard-bearer for excellence, and not as a narrow political fiefdom.

Ned Breathitt "did higher education no favor by prematurely drawing such a clear line...."

Taking the pledge

UK abandons academic tradition by muzzling docs

What would be the reaction if political science professors at the University of Kentucky were required to sign a pledge saying they would "not make disparaging remarks about Kentucky politicians, their homes or heritage, nor will I tolerate anyone who does"?

Ridiculous, right? The university has a long tradition of protecting speech and encouraging dissent. It would never trash those rights.

Well, it has. Doctors on the faculty of the UK Medical School now are required to sign loyalty oaths to the Kentucky medical establishment.

Dr. Emery Wilson, dean of the UK medical school, calls it the "Covenant With Kentucky Providers." Faculty members who treat patients must sign.

Portions of the covenant make sense. For instance, UK doctors are required to report back to local physicians who refer their patients to Lexington for treatment.

Fine. But the covenant goes several leagues past good medicine.

Wilson says he has been troubled by UK physicians who diminished local docs. (You know, the big-city doctors who tell patients they've been crippled by "some quack in East Creekbed.") And he wanted to stop UK doctors from encouraging patients to file malpractice claims against private practitioners.

So an academic dean fashioned a muzzle. The pledge, in part, states:

"I understand that my comments and actions reflect on the University of Kentucky and the entire UK Healthcare enterprise. I will not make disparaging remarks about my patients, their families, their physicians, their homes or heritage, nor will I tolerate anyone who does."

UK won't offer a contract to doctors who don't sign the pledge.

Doctors who violate the oath of allegiance can be fired.

(The remarkable part of this story is how meekly UK doctors have given up their free speech rights. Graduate assistants in the arts and sciences have the gumption to protest the loss of their low-wage jobs to budget cuts. Medical center doctors, meanwhile, sign away their freedoms in silence.)

In bits and pieces, the state's universities are turning into private businesses. UK's hospital isn't just a teaching institution anymore; it's a profit center.

It may be only natural for the institution to follow the money. Local doctors are sources of patients. Dump on the local docs and the hospital loses customers. Bad business.

Wilson's decision to end free speech in his department, however, isn't just a business decision, or even a question of good manners. Analogies don't always make a case, but just consider what would happen if other departments adopted the medical school pledge.

Journalism professors could be asked to swear away criticism of Kentucky newspapers. Agriculture professors would be required to sign a paper saying they would speak only good of the Kentucky Farm Bureau. Law school faculty would be prohibited from challenging local judges or individual lawyers.

It's hard to tell what's up at UK. Maybe the University of Kentucky now will sell any piece of its heritage or status. It will collect money for a new sports arena, broker its land for a Wal-Mart, trade its tradition of unfettered inquiry for a few gall bladder patients from Lewis County.

We don't think that's the kind of place the University of Kentucky aspires to be. Actions, however, are speaking loud, and words from the administration are not encouraging.

MSU Clip Sheet

A sample of recent articles of interest to Morehead State University

INSTITUTIONAL RELATIONS MOREHEAD STATE UNIVERSITY UPO BOX 1100 MOREHEAD, KY 40351-1689 606-783-2030

THE COURIER-JOURNAL • MONDAY, MARCH 10, 1997

ALUMNI, FRANKFORT TIES, FANS ADD TO POWER

UK can exercise unmatched clout to keep community college system

Patton would face a major obstacle in UK's political influence if he attempts to strip away its two-year schools.

By RICHARD WILSON
The Courier-Journal

LEXINGTON, Ky. — The clout of Kentucky's 132-year-old flagship university will be tested as never before if Gov. Paul Patton moves to rip the 14 community colleges away from the University of Kentucky.

The power of UK, led by its president, Charles Wethington, is rooted in its statewide reach through the community colleges, its alumni in every county, its Frankfort connections — and even in the devotion of its basketball fans.

"The real question in Kentucky is whether Wethington is as powerful as the governor," said Murray State University President Kern Alexander, a frequent critic of UK.

The Courier-Journal reported last week that Patton is strongly leaning toward combining the community colleges, under a new governing board, with the state's technical schools.

Patton argues that greater coordination is needed between the community colleges and technical schools to eliminate inefficiencies and that such a move would allow UK to focus more on research and undergraduate and graduate education in Lexington.

But Wethington countered in an interview last week that UK has run the community colleges "efficiently and effectively. . . . Someone who wants to make the argument for some different arrangement is going to have to show how students can be better served, or how the operation can be run more efficiently."

He added, "The burden of proof must be on those who propose a change."

Several previous efforts to dislodge the 35-year-old community college system, which has 43,674 students, have been easily deflected by UK, which argues that the colleges fit its statewide mission.

"UK is probably one of the most powerful political entities in the state," said Morehead State University President Ron Eaglin. He and presidents of some of the other regional universities think UK has received favored treatment in funding, new programs and campus construction because of its influence.

But Wethington said critics often misinterpret UK's influence. Its goal, he said, is to use its support to

fulfill its mission as Kentucky's only statewide university charged by law with serving all Kentuckians' educational needs.

"I'm not looking for power. I'm certainly not looking for personal influence, but I'm trying to, through all of (UK's) supporters, expand the level of support across this state for (the university) and thereby give us a better opportunity to achieve a competitive level of funding," he said.

Wethington, who headed UK's community college system for eight years before becoming president in 1990, has resisted commenting on what moves he will mount if Patton tries to take away the two-year schools. But he told UK deans earlier this year that he would strongly fight the effort. He also met earlier this year with influential community college supporters from around the state to discuss strategies to keep the schools.

SINCE EARLY last month, UK has been broadcasting 30-second radio and TV ads statewide touting the community colleges as "vital to Kentucky's future."

"The instructors, the advisers, the staff, everyone — it's a community, and they do give you support and encouragement along the way," says Ludrenia Sue Hagans, 43, a Hazard Community College graduate from Knott County and mother of eight children, in one of the spots.

In another, James Ealey, 35, a former welder from Greenup who got "fed up" with working only a few months a year, says the thing he likes best about Ashland Community College is its UK affiliation.

UK officials contend the commercials — and a series of newspaper ads featuring other students — are not the opening salvo in a fight to derail any effort to strip the schools from the university. But they demonstrate UK's reach. Eaglin and others say that much of UK's clout, particularly in the General Assembly, comes from a number and variety of sources no other school can match.

"They're one of the few organizations in the state that can crank up enough support to immediately get the legislature's attention," said state Rep. Marshall Long, D-Shelbyville.

MUCH OF UK's strength is tied to the community college system, whose officials, faculty, graduates and boosters can lobby their legislators for UK.

Added to that is the network of agricultural extension agents in every county and about 70,000 alumni, who include business people, doctors, lawyers and politicians. Thirty-six of the General Assembly's 138 members and seven of the last 11 governors, including Patton, are UK graduates.

The Big Blue muscle also includes what Thomas D. Clark, the state's historian laureate, calls "the Main Street and back road alumni," whose devotion to UK basketball often translates into support.

And unlike in other states with more than one old-time state university — such as Indiana University and Purdue — loyalties are not split in most of Kentucky. The University of

RADIO, TV ADS USE NO TAX FUNDS

No taxpayers' money is involved in the production or broadcast of television and radio ads touting the University of Kentucky's community colleges, a UK spokesman says.

Bernie Vonderheide, UK's director of public relations, said the ads, which tout the 14 community colleges' affordability and access, appear through UK's agreement with Host Communications, which has the rights to broadcast UK basketball and football games.

The 30-second TV ads appear on stations in the state's eight major television markets and must be shown seven times a week in prime time.

The radio ads appear on more than 100 Kentucky radio stations 15 times weekly.

Louisville has been part of the state system since only 1970.

UK also has benefited over the years from a coterie of Frankfort-savvy officials on its staff. They have included former vice presidents Larry Forgy, who was state budget director and later ran for governor; Jim King, a top cabinet official under two governors; and Jack Blanton, a deputy budget director under Forgy. Others at UK, including Professors Charles Haywood and Merl Hackbart, Vice President Ed Carter and administrator Les Dawson, also have brought well-honed state government experience to the campus.

While it does not help today, UK's power base for many years was assisted by having the governor serve as chairman of its board of trustees.

"That was a big advantage," said former Gov. Edward T. "Ned" Breathitt, now chairman of UK's board. "The governor became intimately familiar with the university's problems and (did something about them) in the (state) budget process."

ONE EXAMPLE came in the 1960s when Breathitt was governor and UK trustee chairman. He told state university presidents how much money he would propose for higher education and then let them split the financial pie. After an agreement was reached during an all-night meeting, then-UK President John Oswald and A.D. Albright, UK's executive vice president, stopped in Frankfort to see Breathitt and plead their case for an additional \$1 million for UK.

MORE →

UK Clout
(cont'd)

The Sunday Independent, Ashland, Kentucky, March 9, 1997

System review rates an 'F'

Report result of long look at higher education

By PAMELA J. TODD
OF THE DAILY INDEPENDENT

ASHLAND — Kentucky's postsecondary educational system is ill-prepared to meet the needs of the next century, concludes a report prepared for Gov. Paul Patton.

The system of state universities, community colleges and vocational schools is fragmented, driven too much by politics and fosters competition rather than cooperation, said the report, compiled by National Center for Higher Education Management Systems, which was hired by the Task Force on Postsecondary Education.

"The commonwealth has an undereducated citizenry and a postsecondary education system marked by fragmentation and conflict," the report said.

Higher education in Kentucky remains inaccessible to too many members of the general public and "there remain many serious questions about quality."

The report lists the shortcomings of Kentucky's eight public universities, community colleges and postsecondary vocational schools.

"These separate institutions share many common goals but have developed independently," the report said.

"The most significant barrier (to excellence) is the lack of an effective statewide structure to coordinate all of the state's postsecondary education resources and provide a strategic vision."

The system suffers from a duplication of services and is not doing its job graduating students, the report said. Kentucky also seriously trails the

nation and competitor states in the area of research and development.

"No coordination exists to link the state's critical mass of postsecondary institutions to a statewide mission, to the regional economies or to prevent unnecessary duplication," the report said.

The report was the culmination of eight months spent collecting information to be considered by the General Assembly as it prepares to convene in special session Patton has called for May 5.

The report outlines the importance of Kentucky's postsecondary education system to its future, the barriers to achieving an efficient and coordinated system, and the goals for creating a comprehensive postsecondary education system.

Patton urged legislators to become familiar with the report and keep their minds open to suggestions.

"This issue is too important to be decided on the basis of politics, region, past loyalties or incomplete data," Patton said. "Please do not commit or stake out positions on this critical subject until you have reviewed all the information and heard the entire debate."

But some legislators — including several members of the state Interim Education Committee — are already skeptical about the prospects for higher education reform. During a meeting Thursday they complained that the system's biggest problem is that it isn't readily accessible to many who need it.

"You've got islands of unserved people in the state," said Rep. Charlie Siler, R-Williamsburg.

Sen. Benny Ray Bailey, D-Hindman, chairman of the Senate Appropriations and Revenue Committee, said the focus of the debate is wrong. "Students are getting lost in this mix, it seems to me, especially undergraduates," he said.

Patton said last week he favors separating the state's community college system from the University of Kentucky, a move supporters of Ashland Community College have resisted for years. But he is not expected to make other specific recommendations on reform until later this month.

THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

provided information for this story.

"It didn't take more than 20 minutes (to get Breathitt's approval to put the \$1 million in UK's budget)," recalled Albright, later president of Northern Kentucky and Morehead State universities.

Until 1980, when the legislature gained its independence after years of gubernatorial dominance, UK's lobbying effort was limited primarily to the governor's office. But since then, UK and all other universities have had to plead their cases with lawmakers too.

That political turnaround has seemingly not undercut UK's clout. Although both are now retired, powerful senators like former Majority Leader Joe Wright of Breckinridge County and budget chief Mike Moloney of Lexington helped its interests for years. Wright is a UK alumnus, and Moloney is a law school graduate.

An example of Moloney's influence came during a 1985 trip to a Louisiana State University-UK football game in Baton Rouge, La., where then-President Otis Singletary and King got Moloney's blessing to put \$5 million in the state budget for a \$10 million supercomputer the state Council on Higher Education had earlier recommended that UK finance with its own money.

"It was a good trip," Moloney said recently. "I'd never been to Baton Rouge before."

One legislative perk that probably helped UK was free basketball and football season tickets lawmakers received until a few years ago, when concerns about legislative ethics ended the practice. Legislators now must buy tickets, but are still offered choice seats. Most do buy them, but often give them to constituents, which makes the tickets even better politics for UK.

ANOTHER SIGN of UK's strength in the legislature is that since 1982, it has won General Assembly approval for all 18 capital construction projects earlier rejected by the Council on Higher Education. The total value of the projects was \$104.2 million.

Senate Majority Leader David Karem called UK "an incredibly powerful force in the legislative process" and one that few lawmakers want to openly oppose. "All of us want to be perceived as being friends of UK," Karem added, noting that he frequently hears from constituents in his Louisville district on behalf of UK and its Jefferson Community College.

One lawmaker who did tangle with UK is former Sen. Ed Ford, now deputy secretary of Patton's Cabinet and a top aide in Patton's effort to reform higher education.

"The nearest time I ever came to getting a whipping," Ford said, was when he killed a House-passed bill to give county extension agents a seat on UK's board of trustees.

Since General Assembly approval would be necessary to remove the community colleges from UK, its influence in the legislature could be a key to the outcome — and UK may have more experience in that arena than Patton.

Stripping UK of its community colleges was termed "difficult, but not impossible" by Senate President Larry Saunders, a Louisville Democrat.

The outcome, Saunders said, will depend on "how much pressure and influence" UK and its supporters can bring on lawmakers.

Some find Patton agenda in higher-education report

By JACK BRAMMER

HERALD LEADER FRANKFORT BUREAU

FRANKFORT — Gov. Paul

Patton's highly critical report on higher education in Kentucky received a somewhat critical grade from lawmakers: "incomplete."

The report offered no plans or solutions; instead it catalogued problems in the state's eight universities, 14 community colleges and 24 post-secondary technical schools. They're racked by politics, lacking in leadership and they don't get enough bang for the buck, it says.

Some see clues in the criticisms.

Sen. Ernesto Scorsone, D-Lexington, said Patton "hasn't shown his cards" in the report, but "it's abundantly clear he wants a different structure of governance."

The report has harsh words for the Council on Higher Education, which coordinates universities.

But others are reluctant to guess at the goals of the governor, who has said he wants to make reforming higher education a centerpiece of his administration.

"The governor makes a compelling case for reforms but I don't think we should read into it exactly what he plans to do," Senate President Larry Saunders said yesterday of the bulky report.

Patton told legislators this week that the report "will be used as the basis for formulating a plan for improvements," but stressed that he has made "no final decisions."

State Budget Director Jim Ramsey, a member of a task force studying higher education, said Patton will not make recommendations on reform until late this month. The governor plans to call a special legislative session on the issue for May 5.

The report says the higher-education council "has fallen far short of its potential."

For example, the report cites a recent controversy between the University of Kentucky and Murray State University over engineering courses at Paducah Community College.

"This decision ... should have been made in a logical way by the council," it says. "Instead, these decisions are made by governors, legislatures or institutions based on political considerations."

UK President Charles Wethington said yesterday he has not yet received a copy of the report and would not be able to comment on it until he has had time to review it.

Murray State President Kern Alexander was not available for comment, but a spokeswoman said he had not gotten a copy of Patton's assessment.

Agreement on politics

Council Chairman Leonard Hardin said he agreed that politics saps the council's power.

The report also says that duplication of programs is widespread.

It noted that 511 of the 1,142 degree programs offered across the state — or about 45 percent — each graduate fewer than 10 students in bachelor's degree programs a year.

Only nine students got bachelor's degrees in German language and literature last year, though five state universities offered such programs, the report said. That "raises a basic question about the adequacy of leadership" by the council and about "the incentives in the financing policies," the report said.

And the report said Kentucky is lagging in granting degrees that match jobs of the future.

In 1994, Kentucky ranked last among 15 states in the South and Midwest in the number of bachelor's degrees granted in computer science, engineering and sciences for every 1,000 high school graduates. Kentucky had only 53 graduates in such programs, compared with an average of 69 in other states.

"The statistics in the governor's fact book are not new revelations," said House Democratic Whip Joe Barrows of Versailles. "But they take on more attention when the governor raises them to the public."

House Republican Floor Leader Danny Ford of Mount Vernon credited Patton with spotlighting the issue, "but I wouldn't say I have heard an overwhelming cry from my constituents to revamp higher education."

Ford said many Kentuckians have become wary of state reforms since the 1990 school reform effort and the 1994 health-care reform.

"Reform has gotten to be a word people are afraid of," he said. "They've gotten the idea it means throwing everything out ... even if some of the old things were working."

■ EDITORIAL

Time is right for bold changes

Higher education reform: unify, collaborate, excel and strengthen

The party is over.

Kentucky's state-sponsored universities for decades have carved the state like a Christmas turkey — a leg for Murray, a breast for Lexington, gravy for Louisville, dressing for Morehead. The division has been contentious, as the eight universities have scuffled over scraps and stolen food from each others' plates.

The schools have sought size over substance and they have succeeded. Wildly.

Programs have cloned and duplicated. Schools have captured towns with their troops (disguised as extended campuses) as if Kentucky were a Risk board. The University of Kentucky and Murray State fight over who will establish a redundant engineering program in Paducah. Northern Kentucky University starts a football team (even though the universities overall lose \$8 million a year on sports). Western Kentucky University pushes to add doctoral programs and UK pushes back.

The schools have exercised their political muscles far more than they have concentrated on their academic skills. And it shows. Kentucky has eight universities and not one of them ranks as a national center of research and scholarship. When the National Research Council examined doctoral programs in 1993, Kentucky had only one that ranked in the top 20 nationally. North Carolina had 37. Virginia had 14. Georgia had nine.

The system has achieved neither excellence nor a systematic education for those who don't want or need a college degree: Kentucky continues to have intolerably low rates of college graduation (13 percent of Kentuckians have college degrees compared with 20 percent nationally). But even in the most advanced economies, only a quarter of the population need graduate from college. The majority of young people need stringent and practical post-secondary education. Here, the Kentucky system also fails.

Kentucky has 14 community colleges and 24 technical schools. The colleges and the tech schools have similar missions, but they live on different planets. The colleges are run by the University of Kentucky. The technical schools fall under the auspices of the Cabinet for Workforce Development.

Although part of the same government family, these schools barely speak. Students who take courses at a community college or technical school can't be assured universities will accept these credits. Technical schools and community colleges often operate in the same town, but they seldom coordinate courses or programs.

Logically, the two systems should be growing closer. Community colleges no longer transfer many students to universities. (Only 5 percent of the students who enter community colleges transfer to universities.) Community colleges are centers of job training and community development in their towns. And technical schools no longer teach rudimentary skills. They

school students in math, physics and statistics, teaching the high level skills needed in a modern economy. Technical schools and community colleges today have missions that are converging, yet they remain separate institutions.

All things must come to an end, and the end is here for Kentucky's overlapping, wasteful, politically charged system of higher education. Kentucky has a governor in Paul Patton with the courage and insight to tame this monster. Money is short. The economy is demanding change. And the evidence calling for reform is overwhelming.

We propose this outline of a new system:

■ Community colleges and technical schools should be separated from UK and the Workforce Cabinet, and then combined. The combined system should be given the status and the financial support equal to the regional universities.

■ The combined (and enhanced) community colleges and technical schools should be ordered to establish a seamless system of education and work force training for both young people and adults.

■ The state should take whatever steps are necessary to support the University of Kentucky's quest to become a school on a par with leading

state universities in Virginia, Indiana and North Carolina.

■ The legislature should dissolve the Council on Higher Education and create a single entity with the unquestioned power to oversee and control a unified higher education system consisting of the state's eight universities and the system of community colleges and technical schools.

■ This new "super board" should coordinate professional schools, degree programs and course offerings, minimizing duplication and emphasizing high standards. Collaboration between these schools should become the norm.

■ The super board should be charged with developing new funding formulas that reward success in teaching, service and research, not just high numbers of students enrolled.

These, we know, are only a child's steps toward reform. We have not addressed how universities should change their shape and form as the economy and the needs of students evolve. We haven't figured out what missions our schools should adopt nor how many professional schools should be combined or closed.

We have concluded, however, that until the tangle of brush and logs are cleared, the river will continue to flood. Until the issues of control and ownership are settled, the state's universities will continue to tear each other apart in a wasteful battle for territory and money.

We've had enough. Turn out the lights. Let's start over with a new order — and hope that other reforms will follow.

The state should take whatever steps are necessary to support the University of Kentucky's quest to become a school on a par with leading state universities in Virginia, Indiana and North Carolina.

LETTERS

Academic records apparently don't count for much

The Morehead Lady Eagles just finished a stellar season. They rank sixth in the nation, first in Kentucky and first in the Ohio Valley Conference with a team grade point average of 3.31. They rank first in Kentucky in graduation rate. Amy Kieckbusch, Alisha Griffith and Vette Robinson maintain perfect 4.0 grade point averages. Griffith won the OVC's Medal of Honor last season with a perfect 4.0. These young ladies epitomize the scholar-athlete.

On the court, Kieckbusch has been just as excellent. She is fourth in the nation in scoring and sixth in field goal percentage. With both starting guards battling back from knee surgery, the team started slowly but finished the season in fourth place in the OVC. With 11 of the top 12 players returning next year, the future is indeed bright. In recognition of these efforts, the MSU administration rewarded Coach Janet Gabriel with a glowing written evaluation, then one week later informed her that her contract would not be renewed, as the administration wished to pursue a more winning course.

MSU President Ronald Eaglin has repeatedly stated publicly that MSU teams are at a disadvantage because of budget cuts and led efforts to drop scholarship football. In light of his past position, this "change in course" is surprising and highly disturbing.

STANLEY T. TURNER
JACKSON

Making the tough calls

It's tough to be an administrator, just ask Steve Hamilton, the athletic director at Morehead State University. Hamilton is one of the very few people to play on professional championship teams in two sports (New York Yankees and Minneapolis Lakers). As a baseball coach at Morehead, he produced conference championships, NCAA appearances, professional players and hundreds of good citizens. Hamilton has always been a gentleman and has shown class representing Morehead State since the mid-1960s. Unfortunately, as an administrator someone has to make the hard decisions.

Let's talk about basketball coach Dick Fick's tenure at Morehead. It was obvious that he cares about the players as people, as well as athletes. The graduation rate was fantastic. On the other side, his antics along the sideline had gotten old. In my opinion, he has done little to encourage the alumni, and frankly has not won many games with a schedule that is not that difficult. Also, I notice the power ratings show Morehead is at the bottom. All this leads to low attendance and unhappy alumni, which hurts the budget.

Unfortunately, an administrator has to do what's best for the university. Kyle Macy would make an outstanding choice.

JIM STEWART
MOREHEAD ALUMNUS
PRESTONSBURG

Ashland, Kentucky,
Saturday, March 8, 1997

NKU job finalists' visits set

HIGHLAND HEIGHTS (AP)
— Northern Kentucky University released the names Friday of three finalists for president and said the selection should be made by April 4.

The finalists:

►Marlene I. Strathè, provost and vice president for academic affairs at the University of North Dakota, who will visit NKU Sunday through Tuesday.

►Donald J. Mash, president of Wayne State College, Neb., whose visit is scheduled Tuesday through Thursday.

►James C. Votruba, vice provost for university outreach, Michigan State University at Lansing. His visit is set for Thursday through March 15.

University officials also said Thursday the board of regents is considering lucrative perks to make sure that pay is not an obstacle to hiring the person the university wants.

"Sometimes, that includes appointments to various boards in the community," regents chairman Jim Poston said.

"At this time, the possibility of area businesses offering board appointments that would include additional compensation has been discussed. But that's discussion only."

The board is seeking a replacement for Leon Boothe, who retired last July.

March 11, 1997

91A22-4-10-11

MSU Clip Sheet

A sample of recent articles of interest to Morehead State University

INSTITUTIONAL RELATIONS MOREHEAD STATE UNIVERSITY UPO BOX 1100 MOREHEAD, KY 40351-1689 606-783-2030

LEXINGTON HERALD-LEADER, LEXINGTON, KY. ■ TUESDAY, MARCH 11, 1997

MSU ARCHIVES

Governor calls for overhaul of higher education council

By ANGIE MUHS

HERALD-LEADER EDUCATION WRITER

FRANKFORT — Hamstrung by political leaders who ignore its directives, the Council on Higher Education needs a major overhaul if the state's colleges are to improve, Gov. Paul Patton said yesterday.

Patton said he and past governors and lawmakers share the blame because they've meddled too much in higher education.

"We've given it the authority and yet we haven't listened to it," Patton said. "We've got a fundamental decision to make: Are we going to have a system that's run on political power? Or are we going to have a coordinated system that works together to achieve statewide, long-range goals?"

Patton said yesterday that he intends to have the first draft of his proposed remedies ready in time for the next meeting of the task force, on April 14 and 15.

Patton also said that fixing the higher education system couldn't be fully accomplished in the special session that he plans to call on May 5.

"This is not something we can solve with one piece of legislation and then move on," he said. "We have to establish the framework."

To do that, Patton said, he definitely will seek legislation to change the makeup and structure of the council, a citizen board that's supposed to coordinate the eight public state universities and 14 community colleges.

"More than anything, we have to have confidence in it," he said. "We have to listen to it."

Patton said he did not yet know how to achieve his goals, but envisioned the new coordinating body working much more closely with the governor and legislators to set policy.

It was one of the few definite conclusions, though, that emerged from the first meeting of Patton's task force since he presented his analysis last week of the system's woes.

Much of the meeting was devoted to an overview of the blunt report, which depicts Kentucky's post-secondary system as rife with unnecessary duplication and driven by precisely the wrong financial incentives.

The state has created a patchwork of often-competing educational institutions that suffer from a lack of focus and lag behind other states in quality, Patton's consultants told the task force.

In particular, the state's community colleges and Kentucky Tech technical schools present a picture of "disarray and confusion" to businesses looking for trained workers, the consultants said.

At the other end of the spectrum, Kentucky is hurt by the fact that it doesn't have a top-flight research university, the consultants also said.

"The issues aren't really about governance. The issue is, does Kentucky have its act together?" said consultant Aims McGuinness. "It is so obvious when you lay out the facts that something must change. What used to work fine won't work for the future."

The analysis, though, did not offer specific solutions.

Patton declined to say yesterday whether he will propose placing the community colleges under the control of an independent board, rather than under the University of Kentucky, which now runs them.

"It is certainly a subject that has to be addressed," he said.

UK President Charles T. Wethington Jr. said he had just received the report yesterday afternoon and had not read it.

But he said he was not surprised by its conclusions. "It's about what I expected," he said. "We've been hearing different parts of the report for months now."

Wethington refused to say what UK might do if Patton does recommend shifting the community colleges to an independent board.

John Shumaker, the University of Louisville president, said he agreed with the report.

"We've been given a wake-up call and it's about time we pay attention in Kentucky," he said.

But Eastern Kentucky University President Hanly Funderburk questioned whether the situation was as dire as the consultants said.

"I don't think higher education in Kentucky is quite that bad," he said. "But there's certainly room for improvement."

THE COURIER-JOURNAL • TUESDAY, MARCH 11, 1997

Researcher backs Patton on colleges

Way universities are run hurts state, consultant says

By RICHARD WILSON
The Courier-Journal

FRANKFORT, Ky. — Gov. Paul Patton said yesterday that he wants changes in the way higher-education programs are coordinated and possibly in the way the state's community colleges and technical schools are governed.

He also will propose finding a way "to develop nationally recognized research institutions in Kentucky," Patton said after yesterday's meeting of the Task Force on Postsecondary Education, which he heads.

The governor, who has called a special session of the legislature for

May 5, said he was not ready to offer specifics yet. But he said he will try to forward his program to task-force members before convening a task-force meeting April 14-15. He suggested that comments also may be accepted then from interested educational groups before developing final proposals.

Changes Patton might want to make were given a strong boost yesterday by Aims McGuinness, a task-force consultant, who said that the

way Kentucky's college and universities are run often hampers the state's ability to compete for business.

McGuinness, senior associate at the National Center for Higher Education Management Systems, described a higher-education system that trails many of those in other states in productivity and efficiency and one that is marred by political infighting.

"The politics are driven by institutions and regional self-interest," he said. "The question is: Can you really

shift that around and talk about the public, clients and learners?"

The political intrusion, he said, is partially the fault of the state's universities and their supporters, who have often bypassed the Council on Higher Education and successfully taken their cases to governors and legislators.

Patton

(Cont.)

McGuinness said the state's community colleges and technical schools, operated separately by the University of Kentucky and the Workforce Development Cabinet, often become enmeshed in their own bureaucracies, and that businesses coming into Kentucky seeking help frequently "find nothing but disarray, confusion and conflict. . . ."

"The issue really is not about governance. It is about whether Kentucky has its act together on one of the most important issues facing the state. Frankly, the Kentucky Tech and community-college issue is really killing the ability of this state to be competitive with other states in the region."

The Courier-Journal reported last week that Patton is leaning toward a recommendation to strip UK of its 14 community colleges and combine them under a new board with the technical schools. Without elaborating, Patton said yesterday that that issue was "certainly a subject that has to be addressed."

UK President Charles Wethington declined to comment on the issue.

McGuinness, who helped prepare a fact book released by Patton last week, said the state has no long-range plan for higher education and its funding formula rewards enrollment growth, not outstanding programs that respond to citizens' needs. He also said it has few incentives for effective campus management.

That has led to a proliferation of small, off-campus courses throughout the state, he said. He likened a map of these "extended-campus" offerings to a picture that "looks like parts of the state almost have measles."

Several university presidents at yesterday's meeting expressed little surprise at McGuinness' comments.

"No one today — certainly not I — would feel there are not problems," Wethington said. "The question is how can we best focus all of our resources on solving (them)."

Hanly Funderburk, president of Eastern Kentucky University, said he does not think the problems are as severe as outlined by McGuinness. "We're all in this together, and all of us, I'm sure, will be affected," Funderburk said.

John Shumaker, president of the University of Louisville, called McGuinness' comments "a wake-up call" and agreed that Kentucky needs a "clear strategic agenda" to which the universities can contribute and be held accountable.

"We have often thought that the public's agenda should simply be an extension of our agenda, rather than the other way around," he said.

THE COURIER-JOURNAL
TUESDAY,
MARCH 11, 1997

WKU to get help seeking president

The Western Kentucky University board of regents chose a Cleveland-based search firm to help find the university's next president.

President Thomas Meredith was named chancellor of the University of Alabama system and plans to begin his job June 1.

The search firm, Lamalie Amrop, helped find University of Kentucky President Charles Wethington. It will meet with Western's internal search committee March 24 to develop a schedule.

UK to cut, shift funds in campus budget

BY ANGIE MUHS

HERALD-LEADER EDUCATION WRITER

The University of Kentucky's main campus will take a \$640,000 budget cut for the coming year and internally shift about \$2.4 million more, according to university figures released yesterday.

Lexington Campus Chancellor Elisabeth Zinser yesterday described the \$2.4 million as a reallocation, not a cut.

That money is being cut from individual academic programs' budgets; it then goes to the central administration and is being funneled back into projects such as upgrading a campus computer network, boosting some staff salaries, giving more scholarships and providing money to hire more black faculty members.

The budget problems provoked a demonstration last week by about 200 students, who argued that the university's actions would mean fewer course selections and larger classes. Yesterday, the dean of one of the hardest-hit colleges said that scenario is still likely to happen.

But Zinser said yesterday that she does not think the budget changes will hurt undergraduate students' education.

UK will still reduce its numbers of graduate teaching assistants, but not by as much as first feared, Zinser said.

"This is not easy and I'm not trying to diminish it," Zinser said. "But there should be no good reason why service to our undergraduate students should be jeopardized one iota."

The university will have seven and a half fewer teaching assistant positions next year, she said.

At one point, officials had

talked of cutting at least 25 TA positions, she said.

Zinser said that UK's Lexington campus — which does not include the Medical Center, community colleges or research centers — has suffered a \$640,000 shortfall in the amount of tuition it collects.

For the reallocation, the Lexington campus will collect a "tax" — slicing about 1.6 percent of every academic division's budget and putting it into the central fund — because the central fund's reserves were too low to pay for UK priorities, Zinser said.

UK also will receive only a 2.4 percent budget increase from the state next year, but intends to give its faculty a 3 percent raise and increase the pay for teaching assistants by 2.9 percent — creating another gap, Zinser said.

"We don't have competitive salaries to the extent we think we should," she said. "But at least by giving a 3 percent raise instead of 2.4 percent, we won't fall further behind."

The hardest-hit college will be Arts and Sciences, which will have

to slash \$853,024 from its budget.

The college will get a \$500,000 loan for this year from the administration, but that will have to be repaid the following year, said Rick Edwards, the college's dean.

"Of course, we're trying to minimize the impact on students," Edwards said. "But it will certainly mean we'll have fewer classes and some classes will be larger."

Edwards said he did not know the magnitude of the changes because departments had only just begun to revise course schedules.

Rumors of the proposed cuts had been circulating for weeks before the students' protest. Several faculty had also questioned why the cuts and reallocations were occurring.

Zinser said she understood faculty and students' concerns, but "it was an environment in which it's easy to overreact." She also noted that the colleges have been asked almost every year to give up at least 0.5 percent of their budgets.

"These are strategic decisions, some of which are just the right thing to do," Zinser said of the reallocations. "But they add up to more

than normal this year."

Jan Schach, chairwoman of the University Senate Council, said that having the actual amounts made public was "calming some of the reaction."

"The main point was that the damage to the TAs wasn't as significant as rumored or believed," Schach said. "I think there was an honest effort to be fair, but those who had the drops (in budget) are still going to feel it."

On Page C4

Gov. Paul Patton calls for a major overhaul of the Council on Higher Education

Sen. Ford won't seek re-election

Democrat's wish to retire signals political era's end

By AL CROSS
C-J Political Writer

FRANKFORT, Ky. — U.S. Sen. Wendell Ford announced yesterday that he will retire next year, ending an era that had defined Kentucky politics in the last third of the 20th century.

Ford, 72, said at a packed news conference that he wanted to leave the Senate with "a lot more birthdays to celebrate with my family," but also said he detested the notion of having to raise millions of dollars for a race against Republican Rep. Jim Bunning.

Ford's announcement left Democrats surprised and crestfallen, Republicans hopeful of capturing the second of Kentucky's two Senate seats, and interest groups wary of life without Ford, an aggressive defender of tobacco and other state interests in Congress.

Ford indicated that the prospect of a bruising race with the combative Bunning next year had nothing to do with his decision, but he blasted the current campaign-finance system and acknowledged that the prospect of raising \$5 million to finance such a race was daunting.

"To reach that mark, I would have to raise \$100,000 a week, starting today, for the next year," he said. "And Mrs. Ford won't let me bring anyone to sleep in our spare bedroom."

Ford's reference to President Clinton's use of the Lincoln bedroom at the White House for fund-raising was

one of the few light moments at a largely somber and sometimes emotional event in the state Capitol — the building where he began public service as a governor's aide more

than 37 years ago, then was state senator, lieutenant governor and governor.

Ford's eyes watered and his voice cracked and thinned to a whisper as he spoke of his family, which flanked him in the State Reception Room and provided the most visible reasons for his retirement. "This is tough," he said.

He said his adult son and daughter "have had to grow up with an absentee father much of the time, but they know in their heart how much I love them, and I plan on helping them in the years to come the way they've been there for me all these many years."

Ford said he wants to spend more time with his five grandchildren, ages 12 to 21. "I'll finally have the time to dote on them as any granddad is supposed to do," he said. "Bless their heart, I'm gonna teach one of them to fish." Later, he said a family member told him that several "can teach me to fish" — a reminder of their childhoods he has already missed.



BY MICHAEL HAYMAN, THE COURIER-JOURNAL
In an emotional announcement, U.S. Sen. Wendell Ford said he won't seek a fifth term.

SCRAMBLE IS ON TO SUCCEED FORD

U.S. Rep. Scotty Baesler, D-6th District, said yesterday he would run for the Senate. Other Democrats mentioned include Louisville Mayor Jerry Abramson, Attorney General Ben Chandler, Lt. Gov. Steve Henry, former congressional candidate Charlie Owen and former Lt. Gov. Steve Beshear.

Republican U.S. Rep. Jim Bunning of the 4th District also is expected to run. **AS**

WHEN HE FILED for a fourth term in 1992, Ford had said that it would probably be his last, and that appeared all the more likely after Democrats lost their Senate and House majorities in 1994. He has been whip, the second-ranking spot in the party's Senate leadership, since late 1990.

But pressure on him to run increased last year, especially after Republican Anne Northup of Louisville took the 3rd District congressional seat and left Baesler as the only other Democrat in the state's congressional delegation.

"That caused him to agonize over the decision," said former Sen. Jim Exon of Nebraska, a close friend since he and Ford were both governors in the 1970s.

"I think the matter had been pretty well laid to rest," Exon said. "During the last year, citing the feeling of the Democrats in Kentucky, I think there was some wavering on his part. There was no question that he felt a responsibility there."

Exon, who retired last year at 75, said he assumed that family reasons were paramount for Ford. "I'm sure it was an extraordinarily difficult decision," he said.

In response to a question, Ford said that even if he could have gotten by on the \$2 million budget that he had in his last race, he would not have run again. "Raising the money was something I detest," he said, "but that did not prevent me from running. . . . You know and I know I can raise five million."

Still, in his prepared text, Ford decried the tenfold increase in the cost of an average Senate race since 1974, and said the position "unfortunately has become a job of raising money to be re-elected instead of a job of doing the people's business."

He said senators spend too much time away from their home states

raising money, and "Democracy will be lost if we continue to allow government to become one bought by the highest bidder, for the highest bidder."

Republican Sen. Mitch McConnell, chief defender of the current campaign-finance system, declined to respond to those remarks, choosing instead to give his opposite number his political due.

"Senator Ford has clearly been the most important and influential Democrat in Kentucky politics for the last quarter century," McConnell said. "During that time he's worked hard for his party and his constituents, and I wish Wendell and Jean (Ford's wife) well in their future endeavors."

MUCH OF FORD'S text was devoted to an account of his accomplishments. As governor, he noted, he reorganized state government and started the Kentucky Housing Corporation and incentive pay for police training.

In his Senate record, he cited his sponsorship of the "motor voter" law, which allows people to register to vote at driver's license offices and other government agencies; and his work for Kentucky's tobacco industry, its military bases and its airports, which he has been able to help through his seat on the Commerce Committee. He also pointed to his proposal last month for a graduated reduction in the capital-gains tax, which could lead to a compromise with Republicans.

Though he didn't mention them, other legislative accomplishments include playing a key role in passing the family- and medical-leave law, by insisting on exemptions for small businesses. And the mammoth farm bill enacted last year included a new rural economic-development program proposed by Ford.

But grand legislation and political philosophy are not where Ford made his mark. Indeed, even as Democratic whip, the second-ranking party post, Ford remained true to his promise to be "a workhorse and not a show horse."

Senate Minority Leader Tom Daschle of South Dakota called Ford "an important teacher for me, especially since I became leader. I rely on him not only for his unerring whip (vote) counts, but for his excellent advice."

Gov. Paul Patton told the crowd at yesterday's event, "No one during this period has served with more dedication, more ability, more results. . . . He has become our rock, our security."

In a statement released by the White House, President Clinton said of Ford: "I will miss his leadership and advice on Capitol Hill, but know that he will continue to find ways to improve the lives of the constituents he has served so well for so long. Kentucky and the nation are better for his dedication and service."

Information for this story was also gathered by staff writer Mike Brown.

Remote Classroom

BCHS students getting taste of the future experiencing the Distance Learning Labs

Feature and photos by
Nancy Snyder

News-Outlook Staff Writer

"Readin' and writin' and 'rithmetic", are still taught in public schools, but they are certainly not "taught to the tune of a hick'ry stick," as the old song implies.

Instead with the advent of computer and video technology, there are classrooms now that utilize the ability to educate via phone lines and students can take college level courses in the convenient setting of their own high schools.

Replacing the traditional blackboard, are large video monitors and computers that provide the link necessary to communicate remotely with an instructor at some other site.

Currently at Bath County High School, there are some English IV students who are taking college entry level courses such as Composition 101 while still in high school and earning credit for their high school graduation requirements and also earning college credit at the same time. It is referred to as dual credit; one course counts two ways. A student has to be a senior, have scored a 21 or higher on their SAT's, and be a student in good standing at the high school.

This is all made possible through the Distance Learning Lab where Janice Daniels, teaches English 101 from her lab at Morehead State University, students across the region.

"This is the cutting edge of technology. I am very excited to have the opportunity to be a part of this program," says Daniels.

Wanda Cox is the facilitator at the high school and is responsible for setting up the monitors, focusing the cameras and positioning the camera so the speaker can be seen as well as a student who asks a question of the instructor. She has a control panel on her desk to change the camera angle and zoom-in for close-ups.

"That makes it seem more personal, a little less like we are the distance from each other that we are," says Daniels, who teaches the class from the studio in Ginger Hall on the MSU campus. There are microphones at the desks at each site so Daniels and the students at all the sites can ask questions and have discussions with each other; naturally Daniels has a microphone, too. The students watch Daniels on the monitor and she can see them. When a student has a question for Daniels, Cox changes the camera angle so Daniels and the students at the other sites can see who is asking the question.

All the lectures are taped, and Cox says that this is a real advantage. "The students can watch the tape if they have questions about the class discussion, to review their assignments, and possibly a student who missed a class could view the video to catch up," says Cox. "Dr. Daniels is very helpful and the students can call her anytime they have questions, and she takes time in the beginning of class to

Daniels also visits the various sites and two weeks ago came to BCHS and taught the class from the lab there.

"Visiting the various sites, gives the students and me a chance for more interpersonal communication and individual help with their writing," says Daniels.

The class is run the same way that college classes are offered at MSU, on a Tuesday-Thursday schedule. The days the students don't have class, they are still expected to report to the classroom and use the computers there or in the computer lab across the hall. They also may use the library at the high school and they have access to the MSU library, although they are not to leave school to do so, but that may not be so difficult in the future once the high school is hooked up to the MSU library through the Internet.

The students tuition is based on the number of credits they are earning in college; in this case, three credit hours. There is no fee charged by the high school. Students must purchase textbooks for the course at the University Bookstore. The students are expected to work at the same level as a college freshmen taking an English 101 class.

"Dr. Daniels is very pleased with the Bath County students work to date," says Cox. At the present time, the students must print out their assignments on the computer and the papers are delivered to Daniels through the post office. Once she grades them, the papers are returned to the students at the high school, but that will change shortly.

"Once we have e-mail, the students will be able to send their work to me that way," Daniels says.

In addition to the camera, the system is also hooked to a computer so that Daniels is able to call up a particular program for the students and there is an overhead projector that she can use to show overhead or even pages from a book if she wanted to.

All this is done through compressed video which is run through the telephone lines, and therefore, there is about a three second delay.

"It takes a little while to get used to," says Megan Gilvin, one of the participating students from BCHS.

Daniels was chosen for the project in part because she is one of the few college instructors who is certified in secondary education.

"This is my third semester teaching this course, and I am thrilled to be taking part in this unique, partnership between higher education and the school system," says Daniels. "The students are pioneers, among the first in the state to participate in this endeavor, and the students at Bath County are very good to work with. They are patient when there are occasional glitches in the system, and they are very cooperative. They also have a good background in writing, thanks to their English teachers at the high school."

"I think technology is a good medium for learning and I am enjoying the class," says Brad Miller, a senior from BCHS.

Quenna Riddle says, "I feel this helping prepare me for college. I also like the way the class is taught."

Jason McCarty ads, "The world is full of technology and I think this better prepares me for real life."

Another student, David Bailey, says he is keeping up with the assignments and adds that the class moves at a faster pace than in high school.

"It is a good experience using this type of teaching method since it will be used more in the future," says Bailey.

"It is helping me get prepared for college," adds Greg Staton.

The students all agree that they would take more classes like this if the opportunity presented itself, and they also like Daniels.

This type of classroom setting is not just reserved for high school students or college students taking their classes at extended campuses, but can also be used for the school-to-work, and other programs says Paul Christy, assistant principal at BCHS and the school-to-work coordinator.

"Students can talk to business leaders in various communities about a career that interests them without leaving the school building," says Christy. "It could also mean some personal development for teachers as well." Christy adds that, he too, is pleased with the program and feels that the faculty at BCHS and MSU are doing an excellent job with the students.

Of course, Bath County is not the only school with a compressed video classroom. Other schools in the area, including McNabb Middle School in

Mt. Sterling and Simons Middle School in Flemingsburg, have the compressed video, enabling college students to take classes without traveling to MSU and dual credit courses will be offered there in the future. The extended campus centers in Ashland, Big Sandy, Hazard Community College, and Licking Valley Extended Campus in West Liberty offer classes through compressed video. The University of Kentucky and Eastern Kentucky University also offer compressed video classes. Classes are offered at various sites based on interest.

THE COURIER-JOURNAL
TUESDAY
MARCH 11, 1997

Community colleges

I oppose any change in the current relationship with the University of Kentucky as outlined in the March 6 article, "Patton: Strip UK of two-year colleges." No proof exists that demonstrates how the community colleges and the commonwealth would be better served or how academic quality would be improved under a different governance structure.

SUZANNE COLLIER, Director
Development and Public Relations
Owensboro Community College
Owensboro, Ky. 42303

MSU Clip Sheet

A sample of recent articles of interest to Morehead State University

INSTITUTIONAL RELATIONS MOREHEAD STATE UNIVERSITY UPO BOX 1100 MOREHEAD, KY 40351-1689 606-783-2030

The Daily Independent, Ashland, Kentucky, Tuesday, March 11, 1997

MSU approves bond issue

Funds will be used for wellness center

By **MADELYNN COLDIRON**
OF THE DAILY INDEPENDENT

MOREHEAD — Morehead State University will pay for the second phase of its Student Wellness Center with a bond issue, laying to rest campus rumors that the university would dip into its employee health insurance reserve.

The university's Board of Regents authorized a \$2 million bond issue Monday for the project, which will add indoor tennis courts and a running track to the popular new complex.

In 1995, MSU President Ron Eaglin helped pay off the \$575,000 cost on the first phase of the Wellness Center by transferring \$411,000 out of excess money in the employee health insurance reserve fund.

Eaglin confirmed that during recent budget talks, the idea again was floated to dip into the reserves for the second phase of the building, but it did not win points with various university constituencies, including the health benefits committee.

Annual bond payments for Phase II of the center would total about \$180,000, while operating and staffing costs would add another \$40,000 or so. The \$10 student activity fee generates \$148,000 annually, which means the university will have to make up the difference of about \$73,000 annually.

Administrators have not yet determined where that money will come from, but regent John Rosenberg urged Eaglin to start figuring it out. Eaglin said discussions have already begun, and noted that the expanded complex will have more options for generating revenue through special programs.

Faculty regent Bruce Mattingly voted for the continued work on the center, but said he has mixed emotions about another financial commitment at the same time the university is trying to find money "in every nook and cranny" for its next budget.

There's an outside chance the university could get funding from the legislature for the project, but Eaglin said he's not counting on it.

With approval of the bond

issue, the university will employ an architect to begin designing the 25,500-square-foot addition. The project is scheduled to be completed before fall semester 1998.

The first phase of the Wellness Center, completed last year, is small by comparison, containing nearly 4,000-square feet at a cost of \$575,000. It focuses mainly on exercise equipment and health assessments.

The board did settle Monday on a policy for how insurance fund reserves may be used. The policy says that once the health insurance reserve fund reaches what's considered a safe amount — \$728,400 — the

excess will be doled out to employees in the form of voluntary cafeteria-style flexible spending accounts. Full-time staff members may use the money in those individual accounts to defray the cost of a family plan or to pay their deductible.

The fund now stands at \$637,330, so, "we're probably two-three years away" from deciding exactly how to set up the accounts, said Porter Dailley, vice president for administration and fiscal services.

The Faculty Senate unanimously approved the idea of a flexible employee spending account. The Staff Congress also endorsed it, although not by a unanimous margin.

LEXINGTON HERALD-LEADER, LEXINGTON, KY. ■ WEDNESDAY, MARCH 12, 1997

Patton adding 2 to administration

Both have strong background in legislature

By **JACK BRAMMER**

HERALD-LEADER FRANKFORT BUREAU

FRANKFORT — Two men familiar with the workings of Kentucky's General Assembly are joining Gov. Paul Patton's administration, which is focusing on a special legislative session on higher education.

Former House Majority Whip Kenny Rapier, D-Bardstown, is to be interviewed for a job today in the Tourism Cabinet, said Patton's press secretary, Melissa Forsythe. That's considered a formality, she said.

Once in the administration, Rapier may be called on to "serve any number of positions," including in the special session because of his legislative experience, Forsythe said.

Rapier, 60, retired last year from the House, where he had served since 1980. He was majority whip — one of the five most-powerful positions in the House — from 1985 until he retired and was known as the best vote-counter in the legislature. His salary in the Patton administration has not yet been determined.

Paris Hopkins, a longtime aide to Senate leaders, will start April 1 as Patton's liaison to the state Senate, Forsythe said.

Former state Rep. Leonard Gray, D-Louisville, will remain Patton's liaison to the House.

"With the addition of Paris Hopkins, the governor will be able to expand his efforts in trying to stay in touch with legislators, something that he has worked on very hard," Forsythe said.

When Patton named Gray his House liaison in November 1995, he said he planned to name a current or former senator his liaison with the Senate. He put off filling that position until now.

"The governor is aware of Paris Hopkins' good working relationship with all legislators and thinks that can be useful now for him," Forsythe said.

Patton has said he plans to call a special session May 5 to consider reforms in higher education. The governor has not spelled out a reform plan but has said the task will be difficult.

Hopkins, 55, of Frankfort, will make \$65,000 a year. He is an aide to Senate President Larry Saunders, D-Louisville, and also has worked for former Senate President John "Eck" Rose, D-Winchester, and Senate Majority Leader Joe Wright, D-Harned. He formerly worked in the Department of Education and the Cabinet for Human Resources.

Neither Rapier nor Hopkins could be reached for comment.

Racial plan for colleges: Cooperation

New goal may be to unite to draw, keep minorities

By MICHAEL JENNINGS
The Courier-Journal

FRANKFORT, Ky. — A state committee has proposed the first major overhaul since 1990 of a plan to expand opportunities for African Americans at Kentucky's state universities and community colleges.

A major change in the plan would prod schools to cooperate to ensure that black high school graduates enroll in college at the same rate as their white peers.

Another change would strengthen the emphasis on making sure that African-American students graduate.

The draft plan, approved yesterday by the state Council on Higher Education's committee on equal opportunities, would establish a statewide goal for black undergraduates rather than the school-by-school approach now used. If the statewide goals are met, each of the seven state universities and 14 University of Kentucky community colleges that maintained its benchmark rate of African-American enrollment would meet the state standard.

If the full council adopts the plan at a March 23-24 meeting, it will guide recruitment and retention of black students and faculty through 2002.

The council adopted the first in a

series of such plans in 1982, after the U.S. Office of Education's civil-rights division found that Kentucky had not eliminated traces of segregation from its higher-education system.

The legislature gave the plans more teeth in 1992 by allowing the council to deny new academic programs to schools that make insufficient progress under them.

The council was scheduled to approve a new five-year plan in 1995 but postponed action, chiefly because federal court rulings cast doubt on the legality of affirmative-action plans at universities.

Sherron Jackson, director of the council's equal-opportunities program, said those rulings were taken into account in devising the new plan, which avoids the previous plan's rigid numerical goals.

Jackson said racial parity in college enrollment — a major goal of the equal-opportunity process — was achieved for the first time in 1995. Among that year's Kentucky high school graduates, 51 percent of the black students and 49.4 percent of the white students enrolled in college, he said.

Given that success, it's time to shift away from the previous approach of assigning each institution a five-year goal for minority enrollment and requiring it to progress toward the goal by 20 percent each year, Jackson said. The proposed approach would "make sure that what we are doing doesn't resegregate the system," he said.

The new plan would require main-

taining the 1995 rate of minority undergraduate enrollment for the entire state system of universities and colleges.

If the schools failed to maintain the 1995 rate of 7.3 percent African-American undergraduate enrollment, then all would be deemed unsuccessful, even if some met non-mandatory, school-by-school minority enrollment goals spelled out in the plan. (Kentucky State University, the state's lone traditionally black university, would be exempted from this collective measurement.)

Ralph Fitzpatrick, special assistant for minority affairs in the University of Louisville president's office, said U of L considers collective measurement unfair. U of L "intends to employ all of its own resources" to boost its 1995 level of 13.9 percent African-American enrollment to its 16.6 percent target by 2002, and if it succeeds, then "not to be given credit for this particular piece is questionable," Fitzpatrick said.

Jackson said Kentucky colleges have "not done a very good job" of retaining and graduating African-American students. Instead of setting arbitrary goals for those objectives, as the previous plan did, the new plan would rate schools successful if they continually closed the gap between the retention and graduation rates for blacks and those for whites.

It would also measure re-enrollment rates from one year to the next, rather than from one semester to the next. Jackson said that change should better reflect colleges' holding power.

He said the new way of rating retention and graduation would put the plan more closely in line with a separate, legislatively mandated process aimed at making colleges more accountable to the public.

The council's executive director, Gary Cox, predicted that in a special session on higher education in May, the legislature will make retention and graduation rates for all students — not just minorities — "a major emphasis of this system."

The draft plan for equal opportunities says colleges need to work harder at developing "a warm, welcoming and supportive environment" for minority students.

Jackson said the council should postpone development of more specific equal-opportunity plans for each university and college in order to "incorporate any special direction" from the legislature or a state task force.

THE COURIER-JOURNAL • KENTUCKY • WEDNESDAY, MARCH 12, 1997

Some students may qualify for loan relief

People who live in designated flood-disaster areas may qualify for relief on repaying student loans.

Those who qualify will be allowed to forgo payments for three months or to make smaller payments temporarily. Interest will still accrue.

The Kentucky Higher Education Assistance authority has set up a toll-free hot line to help: (800) 928-5327.

Borrowers must provide their Social Security number and county of residence and must verify that they were harmed by the disaster.

— The Frankfort Bureau

March 13, 1997

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MSU ARCHIVES

MSU Clip Sheet

A sample of recent articles of interest to Morehead State University

INSTITUTIONAL RELATIONS MOREHEAD STATE UNIVERSITY UPO BOX 1100 MOREHEAD, KY 40351-1689 606-783-2030

LEXINGTON HERALD-LEADER, LEXINGTON, KY. ■ THURSDAY, MARCH 13, 1997

Experiment by UK students may help NASA

BY ELIZABETH WADE HALL
HERALD-LEADER STAFF WRITER

NASA has a big problem to solve: how to detect damage from orbiting debris on the proposed space station without sending astronauts on a space walk to look for it.

Six University of Kentucky mechanical engineering students and their adviser are conducting a \$30,000 experiment that might give the space agency its answer.

The students are testing a method developed by researchers at UK, the University of Houston and McDonnell Douglas Aerospace that uses vibration measurements to determine the location and extent of damage to a structure.

The method already has been proven to work on Earth, but students need to find out whether it will work in the zero-gravity of space, said Suzanne Weaver Smith, associate professor of mechanical engineering who has been working with NASA and McDonnell Douglas for the last eight years.

"Space debris, abandoned satellites and dust-sized particles are going to cause some damage you won't necessarily be able to detect on the space station with your eyes," said Kathy Sienko, a junior who spends her summers working for NASA and aspires to be an astronaut.

"Hopefully with some good results (from the experiment), this technique will be able to be used on the space station."

The project — which was funded by UK, the Kentucky Space Grant Consortium and industry — was one of 24 selected for NASA's 1997 Reduced Gravity Student Flight Opportunities Program.

Next month, the students will head to Houston where two of them will conduct the experiment in simulated weightlessness on NASA's KC-135 reduced-gravity aircraft. The plane, which is used to train astronauts and was used to film the movie *Apollo 13*, flies to a high altitude before falling in a controlled plummet that simulates the weightlessness of space.

Sienko, 21, of Maine, N.Y., and Jennifer Ditz, 21, of Fairfield, Ohio, will make two eight-hour flights aboard the KC-135 during the week of April 14. During the flights, the plane will make 40 parabolas and the students will have 20 seconds of simulated weightlessness during each parabola to conduct the experiment.

During the experiment, the students will bang a hammer on a special aluminum-rod truss that is about 60 inches long and weighs about 24 ounces. The truss, which is modeled after the proposed space station, will be equipped with sensors that will measure the vibrations from the hammer. The measurements can be used to determine the location and extent of the damage.

The students got their first feel for how the experiment will react in weightlessness yesterday while practicing on an air floor at Link Belt Construction Equipment Co. on Palumbo Drive.

An air floor is like a giant Air Hockey table. The students floated on a metal pad and practiced hitting the truss, which was on another pad. After each hit, the truss and the students began to float apart and they had to learn how to grab it before it got away.

LEXINGTON HERALD-LEADER, LEXINGTON, KY. ■ THURSDAY, MARCH 13, 1997

Kentucky may set goals on graduating blacks

A plan that has won approval by a state Council on Higher Education committee would establish a statewide goal for black undergraduates at Kentucky's state universities and community colleges. A school-by-school approach is now used. The proposal would be the first big overhaul since 1990 of a plan to expand opportunities for black undergraduates. Schools would be prodded to cooperate to ensure that black high school graduates enroll in college at the same rate as their white peers. Another change would strengthen the emphasis on making sure that black students graduate. The draft plan was approved Tuesday by the council's committee on equal opportunities.

■ LOGOS

College is expecting to benefit from design changes by Bengals

By HOLLY E. STEPP

CENTRAL KENTUCKY BUREAU
GEORGETOWN

The Cincinnati Bengals are changing their stripes.

And the team's training camp at Georgetown College is getting a new logo — something the college hopes to turn into big bucks.

The Bengals introduced the newly redesigned uniforms and logo yesterday in Cincinnati.

The redesign is the first since the team introduced the swirling Bengal tiger stripes in 1981.

The changes in the uniforms are not drastic, with a new tiger logo added to the jersey sleeves and simplified tiger stripes on the jersey and pants.

The new tiger logo also is featured on the training camp's logo and will be part of the clothing line marketed by the college.

Georgetown College, which was selected last year as the site for the four-week summer training camp, has the sole merchandising and marketing rights for any camp products and apparel.

"We are the only training camp to have our own



logo," said Melanie Shaw, director of the college's partnership with the Bengals.

The training camp logo features a team pennant with the tiger logo beneath. An additional pennant with "Training Camp Georgetown College" runs beneath the tiger.

The college plans to introduce the clothing line for the camp in May.

"We hope to make this a yearlong line, with T-shirts and shorts in the summer, and sweat shirts

and heavier items in the fall," Shaw said.

Profits from the merchandise will go to the college to pay for maintenance and construction costs on the \$3 million stadium complex under construction for the camp.

Shaw said the college is negotiating with Kentucky Textiles in Paris to manufacture the line, and with area department stores and businesses for distribution.

The Bengals training camp begins the first week in July.

■ ■ ■

The Associated Press contributed to this report.

THE COURIER-JOURNAL • THURSDAY, MARCH 13, 1997

Letter campaign pleads UK's case

Don't strip away community colleges, writers tell Patton

By RICHARD WILSON
The Courier-Journal

FRANKFORT, Ky. — A letter-writing campaign urging Gov. Paul Patton to let the University of Kentucky continue to run the state's community colleges is apparently under way.

The governor has received about 130 letters since Monday from community-college faculty, students and a few college presidents, Ed Ford, deputy secretary of Patton's executive cabinet, said yesterday.

"The message is consistent, that (separating the two-year schools from UK) would weaken the community-college system if it became a separate entity," Ford said.

Ben Carr, chancellor of the 14-campus community college system, could not be reached for comment yesterday.

The Courier-Journal reported last week that Patton was strongly leaning toward putting the community colleges with the state's technical schools under a new governing board.

Patton and consultants working with the Task Force on Postsecondary Education, which he heads, have argued that greater coordination is needed between the community colleges and technical schools.

They contend a closer link would eliminate inefficiencies and allow UK to focus more on research and graduate education.

Ford said the letters are being taken seriously and that Patton plans to answer them. He said the governor has made no final decision on any proposals, which ultimately will go to lawmakers in a special session in May.

Patton said earlier this week that he plans to release his reform agenda in time for it to be discussed at the task force's April 14-15 meeting.

Whatever Patton decides on the issue will be an effort to strengthen

both community colleges and technical schools, Ford said.

"We're not talking about any role diminishing the community-college system. We're talking about enhancing it," he said.

UK officials say the university has operated the colleges efficiently and effectively for more than 30 years and that there is no justifiable reason for a change.

The state's 24 postsecondary technical schools are operated by the state's Workforce Development Cabinet.

Ford said that most of the letters were mailed either last Friday or over the weekend.

"As a former state senator, you kind of suspect that these things are initiated by some entity somewhere, because they all happen to hit you the same day," Ford said.

"We just assume that there is an organized movement to encourage people to express themselves."

Under Patton's tentative plan, the technical schools would become colleges and offer technical degrees. They and UK's community colleges would be overseen by a new state community and technical college board.

It would have a president whose stature and salary would be on a par with those of a state university president. Under that president, two chancellors would run the dual system of community and technical colleges.

MARCH 14, 1997

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MSU ARCHIVES

MSU Clip Sheet

A sample of recent articles of interest to Morehead State University

INSTITUTIONAL RELATIONS MOREHEAD STATE UNIVERSITY UPO BOX 1100 MOREHEAD, KY 40351-1689 606-783-2030
LEXINGTON HERALD-LEADER, LEXINGTON, KY. ■ FRIDAY, MARCH 14, 1997

Patton wants UK to be state's flagship school

U of L should have narrow focus, regionals should educate masses, governor says

BY JACK BRAMMER

HERALD-LEADER FRANKFORT BUREAU

FRANKFORT — The University of Kentucky should be the state's flagship institution — a nationally recognized research school on par with the University of North Carolina and Indiana University, Gov. Paul Patton said yesterday.

"As great as our basketball team is, that's not what makes UK great, and I'm a big basketball fan," Patton said yesterday while speaking to a group of business leaders and education advocates.

The governor, who plans to call a special legislative session May 5 to consider reforms in higher education, also said the Kentucky Tech post-secondary technical schools should be removed from the state's Workforce Development Cabinet and become an independent system.

Patton's comments came in a 90-minute session at the Capitol with about 20 representatives of the Kentucky Chamber of Commerce, Advocates for Higher Education and the Prichard Committee for Academic Excellence. The session also included questions by video conferencing from groups in Ashland, Somerset, Elizabethtown and Owensboro.

Though Patton has not yet presented his plan to overhaul the state's post-secondary education system, he indicated yesterday several of his major concerns. One was the role of UK, the state's largest university.

UK "should be our flagship school and I don't say that to the detriment of the regionals (Morehead, Murray, Eastern, Western, Northern Kentucky and

Kentucky State) and the University of Louisville," Patton said. "It should attract the brightest students inside and outside the state."

UK "should not be in remedial education if it's going to be a great research institution," Patton said. Most of UK's remedial education actually is done at Lexington Community College.

Patton is said to be considering stripping UK of its 14 community colleges — though he has said publicly that he has not decided the issue. He said his comments yesterday were not aimed at deflecting criticism from UK supporters.

"I've felt strongly about UK's role for a long time and I just want people to know what I think of its potential," Patton said.

UK President Charles Wethington could not be reached for comment.

To make UK a nationally recognized research institution would take 20 years, said Patton, a UK engineering graduate.

Patton said his vision for UK involves centering "a concentration of intellectual capacity in one place."

Without elaboration, Patton said U of L should focus more on narrow academic fields in line with an urban institution. And the regional universities "should have one or two areas where they are the best in the nation but they must educate masses of people based on what their region needs."

Patton also did not elaborate when he said the statewide network of county agriculture extension agents should be removed from UK.

The governor repeated his goal of providing an extra \$100 million a year for higher education, beginning in fiscal year 2000.

Patton gets letters on proposal

Writers: Let UK run community colleges

FRANKFORT (AP) — Gov. Paul Patton has received about 130 letters since Monday urging him to let the University of Kentucky continue to run the state's community colleges.

The letters came from community college faculty, students and a few college presidents in what appeared to be an organized campaign, said Ed Ford, deputy secretary of Patton's executive Cabinet.

"The message is consistent, that (separating the two-year schools from UK) would weaken the community-college system if it became a separate entity," Ford said Wednesday.

"As a former state senator, you kind of suspect that these things are initiated by some

entity somewhere, because they all happen to hit you the same day," Ford said. "We just assume that there is an organized movement to encourage people to express themselves."

Ben Carr, chancellor of the 14-campus community college system, could not be reached for comment.

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Patton and consultants working with the Task Force on Postsecondary Education, which he heads, have argued that greater coordination is

needed between the community colleges and technical schools.

They say a closer link would end inefficiencies, letting UK focus more on research and graduate education.

Ford said the letters are being taken seriously and Patton plans to answer them. He said the governor has made no final decision on any proposals, which ultimately will go to a special session in May.

Patton said this week that he plans to release his agenda in time for it to be discussed at the task force's April 14-15 meeting.

Whatever Patton decides on the issue will be an effort to strengthen both community

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"We're not talking about any role diminishing the community-college system. We're talking about enhancing it," he said.

UK officials say there is no justifiable reason for a change, arguing that the university has operated the colleges efficiently and effectively for more than 30 years.

The state's 24 postsecondary technical schools are operated by the state's Workforce Development Cabinet.

Under Patton's tentative plan, the technical schools would become colleges and offer technical degrees. They and UK's community colleges would be overseen by a new state community and technical college board.

THE COURIER-JOURNAL • FRIDAY, MARCH 14, 1997

WKU president open to giving up control of community college

Associated Press

OWENSBORO, Ky. — Western Kentucky University's outgoing president says if the University of Kentucky is asked to relinquish control of community colleges, perhaps his school should give up its own community college.

"Certainly that's a decision that is to be made by the (Western) board of regents," President Tom Meredith said Wednesday.

Gov. Paul Patton reportedly is leaning toward separating 14 community colleges from UK and putting them under a new governing board with Kentucky Tech, the state's system of vocational-technical schools.

Meredith said he supports the community college-technical school arrangement.

He also said he has talked with people in other states and they think technical schools and community colleges belong together so they can respond to the needs of their areas.

Meredith said the governor asked him some time ago if he would be willing to surrender Western's community college at Bowling Green.

"And I said, 'If it took that to ac-

complish this (better coordination), yes.'"

Meredith will become chancellor of the University of Alabama's three-campus system June 1.

Western's community college — which is not associated with the UK system — serves 1,250 students and offers two-year associate degrees in fields including banking and general studies.

Patton intends to call the Kentucky legislature into special session May 5 to address postsecondary education. The governor said Monday that he would present his proposal before his Task Force on Postsecondary Education meets again April 14.

During an interview with The Messenger-Inquirer, Meredith defended Western's plans to put a \$3.4 million building on the Owensboro Community College campus.

If the 1998 General Assembly approves funding, the 30,800-square-foot building would be shared by OCC students and by students from Western's extension campus in Owensboro.

Those students now take classes at other locations, although Western's nursing students already take classes on the Owensboro campus.

Interviews set for ACC presidency finalists

By **GEORGE WOLFFORD**
OF THE DAILY INDEPENDENT

ASHLAND — Finalists for the presidency of Ashland Community College will be interviewed this week and next by the school's search committee and college constituents.

Dr. Deborah Hecht, vice president for instruction at Lake City Community College in Florida, is scheduled on campus Thursday.

Dr. W.R. "Wes" Channell of St. Clairesville, Ohio, president of Belmont Technical College, will visit Friday.

Dr. Robert Khoury, district vice president of Hillsborough

Community College at Tampa, Fla., is scheduled for interview Monday.

Angeline Dvorak, dean of arts and sciences at Jackson, Tenn., State Community College will be on campus next Thursday.

They are the last four of six interviews among a field of six finalists chosen from 97 applicants who sought to fill the vacancy left when Dr. Charles "Chick" Dassance became president of Central Florida Community College in Ocala.

Hecht has a Ph.D. in experimental psychology from the University of Texas, Austin, and a bachelor's in psychology from the University of Nevada, Las Vegas.



Hecht



Channell



Khoury



Dvorak

Before taking her present job in 1992, she was vice president/dean or associate dean of educational services for four years at Western Nebraska Community College in Scottsbluff. Prior to that, she was outreach service coordinator

at the Community College of Southern Nevada for four years.

She has a private pilot's license and has a background in undergraduate teaching experience.

Channell has a doctorate in

higher education from the University of Kansas, specializing in higher education management; and master and bachelor of science in business degrees from the University of Kansas School of Business.

Before coming to Belmont seven years ago he served 13 years as vice president at Western Nebraska Community College; two years as associate dean or assistant provost at Park College in Missouri.

Khoury has a doctorate from the University of Georgia, a master's from Florida Atlantic University and bachelor's from City College of City University of New York, all in sociology. His associate degree in chemistry also came from the New

York university.

Past positions have included directing a division for Manatee Community College in Bradenton, Fla., from 1987 to 1995. Before that he taught sociology at Wesleyan College in Georgia, Indiana University and the University of Central Arkansas.

Dvorak, with a background of study and teaching English, has a law degree from Thomas M. Cooley Law School, a Ph.D. from Florida State University, master's degrees from the University of Alabama and Florida State University and a bachelor's from Troy State University. She got her associate degree from Gulf Coast Community College.

Before coming to Jackson, she was a faculty administrator at Michigan State University for four years. Prior to that she directed English education projects or taught English in two-year colleges in Enterprise, Ala., and Panama City, Fla. She began teaching in Panama City, Fla., Christian School.

41A22-4-10-7

MSU ARCHIVES

ACC post applicant stresses openness

By **GEORGE WOLFFORD**
OF THE DAILY INDEPENDENT

ASHLAND — Dr. Joseph Kirkland of Albany, Ga., interviewed Monday for the presidency of Ashland Community College, told teachers he stresses accessibility and is influenced by faculty input when he makes academic decisions.

Kirkland, vice president for academic affairs at Darton College of Albany since 1992, told advisory board member Martha Johnson he was ready to move up in his profession and the Ashland opening provides the "next challenge, the presidential level," he seeks.

"I'm looking for a school with 1,500 to 2,500 students — over 3,000 would be larger than I prefer, because I think small schools do a better job for students," he said.

Kirkland said he also wants a community that is "not too large but has access to facilities."

He told committee members he was "a faculty member first, an administrator second, although I'm now teaching classes once-removed" by training faculty.

Advisory board members questioned Kirkland about arrangements used in other states to govern community colleges and vo-tech schools, a major concern in Kentucky because of unrest about Gov. Paul Patton's apparent intent to change the state's current system.

Patton has talked about taking community colleges away from the University of Kentucky, perhaps to put them into a separate organization with vo-tech schools.

MORE →

17 CC
(cont'd)

ACC finalist touts effective listening skills

Interviews for top post at midway point

By **GEORGE WOLFFORD**
OF THE DAILY INDEPENDENT

ASHLAND — The third of six finalists for the presidency of Ashland Community College said Thursday her proudest accomplishment has been “to create an environment where everybody can talk, where people aren’t afraid to try.”

Dr. Deborah Hecht said she strives for — and has achieved at Lake City Community College in Florida — an atmosphere surrounding where there is no punishment for failure but where success is celebrated.

Blowing the horn for those successes is part of a larger plan of letting the public know what’s going on, she said.

“We’ve got to find our niche and sell it.”

Hecht told John Mays, a member of the college advisory board, that her greatest management problem has been in trying to step up to make changes when those decisions belonged to people under her direction.

Hecht told the faculty she sought the job because she felt ready and had the experience, desire and stamina to handle it.

“The school is small enough that people can talk to each other,” she said.

She told the advisory board that if she got the job, she expected to stay “as long as I and you feel I’m effective, and I would trust you to tell me.”

Hecht, currently vice president for instruction at the Florida school, supervises management and operation of instructional functions, including planning/develop-

ment, academic growth and student/faculty excellence.

She said her focus on enrollment would be aimed at retaining students.

“It’s a lot cheaper to retain than to recruit,” she said.

Her own experience has shown that mid-term intervention salvages students who might have been beyond help by the end of the semester.

She stressed total student support throughout the college, “and not just in the classroom. One grumpy secretary can make the difference,” she said.

Innovations like 7:30 a.m. classes and compressed-schedule courses might open doors for students who can’t meet customary hours, she suggested.

Hecht said she supports remedial classes. “We have to have them or we can’t put students into classes where they have to read textbooks two inches thick.”

And such classes need to be taught five days a week, she said, because students need constant reinforcement.

The fourth finalist for the ACC job, Dr. W.R. “Wes” Channell, visited the campus today. Still to come for interviews are Dr. Robert Khoury, district vice president for academic affairs at Hillsborough Community College in Tampa, on Monday, and Dr. Angeline Dvorak, dean of arts and sciences at Jackson (Tenn.) State College, on Wednesday.

The six finalist are vying to succeed Dr. Charles “Chick” Dassance, who left in December to become president of Central Florida Community College at Ocala.

Kirkland said Georgia, with all its colleges under a super-board, is looking at similar changes “but you’ve got to understand that change is not all bad — it’s what’s taking place in the world.”

Johnson asked him what role he thought community colleges could play in economic development and he said it was important to work with business, industry, state and municipal governments to stay abreast of needs and to create programs to provide training for companies that need quick help, and to provide continuing education for people who need it.

Kirkland later told teachers his management style was participatory, building academic programs from the bottom up. “You get a faculty or staff to buy in, give their input, instead of operating in isolation. I have an open door policy and would bring it here with me.”

He told instructor Nick Ghassomians he quit simple lecturing long ago to embrace more-modern teaching technology, focusing on collaborative assignments that make students work together.

Kirkland had 10 years of experience as an English instructor, five years as director of an off-campus center and four years as a dean before coming to his present job.

Four more finalists for the job left behind by Dr. Charles “Chick” Dassance will be interviewed in the next eight days — Thursday and Friday of this week, Monday and Wednesday of next week. The search committee hopes to hire a replacement by July 1.

LEXINGTON HERALD-LEADER, LEXINGTON, KY.

THURSDAY, MARCH 20, 1997

Two major fraternities ban alcohol in houses

ASSOCIATED PRESS

CINCINNATI — Hang up your togas: The days of animal houses are endangered.

Two major fraternities have become the first in the nation to ban alcohol in chapter houses, and more are expected to follow suit.

The new policy by Phi Delta Theta and Sigma Nu is aimed at a new breed of frat boy more serious about earning a degree than chugging beer. The ban is supposed to go into effect by the year 2000.

“They’re coming to school to get an education and they need a family and some friends. They want a clean, safe house where they

can study and hang out,” said Robert Pasquucci, a spokesman for Phi Delta Theta, which announced their policy this week.

A spot check of University of Cincinnati’s fraternity row found few brothers willing to embrace the new trend.

“It’s a fad. It’s all politically correct,” scoffed Eric Thurston as he tossed a football yesterday outside the Alpha Tau Omega house.

Phi Delta Theta, based in Oxford, Ohio, has 180 chapters and 7,500 members. Lexington, Va.-based Sigma Nu has 210 chapters and 3,000 members.

LEXINGTON HERALD-LEADER, LEXINGTON, KY. ■ FRIDAY, MARCH 21, 1997

FRANKFORT

Universities gain from personal tags: Eight public universities are picking up scholarship money from the sale of personalized auto license tags bearing their names. Last year, they received \$6,275 from the state, with the University of Kentucky collecting \$3,780 on the sale of 756 plates. The University of Louisville was second with \$1,225 for 245 tags. Bernie Vonderheide, UK director of public relations, originated the idea and approached then-state Rep. Bob Jones, who introduced legislation in the General Assembly. The plates became available in 1988. County clerks sell the plates for \$30, plus the normal registration fee. A total of \$5 goes to the university’s scholarship fund, and \$25 to the Transportation Cabinet for the maintenance of roads. Plates are available at county clerks’ offices when tags are renewed.

ACC presidential search resumes Monday

Panel to interview other 5 finalists

By **GEORGE WOLFFORD**
OF THE DAILY INDEPENDENT

ASHLAND — A search committee looking for a new president for Ashland Community College begins two weeks of interviews on Monday with plans to talk to five of six finalists for the job.

The five are:

- Joseph Kirkland, vice president for academics at Darton College, Albany, Ga., on Monday.
- Deborah Hecht, vice president for instruction, Lake City, Fla., Community College, on Thursday.
- Wes Channell, president, Belmont Technical College, St. Clairsville, Ohio, March 21.
- Robert Khoury, district vice president, Hillsborough Community College, Tampa, Fla., March 24.

- Angeline Dvorak, dean of arts and sciences, Jackson, Tenn., State Community College, March 26.

The other candidate, Dr. Ervin Griffin, vice president for student affairs at West Virginia State College at Institute, met with ACC representatives on March 6, prior to the school's spring vacation this week.

The finalists were chosen from 97 who applied for the job.

Each will tour the school, then meet with the presidential search committee, interim President Roger Noe, the college's advisory board and foundation, faculty and staff, departmental deans, students and community members.

Dr. Charles "Chick" Dassage resigned in December after four years in ACC's top post to become president of Central Florida Community College in Ocala.

Noe, a member of the administration at Southeast Community College in Cumberland, is not a candidate for the position.

The school hopes to seat a new president by July 1.

Monday's interviewee, Kirkland, holds a bachelor's degree from Sam Houston State University and a Ph.D., both in English, from Texas Christian University.

Before taking his present job in 1992, Kirkland was dean of

instruction at Frank Phillips College in Borger, Texas. Before that he directed the Del Rio Center of Southwest Texas Junior College and taught English there.

Previously, he taught at TCU for nine years and spent six years in the Army.

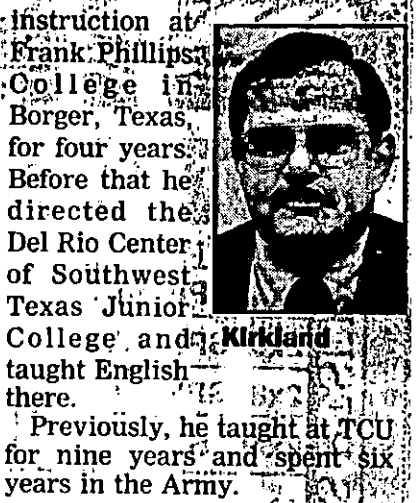
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Kirkland

The Daily Independent, Ashland, Kentucky, Thursday, March 20, 1997

Personalized auto tags raise money for state universities

LEXINGTON (AP) — Eight public universities are picking up scholarship money from the sale of personalized auto license tags bearing their names.

Last year, they received \$6,275 from the state, with the University of Kentucky collecting \$3,780 on the sale of 756 plates. The University of Louisville was second with \$1,225 for 245 tags.

Other schools: Western Kentucky University 109 tags, \$545; Eastern Kentucky University 58, \$290; Morehead State 29, \$145; Murray State 24, \$120; Northern Kentucky University

20, \$100; and Kentucky State 14, \$70.

Bernie Vonderheide, UK director of public relations, originated the idea and approached then-state Rep. Bob Jones, who introduced legislation in the General Assembly. The plates became available in 1988.

"I've always had the idea that Kentucky ought to have a university license program like other states have," Vonderheide said Wednesday.

Some of the best publicity comes from the plates themselves as they travel throughout the state on the back of au-

tomobiles, said John D. Trager, assistant director of the Department of Vehicle Regulation.

County clerks sell the plates for \$30, plus the normal registration fee. A total of \$5 goes to the university's scholarship fund, and \$25 to the Transportation Cabinet for the maintenance of roads. Plates are available at county clerks' offices when tags are renewed.

The university plates are eight of about 30 specialty plates sold in Kentucky and are by far the most popular, Trager said.

LEXINGTON HERALD LEADER, LEXINGTON, KY. ■ SUNDAY, MARCH 23, 1997 ■ TODAY

■ SCENE & HEARD

Bringing back memories

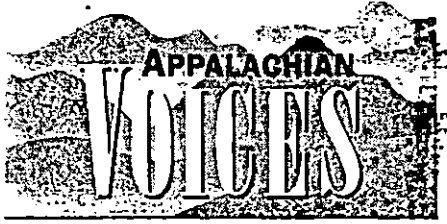
Hula hoops and home-grown talent are likely to make Morehead State University's spring gala "An Affair to Remember." Faculty, students and alumni will take the audience down memory lane from 1922 to present by singing, dancing and playing games — including breaking out the hula hoops.

Guests may choose between two packages for the April 26 fund-raiser. The deluxe package is \$125 a person. It begins at 6 p.m. at the Adron Doran University Center with a reception and dinner. The second package, at \$50 a person, begins with hors d'oeuvres at 7:30 p.m. in the Button Drill Room. Entertainment begins at 8 p.m. in Button Auditorium. Afterward, the party moves to the Adron Doran center for more music, dancing, games and food. Committee chairpersons are Bonnie Eaglin, Christopher Gallaher and Susette Redwine. For tickets, call (800) 783-2586.



SHARON THOMPSON

HERALD-LEADER COLUMNIST



Everyone is not quoted equally by the media

BY JERRY F. HOWELL JR.

Over the past few years, I, and probably many others, have noticed the tendency of a few regional reporters to quote people verbatim. I assume this is some new wave in journalism, a cousin of gritty "Hard Copy" television.

They are certainly more accurate and more interesting than airbrushed pieces and those Sunday fluff articles with three paragraphs of "hooks," but they nonetheless can be offensive to many people from certain geographic regions.

As far as I know, Eastern Kentuckians are almost exclusively the only people quoted verbatim in the Herald-Leader. For example, Lee Mueller, in his Feb. 22 article on United Mine Workers of America attempts to organize Pike County government workers, quotes Teamsters official Jerry Vincent regarding Donna Damron, Pike County Judge Executive:

"She don't want the Teamsters. She don't want the mine workers. She don't want nobody. She just wants to be the queen."

Vincent is from Louisville but the article is about Eastern Kentucky.

A February article by Allen G. Breed of The Associated Press regarding dropout moms trying to get off welfare by taking school buses to high school in various Eastern Kentucky counties illuminated several glaring grammatical errors. He quoted some of the women as saying: "There isn't no jobs in Leslie County," "I'm afraid I won't be able to support my young'un . . ." and "Sissy, how do you ride that bus and you that old?"

Incidentally, the quotes from a program supervisor were grammatically correct. I wonder.

So what's wrong with this realistic style? Well, for starters, newspapers aren't novels. Journalists have protected people with imperfect speech and penchants for colloquialisms for centuries, and it is disconcerting to see that tradition broken, especially when a "new" style is confined to one geographical section of this state.

Now, if all of the state's newspapers were to adopt this new verbatim journalism, it would be a different matter. It would rid their pages of bigotry and implied inferiority if all reporters wrote down exactly what their quotees said. But, as it is, people from Eastern Kentucky who are quoted in their native brogue, whether it is grammatically correct or not, are unfairly singled out as illiterate by implication.

To be fair, then, shouldn't the editors of each paper declare either universal political correctness (sanitizing) or incorrectness (realism)? The present situation is like being a little bit pregnant.

Now that our newspapers are exposing Eastern Kentuckians' everyday language to the rest of the commonwealth (and nation), why not make it policy? Just think of it: The rest of us could learn the intricacies of ebonics, the subtleties of Chinese dialects and the romance of Spanish patois.

It boggles the mind. Words and phrases like "No tickee, no laundry," "We be goin' now," "Let me axe you this," and, "Aye, Caramba," would have more meaning when used in context. No longer would we have to rely on reporter interpretation to deliver the meaning of conversations; we would have the "real thing." We could feel the intensity of conversations, the implied body language, the looks on faces.

Let's not stop there. Let's describe people's clothing (suits or Dollar General plaid) in detail; their homes (palatial edifices or trailers), their habits (drinking, hiccuping, twitching their lips), their evasiveness ("never looked me in the eye"), and their politics. We will then be able to ascertain the redneck from the sophisticate, the guilty from the innocent, and the idiot from the genius. I'm all a-tingle!

So, we in Eastern Kentucky are grateful for your pioneering spirit and adherence to gutsy journalism, and we are sure you will bring up the topic of universal realism during your next meeting with your editors. We are truly excited.

■ **Jerry F. Howell Jr.** is professor of biological and environmental sciences at Morehead State University.

■ **"Appalachian Voices"** is a weekly feature about the region's issues and people. Readers are welcome to submit articles of no more than 600 words.

LEXINGTON HERALD-LEADER, LEXINGTON, KY. ■ SUNDAY, MARCH 16, 1997

Campus drug arrests up 18%, survey shows

BY WILLIAM H. HONAN
NEW YORK TIMES NEWS SERVICE

Drug arrests on major college campuses climbed by almost 18 percent in 1995, according to the annual survey of campus crime by The Chronicle of Higher Education. Some college officials attributed the rise to stricter enforcement of drug laws rather than to increased drug use.

The survey, appearing in the March 21 issue, reported reductions in other crimes, in line with national trends. The number of murders was down to 15 from 16, robberies were down to 1,038 from 1,157 and burglaries were down to 16,011, from 16,789.

But forcible sex offenses were up to 973, from 955 in 1994.

There were 6,797 arrests for drug violations in 1995, up from 5,764 the previous year. The largest increase was reported at Northern Arizona University, with 133 drug arrests in the 1995-96 academic year, up from 78 the previous year.

Ten other institutions reported more than 100 drug arrests in 1995: Arizona State University, Michigan State University, Rutgers University, San Jose State University in California, the University of Arizona, the University of California at Berkeley, the University of Maryland at College Park, the University of Michigan, the University of

North Carolina at Greensboro and the University of Wisconsin at Madison.

Colleges and universities that receive federal money are required by law to make yearly reports on crimes committed on their campuses and to make these reports available to students and employees. The Chronicle survey covered all 490 four-year colleges and universities with 5,000 students or more. Only Yeshiva University declined to supply data.

While the survey highlights the rise in drug arrests, college health specialists said alcohol abuse posed a far greater problem. The survey found 15,208 arrests for liquor-law violations, up from 15,027. And, added Steve Lustig, executive director of University Health Services at the University of California at Berkeley, "Almost all of the sexual assaults here last year were alcohol-related."

The Chronicle cautioned that the crime reports are not necessarily complete. Crimes involving students at an urban campus, for example, might be handled by local police, not campus agencies, and thus not included in the data. Further, colleges with a professional police force, not a campus judicial system, may show higher crime rates because of more aggressive enforcement. And not all the crimes involve students.

EDITORIALS

An opportunity for greatness

UK and its president can come out on top by concentrating on long-range goals

From Morehead to Murray, Highland Heights to Bowling Green, each of the state's eight universities has its own constituency — among the citizenry and in the General Assembly.

There is, however, just one Big Kahuna, one 900-pound gorilla, one flagship institution with friends in every port from the Big Sandy to the Big Muddy, from the banks of the Ohio to the shores of Dale Hollow Lake.

This first among non-equals, the University of Kentucky, has the potential to be Gov. Paul Patton's worst nightmare or his sweetest dream as he pursues his goal of higher education reform in Kentucky. Right now, with UK leaders revving up a war to save control of the community colleges, it looks like restless nights ahead for the governor.

UK's attitude is disappointingly short-sighted. We don't know what changes in higher education Patton ultimately will propose. We do know considerable change is a must if this state is to lift itself from its educational and economic depths.

We know, too, that the plan Patton settles on for creating his oft-mentioned "seamless system" of higher education must solidify UK's position as king of the Kentucky mountain and enhance its ability to achieve national prominence.

That's why UK, and particularly President Charles Wethington, should look on Patton's reform push not

as adversity, but as opportunity.

Suppose, for instance, Patton suggests the sensible leap to a unified system operating under some form of "super board" and funded in a way that rewards quality not quantity. Under such circumstances, relieving UK of the community colleges and the responsibility for lower division remedial courses would leave the school free to concentrate on attaining national prominence with its upper division, graduate and research work.

Yes, we know renewed talk of stripping the community colleges from UK strikes closer to home for Wethington than it would for another UK president. He ascended to power from the community college system, so his loyalty is understandable. But loyalty can be blinding; and Wethington must not lose sight of the fact that what he does now, in response to reform efforts, will determine his legacy.

He can make history, or he can relegate himself to history's footnotes. He can be a

visionary university president, joining with a reform-minded governor to lead this state toward the academic excellence it so sorely needs. Or he can be just one more in a long line of turf-conscious university presidents responsible for letting this state wallow in mediocrity.

The choice is Charles Wethington's. We urge him to make the right one.

He can be a visionary university president, joining with a reform-minded governor to lead this state toward the academic excellence it so sorely needs.

The Daily Independent, Ashland, Kentucky,
Friday, March 14, 1997

Status of WKU's satellite pondered

OWENSBORO — Western Kentucky University's outgoing president says if the University of Kentucky is asked to relinquish control of the community colleges, perhaps his school should give up its community college.

"Certainly that's a decision that is to be made by the (Western) Board of Regents," President Tom Meredith said Wednesday.

There were published reports last week that Gov. Paul Patton is leaning toward separating the 14 community colleges from UK and putting them under a new governing board with Kentucky Tech, the state's system of vocational-technical schools.

Meredith said he supports the community college-technical school arrangement.

The Daily Independent, Ashland, Kentucky, Tuesday, March 18, 1997

Former Rowan educator Lake Cooper dies at 74

MOREHEAD — Lake Cornett Cooper, 74, of Morehead, a former associate professor emeritus of mathematical sciences at Morehead State University, died Monday at her home.

Mrs. Cooper was born Jan. 9, 1923, in Knott County, a daughter of the late Bill and Malissa Combs Cornett.

She was also a former instructor at the University of Kentucky and taught in the Bracken, Knott and Perry county school systems.

She was a graduate of Morehead State University and the University of Kentucky. She was a member of Morehead First Christian Church, the Mathematical Association of America, the National Council of Teachers of Mathematics, the Christian Women's Fellowship, the League of Women Voters, the Morehead State University Women's Club, Pi Mu Epsilon, Kappa Delta Pi and Daughters of the American Revolution.



She was a former member of the Morehead City Council, the Rowan County school board and the Morehead Utility Plant Board.

Surviving are her husband, Warren Harding Cooper; a son, Fred Cooper of Morehead; a daughter, Penny Alderman of Morehead; three brothers, Coney Cornett of Greenville, Ohio, Brode Cornett of Morehead and Bernie Cornett of Nicholasville; four sisters, Lola Faye Jones of New Smyrna Beach, Fla., Grace Amburgey and Madge Mayo, both of Clearfield, and Mable Smith of Crown Point, Ind.; and six grandchildren.

The funeral will be conducted at 1 p.m. Wednesday at Northcutt & Son Home for Funerals in Morehead by the Rev. Harold Tackett. Burial will be in Caudill Cemetery at Sharkey.

Friends may call after 6 p.m. today at the funeral home.

In lieu of flowers, contributions may be made to the American Cancer Society, the St. Claire Medical Center Hospice or the Lake Cornett Cooper Scholarship Fund, c/o the Morehead State University Foundation Inc.

Kentucky's Vietnam memories

Professors begin research of oral history

BY ANGIE MUHS

HERALD-LEADER EDUCATION WRITER

When Yvonne Baldwin and John Ernst began teaching a class about the Vietnam War, their students spilled forth recollections about how the war had affected their families and hometowns.

Now, Baldwin and Ernst, who are both assistant history professors at Morehead State University, are hoping to cast that net of reminiscences a bit wider.

They are embarking on a statewide project to interview Kentuckians about their experiences during the war — combat veterans, nurses, student protesters, draft board members and anyone else who was affected.

"We're just interested in talking to as many people as we can," Ernst said. "It had such an impact on so many people."

"No story is too small," Baldwin added.

The research will be the first statewide oral history, although some smaller, local projects have been done before, the professors said. Their work is being supported by grants from the Kentucky Oral History Commission and Morehead State.

The project grew out of a class the two professors taught jointly on modern history, focusing on Vietnam and Watergate.

Baldwin and Ernst bring very different perspectives to that era. "We're kind of an academic odd couple," Ernst said.

Ernst, 34, knows of only one distant relative who fought in the war. "My main memory of it is being over at my grandparents' house and seeing it on TV," he said. "I remember seeing Walter Cronkite and body bags and maps of Vietnam."

For Baldwin, the memories cut deeper. She had been married just 18 months when her husband shipped out to Vietnam. Her two brothers also fought in the war, and one was badly wounded. Many of her friends were killed.

Those memories sometimes make it hard for her to relive the period as she teaches it. Once, she had to leave the room during a documentary film.

"This is a very emotional war for me to step back and try to teach," said Baldwin, 49. "I tell my students that I will not be a disinterested person in all this."

"I remember seeing Walter Cronkite and body bags and maps of Vietnam."

JOHN ERNST
assistant history professor and researcher

Ernst said that students' reactions in the class convinced him that the state is full of Kentuckians with unique perspectives. For instance, one older student who had returned to school wrote a paper about how her husband had served two tours

of duty in combat, while her best friend was an anti-war protester.

"We're hoping to find people like that who will share their experiences," he said.

The professors also hope to borrow things like photographs, diaries or other documents that could be microfilmed and then returned to the original owners.

Eventually, Ernst and Baldwin hope to write a book about Kentuckians' experiences during the war. They plan to do most of their interviews this spring and summer.

"A lot of academic studies — rightfully and naturally — ignore the personal, individual experiences, of what the war meant to Americans," Baldwin said. "But the personal part has as much to teach us as the diplomatic and economic and political parts."

How to reach them

If you are interested in talking with Yvonne Baldwin or John Ernst about your experiences during the Vietnam War, you may call Baldwin at (606) 783-5160 or Ernst at (606) 783-2484. Or, you may write them at 350 Rader Hall, Morehead State University, Morehead, Ky., 40351-1689.

You could also send them electronic mail at y.baldwi@msuacad.morehead-st.edu or j.ernst@msuacad.morehead-st.edu

The Sunday Independent, Ashland, Kentucky, March 16, 1997

Student center home away from home for students

By ANDREA PETERSEN
THE WALL STREET JOURNAL

The students at Appalachian State University in Boone, N.C., are starting to stick around campus on weekends. That's how much they love their new \$9.7 million student union.

"We all pretty much live here," says Page Bradham, a senior hanging out at the union one recent afternoon. "I eat here. I meet my friends. I take naps here."

That's exactly what Appalachian's administration had hoped Bradham and his fellow students would do. Like many other colleges across the country, Appalachian has spent millions of dollars to create a student center that will attract students to the campus and then hold them there in their leisure hours. Today, student centers — once little more than dingy lounges with banks of vending machines — have become among the biggest and most lavish buildings on college campuses, often housing state-of-the-art health clubs, computing centers, food courts, art galleries and working fireplaces.

Student unions have become increasingly important marketing tools because, along with residence halls, they are

the buildings most students and parents ask to see. "You need an attractive union to be competitive with other institutions that are pulling out all the stops," says Wayne Anderson, president of the Associated Colleges of the South, a group of 13 regional liberal arts schools. "Parents and students are increasingly asking, 'What am I getting for my payment?'"

Alan Resnick of Sasaki Associates, a Watertown, Mass., architectural firm, says unions are important because prospective students form impressions of a school so quickly. "Most high school students decide if they like a university or not in 15 seconds," he says. "A nice union shows the place cares about students." Today, a nice union looks like a high-class hotel, with modern furnishings, tall ceilings, wide-open spaces and tasteful paintings on the walls.

Student unions can also help solve another campus problem: keeping students out of mischief off-campus. "There are other kids there, there are other adults — it's a real strong support system," says Betsy Herrscher, mother of a senior at Northeastern University in Boston, which recently spent \$13 million renovating its student union.

Not everyone shares the ad-

ministrators' and students' enthusiasm for the costly union. "In my own department we have equipment getting on in age, and it needs to be replaced," says James Perley, a biology professor at the College of Wooster in Ohio and president of the American Association of University Professors. "The answer you get is it's easier to raise money for buildings than for educational purposes."

The money for new or renovated unions often comes from students' pockets, usually in the form of student fees. Of the \$22 million construction cost for renovating Pennsylvania State University's union, \$16 million will come from a newly imposed student fee of \$25 a semester.

Student unions have traditionally cost more to run than they brought in, so now many schools are renting space to retail shops that help pay operating expenses.

At Northeastern, students held a referendum about four years ago to increase their student fees to pay for the renovation of their 32-year-old student center. The school put in a food court to rival any suburban shopping mall's, with eight places to eat including a Burger King, a deli, a Chinese restaurant, a vegetarian cafe and a Starbucks.

Better schools don't always lead to economic prosperity

BY PETER APPLEBOME

From the dire warnings of educational and national decline in the 1983 "Nation at Risk" report to President Clinton's full-court press on education as the key to national prosperity, the direct link between schooling and the economy has become part of the conventional wisdom of American education.

Education Secretary Richard Riley put it bluntly in his State of American Education Address last month: "Education is the engine that drives our economy." And as the earnings gap between brains and brawn grows ever larger, almost no one doubts the link between education and an individual's economic prospects.

But many educators and economists are increasingly skeptical of the notion that better schools mean a more prosperous nation.

And as Clinton's education agenda makes its way through Congress — he promised that education would be the No. 1 priority of his second term — some wonder if overemphasis on the link between schools and jobs can tilt the public's view of education to an unhealthy degree — expecting too much in building the economy and not enough in developing intellects and personalities and ultimately citizens.

As for its economic effects, "I'm stunned by how unexamined that claim is," said Mike Rose, an education professor at the University of California at Los Angeles.

"If you look at 100 years of industrial history, there's nothing close to the one-to-one link between education and the economy that we assume today. I think the way we think about education is terribly constrained by the assumption that we're in trouble, that we're in decline, and that the decline is intimately, causally linked to what's wrong with education."

Rose, the author of *Possible Lives: The Promise of Public Education in America*, is quick to add that he believes that upgrading the

skills and knowledge of America's children is closely linked to their economic prospects. And it is clear that the current focus on education reflects changes in the workplace that make education a more critical component of an individual's economic success than before.

Frank Levy, a professor of urban economics at the Massachusetts Institute of Technology and the author, with Richard Murnane, of *Teaching the New Basic Skills*, notes that in 1979, a 30-year-old man with a high school diploma earned a yearly average of \$27,700 in 1993 dollars. By 1993, a high school graduate was only earning \$20,000.

Fifteen years ago, the typical worker with a college degree made 38 percent more than a worker with a high school diploma. Today, the typical college-educated worker makes 73 percent more.

But what holds true for individuals does not necessarily make a metaphor for the nation as a whole, most experts say.

Larry Cuban, an education professor at Stanford University, said there's also a false kind of connection "about how lower productivity in the economy, particularly in the late '70s and '80s, was somehow related to lower productivity in the schools."

The skeptics often start with the Reagan administration's "A Nation at Risk" report, which said the nation has been "committing an act of unthinking, unilateral educational disarmament."

But almost a decade and a half later, the nation's economy is performing, by many measures, extraordinarily well. In fact, it is dramatically outperforming Japan and Germany, often cited as countries with educational systems that the United States should be emulating.

Given that no one claims a sudden, dramatic increase in the quality of American education, critics of the report say that either the nation's schools are not as dismal as the "Nation at Risk" report indicated or the link between education

and the economy is far more complicated than the conventional wisdom has it.

Most experts say corporate decisions, the economic aspects of the national culture, the vagaries of the business cycle and numerous other factors play a far greater role than education in the nation's economic success.

"The link between education and the national economy is pretty tenuous in all but the grossest sense — say the difference between developed and undeveloped countries," said Peter Cappelli, co-director of the National Center on the Educational Quality of the Workforce at the University of Pennsylvania. "Could you improve the economy by dramatically ratcheting up its average education level? Other than dropping a lot of Ph.D.'s on Rwanda, it's a very complicated argument."

Given the limitations of education as an agent of economic progress, some experts say linking education too closely with the economy could engender false economic expectations at the same time it devalues many of the broader elements of schooling.

"Education does many things, from teaching kids how to read to teaching ethics and responsibility," said Richard Gibboney, an education professor at the University of Pennsylvania. "If you focus too much on the economy, you squeeze out some of those other values. When businessmen get into the educational business, and they are focusing on the kind of workers they need, the curriculum becomes narrow, technical, de-liberal."

Still, if education alone can't guarantee national prosperity, the lack of it almost guarantees, for any one child, economic failure.

"It takes lots of things to get the train going," said Levy of MIT. "But the real question is who will be on the train? If you don't have a reasonable education, the chance of earning a decent salary today is very, very small."

NEW YORK TIMES NEWS SERVICE

Georgetown chief exceeding expectations

President has raised \$7.5 million, strengthened college's reputation

BY HOLLY E. STEPP

CENTRAL KENTUCKY BUREAU

GEORGETOWN — Six years ago, when Georgetown College's trustees were looking for a new college president, they wanted a dynamic leader who could raise funds and motivate the community.

In Bill Crouch, they got that and whole lot more.

"He has exceeded what we expected. We were aware of his fundraising skills, but he has much more than that," says Randy Fox, chairman of Georgetown College's Board of Trustees and a member of a search committee that recruited Crouch.

The gains made since Crouch's arrival in 1991 read like a college wish list: securing gift commitments of more than \$7.5 million; raising the status of a national liberal arts college in numerous rankings; and beginning three new construction projects on campus, including a new stadium complex that will be the site of the Cincinnati Bengals' 1997 summer training camp.

Crouch, who last summer signed a contract through 2002, says he can't take all of the credit for the success at the small Baptist college of 1,420 students.

"I have been surrounded by a lot of great people," Crouch said. "It is not as if Georgetown College is not a strong college already."

But when you talk to those who work with the 44-year-old native Kentuckian, you hear about a man who's leading the college into the future.

"(Crouch) has made some of the things faculty has always wanted a quality," says Gwen Curry, an English professor and former chairwoman of the faculty.

The college opened the Anne Wright Wilson Fine Arts Building in October — the first new academic building on campus in 25 years — and began construction on a new library.

"Those projects were talked about for a long time," Curry said.

In addition to construction and fund-raising gains, Crouch has kept an open-door policy with faculty.

"When I was elected faculty chairwoman (in 1994), he came to me and said he wanted to make the position a liaison between the president and the faculty," said Curry.

A childhood dream

Crouch's success as a college president is not surprising, given that he knew at an early age that higher education was the career for him.

As a child, Crouch often accompanied his father, a minister, to University of Mississippi football games where his father gave the opening prayers. The Crouch family would sometimes get to sit in the president's box.

The spark was ignited, and at 39, Crouch became one of the youngest college presidents ever.

Crouch, who was born in Louisville and raised in North Carolina, was the vice president for development at Carson-Newman College in Tennessee when he became Georgetown's president.

He earned a bachelor's degree from Wake Forest University and later earned master's and doctoral degrees in divinity at Southeastern Baptist Theological Seminary.

He has been married for 17 years to the former Jan Banister, originally from South Carolina. They are the parents of four daughters and a son.

Meeting the goals

Crouch believes he accomplished the goals set for him by the Board of Trustees when he was hired.

"The first speech I made to the faculty, I said when people say Georgetown, I want them to at least ask, 'Which one? Kentucky or Washington,'" Crouch said.

But the accomplishments Crouch is most proud of are the result of goals he set for himself.

Crouch, despite a busy fund-raising schedule, serves as a mentor for college and high school students through three programs.

His President's Ambassadors — 22 juniors and seniors — serve as student representatives for the college at alumni and community functions. His personal chauffeurs are students who drive Crouch to his presidential functions, and on the return trip get to ask him questions.

"But it also an opportunity for me to ask the students about the college," Crouch said.

One of the ambassadors, D.J. Jandl, says Crouch's accessibility is one of his strengths.

"You can always stop him on campus, even when he is talking to someone important," said Jandl, a senior from Racine, Wis.

Jandl said the trade-off between having an accessible president and a successful fund-raiser is a fair one.

William H. Crouch, Jr.



Born: Nov. 23, 1952, in Louisville

Education: A.B., Wingate College; B.A., Wake Forest University; M.Div. and D.Min., Southeastern Baptist Seminary; graduate work in higher education administration, University of South Carolina.

Professional: Vice president for development, Carson-Newman, Jefferson City, Tenn., 1988-1991; director of development, Baptist Children's Homes of North Carolina, 1984-1988; director of corporation/foundation gifts and adjunct professor,

Gardner-Webb College, Boiling Springs, N.C., 1982-1984; pastor, First Baptist Church, Warrenton, N.C., 1977-1981; associate pastor, Greenwood Forest Baptist Church, Cary, N.C., 1973-76.

Personal: Wife, Janice Banister Crouch; children: Allison, 25; Rebecca, 22; Erin, 19; Graham, 17; and Jourdan, 13.

"He is not as accessible as he was in his first two years, but he has brought so much to the campus that we all benefit from," he said.

Crouch also personally mentors 12 students from Scott County High School for four hours a month.

'Couldn't find a nicer guy'

Crouch's popularity extends beyond the college community.

"That is one of his greatest assets — his ability to draw people to the college; people who have drifted away from the college," said trustee chairman Fox.

In addition to his high school mentoring program, Crouch sits on numerous boards, including the Scott Education Foundation, Columbia Hospital Georgetown and Hospice of the Bluegrass.

Crouch's commitment to the community is part of reason the city of Georgetown was willing to help build the college's stadium, says Mayor Warren Powers.

The city, county and the school district had pledged \$1.75 million to help build the new stadium, but a lawsuit filed by a local farmer in protest of tax dollars used by a Baptist college ended the partnership.

"I hope we get the opportunity again to work with the college on such a project," Powers said.

"You couldn't find a nicer guy to work with than Doc," Powers said, using Crouch's nickname.

The college decided to build the stadium with its own funds. Crouch defends the decision, saying the community would have lost more if the Bengals pulled the camp out of Georgetown.

Vision for the future

Crouch says he has few if any regrets about his first five years.

"I would have liked to been less of the mover and shaker in the goal," he said.

However, Crouch does say that the goals for the next five years will be determined by the alumni and faculty. "I will just be the person to fulfill those goals," he said.

When his contract ends in 2002, Crouch will have to decide what will be next for him — remain at Georgetown or go elsewhere.

"When I first arrived here, I

thought of Georgetown as a steppingstone, but not anymore," Crouch says. "This is the best place to be a college president — you have a great corporation in your backyard, two big cities within an hour." "Georgetown College is a dream."

MSU Clip Sheet

A sample of recent articles of interest to Morehead State University

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THE COURIER-JOURNAL • KENTUCKY • SUNDAY, MARCH 23, 1997

Patton hopes to wean university budgets of political influence

By ROBERT GARRETT
and RICHARD WILSON
The Courier-Journal

FRANKFORT, Ky. — Gov. Paul Patton believes that political "pull" in Frankfort has skewed state higher education spending in favor of one or another of Kentucky's public universities.

To try to end that practice, Patton appears likely to propose that the state's top elected leaders, of both political parties, play an active and continuous role in devising a statewide strategy for higher education.

In a 14-page outline of his thinking on higher education, which he distributed Thursday to legislative leaders, Patton talks of creating a Strategic Committee on Postsecondary Education, or SCOPE.

It would work with civic leaders and others outside of politics in an attempt to submit a higher-education budget to the legislature every two years that would have such broad-based support that the General Assembly would be loath to tamper with it.

In Patton's tentative plan, the SCOPE would be comprised of the governor; five executive-branch officials; the House speaker; the Senate president; the Republican and Democratic floor leaders in both houses of the General Assembly; and two top officials of a revamped Council on Higher Education.

The council, trimmed from 17 to 13 members, would be renamed the Council on Postsecondary Education — to reflect Patton's emphasis on vocational, as well as liberal arts training. To elevate its status, it would hire, after a national search, a chief executive with the title of council president who would make more money than any of the state's university presidents.

The council would propose a "strategic agenda" to the SCOPE in odd-numbered years. Throughout that year, the commission would go through an elaborate process of matching that plan with available state dollars and presenting a higher-ed budget resolution that would "be acted on at the beginning of the regular session of the General Assembly," according to Patton's memo.

The memo contained few surprises.

IT CONFIRMED a report in The Courier-Journal on March 6 that said Patton is strongly leaning toward recommending that the 14 community colleges now operated by the University of Kentucky be detached from UK and managed with the state's postsecondary technical schools under a new board. That board also would take a president as its chief executive, who would name chancellors for the community college and technical school units.

The memo shows Patton wants to proceed with that high-stakes political gamble in a May special session he plans to convene. If he succeeds, the community colleges would be stripped from UK as of July 1, but given nearly \$12 million in the fiscal year that begins July 1 — which, together with other increases Patton already has pushed through for the colleges, would mean they would have enjoyed a 30-percent increase in funding since he became governor.

But the memo for the first time clarifies that Patton would not try to remove from the regional universities the on-campus community colleges that some of them operate.

The newspaper's March 6 story, based on Patton's private conversations with four people, also said the governor was leaning toward strengthening the Council on Higher Education, both by giving it a bigger role in budget-making and by letting it, not the governor, appoint the regents and trustees for the eight state universities. Patton also was inclined, The Courier-Journal had said, to change the higher-ed funding formula so that it rewards excellence, innovation and cooperation, and not just increases in enrollment.

Patton's memo shows he still is proceeding in those directions.

But three budget sheets attached to it show that, at least in the coming fiscal year, he would spend more money on "catch-up" efforts than on his proposed five new "strategic investment funds," which would offer the new incentives for ending duplication and stretching tax dollars further.

IN FISCAL 1998, when the universities and colleges are budgeted to receive \$757 million in state money, Patton would give them an additional \$20.4 million to catch up with their counterparts in nearby states, as well as guarantee all of them a minimum of a 3-percent funding increase. Of that \$20.4 million, \$11.8 million would go to the community colleges now under UK.

Patton would put an additional \$12 million into two of the five incentive funds he is proposing to create, as follows:

- \$6 million to boost research and endowed chairs at UK and the University of Louisville.

- \$6 million to encourage the regional universities to create "programs of distinction."

PATTON ALSO would spend an additional \$3 million on the technical schools, known as Kentucky Tech and operated now by the state Workforce Development Cabinet.

In future years, presumably, Patton would ask the legislature to put larger sums into the five incentive funds, which would include funds promoting use of technology, renovation of existing campuses and intra-regional cooperation on workforce training.

The Sunday Independent, Ashland, Kentucky, March 23, 1997

Higher education visions shared Patton sends draft to top legislators

FRANKFORT (AP) — A draft of Gov. Paul Patton's plan for Kentucky's higher education system includes proposals for a stronger coordinating board, a new board to run the Kentucky Tech schools and community colleges and a bigger role for himself.

Patton has shared the draft with several top legislators and wants their thoughts on the plan's components, according to a story Saturday in the Lexington Herald-Leader, which obtained a copy of the draft.

Senate President Larry Saunders, D-Louisville, confirmed that he had received a copy of the 14-page document and met with Patton for an hour Friday to discuss it.

"It's very preliminary," said Saunders, who declined to discuss his impressions of the proposals. "It's just something that he's asking for a response on from me and others."

The final version is expected next week, Saunders said.

The plan that Patton puts forth is likely to form the cornerstone of any legislation for the special session he has said he'll call for May 5.

Among the ideas in the draft document:

- The new coordinating body, the Council on

MORE →

► Draft

FROM PAGE 1

Post-Secondary Education, would be made up of 12 members and a chairman. They would be selected by the governor from candidates submitted by a higher education nominating commission. The members would then be confirmed by both houses of the General Assembly.

► That council would be headed by a president, who would be chosen through a national search and would be the primary adviser to the governor on post-secondary education issues.

► The council would appoint the members of the boards of all universities and the new community and technical college board. It also would approve programs, colleges' missions and coordinate academic offerings and distance learning, among other duties.

► Community colleges and the Kentucky Tech post-secondary vocational schools would be separated from the University of Kentucky and the state government, which now run them. Kentucky Tech's schools also would be known as technical colleges.

► The two systems would not be merged, but both would report to a new board, which would be headed by a president. Each system would have its own chancellor.

The Daily Independent, Ashland, Kentucky,

► The plan stresses the idea of developing "strategic investment" funds. For instance, a "Research Challenge Fund" would provide money to attract top professors and graduate students and for the matching funds needed for some national grants.

► The plan also calls for a fund that would reward regional universities for developing "Programs of Distinction." But it also warns that the colleges would be required to demonstrate that they had reallocated money from low-performing programs to those of higher priority.

► Community colleges also would get extra money to bring their funding in line with what other states spend on their systems, the plan says. It does not give an exact dollar amount, but Patton earlier in the week had pledged an additional \$11.7 million for the system with more to follow.

► Patton also wants to create a Strategic Committee on Post-Secondary Education, which would be chaired by the governor. Its other members would be five Executive Branch officials chosen by the governor, the Speaker of the House, the Senate president, majority and minority floor leaders of both houses, and the chairman and president of the Council on Post-Secondary Education.

► The strategic committee would oversee a long-range

agenda and the budget process. It also would review accountability reports from the institutions.

Leonard Hardin, the chairman of the current Council on Higher Education, said that he had not seen the draft of Patton's proposals but that many aspects of it did not surprise him.

"It sounds like it's aggressive and visionary," Hardin said. "It sounds bold."

LEXINGTON HERALD-LEADER, LEXINGTON, KY.

■ WEDNESDAY, MARCH 19, 1997

Expand schools under UK's control, group tells governor

BY MARK R. CHELLGREN

ASSOCIATED PRESS

FRANKFORT — If anything is to be done with the University of Kentucky community colleges, they should be expanded and perhaps even absorb the state's technical schools, UK supporters told Gov. Paul Patton yesterday.

Bill Francis, a Prestonsburg lawyer and chairman of Advocates for Community College Excellence and Statewide Service — ACCESS — said the group made a pitch to Patton in a nearly hourlong meeting.

The most important message was that the community colleges stay with UK, Francis said.

The community colleges, 14 campuses sprinkled across the state that often feed students to UK, have become one of the central points in the debate over higher education that Patton is leading.

The idea of taking community colleges away from UK has been raised, and supporters of UK have been almost universally opposed. But a study prepared for Patton's higher-education study group said no other leading research university in the nation is also saddled with the remedial programs that are often paramount in community college programs.

Patton has said he wants UK to be a leading research institution.

On the other side, the other seven regional universities have long hungered for the community colleges and the students they represent. To a large degree, state funding for higher education is based on enrollments.

Francis said if the Kentucky Tech system, which includes more than two dozen technical school campuses, is to be brought under more state control, UK should take over.

Francis and the ACCESS group support Patton's idea of making UK a major research school, but they also want it to take on many other higher-education roles.

Deputy Cabinet Secretary Ed Ford, who attended the meeting, declined to say what Patton thought about the ACCESS proposal. But he noted the group's name was appropriate. "That's exactly what we're for," Ford said.

Ford and Melissa Forsythe, Patton's press secretary, said the governor listened to the pitch but made no commitments.

"The plan isn't finished," Forsythe said.

Patton is to offer his specific proposals for higher education overhaul to the Task Force on Post-secondary Education by its April

Community-college expansion suggested

By MARK R. CHELLGREN
THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

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posed. But a study prepared for Patton's higher education study group said no other leading research university in the nation is also saddled with the remedial programs that are often paramount in community college programs. Patton has said he wants UK to be a leading research institution.

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"That's exactly what we're for," Ford said.

Wednesday, March 19, 1997

Patton: \$100 million to higher education Yet to endorse plan to separate UK, community colleges

By GEORGE WOLFFORD
OF THE DAILY INDEPENDENT

ASHLAND — Gov. Paul Patton called for more effective management of post-secondary education but stopped short Thursday of endorsing a plan to take community colleges away from the University of Kentucky.

In a video teleconference aired at four schools, including Ashland Community College, Patton said Kentucky Tech — the statewide system of vocational schools — needs to be moved out of state government, but did not elaborate.

Patton said there was a widespread perception that removing the community college from UK's purview was his intent.

"That perception may impact the legislature, but I want to do what is right for all Kentucky. I'll keep an open mind until the debate has developed."

He said who runs the schools was not important, "only a way to get to solutions. We must look for a structure that gives schools freedom yet directs them to work for all the state."

He promised to add \$100 million to the post-secondary budget next year, "above inflation, even though it won't be easy."

A book-sized report compiled by a consultant hired by the Task Force on Post-Secondary Education and released last week criticized the accessibility and quality of Kentucky's colleges and tech schools.

Patton said Kentucky needs to develop a single "great, nationally recognized research institution" at the University of Kentucky, "not to teach doctors, but to concentrate intellectual capacity in one place."

Simultaneously, he said, a system of lesser schools needs to be perfected that will train the 70 percent of Kentucky's workers who don't need a four-year degree.

"We can't be what we want unless we have them both," he said.

He said companies would expand into states that trained the work force. "They can import their Ph.Ds."

He said Kentucky's present college system was a product of political powers representing the institutions, their re-

gions and individuals "and I am as guilty as anyone" of helping put it together.

Each regional university should have a single specialty of expertise based on economic needs of its region. He said overlap and underutilization of courses makes the current system inefficient.

The governor defended the Council on Higher Education, saying it was subject to constant political pressure and second-guessing. He acknowledged that it had the same power to decertify college courses as it had to approve them, but never does.

Robert Bell, a former cabinet member and Ashland Inc. executive who appeared with Patton, said when regionalization of membership on the Council replaced at-large governance, the body was "Balkanized." Patton said no one

on the Council should ever be perceived as an advocate.

Patton's remarks were televised to Elizabethtown, Somerset, Frankfort and Owensboro, in addition to Ashland. Job providers and educators attended at each location, but only a few of the estimated 100 participants chose to speak.

Harold Kelley of Ashland agreed with Patton that there is too much overlap and inefficiency in the state in general. He cited Boyd County, with its three school systems and three city governments, and said those each need to be reduced to one each.

Ishmael Stevens of Ashland Inc., who visited Patton in his office two weeks ago in conjunction with a school/work program called Vision 21, said industry should have a larger role in any reorganization of technical training.

LEXINGTON HERALD-LEADER, LEXINGTON, KY. ■ FRIDAY, MARCH 21, 1997

74 programs on colleges' new wish list Request follows criticism by Patton for duplication

BY ANGIE MUHS

HERALD-LEADER EDUCATION WRITER

Kentucky's public universities and colleges have a wish list of 74 new academic programs they'd like to start — two weeks after the governor criticized the higher education system for having too much duplication.

That list, scheduled to be presented to the Council on Higher Education Monday, is raising some eyebrows and questions.

"It's an inordinately large number," said Hilma Prather, the chairwoman of the council's programs committee.

The list — routinely presented to the council twice a year — outlines all academic programs universities are thinking of proposing.

But a task force chaired by Gov. Paul Patton earlier this month released a report that, in sharp language, faulted the public higher education system for "a high degree of duplication."

"The list certainly doesn't do anything to speak against that" perception, said Gary Cox, the council's executive director.

But Cox and Prather also emphasized that many of the programs on the advisory list might never even be presented to the council for formal approval.

"Our experience has been that not all of these come forward," he said. During the last five years, the council has approved 42 new programs. It couldn't be determined last night how many programs had been suggested during that time.

That advisory list — the one in question now — is provided

If a university decides to actually pursue a program further, it must make a more detailed presentation before the council.

Prather said she could not recall how many programs had been on past advisory lists. "I know this is more than there ever have been before," she said.

Prather said that sometimes, programs stay on that list for years without the university taking action. That's because universities — which can't ask for a program that isn't on the list — want to play it safe and hedge their bets.

But of the 74 programs on the newest list, only 22 had been submitted before January 1997.

Universities also said they intended to seek formal approval for 61 of the 74 degree programs in 1997.

The complete list ranges from an associate degree in golf course management at Western Kentucky University to doctoral degrees in audiology and biopharmaceutical engineering.

The University of Kentucky and the University of Louisville also propose sharing a doctoral program in applied mathematics. They sought and received approval for their first joint doctoral degree, in social work, earlier this year.

Thirteen of the 74 programs listed are a proposed expansion of a pilot program between West Kentucky Tech and Paducah Community College that allowed students to get a degree in technical studies after spending a year at each school. The community college system wants to make that partnership a statewide one.

Some of the programs, though, appeared to duplicate each other. For instance, four universities — Louisville, Western, Eastern Kentucky University and Morehead State University — all proposed a master's degree in education administration.

See Page 1

Patton dangles \$12 million carrot

Push to separate 2-year colleges forecast

BY ANGIE MUHS

HERALD-LEADER EDUCATION WRITER

Gov. Paul Patton is promising community colleges a significant budget boost of nearly \$12 million and assuring their presidents that he wants to "enhance, not diminish" the system — no matter who runs it.

State Senate President Larry Saunders said last night that he "fully expects" that a draft circulating among key legislators will propose separating the community colleges from the University of Kentucky and putting them under a new board.

Patton, in a separate letter to legislators Wednesday, urged them to keep an open mind and not be swayed by "a massive campaign ... by those who wish to retain the political power that the community colleges represent."

Saunders said yesterday that — based on the letter and prior meetings with Patton — he thinks the governor plans to seek a major overhaul.

"I think he may be leaning toward separating the community colleges from UK, though he's not said it," said Saunders, D-Louisville, who said he had not seen the draft. "I think he's telling us there are going to be some

changes."

The issue of who should control the community colleges and Kentucky Tech post-secondary technical schools has surfaced as one of the potentially most contentious issues in Patton's efforts to reform higher education.

UK officials have strenuously objected to proposals to put the community colleges under a separate board, saying that such a maneuver would do more harm than good. The governor's office also has received hundreds of letters objecting to the idea.

Backers of the idea argue that it would improve coordination between the community colleges and Kentucky Tech, while allowing UK to focus its efforts on improving upper-level offerings and research.

Patton's letter to the legislators appears to agree with parts of that theory.

"The preponderance of evidence indicates that the community colleges and Kentucky Tech should be connected organizationally in such a way to promote efficiency and more responsive service," Patton wrote.

But he also said he considered himself a community college supporter.

"I would never ask a legislator

to vote for a measure that hurts the community colleges," Patton wrote. "If you, like me, are a champion of the community colleges, I ask you to have faith, be patient, and wait until the whole picture is complete before you make a judgment about where your support lies."

Ben Carr, the chancellor of the community college system, said yesterday that he had not seen Patton's letter and could not comment.

Former Gov. Edward T. "Ned" Breathitt, the chairman of the UK board, also declined to comment.

An additional \$12 million would amount to a 13 percent increase to the state's community colleges' budget — \$88 million in 1997-98.

Maysville Community College President Jim Shires, who received Patton's letter yesterday morning, said "we certainly can use" the additional funding the governor suggested.

But Shires said he still had concerns.

"I don't know that I'm going to change much of what I was going to say in the letter I was writing him," he said. "I don't see (separation) as a panacea for all of higher education's problems."

But state Sen. Ernesto Scorsone said he thinks Patton "is going to suggest a new structure."

"If the governor feels it's the only way, he's going to have a tough task to convince people," said

Scorsone, D-Lexington.

Jim Kerley, the president of Hopkinsville Community College, said he also suspected Patton might seek a separation. But he said he hoped Patton will reconsider.

"I hope it's not just putting (the money) out there to get us to go along with separation," Kerley said. "I still don't think that's the right way to go."

Senate Democratic Floor Leader David Karem, who met with Patton and other lawmakers on Wednesday, acknowledged that some might view Patton's offer of more money as a way of making a separation more palatable.

"This certainly could be seen as a chit you could throw out to them," said Karem, D-Louisville. "But people will probably construe this in a lot of different ways."

State Sen. Tim Shaughnessy said that he thought that the media and lawmakers had focused too much on the question of separating community colleges.

But Shaughnessy, D-Louisville, also faulted UK's handling of the issue. He said he had been disappointed that UK leaders hadn't offered more vision about the university's future.

"UK has been so defensive on the community colleges that they have missed an opportunity, and as a result, they've lost respect in the legislature," he said.

LEXINGTON HERALD-LEADER, LEXINGTON, KY. ■ SATURDAY, MARCH 22, 1997

UK says faculty, students, staff like things as they are

BY ANGIE MUHS

HERALD-LEADER EDUCATION WRITER

With debate over the future of the University of Kentucky community college system heating up, the system yesterday fired back with an internal survey that it said shows that most faculty and staff members and students want things to stay as they are.

"We decided to get some data to confirm that what we thought was true," said Ben Carr, the system's chancellor. "We got some good news."

The survey, prepared by Preston-Osborne Research of Lexington, asked faculty and staff members, administrators and student leaders whether the community colleges should be run

by UK or by the regional universities.

Respondents also were given the options of "neither" or "depends."

The percentage of those choosing UK ranged from 75.9 percent of student leaders to 64.5 percent of faculty. Three of the four groups selected "depends" as their second choice.

The survey included responses from only 42 student government leaders. Phil Osborne, the research firm's president and chief executive officer, said those students had been selected as a sample because the cost of mailing surveys to the system's more than 40,000 students would have been prohibitive.

Surveys were mailed to all faculty and staff

members and administrators, Osborne said.

Carr hailed the system's high marks for quality in the survey. Between 90.4 percent and 96.6 percent of groups rated the community college's quality as excellent or good, he said.

UK intends to share the survey results with Patton and legislators, Carr said.

Ed Ford, Patton's point man on higher education, said the governor would listen to UK's conclusions but would not necessarily be swayed by them.

"He will not be influenced or intimidated by some media campaign or anything other than what he believes is in the best interest of the state of Kentucky," Ford said.

LEXINGTON HERALD-LEADER, LEXINGTON, KY. ■ SATURDAY, MARCH 22, 1997

Prichard panel urges Patton to take long-range vision

HERALD-LEADER STAFF REPORT

A task force led by four education advocacy groups is urging Gov. Paul Patton to keep a broad perspective and focus on long-range vision as he tackles the subject of post-secondary education reform.

The position statement came from the Prichard Committee for Academic Excellence.

Governor's Scholars Program, Alumni Association.

The groups' statement said that Patton had issued "an unprecedented challenge." But to be effective, he must focus on visions first, consider all aspects of post-secondary education and show the public that increased investment will lead to improved results.

cation should be able to make discriminating choices that will lead to accomplishing the vision Kentucky establishes," the report said.

To do that, the groups suggested a list of goals: rewarding excellence in teaching, eliminating illiteracy, measuring colleges' performance, producing more competitive research, identifying

Patton's plan would overhaul control of higher ed

Governor gives draft of sweeping proposal to key legislators

BY ANGIE MUHS

HERALD-LEADER EDUCATION WRITER

Gov. Paul Patton's vision for the state's higher education system involves major changes that would create an education landscape very different from the one that exists today.

Patton has suggested to key legislators that the state create a dramatically stronger coordinating board, led by an executive who would out-earn and out-rank university presidents.

Meanwhile, a new governing board would run the state's Kentucky Tech schools and community colleges, which would be removed from the University of Kentucky's control.

His preliminary plan also envisions a bigger role for himself — taking charge of a board that would have broad responsibility for long-range planning and budgeting.

Those details and other proposals are contained in a draft of Patton's plan, which was obtained by the Herald-Leader.

Patton shared that draft proposal with several top legislators in both the Senate and House Thursday and asked for their thoughts on the plan's components.

Senate President Larry Saunders, D-Louisville, confirmed yesterday that he had received a copy of the 14-page document and met with Patton for an hour yesterday to discuss it.

"It's very preliminary," said Saunders, who declined to discuss his impressions of the proposals. "It's just something that he's asking for a response on from me and others."

The final version is expected next week, Saunders said.

The plan that Patton puts forth is likely to form the cornerstone of any legislation for the special session he has said he will call for May 5.

Among the ideas in the draft document:

- The new coordinating body, the Council on Post-Secondary Education, would be made up of 12 members and a chairman. They would be selected by the governor from candidates submitted by a higher education nominating commission. The members would then be confirmed by both houses of the General Assembly.

- That council would be headed by a president, who would be chosen through a national search and would be the primary adviser to the governor on post-secondary education issues.

- The council would appoint the members of the boards of all universities and the new community and technical college board. It also would approve programs, colleges' missions and coordinate academic offerings and distance learning, among other duties.

- Community colleges and the Kentucky Tech post-secondary vocational schools would be separated from the University of Kentucky and the state government, which now run them. Kentucky Tech's schools also would be known as technical colleges.

The two systems would not be merged, but both would report to a new board, which would be headed by a president. Each system would have its own chancellor.

- The plan stresses the idea of developing "strategic investment" funds. For instance, a "Research Challenge Fund" would provide money to attract top professors and graduate students and for the matching funds needed for some national grants.

The plan also calls for a fund that would reward regional universities for developing "Programs of Distinction." But it also warns that the colleges would be required to demonstrate that they had reallocated money from low-performing programs to those of higher priority.

Details of Patton proposal

Among the recommendations in a preliminary draft of Gov. Paul Patton's proposals to reform higher education:

- Create a Council on Post-Secondary Education — appointed by the governor and confirmed by the legislature — to co-ordinate all institutions.

- Establish a president of that council, who would outrank and be paid more than any university president and would be primary adviser to the governor on higher education.

- Set up a committee chaired by the governor and made up of legislators, Cabinet members and the president and chairman of the Council on Post-Secondary Education. This committee would have broad responsibility for long-range planning and budgeting.

- Put community colleges and Kentucky Tech schools under a new board and president.

Community colleges also would get extra money to bring their funding in line with what other states spend on their systems, the plan says. It does not give an exact dollar amount, but Patton earlier in the week had pledged an additional \$11.7 million for the system with more to follow.

- Patton also wants to create a Strategic Committee on Post-Secondary Education, which would be chaired by the governor. Its other members would be five Executive Branch officials chosen by the governor, the Speaker of the House, the Senate president, majority and minority floor leaders of both houses, and the chairman and president of the Council on Post-Secondary Education.

The strategic committee would oversee a long-range agenda and the budget process. It also would review accountability reports from the institutions.

Leonard Hardin, the chairman of the current Council on Higher Education, said that he had not seen the draft of Patton's proposals.

But he said many aspects of it did not surprise him.

"It sounds like it's aggressive and visionary," Hardin said. "It sounds bold."

DEGREES: 74 new programs on wish list

(cont'd)

Cox said that was something the council would be mindful of.

"The program advisory statement shows everybody what everybody else is proposing," he said. "We'd probably suggest to the four institutions that they work together."

Uneven funding for community colleges is questioned

HERALD-LEADER STAFF REPORT

The consultants advising Gov. Paul Patton's task force on higher education reform are questioning how the University of Kentucky divides up the state appropriation for the 14 community colleges.

The colleges received widely disparate amounts of money per full-time student — ranging from \$8,153 at the smallest, Henderson Community College, to \$3,649 at Lexington Community College, according to an analysis of UK's financial statements obtained by the Herald-

Leader.

Ed Ford, Patton's deputy cabinet secretary and chief higher education adviser, confirmed that the analysis had been done as part of the consultants' study.

Ford said no conclusions had been reached. But the wide range of amounts raised questions, he said.

"I think it's very significant in that we have no idea what the formula for the distribution of these funds was, if not on a per-student basis," he said.

Ben Carr, the community colleges' chancellor, said he had not seen the analysis or reviewed its conclusions.

But Carr said there were explanations for the differences among the schools. For instance, a small college might have higher per-student funding because its fixed costs like building maintenance also are spread among fewer students, he said.

"Some of those colleges at the top of the list may have been at the bottom a few years ago," he said.

The Daily Independent, Ashland, Kentucky, Friday, March 21, 1997

Patton asks for open minds

Promises millions to community colleges

By **MARK CHELLGREN**
THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

FRANKFORT — Gov. Paul Patton is going directly to the University of Kentucky community colleges, offering them millions more in state aid with an understanding that a change in governance structure is also needed.

In letters to community college presidents this week, Patton played down the issue of changing who controls the schools and emphasized he wants to give them more money and stature.

Patton said a big piece of his reform package, which has not yet been completed, will be to provide an additional \$11.7 million in state financing to community colleges starting next fiscal year.

"I can assure you that I want to enhance, not diminish, the community college system," Patton said.

In a separate letter to legislators, Patton mentioned the money, but emphasized the need to tie the community colleges and the Kentucky TECH system of postsecondary vocational schools more closely.

"While I have not decided definitely what I will propose, to me the preponderance of the evidence indicates that the community colleges and Ky. TECH should be connected organizationally in such a way to promote efficiency and more responsive service to the citizens and the businesses of Kentucky that they serve," Patton said in the letter to legislators.

As he did in a previous letter, Patton pleaded with them to keep an open mind. Patton said he intends to call a special session of the General Assembly on May 5 and have a formal plan for restructuring higher education within the next three or four weeks.

"As a result of my discussions of these options with various interest groups, it's ap-

paigned has been launched to win the support of legislators by those who wish to retain the political power that the community colleges represent," Patton said.

UK officials and supporters have begun an advertising effort to keep the UK ties to the community colleges and some interest groups have been created at the urging of UK to lobby Patton, legislators and the public.

Jimmy Jack Miller, who represents Ashland Community College teachers on that school's advisory board and all community college teachers on the UK Board of Trustees, said he didn't want Patton to think "that whatever he throws out, we'll jump at because there's money attached to it.

"If the structure isn't in the best interest of our students, then we can't support it," he said.

But another ACC advisory board member, Dana Ladd, said he had "a lot of respect for the governor for what he's trying to do for post-secondary education. I take his word he hasn't made up his mind, and now I'm very encouraged by what he's saying about extra funding.

"I don't see any compelling reason to separate community colleges from the university, but I do see reasons why we should resolve the overlap between them and technical education. I'm not a supporter of separation."

He said he doesn't yet buy Patton's notion that UK could become a world-class center by being unburdened of the community colleges.

Deborah Floyd, president of Prestonsburg Community College, said the consensus on her campus was to wait for Patton to release all his plans before making judgments.

But Greg Stumbo, majority leader in the General Assembly, appeared Thursday on the Floyd County campus to say he would fight any effort by Patton to separate community colleges from UK. Stumbo also said he may ask the special session to offer junior and senior courses on two-year campuses so residents can get four-year degrees without leaving home.

Patton met with some Democratic senators on Wednesday and got some advice about what a hard sell it will be to separate UK from its offspring.

Sen. Joey Pendleton of Hopkinsville said Patton heard some opposition to the community college idea in the meeting, but Sen. David Boswell of Owensboro said it could have been a good omen for Patton that no senator vowed to vote against such a plan.

GEORGE WOLFFORD,
Independent staff writer, also contributed information to this story.

Some duplicate programs graduating few students

BY ANGIE MUHS

HERALD-LEADER EDUCATION WRITER

Three of the state's regional universities offer associate degrees in drafting, but those programs combined graduated an average of only eight students a year over the past five years.

The state's two westernmost universities, Murray State and Western Kentucky, both offer bachelor's degrees in library science. But combined, they graduated an average of only 10 students a year.

Meanwhile, the Kentucky Tech post-secondary schools share as many as 102 similar, if not identical, programs with community colleges and regional universities.

Those examples, culled from a Herald-Leader computer analysis of data from Gov. Paul Patton's report on the state's higher education system, show how duplication continues to be a major problem in Kentucky's higher education system.

It's not as dramatic as the impending battle over who should control the state's community colleges. But the fight over which programs should be eliminated could be just as messy as Patton embarks on his quest to improve the state's higher education system.

At some state universities, for instance, half of all bachelor's degree programs graduate fewer than 10 students a year, according to the newspaper's analysis.

There also were 195 bachelor's and associate degree programs that had three or fewer graduates.

Many of what the governor's consultants called "low-producing" programs aren't the only one of their kind.

For example, the consultants concluded in their report that seven universities offer the same six bachelor's degree programs — but that if the total graduates were divided among the number of programs, the average was less than 10.

The consultants did not specifically identify those programs. But degree programs in French, Spanish, philosophy, physics, geography and general drama and theater arts appeared to meet the criteria described in the report.

Aims McGuinness, one of the consultants, said the situation had been created because universities had no incentives to get rid of programs.

"The underlying incentives in the system are not to grow by substitution," he said. "The incentives are to grow new programs to grow

But the issue isn't a new one — and the Council on Higher Education knew about the program numbers, said Gary Cox, its executive director.

A previous task force created by former Gov. Brereton Jones tried to tackle the duplication issue in 1994, but Cox acknowledged that its efforts had fallen far short.

"We probably missed a great opportunity to do more," he said. "The institutions resisted it and they won."

One complicating factor is that not all duplication is unnecessary. Policy-makers want to make sure that people in different parts of the state can take classes in a sufficient range of programs.

Some of the "low-performing" programs also fall under the core liberal arts offerings that many people would expect most schools to have.

Another catch is that looking at raw numbers of graduates alone doesn't always tell the whole story.

Take subjects like foreign languages — most of which were labeled "low performers" in the consultant's report.

That rankles Anne Brooks, the chairwoman of Eastern Kentucky University's foreign language and humanities department.

"There are a lot of people studying foreign languages that don't show up in those statistics," she said. "What we need to be doing is helping students recognize the value of continuing to study them in college."

The state's philosophy degree programs also wound up on the list. But at most schools, many undergraduates have to take at least one course in that area, said Alan B. Anderson, chairman of the Western Kentucky University philosophy department.

"I think the basic justification for departments of philosophy is the contribution they make to the university as a whole," he said. "Ninety percent of our classes can be (used as) general education requirements."

And even in non-core classes, there might be factors that the numbers alone don't explain.

For instance, the state's records list Western as offering an associate degree in cartography. In 1996, only one person earned that degree, the report said.

But that's because the cartography curriculum almost exactly mirrors the first two years of Western's bachelor's degree in geography, said Wayne Hoffman, the department chairman.

Hoffman acknowledged that the number of geography majors is small — seven universities offered a degree, producing a total of 73 graduates in 1996. But that doesn't mean that geography should be cut, he said.

"Geography is a fundamental science," he said. "It's a vital discipline."

Even so, most think there will have to be some paring back.

Some of the "low producers" even acknowledge they might have to change how they do business.

At Eastern, for example, the foreign language department began using interactive television to send German classes to Morehead State University, Brooks said. In return, Morehead will send an Italian class to Eastern, she said.

"I don't know that we can do it all with distance learning," she said. "But I do see potential."

Other states have cut schools' programs, funding

BY ANGIE MUHS

HERALD-LEADER EDUCATION WRITER

Kentucky isn't the only state trying to figure out how to trim duplicated academic programs.

Everyone has been trying to deal with this one, said Aims McGuinness, one of the consultants advising Gov. Paul Patton.

In Illinois, the state's board of higher education recommended that about 12 percent of programs be cut — including a law school, an

MBA program and a department of agriculture. The schools ended up cutting about 77 percent of the programs the board had recommended, plus some they suggested themselves.

In Ohio, the state board of regents recently wrapped up a review of doctoral programs that called for cutting off state funding for 13 programs and limiting the funding for six more. The move is expected to save nearly \$15 million.

Walters, the system's vice chancellor for academic and access programs, said the regents deliberately chose to let the university boards decide how to handle the state's action. A school could keep offering the program, but would have to raise the money itself to support it, he said.

"We're not trying to override the authority of the boards of trustees to decide what degrees to offer," he said. "We've just focused on what the state should pay for."

HIGHER ED REFORM AND PRIVATE COLLEGES

BY MICHAEL F. ADAMS

The writer is president of Centre College in Danville, Ky.

KENTUCKY has an opportunity this year to have a profoundly important discussion and, ultimately, a vote about the future of higher education in our state. As we approach that discussion and vote, Kentucky's independent colleges have some important contributions to make.

First, those of us in the independent sector have no fight with the public institutions. We are not adversaries, and, in fact, each of us is dependent on the other. As president of Centre College, I have a real stake in the health of Kentucky's public colleges and universities.

Over the years, the public and private schools have developed a symbiotic relationship. At Centre, we feel that we are more competitive — more alert and responsive — because we know that the public universities are just down the road, luring students with costs that are about one-fifth of ours. And we believe that the public system has become quality-conscious precisely because Centre is here, offering students the very best in undergraduate education. Competition and variety help ensure excellence in higher education. In fact, throughout our nation, the states that are known for having the best systems of higher education are the states that have a healthy representation of private colleges and universities.

Second, Kentucky's single biggest problem is that we are using taxpayer money to fund institutions instead of students. The bulk of money spent in Kentucky on higher education goes to the two major universities and eight regionals to keep their tuition artificially low. Students get that tuition subsidy whether their parents make \$10,000 a year or \$100,000. And a student can continue to get the tuition subsidy for an indefinite period of time. In fact, because university appropriations are based on student "body count," there is no financial incentive for any Kentucky university to see its students graduate.

In essence, we have cultivated a system that encourages bureaucracy and growth without regard to quality.

How might we correct this? The fairest thing right now would be to agree to fund four or four-and-one-half years of college education for any qualified Kentuckian — to meet the needs of those who genuinely need financial assistance, but not subsidize the middle and upper class. And to make it clear that a student ought to be able to get an undergraduate degree in approximately four years. It's nuts to subsidize students for six years. And it's nuts to directly subsidize an educational system that

has a 32 percent graduation rate. No other business or agency in this state could survive with that kind of track record.

If Kentuckians want to get the most bang for their buck and want to see a dramatic increase in quality, they ought to channel funds to the students and let the students make choices. If you want an example, just look at the most successful educational program in the history of the world — the GI Bill following World War II. Thousands of young men and women gained access to higher education, and colleges and universities became highly responsive to issues of quality and competition.

What we need in Kentucky is a new GI Bill.

Third, the University of Kentucky needs incentives to become a flagship research university, and the University of Louisville needs

"Competition and variety help ensure excellence in higher education. . . . States that are known for having the best systems of higher education are the states that have a healthy representation of private colleges. . . ."

incentives to become a major-urban research university. Quit trying to be the world's largest community college and, instead, become what we really need: Universities where faculty are encouraged and supported in doing the kind of research that adds to the world's body of important knowledge and, often, spins out into economic development.

Face the facts: The whole state is held back by the lack of research money for faculty at UK and U of L. Time and again other states have learned that economic development follows brainpower. I recently talked with a friend from Georgia Tech who noted that three new companies have been founded in Atlanta in recent months on the basis of research and development activities at the university.

Frankly, I would favor straightforward incentives. If UK raised \$1 million for an endowed faculty chair, then the state would match it. Many states are doing this and even matching such gifts at private colleges.

Increased subsidies for graduate students are needed to attract the best and the brightest to our universities. Let's quit subsidizing so many undergraduates who don't even need our help. And we can use that money at the graduate level. Otherwise, we'll continue to slip farther and farther behind our neighbors to the north.

Related to this issue, I would note that one thing the publics and privates share in Kentucky is the condition of being undercapitalized. We pursue a low tuition strategy at our public universities, we have a low tax and we are home to a limited number of Fortune 500 corporations. The first two realities have contributed to the third one, and, taken together, the end result is that the economic spinoff from our public universities in no way compares with what we see immediately north of the Ohio River in Indiana, Ohio, Illinois and Pennsylvania.

The group most under-represented in this discussion in Kentucky are those men and women who have finished their secondary education but are not enrolled in a baccalaureate program. These are the young people interested in technical training or remedial education. We ought to be able to give them what they need, but not through baccalaureate institutions.

These are the Kentuckians most at risk in terms of education and future employment.

And they may be the most affected by our decisions about how to govern the community colleges and the Kentucky Tech system.

Finally, the best bargains in Kentucky today are the Kentucky Tuition Grant (KTG) and the College Access Program (CAP) grants. This year, 22,000 Kentuckians are pursuing their higher education at private colleges and universities. The KTG provides a grant for those who have financial need, and the state funds expended for that program come to an average of \$600 per student. Yet if those 22,000 students enrolled in the state's public universities, the actual cost to taxpayers would be around \$4,300 per student. The mathematics is clear: Kentucky's private schools are saving the state around \$90 million per year.

That's a testament to KTG, yet it and CAP (which provides additional assistance to students with high financial need) should be expanded and enhanced. The state is in the situation of giving private college students a grant that is dramatically undervalued, while offering public school students an education that is dramatically underpriced. The net result is that, at Kentucky's private institutions, we sometimes feel as if we have to fight for the opportunity to attract Kentucky residents to our excellent facilities and educational programs — while UK, with its artificially low tuition, is giving education away. Is that what we want in Kentucky — subsidies for those who don't need them?

Kentuckians need to decide what we want, then pursue it.

Special to The Courier-Journal

A failed system

Key is to find solutions to problems identified in higher education study

A report compiled by the National Center for Higher Education Management has correctly identified the most serious problems with higher education in Kentucky. The challenge — both politically and practically — is approving reforms that will effectively attack those problems.

Gov. Paul Patton has an obligation to those involved in higher education, to members of the General Assembly and, most of all, to the people of Kentucky to release his higher education plan — and soon.

The governor has said he will have a "rough draft" of his proposals in time for the April 15 meeting of the task force studying higher education in Kentucky. However, that's only three weeks before Patton says he will call legislators to Frankfort on May 5 for a special session on higher education reform. More time than that is needed for legislators and the public to closely study and fully debate the proposals.

The independent report gives the governor more than enough fodder to make a strong argument on the need for reform. Kentucky's system of state universities, community colleges and vocational schools is fragmented, driven too much by politics and fosters competition rather than cooperation, the report said.

Exactly so. That's similar to what this newspaper and many others in Kentucky have been saying for more than a decade. Paul Patton deserves much credit for being the first governor to have the courage to even attempt to reform higher education.

But what reforms does he have in mind? The governor has yet to fully tell us.

We agree with much of what Patton has been saying about higher education. Kentucky does need a major research university that can compare favorably to the University of North Carolina and Indiana University, and the University of Kentucky

clearly is the one, statewide university that can fill this role. No doubt some University of Louisville officials would disagree, but they would be wrong.

We agree with the governor's call to separate the state's postsecondary vocational education schools from the Workforce Development Cabinet. When the vocational schools were moved from the Kentucky Board of Education to the then-new Workforce Development Cabinet during the administration of former Gov. Wallace Wilkinson, it was hoped the schools would be given the attention they deserve and need. But that hasn't happened. Vocational education remains the neglected step-sister of postsecondary education in Kentucky.

We are less supportive of separating the community colleges from UK and combining them with the vocational schools. From our

standpoint, the community colleges probably do a better job at providing efficient, quality education to thousands of students than any other higher education entity in the state. If it's working, then don't try to fix it.

Governance is bound to be the most controversial aspect of any reform plan proposed by the governor. The current system of having each state university operate separate with its own governing board simply is not working.

The governor seems to be leaning toward creating a more independent Council on Higher Education with much more power to oversee the actions of the individual universities. That may work, but we favor the creation of one board to oversee UK and the University of Louisville, and another board to govern the regional universities.

However, whatever changes the governor proposes, he needs to inform the people of them well in advance of the May 5 session. The Kentucky Education Reform Act was approved quickly in 1990 with little public debate. That should not happen with higher education reform. A full, open and lively debate is needed.

No reason to worry

Combining colleges and tech schools is best solution

Kentucky's community colleges and technical schools are scared to dickens about what will become of them.

The colleges and schools have always been just above dirt on the educational totem pole. When someone says reform, they hear budget cuts, diminished power, less prestige. Bill Huston, the former Secretary of the Workforce Development Cabinet described his technical schools as "the little bastard children that had never been paid any attention."

Still, the technical schools don't want to be merged with community colleges. Merger would only further diminish their status, the tech schools argue; it would cost more and would be less effective. Combining the schools would be a "grievous mistake," according to a paper written by the Governor's Council on Vocational Education.

Meanwhile, the state's 14 community colleges appear content with their home within the University of Kentucky system. The community college presidents say their schools benefit from the UK's resources — its research capabilities and faculty expertise.

"Recurring attacks on this structure," the community college presidents write, "simply drains resources, including time and energy."

It's unanimous. Everyone wants to stay as is — except "as is" isn't good enough.

We saw that a few years ago in Western Kentucky, at the Siemens plant in Franklin. Siemens wanted training for its workers that was both technical and academic. To advanced manufacturers, vocational education means schooling in rhetoric, theory, mathematics, physics, teamwork, computer programming and statistics. They want the best of what both the technical schools and community colleges have to offer.

Siemens found the kind of training it needed for its apprentice workers at the Kentucky Advanced Technology Center in Bowling Green, one of the state's two dozen technical schools. But the technology center is a unique institution.

Few other schools or community colleges provide that kind of soup-to-nuts education. They all should. Technical schools and community colleges now have the same mission.

Gov. Paul Patton first tried to buy an economic future, trading millions in tax breaks for a few businesses. He's realized he can't

with Kentucky, Patton now says, is that our people have too few skills, not enough education. And he's right. We are all going to have to think for a living.

The state's eight universities alone won't change Kentucky. They don't have the money, they aren't prepared to do the kind of training needed by companies like Siemens, nor are they set up to re-train adults.

Community colleges and technical schools can do these jobs. But they need help. The artificial barrier

between the schools must be ripped down. The combined system then must be given the funding, power and autonomy to fill that broad area between a high school diploma and a college degree.

These schools have the most important job in higher education. To hold the community colleges hostage to the political demands of the University of Kentucky is a waste. To separate these schools from each other trashes logic. And to condemn these schools to a second-class status behind the universities will produce nothing but low wages.

LEXINGTON HERALD-LEADER, LEXINGTON, KY. ■ TUESDAY, MARCH 18, 1997

New incentives

Universities' hefty course offerings need a diet plan

Distance doesn't mean much any more.

Italian tile makers and leather designers respond instantly to market demands in New York and Tokyo. Apparel makers in New Hampshire, Portugal and Brazil change their machinery in response to the latest fashions that make a hit on the runways in Paris and Milan.

It is so easy these days to transport images, information and people, that few institutions worry about distance.

Except in Kentucky's outdated system of higher education, where it seems there has to be a school and a program within a day's horseback ride of every residence. What we have is the post-secondary school equivalent of kudzu, with look-alike schools and programs covering the landscape with the intensity of the all-consuming southern vine.

The easiest place to see duplication is between the University of Kentucky's 14 community colleges and the state's score of technical schools. Many towns have both tech school and community college classroom.

And those schools and colleges often teach the same subjects. Although the two groups of schools will swear all the way to Paducah that they have different missions, they share 102 programs.

Consultants hired by Gov. Paul Patton have found similar overlaps among the state's eight

Murray State University, for example, both have library science majors. The two programs in these neighboring schools graduate an average of 10 students a year.

Nobody is saying the state needs only one history department, one geography faculty, one sociology major. The problem is that schools have no reason to ever think about trimming programs.

What Patton's consultants found in their study is that schools have single incentive: attract more students.

Schools do this by putting together all-you-can-eat buffet of classes.

"The underlying incentives in the system are not to grow by substitution," consultant Aimes McGuinness told the Herald-Leader's Angie Muhs. "The incentives are to grow new programs to grow new students."

The state needs to dangle a new kind of bait before the schools, colleges and universities. Universities should be rewarded for excellent teaching, service and research, not on the size of their course offerings.

Schools should be given an incentive to collaborate, to share instructors and programs. Eastern and Morehead, for example, share German and Italian instructors. It's an exception today that should become commonplace.

The state needs more sharing of programs and teachers, less competition for students. More work on making schools better, and less con-

The state needs to dangle a new kind of bait before the schools, colleges and universities. Universities should be rewarded for excellent teaching, service and research, not on the size of their course offerings.

Macy grabs chance to coach at Morehead

By RICK BAILEY

HERALD-LEADER STAFF WRITER

Conceding he is taking a pay cut to enter a new career field, former University of Kentucky All-American Kyle Macy accepted the Morehead State University men's basketball coaching job yesterday to pursue a lifelong dream.

"People say I have no coaching experience, but I grew up in a coaching family," said Macy, one of the most popular players in UK history. "I've been on the bench since I was 4 and sitting beside my father. This was my opportunity to get involved in coaching."

Macy, who begins his duties April 1, succeeds Dick Fick, whose contract was not renewed. The terms of Macy's contract have not been made final.

The Eagles were 8-19 last season, Fick's sixth, and finished in a tie for last place in the Ohio Valley Conference.

"There's no doubt in my mind Kyle knows his X's and O's," Morehead President Ronald Eaglin said. "It's tough to make a decision like this at his age, but he had a willingness to do that. At this point, Kyle is the person for us. I think he will make a great coach."

Macy, 39, was chosen over four other candidates who were interviewed by a selection committee and met with various campus groups, Morehead officials and community leaders over the last several days.

The finalists included:

■ Louisville assistant coach Jerry Eaves. A former Cardinals star, he joined the U of L staff this year after serving as an assistant with the NBA's New Jersey Nets.

■ Jeff Burkhamer, a former Morehead assistant now coaching at Santa Fe Community College in Gainesville, Fla.

■ Leighton McCrary, coach at NCAA Division II Grand Canyon College in Phoenix, Ariz. He has taken the Antelopes to post-season play.

■ Wayne Breeden, coach at Ashland Paul Blazer High School. He has been a graduate assistant at Kentucky and Eastern Kentucky and was head coach at Lindsey Wilson College.

Breeden had been rumored to be Morehead's top assistant if Macy got the job. Breeden, attending the Boys' State Basketball Tournament yesterday, would not comment but said he might have an announcement Monday.

"Wayne Breeden has a lot of floor experience," Eaglin said. "They'll make a great team."

Former Kentucky coach Joe B. Hall also has been mentioned as a possible consultant to his former All-America guard and member of Hall's 1978 national championship team at Kentucky.

Macy hopes to explore the possibility. "Someone with that much knowledge and experience ... if he would be interested we would definitely like to work that out if possible."

By accepting a four-year contract, Macy will be leaving a successful business career. He has been in radio and television seven

Kyle Macy

■ Age: 39

■ Hometown: Peru, Ind.

■ Family: wife, Tina; daughters, Mallory and Meredith.

■ Playing highlights: Indiana Mr. Basketball; All-American at Kentucky and member of 1978 national championship team; played seven years in the NBA for Phoenix, Indiana and Chicago; played three years in Italy.

■ Post-playing career: seven years as radio and TV analyst, including four years on UK radio broadcasts; summer basketball camp director; banker; athletic flooring business.

four with Kentucky radio broadcasts. He has been a correspondent banking officer with Central Bank and Trust Co. for four years. He has run a summer basketball camp for 16 years and has an athletic flooring business called Sports Court.

Macy expects to keep his camp and possibly Sports Court, he said.

Macy, whose father, Bob, was a high school coach in Indiana, had to accept a pay cut to realize his coaching ambition, but he said it was worth it. "For me, it was the opportunity to get involved in coaching."

Macy said he hopes to generate financial support in returning excitement to Morehead basketball.

"Attendance has died down some," he said, "and we need to get good crowds in there to be competitive in a very tough conference. That was one of my concerns going in. I feel confident there is support."

Eaglin received letters backing Macy, he said. "One man had season tickets 20-plus years, and he fell away. He wrote a strong letter that if Kyle was coach he would renew and buy more tickets. He would feel proud to come. A lot of people want Kyle to be successful."

Macy promised an up-tempo offense to please players and fans with a solid foundation on defense.

"We'll expect a lot from our players. We'll not lose due to lack of preparation, and we'll not lose because of lack of effort," he said.

Eaglin said Macy's personality was a perfect fit for Morehead. "His honesty attracted people, and his willingness to admit that he didn't know everything was refreshing to me. Sometimes coaches' confidence is bigger than it needs to be. Players will work hard for him and will want to come to Morehead."

One obstacle to Macy's coaching career was removed by Morehead recently. He doesn't have a master's degree, which was required for the head coaching position until the rule was changed to make a master's preferred.

Macy wasn't considered for the Eastern Kentucky job in 1992 because he lacked the degree. Eaglin called the requirement "an archaic rule."

Macy's name surfaced after the 1995-96 season amid rumors that Morehead would buy out the final year of Fick's contract. When the university tried to reassign Fick, he resisted and coached his final season.

Macy has accepted a job that hasn't been kind to Eagles coaches in the last two decades.

First Bob Wright and then Bill Harrell came from the high-school ranks in the 1960s and early '70s and had modest success following longtime coach Bobby Laughlin. They shared three Ohio Valley Conference championships before moving on. Jack Schalow, an assistant on Dale Brown's staff at LSU, was 4-19 in his fourth year and did not return.

Morehead made two NCAA Tournament appearances and won an OVC title in Wayne Martin's nine years. After his departure, Tommy Gaither was 52-64 in four years. Fick was 64-101, the longest coach in Morehead history.

The Daily Independent, Ashland, Kentucky, Saturday, March 15, 1997

Morehead hopes Macy's the man

By MARK MAYNARD
OF THE DAILY INDEPENDENT

SALT LAKE CITY — Morehead State University will turn to Kyle Macy, a former University of Kentucky All-American, to revive its basketball fortunes.

Macy made official Friday night what had been rumored for months when, on live Lexington television, he

accepted MSU President Ronald Eaglin's offer to coach the Eagles.

"I'm very excited about the opportunity and the challenge ahead," said Macy, who will officially assume coaching duties on April 1. "Actually, they had to have a date on the contract. The reality is that

SEE MACY

► Macy (cont'd)

once I get back to Kentucky, I'll do some foundation and groundwork."

Macy replaces flamboyant Dick Fick, who was fired after five seasons as the Eagles' head coach. Fick's outlandish style brought Morehead national notoriety, but he failed to win an Ohio Valley Conference championship. Fick enjoyed only one winning season (1994-95), when he was OVC Co-Coach of the Year.

The Eagles were 8-19 last season and have lost 30 consecutive road games, including 20 in the OVC. The last time Morehead went to the NCAA Tournament was in 1984 under coach Wayne Martin.

Macy will finish his fourth season as the color commentator on the UK Radio Network.

"Fortunately, with the way that is, it's kind of weekend work, so during the week I can do Morehead State work," he said.

Macy hasn't named his staff yet, but it's expected that Ashland's Wayne Breeden will be his top assistant coach. Breeden has coached the Tomcats for the past five seasons and took them to the state championship game last March. "I have some ideas in the back of my head but nothing's been finalized," Macy said. "The past couple of weeks have been more just getting my own position finalized. The next week or two we'll be working on the staff."

Macy, who has never been an assistant or head coach, helped Kentucky to the 1978 national championship and lettered three years for coach Joe B. Hall. Macy was a two-time All-American and still holds the record in career free throw percentage (89.0 percent) and season free throw percentage (91.2). He is also the No. 5 career assists leader (470) and just this season had his jersey retired by UK.

Macy played seven uneventful years in the NBA for the Phoenix Suns, Chicago Bulls and Indiana Pacers, and then three years in Italy before returning to Lexington to live with his wife, Tina. They have two daughters, Mallory and Meredith.

Macy doesn't look at his lack of coaching experience as a major drawback.

"I kind of feel like I've been grooming for a coaching position since I was 4 years old and my father was a college coach and I was sitting right next to him on the bench," Macy said. "It doesn't concern me much.

"My situation is a little different than a college student who just graduates and gets their first coaching job."

Macy's contract at Morehead is for four years, which he said was a fair number.

"Anything less would have been hard to accomplish our goals," he said.

Macy's coaching style will be for the Eagles to be uptempo offensively and aggressively defensively.

"We'll try to get a little mix of some of the players coming back and some new players coming in," he said. "There's a lot of good high school talent in the state of Kentucky."

Macy isn't promising an overnight fix, but he does promise to be active in the community.

"We need to get the fans back in the arena," he said. "We want every home game to be an event in the community. To get the program turned around and be competitive and successful in the OVC, you've got to develop a home-court advantage. It's going to take some time, but we hope to do it."

The Daily Independent, Ashland, Kentucky, Tuesday, March 18, 1997

The Macy era

Former UK star and Ashland coach combine to revive MSU program

This time the rumor mill got it right: Former University of Kentucky basketball All-American Kyle Macy is the men's new basketball coach at Morehead State University, and Ashland Tomcat coach Wayne Breeden has joined Macy as his top assistant. Let us hope the two can combine their talents to return winning ways — and fans — to MSU basketball.

Macy's name began being mentioned as the leading candidate for the MSU job within days after university officials announced the colorful but unsuccessful Dick Fick would not be rehired for a sixth season. Rumors soon began to circulate that Breeden, a long-time friend of Macy's and a former head coach at tiny Lindsey Wilson College, would join Macy at Morehead.

Macy was a superb basketball player, leading UK to a national title under Coach Joe B. Hall in 1978. He went on to an uneventful seven-year career in the National Basketball Association and played two years of professional ball in Italy before returning to Lexington. For the past four seasons, Macy has been sharing his knowledge of the game as color commentator on the UK radio network.

Can Kyle Macy coach? No one knows. He has never coached on any level. How-

ever, he is the son of a college coach, and he has played for some excellent coaches. While great players do not always make great coaches, Macy was a fundamentally sound player who overcame physical limitations to become a star. He was the type of player who often makes a good coach.

There is no question that Breeden can coach. At Ashland, Breeden built on the success begun during former Tomcat coach Jeff Hall's brief tenure, and he re-established Ashland's reputation as one of the region's premiere basketball programs. The Tomcats averaged 24 wins a season during Breeden's five years, twice won the 16th region, and advanced to the state championship game in 1996. Ashland's loss is Morehead's gain.

Macy's name recognition and Breeden's contacts among high school coaches should boost MSU's recruiting. Just having the popular Macy on the sidelines should help bring the fans back to Morehead games.

No one should expect an immediate turn around for a team coming off of a dismal 8-19 season, but the Macy-Breeden combination breathes new life into the program. Here's hoping the Macy era at MSU is a winning one.

Breeden joins Morehead

By Rocky Stanley
Of The Daily Independent

Breeden coy about his coaching future

By Rocky Stanley
Of The Daily Independent

LEXINGTON — Ashland basketball coach Wayne Breeden was a popular man in Rupp Arena on Friday.

At halftime of the Paintsville-Harrison County quarterfinal game, Breeden received an award from the Kentucky Association of Basketball Coaches as the 16th Region's top coach.

But that's not what caused him to be a media target.

Earlier Friday, former University of Kentucky great Kyle Macy was named head basketball coach at Morehead State University.

Breeden, who also interviewed for that job, is considered a top candidate to join Macy's staff.

"I'm very happy to be coaching the Ashland Tomcats," Breeden said Friday night. "A lot of coaching opportunities are being presented to me right now."

"I plan to make a decision and announcement shortly."

Breeden received the KABC award for the second time in three years. He directed the Tomcats to a 26-4 record and 22-game winning streak this season.

"It's quite an honor to be chosen by your peers for an award such as this," Breeden said.

Last year, Breeden guided Ashland to the State Tournament championship game for the first time since 1962.

Ashland swept the KABC awards as Tomcat guard Chad Braley was honored as the 16th Region's top senior.

"I think for Chad Braley to receive an award chosen by coaches in the 16th Region speaks highly of him as a player," Breeden said.

Braley transferred from Huntington St. Joe after his junior year and was a catalyst in the Tomcats' success this season. He was Ashland's second-leading scorer with 15 points per game.

"I wish I had the chance to coach him for more than one season," Breeden said. "Chad's a very fine player and an even more outstanding young man off the court." Braley's award carries with it an automatic invitation to the Kentucky All-Star tryouts.

Breeden and Braley, along with winners from the state's other 15 regions, were presented with pieces of cut-glass.

More cheers

Greenup County's cheerleaders added another award to their seemingly endless list.

GCHS received the 1997 KAPOS Cheerleading Award for competition by squads entered in this year's tournament.

Greenup County previously won the award in 1985 and '91.

ASHLAND — Ashland basketball coach Wayne Breeden ended speculation Monday by announcing that he will become Kyle Macy's No. 1 assistant at Morehead State University.

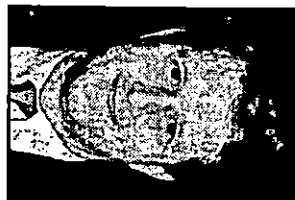
"I'm very enthused and excited about becoming part of the Morehead State University basketball program with Kyle Macy," Breeden said. "I've known coach Macy for many years." Breeden said. "There's no doubt in my mind that he's the man to rebuild the Morehead State basketball program."

Breeden leaves Ashland after a highly successful five-year stint with the Tomcats. His teams averaged 24 victories, won two 16th Region Tournament championships and finished as runner-up in the 1996 State Tournament.

"I really look forward to Wayne Breeden coming on board," Macy said. "He's shown a knowledge of the game from his success at Ashland. We're looking for-

ward to a lot of hard work and good results." MSU was 8-19 this season and has lost 30 consecutive road games. Breeden said he will leave Ashland with fond memories. "I've been fortunate to have a lot of success as coach of the Tomcats," he said. "That's due to our players and assistant coaches. The administration including (principal) Janice Leford and (athletic director) Jerry Umberger, have been

very supportive along the way. "I'd also like to express a special thanks to coach Steve Gilmore (former Ashland head coach). He gave me guidance throughout my five years at Ashland." Breeden guided the Tomcats to a 26-4 record this season. The Tomcats were ranked in the state Associated Press poll throughout the season before losing to Rowan County in the opening round of the 16th Region Tournament.



Breeden

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LEXINGTON HERALD-LEADER, LEXINGTON, KY. ■ TUESDAY, MARCH 18, 1997

Breeden joins Macy's staff at Morehead

ASSOCIATED PRESS

MOREHEAD— New Morehead State basketball coach Kyle Macy has selected veteran college and high school coach Wayne Breeden as an assistant coach, the school announced yesterday.

Breeden, the first assistant named to Macy's staff, has coached for five years at Ashland Paul Blazer High School, where he compiled a 123-41 record. He led the Tomcats to the runner-up spot in the 1996 boys' State High School Tournament.

"I'm very excited to become a part of the Morehead State University basketball program with Coach Kyle Macy," Breeden said. "I've known Coach Macy for many years, and there's no doubt in my mind that he is the man to rebuild the Eagles basketball program."

Breeden, a native of Mount Washington, also has been an assistant coach at Kentucky, George Mason and Eastern Kentucky. He spent two seasons as head coach at Lindsey Wilson.

Breeden holds bachelor's and master's degrees from UK.

LETTERS

Tenure works when it is based on teaching excellence

On Feb. 16, contributing columnist Kevin Osbourn made many valid points about reforming higher education in Kentucky. I especially agree with him that great teachers should be "recognized, rewarded financially, promoted, nurtured and coveted." But I disagree with him when he said, "Giving professors jobs for life with tenure is a sure way to avoid the accountability the system needs."

Actually, doing away with tenure would chase away from Kentucky all of the competent teachers who could get tenured positions at other institutions. Instead, we should set a high standard of excellence for professors from the beginning, including the expectation of excellent teaching, and make that the main basis on which tenure is awarded.

Osbourn went on to say, "Professors whine that they need tenure to ensure academic freedom. In fact, lazy professors with tenure can essentially retire on the job." This is simply false. Tenure and academic freedom are importantly related, in that tenure makes sure that professors are not dismissed for ideological reasons in the way that (for example) politicians are dismissed from important committee positions only because of their party affiliation when another party seizes control of a branch of the government. (It is possible to fire someone with tenure, by the way, but the firing institution must have very compelling reasons for doing so.)

Also, professors with tenure cannot simply "retire on the job" if they expect to be paid. At Morehead State University, for example, you will not even receive an annual cost-of-living increase in your salary if you do not achieve a certain level of excellence every year in the areas of teaching, professional achievement, and service (as measured by your department's Faculty Evaluation Plan).

So let's not throw out the baby with the bathwater. Let's keep tenure, but make sure that teaching excellence is the basis for awarding it.

SCOTT A. DAVISON
PROFESSOR OF PHILOSOPHY (NON-TENURED)
MOREHEAD STATE UNIVERSITY
MOREHEAD

Make UK first rate

There is a lot being written in newspapers and produced on television and radio about whether the University of Kentucky should continue to control the community colleges. One gets the impression that there is one UK voice on the matter. Just for the record, let me be counted as a member of the UK community who thinks that the governance of the community college system should be transferred to a separate board, perhaps one that deals also with technical education.

Briefly, it is my thinking that our main efforts should be toward making the University of Kentucky the kind of first-rate university that the people of the commonwealth want and need. We should not be in the business of objecting to rational arguments for releasing the community college system from UK. We should be looking to our leadership for a vision of just what kind of university we should have as the

ample, the dependence of funding on enrollment is a detriment to a strong and selective research university.)

My commitment to UK is strong. I am a native Kentuckian who knows something about Kentucky politics and who is an avid UK Wildcats fan. I have been on the mathematics faculty for more than 30 years. I am fed up with the political pressures that drive education in Kentucky.

We are fortunate to have a governor who is willing to try to make drastic and needed changes. There are some points that have been published about his plan that cause me trouble; but I am assuming that changes will be made in an environment that will allow all parties involved in higher education — maybe even university faculty — to have their say.

DON COLEMAN
PROFESSOR
MATHEMATICS DEPARTMENT
UNIVERSITY OF KENTUCKY
LEXINGTON

A misguided editorial

The "child's steps toward reform" you proposed in the March 6 editorial about higher education were an awkward stumble. You've fallen, and you can't get up.

The community colleges are colleges. They provide basic instruction, the quality of which matches that of the universities. They can provide tech courses, but they are not tech schools. Furthermore, taking the community colleges away from the University of Kentucky and giving them to a new layer of bureaucracy would be insane. UK's president oversaw the development of the colleges — a brilliant success that brought a college education within reach of thousands of Kentuckians. It ain't broke, so don't fix it.

This is important because the gaping rip in your "seamless system" comes between the senior year of high school and the freshman year of college. While high school teachers struggle with complicated, overpriced testing systems that provide no reward to students, college instructors have to deal with freshmen who can't read and write.

Let the state arrange the system of tech schools as it thinks best; skills and the needs of businesses change with the years, but true employability rests on better skills in reading, writing and arithmetic.

The "super-board" you proposed is the worst idea in years. What else but another new bureaucracy, courtesy of the consultants you worship? Gov. Paul Patton is to be highly commended for raising the issue of higher education reform, but your example shows that none of us understands the issue well enough yet.

JEFFREY LEWIS
GRADUATE STUDENT
UNIVERSITY OF KENTUCKY
LEXINGTON

Think European

My idea for higher education reform is that Gov. Paul Patton and all legislators be "mandated" to read, study, digest, absorb, think about, and be guided by the commentaries on pages E2 and E3 of your Feb. 23 edition, especially the one by Richard Murnane and Frank Levy, and those by Art Mielke and Larry Webster. I believe Morehead State University President Ronald Eaglin is himself fretting too much "about who's the boss," and his recommendations, though sound as far as they go, are too general.

The other commentaries say it all — or almost all. To go further, we need to adopt a philosophy from the European educational system and make it policy. There, a college degree is not the be-all and end-all of education; craftsmanship and individual competencies are still respected, even hon-

who have manual, musical, kinesthetic, or spatial rather than language or mathematical dexterity, and then guide them into programs of study and practice that will prepare them for a life's work in which they will use their God-given skills. After all, we all can't be rocket scientists or William Faulkners. Somebody has to make things, and somebody has to provide entertainment for us.

As for Webster's satirical column on page E3: Yes, in spite of KERA, nepotism is still strong in small, rural counties. The only cure is to do away with at least half of Kentucky's counties, preferably three-quarters. I'm told it will never happen. Well, they said too that we'd never get to the moon, didn't they?

MARY N. SMITH
LEXINGTON

Breaking down stereotypes

I got the impression from Art Mielke's commentary Feb. 23 that he thinks educational standards are being lowered for the mountain students and it's because their vocabulary or background cannot meet the standard criteria.

He also addresses the issue of "special needs," as if the students from the mountains require some sort of specialized attention. I believe that every student, regardless of his or her background, is a "special needs" student in that they need to be taught on a level that allows them to make the most of their educational opportunities.

In any situation where there is not a shared and understood meaning of language and/or symbols, a breakdown in communication will occur, causing the students to appear to be "under par." Every teacher's goal, no matter where he or she resides, should be to effectively communicate with the students and provide them with the knowledge and understanding that will prepare them for a successful future. The only way for a teacher to reach this goal is to create a shared message of learning with students, because a common understanding of the symbols of language is the very foundation on which communication is built.

Mountain students and students worldwide deserve to be taught on a level that is appropriate for the situation, not one that is based on a stereotype. I don't feel that teachers who are from mountain areas are "dumbing down" educational standards. My personal experience has been that the people from a particular area, whether urban or rural, seek jobs in that area because they love the way of life and the people. Also, the majority of these teachers do an excellent job because they really care about educating students, and don't judge them based on stereotypes or the students' backgrounds.

CHARLA RILEY
LEES COLLEGE STUDENT
JACKSON

MSU Clip Sheet

A sample of recent articles of interest to Morehead State University

INSTITUTIONAL RELATIONS MOREHEAD STATE UNIVERSITY UPO BOX 1100 MOREHEAD, KY 40351-1689 606-783-2030

THE COURIER-JOURNAL • TUESDAY, MARCH 25, 1997

Wethington, Patton clash over colleges

UK president belittles ideas as badly flawed

By RICHARD WILSON
and ROBERT T. GARRETT
The Courier-Journal

LEXINGTON, Ky. — Gov. Paul Patton and University of Kentucky President Charles Wethington clashed in an unusually blunt way on statewide television last night over UK's continued operation of its community colleges.

Wethington said Patton's plan to strip the two-year colleges from UK "is fundamentally flawed" and "will hurt students the worst" by placing them "into a political bureaucracy in Frankfort."

But Patton, who is expected to recommend tomorrow that the community colleges and the state's technical schools be operated under a newly created board, denied his plan would hurt students and stopped just short of accusing Wethington of using scare tactics to help UK keep the community colleges.

"Charles, I think you know that I'm a loyal supporter of the University of Kentucky," Patton said in a joint appearance with Wethington on a Kentucky Educational Television call-in show.

"Can you figure out why that I would propose something that is not in the best interests of the place that I went to school and the place that my children went to school?" Patton said, referring to UK.

Patton said he didn't "want this political fight" over stripping the community colleges, but would pursue it reluctantly to improve work force training in the state. No neutral observer has said Kentucky's fragmented delivery system for upgrading its adults' skills makes sense, Patton said.

"Governor," Wethington responded, "I think you're just ill-advised. I think you're not talking to the group that ... are most important to us, and that is the students that are being served by the community colleges Don't strip away the opportunity for a person of relatively poor means in West Kentucky or East Kentucky to start in (UK) when he or she may not be able to come onto Lexington to begin with."

Earlier yesterday, Patton had turned up the political heat in the battle over the future of Kentucky's community colleges. Gov. Paul Patton indicated yesterday that he will

provide extra money for the two-year schools only if they are stripped from the University of Kentucky.

"If I can't make change in this area, then I would have to look to other areas" to spend the money, said Patton, who had pledged last week to provide almost \$12 million in new money for the community colleges in the next fiscal year.

Wethington, who has had ads on television and radio in recent weeks that tout the virtues of the 14 community colleges and their link to UK, yesterday posted on the campus computer network and the Internet a letter he sent to Patton Friday in which he mocked the governor's new spending plans as small-time. Taking UK to national academic prominence will cost hundreds of millions of dollars, Wethington warned.

He said Patton's trust-me proposals do not provide nearly enough money to meet the governor's stated goals to make UK one of the nation's top 20 research universities.

"It sounds like both sides are drawing a line in the dirt," said Dr. Robert Sexton, executive director of the Prichard Committee, a citizens group for educational reform. "It certainly sounds like hardball politics (and) it doesn't encourage me to think that a solution that is good for everybody is going to be easy to find," he said.

The politics of higher education in Kentucky are boiling hot these days because Patton, who made reforming higher education his top

priority, has said he intends to summon the legislature to Frankfort May 5 to address his proposals. Patton will unveil the final version of his plan tomorrow at 10 a.m. on Kentucky Educational Television.

In his letter, Wethington said the minimum outside funding for top research universities is about \$280 million a year, far above UK's current \$117 million. He said that internal estimates indicated that the "true cost" for UK to move into top status would be a one-time investment of nearly \$700 million, plus an annual demand on the state treasury of \$104 million.

"It would be totally unrealistic, in my opinion, to appropriate five to 10 million dollars in 1997-98 and give the impression that the University of Kentucky can make major progress toward being a top 20 research university," Wethington told Patton.

Furthermore, he said, "I am much concerned that 'promises' for future funding are not sufficient.

"I hope that your plan will recognize the true cost of moving (UK) to top 20 status. ... I hope that your proposal to the General Assembly will be revised to request this major financial commitment from them and identifying the source of state funds necessary to implement the plan."

On KET last night, Patton noted he wants to plow \$100 million a year in savings from his re-engineering of state government into higher education. "That's a substantial start on making higher education in Kentucky where it needs to be."

Wethington's letter implied that in order to make UK a beehive of research activity, the university would have to expand its Lexington faculty dramatically, from 1,860 to 2,500.

The 640 new faculty members, and the graduate assistants and support personnel they would need, would cost the state \$77 million a year in salaries and \$16 million a year in fellowships and aid for graduate and postgraduate students, estimated Fitzgerald Bramwell, UK's vice president for research and graduate studies.

THE COURIER-JOURNAL • TUESDAY, MARCH 25, 1997

WKU search committee has June deadline

BOWLING GREEN, Ky. — A search committee has a June 30 deadline to recommend three candidates to succeed Western Kentucky University President Thomas Meredith.

Peggy Loafman, the chairwoman of Western's board of regents, told the committee yesterday that the board wants three candidates, not ranked in order of preference, by that date so the selection process can proceed.

The search committee is expected to present the regents with a suggested list of job qualifications by April 7. The university is expected to proceed then with advertising to officially announce the open position.

Meredith is leaving in May to become chancellor of the University of Alabama system.

LEXINGTON HERALD-LEADER, LEXINGTON, KY. ■ TUESDAY, MARCH 25, 1997

WKU sets president's panel deadline: A

search committee has a June 30 deadline to recommend three candidates to replace Western Kentucky University President Thomas Meredith. Regents Chairwoman Peggy Loafman told the committee yesterday that the board wants three unranked candidates by that date so the selection process can proceed. Search committee members are expected to present the regents with a suggested list of job qualifications by April 7. The university is expected to proceed then with advertising to officially announce the open position. Meredith is leaving Western in May to become

UK chief, Patton air arguments

Pair debate merits of making community colleges separate

BY ANGIE MUHS

HERALD-LEADER EDUCATION WRITER

Gov. Paul Patton and University of Kentucky President Charles T. Wethington Jr. went head-to-head last night in a televised showdown that signals the first shots in a battle over the state's community colleges.

Patton — at times speaking directly to Wethington — defended his plans to separate the community colleges from UK and put them under a separate board with Kentucky Tech.

The hourlong forum came during "Kentucky Tonight" on KET.

Separating the community colleges from UK, Patton said, is necessary to make Kentucky competitive with other states in providing education and workforce training.

Patton appealed to Wethington directly at one point, asking him why the governor would propose something that would hurt UK, where he and his children went to school.

"I haven't found anyone other than somebody closely associated with the University of Kentucky that thinks this is the best system," Patton said.

But Wethington, who has vowed to oppose the plan, fired back, calling Patton's plan "fundamentally flawed."

The Daily Independent, Ashland, Kentucky,
Monday, March 24, 1997

Patton: Likely to urge division

Community college leaders like status quo

FRANKFORT (AP) — Gov. Paul Patton today told community college presidents he probably will seek to have their campuses separated from the University of Kentucky.

As to whether this would be his recommendation to a special session General Assembly, Patton said, "I told them I was about 99 percent sure." He made the statement after the meeting at the Capitol.

The presidents' reaction? "I didn't see anybody stand up and agree with me," Patton said.

Instead, the group told him the current system, in which the two-year campuses are run by the state university in Lexington, is "working well, and there's no need to change it," Patton said.

Patton has said many times that Kentucky's system of public education after high school — universities, community colleges, Kentucky TECH vocational-technical schools — needs an overhaul.

Last week it was reported some legislators had been shown a draft of a plan that, among other things, would put the community colleges and Kentucky TECH system under a new governing board.

"Governor, I think you're just ill-advised," Wethington said.

In one day, Patton will take his plan to reform Kentucky's post-secondary education directly to the people.

He will lay out the details of the plan during a live speech broadcast on KET at 10 a.m. Wednesday. Almost immediately after, he will embark on a whirlwind tour of the state, presenting his plan at public forums at community colleges.

According to a draft of the plan obtained by the Herald-Leader, Patton will call for a board that he will lead that will have broad powers over budgeting and planning.

The draft also said he will rename the Council on Higher Education and strengthen it substantially. His plan also called for hiring a president to run that board — someone who would outrank and earn more than all university presidents.

But the major component that has provoked the most attention would involve moving the community colleges from UK's control and putting them and the Kentucky Tech post-secondary schools under an independent board.

That aspect was what Patton and Wethington argued last night, with the show at times resembling a presidential debate. The other panelists, University of Louisville President John Shumaker and Murray State University President Kern Alexander, were almost relegated to the role of spectators.

Patton said during the show that he would rethink his position if Wethington could persuade him he was wrong.

After the show, he said the UK president had not done that.

Patton also said he was upset because someone — he said he did not know whether it was UK officials — was spreading misinformation to students.

For instance, tuition won't change under his plan and neither

The announcement

Gov. Paul Patton will announce his plan for post-secondary education reform live on Kentucky Educational Television at 10 a.m. Wednesday. Patton also will visit these community colleges for public forums: Wednesday: 1:30 p.m., Ashland Community College; 3:30 p.m., Maysville Community College. Thursday: 9 a.m., Prestonsburg Community College; 11:30 a.m., Hazard Community College. Friday: 8 a.m., Somerset Community College; 10:30 a.m., Elizabethtown Community College.

will the quality of students' classes, Patton said.

"It's very, very unbecoming for someone to try to scare people with rhetoric like this," Patton said. "It is not intellectually honest."

But Wethington said the governor's ideas were not new and not the only way to achieve his goals.

"Each time we have some out-of-state hired gun consultant come into the commonwealth, that person or persons look around and say 'Well, it's not done this way where we come from so let's do it differently,'" Wethington said. "It may very well be that we've got something going on in Kentucky that's better than it is in the rest of the country."

Patton said the fact that Kentucky's system is unique isn't necessarily bad, but it raises questions.

"We've done this for 35 years, and nobody else has copied that," Patton said. "I think that is an indication that it's not sacred. It's certainly not the only way to do it."

Wethington said after the show that he did not see any circumstance under which he could accept taking the community colleges from UK.

"I take the positions that I think are in the best interest of all of Kentucky," he said.

Patton said that was his goal, too.

"This intransigence is just sort of incomprehensible to me," he said.

■■■

Herald-Leader staff writer Bill Estep contributed to this report.

The University of Kentucky is opposed to the idea and has been running radio and television commercials extolling the current system.

Henderson Community College President Pat Lake said neither side was persuaded by the other at the meeting today.

Lake said the community colleges' link with UK is important to their students.

"They express preference — quite frequently, lately — that the transcripts and diplomas say 'University of Kentucky,'" Lake said in an interview.

High remedial course rate found at Kentucky colleges

BY MARK R. CHELLGREN
ASSOCIATED PRESS

FRANKFORT — A substantial number of Kentucky high school graduates who went on to college in the state were apparently unprepared and required remedial courses.

According to a study released yesterday by the Council on Higher Education, one-third of the Kentucky students attending a public university took a remedial course for their first math course and 16 percent took a remedial English course.

At community colleges, 72 percent of the first math classes were remedial as were 12 percent in English.

The figures troubled members of the council.

"I feel very strongly higher education is not in the business to conduct remedial education," said Hilma Prather, chairman of the programs committee of the council.

Council member Joe Bill Campbell said universities are going to eventually have to decide they will not offer remedial programs and not accept students who need them. That will put the burden on high schools where it belongs, Campbell said.

In other items, the council yesterday:

- Approved distribution of an additional \$2.6 million to the eight universities for achieving performance goals. It is the only money in the \$757 million General Fund budget for higher education tied to the universities actually reaching some measurable objective.

- Heard that the universities and community colleges have already proposed 74 new degree programs. Some council members said they were concerned about the relatively large number, but others said it was most important that the pro-

Credit transfer made easier between public universities

ASSOCIATED PRESS

FRANKFORT — This fall for the first time, students who attend one public college or university in Kentucky will be assured they can transfer credits to other institutions.

But there are still a number of conditions, and getting credit for courses taken elsewhere might be a hit-and-miss proposition for many students.

It took a law to force public universities and community colleges to recognize even the basic courses taught at other institutions. Eventually, the eight universities and 14 community colleges will each give credit to 60 core course credit hours in 188 programs. The first 55 were approved yesterday by the Council on Higher Education.

"It really is an ironclad guarantee for students," said Tony Newberry of the University of Kentucky community college system.

The guarantee, though, is good only if the entire 60-hour package of basic education and major-area courses are completed. Anything short of that, or in addition to it, might not be recognized by another institution.

Hilma Prather, chairman of

the programs committee of the council, acknowledged it was harder and took longer to reach the agreement than might seem reasonable. "That we remain entrenched in the status quo, that change is difficult, that's what it says," Prather said.

The refusal by one public institution in Kentucky to give credit for a course from another in Kentucky has been a longstanding complaint by students. And it was related to another council study released yesterday about why students are taking longer to graduate.

The study concluded there is almost no such thing as the traditional four-year degree.

The study found that it took an average of 11.2 semesters for students enrolled in the 1994-95 school year to graduate, and while most bachelor's degree programs require 120 to 130 credit hours for graduation, the average student attempted 156.6 hours and earned 141.7 hours.

The study considered only factors that were attributable to the student and cited reasons such as poor academic preparation, changing of majors, outside employment and pursuit of a double major.

grams were actually going to be useful.

- Received a report that faculty salaries at Kentucky universities and colleges for the current school year ranged from 87.4 percent (Morehead State University) of

those at benchmark institutions to 103.2 percent (Eastern Kentucky University).

- Appointed 10 members to a committee that is to advise on the subject of a regional education center in the Jackson Purchase.

Council pushes retaining black students

HERALD-LEADER STAFF REPORT

FRANKFORT — The Council on Higher Education yesterday moved ahead with a plan that would require Kentucky public universities to do a better job in keeping black students enrolled and helping them graduate.

But the council also moved to put another part of the plan — improvements to Kentucky State University — on hold indefinitely.

The Kentucky Plan for Equal Opportunities is a five-year plan that broadly oversees universities' affirmative-action efforts. It is an outgrowth of desegregation planning that the state began in 1982

under pressure from the federal government.

This year's new plan also marks a shift, in that some of its measurements will now apply at the system level — meaning that all institutions will have to make progress for any to receive credit.

The Rev. Louis Coleman, a Shelbyville civil rights activist, praised the new plan's emphasis on graduation rates and retention rates.

"We need to stop this revolving door process of students entering the university in September and then you don't ever hear from them again after the first semester," Coleman said.

But Coleman and KSU President Mary L. Smith questioned the council's decision to delay action on a plan to enhance Kentucky State.

Charles Whitehead, the council member who chaired the committee that drafted the plan, asked for the delay, citing issues that had arisen.

Whitehead did not elaborate and said after the meeting that he had not had a chance to discuss the matter with other committee members.

Smith said she did not know what Whitehead's concerns were.

"I was very surprised that it happened," she said. "I'm just waiting to see what happens next."

State smooths path to bachelor's degrees

New policies help transfer students keep their credits

By MICHAEL JENNINGS
The Courier-Journal

FRANKFORT, Ky. — As it received a report showing that the typical Kentucky university student takes three extra semesters to complete a four-year degree, a state agency took action yesterday that should help thousands graduate faster.

The Kentucky Council on Higher Education, which commissioned the report, approved a set of common course requirements that would enable students in the most popular majors to transfer after two years from one state school to another with no

loss of credit.

That step, made in response to a law passed last year, should have "a major impact on time (required to earn) a degree in the near future," said Roger Sugarman, the council's associate director for research and accountability.

The study released yesterday shows that the typical student at a Kentucky public university takes 11.2 semesters to complete a bachelor's degree. In doing so, he or she typically takes 28 hours more in course work than the 129 hours required — at a cost to the state of \$28 million over the past 10 years.

Transfer agreements covering the first two years of college work in all major fields must be in place by next fall. Those agreements will smooth the path to a bachelor's degree for the 7,000 students who transfer annually from a state community college to a state university or from one state uni-

FINDINGS OF THE STUDY

- 1994-95 graduates were enrolled an average of 11.2 semesters.
- The average bachelor's degree program requires 129 semester hours, or about 8.4 semesters of work.
- The average graduate earned 142 hours while attempting 157 hours over 4.8 years.
- Part-time students took an average of 4.1 semesters longer to finish their degree than full-time students.
- Non-traditional students took an average of 1.4 semesters longer to finish their degrees than traditional students.

BY MARC NORTON, THE COURIER-JOURNAL

versity to another.

The transfer policies approved yesterday cover majors in business, communications, education, the health professions and the social sciences, which together account for about 40 percent of all transfer students in

Kentucky. Council Executive Director Gary Cox said the massive effort involved made it impossible to develop policies in all fields at once.

But state Sen. Tim Shaughnessy, who pushed through the law requiring transfer agreements, said the poli-

cies should have been worked out long ago. He said the main obstacle has been the attitude of higher education officials who had stymied earlier efforts to attain transfer policies and common course-numbering policies.

"They do not talk to each other; they do not cooperate with each other," said Shaughnessy, D-Jefferson-town. "They never have, and if it's left up to themselves, they won't."

Council Executive Director Gary Cox said council members agreed with Shaughnessy's goal. His legislation "gave us the leverage we needed to get this done, to be frank about it," Cox said.

The report on time taken to earn a degree tracked the college careers of 7,273 students who earned bachelor's degrees during 1994-95. It shows they took an average of 11.2 semesters,

compared with a recommended average of 8.4 semesters.

Students who enrolled part time as freshmen required, on average, 4.1 semesters more than full-time students to graduate. Students over age 25 took 1.4 semesters longer to complete degrees than students of traditional college age.

Among school-related reasons for the delays, the study cites confusing course requirements, problems in transferring from school to school and inadequate advising. Student-related factors include changes in majors, employment, pursuit of double majors and course-taking for personal interest.

Sugarman cited a pair of studies that suggest Kentucky students take longer to graduate than those in other states. A separate council report found that 37 percent of Kentucky students who enrolled as freshman in 1989 had graduated after six years, while in a national sample, 77 percent of degree-seekers had graduated after just five years, he said.

If Kentucky is to remain economically competitive, "we need to make sure that more students leave college with a degree in their hands," he said.

He said most other states show "relatively little concern" about the time students take to earn degrees. He said Kentucky could try to reduce that time by cutting back on course requirements and charging students more for additional courses, but he urged the council to retain flexibility.

On average, students at the University of Louisville and Northern Kentucky University took longer than students at other schools to earn degrees. Sugarman called that understandable, because those schools enroll many part-time and older students.

Gary Greider, U of L's vice president for student services agreed, saying about one-third of the university's students attend part time and nearly 80 percent hold jobs. Their average age is over 27, he said.

While many of them drop in and out of school, "they are very tenacious," he said. "You give them enough time and they get it done."

THE COURIER-JOURNAL • TUESDAY, MARCH 25, 1997

Vote delayed on KSU section of education plan

By MICHAEL JENNINGS
The Courier-Journal

The state Council on Higher Education yesterday approved the provisions of a new equal-opportunity plan that affects Kentucky's seven traditionally white universities.

But, at the request of the head of the panel that hammered out the five-year plan, the council withheld approval of the part that affects Kentucky State University, the state's only historically black university.

The council put on hold the plan's call for continued efforts to build KSU's strength and for more specific goals to be developed after a planned

special legislative session on higher education.

Charles Whitehead of Ashland, chairman of the Committee on Equal Opportunities, said he asked for the postponement on KSU because of "some governance issues" that were brought to his attention over the weekend. He would not elaborate but said he would try to convene the panel this week to discuss the concerns.

KSU President Mary Smith said in an interview she was "in the dark" about what the concerns might be. So was Sherron Jackson, the council staff member who worked on the plan.

The committee spent months labor-

ing over the plan, "and I thought everything was in shape," Smith said. The Rev. Louis Coleman, an advocate for KSU and for civil rights generally, criticized Whitehead for acting at the last minute and not revealing the reason.

"The community has a right to know why" the enhancement measures were called into question, Coleman said. "We happen to think the plan is bigger than one person."

The equal-opportunity plan puts pressure on traditionally white universities to cooperate to keep the enrollment of African-American high school graduates at current or higher levels. The latest in a series of state

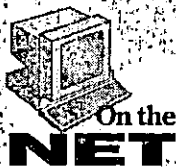
plans since 1982, it also strengthens the emphasis on ensuring that African Americans stay in school and graduate.

Jackson said the new plan is designed to be open to revision in response to the changing legal climate surrounding affirmative action at public universities. Since last summer, he said, the equal opportunities panel repeatedly sought guidance from the U.S. Department of Education's office of civil rights but didn't get it.

Given the status of federal court lawsuits dealing with university affirmative action plans elsewhere, "I think that we really won't have clarity in this area for another six or eight months," he said.

Research price tag: \$795 million

UK offers estimate on cost of reaching top-20 rating



On the NET
The text of UK President Charles T. Wethington Jr.'s letter to Gov. Paul Patton is on UK's World Wide Web page at <http://www.uky.edu/News/>. The full text of UK's research plan, and supporting data, is available by clicking on the "enclosures" link in Wethington's letter.

BY ANGIE MUHS

HERALD-LEADER EDUCATION WRITER

The University of Kentucky has put a price tag on what it would take to make it a top-20 research institution.

Try \$795 million — more than the state appropriation this year to the entire system of eight state universities and 14 community colleges.

Of that money, \$691 million would be a one-time investment, according to UK's figures. But \$104 million would be needed every year.

That money, UK officials argue, would vault the university into the top 20 nationally in the amount of research grants it would receive.

In a letter sent to Gov. Paul Patton and all legislators, UK President Charles T. Wethington Jr. outlines the steps — and the high costs — that he says would be required to make UK "one of the most productive public research universities in the nation."

Wethington also did not back down from his fervent opposition to separating the community college system from UK.

"The Commonwealth of Kentucky and its citizens will not be well served by separating the community colleges from an academic institution (the University of Kentucky) and moving them to a large political bureaucracy in Frankfort," Wethington wrote.

A draft of Patton's written proposal for education reform, which was shared with legislators and obtained by the Herald-Leader, calls for putting the community colleges under an independent board.

But Patton, in a meeting yesterday,

told a delegation of community college presidents that his mind was "99 percent" made up to push for a separation, Paducah Community College President Len O'Hara said.

One of the rationales cited for moving the community colleges away from UK is that doing so would allow the university to focus its attention and resources on becoming a top research institution.

But Wethington disputes that in his letter to Patton, saying that the governor has not pledged to provide the kind of additional money that would be needed.

"It would be totally unrealistic, in my opinion, to appropriate \$5 million to \$10 million in 1997-98 and give the impression that the University of Kentucky can make major progress toward being a top 20 research university," Wethington wrote. "I am much concerned that 'promises' for future funding are not sufficient."

UK also moved swiftly to disseminate its conclusions. It posted Wethington's letter and the financial analysis on its World Wide Web page, and also used the campus electronic mail to send copies to faculty members.

UK ranks 66th in the nation — 45th among public universities — in the amount of financial support it attracts from industry and federal, state and local governments for its research. That ranking, compiled by the National Science Foundation, traditionally contributes heavily to a university's prestige and reputation.

UK this year has attracted \$117 million in such support; to break into the top 20, it would need to attract \$280 million in

research awards.

But doing that would cost money, UK officials say. They cited some of the following needs, along with these costs:

■ UK would have to hire 640 additional faculty members, the report concludes. That assumes that each new faculty member would attract \$250,000 in research grants each year — \$160 million total.

But hiring that many faculty, assuming an annual salary and benefits of \$80,000, would cost a total of \$51.2 million each year, the report said. The faculty also would need support personnel and graduate student assistants that would cost \$25.6 million each year, it said.

■ UK's report also argued that, to recruit nationally known faculty, it needs to establish 180 new endowed professorships and chairs.

Those positions, which hold more prestige, also require \$1 million endowments each — for a total one-time price tag of \$180 million.

■ The UK report also concludes that it would need to build or renovate 1.6 million square feet of research space to provide work areas for the 640 new faculty.

Doing that would cost \$431 million, the report concludes.

■ The report also calls for increasing scholarships and stipends for graduate students by nearly \$14 million each year, and for investing \$11.4 million each year in new scientific equipment.

Ron Geoghegan, chairman of the Kentucky Advocates for Higher Education, said he was encouraged to see such detailed planning.

"I just would caution people not to get discouraged by the size of the numbers," he said. "We're starting from where we are now, and we have a long way to go."

THE COURIER-JOURNAL • TUESDAY, MARCH 25, 1997

Illness leads ex-WKU head to retire early

JACKSON, Miss. — Mississippi State University President Donald Zacharias, a former president of Western Kentucky University, will resign at the end of the year because of his multiple sclerosis.

"I do hope very sincerely that I can help show that people (with MS) can function, that you can do a quality job, and with the support of friends and others, you can lead a great life," he said.

Zacharias, 61, was president of WKU from 1979 to 1985, when he went to Mississippi. He said yesterday that after consulting with his doctors last week, he decided to push his retirement announcement ahead about six months.

A hospital stay last week and speculation on his health led Zacharias to disclose that he has the neurological disorder.

ACC candidate hopes to get back into academics

By **GEORGE WOLFFORD**
OF THE DAILY INDEPENDENT

ASHLAND — A candidate for presidency of Ashland Community College says he's anxious to get back to a school where academics are the prime focus.

But he's proud of the successes made since he took over the vocational-technical school where he now works — successes he credits to the people who work for him.

Dr. W. R. "Wes" Channell, now president of Belmont Technical College in St. Clairsville, Ohio, said he was motivated to apply for the ACC job because of the community integrity the school has shown.

"And I like your linkage to the university (of Kentucky). I know it's unpopular to some, but I think it's a strength," Channell said during a visit Friday.

That caught the attention of listeners anxious about Gov. Paul Patton's plan to restructure higher education. Patton said today he's almost certain he will propose separating the community colleges from UK and aligning them with vocational schools.

Channell acknowledged that it would be hard to evaluate Patton's plan until the governor releases details.

"ACC students aren't going to get hurt in the shuffle," he told members of the college's advisory board. "There are too many people here, staff and faculty, who are out to protect them."

Channell was the fourth of sixth finalists to tour the

school and meet with faculty, students, staff and the advisory board.

He said Belmont Tech had worked out innovative apprenticeship programs with local industry that brought money to the college "outside public funding" and let manufacturers save money on employee training.

He said that as an administrator in Nebraska, he had created award-winning programs that drew upon vocational funding instituted by the late U.S. Rep. Carl D. Perkins.

Channell said that while Belmont Tech meets its charge to provide vocational training, at least 60 percent of the work is in academic credits that are transferable to other colleges.

He supported the idea of remedial education, saying eight of 10 students needed it in each college where he's been.

"I don't like it, but you've got to do it, and it's meant spending 30 percent of our resources to do it.

"Otherwise, we'll be putting a student in a classroom where he's certain to fail and kept some other student from occupying that chair."

He described his management style as "hands-off, maybe coffee-cup. I wander around and ask questions.

"It's not my role to get deep. I've found that all colleges have good people. I do pay attention to results."

Before coming to Ohio, he spent 14 years as vice-president of Western Nebraska Community College in Scotts-

bluff, which he described as "more of an idea than bricks and mortar. You can't tell where the college starts and the community begins."

Coincidentally, Dr. Deborah J. Hecht, interviewed on Thursday, served as vice president at Scottsbluff for two years after Channell moved to Ohio.

Dr. Robert Khoury, district vice president for academic affairs at Hillsborough Community College in Tampa, was to visit ACC today. Dr. Angeline Dvorak, dean of arts and sciences at Jackson (Tenn.) State College, is scheduled as the final interview on Wednesday.

The school is searching for a successor to Dr. Charles "Chick" Dassance, who left in December to become president of Central Florida Community College at Ocala.

MSU Clip Sheet

A sample of recent articles of interest to Morehead State University

INSTITUTIONAL RELATIONS MOREHEAD STATE UNIVERSITY UPO BOX 1100 MOREHEAD, KY 40351-1689 606-783-2030

THE COURIER-JOURNAL | WEDNESDAY, MARCH 26, 1997

Fight to control colleges opens today

Round One: Patton outlines plan on KET

By RICHARD WILSON
and ROBERT T. GARRETT
The Courier-Journal

LEXINGTON, Ky. — Gov. Paul Patton will take to the airwaves of Kentucky Educational Television today to outline the boldest changes in postsecondary education in more than 30 years.

Patton's plan would reshape the way the state's technical schools, community colleges and universities are governed. It is likely to provoke the most heated battle the state has ever seen between a governor and a university president.

If Patton wins, he will be seen as the governor who caused the most far-reaching changes in higher education since Democrats Bert T. Combs and Edward T. "Ned" Breathitt.

"I applaud the governor for spending the time he has to place the emphasis on higher education," said Breathitt, now chairman of the University of Kentucky's board of trustees. Breathitt pushed the last major change in higher education that led to university status for the state's four former teachers' colleges and set up a citizen-dominated Council on Higher Education.

Breathitt supports Patton's push for reform but strongly opposes his expected proposal to strip the state's 14 colleges from UK.

"I hope we can work this all out, and hopefully we will before it's all over," Breathitt said yesterday.

Patton's plan will require legislative approval and he plans to call lawmakers into special session May 5 to consider the package he will outline on KET at 10 a.m. today.

State Senate President Larry Saunders, D-Louisville, said he thinks Patton's plan will face heated Senate opposition if it tries to strip the UK colleges.

"It will be incumbent on the governor to convince the legislature that's necessary to make the (reform) package work," he said. "Against that will be how strong UK and the community colleges are able to muster support in opposition."

Senate Republican Leader Dan Kelly, R-Springfield, said, "I think there's a lot of agreement on (Patton's) goals. But this battle is distracting from that, unnecessarily distracting."

"That doesn't solve the major problems of a better funding formula, elimination of duplication and long-range planning."

The community college issue provoked several blunt exchanges between Patton and UK President Charles Wethington Monday night

on a KET call-in show. Patton argued that combining the UK colleges with the technical schools is crucial to streamlining the state's workforce training and making it more efficient. But Wethington called that part of Patton's plan "fundamentally flawed" and said the governor had been "ill-advised."

University presidents seldom win pitched battles with governors, and two former UK chiefs — John W. Oswald and David Roselle — resigned in 1968 and 1989 after disputes with Govs. Louie B. Nunn and Wallace Wilkinson.

Patton has been wooing lawmakers for weeks, pointing out the general direction of his plan and seeking support.

"We'll continue to bring in folks with a positive interest like the business community and others to work through the details," said Ed Ford, deputy secretary of Patton's cabinet.

The plan will undergo a full-scale discussion before the Task Force on Postsecondary Education, which Patton heads, April 14 and 15. Patton also will discuss it with members of the legislature's interim education committee later next month, Rep. Freed Curd, the committee's co-chairman, said yesterday.

Curd says he likes the plan and will support it. "Everybody realizes we've got some problems in higher education, and we've had them for a long time," said Curd, D-Murray.

Patton's reform package is expected to create three panels to guide the state's post-high school operations.

One, headed by the governor and made up primarily of other executive-branch officials and the state's top elected legislators of both parties, would play an active, continuous role in setting up a statewide strategy for higher education.

The Strategic Committee on Postsecondary Education also would play a major role in budget-making.

A NEW 13-member Council on Postsecondary Education, which would have more power over campus activities than the current state Council on Higher Education, would guide the direction of the state's universities.

The new council also would have a freer hand in devising the funding formula for the system. Patton would change the formula, which now rewards enrollment increases, with new incentives that reward excellence, cooperation and use of technology to reach non-traditional students.

Also created would be a governing board for the Kentucky Community College and Technical College System. It would oversee separate community college and Kentucky Tech schools, each headed by a chancellor reporting to a president.

THE 14 community colleges actually began as two municipal junior colleges, in Ashland and Paducah, in the late 1930s.

UK opened "university centers" in Covington in 1948; Ashland, 1957; Fort Knox, 1959; and Cumberland and Henderson, both in 1960.

Amid strong lobbying by other communities that wanted their own centers, then-Gov. Bert T. Combs named a study commission that recommended five additional sites. The 1962 General Assembly approved the sites, and passed a law calling for them and the five existing centers to be "comprehensive community colleges."

Combs argued that UK should have the colleges under its wing because it is the only Kentucky university with a statewide mission; doing so would shield the colleges from the political interference and patronage hiring plaguing many school districts; and UK needed a boost to fend off the growing political clout of the four regional universities the state then had. (Today it has six.)

The community college system began operation on July 1, 1964.

Patton's plan marks the first serious threat to UK's operation of the community colleges.

WHAT ARE the pros and cons of stripping them from UK?

Patton has argued that the tech schools, known as Kentucky Tech and operated by the state Workforce Development Cabinet, and the community colleges often offer the same courses and fail to cooperate.

"Unless those two institutions are answering to the same boss, they cannot be as efficient as they need be, and they must be, for us to be productive," Patton said on KET Monday.

Businesses should be able to do one-stop shopping for their manpower-training needs, he has argued.

UK has argued that the community colleges have stable enrollments; are a valuable steppingstone to the four-year, liberal-arts programs offered in Lexington; and provide a means for statewide dissemination of manufacturing methods and applied research.

"Out-of-state, hired-gun" consultants such as those advising Patton don't understand Kentucky's unusual attachment of its community colleges to its flagship university, Wethington said.

Patton to launch tour in Ashland

Will outline restructuring plan at ACC Wednesday

FROM STAFF WIRE REPORTS

ASHLAND — Gov. Paul Patton will come to Ashland Wednesday to open a state tour defending his plan to separate the University of Kentucky from its community colleges.

Patton's office announced Monday that he would speak at 1:30 p.m. at the Ashland Community College auditorium, the first in a series of a dozen speeches he plans at community colleges across the commonwealth that will end in Louisville on April 1.

He will unveil his restructuring plan in a speech at 10 a.m. Wednesday on Kentucky Educational Television.

Patton and UK President Charles Wethington went head-to-head Monday night in a televised debate on KET.

Wethington said Patton's plan to strip the two-year colleges from UK was fundamentally flawed and would hurt students most by placing them "into a political bureaucracy in Frankfort."

Patton is expected to recommend Wednesday that the community colleges and the state's technical schools be operated under a newly created board. He denied that his plan would hurt students and stopped just short of accusing Wethington of using scare tactics to help UK keep the community colleges.

"Charles, I think you know that I'm a loyal supporter of the University of Kentucky," Patton said.

"Can you figure out why that I would propose something that is not in the best interests of the place that I went to school and the place that my children went to school?" Patton said.

Patton said he didn't seek the political battle over stripping the community colleges, but would take it on reluctantly to improve workforce training in the state.

"Governor, I think you're just ill-advised," Wethington said.

"I think you're not talking to the group that ... are most important to us, and that is the students that are being served by the community colleges Don't strip away the opportunity for a person of relatively poor means in West Kentucky or East Kentucky to start in (UK) when he or she may not be able to come onto Lexington to begin with," he

Patton previously proposed giving the community colleges nearly \$12 million in additional aid to help them make the transition away from UK.

He said Monday he would use that money for other needs if his proposal is defeated by the General Assembly.

Elizabethtown Community College President Chuck Stebbins said Patton, during a meeting with community college presidents Monday, made it clear the schools would not get the additional funding if the legislature didn't make the changes he was seeking.

"The funding is tied to his proposal," Stebbins said.

Patton said the presidents told him that the current system, in which the two-year campuses are run by the state university in Lexington, is "working well, and there's no need to change it.

Patton has said many times that Kentucky's system of public education after high school — universities, community colleges, Kentucky Tech vocational-technical schools — needs an overhaul.

Maysville Community College President James Shires said his colleagues understand the need to improve the relationship between the community colleges and the technical schools.

"It's just that we don't agree the best way to do that is to take us away from UK," Shires said. "That's our basic disagreement."

Hamilton said community college students now have access to UK student activities, including ball games. For most students, the system is working well, he said. "And as they say, 'If it ain't broke, don't fix it.'" But Patton will find support for his plan, too.

"I think we should definitely break away from UK," said Crystal Osborne, 22, of Prestonsburg, who is freshman representative on the PCC Student Government Association.

UK has always provided a grant for community college students Amber Walls said. "You start the you finish there," she said.

Henderson Community College President Pat Lake said neither side was persuaded by the other at the meeting Monday.

Lake said the community colleges' link with UK is important to their students.

"They express preference — quite frequently, lately — that the transcripts and diplomas say 'University of Kentucky,'" Lake said.

"These people are very dedicated. They're adults, they're voters. ... I hope that policy makers will listen to our students."

Patton visiting community colleges about plan

THE COURIER-JOURNAL • WEDNESDAY, MARCH 26, 1997

By Lee Mueller
Eastern Kentucky Bureau

ASHLAND — Two days ago, University of Kentucky President Charles Wethington suggested to Gov. Paul Patton that he talk to community college students about his plans to cut their ties to UK.

Today, the governor begins a 13-campus tour at Ashland Community College.

It's going to be a hard sell, said Benji Hutchinson, a 20-year-old Ashland sophomore who called Patton's proposal "scary."

"Everybody thinks that community colleges are nothing," said Prestonsburg Community College student Amber Walls, 19, of Dwale.

"The name 'UK' gives us some respectability."

In Ashland and Prestonsburg yesterday, students were preparing to discuss Patton's plan to separate the state's community colleges from UK and place them under a separate board along with the state's vocational school system.

At both campuses, many students — but not all of them — disapproved of the governor's plan. Some just disapproved of the governor.

"I don't think it's right that some guy who just got elected can come in and do something like this," said J.B. Hamilton, 22, of Retsy.

Layne, a second-year student at Prestonsburg Community College.

Hutchinson said politicians and educators have their own interests. But for students, Patton's proposal is "the difference between getting a certificate that says you've been to Ashland Community College and one that has UK's name on it."

If Patton's plan is approved, Hutchinson predicted that both enrollment and academic quality at ACC will decline.

"Plummet," he said.

Hamilton said community college students now have access to UK student activities, including ball games. For most students, the system is working well, he said. "And as they say, 'If it ain't broke, don't fix it.'" But Patton will find support for his plan, too.

"I think we should definitely break away from UK," said Crystal Osborne, 22, of Prestonsburg, who is freshman representative on the PCC Student Government Association.

Osborne said she thought Lexington campus used the community college system as collateral to obtain funds "that don't run us."

UK is just a name, said sophomore Stacy Patton, 21, of Pader. "It has no bearing on us at all.

Other students, however, they were worried they might be able to transfer to UK if the community colleges is broken.

PCC freshman Amy Strickland, 18, of Paintsville said she also concerned that integrating the system with vocational-technical schools would make it too difficult to transfer classes to out-of-state universities.

Several students on both campuses threatened to attend at schools if the link to UK is broken. "If it changes, I know I'm going to be here," said Becky Curry, 19, of Prestonsburg.

"People are going to start associating us with Mayo (a state vocational school in Paintsville) instead of UK," Curry said.

UK has always provided a grant for community college students Amber Walls said. "You start the you finish there," she said.

One former governor's view of proposals for higher education

BY BRERETON C. JONES

It is highly appropriate that we focus on meaningful improvement for our vocational/technical schools, our colleges and our universities. I commend the governor and many leaders around the commonwealth for the focus they are putting on this subject. The time is right to make a significant investment in education. We know that the future of our young people depends upon the quality of their education and we know that such quality cannot be achieved without a significant investment. We also know that this administration started with the biggest surplus in history (more than \$300 million) so it makes sense to do it now, rather than later.

Now is the time to create and adequately finance the Fund for Academic Excellence that was first recommended by the Prichard Committee in 1981. Such a fund, for the benefit of all our public institutions of higher education, set up on a matching basis with private donations would yield major benefits to the commonwealth. This will give each university the opportunity to focus on quality and will show state support for their effort. This will challenge every universi-



Brereton Jones

ty in a very positive way.

It is imperative that we restructure the Council on Higher Education and give it the authority and the strength to oversee all post-secondary education. The governor is right in proposing that the Council on Higher Education should be changed to the Council on Post-Secondary Education, led by a strong executive who would serve as a professional leader for all of post-secondary education. I believe that the governor is wrong in creating a committee of politicians to preside over the new council, which must be free and independent to make educational decisions based on what is best for Kentucky and not what is best for the next election.

Let's look specifically at the governor's proposal. He is proposing a new committee, to oversee a new committee, to oversee another new committee to oversee a new chancellor. This is too much bureaucracy that will guarantee too much politics.

The members of the newly proposed Council on Post-Secondary Education should, I believe, be chosen as the governor has proposed. They should not, however, be chosen to represent a particular university or a particular region. Each member must be charged with the responsibility of creating a world-class system of post-secondary edu-

cation, without regard to regional turf wars, and should be given the authority to make the decisions to accomplish this goal.

This council should also be charged with the responsibility of coordinating the vocational schools and the community colleges. I agree that we should have a chancellor of the vocational system, but I strongly disagree with taking the community colleges away from the University of Kentucky. The fight to do this will be so divisive that it will monopolize the debate and jeopardize the best opportunity for higher education in many years. Besides that, it is fundamentally the wrong thing to do. Why trade community colleges run by educational professionals for community colleges run by Frankfort politicians? It's a bad trade.

There is no logic to the argument that we must take the community colleges away from UK so that UK can become a great research university. With the proper reorganization of the Council on Higher Education and realistic funding, UK can become a top 20 research university. The community colleges would greatly benefit from this as part of the university. We must not take the positive association that the community college students have with UK away from them. They are proud of UK in many ways, and it would serve no positive purpose to deprive them of this.

I hear rumors that there are some people who want to take the 14 community colleges away from UK so that the politicians can control these jobs and influence. If this is true, it could become the biggest political heist in Kentucky history. We must not run this risk.

Now is the time to roll up our sleeves and make the right things happen for our universities, our colleges and our vocational technical schools. It can be done. Let us work together and make it happen.

■ **Brereton C. Jones**, governor from 1991-1995, is a former University of Kentucky trustee and a former active member of the Prichard Committee.

To tune in

Gov. Paul Patton will announce his plan for post-secondary education reform live on Kentucky Educational Television at 10 a.m. today. Patton also will visit these community colleges for public forums:

Today: 1:30 p.m., Ashland Community College; 3:30 p.m., Maysville Community College.

Thursday: 9 a.m., Prestonsburg Community College; 11:30 a.m., Hazard Community College.

Friday: 8 a.m., Somerset Community College; 10:30 a.m., Elizabethtown Community College.

Patton will visit Western Kentucky next Monday and Jefferson Community College on Tuesday.

Obstacle course

UK puts up insurmountable barriers to progress . . .

If Gov. Paul Patton walked in today and dropped \$795 million in cold cash on Charles Wethington Jr.'s desk, we suspect the University of Kentucky president would offer a couple of million additional excuses for maintaining the status quo at the state's flagship institution of higher education.

Our suspicions arise from our, well, considerable skepticism of Wethington's contention that it will take \$795 million to transform UK into a "top 20" research university.

Oh, it will take money — quite a lot of it — to make UK a center of education and research excellence, to make it an institution that values quality over quantity. We don't want anyone to be deluded about that.

But \$795 million? That sounds more than a little steep. It sounds like an artificially inflated amount thrown out to discourage this state from even attempting to reform public higher education.

Indeed, reading the letter to the governor in which Wethington cited that extravagant figure, you're

struck by the anti-reform tone. It's as if the UK president were crying, "No! No! No! A thousand times no! Just leave us and our community colleges alone."

Strange, when the subject is a new on-campus basketball arena, no obstacle seems too great for UK to overcome. It's a "can do" institution. Pine Mountain could be leveled and used to fill

Mammoth Cave if that's what it took to raise the \$100 million-plus a new hoops palace would cost. But talk about reforms that would enhance the university's academic status, and all you you hear from UK are excuses.

On KET Monday night, those alibis finally

led Gov. Patton to say directly to Wethington, "What you seem to be saying is that we can't make UK a top university."

With apologies to the governor, he misspoke himself slightly. This state and its people can make UK a top university if we put our minds to it. What Wethington seems to be saying is *he* can't or won't help do the job.

Strange, when the subject is a new on-campus basketball arena, no obstacle seems too great for UK to overcome.

. . . led by Wethington and his 'no-can-do' attitude

The contrast was stark, the difference between silk and pine bark. One man was reasoned, informed, understanding, visionary. The other was emotional, narrow-minded, defensive and misleading.

For those of you who missed the hour-long discussion about education policy on KET (the hour before the Oscar show), Gov. Paul Patton was the man providing the vision. UK president Charles Wethington was the guy pumping smoke, spreading disinformation, holding on to the status quo like it was his last dime.

It was an petty display by Wethington. The UK president was on a mission. His job was to hold on to the 14 community colleges that are now part of the UK system — to protect his turf from a governor who has concluded the community colleges need to be separated from UK and put together with the state's technical schools.

Wethington wasn't ready to reason or discuss. He was there to defend, to protect his schools with the ferocity of a mother bear.

No argument was too petty or

obscure for Wethington. He intimated that the switch would harm the accreditation of the community colleges. (It won't; the colleges are accredited individually.) He said Patton's plan would "put them (the colleges) in a political bureaucracy in Frankfort. (What about the political bureaucracy that Wethington runs?) He cried that UK and the colleges have "the same course numbers." (Huh?)

Wethington even pleaded with Patton to put both the colleges and the technical schools under the university. (To which Patton responded, "I don't think UK's goal ought to be to have the largest community college in the world.")

Patton was aghast. "There's a lot of misinformation being passed out," the governor said. "It's very, very disappointing, very unbecoming."

And very UK. It's clear that the greatest impediment to a more fluid, more efficient system of higher education is the state's flagship institution. And the single person most resistant to change is UK President Charles Wethington.

Many Kentucky students taking remedial programs

By MARK R. CHELLOREN
THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

FRANKFORT — A substantial number of Kentucky high school graduates who went on to college in Kentucky were apparently unprepared for the task and required remedial courses.

According to a study released Monday by the Council on Higher Education, one-third of the Kentucky students attending a public university took a remedial course for their first math course and 16 percent took a remedial English course.

At community colleges, 72 percent of the first math classes were remedial and 12 percent in English.

The figures troubled members of the council.

"I feel very strongly higher education is not in the business to conduct remedial education," said Hilma Prather, chairman of the programs committee of the council.

Council member Joe Bill Campbell said universities are

going to eventually have to decide they will not offer remedial programs and not accept students who need them. That will put the burden on high schools where it belongs, Campbell said.

In other items, the council on Monday:

►Appointed members of a committee that is to advise on the subject of a regional education center in the Jackson Purchase.

The council's appointment Monday of the 10 members of the committee was in keeping with the inability of Murray State University and Paducah Community College to agree on much of anything these days. The regional center was part of a deal imposed on the two institutions when they could not work out their own agreement on providing engineering education in the area.

►Approved the distribution of \$2.6 million in additional funding to the eight universities for achieving their performance goals. It is the only money in the \$757 million General Fund budget for higher

education that is tied to the universities actually reaching some measurable objective.

►The performance goals and the weight attached to each are actually determined by the institutions themselves for the most part.

►Heard that the universities and community colleges have already proposed 74 new degree programs. Some council members said they were concerned about the relatively large number, while others said it was most important that the programs were actually going to be useful to someone.

►"I think that's our concern here, that we just don't keep getting bigger and bigger and expanding," Prather said.

►Received a report that faculty salaries at Kentucky universities and colleges for the current school year ranged from 87.4 percent (Morehead State University) at benchmark institutions to 103.2 percent (Eastern Kentucky University.)

Higher education panel adopts plan to give credit where due

By MARK R. CHELLOREN
THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

FRANKFORT — This fall for the first time, students who attend one public college or university in Kentucky will be assured they will be able to transfer credits to other institutions.

But there are still a number of conditions, and for many students, getting credit for courses they have taken elsewhere is still liable to be a hit-and-miss proposition.

It took a law to force public universities and community colleges to recognize even the basic courses taught at other institutions. Eventually, the eight universities and 14 community colleges will each give credit to 60 core course credit hours in 188 programs. The first 55 were approved Monday.

"It really is an ironclad guarantee for students," said Tony Newberry of the University of Kentucky Community College System.

The guarantee, though, is only good if the entire 60-hour package of basic education and major-area courses are completed. Anything short of that, or in addition to it, may not be recognized by another institution, even something as basic as an introductory history or English class.

Hilma Prather, chairman of the programs committee of the council, acknowledged it was harder and took longer to reach the agreement than might seem reasonable. "That we remain entrenched in the status quo, that change is difficult, that's what it says," Prather said.

The refusal by one public institution in Kentucky to give credit for a course from an-

other in Kentucky has been a longstanding complaint by students. And it was related to another council study released Monday about why students are taking longer to graduate.

The study concluded there is almost no such thing as the traditional four-year degree.

The study found that it took an average of 11.2 semesters for students enrolled in the 1994-95 school year to graduate, and while most bachelor's degree programs require 120 to 130 credit hours for graduation, the average student attempted 156.6 hours and earned 141.7 hours.

Schools' merger wouldn't bother ACC job finalist

By **GEORGE WOLFFORD**
OF THE DAILY INDEPENDENT

ASHLAND — A candidate for the presidency of Ashland Community College said Monday he was "not at all agitated" about proposals to change the way Kentucky's colleges are governed.

Robert Khoury, now district vice president for academic affairs at Hillsborough Community College in Tampa, Fla., said similar changes are afoot in Florida, which has the third-largest community college system in the country and a legislature that gets directly involved in its governance.

"What happens in Florida will happen to you, eventually," Khoury told members of the ACC advisory board during interviews at the school Monday. He was the fifth of six finalists for the president's job to visit the school.

Gov. Paul Patton wants to remove the community colleges from the jurisdiction of the University of Kentucky and tie them more closely to the vocational schools. Khoury pointed out that Florida has just uncoupled the community colleges and the vocational schools — mainly in an effort to avoid duplication of coursework.

Khoury said he wants to be the leader of "an institution of this size in a community like this. I won't want to go back to a large-size school like where I am now, although I do appreciate what I've learned there."

Khoury said his philosophy is that community colleges "are here to meet the needs of our business leaders, our business community. No competitors (schools) are so intently focused on that, and that approach should be as true here as elsewhere."

He said he spends one-third of his work time on crises, one-third on management and one-third on leadership. He said he hoped to be an external president, "building an administrative team, leaving me to work with business leaders and professionals to promote and support the institution."

"Whoever you recruit (as new president) has to be prepared, because there's no new money out there and any new programs will have to be funded with soft money, foundations and grants."

He said his two highest priorities are installation of instructional technology and distance education equipment.

Khoury listed his greatest strength as an ability to rec-

ognize that there is more than one way to achieve a goal. On the other side of the coin, his biggest failures have come when he planted ideas that didn't take seed with the faculty, he said.

He cited examples of innovations he had used in Florida to reach high school students and encourage them to attend his institution — a dual enrollment program and a 10th-grade placement test with advice on how to correct their weaknesses.

"You want to recruit," he said, "but you need to focus on retention and graduation."

The last ACC finalist, Dr. Angeline Dvorak, dean of arts and sciences at Jackson, Tenn., State College, is scheduled to be at the school Wednesday.

Three of the finalists will be selected for further interviews and team visits to their schools before a successor is named for Dr. Charles "Chick" Dassance, who left in December to become president of Central Florida Community College in Ocala.

The search team wants a new president on board by July 1.

THE COURIER-JOURNAL • WEDNESDAY, MARCH 26, 1997

Colleges compete intensely for National Merit finalists

Some critics suggest schools may not be using money wisely.

By **MICHAEL JENNINGS**
The Courier-Journal

The overtures from colleges started coming in near the end of Doug Tabela's sophomore year at St. Henry High School in Erlanger.

Typically, the letters congratulated and ... scores. At first it was really neat," he said. "It was kind of new." Then came the deluge. By the fall of Tabela's senior year, he was hearing from three or four colleges a day — eventually including at least one from every state.

The courtship attested to the academic promise of a student who scored 33 out of a possible 36 on the American College Test and 1,510 out of a possible 1,600 on the Scholastic Assessment Test.

But it also typifies the growing competition for brainy students.

College financial-aid officials say academic scholarships — relatively rare 20 years ago — have grown so common that the families of outstanding high school students expect colleges to offer one and are miffed if they don't.

The University of Kentucky — where Tabela enrolled last fall with National Merit and UK Singletary scholarships that pay all his college costs — is putting millions of dollars into the competition. The University of Louisville, Centre College and Bellarmine College, among others, also rely heavily on talent-based scholarships to attract bright students.

"I DON'T WANT to be crass about this, but, you know, a lot of universities have gone out and bought the best that they can buy," said David Howarth, U of L's acting dean of arts and sciences.

This strategy by colleges is often defended as a way to create a nucleus of academic talent that can change a school's character — or simply as a competitive necessity.

But some education-policy experts say schools that use scholarships to attract academic talent may create the illusion of campus excellence at the expense of the real thing.

They say it's especially risky for private schools, which survive largely on tuition, to sacrifice revenue that pays for other important academic expenses just to provide scholarships to students who may not need them.

Tom McKune, former director of admissions and financial aid at Centre, said colleges and universities must decide each year whether money that could go for a computer lab or a faculty raise should go instead into scholarships.

MORE →

National Merit Finalists
(Cont'd)

"They're tough choices, very tough choices," said McKune, now director of advising at Centre.

"I'm sure that there are colleges that have taken money out of their need-based financial-aid system" to fund merit scholarships, he said.

But merit-scholarship programs typically grow slowly, and it's usually impossible to point to something that was axed to fund them, McKune said. "It's all just part of the mix of saying, 'How are we going to spend our money to attract students to come here?'"

Sandy Copher, director of UK's merit-scholarship programs, defended the recruitment strategy.

"We're trying to keep the top students within the state of Kentucky," she said. University officials also hope other able students will emulate the Merit Scholars' choice of UK. Highly capable students help build a classroom atmosphere that aids in faculty recruitment as well, she said.

LIKE UK, the University of Oklahoma is among the most aggressive bidders nationally for academic talent. It ranks ninth in the number of freshmen who are National Merit Scholars, the nation's most prestigious high school academic-talent competition. UK ranks 23rd.

But at UK and Oklahoma, fewer than one-third of all freshmen rank in the top 10 percent of their high school classes. And neither school makes lists of top-quality schools, such as U.S. News & World Report's.

Realizing that their academic atmosphere might not suffice to attract the brightest young scholars, UK and Oklahoma offer them generous financial incentives to attend.

To National Merit finalists who list UK as their first choice, the university offers free in-state tuition, free room and board and \$450 annually for books. Finalists who name Oklahoma as their first choice are offered free or cut-rate tuition, an additional \$2,875 a semester and the right to register for classes before other students.

Lisa Vaughn, head of Oklahoma's Merit Scholar program, said her university got aggressive about recruiting Merit Scholars in 1984. The following year, UK started expanding its academic scholarships, which at the time consumed about \$100,000 annually.

By 1988, UK's merit-aid program awarded about \$800,000 in scholarships annually. This year, awards by the merit-aid office topped \$3.2 million, and academic scholarships university-wide totaled nearly \$6 million.

UK landed 72 freshman National Merit Scholars last fall, just two fewer than Duke University, one of the nation's elite schools.

OKLAHOMA'S freshman class includes 153 National Merit Scholars — more than enrolled at Duke or Princeton University.

Duke, Princeton and a number of other top universities offer Merit Scholars no automatic financial aid, choosing instead to emphasize need-based aid.

"We feel like what we offer here is enough to make students want to come here," said Jim Belvin, Duke's financial-aid director. "And we just want to figure out a way to help them pay for it."

Unlike Duke, UK cannot rely on reputation alone to attract extremely bright freshmen. "We're very aware of the competition we're having for these students," said Copher, UK's merit-aid director.

UK's \$6 million in academic scholarships consumes most of its financial-aid money. All its other non-athletic scholarships, such as those for band members and war orphans, came to less than \$1 million last year.

A LOOK AT MERIT SCHOLARS

Chart shows the number of freshmen Merit Scholars at selected universities in the fall of 1996 and the number college-sponsored and corporate-sponsored.

SCHOOLS WITH THE MOST MERIT SCHOLARS

University	Merit Scholars	College-sponsored	Corporate-sponsored
Harvard/Radcliffe Colleges	391	0 0%	391 100%
University of Texas, Austin	289	233 78%	66 22%
Rice University	204	138 68%	66 32%
Stanford University	184	0 0%	184 100%
Texas A & M	183	141 77%	42 23%
University of Florida	177	162 92%	15 8%
Yale University	165	0 0%	165 100%
Iowa State University	154	134 87%	20 13%
University of Oklahoma	153	134 88%	19 12%
University of California-Berkeley	131	90 69%	41 31%

UK AND PEER SCHOOLS

Ohio State University	97	86 89%	11 11%
University of Kentucky	72	62 86%	10 14%
Purdue University	54	35 65%	19 35%
University of Missouri, Columbia	44	37 84%	7 16%
University of Illinois	37	0 0%	37 100%
Virginia Polytechnic Institute	36	29 81%	7 19%
University of North Carolina	33	0 0%	33 100%
University of Virginia	32	0 0%	32 100%
University of Tennessee	23	21 91%	2 9%
West Virginia University	19	14 74%	5 26%
Indiana University	11	0 0%	11 100%
North Carolina State University	11	0 0%	11 100%

U OF L AND PEER SCHOOLS

University of Toledo	38	33 87%	5 13%
University of Houston	24	16 67%	8 33%
University of Louisville	16	12 75%	4 25%
University of Cincinnati	6	5 83%	1 17%
University of Akron	5	3 60%	2 40%
Georgia State University	1	0 0%	1 100%
University of Missouri, Kansas City	1	0 0%	1 100%

BY MARC NORTON THE COURIER-JOURNAL

Need-based financial aid at UK totaled \$36 million in 1995-96, but nearly all of it came as federally or state-backed loans and grants.

Last fall 396 first-year students at UK — about 15 percent of the freshman class — received academic scholarships. By comparison, about 2 percent of Duke's receive academic scholarships.

UK's academic scholarships range in generosity from those that pay all expenses for four years, which go to National Merit and Singletary Scholars, to the one-time grants of \$1,500 that 207 freshmen received last fall.

All eight schools Tabeling considered attending offered him scholarships. UK's offer was financially the best. But Tabeling said he wasn't just marketing himself to the highest bidder. He had previously attended small, private, all-white schools, "and I needed to get away from that," he said.

Tabeling doesn't think he's constricted his academic horizons by choosing UK. "I reasoned — and got a lot of affirmation on this point — if I come to UK and don't spend a lot of money and I do well here, I can go wherever I want to go" for graduate study, he said.

U OF L PUTS most of its own student-aid money (as distinct from state and federal money) into academic or talent-based awards for Kentucky residents, said Pat Arauz, the university's acting financial-aid director.

"It becomes a real buying issue — who's going to buy the student," Arauz said. She said the university tries to boost its scholarships yearly to stay competitive and can't find enough takers for all those it offers.

U of L offers National Merit finalists from Kentucky free tuition plus \$3,700 a year. Other U of L scholarships go to students who have good high school records but don't make top scores on the tests used in Na-

Last fall U of L gave academic scholarships to 457 first-year students — 24 percent of its freshman class.

PUBLIC UNIVERSITIES enjoy an advantage in the bidding war for talented students, said Fred Mullinax, president of the Association of Independent Kentucky Colleges and Universities. States subsidize the cost of educating a student at state schools, while private schools bear the full cost. Waiving tuition through a scholarship represents a greater loss of revenue for private colleges.

William Hall, a Minneapolis-based consultant to private colleges, said some private schools that once saw talent-based scholarships as a quick fix for their academic reputations have seriously hurt their financial health. He declined to name them. "What does it mean if you're bringing in 20 National Merit Scholars and are investing less money" in the resources needed to offer all students a quality education? Hall asked.

Centre, a private school in Danville, introduced academic scholarships in 1982 to counter similar offers by other private schools. Last fall, academic awards to freshmen totaled \$955,000. Today more than half of Centre's freshmen receive academic awards, including college-sponsored National Merit Scholarships worth \$2,000 a year.

Academic scholarships consume about 43 percent of Centre's own financial-aid money, but the rest goes for need-based aid. Thomas V. Martin, Centre's dean of enrollment management, said many students get a blend of merit-based and need-based awards.

Competitive pressure bears heavily on schools like Centre that are academically strong yet not part of the elite handful — including the Ivy

MORE →

League and Duke — that have a surplus of sterling applicants, Martin said. Public universities have increased the pressure on private colleges by plunging into the bidding game, he said.

"I mean — let's admit it — Harvard's not our competition" for talented freshmen, Martin said. "The University of Kentucky is."

Bellarmino, a private college in Louisville, awarded five Bellarmino Scholarships last fall. They pay full tuition — \$10,200 a year — plus a study-abroad stipend worth at least \$3,000. Another 175 freshmen received Monsignor Horrigan Scholarships, worth \$4,000 to \$28,000 over four years.

Ed Wilkes, Bellarmino's vice president for enrollment management, said both scholarships are less than 10 years old. Today, academic scholarships go to more than half of Bellarmino's freshmen, and they "have definitely improved the quality of our incoming class," he said.

But most colleges "won't be able to go much further" with using academic scholarships as a recruitment tool, Wilkes said. "They're almost at the saturation point, I think."

Some top students cannot get past 1st test

By MICHAEL JENNINGS
The Courier-Journal

To those untutored in the ways colleges scout for academic talent, Monica VanDyke might seem a hot property.

She graduated first in her class of more than 400 at Northmont High School in Clayton, Ohio. She did well on college-entry tests.

But none of that served to get her the kind of attention from colleges that many students with less stellar high school records receive.

"A lot of schools contacted me for admission," said VanDyke, who expects to graduate summa cum laude from Bellarmino College in Louisville in May. "But schools across the country were not offering me scholarships by any means."

THE PROBLEM for VanDyke was her score on the Preliminary SAT/National Merit Scholarship Qualifying Test. That test is the gateway to consideration for National Merit Scholarships, and she found herself shut out.

VanDyke's experience illustrates how the test-centered nature of National Merit Scholarship competition short-changes many superior students.

High school students typically take the PSAT in the fall of their junior year. Colleges buy lists of students who score above specified levels on the test and send out teaser letters.

"The amount of mail those students receive — it's almost unbelievable," said Kate Johnson, advising coordinator for the University of Kentucky's honors program.

VanDyke's high school record was enough to attract scholarship offers from four schools. Her Bellarmino Scholarship paid full tuition and a \$4,000 stipend for foreign study.

But she still feels frustrated by the way colleges stampede after students who rise in National Merit competition. "It seems like semifinalists and finalists for National Merit basically get their ticket written for where they want to go," she said. "And high school performance goes secondary to that."

TOM MCKUNE, director of advising at Centre College, has a daughter who won a National Merit Scholarship worth \$500 a year from Wake Forest University, a private school in Winston-Salem, N.C. Yet he's skeptical about the way Merit Scholars are chosen and by the emphasis some schools place on recruiting them.

Advancing from semifinalist to finalist requires a strong high school record, a good score on the Scholastic Assessment Test and a principal's recommendation. But "the whole entry to it is via one test," and the PSAT isn't even given at some rural high schools in states, including Ken-

tucky, where the American College Test is the dominant college-entry test, McKune said.

William Hall, a consultant to private colleges, said becoming one of the 14,000 Merit Scholarship finalists named annually also depends on the willingness of high school counselors to complete the necessary paperwork: "It puts a tremendous burden on those counselors for the sake of a few students," he said.

Once a student becomes a finalist, taking the final step to a National Merit Scholarship may be even more of a fluke. A finalist may get a lucrative scholarship, a small one or none at all depending on the college.

SOME COLLEGES, including the University of Kentucky, boast annually about their rankings in the number of freshman Merit Scholars enrolled. McKune said such school-to-school comparisons are deceptive because schools differ in whether they sponsor Merit Scholarships and, if they do, how many.

About 3,900 Merit Scholarships are conferred annually by colleges and universities under an agreement with the National Merit Scholarship Corp. McKune said a finalist can't win an institutional award from a school "unless the student lists that school as his first-choice" during the scholarship screening process.

IVY LEAGUE universities and some other elite colleges confer none of these institutional awards because they aren't part of the Merit Scholarship network.

The National Merit Scholarship Corp. itself annually bestows 2,000 scholarships, each worth \$2,000, and some other companies and foundations award National Merit Scholarships to about 1,100 other National Merit finalists, most of them children of their own employees. Ironically, McKune said, the scholarships requiring the highest achievement — those the National Merit Scholarship Corp. bestows — are worth the least financially.

National Merit Scholarship selection "isn't representative, if you will, of all the best people that are out there," McKune said.

Hall said he advises colleges to be leery of the National Merit program. It is, he said, "the most byzantine, arcane process you've ever heard of."

MSU Clip Sheet

MSU ARCHIVES

A sample of recent articles of interest to Morehead State University

INSTITUTIONAL RELATIONS MOREHEAD STATE UNIVERSITY UPO BOX 1100 MOREHEAD, KY 40351-1689 606-783-2030

THE COURIER-JOURNAL • THURSDAY, MARCH 27, 1997

Patton: Improve college research, worker training

“The University of Kentucky needs to be known for great basketball and great scholarship.”

— Gov. Paul Patton

By ROBERT T. GARRETT and RICHARD WILSON
The Courier-Journal

LEXINGTON, Ky. — Citing the bleak history of public education in Kentucky, Gov. Paul Patton yesterday offered a plan to reform higher education by boosting research at the state's two largest universities and improving worker training.

“We can no longer afford to sit idly by as our best and brightest students continue their yearly exodus to institutions in other states that offer more highly ranked programs and opportunities,” Patton said on statewide television as he began trying to sell the public on a changed college system.

Patton said his main thrust is at the top and bottom rungs of the educational ladder after high school: expanding and raising the quality of doctoral-level research at the universities of Kentucky and Louisville, and improving training of the labor force at community colleges and technical schools in dozens of counties.

Patton said research grants are a source of jobs and new talent that Kentucky hasn't tapped sufficiently. He said businesses have given the state failing grades when it comes to training workers who have the “skills to survive in the new and rapidly changing modern economy.”

As expected, part of the remedy Patton proposed for work-force training — and the most controversial — is to strip the 14 community colleges from UK. Patton has said he will call lawmakers into special session May 5 to consider his legislation.

Admitting he didn't intend to make higher education his top priority when he ran for governor in 1995, Patton said he was yet another “job development governor” who ended up realizing he has to become “an education governor” to succeed at raising Kentuckians' incomes.

Patton said it is urgent the

state alter its higher-education system and catch up with the rest of the nation.

First, he noted that 44 percent of the state's adult population lacks the literacy skills to “effectively complete a job application or read an instructional manual.”

Second, Kentucky lags the nation in the percentage of adults who have a college education.

Third, while the state has increased the public's access to higher education, its system is inefficient, plagued with unnecessary duplication and “fosters competition rather than cooperation,” he said.

WHAT IS Patton's plan? First, to have a plan — an overall set of goals. They would be adopted with heavy participation by the legislature and would be regularly reviewed by the governor and legislative leaders on a Strategic Committee on Postsecondary Education (SCOPE) that Patton would create.

Patton has proposed to then put a big cop on the block to watch the universities and colleges, and make sure they obey the state's strategic plan.

The cop would be a strengthened Council on Higher Education, which would be renamed the Council on Postsecondary Education. Its members would be appointed by the governor. It would “eliminate duplication, wasteful competition and turf battles,” but would not “micro-manage” the eight state universities, he said. The council president's salary, visibility and prestige would eclipse those of university presidents.

A major goal would be to make the University of Kentucky a nationally acclaimed research hub.

PATTON DISPUTED recent claims by UK President Charles Wethington that taking UK into the top 20 universities in research would require a minimum increase in UK's funding of \$795 million.

The governor ruled out raising taxes to meet the goal of making UK a top research center, meaning it could only be done through a slow and painful reallocation of existing state revenues or much-improved private fund-raising — a spinoff of the increased entrepreneurship that research generates.

“The University of Kentucky needs to be known for great basketball and great scholarship,” Patton said. “I am determined that 20 years from now the University of Kentucky will be recognized throughout the nation as

PATTON'S PLAN

Gov. Paul Patton's plan for postsecondary education includes:

- Stronger coordination of the state universities, in order to referee turf battles and prevent duplication, and long-range planning overseen by a new board of state officials and legislators, headed by the governor.

- Making the University of Kentucky a Top 20 research university in 20 years, and enabling the University of Louisville to become nationally recognized in selected areas.

- Using satellite links and computers to allow the six regional universities to pool their course offerings and concentrate on quality undergraduate and master's degree programs.

- Stripping the community colleges from UK. They and the state's technical schools would be run by an 11-member board that responds to regional worker-training priorities.

WHAT'S NEXT

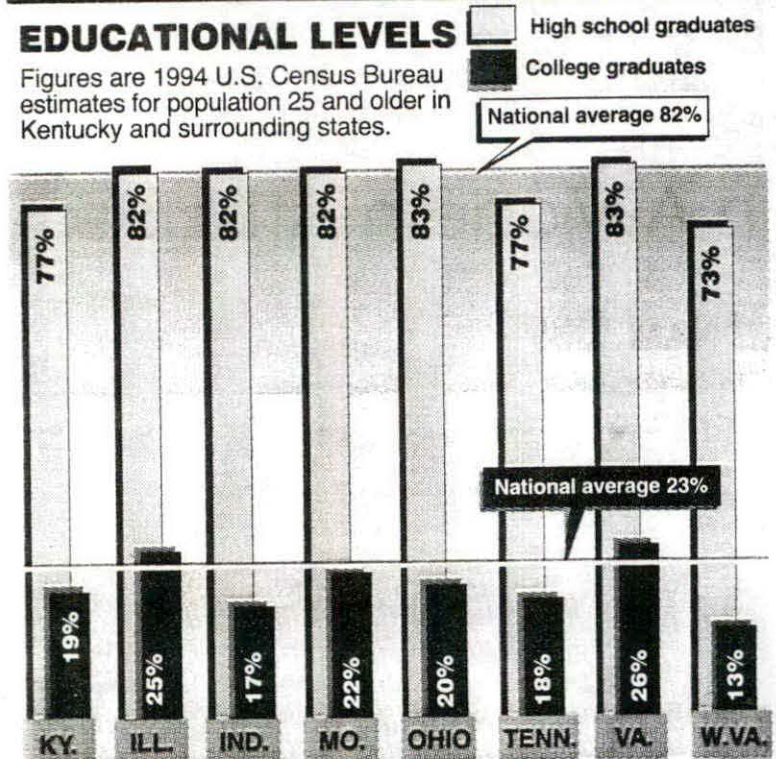
Patton will explain his plan to the Task Force on Postsecondary Education April 14 and 15, then draft a bill for submission to the General Assembly at a special session scheduled for May 5.

INSIDE

REACTION: Key players in the education community are complimentary and concerned.

EDUCATIONAL LEVELS

Figures are 1994 U.S. Census Bureau estimates for population 25 and older in Kentucky and surrounding states.

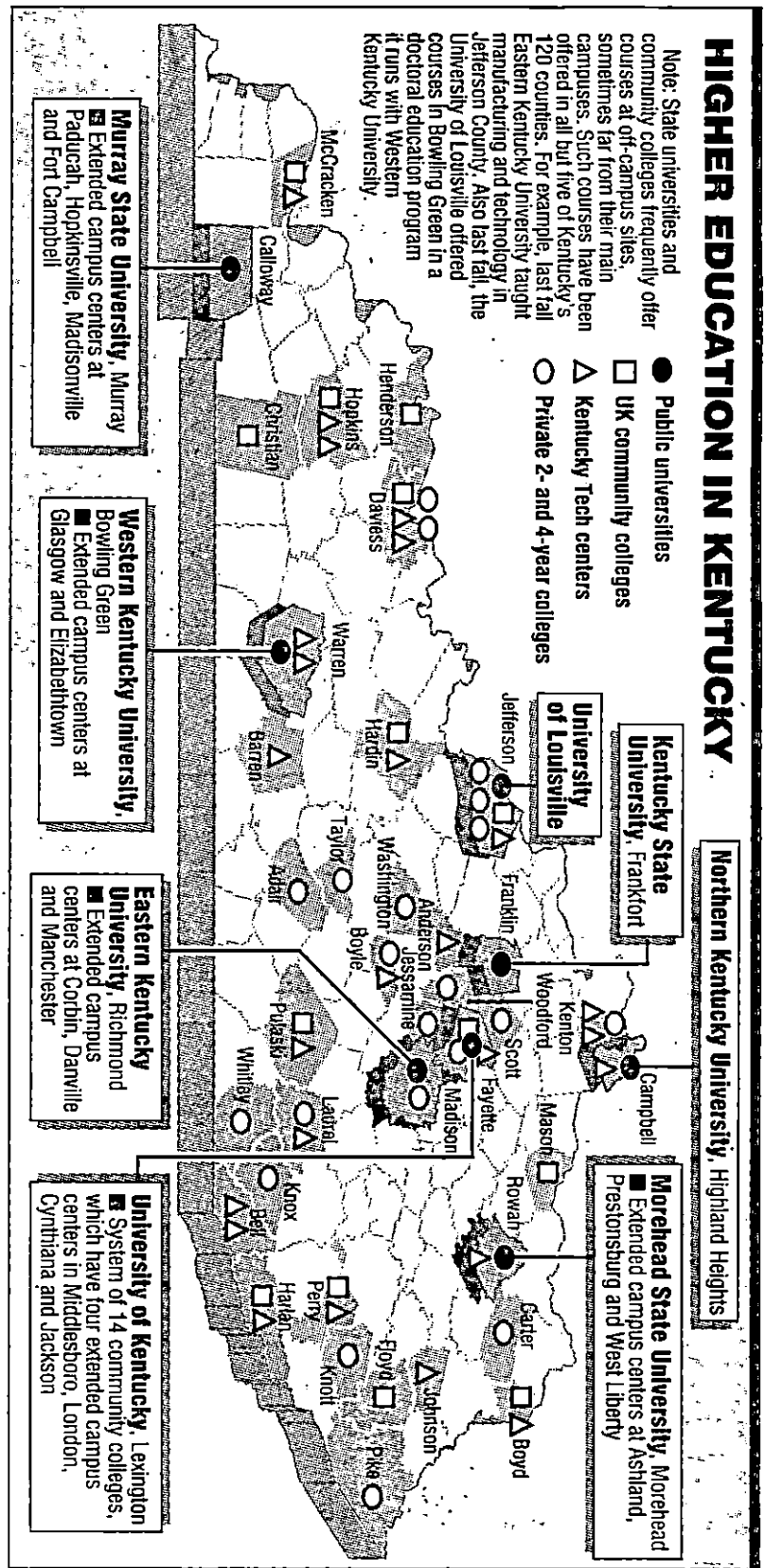


HIGHER EDUCATION IN KENTUCKY

Northern Kentucky University, Highland Heights

Note: State universities and community colleges frequently offer courses at off-campus sites, sometimes far from their main campuses. Such courses have been offered in all but five of Kentucky's 120 counties. For example, last fall Eastern Kentucky University taught manufacturing and technology in Jefferson County. Also last fall, the University of Louisville offered courses in Bowling Green in a doctoral education program it runs with Western Kentucky University.

- Public universities
- UK community colleges
- △ Kentucky Tech centers
- Private 2- and 4-year colleges



BY STEVE DURBIN, THE COURIER-JOURNAL

PATTON
(cont'd)

one of the top 20 public universities in America."

The University of Louisville "must also be a generator of intellectual energy" and win national acclaim in research fields closely linked to the local economy, Patton said.

The state's six regional universities must create "programs of distinction," Patton said. That will require paring the degree programs that each now offers — many of which have very low enrollment.

Patton urged use of technology that would allow students at far-flung locations to take the same undergraduate or master's degree classes. Each regional university should "use the resources and talents of the other regionals to provide a broad-based academic selection to the region it serves," he said.

THE HOTTEST potato in Patton's plan is to detach the 14 community colleges now run by UK and place them and the state's 24 postsecondary technical schools under a new Kentucky Community and Technical College System. The system would be headed by a president and two chancellors.

Referring to the community colleges, Patton said that UK "did a great job of nurturing that child" and that he does "not want to detract at all from the job the university has done."

But Patton said the economy needs workers with customized training that can be offered and performed more quickly than at traditional colleges or the tech schools. Both institutions have stumbled over one another trying to fulfill the new market need, and are "duplicative and needlessly competitive," Patton said.

He said United Parcel Service, the largest employer in the state, and other businesses have complained that Kentucky's "bifurcated system" of work-force training is sluggish and confusing to workers, who complain of difficulty in transferring credits from one institution to the other.

State Workforce Development Secretary Rodney "Biz" Cain, whose agency would lose the tech schools if Patton's plan passes, said it's still rare for a town's community college and its tech school to work together in serving students.

"In way the majority of the cases, we are not able to have a cooperative effort," said Cain, a Patton appointee.

Patton said that "until that system is structurally joined in a way that will ensure cooperation and reduce turf battles, it will not serve businesses in Kentucky well."

The governor said he'd stake his reputation to a promise that his new system would better serve community-college students, "without an increase in tuition."

BUT WETHINGTON, who hailed most parts of Patton's plan, said there is no reason to strip UK of the two-year colleges. He said that UK had run them successfully, and that students and business and government leaders held them in high regard.

If Patton's plan is approved, Wethington added, it will create "layers upon layers of bureaucracy in Frankfort created at a high cost to the taxpayers of the state. . . . We don't think Kentuckians need or want this."

Wethington said UK will "take our case to the people of Kentucky and to their elected leaders, the members of the General Assembly."

But Patton called severing the community colleges crucial to his plan.

"I certainly did not invite a political fight," Patton said. "But I have reached the inescapable conclusion that the community colleges and Kentucky Tech both need to be made

independent and flexible, and in a position . . . where they can and will cooperate without fighting."

Patton rejected giving UK and the tech schools more time to show they can work together, saying the institutions would stall until another governor took office and then revert to their old habits.

Patton, who has talked of changing the incentives under which universities, colleges and tech schools operate, provided scant detail yesterday of what changes he would make in the higher-education funding formula.

The governor proposed six "strategic investment and incentive funds" but did not say how much money he would recommend be placed in them. He said he wants the new Council on Postsecondary Education to set priorities for spending the additional \$100 million he expects to provide the system by the year 2000.

As "a gesture of good faith," Patton will shift \$36 million of additional funds into postsecondary education in the budget year that begins July 1.

Patton admitted it will be difficult to pass his package intact. Asked if he would compromise, he said he doesn't want "to draw a line in the sand" and is open to being persuaded he's mistaken in some areas.

ABOUT A YEAR ago, Patton said, he and his wife played host to eight presidential scholars from Kentucky at the Governor's Mansion. They were appalled to learn, he said, that none of the scholars, whom he described as "eight of the most brilliant students to come out of Kentucky's high schools," were going to attend an in-state college.

"This experience spurred me on to pursue this reform," Patton said. ". . . My plan will help to ensure that gifted young people have pre-eminent research institutions and centers of excellence nearby so that we no longer have to export our best and brightest."

COLLEGE VISITS

Gov. Paul Patton is visiting most of the state's community colleges to discuss his plan to reform post-secondary education. All times are local.

Today: 9 a.m.,

Prestonsburg Community College; 11:30 a.m., Hazard Community College; 1:30 p.m., Cumberland Community College.

Tomorrow: 8 a.m., Somerset Community College; 10:30 a.m., Elizabethtown Community College.

Monday: 8 a.m., Owensboro Community College; 10 a.m., Henderson Community College; 2 p.m., Hopkinsville Community College; 4 p.m., Paducah Community College.

Tuesday: 2:30 p.m., Jefferson Community College.

UK added community colleges to statewide mission in 1964

The 14 community colleges began as two municipal junior colleges, in Ashland and Paducah, in the late 1930s.

The University of Kentucky opened "university centers" in Covington in 1948; Ashland, 1957; Fort Knox, 1959; and Cumberland and Henderson, 1960.

Amid strong lobbying by other communities that also wanted centers, then-Gov. Bert T. Combs named a commission that recommended five more sites. The 1962 General Assembly approved the sites, and passed a law calling for them and the five existing centers to be "comprehensive community colleges."

Combs argued that UK should have the colleges under its wing because it is the only Kentucky university with a statewide mission; doing so would shield the colleges from the political interference and patronage hiring plaguing many school districts; and UK needed a boost to fend off the

growing political clout of the four regional universities the state then had. (Today it has six.)

The community college system began operation on July 1, 1964.

Its subsequent expansion to 14 sites was driven largely by politics. For example, when then-Gov. Louie B. Nunn in 1968 needed lawmakers' votes for his proposed 2-cent increase in the sales tax in 1968, he used the lure of a new college to obtain critical votes. In 1986, then-House Speaker Don Blandford, a Daviess County Democrat, helped win approval of a community college for Owensboro.

Patton's plan marks the first serious threat to UK's operation of the community colleges.

More than two decades ago, two studies recommended separating the colleges from UK and operating them alongside the state's technical schools. But bills proposing to do so have never received serious consideration in the legislature.

THE COURIER-JOURNAL • THURSDAY, MARCH 27, 1997

REACTION**Plan draws compliments, concern**

By TOM LOFTUS
The Courier-Journal

FRANKFORT, Ky. — The initial reaction to Gov. Paul Patton's plan to reform Kentucky postsecondary education was almost universally complimentary yesterday.

The depth of Patton's analysis of the issue was praised as well as his identification of problems — and his determination to solve them.

But after giving Patton his due, some key players in the higher education community, particularly legislators who must approve the plan, voiced concerns about aspects of it.

University of Kentucky President Charles Wethington Jr. repeated his disagreement with Patton over removing the community colleges from UK. Yet Wethington struck a more diplomatic tone than he did Monday on the issue and said he strongly supports the governor's commitment to make UK one of the nation's top 20 research universities.

Other state university presidents had no immediate reservations.

"I think he (Patton) has vision and it's left up to the rest of us to get on board to help make this plan work," said Kentucky State University President Mary Smith.

University of Louisville President John Shumaker said, "I am particularly pleased with his (Patton's) challenge for universities to raise private dollars to improve quality and to promote research and development."

LEGISLATORS, WHO will consider the plan at a special session in May, praised Patton's determination but were cautious about the outcome.

Jim Callahan of Wilder, chairman of the House Democratic caucus, said, "My main concern is only that this is



Kentucky State University President Mary Smith said Patton "has vision and it's left up to the rest of us to get on board to help make this plan work."

all decided on facts, not emotions, and that everyone acts for the betterment of higher education."

Senate President Larry Saunders, D-Louisville, said the major hurdle Patton must clear in the chamber is his proposal to remove the community colleges from UK and place them under a new board that would also oversee technical schools.

"Can the governor convince the legislature that in order to accomplish all this, we have to take the community colleges away from UK? The jury's out on that. I think it'll be difficult to do, but not impossible," said Saunders, who said he has not made up his mind on that question.

Two legislators from Fayette County were among those who expressed immediate concern with the plan.

Sen. Ernesto Scorsone, D-Lexington, said, "We ought to be looking to coordinate the programs, and I don't think it's necessary to rip the community colleges away from UK to accomplish coordination."

Scorsone also said the plan seems to "inject more politics into the system" by creating a board involving the governor and legislative leaders that would provide direction for a new Council on Postsecondary Education. "I think it's kind of a throwback to the old days when the governor was so in-

involved specifically in the Board of Trustees at UK," he said.

Rep. Stan Cave, the Lexington Republican who chairs the House Republican caucus, said he has yet to hear a logical case to be made for taking the community colleges away from UK. And Cave said Patton's victory in winning workers' compensation reforms last December does not mean he's politically invincible on higher education. "Comp was a boulder on the mountaintop waiting to be pushed off," he said. "I believe this governor is yet politically untested."

SENATE REPUBLICAN Leader Dan Kelly, of Springfield, said he agreed with Patton's goals, such as improving technical training, but didn't understand how the suggestion to take the community colleges from UK has gotten so much attention.

"I'm very concerned about what effect turbulence from that debate could have on the overall plan," he said.

Sen. Nick Kafoglis, D-Bowling Green, said he thinks that the governor will likely draw broader support from the higher education community when it considers Patton's statement that he'll push for more funding for higher education, but only if basic reform is enacted.

"Does the higher education community want a governor who is going to be a strong advocate for higher education, willing to put more money into higher education and improve it at all levels? Or does it want a governor who's been rebuffed, whose proposal has been rejected, and is not going to be an advocate for higher education?" Kafoglis asked.

Kafoglis also said he thought Patton is helping himself by arguing that his plan is crucial to improving the state's economy.

Maysville college students unload on Patton

By JOSEPH GERTH
The Courier-Journal

MAYSVILLE, Ky. — On his first stop of a tour of the state's community colleges, Gov. Paul Patton braced himself.

"Let me have it," Patton told the crowd at Maysville Community College yesterday after outlining his plan to sever the colleges from the University of Kentucky. "I'm tougher than an old Pike County hillbilly."

They didn't hesitate.

Deena McClure, a 24-year-old nursing student, said she was worried that her student loans would come due if the school lost its accreditation and worried that students

would lose access to UK's library, Internet service and computer labs.

"Has anyone told you those things would happen?" Patton asked McClure. He told her that the services would continue and that accreditation was not based on an alliance with UK but on the faculty's merits.

Other concerns were that Patton's plan would turn the schools into a system of vocational schools and would strip any prestige the community college system gets from UK.

"Why people go here is they want a degree from the University of Kentucky," said Delilah Poe, a 19-year-old environmental technology student.

"If they wanted a technology de-

gree, they'd go to a vo-tech school."

Toni Whaley, 38, student government president, said students are worried that Patton's plan will lower the quality of their education and devalue their diplomas.

Gary Devaughn, a communications instructor, said he was insulted when Patton said that a representative of United Parcel Service had written him a letter saying the community college system doesn't meet UPS's needs.

"He's saying we can't even train students to be mail sorters or truck drivers," Devaughn said. "To say that we can't meet the needs of an industry in the area is complete misinformation."

The Daily Independent, Ashland, Kentucky, Wednesday, March 26, 1997

Patton releases higher-ed plan

By MARK R. CHELLGREN
THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

LEXINGTON — Gov. Paul Patton said today Kentucky needs a higher education system that is not driven by politics, but rather by a vision for an improved citizenry and economy prepared for the future.

During an appearance on statewide television to officially unveil his plan to overhaul Kentucky's education system beyond high school, Patton began what will be a treacherous, tedious process of trying to convince the public and the General Assembly of the need for change.

"We in Kentucky have a fundamental choice to make. Do we want a postsecondary education system with no overall strategic agenda — a system serving whichever institution or region of the state or particular politician which happens to be most powerful at a point in time? Alternatively, do we want a system of higher education that executes a long-term strategic agenda which serves the people and businesses in every part of our state?" Patton asked in the introduction to his report released today.

Patton said Kentucky now has the first kind of system, but needs the second.

One of the critical elements of Patton's plan is to merge the University of Kentucky community college system with the Kentucky TECH vocational school system.

A new governing board would coordinate the kind of basic and technical education beyond high school that serves the population that will not get bachelor's degrees and needs continuing education.

UK has already drawn a line in the sand, with President Charles Wethington calling the plan "fundamentally flawed."

The boiling dispute over the fate of the community colleges has overshadowed virtually everything else Patton has floated.

UK has begun waging a conventional and propaganda war, taking advantage of its free air time during Wildcat basketball broadcasts to promote its retention of the community colleges.

UK has also organized its far-flung alumni and supporter network.

Patton planned to follow the televised appearance by a series of appearances at community colleges, which have become the battleground in postsecondary education.

Patton was to travel to community colleges at Ashland and Maysville today. Thursday will take Patton to Prestonsburg and Hazard. On Friday, the itinerary will be Somerset and Elizabethtown. There will be a full day Monday with stops at Owensboro, Henderson, Madisonville, Hopkinsville and Paducah. The Jefferson Community College in Louisville will be the site on Tuesday.

His stop in Ashland today disrupted the scheduled visit of Dr. Angeline Dvorak, the last of six candidates for presidency at Ashland Community College. Students who protest Patton's plan spread the word this morning they would gather outside the school to make him aware of their feelings.

Wethington drew indirect support from former Gov. Breton Jones, who called for strengthening the Council on Higher Education but keeping the community colleges attached to UK.

But Patton did get strong support from the Kentucky Chamber of Commerce, which said it will wait before endorsing whatever specific plan comes from the administration.

The Prichard Committee for Academic Excellence, the Advocates for Higher Education and the chamber have formed Job Quality Education Strategies for Today to emphasize the connection between economic development and education beyond high school.

GEORGE WOLFFORD,
Independent senior writer,
contributed information to this story.

Highlights of Patton plan

Highlights of Gov. Paul Patton's plan to overhaul higher education:

► Establish Council on Postsecondary Education.

► Council to set strategic direction for higher education and hire president for entire system.

► Establish Community and Technical College System.

► System to govern existing community colleges and Kentucky TECH schools.

► System board to hire president to oversee colleges and schools.

► Separate chancellor for community colleges.

► Remove Kentucky Tech from direct state government oversight.

► Create various funds to emphasize research, excellence, technology and facilities.

Patton takes higher education plan to state

Some students, legislators say they're skeptical

BY ANGIE MUHS

HERALD-LEADER EDUCATION WRITER

Gov. Paul Patton yesterday took to the airwaves and to the sky as he tackled what may be the biggest political sell in his career — convincing Kentuckians that the state's higher education system needs a radical overhaul.

But by the end of the day, he had encountered skepticism and resistance from some community college students and legislators. His plan, though, picked up support from several business and educational leaders.

In a morning speech carried live on Kentucky Educational Television, Patton told his audience that the state could not improve its economy or standard of living if it did not improve its higher education system.

He left almost immediately afterward for a helicopter trip to the hearts of opposition to his plan — community colleges, which he wants to separate from the University of Kentucky.

Patton reiterated that he believes doing that is a "fundamental" part of his reform effort.

"I realize what a profound change I am proposing, but I have concluded that it is absolutely necessary," he said.

At one point, Patton compared the community colleges to a child that UK had reared but had now grown up. "The child is 35 years old," he said. "It is time for the University of Kentucky to move on and conquer other fields."

Several components of his plan — restructuring the Council on Higher Education and putting more money into the state's universities or colleges — have drawn relatively little or muted opposition.

But the community college issue will produce a fierce and bitter political battle. UK President Charles T. Wethington Jr., who clashed with Patton during a televised news show on Monday, promised yesterday in an afternoon press conference that UK would be marshaling its formidable lobbying machine.

"For more than 30 years, the University of Kentucky community college system has been one of our state's great success stories," Wethington said. "We wonder why anyone would want to harm these colleges."

If Patton needed further proof of the resistance to his plan, he encountered it head-on in afternoon visits to Ashland and Maysville

community colleges, where he met with a decidedly icy reaction.

Patton's impassioned speech about how he came to his conclusions didn't sway Maysville Community College student Deena McClure, a nursing major who hopes to graduate in a year.

McClure, 24, of Flemingsburg, peppered Patton with questions. Would she still receive her student loan? she asked. And she said she wondered about resources such as computer access and library services that UK now provides.

Patton told McClure that she wouldn't see any difference in her education because the college would still be accredited. He assured her that she would have access to all the current resources — and more.

But McClure wasn't buying it.

"I didn't think he answered a single question I had," she said. "He wants to change everything all of a sudden, but he's not giving people enough time."

Patton told the crowd of about 150 at Maysville that they would fare better under an independent system. Repeatedly, he stressed that his plan would not merge them with Kentucky Tech schools.

At some points, Patton also seemed to suggest that UK had not been as supportive of the system as it could have been — while still saying that he "reveres" UK, from which he graduated.

"You are 8 percent of the University of Kentucky's budget, but certainly you represent 50 percent of their political power," Patton said. "But when someone comes to Frankfort to lobby, using the political power you all represent, they ought to be talking about getting you more funding."

Legislators' reaction to Patton's proposals was cautious. Several

Highlights of the governor's proposal

Here are some highlights of Gov. Paul Patton's plan to change post-secondary education. It would:

- Revamp the Council on Higher Education and give it more power.
- Create a committee that Patton would head to oversee broad budgeting and strategic planning. That board would work with the new council.
- Separate the community colleges from UK and the Kentucky Tech schools from the state government. They would not be merged, but both would report to a newly created board and president.
- Provide \$36 million in the next budget year, mainly to make the colleges more financially equal. Patton also says he would give the system \$12 million now for targeted investments, and eventually add \$100 million a year to its overall budget.

balked at the community college separation, but Senate President Larry Saunders called that idea "difficult but not impossible" to sell.

Sen. Nick Kafoglis, said Patton had convinced him that separating the community colleges was necessary.

"I'm not willing to support the status quo," said Kafoglis, D-Bowling Green. "It seems to me the purpose of community colleges and the purpose of UK are very different and we need to make that distinct."

Several other lawmakers, though, said they did not support the plan.

Rep. Herbie Deskins, D-Pikeville, said the governor's plan is off-base and unneeded.

"There's no crisis that we can see in the legislature," he said. "There doesn't seem to be any outcry from the general public that higher education needs to be reformed and particularly that community colleges should be stripped from UK."

Wethington insisted that UK had run the community colleges well, and that its statewide mission made it crucial and logical for it to keep control.

"The General Assembly has been a friend of community colleges in the past," Wethington said. "I don't know why they wouldn't be a friend of community colleges in the future."

But Patton said he would not back down because of political pressure. He told the crowd in Maysville that if his plan passed, time would prove its worth.

"I guarantee you, if this is done, four years from now you won't want to go back," he said.

■ ■ ■

Herald-Leader staff writer Chae Carlton contributed to this report.

Governor, UK president argue cost of excellence

BY ANGIE MUHS

HERALD-LEADER EDUCATION WRITER

The governor and the president of the University of Kentucky yesterday sparred over how much it costs to buy excellence.

Gov. Paul Patton sharply questioned UK President Charles T. Wethington's recent assertion that UK would need \$795 million in state money — more than the whole system now gets — in order to become a Top 20 research university.

Patton said he had been "rather surprised" and "concerned" by Wethington's report, which was sent to him and legislators last week, and thought that it needed to be evaluated in more detail.

"I am not under the impression that it would take that kind of money," Patton said. "What I think it takes is commitment, first of all. It takes leadership."

"It certainly takes more resources, but many, many universities with lesser resources in many states with lesser resources have nationally ranked research institutions," the governor added.

But Wethington, in a press conference of his own, defended the figures and said Patton had to be realistic about what it would cost to achieve excellence.

"They were our best estimate of what it would take," Wethington said. "The exact amount may be subject to debate, but clearly that amount is not \$5 million."

And Wethington also fired back with a veiled barb of his own, saying that Patton shouldn't question that UK "absolutely" can achieve Top 20 status.

"I absolutely believe that," Wethington said. "I've believed that a lot longer than he has."

March 28, 1997

MSU Clip Sheet

A sample of recent articles of interest to Morehead State University

INSTITUTIONAL RELATIONS MOREHEAD STATE UNIVERSITY UPO BOX 1100 MOREHEAD, KY 40361-1689 806-783-2030

THE COURIER-JOURNAL • FROM PAGE ONE • FRIDAY, MARCH 28, 1997

Patton to keep power to pick college trustees

By ROBERT T. GARRETT and RICHARD WILSON
The Courier-Journal

FRANKFORT, Ky. — In his final higher-education plan, Gov. Paul Patton quietly dropped his earlier idea of giving the governor's power to appoint university trustees to a beefed-up state Council on Higher Education.

The plan leaves the appointment power in the governor's hands.

Patton's aides said privately yesterday that Patton didn't feel strongly about the proposal and that, after he heard arguments against it from two prominent House Democrats, he jettisoned the idea.

The last-minute change shows how Patton courted lawmakers before he put the finishing touches on his plan, on which he has staked his governorship. Patton has said he'll accept further suggestions and refinements to his plan, especially from legislators.

A practical side-effect of the governor's retaining the power to ap-

point university trustees and regents is that it may hasten Patton's ability, if he so chooses, to force the departure of University of Kentucky President Charles Wethington.

Wethington and Patton appear to be locked in a political battle over the governor's attempt to strip UK of its 14 community colleges and place them and the state's technical schools under a new board charged with overseeing work-force training.

By the end of his term, in December 1999, Patton will have had the chance to appoint 10 of the 20 UK trustees. As the first modern governor allowed to seek successive four-year terms, Patton, if re-elected, could have working control of the UK board early in his second term.

Patton, who continued selling his reform plan yesterday on three community-college campuses, could not be reached for comment.

Patton's aides have said he had the idea of giving up his board-ap-

pointment power in January, while thinking about ways to win respect for the often-ignored council. Some of Patton's advisers liked the symbolism of the governor's giving up something, even as he asked the universities to shed old structures and habits and embrace his vision of higher-quality colleges.

YESTERDAY Patton's higher-education consultant, Aims McGuinness Jr. of Boulder, Colo., said Patton dropped the idea after deciding he already had suggested enough boosts in the standing and clout of the council, which Patton wants renamed the Council on Postsecondary Education.

It will be smaller, "have a more clearly focused mission" and stronger ties to the legislature, McGuinness said. "He decided those things would be sufficient to give it . . . stature."

The governor's proposal would reduce from 17 to 13 the number of council members. He would continue to appoint them, but they would have to be confirmed by the House and

The Patton plan also would create a president as the council's chief executive. The council president would be paid more than the university presidents and would be the chief advocate for higher education in Kentucky and the top adviser on the subject to governors and legislators.

The council would work closely with a new "strategic committee" — headed by the governor and including eight top lawmakers — to set goals for the system.

HOUSE Speaker Jody Richards of Bowling Green and House budget chief Harry Moberly of Richmond separately raised objections to giving the council the power to appoint university trustees.

Moberly said Richards "had a lot of concerns about it." Richards could not be reached.

Moberly, who heads the House Appropriations and Revenue Committee and works at Eastern Kentucky University, said he told Patton his original plan would make the council president "just an absolute czar."

Moberly said that, though Patton would have given the power to pick trustees and regents to the council,

its president "would essentially be the one, as a practical matter, appointing the boards of regents of the institutions."

Patton's plan already would elevate the council's authority over the universities' budget and finances, Moberly noted. He said he asked Patton, "Did we really want somebody with that much power in the system? . . . That was the red flag that I raised."

Senate President Larry Saunders, D-Louisville, said he agrees that Patton should keep the ability to appoint the boards at the eight state universities.

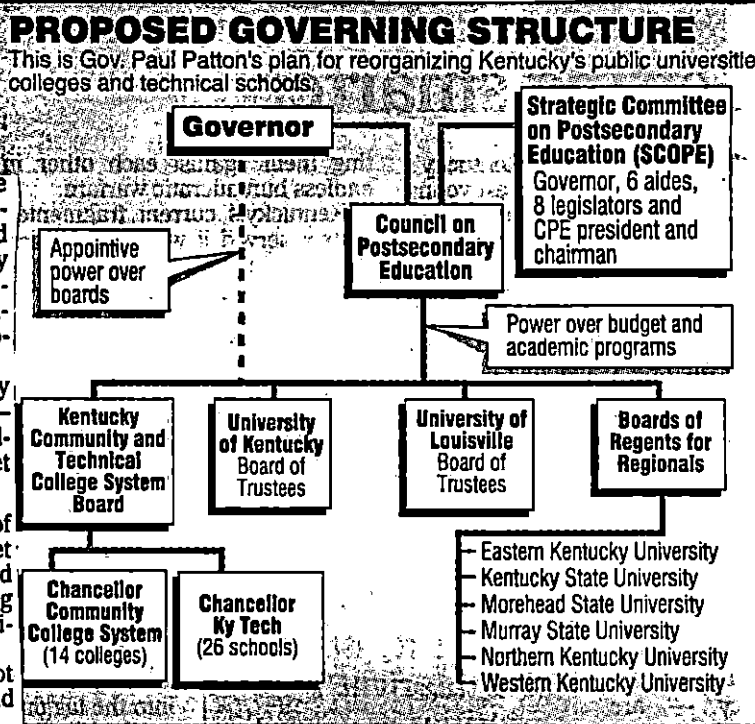
"I think it makes the plan better," Saunders said. "It's more palatable that the governor retains that power."

UNDER BOTH his tentative and final blueprints, Patton would retain a nominating panel created in 1992 by the legislature and his predecessor, Brereton Jones.

In an attempt at merit selection of university board members, who in the past often have been big political givers, the nominating panel screens potential board members and gives the governor three names for each vacancy he gets to fill. (A few such seats are elected by faculty, students and staff.)

Danville banker Louis Prichard, whom Jones named as one of the original heads of the nominating group, said he doesn't object to Patton's decision to keep the appointment power.

"If you want to really, totally, totally separate the appearance of political influence through appointments," having the council make the appointments makes sense, Prichard said. But Prichard said political influence hasn't been a problem in the nominating panel's deliberations because neither Jones nor Patton has "been



LEXINGTON HERALD-LEADER, LEXINGTON, KY. ■ FRIDAY, MARCH 28.

Key legislator strongly opposes Patton proposal Community college idea 'ill-advised,' Stumbo says

BY LEE MUELLER
EASTERN KENTUCKY BUREAU

PRESTONSBURG — Gov. Paul Patton had barely left Prestonsburg Community College's auditorium yesterday when a powerful state lawmaker labeled the governor's higher-education reform plan "ill-advised."

Meanwhile, Patton, who has proposed severing the state's 14 community colleges from the University of Kentucky, took a small step back from that controversial proposal yesterday: He said Lexington Community College could remain under UK.



Patton

"Lexington Community College is a unique case," Patton said. "There are reasons why Lexington Community College should remain part of UK." He did not elaborate.

Patton's plan to separate the other community colleges — including the one at Prestonsburg — drew criticism from House Majority Leader Greg Stumbo.

The General Assembly will meet May 5 to consider the governor's proposals for reforming postsecondary education.

"It's far from won," said Stumbo, D-Prestonsburg, after Patton ended a question-and-answer session. "I don't think there's near enough support

SEE PATTON, A8

PATTON: Powerful legislator says breaking off colleges 'ill-advised'

Cont.

FROM PAGE ONE

in the legislature to pass this plan, but ... he (Patton) has got a lot of weapons."

Instead of cutting UK's ties to community colleges, Stumbo said Patton ought to enhance the relationship by developing a program — not new colleges — that would allow students to receive four-year degrees from UK at the community colleges.

On the second day of a five-day tour of the community college system, Patton visited Prestonsburg, Hazard and Cumberland. At each stop, the message — and many objections to it — remained the same.

Hand-lettered signs in the crowded Prestonsburg auditorium read: "We Are True to the Big Blue" and "No Separation from UK."

Amy Noble, 25, a student at Southeast Community College's extension campus in Whitesburg, suggested Patton was attempting to turn the community colleges into vocational schools.

"We did not choose to go to v-tech," she said. "We wanted to go to community college. That's our choice to make, not yours."

Patton told the audience yesterday: "I cannot compete with the emotionalism associated with the name of the University of Kentucky. But I have to argue based on facts and based on logic. And the truth of the matter is this campus will be better off."

As it exists, the community college system is inefficient and is not helping the state enough to prepare residents for jobs, he said.

Patton said his plan would give community colleges and vocational-technical schools responsibility for developing workers for local jobs and would try to make UK a world-class research school.

But Stumbo, generally acknowledged as one of the state's most powerful legislators, said Patton failed in Prestonsburg to answer student's questions or show proof of the need to change.

"There's no smoking gun," Stumbo said.

"I don't think because UPS wants to teach us Box Stacking 101 we should change the community college system," he said. "That's not evidence."

Stopping Patton's plan, however, is another matter, Stumbo said.

Both he and the governor alluded to Patton's success last year in passing workers' compensation reform legislation despite vocal opposition from labor and some legislators.

For the higher-education fight, Patton will use his influence over state spending to further his plan. Stumbo said — holding everything from hospital expansions to road improvements "hostage on this is-

"I don't think there's near enough support in either chamber,

but like I say, he's got a lot of weapons," Stumbo said.

Patton's plan drew support from some students and at least one faculty member, John Sammons, a member of PCC's advisory

"I don't think there's near enough support in either chamber, but like I say, he's got a lot of weapons."

GREG STUMBO

The Daily Independent, Ashland, Kentucky, Thursday, March 27, 1997

ACC visit turbulent Patton receives expected opposition

By GEORGE WOLFFORD
OF THE DAILY INDEPENDENT

ASHLAND — Gov. Paul Patton's first stop on a week-long tour to promote his higher education restructuring plan was a tumultuous one Wednesday in front of a packed auditorium at Ashland Community College.

Students picketed his entry and some shouted complaints and questions at him during the hour he stood on the hall's stage explaining his proposal and urging his listeners to give it a chance.

Patton got a calmer reception at Maysville Community College later in the afternoon. He spoke at Prestonsburg Community College this morning.

His critics at ACC were most upset about the part of his plan that would separate the community colleges from their longstanding affiliation with the University of Kentucky.

Patton said his plan would give community colleges and vo-tech schools responsibility for developing workers for jobs, and make the University of Kentucky a world-class re-

search school.

Many in the audience at ACC didn't accept his data as fact and he took issue with some who challenged him.

Patton told nursing students, represented by Tera Duty, that

ACC degrees would remain as valid and valuable as they are today, "even though someone told you differently." He

board. Also, former advisory board chairman H.B. "Buddy" Fitzpatrick pledged his support.

"I appreciate it," Patton told Fitzpatrick. "It's a courageous stand, I'll tell you."

Both Fitzpatrick and Sammons sought to oust PCC President Deborah Floyd last year, but UK officials steadfastly supported Floyd despite a no-confidence vote.

The pair's support for Patton "didn't surprise me," Floyd said, smiling. "I expected that."

decried "distorted truth" being spread to defeat his proposals.

Patton said that more than half of UK's political clout comes from the community colleges, but they get only 8 percent of its funding.

"Under the leadership of my university, the funding for community colleges has gone down horribly," he said.

Pointing to opposition thrown in his face as he travels to community colleges, he said "If they've got the clout to stand up and openly defy a governor, they could have used that clout to get money for the community colleges, something they have not done."

He told the crowd that no other state in America follows the same plan of community college governance that Kentucky does. "Ten years from now, everyone involved in this change will understand."

Patton is proposing that the community colleges and state vocational schools operate under the same governing board, making them "independent and flexible. This is not a merger. We want to establish two different entities with a common source of authority."

Patton said universities are by nature slow to change, as are the fields of study they teach. Community colleges, geared to local needs — particularly in training for employment — need flexibility to make rapid changes.

He said the Council on Higher Education, which is supposed to have oversight now of post-secondary education, is ineffective because politicians don't listen to it.

The funding proposal the council makes to the General Assembly every two years is "an impossible wish list that has no meaning, he said. "You pick and choose (items from the list) by what institution you choose to favor that year."

Aide: Plan's chances look good in House

By GEORGE WOLFFORD
OF THE DAILY INDEPENDENT

ASHLAND — A key aide in Gov. Paul Patton's effort to restructure higher education said Wednesday that prospects for its passage in a special legislative session that begins May 5 appear good.

Kenny Rapier, a former Democratic whip in the state House of Representatives, is gauging support for the proposal there.

Rapier, a former state representative from Bardstown, called the effort to push the proposal into law "winnable."

He said he joined Patton's team "because I feel it's something that should be done, that's winnable. I believe in it

that much."

Rapier said he was not working the Senate for Patton and didn't know how the plan would fare there.

Patton told hostile listeners at Ashland Community College that taxpayers want efficiency and economy and support the kind of changes he wants.

Patton said that trying to separate the community colleges from the University of Kentucky might cost him a second term as governor. He is the first governor eligible to succeed himself.

"I'd rather be remembered as a one-term governor who made a difference than a two-term governor who just went along."

As a politician he's been used to using emotion to win debates. Now he's trying to counter emotion with logic and facts.

ACC interim president Roger Noe, an ex-lawmaker and career community college administrator, introduced Patton at ACC. But he said he didn't favor the plan. He said "the time is never right to sever ACC from UK."

The governor is even under stronger attack from UK President Charles Wethington, who called Patton's plan "fundamentally flawed."

Patton admitted his tour to promote the plan came at an inopportune time — when UK's men's basketball team is preparing for the Final Four and emotional attachments to UK are running high.

"It's indisputable that what we have now is a system of autonomous institutions that pretty much do what they want," he said.

Most of the facts he cited came from a study released two weeks ago. Nick Ghassomians, a psychology professor, argued that the study fails to credit community colleges with continuing education that makes up a third of their workload.

Ghassomians also said Patton condemned duplication of classwork at community colleges a slap at regional universities guilty of the same fault.

Not all his listeners at ACC faulted Patton's plan. Danny Mahan, a history professor, praised the governor's "courage in addressing this issue ... in the demagoguery you faced here."

Mahan did ask why so many radical changes were being sought at one time and how they would affect ACC's associate degrees.

Patton said a partial approach would only delay resolution of Kentucky's educa-

tional problems.

He told Mahan that what went on at ACC had nothing to do with UK and that transferability of credits had been mandated by the legislature.

"A community college is just as respectable as a university, but the people on the main campus don't think you are a college," he said.

At Prestonsburg this morning, about 400 people turned out for the governor. Many in that crowd said they wanted to remain part of the UK system, but the tone of the session was calmer than at ACC.

Patton's reception at Maysville Community College Wednesday afternoon was also more orderly, with no protest signs. Tina Baker, public relations director for the school, said about 175 people came.

"We had late notice and by 3:30, when he got here, most classes are over," she said.

ACC students consider themselves part of that near-maniacal hoop tradition.

Why has Patton decided to confront this emotional audience?

"I think they deserve to have answers," he said. "I deserve to face them eyeball-to-eyeball."

Rick Leake, a business instructor at ACC, said he saw Patton's trip here as an unsolicited "hour of his time, which I find offensive because we paid for it.

"I saw a lot of his points that were valid," Leake said, "but I think the governor has an arrogant, brash attitude that says 'No one else has enough education to make these decisions so let's go on to something else,' and I don't think that flies very well.

"It's not what he said, it's how he said it."

Four legislators at the talk voiced varying stances before listening to Patton.

Rep. Rocky Adkins, D-Sandy Hook, said he commended Patton for having courage "to at-

tack a tough issue, to come here to meet the people, with their emotions, face to face. I understand the (educational) structure and we all agree there needs to be some reform in accountability, access and streamlining the process. The community colleges deserve flexibility.

"Add to that, the governor is trying to elevate vocational education to a higher level and make it more flexible within the region. That's what he's trying to do for community colleges, but whether this is the way to do it I'm not sure. I'm keeping an open mind."

Rep. Hobie Anderson, R-Russell, said it would be hard for him, as a former ACC student, to consider separating it from UK.

Rep. John Vincent, R-Ashland, said he found no support from his Ashland constituency to vote for separation, "and just look at this outpouring (by students) here."

Sen. Walter Blevins, D-West Liberty, like Adkins, said he was trying to keep an open mind about the issue.

"I want to give the governor a chance to see what he's trying to do. What I see is that most of the students and 65 percent of the faculty oppose it, and when you see that much support, it plays on a politician's mind."

6th job candidate predicts change coming at ACC

By **GEORGE WOLFFORD**
OF THE DAILY INDEPENDENT

ASHLAND — The sixth and final candidate for the presidency of Ashland Community College was upstaged Wednesday by Gov. Paul Patton's visit to campus and student protest of his plan to separate the community colleges from the University of Kentucky.

But Angeline Dvorak, dean of arts and sciences of Jackson, Tenn., Community College, seemed not at all miffed by the turn of events. She adjusted her schedule with the school and listened as Patton appealed for understanding of his plan.

Even before Patton spoke Wednesday afternoon, Dvorak let interviewers know she understood the issue and believed the proposal would be adopted, sooner or later.

"Even if it doesn't go over this time, it's a sleeping giant that will have to be addressed in the future," she said.

And when times like that come, ACC will need an advocate in the president's chair — the kind of leader she has been, she said — to "take a lead and control the school's destiny.

"I'm an advocate, trained and spirited, and I am a part

of my community. You can't fake it. I will lobby every day" for my college.

She said when the change finally comes, "the way it is handled in the early days may make Ashland a model for other schools in the state, if this school can take control of its own future." She said policy and structure would have to be adjusted to meet any changes that occur.

Dvorak said she was attracted to the ACC job by the school's mission statement, which puts students up front.

She said management style falls into two categories: management, which is how well an organization is run; and leadership, "which is where we take a school and why, and that is centered in principle, of which trust is the strongest motivator."

Dvorak, who holds a law degree as well as a doctorate, two masters' and a bachelor's in English, said personal interests in technology had put

movement in other institutions where she has worked. That career includes four years as faculty administrator at Michigan State University and five years at Enterprise, Ala., State Junior College.

ACC is looking for a successor to Charles "Chick" Das-

sance, who left in December to take over presidency of Cen-

tral Florida Community College at Ocala.

The ACC search committee will now collect input from the faculty and advisory board. That committee can study further, including making trips to finalists' campuses, but that step has not been scheduled.

The top three names will be sent to Dr. Ben Carr, UK's chancellor for community colleges, who will interview the three and select a new president.

LEXINGTON HERALD-LEADER, LEXINGTON, KY. ■ FRIDAY, MARCH 28, 1997

It's not just the ticket

Legislators get tickets now, vote on UK plan in May

It's a no-brainer — unless you're a Kentucky legislator given to self-induced bouts of blindness whenever the word "ethics" is uttered.

Gov. Paul Patton and University of Kentucky President Charles Wethington Jr. are playing one-on-one for the future of Kentucky higher education in general and UK's community colleges in particular. The referees in this game are the 138 members of the General Assembly. Come May, their whistles will decide the winner.

Meanwhile, Rick Pitino and the healthy remainder of his Unbelievables are trying to repeat the glory of last year's Untouchables, whose success dimmed our memories of the Unforgettables. (Was that Nat King Cole's backup band?)

Like a million other Blue-bleeding Kentuckians, some of our legislators think it would be just cooler than cool to cheer the home team on from choice Hoosier Dome seats this weekend. What sets the senators and representatives apart, however, is the fact that their wishes have a way of coming true.

If a legislator wants Final Four tickets, UK will "try to make them available," according to a university spokesman, just as UK made NCAA regional tickets available to General Assembly members.

Oh, the tickets aren't free. Lawmakers have to pay face value for them. But it still amounts to a special favor. By virtue of their office, lawmakers are afforded an opportunity cherished by, but denied to, thousands upon thousands of Cat fans across the commonwealth.

Such special treatment, coming just a few weeks before lawmakers

are asked to decide UK's future, constitutes a conflict of interest. That's obvious to most everyone but legislators like House Speaker Pro Tem Larry Clark. The Louisville Democrat said it was "parochial" for the Herald-Leader to even ask about a possible conflict.

Of course, access to Final Four tickets may not sway any legislator's vote come May. If that were all it took, the tickets UK provided to Patton (paid for out of his own pocket) might end the whole community college debate; and that's not likely.

On the other hand, we would note that this state's recent history includes instances of legislative votes being sold for sums that appear paltry in comparison to the value a UK fan might place on these tickets.

We would also note a report in The (Louisville) Courier-Journal that UK declined a fan's offer to make a \$10,000 donation to the Blue and White Basketball Scholarship Club in exchange for two good seats in Indianapolis this weekend. The reason UK gave for rejecting the offer was that ticket preference is given to longtime donors, many of whom have contributed more than \$10,000 over the years.

So, available Final Four seats — like the season tickets UK makes available to lawmakers — are worth considerably more than face value to the university. It's doubtful UK would forego that money if it didn't expect to earn some legislative goodwill in exchange for its favored treatment of lawmakers.

Does that create a conflict of interest for legislators? As we said, it's a no-brainer.

MSU Clip Sheet

A sample of recent articles of interest to Morehead State University

INSTITUTIONAL RELATIONS MOREHEAD STATE UNIVERSITY UPO BOX 1100 MOREHEAD, KY 40351-1689 606-783-2030
 LEXINGTON HERALD-LEADER, LEXINGTON, KY. ■ SUNDAY, MARCH 30, 1997

■ EDITORIALS

Everyone loses, so everyone wins

If UK gives up community colleges, what will regional universities sacrifice?

Everybody has to lose in order for everybody to win. That's the nail that connects all the boards in the new house Gov. Paul Patton wants to build for higher education. Everybody gives so everybody gets. The two, if kept in one package, go together like salt on meat.

The University of Kentucky gives up its community colleges (and the political reach that comes with having 14 campuses statewide); it gains the money and attention that help it become a more focused research institution.

The community colleges and technical schools lose their present homes (respectively, UK and the Workforce Development Cabinet); they win more money, an enhanced status, and the political power of having campuses in every region of the state.

The regional universities lose the independence that has allowed them to create new programs and majors,

and to build "extended" campuses up every pike and holler; they win some new money and a system of governance that diminishes the power of the biggest hog in the trough, the University of Kentucky.

In the week since the state learned about Patton's plan, the discussion has gotten lopsided. There's been too much talk about what UK and the community colleges are losing, too little realization of what these institutions gain.

And there has too much of a sense that the regional universities (Morehead, Eastern, Murray, Western, Northern and Kentucky State) are slipping clean off the hook. Patton's plan doesn't specify what programs these schools will give up, what classes they will cancel, whether these schools should also lose the community colleges associated with their institutions.

The regional universities have to lose, too, in order for this formula to sum.

LEXINGTON HERALD-LEADER, LEXINGTON, KY. ■ SUNDAY, MARCH 30, 1997

Patton's plan shows courage, not clarity

You have to give Gov. Paul Patton credit for courage and vision in his plan to reform the state's post-secondary education system. If he can put his ideas into a more understandable form, and persuade the legislature to enact that form into law, he will carve himself a lasting place in Kentucky history.

But first he must prove to the satisfaction of the people that his plan offers reform that achieves improvement in the quality, and not just change in the structure, of our university system. For the last week, he has been beating the school bushes, trying to sell his plan, and it has become evident that while people approve his idea in general, they do not know what his plan is in detail.

In response to questions, the governor has indicated that he really does not have a detailed plan, and the ask of shaping that plan will be given to a committee, including members of the legislature, and will be reviewed periodically.

This would improve chances that the overall plan would represent a broad segment of opinion. But it would raise the danger of regional political pressures rather than protecting the overall committee from political interference.

The governor would also change the name of the Council of Higher Education to the Council on Postsecondary Education, which has the appearance of changing the name without changing the substance. The new council would supposedly ride herd on making sure that duplication, fights over budget and jurisdiction and needless competition were ended.

Again, problems arise. The existing council was created to do just this — end costly and needless duplication; but no sooner had its members been appointed than the legislature started whittling away at its power to do its job. What is to keep a future legislature from doing the same thing to the new council?

The governor is certainly right in his assertion that Kentucky higher education will never be highly regarded until the state has a first-rate research university on a level with such institutions as North Carolina and Michigan. It is also clear that the University of Kentucky should be the focus of such development.

But that will arouse violent protest and political turf wars if colleges with duplicating programs are required to surrender some of them. And will future legislators be willing to appropriate the substantially larger budgets to UK that will be required?

Political interference has prevented the existing council from controlling duplication. As a result, we have two dental schools, where we need one at most; three law schools, where one would suffice; two, and possibly three, engineering schools where one is needed. Some liberal

arts departments graduate fewer than 10 students a year. It is going to take a tough council, with full official backing, to bell those cats.

Patton needs also to explain why the community colleges would be better served under the control of a separate governing board than under UK's supervision, as at present. Why will both the community colleges and the vocational-technological schools be better off under a common supervisory agency? Some fear such a supervisory merger would enrich the curriculum of the tech schools; others fear it would weaken the academic emphasis in the community colleges.

Will the proposed realignment make it easier to transfer credits from the community colleges to full-time universities, both public and private? UK's proponents contend that the current arrangement encourages community college graduates to attend UK for their final two years. Supporters of change argue that only a small percentage of such grads — fewer than 10 percent — go on to UK now.

We should all be thankful that we finally have a governor willing to make the improvement of higher education his main program, and who is putting his career on the block to attain that improvement. Let's hope he can make his program clear in the weeks to come.



JOHN ED PEARCE

HERALD-LEADER COLUMNIST

Patton and his plan: Don't underestimate either of them

FRANKFORT, Ky. — In his inaugural address in December 1995, Paul Patton said he wanted history to call him the governor who "laid the foundation of change in post-secondary education that brought Kentucky out of the backwoods of economic opportunity."

At the time, even those close to Patton had little idea of what he had in mind. To some, his references

to a topic little mentioned in his campaign seemed to be a last-minute stab at saying something significant.

The otherwise mundane nature of the speech made another apparent insertion stand out. It was from poet Robert Browning: "A man's reach should exceed his grasp, or what's a heaven for?"



AL CROSS

Both references have turned out to be telling. Patton may have reached beyond his grasp last week by proposing a sweeping higher-education plan that would, among many other things, take the state's community colleges from the University of Kentucky.

Patton says he will stake his reputation that the plan would better serve community-college students, whom UK officials are scaring into near-hysteria (their predecessors must be amused at the idea of *encouraging* campus demonstrations). But Patton also may be staking his governorship, or at least much of his political capital.

He is facing what may be the state's most powerful lobby, a university that reaches into every corner of the state with colleges, alumni, extension agents and basketball. Under the Wildcat sports contract, UK is using public resources (not tax money, it says, but free air time from broadcasters) for a TV and radio ad campaign that promotes its link to the community colleges. Patton had better hope that some directors of the Kentucky Chamber of Commerce get over their misgivings about the community-college plan and raise money for a counter-campaign, much as they did to pass his workers' compensation reforms last fall.

Patton is approaching higher education in much the same way he did workers' comp — intense study to master the subject, then one-on-one lobbying of legislators prior to a special session. He has new hands to help him, such as former House Majority Whip Kenny Rapier and former top Senate aide Paris Hopkins, but they will mainly count votes, not get votes. And getting them won't be easy, because unlike comp, this is an issue that could interest a relatively large segment of the electorate.

House Majority Leader Greg Stumbo, whose hometown of Prestonsburg has a community college, has come out against the plan. Some wonder if Stumbo is giving constituents lip service, but would he risk a second defeat like the one he suffered on workers' comp? Maybe, if he thought it wouldn't hurt his chances of being floor leader. But what if Patton promised to call another special session on health care, for which Stumbo, many other lawmakers and some powerful lobbyists are clamoring? The House would be in order, so to speak.

The Senate may pose the greater obstacle. Senate districts are larger and thus more likely to include a community college or other UK satellite, and the Senate is more difficult to navigate politically because it has been splintered by the January coup pulled off by Republicans and five renegade Democrats. For various reasons, Patton could get a majority of the renegades, but the Republicans are another story.

Republican Leader — or, more descriptively, Plurality Leader — Dan Kelly of Springfield has called the community-college issue a distraction. Also, it would do Republicans no political good to hand Patton a victory much larger than the one they helped give him on comp. That would make him all the more powerful in the 1998 General Assembly, the 1998 legislative elections and the 1999 election, when Patton says he will seek re-election.

This is no time for Republicans to think politically, says Jefferson County

ber of Commerce and University of Louisville activist. "Sometimes you come to the crosshairs of political life and you've got to do what is right, regardless of political ramifications," Stone said. "If we blow it this time, I don't know when we would resurrect this kind of opportunity (to make the two largest schools leading research institutions). This goes beyond partisan politics."

Patton is lucky that no Republican has surfaced as a likely opponent for 1999. There is more action in his own party, where former Gov. Brereton Jones has taken public exception to the community-college plan, leading many of his own supporters to think he will try to ride the issue back into the governorship.

Patton seems to fear none of these shoals and rapids.

In a remarkable life, he has given himself many tough jobs, from digging coal to starting his own company to setting his sights on the governorship from an isolated bailiwick almost 20 years ago. He won those battles, and others.

Don't sell him short.

THE COURIER-JOURNAL • SUNDAY, MARCH 30, 1997

Higher-ed plan: A lot of change for little money

Schools that try new ways would get funds

By ROBERT T. GARRETT and RICHARD WILSON
The Courier-Journal

FRANKFORT, Ky. — Gov. Paul Patton is dangling \$35 million immediately, and an eventual total of \$100 million a year, in new money as the carrot to win passage of his higher-education reform plan.

But the stick is this: There won't be any new money for state colleges, Patton says, if his plan doesn't pass.

Some lawmakers were unimpressed with Patton's threat last week — contained in a memo given to the legislature's budget-review subcommittee on education.

"He can certainly indicate that he's going to passionately advocate for these funds if he gets his plan, and if he doesn't, he's not going to," urge new spending, said Senate Minority Leader Dan Kelly, R-Springfield. "But it is the General Assembly that has to appropriate money in the end."

Patton made two big spending choices in his higher-ed plan:

- He chose to move immediately to funding "equity" for state colleges and universities. The yardstick is their counterparts in the South and Midwest. The price tag? Nearly \$20 million annually.

- He chose to award new money in the future, but only to institutions that change their ways. Six proposed "investment and incentive funds" are to be the catalyst.

Patton would boost spending without raising taxes. He assumes steady economic growth and substantial savings from EMPOWER

Kentucky, his administration's drive to make state government more efficient, in part by incorporating modern technology.

THE SIX investment and incentive funds would promote research; excellence; access to learning for non-traditional or isolated students; maintenance of campuses; intra-regional cooperation on work-force training; and improvements in students' abilities to obtain loans and earn degrees swiftly.

State universities will have to rethink their priorities, and economize to cough up the necessary matching money to compete for grants from some of the incentive funds, said Patton's higher-education guru, Aims McGuinness Jr. of Boulder, Colo.

"Using the margins to get change" is McGuinness' description of how competing for a few million dollars here and there can transform the behavior of Kentucky's public university system, which will cost state taxpayers nearly \$760 million this year.

Similar incentive funds in Ohio, New York and other states have improved the quality of their universities, McGuinness said.

The sums involved are not necessarily staggering. The Ohio Selective Excellence Program spent less than \$30 million a year from 1983-91, according to Ohio's Board of Regents.

McGuinness said a \$30 million research challenge fund at the State University of New York system was the nudge its Buffalo campus needed to win more outside grants and move into the top echelon of research schools. SUNY-Buffalo recently won acceptance in the American Association of Universities, an elite group, he said.

"That's an example of the kind

(See NEW)

HIGHER-EDUCATION FUNDING PLAN

This is the new money Gov. Paul Patton is proposing to give the universities, colleges and technical schools for the fiscal year starting July 1 — if the legislature passes his higher-education reform plan.

Community college system	\$11,768,700	University of Kentucky	\$5,480,000
Eastern Kentucky University	\$4,471,100	University of Louisville	\$2,719,200
Kentucky State University	\$605,800	Western Kentucky University	\$2,165,300
Morehead State University	\$2,191,400	Murray State University	\$1,283,900
Northern Kentucky University	\$1,666,700	Technical schools	\$3,000,000
Total		\$35,352,100	

New ways would win schools money

Continued

of change the governor's talking about," he added.

On Wednesday, when he unveiled his plan, Patton recommended making "a down payment" of \$12 million toward two of the six funds in the fiscal year that begins July 1.

A RESEARCH challenge fund, Patton said, would divide its initial \$6 million pot by sending \$4 million to the University of Kentucky and \$2 million to the University of Louisville.

The other \$6 million would go into an excellence fund for Kentucky's six regional universities.

To draw money from this fund, schools would have to come up with matching amounts and show they had switched money from "low productivity/low priority programs" to "programs of distinction."

Patton's budget memo estimates that in the fund's first year, Eastern Kentucky University would receive \$1.45 million; Western Kentucky University, \$1.4 million; Murray State University, \$1.06 million; Morehead State University, \$865,000; Northern Kentucky University, \$737,000; and Kentucky State University, \$480,000.

Rep. Marshall Long, D-Shelbyville, expressed skepticism that the awards Patton's fund can offer would be large enough to deter the regional schools from offering as many courses and degrees as they can.

"It doesn't make any difference if they've got one person in the program, they're going to keep teaching that course," said Long, a member of the House budget panel. "It's hard for me to believe they're going to change very easily. It's going to have to be a major incentive."

McGuinness said, "In the future you could expect a very high percentage of the new money would go out through these funds."

He said Patton would defer to the state Council on Higher Education, which would be strengthened and re-named under his plan, to make recommendations on how to set up the six funds and how much money to put in them. McGuinness said the percentages used initially to divide research money between UK and U of L, or to apportion the regionals' money, wouldn't necessarily be used in future years.

He acknowledged that preordaining the shares each institution receives works against the funds' underlying idea of competition.

WHILE PATTON enjoys better relations with the legislature than other recent governors, his spending proposals are far from sacred in lawmakers' eyes.

Kelly said Senate Republicans, who now share power with five maverick Democrats in the upper chamber, proposed in their alternative budget last year that the state's technical

schools receive \$11 million in new money so they can buy badly needed equipment. Patton's plan offers only \$3 million for that in fiscal 1998.

Kelly said another GOP concern he'll relay to Patton is for the governor to make sure community college professors receive a significant pay boost "before you venture out into new programs."

House Speaker Pro Tem Larry Clark, an Okolona Democrat with strong ties to Patton, complained that the governor's proposal "is not very kind" to U of L in dividing the \$35 million in new money in fiscal 1998. U of L would receive \$2.7 million.

"They're going to have to make it a better financial package before I think the Louisville delegation will buy into it," Clark said.

House Majority Whip Joe Barrows, D-Versailles, said he told Patton aides at Thursday's budget-subcommittee hearing that Patton isn't proposing enough money to win over wavering lawmakers. Barrows noted that Patton's plan to strip UK of its community colleges has provoked strong opposition among some UK backers.

But if Patton had offered UK, say, \$300 million more to become a top research university, Barrows said facetiously, "I think at that point you might see their trustees tell their president, 'You know, these community colleges might not be all they're cracked up to be.'"

LEXINGTON HERALD-LEADER, LEXINGTON, KY. ■ SATURDAY, MARCH 29, 1997

Alumni association fights Patton plan

BY ANGIE MUHS

HERALD-LEADER EDUCATION WRITER

The University of Kentucky's alumni association has issued the first call to battle in the fight for the state's community colleges.

The group began sending letters to UK graduates throughout the state this week, just a day after Gov. Paul Patton announced his plan to take the community colleges from UK and put them under a separate board.

"Unbelievable as it may sound, forces are at work to damage the University of Kentucky and put higher education for you and all Kentuckians at risk," the letter says.

The letter urges alumni to con-

tact their state representatives and senators — listing their names, phone numbers, addresses and e-mail addresses.

The letter was sent to 90,000 UK graduates in Kentucky, said Hank Thompson, alumni association national president.

"We wanted to do something to mobilize the alumni," said Thompson, of Louisville.

Thompson said he did not know how much the mailing cost. UK Alumni Association staff members were in Indianapolis and could not be reached.

But at 29¢ cents apiece — the amount of postage on one such letter — that would work out to nearly \$27,000 in postage.

The letter contends that "the value of associate degrees and college credits earned from a community college would be severely weakened if that degree did not come from the University of Kentucky."

"All of us lose if the community colleges are taken away from UK," the letter reads, with that sentence underlined for emphasis.

Even the letter's envelope heralds its message. "Save your UK community colleges!" reads a statement next to the return address.

"This is just one of many efforts, but I think it'll have an impact," Thompson said. "Every little bit helps."

Community colleges dividing UK faculty

BY ANGIE MUHS
HERALD-LEADER EDUCATION WRITER

The battle over whether the University of Kentucky ought to keep running community colleges is provoking a schism of its own on the Lexington campus.

Faculty members there have eagerly embraced Gov. Paul Patton's goal for UK to become a nationally known research university. But opinion is mixed on Patton's proposal to separate the community colleges from UK.

"Of the 20 or so people I've discussed it with, I haven't talked to anyone who favors keeping them under our control," said UK mathematics professor Don Coleman. "I'm just still not convinced."

But other faculty members say they're on the fence or don't see the need for breaking the two systems apart.

There's also great concern that the contentious issue is obscuring others in the reform effort. And people on both sides question UK President Charles T. Wethington Jr.'s handling of the matter. Some wonder whether it's wise for Wethington to engage in such a public fight with the governor.

Wethington, who started his career in the community college system and headed it before becoming UK's president, has vehemently opposed the idea of separating the community colleges and

vowed to fight that aspect of the plan.

"There's a good bit of disappointment that the university appears to be focused on this one issue," said history professor George Herring. "A lot of us feel we may already be in kind of a lose-lose situation, and that's the greatest fear."

Wethington, in an electronic mail message to faculty members earlier in the week, urged them to oppose what he called "dismembering the University of Kentucky in ways that would be tragic for the citizens of the Commonwealth."

He noted that he expected to read and hear conflicting viewpoints. "We are confident, however, that the prevailing views of the University community will underscore the vision of a united and comprehensive University of Kentucky when informed about the facts and considerate of future needs and realities," Wethington wrote.

Another group of faculty members also has drafted a resolution for the state Senate, supporting Patton's goals, especially increasing UK's prominence in research and graduate programs.

Part of the reason for the resolution was that the community college issue was dominating the debate and faculty members hope it won't obscure other issues, said Peter Perry, a mathematics professor who helped write the resolution.

"I hope in the discussion, the vision of a better University of Kentucky is not lost," said Perry. He said he doesn't have enough information yet to decide on the community college issue.

Deborah Powell, chairwoman of the pathology department in the medical school, said she also has heard many faculty members say they don't want one issue to obscure all others.

"I'm really hoping we get some resolution of it one way or the other, so we can move forward on the main issue of making UK better," she said.

Jan Schach, the chairwoman of the University Senate Council, said that Wethington has met with

"I think faculty here really want to support what the community college faculty want, and there's been some confusion about that."

DEBORAH POWELL
chairwoman
pathology department
medical school

some faculty leaders and plans to meet with the full senate on April 7.

Schach said she thinks faculty members' opinions vary widely on whether the community colleges have any effect on UK's ability to succeed as a research university.

"It's still split," said Schach, who said she isn't convinced that UK has to shed the community colleges to achieve in research.

"You have a contingent of faculty who think the community colleges have weighed us down from being a research institution, and you have a contingent that doesn't think they have been," she said.

Other faculty members also want to get a better sense of the community college faculty's views before deciding, Powell said.

"I think faculty here really want to support what the community college faculty want, and there's been some confusion about that," she said.

But one UK faculty member compared the community college issue to a corporation selling off one part of its operations to focus on its main mission.

"We feel the president is on the wrong track," said mathematics professor Brauch Fugate. "This is a chance to go forward, and to sacrifice it to hang on to the community colleges doesn't seem like a good idea."

Regardless of their point of view, some faculty members think Wethington's battle with the governor can't be good for UK in the long run.

"I haven't heard any faculty say that it's wonderful that we're fighting with the governor," said Carolyn Bratt, a law professor and former faculty trustee.

Governor is taking his proposals directly to members of UK board

HERALD-LEADER STAFF REPORT

Gov. Paul Patton is taking his plans to change the University of Kentucky straight to the people who run the school.

Patton will appear at the UK board meeting Tuesday afternoon to speak about his proposal to reform higher education.

In a letter to board members yesterday, Patton does not specifically mention community colleges, which he wants to separate from UK.

But the governor continued to question a letter, written by UK President Charles T. Wethington Jr.,

It estimated that it would take a one-time investment of \$691 million and an additional \$104 million every year to put UK among the Top 20 in research universities.

"The letter causes me serious concern because it indicates the university cannot elevate its status," Patton wrote.

Patton also reiterated to the UK board members that he wanted to provide UK with more money, especially to help it attract top researchers.

"In return for this increased state funding, I am asking that the university refocus its mission as the state's flagship university," Patton wrote.

Former Gov. Edward T. "Ned" Breathitt said yesterday that he had not yet seen Patton's letter, but looked forward to the meeting.

"We're delighted to have him," Breathitt said. "We're always glad to hear from the governor."

Patton won't give council more power

By term's end, he will have had chance to pick 10 of 20 UK trustees

FRANKFORT (AP) — Gov. Paul Patton jettisoned the idea of giving the governor's power to appoint university trustees to the state Council on Higher Education after talking with two prominent House Democrats, aides say.

Patton aides said Thursday that the governor didn't feel strongly about the proposal and quietly left it out of his final higher-education plan after the lawmakers expressed reservations.

The last-minute change shows how Patton courted lawmakers before he put the finishing touches on his plan. Patton has said he'll accept further suggestions and refinements to his plan, especially from legislators.

Patton's aides have said he had the idea of giving up his board-appointment power in January, while thinking about ways to win respect for the often-ignored council.

Patton's higher-education consultant, Aims McGuinness Jr. of Boulder, Colo., said Patton dropped the idea after deciding he already had suggested enough boosts in the standing and clout of the council, which Patton wants renamed the Council on Postsecondary Education.

It will be smaller, "have a

number of council members. He would continue to appoint them, but they would have to be confirmed by the House and the Senate.

House Speaker Jody Richards of Bowling Green and House budget chief Harry Moberly of Richmond separately raised objections to giving the council the power to appoint university trustees.

Moberly, who heads the House Appropriations and Revenue Committee and works at Eastern Kentucky University, said he told Patton his original plan would make the council president "just an absolute czar."

Senate President Larry Saunders, D-Louisville, said he agrees that the governor should keep the ability to appoint the boards at the eight state universities.

By the end of his term, in December 1999, Patton will have had the chance to appoint 10 of the 20 UK trustees. As the first modern governor allowed to seek successive terms, Patton, if re-elected, could have working control of the UK board early in a second term.

Patton decides to keep power to name trustees

ASSOCIATED PRESS

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It will be smaller, "have a

more clearly focused mission" and stronger ties to the legislature, McGuinness said. "He decided those things would be sufficient to give it ... stature."

The governor's proposal would reduce from 17 to 13 the number of council members. He would continue to appoint them, but they would have to be confirmed by the House and the Senate.

House Speaker Jody Richards of Bowling Green and House budget chief Harry Moberly of Richmond separately raised objections to giving the council the power to appoint university trustees.

Moberly said Richards "had a lot of concerns about it." Richards could not be reached.

Moberly, who heads the House Appropriations and Revenue Committee and works at Eastern Kentucky University, said he told Patton his original plan would make the council president "just an absolute czar."

Senate President Larry Saunders, D-Louisville, said he agrees that the governor should keep the ability to appoint the boards at the eight state universities.

"I think it makes the plan better," Saunders said. "It's more palatable that the governor retains that power."

THE COURIER-JOURNAL • SATURDAY, MARCH 29, 1997

UK goes on offensive to keep 2-year colleges

Officials, alumni use ads, letters, Internet to rouse opposition

By RICHARD WILSON and ROBERT T. GARRETT
The Courier-Journal

LEXINGTON, Ky. — While its basketball team is in Indianapolis for the Final Four, the University of Kentucky has been waging another high-stakes fight back home.

University and alumni leaders have been airing TV and radio ads, writing letters, posting Internet messages and printing lapel buttons, all with the message: Keep our community colleges.

The goal of their full-court press is to stop Gov. Paul Patton's plan to strip the 14 colleges from UK.

If the colleges go, UK President Charles Wethington wrote in a computer message to faculty this week, what's next? UK's agricultural extension service? Its geology department, or even the medical school?

Patton has begun his own campaign to persuade lawmakers and the public that, to improve worker training in Kentucky, the community colleges and the state's post-secondary technical schools should be

placed under a new board.

Patton went on statewide TV Wednesday to unveil his broad-based reform plan for higher education and then hit the road, taking his case to seven community colleges. The tour has garnered widespread publicity and several favorable newspaper editorials.

Patton and his aides are hopeful that the state Chamber of Commerce and business leaders will raise money for an ad campaign in support of the governor's plan. Patton is scheduled to meet with the chamber's board on Tuesday, as well as with the UK board of trustees.

But, said Andrew "Skipper" Martin, Patton's chief of staff, "We sure do not have the machinery that the university has got."

The UK offensive is aimed primarily at lawmakers, who will decide whether Patton's proposals become law during a special session starting May 5.

While they have been hearing about the issue for weeks, they're likely to hear even more in the days ahead.

UK has put a warning on its Internet page that the community colleges are being threatened. It urges people to contact Patton and law-

(See UK)

UK wages media war Fights Patton college plan through ads

LEXINGTON (AP) — The University of Kentucky has unleashed a highstakes fight against Gov. Paul Patton's plan to strip 14 community colleges from the state's flagship university.

University and alumni leaders have been airing television and radio ads, writing letters, posting Internet messages and printing lapel buttons, all with the message: Keep our community colleges.

In a computer message to faculty, UK President Charles Wethington wondered what would be next if the colleges are removed from UK's system.

Patton has begun his own campaign to persuade lawmakers and the public that, to improve worker training in Kentucky, the community colleges and the state's post-secondary technical schools should be placed under a new board.

The governor and his aides are hopeful that the state Chamber of Commerce and business leaders will raise money for an ad campaign in support of Patton's plan announced last week. Patton is scheduled to meet with the chamber's board on Tuesday, as well as with the UK board of trustees.

But said Andrew Skipper, Martin, Patton's chief of staff, "We sure do not have the machinery that the university has got."

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SEE COLLEGE ↑

UK pulls out all stops in fight to keep community colleges

Continued

makers. UK is also firing up its in-state alumni.

LETTERS FROM national alumni President Hank Thompson are in the mail to 90,000 UK graduates urging them to contact lawmakers to "let them know you strongly oppose any move that will . . . seriously damage the university."

"If only 10 percent of the people answer the call and contact their legislators, it will be stunning," said Thompson, a Louisville businessman. "We hope to let legislators know that one body of people is passionate about this."

Each letter gives legislators' home and e-mail addresses and telephone numbers.

A TV ad featuring a community college student arguing the schools' merits is being shown in prime time in the state's major TV markets. Production of another ad is being con-

"If only 10 percent of the people answer the call and contact their legislators, it will be stunning."

Hank Thompson, UK's national alumni president

sidered.

But the UK blitz doesn't stop there. Media kits extolling the colleges' successes have been mailed to about 400 Kentucky newspaper, radio and TV outlets. Also, UK boosters attending the NCAA Final Four games today will be greeted by students passing out lapel buttons saying, "Keep Us 1. UK and our community colleges."

A series of pro-community-college rallies also is planned.

Last week Wethington and UK's three chancellors sent all faculty members a lengthy computer message arguing, among other things, that UK's statewide responsibilities would be undercut if the school lost the community colleges.

"Make no mistake about it, if a part of UK can be stripped away through political action, any other part of it can be dismembered also," they said.

BERNIE VONDERHEIDE, UK's public relations director, said UK's lobbying effort is using no tax money. "This is very definitely with private funds, donations from alumni and friends."

He said UK is trying only to make information available on the issue "so that the public can make their own decision, and if they care, tell their governmental leaders what they think."

The TV and radio spots, which tout

the 14 community colleges, use free air time that by contractual arrangement must be provided to UK by stations that have bought the rights to broadcast its basketball and football games. The TV ads must air seven times a week in prime time from January through early April, and the radio ads must run 15 times weekly.

Dennis Fleming, general counsel to the governor, circulated a memo last week that said "the magnitude statewide is staggering." Fleming questioned "the use of these commercials for political purposes." He wrote, "If you wanted to air TV and radio to counter UK, it would cost you \$96,100.00 per week."

MARTIN, PATTON'S chief of staff, said "a ton of misinformation" about the governor's plan is being spread in an "orchestrated effort" by "somebody." He stopped short of accusing UK of wrongdoing. But to counter all the rumors, he said, the governor's office has begun to dis-

tribute a three-page fact sheet.

Martin dismissed a warning Thursday by House Majority Leader Greg Stumbo, an opponent of stripping the colleges from UK. Stumbo, D-Prestonsburg, said that Patton "has a lot of weapons" and would hold everything from hospital expansions to road improvements "hostage on this issue."

"We'll only do what's right and legal," Martin said. "We're just going to tell the message. That's all we're going to do."

STATE CHAMBER of Commerce official Andrew Down said the group has discussed promoting Patton's plan with a Louisville advertising and public relations firm. But he said no final decision will be made until the chamber's board decides whether to endorse it.

"We've put together possibilities. But as far as pulling the trigger and off we go, no," he said.

Patton also has been selling his plan one-on-one to legislators in re-

cent weeks, said House budget committee Chairman Harry Moberly, D-Richmond.

"He's talking to everybody he can get on the phone," Moberly said. "The governor spends his weekends on the phone. He's a harder worker than anybody I know."

Moberly, who works at Eastern Kentucky University and is a supporter of the governor's plan, said, "A month ago I knew more than he did" about higher education. But Patton has mastered the subject, he said. "He's taught me some things" in recent days, Moberly said.

In spite of emotions on both sides, Martin said participants in the debate need to "relax. We're just talking about educating our young people. What's wonderful about this is we've elevated the question of higher education in Kentucky as high as it's ever been in Kentucky history.

"Everyone now is discussing higher education."

Plan won't fly, Stumbo says

Negative receptions continue in Prestonsburg

By ALLEN G. BREED
THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

PRESTONSBURG — House Majority Leader Greg Stumbo says Gov. Paul Patton's plan to sever the 14 community colleges from the University of Kentucky does not have enough legislative support to pass.

Patton told students and faculty at Prestonsburg Community College on Thursday that the current system is inefficient and isn't helping the state enough to prepare its citizens for economic growth. Patton wants to give community colleges and vocational-technical schools responsibility for developing workers for jobs, and try to make the University of Kentucky a world-class research school.

But Stumbo, a Prestonsburg Democrat who is one of the General Assembly's most powerful legislators, called Patton's plan "ill-advised," and said that he hasn't shown proof of the need to change.

"I don't think because UPS (United Parcel Service) wants to teach us Box Stacking 101 we should change the community college system," Stumbo said following Patton's question-and-answer session. "That's not evidence."

Stumbo said Patton's insistence that most people agree on the need for change is misguided

"I haven't seen any evidence that shows that this has been flawed," he said. "I don't think that the legislature is convinced. ... I just don't see that there's a smoking gun there to dictate that kind of change."

But Stumbo watched in December as Patton steamrolled opposition in his fight to get a workers' compensation bill passed. And he said Patton is holding everything from hospital expansions to blacktop "hostage on this issue."

"I don't think there's near enough support in either chamber," Stumbo said, "But like I say, he's got a lot of weapons."

Wednesday, former state Rep. Kenny Rapiere, Patton's point man on the plan in the House, said he thought prospects for the plan's passage there looked good. He said he thought the battle for the plan in the upcoming May 5 special session of the General Assembly looked "winnable" in the house.

PCC was the third community college Patton visited on a trip across the state to stump for his plan. And he got the same reaction there that he encountered Wednesday in Ashland and Maysville.

Amy Noble, a student at Southeast Community College in Whitesburg, suggested Patton was trying to turn the community colleges into vo-tech schools.

"We did not choose to go to vo-tech," she said. "We wanted to go to community college. That's our choice to make, not yours."

Patton said linking the community colleges with the vo-tech schools would help each area school tailor its training to fit its work force needs.

"It's going to be able to represent itself," he said of the school. "It's going to be able to come to Frankfort and lobby for money for itself, and it's going to be able to respond to the businesses of this particular region as it is."

"Well, in Letcher County, what businesses?" asked Myra Rudd, secretary of the student government at Southeast. "What industry?"

PCC President Deborah Floyd said she was concerned about the services that UK provides to the community colleges, such as libraries, computer systems, financial aid and legal services, payroll and purchasing.

"It's like being a Siamese twin," she said. "Do you share the same organs? ... Whatever we do should be done to improve our service to the community and the students."

The community colleges contract with UK for those services, and Patton said state law mandates that UK provide them.

"You won't be caught without a library," Patton said. "You won't be caught without

a computer lab. That's just not going to happen."

Some students questioned whether the community colleges would be able to attract quality instructors without the prestige of the UK name, and whether their degrees and credits would mean as much. Patton said the colleges were accredited on the strength of their own programs and faculty, not the UK connection.

"I cannot compete with the emotionalism associated with the name of the University of Kentucky," he said. "But I have to argue based on facts and based on logic. And the truth of the matter is this campus will be better off, the students will be better off, this faculty will be better off, this region will be better off, because you will be independent. And you will be able to much more influence your destiny."

Tammy Butcher, vice president of student government at Southeast in Whitesburg, said Patton can't hope to increase the level of excellence at the state's post-secondary schools until he irons out problems with the elementary and secondary schools.

"Well, there's another major change that was made in Kentucky that's still controversial," he said, referring to the Kentucky Education Reform Act of 1990.

One student asked why UK can't just offer four-year degree programs at the community colleges. Stumbo wondered the same thing.

Stumbo said per capita income, educational levels and

faculty members a lengthy computer message arguing, among other things, that UK's statewide responsibilities would be undercut if the school lost the community colleges.

"Make no mistake about it, if a part of UK can be stripped away through political action, any other part of it can be dismembered also," they said.

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College
(Cont'd)
urges people to contact Patton and lawmakers.

UK also is firing up its in-state alumni.

Letters from national alumni President Hank Thompson are in the mail to 90,000 UK graduates urging them to contact lawmakers to "let them know you strongly oppose any move that will ... seriously damage the university."

"If only 10 percent of the people answer the call and contact their legislators, it will be stunning," said Thompson,

create the closer you get to a four-year state-supported school. He suggested Patton develop the community colleges into four-year "centers of opportunity" instead of "pulling them back to something less

Paul Gottbrath, independent local news editor, contributed to this story.
their what they were meant to be"

UK library flashy toy for 'tots' in high places

BY MARK R. CHELLGREN
ASSOCIATED PRESS

Just off the main campus at the University of Kentucky, in an area that used to be a student ghetto, there is a monument under construction.

Some would argue it is a monument to academia, a new library that will serve as a storehouse and distribution center for the accumulated knowledge of a proud commonwealth and its flagship university.

Others see it as a masterpiece of academic and bureaucratic conceit, a palace designed to exalt its builders, rather than those who will use it.

A bit of the history of the new UK library may provide some context to the emerging debate over a reform of the higher education system in Kentucky and the role the University of Kentucky considers its right.

A new library had long been on UK's wish list. And when Charles Wethington became president, he made it a personal quest.

But universities are not supposed to go around spending huge sums of money on new buildings without approval of the General Assembly. The theory behind this check and balance is fairly sound.

It is, after all, not really the university's money to spend. It is the taxpayers' money, and the constitution makes it fairly clear the legislature has the sole authority to decide how taxpayer money is spent.

Plus, even if the money to build comes from someplace else, in theory, eventually, somebody has to pay to keep the building open, lighted, cleaned, heated. That somebody, inevitably, becomes the taxpayer.

Put more simply, the idea is that somebody has to look out for the big picture.

And this was going to be quite a building — \$42 million worth of chandeliers, soaring atria and maybe even some space for a few books. Perhaps not Constantine the Great's Imperial Library at Byzantium, but certainly Byzantine in its own right — the Commonwealth Library.

But there was a problem. While the General Assembly once upon a time approved planning for the library, it did not authorize or finance its construction. In theory, that meant UK was not allowed to build it. But there is theory and there is practice.

Without a legal way to get what it wanted, UK found what might be called an "extralegal" way to get what it wanted. It persuaded the city of Lexington to sell bonds and

got the UK Athletics Association — a creation separate from the university when convenient, a critical piece when needed — to divert money to pay the debt service.

This is the same athletics association which has voted to expand Commonwealth Stadium to build more seats to go unfilled on fall Saturdays and look into construction of a new basketball arena at a projected cost more than double that of the new library.

And so, the pillar to Wethington's presidency rises — an expensive, duplicative structure built with little or no regard for its real usefulness that in many ways mimics the entire public university system in Kentucky.

In a real irony, UK students have been asked to contribute to actually buying books and the other things that will go into the library.

LEXINGTON HERALD-LEADER, LEXINGTON, KY. ■ MONDAY, MARCH 31, 1997

Colleges scramble for more raw material

Government is deeply involved in higher education, "a remarkably unwatched industry," according to Anne Matthews. Her new book, which may make educators wish she were not watching, should be a sobering read for government officials.

In *Bright College Years: Inside the American Campus Today*, Matthews, who teaches in New York University's graduate journalism program, casts a cool eye on an industry that employs 2.5 million people (more than the auto, steel and textile industries combined) and constitutes "an archipelago nation-within-a-nation, two thousand islands in the social sea." A professor's daughter, she feels affection for that nation but paints a melancholy picture.

Higher education has, she says, grown every year since Harvard's founding, "a three-hundred-sixty-year winning streak." In 1946 there were 2.4 million students on campuses; in 1960, 3.2 million; in 1970, 7.5 million. Today 9 million people attend 2,125 four-year institutions (595 public, 1,530 private) full time and several million more part time.

They are taking their time, an average of almost six years to earn a baccalaureate degree. Half who matriculate will not graduate. One in four freshmen will never become a sophomore. Institutional endowments total more than \$100 billion — more than Belgium's GDP — but 60 percent of the total belongs to 50 schools. And all but 50 or so elite schools are, Matthews says, increasingly desperate for even marginal and unprepared students. Only one student in five fits the stereotype of a student — under 22, enrolled full time and living on campus. The student population is increasingly female, adult, local (four of five enroll in their home state) and in debt. There are \$26 billion in college loans and half of all students graduate with significant debts; some of which will last until their children are college age.

Yet so frantic is the education industry for raw material (students), institutions are not only lowering standards (requiring only "a pulse in one hand, a check in the

The habit of building things before having anything to go into them — or come out of them, in the case of educated students — is ingrained at UK.

The recent case of the university's agricultural experimental farm is another example. Thanks to the largesse of the state, UK has a new farm in Woodford County alongside U.S. 60. But it also has its old farm, which it refused to give up.

At the old farm, there is one tenant, nothing going in and precious little coming out. It is sort of a real estate developer's approach to intellectual stimulation and research.

So it is perhaps understandable that one of Wethington's suggestions to Gov. Paul Patton is that UK absorb the Kentucky Tech vocational school system.

It is the academic equivalent of the theory that more is better, as opposed to better being better.

other"), they are discounting tuitions, advertising sushi and waffle bars in the student unions and prime cable service in the dorms where, Matthews says, some students hibernate for days "eating red licorice and channel-surfing." Some institutions send bounty hunters abroad in search of wealthy foreigners.

Only 25 percent of undergraduates are liberal arts majors. Twenty five percent are business majors, most of the rest are on vocational tracks such as health care, and primary and secondary education. The average student does about 29 hours a week of schoolwork, down from about 60 hours in the early 1960s.

There is a widening chasm between faculty formed in a print culture and students produced by a wired world. Matthews says it is shocking to hear undergraduates try to read 19th century prose, Elizabethan English is like Sanskrit and "Shakespeare courses rely heavily on in-class movies." She tells of an art history professor showing students a slide of a Rubens painting.

Student: "What's the story line on this thing?"

Professor: "It doesn't have one. It's a 17th century portrait."

Student: "It doesn't move at all?"

Professor: "Unfortunately, no."

Student: "But I can't see things if they don't move."

The market for Ph.D.s is glutted: Only two in five get academic jobs. There are a million Ph.D.s without academic employment, and some are in academia only as "freeway flyers," driving between adjunct appointments on several campuses, paid perhaps \$1,000 a course, with no benefits or faculty prerogatives. Adjunct faculty, Matthews writes, are the field hands of academia and "are thought to account for 40 or even 50 percent of all face-to-face undergraduate teaching now, as opposed to 22 percent in the early 1970s."

But, then, the market for college graduates is saturated: an estimated 20 percent work in jobs that do not really require a degree.

Says Matthews, "A third of Domino's pizza-delivery drivers in the Washington, D.C., area have B.A.s." A help wanted ad seeking a warehouse supervisor for The Gap reads, "Bachelor's degree required, and the ability to lift 50 pounds."



GEORGE
WILL

SYNDICATED
COLUMNIST

Rep. Ron Lewis to speak at MSU

MOREHEAD — U.S. Rep. Ron Lewis, the first Morehead State University alumnus to serve in Congress, will be the featured speaker at MSU's Founders Day Friday. Lewis, who represents the 1st District, will speak at the invocation and awards ceremony at 10:30 a.m. in Button Auditorium.

Lewis, a Baptist minister who was reared in South Shore and runs a business in

Elizabethtown, was elected to Congress in 1994 to fill the seat held by the late Rep. William Natcher.

Other Founders Day activities include a breakfast for retired faculty and staff, a luncheon to honor 30 new MSU fellows and other benefactors, the 2 p.m. dedication of the W. Paul and Lucille C. Little Bell Tower and the Alumni Awards dinner at 6:30 p.m. The latter event fea-

tures induction of three new members into MSU's Alumni Hall of Fame: Dr. Adron Doran, U.S. Army Col. Mark W. Dille and Linda Steiner.

Tickets for the luncheon and dinner, both in the Cragler Room of the Adron Doran University Center, are available until 4:30 p.m. Tuesday at the Office of Student Activities in the university center, at the Alumni Center or from the MSU Foundation at

the Palmer Development House.

Founders Day 1997 launches a year-long celebration of MSU's 75th anniversary as part of the state's university system.

For more information about the activities, contact the alumni center at (606) 783-2080 or toll-free at 1-800-783-2586 and the MSU Foundation at (606) 783-2031 or toll-free at 1-800-833-4483.

Some cheat to obtain college aid

By **STEVE STECKLOW**
THE WALL STREET JOURNAL

When Nicholas Bissell III applied for financial aid at Western Connecticut State University, he was rejected. He attended for a semester, then transferred to Catholic University of America in Washington. There he received \$4,400 in grants and \$9,912 in federal loans over three years.

What changed? Bissell's mother, Jean, lied the second time around. She submitted phony tax returns to Catholic University that indicated she had no savings, when, in fact, she had \$80,000.

Although Mrs. Bissell described the scheme at length last year in testimony in open court, Catholic University has never sought to recover the grant money from her or her son, say people familiar with

the matter.

Federal investigators say cases of financial-aid fraud like this are growing. "That's something that, unfortunately, we're seeing more and more of," says Gary Mathison, an investigator for the Department of Education. Jim Briggs, a former Internal Revenue Service agent who has trained aid officers at Harvard and other universities, adds: "The higher the cost of the institution, the more pervasive it is."

Yet little of it is caught. Administrators say they almost never try to verify that tax documents submitted in support of students' aid applications are authentic, nor do they aggressively pursue families they suspect of cheating.

"Colleges don't do anything because they're all afraid that they're going to look bad to the public," says Paul Patelunas, a former aid administrator at Catholic University and Johns

Hopkins University. Some also fear lawsuits and the loss of top student prospects, other aid officials say.

When they do find a case of cheating, some say, they usually don't bother to tell the Education Department, although they are supposed to do so when a federal program is involved. Many aid officials believe the department won't pursue cases of just a few thousand dollars anyway. The upshot is that when a family is caught lying on an aid application, usually the worst that can happen is that it won't get the aid or will be asked to return aid given in an earlier year.

Yet it is by no means a victimless crime. Since aid money is limited, the losers when applicants cheat are the needy families who complete the applications honestly. As Patelunas testified in the Bissell case, "If a student receives a Catholic University grant and they're not eligible for it ..., that means for some needy student they may very well not be going to school that year."

The Education Department has audited 2.3 million 1995-96 recipients of Pell grants, a program in which the United States gives tuition money to undergraduate students. Auditors asked the Internal Revenue Service to compare family income as stated on the aid applications with income as reported to the IRS. About 4.4 percent of the families had understated their income.

Some cases were egregious. One of the Pell grants meant solely for low-income families — went to a student who reported income to the IRS of \$1.3 million for the year. The audit found more than 300 grant recipients who had understated their family income by more than \$100,000. Auditors estimated that \$178 million in undeserved federal Pell grants were awarded for the school year.

Other families, while not resorting to falsification, are pushing the envelope, helped by financial experts who provide aggressive advice on how to extract maximum college aid. In "The Princeton Review Student Advantage Guide to Paying for College," consultant Kalman A. Chany boasts of a \$4,000 tuition grant to the daughter of a client "who owned a \$1 million apartment in New York City and a stock portfolio with a value in excess of \$2 million." The family wasn't doing anything illegal, merely taking advantage of a loophole in the eligibility test for the aid plan, New York state's Tuition Assistance Program, which doesn't inquire about assets. "It's like taxes," Chany observes. "There's a difference between tax avoidance and tax evasion. Tax avoidance is perfectly legal and tax evasion is fraud."

About half of U.S. undergraduate students get some form of financial aid, a total of \$50 billion a year in loans and grants.