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THE TOPPER

JUNE 1997

Volume 4 Issue 1

And the Winner is... VUB Awards Presented at Banquet

On May 23 at Bowling Green's University Plaza Hotel, VUB held its fourth annual awards banquet. After a buffet-style meal, awards and prizes were presented to many students who have shown a dedication and commitment to their education.

Several outstanding current students were recognized for progress they've made toward postsecondary enrollment. AJ Johnson, Jerry Nickols, Jim Phillips, and Steven Van all received recognition, while Ron Sweatt, a current Tuesday/Thursday nightclass student, was named as Student of the Year.

B. "Spike" Spikberg (see last issue's *Student Spotlight*) was recognized with the Dare to Dream award, which is given to a student who is challenging himself educationally, in spite of the barriers or obstacles to his success.

Several outstanding alumni were recognized for their commitment to their education. Recognized were: George Bunton, Taresa Gilbert, Don Gray, Chad Nuckols, Bobby Smith, and Martin Schenck, who was this year's Alumni of the Year.

Special awards were also given to: Don Gray, our first graduate from a four-year institution; and Race

Stork and David Pedigo, who each earned associate degrees.

Darrell Foster, who is attending the VUB Math/Science Initiative this summer, was presented with a backpack and an airline ticket to Butte, Montana (see *Student Spotlight*, right).

After the presentation of awards, Martha Kenney and Joan Vanek gave out several door prizes, which were donated by: Cambridge Market and Cafe, Fazoli's Restaurant, Kroger Grocery Store, O'Charley's Restaurant, Target Stores, Toot's Restaurants, University Plaza Hotel, and Wal-Mart Supercenter.

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Above: VUB Director Randy Wilson presents the Student of the Year award to Ron Sweatt.

Student Spotlight: Darrell Foster

Darrell is a Navy vet who attends the Tuesday/Thursday daytime classes. While in the Navy, he was a Data Processing Technician, which (he says) is basically a fancy title for data entry and manipulation. He has served on several posts, both on- and off-ship. On his first ship he participated in the Persian Gulf War.



Since leaving the Navy, Darrell has attempted multiple career fields. These included an attempt at truck driving, working at a factory, and employment with a local stop-and-rob in Russellville. Currently he is seeking to further his education; to help achieve that goal, he will be attending the Veterans Upward Bound Math/Science Initiative in Butte, Montana this summer.

Darrell was actually referred to VUB by the WKU Admissions Office after contacting them in an attempt to learn more about financial aid for school. With the aid of VUB, Darrell hopes to enter WKU in the upcoming fall semester. Darrell's future goals are to get a degree, probably in business, and then get a job

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inside...

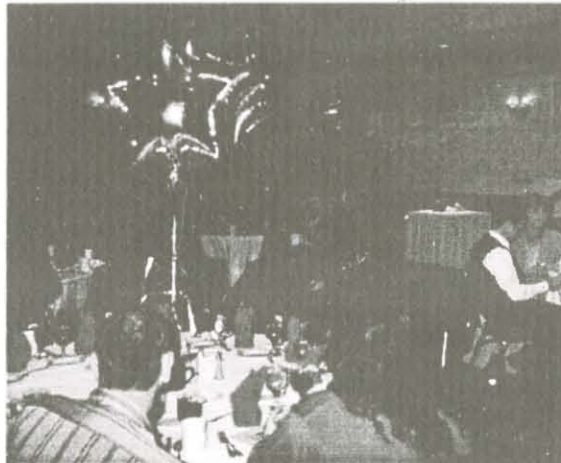
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Russ McIntyre won the grand doorprize—a dinner for two at the University Plaza Hotel. VUB (and the doorprize winners) would like to thank the above businesses for their generosity.

Banquet Highlights



CLOCKWISE FROM TOP LEFT:

- 1) Students socializes after buffet;
- 2) Taresa Gilbert receives an Outstanding Alumni award from Director Randy Wilson.
- 3) Counselor/Coordinator Martha Kenny presents former nighttime instructor Sherry Reid with a "helping hand" to use in her new job;
- 4) Jim Phillips after receiving an Outstanding Student Award;
- 5) Bobby Smith receives an Outstanding Alumni award from Randy Wilson.

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which will allow him to continue working on his photography, while having time to pursue his fondness for writing. He hopes that the items he's submitted to **Veterans' Voices** (a student-written publication due out on Veterans Day) are merely the first step in becoming an accredited writer of fantasy, fiction, science fiction, and the wide void that crosses all the above.

A Farewell from Sherry Reid

A little over a year ago, I began working as a VUB Academic Coordinator Tuesday and Thursday evenings. In January, my position expanded to include the Monday and Wednesday evening sections as well. It has been a great year—full of friendship, enthusiasm, and growth. In the classroom and on field trips, we have learned from each other, shared dreams and ambitions, and valued each other's company. I have enjoyed getting to know each of you and have appreciated the opportunity to share in your accomplishments.

I will be leaving VUB at the end of May to accept the position of Academic Support Division Chair at WKU's Community College. As I leave, I wish you success in your academic endeavors and will look forward to seeing many of you on campus (maybe even in some of my classes??).

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<http://www2.wku.edu/www/veterans/vub.html>

The Director's Desk



i, again. I have a few random thoughts I would like to share so please read on.

- Sometimes people who don't understand your dreams and people who are jealous of your aspirations try to put you down when you try to improve your life. When these people enter your life in this unsympathetic manner, don't let them tear down your plans. Remember that what you are doing in going back to school is developing your skills, so you and your family can afford a better life than you have now. Keep your sights set dead on for education.
- Acquiring an education is as important as any job. To excel at work you have to put in long hours and you have to concentrate on your tasks when you are at work. The same is true of education. You have to concentrate

New Veterans Clinics Open

The Second District will soon be even better equipped to help those veterans seeking medical attention. Two new clinics will provide veterans with better access to VA medical assistance and treatment. The Veterans Primary Care Clinic in Fort Knox is located in the Ireland Army Hospital adjacent to the pharmacy. This clinic, which opened at the beginning of the year, is for veterans and retirees who are determined eligible for outpatient care. Contact the VA Medical Center or Clinic for enrollment information.

Meanwhile, plans are underway to establish a veterans outpatient clinic in Bowling Green for Warren and the surrounding counties. If interested in determining eligibility for enrollment, contact the VA Medical Center in Nashville. A date has not been set for the opening of the Bowling Green clinic.

on your studies, and you have to dedicate time to the work required.

- Do not rule yourself out of an education, because you think it will cost too much. Many people are able to qualify for financial aid, such as free grants, scholarships, or low interest loans that are not payable until schooling is over. You may be eligible for money and not even know it, so please call VUB before you decide you can not pay the bills for a postsecondary school education.



education because too many other things become "important."

- **MOBILITY IS THE KEY.** Even with a good education, a person can not always count on getting a good job if they are not willing to move out of their community. You have to go to where the job is, because it will not come to you.

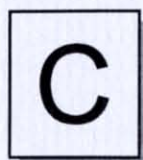
Remember that what you are doing in going back to school is developing your skills, so you and your family can afford a better life than you have now.

- Once you've returned to school, to make it seem more real and enjoyable, get involved. If you just commute to class and then go home, it will not mean as much to you as it will if you get into the life surrounding school. Read the school paper; go to school events (you can often take your family); join a school organization, etc.
- Once you begin, do not let anything sidetrack you. Do not plan to stop for a semester or a year and think you will go back. This kind of thinking usually results in an incomplete

Remember that VUB is here to help, so feel free to call any of the staff to discuss your concerns or needs. We all have separate voice mail numbers now, so you can leave a message for an individual staff without having to share it with someone else. Those numbers are listed below.

Randy Wilson:	745-5008
Martha Kenney:	745-5024
Davy Stone:	745-6876
Jeanette Prerost:	745-6570
Joan Vanek:	745-5310

Notes and News



ongratulations to Teddra Clark, who was recently inducted into Phi Eta Sigma, the National Honor Society. Phi Eta Sigma is a national honor society for first year college students with a grade-point average of at least 3.5 on a 4.0 scale.



THE TOPPER



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Important Numbers and Dates

Department of Employment Services, Bowling Green
(502) 746-7425
VA Regional Office, Louisville
(800) 827-1000
VA Medical Center, Louisville
(502) 895-3401
VA Medical Center, Nashville, TN
(615) 327-4751
Kentucky Center for Veterans Affairs, Louisville
(502) 595-4447
Military Records Branch, Frankfort
(502) 564-4883
Kentucky Veterans Center, Wilmore
(800) 928-4838
American Legion, Louisville
(502) 582-5825
AMVETS, Louisville
(502) 582-5594
Disabled American Veterans, Louisville
(800) 333-1720
Veterans of Foreign Wars, Louisville
(502) 582-6445
Vietnam Veterans of America
(606) 432-4953
Military Order of the Purple Heart, Louisville
(502) 582-6926

June 26	Bicentennial Blues Festival
June 28	Warren Co. Rural Churches Kentucky Museum, WKU
July 4	Independence Day
Aug 1	KATI Fall Classes Begin
Aug 7	Last Day, WKU/VUB Summer Classes
Aug 20	WKU Fall Classes Begin
Sept 1	Labor Day
Sept 2	First Day, VUB Fall Classes
Sept 22	Registration Deadline for October 25 ACT

Please call early for information on test dates.

ADDRESS CHANGE REQUESTED

If the address listed above is not your correct address, we'd like to know. Just write to us at our address above with your new address, or call (collect) at (502) 745-5310.