


3-30-2006

UA12/2/1 College Heights Herald, Vol. 81, No. 38

WKU Student Affairs

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Recommended Citation

WKU Student Affairs, "UA12/2/1 College Heights Herald, Vol. 81, No. 38" (2006). *WKU Archives Records*. Paper 3682.
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Women's basketball
**Season ends
 in WNIT semis**
 page 10A



**Aramark honored
 for recruiting
 efforts**
 Page 5B

Thursday, March 30, 2006 • Volume 81, Number 38

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COLLEGE HEIGHTS HERALD

Western Kentucky University • Bowling Green, Kentucky

Student News. Faculty News. Alumni News. All News.

Athlete arrested for BSU burglary

Student group forgives intruder

BY COREY PAUL
Herald reporter

Students in the Baptist Student Union building discovered a track team member sleeping in his underwear during spring break.

Junior Shane Rayners was arrested on March 22 for second-degree burglary and second-degree criminal mis-

chief, according to a report from the Bowling Green Police Department.

He was released from Warren County Regional Jail on March 22 on a \$5,000 unsecured bond.

Senior April Williams entered the BSU and found two side doors ajar, but still locked, at about 5:15 that morning, the report stated.

Hanson sophomore Laura Hawkins

said she saw Rayners enter the building and ask if he could stay there, the report stated.

Williams and Hawkins declined to comment.

Williams found Rayners asleep on a couch in the meeting area inside and called the police, the report stated.

Rayners was confused and disoriented when the police arrived at the



Shane Rayners

building. He also smelled of alcohol, the report stated.

Rayners told police he was unable to remember anything after he left the Brewing Company bar sometime before arriving at the BSU building, the report stated.

Rayners declined to comment.

The oven in the kitchen was overturned and broken and a microwave

was pulled out of the wall, resulting in about \$250 in damage, the report stated.

Police also found one of Rayners' shoes under the stove, the report stated.

Police found no signs of forced entry because all doors were locked, but two were ajar, the report stated.

"The issue has been resolved to our satisfaction," said Tommy Johnson, campus minister and director of the

SEE BSU, PAGE 7A



Sara Holcombe/Herald

The Student Council on Family Relations held a fundraiser Wednesday called Teachers as Targets, where professors were covered with Gatorade, rice, syrup, pudding, eggs and cottage cheese. Rachel Neal, assistant professor of family relations, gets doused with Gatorade from a Super Soaker that one of her students bought for \$1.

Teachers become sticky targets

Fundraising event uses food as ammunition

BY A. LAYNE STACKHOUSE
Herald reporter

Taking a deep breath, Rachel Neal, a professor of family and consumer sciences, bowed her head almost as if in defeat, as another plate of whipped cream was crammed into her already caked face.

The tables were turned on student-teacher relations yesterday afternoon as students armed with assorted sticky food products vented their frustrations on an array

of volunteering teachers.

"It was all out of fun, just a good opportunity for students to be engaged with their professors," said Neal, the faculty adviser for the Student Council on Family Relations.

"Teachers as Targets," sponsored by the SCFR, took place on DUC South Lawn and gave students the chance to douse their teachers with everything from syrup to cottage cheese.

Students could buy ammo such as

whipped cream pies for \$1, two eggs for 75 cents and rice for 50 cents.

Tickets were sold at and before the event to raise money for the SCFR, a student organization whose aim is to provide opportunities for family-oriented educational, social and service-based activities.

Donning brightly-colored goggles, teachers, coaches and even Sylvia Gaiko, the dean of the College of Health and Human Services, took part after hit of everything for which students were willing to pay.

SEE TARGET, PAGE 3A

CPE must OK tuition changes

First year approval needed

BY AMBER COULTER
Herald reporter

Lower rates for tuition and fees for some out-of-state students at Western will need approval for the first time on Wednesday.

Council on Post-Secondary Education members will have to approve three exceptions to the council's tuition policy to maintain lower tuition rates for certain groups of students.

Those groups include international students, students from surrounding Tennessee and Indiana counties and students from six large cities, President Gary Ransdell said.

Administrators at Kentucky public universities have to clear changes to regular fees and tuition with CPE when they want to give breaks to certain groups of students.

Western administrators regularly impose those fee decreases, but this is the first year they've had to get permission from CPE, Ransdell said. This is the first year that CPE has imposed a tuition process.

CPE officials set maximum and minimum rates for tuition and fees, so administrators from Kentucky universities have to justify deviating from that amount.

The lower rate would continue an existing tuition incentive program for those students. They would pay \$7,368 next year, instead of the \$10,255 that other out-of-state students will pay.

The incentive program rate is about \$7,000 this year, according to the bursar's office Web site.

SEE TUITION, PAGE 8A

SGA primary vote canceled

Student ineligible for office

BY KATIE BRANDENBURG
Herald reporter

Fewer names will fall under the "President" ballot during Student Government Association elections this semester.

Bardstown junior Joshua McCubbins has been removed from the presidential ballot for not fulfilling a membership requirement to run for office.

Berea junior Kara Ratliff and Bowling Green senior Rob Watkins are the remaining candidates.

Primary elections to narrow the field of SGA presidential candidates have been canceled.

Ratliff and Watkins filed a joint challenge to McCubbins' candidacy on March 15 because they said he did not have enough experience in the SGA to run.

The constitutional rule says SGA president.

SEE SGA, PAGE 7A

6 degrees of separation Hill becomes stage for student

BY BOBBY HARRELL
Herald reporter

Four years ago, Rebekah Lyons was a freshman hidden underneath bulbous foam in Gordon Wilson Lab Theater.

She looked like a Platter's Peanut, complete with a top hat and cane, for her first theater production at Western.

The Park City senior delivered her lines, including a few F-words, in the sweltering peanut costume, which was slightly taller than Lyons' slim, 5-foot-6 inch frame.

Lyons' parents were close to the stage in the nearly packed audience during the play "The Book of Liz."

Her parents thought Lyons was hilarious, her friends told her.

But Lyons' friends saw her mother Joy Lyons jolt in her seat at her daughter's foul language in the play.

"I'm pretty open-minded about the arts," Joy Lyons said. "I did cringe a little bit."

Lyons, who has performed in everything from Shakespeare plays to a music video, plans on heading to Hollywood after

graduation to fulfill her aspirations of acting on stage and screen—despite her mother's aversion to cursing.

Lyons has been acting since high school, but Joy Lyons said her daughter has been practicing accents with her since she was 3 years old.

In middle school, one friend's misstep led Lyons to find a career on the stage.

When she and her best friend tried out for the middle school basketball team, her friend didn't

SEE STAGE, PAGE 6A



Rebekah Lyons



Joshua McCubbins

Saving the daylight
 Remember to turn your clock forward an hour this Sunday morning.



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2 DAY

By the numbers

1700s

Century the first reported orange carrots emerged in the Netherlands region.

4

Number of other common colors of carrots in history, including yellow, purple, white and red.

source: ars.usda.gov/ars/hotlines/ars/16car/16car2522

WHAT'S GOING ON

- ◆ Panel discussion on gay families sponsored by Diversity Programs, 7:30 p.m. today, Garrett Conference Center
- ◆ Take Back The Night Candlelight Vigil sponsored by WKU Sexual Assault Services, 6 p.m. today, Lost River Cave
- ◆ Bowling Green and Western Symphony Orchestra Chamber Music Series, 7:30 p.m. tomorrow, Capitol Arts Center
- ◆ Ringing Bells and Barnum and Bailey Circus, 7 p.m. tomorrow, 11 a.m., 3 p.m., and 7 p.m. Saturday, and 1 p.m. and 5 p.m. Sunday, Diddle Arena, tickets available at the WKU Ticket Office
- ◆ WKU Ultimate Frisbee Club Invitational, 10 a.m.-5 p.m. Saturday, continued on Sunday, Preston Center

a thousand words Beyond the Hill



Domicenio Rocha is from San Luis, Mexico. About 18 years ago, he walked and hitched rides to a small town in southwest Texas called Sonora. He said it took him eight days, and he laughed. Now, he lives in an area of Sonora called Barrio, which is two predominantly Mexican neighborhoods on the outskirts of town. Occasionally friends let him stay in their house, but he usually sleeps in a broken-down car.

The most valuable thing he owns is his bicycle. It's a road bike from the 1980s and it's in extremely good condition. The tires are kept in good condition and the gears run smooth. It only cost him \$15, but bikes are not in very high demand in a land where everybody drives huge diesel pickup trucks. He rides it everywhere.

He works odd jobs around Sonora and in the neighboring town of Ozona. Rocha mostly works with concrete, but says he'll do anything, as long as it's temporary. He's a U.S. citizen and has been for many years. "I like it here," he said. "It is different than Mexico but it is good."

Christian Hansen was in Sonora, Texas over spring break with a group of Western students who were pioneering an on-going documentary project called the American Diversity Project. Every year, for one week, the workshop will be held in one of the many small colorful towns that are scattered throughout the country, and the photographers will produce a visual, audible and interactive history of that town. The workshop website is www.ADPWorkshop.org.

Christian Hansen is a sophomore photojournalism major from Louisville. He can be reached at christian.hansen@wku.edu.

Grime reports

Reports

- ◆ Bobby D. Pamell, Facilities Management, reported on March 21 a suspicious Freightliner FL80 truck in the Center lot. Campus police found the truck, a Moffett forklift and a load of lumber stolen from the Boland-Maloney Lumber Co. in Louisville on March 18. The value of the theft was \$138,000.
- ◆ Lori L. Kostik, Parking and Transportation, reported on March 27 missing property after a Rino car boot was discovered missing in an inventory check on March 23. The boot was never recovered from a car outside the Environmental Sciences and Technology building.

ing. It went missing between Feb. 7 and March 23. The value of the theft was \$525.

Arrests

- ◆ Tommie L. Griffen, Patrick Way, was arrested on March 18 regarding a stop sign and driving under the influence on Cabell Drive. Griffen was released from Warren County Regional Jail on March 20 on time served.
- ◆ Miguel Reyes-Lara, 12th Street, was arrested for alcohol intoxication in a public place on March 19 on Holley Drive. He was released from Warren County jail on March 19 on a court order.

◆ Angelo S. Neal, Louisville, was arrested on March 16 for shoplifting a Texas Instruments graphing calculator at the University Bookstore. He was released from Warren County jail on March 17 on a court order.

◆ Marco Tomas, 13th Street, was arrested on March 19 for driving without taillights and DUI on 12th Street. He was released from Warren County jail on March 20 on a court order.

◆ Sean D. Roberts, Naperville, Ill., was arrested on March 19 for DUI and reckless driving on Chestnut Street. Roberts was released from Warren County jail on March 19 on a \$1,000 unsecured bond.

Clearing the air

◆ Due to a Herald error, Chad Barclay's name was incorrectly identified in a front-page article about the "Morning After" radio show in March 16 issue.

◆ Due to a Herald error, some information about the nanotube research lab was incorrect in a page 12 article of the March 14 issue.

The research is preformed in the ICSET Thermal Analysis Lab. The nanotubes are not currently being used in Gossamer spacecraft or spacesuits.

The fellowship was for \$24,000 a year and had to be renewed every year for a maximum of three years.

The research and the student are not affiliated with the community college.

The Herald regrets the errors.

The College Heights Herald corrects all confirmed errors that are brought to reporters' or editors' attention. Please call 745-6011 or 745-5944 to report a correction, or e-mail us at herald@wkuherald.com.

The Provost and Vice President for Academic Affairs Invites
Nominations for Recipients of Honorary Degrees
from Western Kentucky University to be presented at the Fall 2006 Commencement Program.

Nominations should be directed, in letter form, to Alecea Davis Jones in the Office of the Provost and Vice President for Academic Affairs, WAB 239. Nominations may be made by students, faculty, staff, administration, alumni, or friends of the University. For any questions contact Alecea Davis Jones at alecea.davis@wku.edu or 745-8986.

Nomination Deadline is
Friday, May 12, 2006

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Two remaining finalists - \$100 each

Contest April 19
Register by Friday, April 7

Complete rules available in FAC 130

Or visit www.wku.edu/Dept/Academic/AHSS/Communication/

Crime

Vandalism problem grows

By COREY PAUL
Herald reporter

Eight bags of topsoil and six stories of parking structure were all an unknown vandal needed to crush a facilities management vehicle.

The bags were stolen from a green Ford Ranger parked on the sixth floor of parking structure 1. They were then dropped from an overhang onto the facilities truck.

The roof, toolbox and cab were destroyed, causing more than \$3,000 in damage.

Acts of vandalism like this over the past few weeks could be related and the work of multiple people, said Sgt. Ricky Powell, a detective with the investigations division of campus police.

Campus police are investigating a possible relationship between five incidents that took place on the sixth floor of parking structure 1 on March 12 that resulted in the damage to the facilities vehicle and broken windows on four other cars.

"Right now we don't have a

lot of leads to go on but we are definitely still investigating it," Powell said. The crimes have caused more than \$4,458 in damage.

Campus police are sharing resources with Bowling Green police to find the vandals, Powell said.

Bowling Green police are investigating two more incidents of vandalism on student vehicles parked at Campus Point and Western Place apartments that might also be related, said Barry Pruitt, public information officer for the Bowling Green Police Department. They have caused another \$350 in damage to student cars.

"I don't know if students are doing it, but they are certainly in a lot of places where they park their cars," Pruitt said.

Six car thefts in parking structure 1 hit Western students in early March, totaling an estimated \$3925 in stolen property, according to campus police reports.

But evidence hasn't pointed

to a connection between the thefts and vandalism, Powell said.

Students are still advised to lock their cars and keep valuable items out of sight or in the trunk, he said.

Western Place resident Scott Jagers said he has seen Bowling Green police patrolling at night since the incident.

"The driver's side window of Jagers' 1994 Honda was shattered."

"Vandalism is more random than theft and more difficult to prevent, Powell said.

For vandalism incidents, campus police advise students to park their cars near lights, Powell said.

Anyone who notices any suspicious behavior or has any information on any of the crimes is encouraged to contact Crime Stoppers at 781-CLUE or at www.hky.org/crimestoppers for up to a \$1,000 reward.

Reach Corey Paul at news@wkherald.com.

TARGET: SCFR raising money for events

CONTINUED FROM FRONT PAGE

"I'm just happy to help out a good cause," said Travis Wilson, a professor of interior design, after students doused him with eggs and syrup.

With more than 200 ticket sales in advance and more at the actual event, the organization was able to raise approximately \$300 for its cause, Neal said.

Marilyn Vantrease, a senior from Watertown, Tenn., said that since the new SCFR has almost no money, the event helped raise funds for upcoming events.

Rasika Mathur's comedy show is just one event the SCFR hopes to support, Vantrease said. She has appeared on MTV's "Nick Cannon Presents Wild 'N Out."

The show is Thursday, April 6, at 8 p.m. in the Grise Hall Auditorium.

As part of the SCFR, Vantrease said the goal is to provide a variety of activities so students with all sorts of interests can have an array of choices.

Yesterday's fundraiser was a way to raise awareness about the SCFR.

"It's a fundraiser to get different events on campus and to get the organization's name out there," Vantrease said.

Neal hopes Teachers as Targets will be an annual event and more teachers and students will get involved next year.

Hardstone senior Brooke Simpson decided to get involved with the newly formed council to do something good with other students on campus.

"She said the fundraiser was a good way to get students interested in the council."

"It's a fun way to get people involved, and students like it

because they can get back at a teacher they may or may not like," Simpson said.

"For most students, however, the chance to drench their professors with various sticky products was a light-hearted experience."

"I take it as a compliment," Neal said. "I know they only did it because they love me."

For Elizabethawn junior Jaqueline Harwood, it was a chance to bond with her teachers and contribute to a good cause.

"It's a passive-aggressive way to take out whatever frustrations you have against a teacher in a fun way," Harwood said.

Whatever students get out of it, it was a starting point for the new organization, Simpson said.

Reach A. Laine Stockhouse at features@wkherald.com.



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Offer #122 / 168

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Stop in on a long spring night!

Vette City reminds you to drink responsibly.

EDITORIAL

Rising crime

Campus security needs to be tightened

A recent crime spree in parking structure 1 shows that Western needs to step up its security.

On March 12, five incidents caused more than \$4,458 in damages. Most of the damage was caused when eight bags of topsoil were stolen from a truck and then dropped from an overturning onto the facilities track.

Six car thefts also took place in parking structure 1 in early March with an estimated \$3,975 in stolen property.

This recent string of crimes is troubling for campus security. The police station at the bottom of parking structure 1 obviously isn't intimidating criminals. This should be one of the safest spots on campus.

Though the campus police department cannot be expected to stop every break-in, action needs to be taken to reduce these incidents. Cameras should be put up in parking structure 1 and other hot spots around campus. They must be watched and reviewed after a crime is reported.

As a deterrent, the camera could reduce the number of thefts. Also, better use of campus police units would help. Clocking fewer people for minor speeding violations would give the officers more time to patrol, and hopefully stop some of these thefts.

Students should also take caution when leaving valuable items in view. Hiding valuables kept in the car under a seat or in the glove compartment would also help reduce the number of break-ins.

Also, students who know someone committing thefts should turn them into Crime Stoppers for a reward or give a tip to the police.

Western needs to band together to reduce these thefts and put these criminals away.

This editorial represents the majority opinion of the Herald's 10-member board of student editors.



EDITORIAL

New bike path will be a great addition

The 8.3 mile path will connect Western's campus with many parks and recreation areas

Thanks to the cooperation between Warren County and Western, cyclists in the area will have a safe place to ride.

A bike path will be built linking Western with many parks and other recreation areas throughout the area.

The bike path is a long overdue addition to the community, and Western was smart in including itself in the design.

The path will link Western with seven other local schools that include Bowling Green Community College and Draughon's Junior College. Cyclists will be able to travel through other parks and recreational facilities.

Mich McConnell Park, Crume Woods Nature Park, Western's intramural fields and the proposed skate park are just some of the 10 parks the bike path is designed to connect.

The path would be completed in approximately three years and built in three phases.

Phase I would connect Western to Natcher Elementary school. Phase II would connect Western to Mich McConnell Park. Phase III would be for a sidewalk gap on Cave Mill Road.

Western's financial cost for the plan is minimal and could be as low as zero.

The 8.3 mile path would cost about \$1,220,000 to complete. Western would only have to pay 20 percent of the cost of the path that travels through campus. However, the university has applied to Sen. Mitch McConnell's office for a grant to cover the cost.

A bicycle path is needed for the growing cyclist community in Bowling Green and the surrounding areas.

A survey done by the Greenway Commission included three groups of 25 Western students and faculty who lived on, near or off campus.

According to the survey, everyone gave high ratings to using a bike path to get to parks, playgrounds, schools and other recreation areas.

There are many cycling clubs in Bowling Green. Two are members of a major cycling organization. Western and Bowling Green High School's cycling clubs are recognized by USA Cycling. According to its Web site, USA Cycling holds more than two dozen events of its own and gives permits to over 3,000 more every year.

Until this bike path is built, the members of these clubs and individuals who aren't members have to ride on dangerous county and city roads.

These roads are marked only with small signs. Many of the roads aren't marked with the proper reflectors.

Besides a safer place for current cyclists to ride, it is also a great way for Western to promote a healthier lifestyle for students.

An organized, safe path that travels through popular places should increase the amount of people using the path. People who normally won't get out and exercise will be more inclined to stretch their legs.

Western's initiative to get involved in this project will promote health, safety and entertainment for students. The path will also add to the campus' beautification process.

This editorial represents the majority opinion of the Herald's 10-member board of student editors.

- Bike path advantages**
1. Connects local parks
 2. Promotes good health
 3. Gives riders a safe area
 4. Helps campus beautification

These are the Herald's views on the good, the bad and the slightly unattractive

<p>TOPS & Bottoms</p> <p>Hooray for Ewan Leslie for never giving up his dream. His success in film is a great example to students.</p>	<p>Boo to the mass retirement hitting the Kentucky Employee Retirement Systems. That is a lot of experience gone.</p>	<p>Yea for all the Western employees who volunteer in the community. Hopefully, others will join in.</p>	<p>Boo to the SGA spending \$2,000 on a party. That money should be better used.</p>
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There are too many student fees



By Robert S. Watkins

It seems that every year around this time a discussion forum is set up by President Randall and the president of the Student Government Association to convince Western students that another student fee or tuition increase is necessary.

There have been six tuition increases, and three student fee increases in the four years I have been a student here, and there are at least four more tuition increases planned for the next two years.

Today, President Randall and Katie Dawson, the current SGA President, will meet in the Amphitheater of the fine arts center to discuss yet another student fee increase.

This year's fee is meant to support building a new campus Health Center, and to provide partial funding for a proposed FAC renovation. It may also support the final stage of Western's conversion to a wireless campus. All great projects, but

are they necessary? And why is it necessary that they be paid for by the student body?

In the past four years, Western's tuition has nearly doubled, and fees have been added to services that were previously free. While I have little to complain about regarding the education I have received at Western, paying for that education is getting tougher and tougher.

Like a lot of students, I am already in debt paying for my own education, and the possibility of more fees and tuition increases sends shivers down a poor college boy's spine. Even more troubling, though, is the suggestion that the student body must shoulder the burden of Western's growth.

Western's education and general budget, which is what the university operates on, has grown from \$141 million in 1999 to \$256 million this year. But the state legislature's percentage of the budget has fallen from 42.2 percent to 30.4 percent. The university has tried to make up for this with a strong fundraising effort aimed at Western alumni, but this effort has not been enough to cover the shortfall.

Increasingly, students are being asked to foot the bill for university renovations and expansions.

What needs to be done? Western's growth over the past seven years has been remarkable, but it will not sustain such growth if it keeps digging into the stu-

dents' wallets for money the state should be providing. Kentucky funds less than a third of Western's budget right now. The state legislature needs to fulfill its funding commitment to Western.

I am not saying that a new Health Center wouldn't be nice, or that the FAC couldn't use better air conditioning, but if the university cannot convince the state legislature to do its part, it should not be asking its student body for more money.

I came to Western because I had always loved Western's campus, and because I felt it was an affordable choice for all it had to offer. It is no longer so affordable. It has reached the point where it is going to be difficult just to finish my degree at Western. Other students might not be so fortunate. The administration, along with the SGA President, should exhaust all other options before proposing an extra burden on students. I want the campus to have wireless access as much as anybody, but only if they cut the other wares as well, the ones that run directly to our pocketbooks.

Robert Watkins is a senior philosophy and political science major from Bowling Green.

The opinions expressed in this commentary do not reflect the opinions of the Herald or the university.

COLLEGE HEIGHTS HERALD

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SUBMISSIONS POLICY

The Herald encourages readers to write letters and commentaries on topics of public interest. Here are a few guidelines:

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Student government

Skipping class may soon earn students a failing grade

By KATIE BRANDENBURG
Herald reporter

Western may owe the government less money now that a resolution has passed in the University Senate.

The resolution that allows teachers to fail students for non-attendance passed with one dissenting vote earlier this month.

The process would distinguish between students by giving those who failed for non-attendance an "FN" instead of an "F." An FN is still a failing grade, and stands for "failure for non-attendance."

The resolution will take effect in fall 2006.

Jude Shadoun, chair of the university curriculum committee, said the resolution was proposed by the Student Financial Assistance office.

This process would save Western money by cutting down on the amount of financial aid Western has to return to government agencies, Shadoun said.

Students are supposed to reimburse the government for financial aid if they fail classes because of non-attendance, said Cindy Burnette, director of the financial aid office. This only occurs if students fail all of their classes.

Western pays this money to the government, and then tries to get the money back from students, which is often impossible, Burnette said.

Western generally returns more than \$300,000 in student financial aid over an academic year, Burnette said.

The financial aid office had to determine the reasons students failed in the past, Burnette said. This would make that process easier.

Shadoun said this action doesn't impact students' records any more than a regular failing grade.

One problem with the proposal is how teachers' attendance policies will show whether students attend class, Shadoun said. A student can be failed if they

don't attend class for the first 60 percent of the semester.

Senate Vice Chair John All said the resolution wasn't controversial because it wouldn't negatively affect students who were passing.

"Either way, the student's failing," All said.

All said he is hopeful that the move will help Western reduce the number of students who fail because Western is more informed on the reasons why it happens.

Last semester students received 5,462 failing grades, Registrar Freida Eggleston said.

At the senate's next meeting, the group will discuss and vote on a resolution that asks Western to provide additional money to the retirement accounts of those teachers who choose an Optional Retirement Plan at their next meeting, All said.

Reach Katie Brandenburg at news@wkherald.com.

Greek life

AGR member accepts plea

By COREY PAUL
Herald reporter

Henderson freshman Trenton Jackson entered an Alford plea March 15 after being charged for animal cruelty in the second degree.

The charges came from a hazing incident involving a goat that occurred at the Alpha Gamma Rho fraternity house on Feb. 16.

By giving an Alford plea, Jackson did not admit guilt but believed there was enough evidence to convict him.

He said he opted for the Alford plea to put the incident behind him, and because it would have been expensive and time-consuming to fight the charges.

Jackson, an AGR member, received a 12-month probation sentence and 120 hours of community service under the direction of the Bowling Green/Warren County Humane Society, according to Warren County Circuit Court records.

Bowling Green Police found a male goat in a small basement storage room of the AGR house at 1225 Chestnut St., standing in its own urine and feces with no food or water, the

Herald previously reported.

Pledges were going to be made to think they would have sex with the goat as a part of the initiation process.

Jackson said he expected community service, but not probation.

"What happened was kind of harsh, but I think it was easier to give an Alford plea rather than fight it out," Jackson said.

Jackson isn't allowed to own any pets for a year and is required to pay \$75 to the Humane Society by May. The court ordered that the goat be given to the Humane Society, according to court records.

Jackson said he will pay the owner of the goat, a local farmer, for the goat or replace it.

Alpha Gamma Rho was suspended for three years by Western. The national organization also suspended the chapter indefinitely for the hazing incident. All of the AGRs were expelled from the fraternity by the national organization.

Reach Corey Paul at news@wkherald.com.

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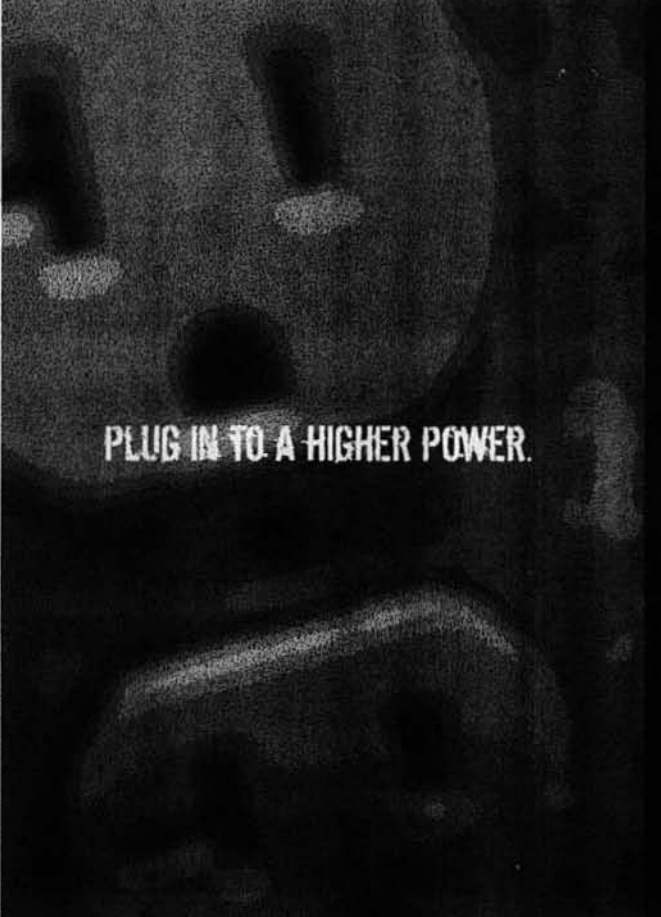
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State government

Finalized budget under way

By Amber Coulter
Herald reporter

Three months of expected tuition hikes, lobbying efforts and dizzing ups and downs characterized this year's budget process for members of the higher education community.

But it's almost over. Legislative leaders and other selected legislators are meeting in a conference committee to agree on a final General Assembly version of the budget. said Leonard Schrader, communications director for Senate President David Williams.

The process may be finished by the end of this week, President Gary Randall said.

The budget will go to both chambers for a vote and the governor for approval if it passes the committee.

The Senate Appropriations and Revenue Committee version of the state budget, which passed unanimously on March 21, was not as drastic to Western as the House's version.

But Randall said he's hopeful the final budget will mean a better outlook for the Hill.

Randall said Western may receive as much as \$5.8 million for the 2007-08 fiscal year, which is more than either representatives or senators proposed. There is no final decision on whether

that amount will pass through the conference committee.

Robbin Taylor, assistant to the president for governmental relations, cited reports that legislators will likely propose \$4.7 million for Western during the 2006-07 fiscal year.

Taylor said Western should come out well in the conference committee version of the budget.

Randall and Taylor have kept in close contact with legislators throughout the budget process.

Schrader said it's too early to comment on what's in the conference committee version of the budget or when it will be finished.

John McGary, director of communications for House Speaker Jody Richards, said he's confident that most or all of the Western projects in the House's budget will survive.

Those projects included a new College of Education building, the renovation of Science and Technology Hall, funding for the Kentucky Academy of Math and Science and the construction of a new business college.

The Senate Appropriations and Revenue Committee version of the budget proposed giving Western \$9 million for STH.

The committee also proposed \$4.5 million for the characterization center, Randall said.

Randall said he expects com-

mittee members to propose funding for the College of Education building. He also hasn't given up on funding for the academy and the new business college.

Western administrators also hoped to receive funding for an advanced technology center at the Owensboro Community College.

Senators didn't include \$3 million for Western's business plan that the House suggested.

Western's business plan includes drawing more students from community colleges, adding scholarships and expanding the study abroad and honors programs.

UK's business plan was the only plan among state universities the Senate's budget funded.

Senators proposed giving UK \$17.7 million for UK's business plan. Those members proposed \$9 million for the plan.

Randall said senators proposed more money for UK, but the outlook for Western should be improved after the final budget.

"I'm less focused on what other campuses are getting and more focused on what we're getting," he said. "I'm doing everything I can to strengthen our numbers."

Senators also voted to decrease about \$4.54 billion in overall funding for postsecondary education proposed by House representatives by about \$3.7 mil-

lion for the 2006-07 fiscal year.

The Senate's budget had some higher points for higher education than the House version.

Senators voted to increase funding from the \$4.77 billion House recommendation by about \$30 million for the 2007-08 fiscal year.

Senators also voted to increase benchmark funding for universities by \$10 million and to increase operational costs for the Council on Post-Secondary Education during each of the two fiscal years.

Some state universities are planning double-digit tuition percentage increases to deal with dwindling financial help from the state.

But Randall said Western's tuition increase for next year will be one of the lowest increases in the state in terms of percentage, 8.8 percent, and amount, \$240.

Eastern Kentucky University administrators announced an 11.4 percent tuition and fees increase for next year.

"Earlier this semester, administrators at UK and the University of Louisville announced possible 15.1 percent and 15.4 percent tuition increases, respectively, for next year."

Reach Amber Coulter
at news@wkuherald.com.

STAGE: Student's acting career prospers

Continued from front page

make the cut, Lyons said. If her friend failed to get on the team, Lyons knew she didn't want to play, either.

"At that age I knew if she failed, so did I," she said.

As Lyons gradually lost interest in sports, she became interested in acting.

She began acting at the Kentucky Repertory Theatre in Horse Cave when she was a freshman in high school.

As part of the Young Performers program, Lyons performed in several plays, including "Macbeth" and "A Midsummer Night's Dream."

Robert Brock, artistic director at KRT, directed Lyons in "A Midsummer Night's Dream" in 1999.

"She brings a gentleness to the stage, although I've seen her passionate, too," Brock said.

Lyons can also show her vulnerability on stage, which is sometimes difficult for actors to show, Brock said.

Getting into character is an involved process for Lyons.

First, she reads the play and analyzes how the character acts and thinks.

Lyons tries to slip out of her role as an actress and inhabit the character during her preparation.

"You have to forget about your own mind for a little while," Lyons said.

Besides "The Book of Liz," Lyons has acted in other Western productions including "Dark of the Moon," "Tarantula" and "As Bees in Honey Drown," which opens in April.

It was in the theater department that she developed a connection with associate professor David Young.

Lyons was intimidated by Young during her first acting class. Young was a pleasant teacher, but was critical of each student's performance, Lyons said.

She soon understood that he was a talented actor who

was trying to improve the students' acting abilities.

Lyons is a talented character actress and has the discipline to hone her craft, Young said.

Acting has also given Lyons the chance to appear on television.

Lyons landed a part in Toby Keith's music video, "Honky Tonk U."

She got the opportunity because of Andrina Maness, a friend in the theater department.

Maness told her agent about Lyons and the agent signed her to Maness' agency, "ds entertainment" in Nashville.

Lyons got a call from the agent last spring as she was leaving class.

"So, what are you doing?" the agent asked.

"Thinking about to go to work," Lyons said.

"Well, do you want to be in a music video?" the agent said.

Lyons and Maness danced and cheered for Keith for 12 hours during the video shoot in Nashville, Lyons said.

"It's worth it, definitely, but it's frustrating," Lyons said.

During the summer, Lyons works at the Mammoth Cave National Park visitors' center answering questions for tourists.

Lyons uses the job to develop her acting skills. She observes visitors to adopt different accents, moods and behaviors.

She said she likes the visitors' center, but wants to move to Los Angeles after graduation to further her acting career. Lyons also wants to get her graduate degree in film at the University of Southern California.

Being an actress at Western has taught Lyons how to work on a team and how to stand on her own.

What she hasn't learned yet is how to properly cry on stage.

"It takes me forever to get going and takes me forever to stop," Lyons said.

Reach Amber Coulter
at news@wkuherald.com.

TUITION: Lower student fees used as incentives

Continued from front page

Council members will decide exceptions for the 2006-07 academic year on WebSesday, said Sandra Woodley, CPE vice president of finance. Members will vote on proposed exceptions for the next academic year in the fall.

Exceptions must have a specific purpose and affect a narrow range of people, Woodley said.

The lower international student fee would encourage diversity by making Western more affordable and attractive across international borders, Randall

said. A document sent to CPE from Western said the exception should impact 166 students.

A lower rate in the border counties' fee is part of a tuition incentive program to draw students from surrounding areas, he said. The exception should impact 912 students.

Some of the Tennessee counties are Clay, Cheatham, Davidson, Dickson, Houston, Jackson, Macon, Maury, Pickett, Rutherford and Wilson.

The Indiana counties are Clark, Dubois, Floyd, Gibson, Jefferson, Marion, Perry, Pike,

Posey, Scott, and Vanderburgh.

Keeping the fee low for six cities would mean that recruiters can better appeal to students from large, urban areas, Randall said. The decrease should affect 225 students.

The cities included are Memphis, Tenn.; Indianapolis, St. Louis, Tallapoosa, Fla.; Atlanta and Cincinnati/Dayton.

CPE sets maximum and minimum tuition and mandatory fee rates for universities, and administrators may design their own and fees in any way that conforms to the design, Woodley said.

Woodley said she can't predict whether the council will accept Western's fee changes.

Regents will have to vote on the exceptions if CPE members approve them, said Cornelius Martin, Board of Regents chair.

Board members will likely vote on the issue during their April 7 meeting, Martin said.

Regents will have to vote to change Western's exceptions policy if CPE officials don't approve the exemptions, Randall said.

Reach Amber Coulter
at news@wkuherald.com.

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SGA: Senator protesting dismissal

CONTINUED FROM FRONT PAGE

executive vice president and administrative vice president must have at least one year of experience in SGA as an appointed or elected official.

McCubbins was removed from his post as senator during the fall 2005 semester because he missed more than three meetings.

McCubbins said the meeting should have been excused because he was out of town for events like Spirit Master assignments and conferences. He said he kept up with minutes of the meetings during his absence.

Though he was removed from his post as a senator, McCubbins continues to serve as a student government representative to the University Senate.

McCubbins was appointed to the position in spring 2005 by then SGA President Paris Johnson. Current President Katie Dawson reappointed him this fall.

Dawson said student members of the University Senate do not have to be members of SGA. Missing meetings has not impacted his knowledge of SGA procedure, he said.

McCubbins said he became a senator a few weeks after the beginning of the spring 2005 semester and served during the fall 2005 semester.

McCubbins said he was granted an exemption to run on March 14 when he received a call from Chief Justice Chris Whitfield. Whitfield could not be reached for comment.

He met with justices on March 16 and learned the exemption had been challenged, McCubbins said.

BSU: Rayners still on team

CONTINUED FROM FRONT PAGE

BSU. Johnson said the group forgave Rayners but declined further comment.

Track coach Curtiss Long declined to comment on disciplinary action the team has taken against Rayners, but said he is still part of the team.

"We were certainly not happy with the situation," Long said. "We are happy the Baptist Student Union is working with

Ratliff and Watkins filed a joint challenge because of concerns with the constitutionality of McCubbins' candidacy.

Ratliff and Watkins said they were worried about McCubbins not having enough experience in SGA to perform the duties of president and not being devoted to attending meetings.

"You need a lot of experience to run for office," Ratliff said. SGA Justice Matt Holland said any decision to give an exemption was hearsay because paperwork was not done until Thursday night when the exemption was denied.

One year is the bare minimum of service that should be expected of a presidential candidate, Watkins said. That experience helps a candidate to learn how the SGA works and how to be a student advocate, he said.

Because SGA does not operate like a normal government, but instead like a student lobbying group, experience is needed in leaders, Watkins said.

"You've gotta be there to get a sense of your role," he said. The experience was embarrassing because he had already planned his campaign and started talking to organizations about his candidacy, McCubbins said.

"I've been thrown in circles this whole time," McCubbins said. McCubbins said he has enough experience to be president because he has continued to attend meetings even after he was removed from his senate position.

him, and really, there is nothing else to say."

The case was cleared by arrest, according to the report. This means the offense is solved for crime reporting purposes, according to the FBI Web site.

Herald reporter Beth Withering contributed to this story. Reach the reporters at news@wkuherald.com.

Becoming president of SGA has been something McCubbins has wanted to achieve, he said. "It was a four-year goal that I had really worked for," McCubbins said. "I enjoy a challenge and like to compete. The more people who run, the better."

Elections for executive offices and senate seats have been postponed until April 11 and 12. The dates for SGA elections were previously set for April 4 and 5.

The reason for the postponement was uncertainty about whether a primary election would be necessary while the decision about McCubbins' candidacy was pending, said SGA Executive Vice President Mason Stevenson.

Reach Katie Brandenburg at news@wkuherald.com.

Student government

Spring elections postponed

By KATIE BRANDENBURG Herald reporter

Candidates in the Student Government Association spring elections will have a little more time to plan their campaigns.

SGA spring elections, which were previously set for April 4 and 5, have been postponed to April 11 and 12.

The dates were changed because there was uncertainty about whether there would be a primary election before the regular elections, Executive Vice President Mason Stevenson said.

If primary elections had taken place, candidates would not have had enough time to campaign effectively, Stevenson said. The elections must take place a week before regular elections, he said.

On March 16, the judicial

council ruled that presidential candidate Josh McCubbins wasn't eligible to run because he hadn't been a member of SGA for the required one-year period. This means a primary election isn't necessary.

The election codes were amended at the SGA senate meeting on Tuesday to make the changes clearer, Stevenson said. Changes in elections might cause initial confusion, but overall will bring more visibility to the elections, Stevenson said.

"Because of this, students can see that we're trying to follow the book and be right about it," Stevenson said.

Candidates for administrative vice president plan to use the extra campaign time to their advantage. Antasha Allen, a junior from Goodlettsville, Tenn., said the

time will allow her to reach more people than she might have otherwise as she campaigns for administrative vice president.

But she's concerned the people she has already spoken to will forget about the elections, and might not know when to vote, she said. Taylorville junior Lindsey Lilly, who is also running for administrative vice president, doesn't think students will be turned off by any controversy or changes in the elections.


"This is how an electoral process works," Lilly said. Debates for candidates will take place on April 3 during the SGA's 40th anniversary celebration. They will take place at 7 p.m. on DUC South Lawn.

Reach Katie Brandenburg at news@wkuherald.com.

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Men's basketball

Promising season ends on loss

BY JASON STAMM
Herald reporter

Heading into the Sun Belt Conference Tournament with a No. 1 seed and regular season championship, it looked as if Western would cruise to the NCAA Tournament.

Western clinched the East Division title with a 26-point victory over North Texas in Diddle Arena.

The Toppers sailed through the quarterfinals and semifinals with wins over New Orleans and Louisiana-Lafayette March 5 and 6.

Then disaster struck. Sophomore guard Courtney Lee had injured his left hand in practice before the tournament, but that didn't seem to affect him during the Toppers' first two tournament wins.

Lee was feeling the effects in the championship game, however, as Western was trounced by South Alabama 95-70.

A first-team all-conference selection, Lee finished with just ten points. Lee was fourth in the conference with 47.4 points per game.

Afterwards, it was revealed that Lee had fractured his left hand.

Coach Darrin Horn said Lee is making progress along with freshman guard Orlando Mendez-Valdez. Both players will be ready to go next season.

Mendez-Valdez missed the Toppers' final six games with a fractured left foot.

"Courtney's doing great," Horn said. "Orlando's good and the best case scenario was everybody was going to be moving forward, no problems."

Along with Lee, senior guard Anthony Winchester also picked up postseason accolades.

Winchester was named the conference's player of the year as well as a first-team all-conference selection with Lee.

Winchester was also recognized as an honorable mention All-America by the Associated Press.

After being passed over for the NCAA Tournament, the Toppers were downed in the National Invitation Tournament by defending NIT champion South Carolina 74-55 March 15.

Winchester said after the game that he was disappointed to end his career with two losses but that the season was a success.

"I think we had a great year," he said. "We had 23 wins. We dominated our league. Just because we ended the year with two losses, that doesn't take anything away from what we did the whole year."

Attendance at Diddle Arena was also on the rise this season.

The Toppers averaged 5,731 tickets

per game, the most since an average of 6,433 filled Diddle Arena during the 2001-02 season.

Wilborn to compete in Final Four Dunk Contest

While his collegiate playing career may be over, senior center Elgrace Wilborn will still get one more chance to display his ability.

Wilborn will be one of eight seniors competing in the College Basketball Slam Dunk and 3-point Shooting Championships at 6 tonight at Butler University in Indianapolis. The contest will be shown on ESPN two hours later.

Horn said Wilborn will be representing Western by wearing the black jersey the Toppers have worn to honor the late Danny Kumpf.

Rumph, who collapsed and died May 7, 2005, from cardiomyopathy, a heart condition, would have been a senior this season.

"I think it's great for Elgrace to showcase his athleticism and great for our program to get that type of exposure," Horn said. "They told him to bring his uniform, and he chose to wear the black one. I thought it was a really neat gesture on his part."

Reach Jason Stamm
at sports@wkuherald.com.

WNIT: Kelly leads all scorers with 19

CONTINUED FROM PAGE 10A

Tiffany Zaragoza failed to get a shot off on the Lady Toppers' final possession before time expired.

"It was just a situation where we didn't get ourselves a shot," Cowles said. "There's really no explanation for it."

Despite the inability for Western to capitalize on Brown's heroics, the freshman finished the night with a career-high eight points, including 2-of-4 from three-point range.

Entering the game, Brown had scored just 13 points all season.

"It seems like every shot she makes is a big one for us," said sophomore forward Crystal Kelly, who led all scorers with 19 points. "She did what she had to do when we needed her."

Cowgins led the Wildcats with 16 points, followed by freshman center

JoAnn Hamlin's 15 points on 7-of-11 shooting.

The 6-foot-3 Hamlin battled with Kelly all game.

"It was physical down in the paint," Hamlin said. "Crystal Kelly is a pretty big girl, so sometimes you just have to push back a little."

Zaragoza's nine points and Shouse's eight points and four blocks supported Kelly, who was the only Lady Topper to score in double figures.

The Louisville native wrapped up her sophomore campaign with a career total of 1,266 points, easily on track to break all-time leading scorer Lily Masmy's record of 2,262, who played from 1982-86.

Kelly was a vital part of a team that garnered the most wins since the 1994-95 Lady Toppers, who went 28-4 and

advanced to the Sweet Sixteen of the NCAA Tournament.

"This is the longest we've been playing since I've been here," Cowles said. "Our young ladies laid it out on the line."

Shouse said Cowles congratulated the team on a successful season, even though the WNIT wasn't where they wanted to be in the first place.

After being denied an at-large berth in the NCAA Tournament on March 13, Western won three WNIT games to reach the semifinals.

"We feel good as a team," Shouse said. "Even though we should have been in the NCAA. We fought it out here in the WNIT."

Reach Jake Mitchell
at sports@wkuherald.com.

Football

Titans may visit the Hill

BY JASON STAMM
Herald reporter

Western may soon get a taste of professional football.

The National Football League's Tennessee Titans are considering Western among a list of other area sites to host all or part of their summer training camp.

Austin Peay State University in Clarksville, Tenn., is another candidate for the camp. The (Clarksville) Leaf-Chronicle reported March 24.

Athletic Director Wood Selig said the Titans indicated they would like to conduct two weeks of their training camp off their regular Baptist Sports Park site in Nashville.

The Titans begin camp in July. "We're in the information gathering phase," Robbie Bohren, Titans director of media relations, said. "We're looking to stay close to Nashville, but we're looking at different options such as cost."

Selig also said Titans officials have asked Western to submit a proposal, and the club has looked at the school's weight room, facilities, residence halls, campus restaurants and meeting spaces.

The Titans are also looking at as many as 12 locations in and around Nashville, Selig said.

"It's hard to say what we're up against, but we'll do everything we can to bring the Titans to Western," he said. Coach David Elson said not only would Western's football program benefit, but the new influx of people to campus would help the university.

"We'd definitely get a first hand look at how it's done at the professional level," he said. "It would be a great opportunity to show what a first-class place this is and expose the university to a different group of people."

Selig said he sees Western and south central Kentucky as an important market for the Titans.

"The neat factor for Western would be off the charts," he said. "It would really send a bolt of energy throughout campus in an otherwise low key time period."

Selig said the decision will come within the next month, and possibly as early as the first week of April.

Reach Jason Stamm
at sports@wkuherald.com.

DRILLS: New assistant hired

CONTINUED FROM PAGE 10A

AA weekly poll, but finished last season a disappointing 6-5, dropping their last four games.

It was the first season since 1999 that the Toppers didn't make the postseason.

Elson said spring football gives the Toppers a chance to develop as football players on and off the field.

"Most importantly, it's going back to the basics and re-teaching the fundamentals as if no one has played a down of football here," he said. "It helps really evaluate your system and how you do things."

Western has also added new members to its coaching staff.

The Toppers signed Andy Richman as tight ends coach, replacing Eric Ravellite, who will take over as recruiting coordinator at Southeast Missouri State.

David Elson has definitely added to the quality and depth of his staff with Coach Richman. Athletic

Director Wood Selig said. "I really feel it's a win-win situation."

Elson said spring practice is very similar to practice during the regular season in what the team works on.

"The only big difference is that you don't have a game coming up," he said. "We always (have) some kind of competition drill and then we just get into group work, full team, and put in situations."

Elson also said he hopes to see improvement on both sides of the ball.

"Offensively, we want to look at getting the ball to the outside with our run game and make more big plays in the passing game and protect the passer," he said. "Defensively, we need to get a better pass rush, get better fundamentally in defending the quick passing games."

The Toppers will have their first team scrimmage April 8.

Reach Jason Stamm
at sports@wkuherald.com.



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Baseball

Towns to take bat for Otters

BY DAVID HARTEN Herald reporter
Western baseball can now add another player to its list of former players playing professionally.
Antone Towns, a Hilltopper right fielder from 2001-2005, was signed by the Evansville Otters of the Frontier League last week.
'It was a great feeling because I wanted to get on the next level,' Towns said. 'And when you pursue a dream, you can't ask for much more than that.'
Towns said the opportunity to try out for the Otters came after receiving a phone call from Evansville pitching coach Jeff Pohl on March 19.
Towns signed a contract for the Frontier League maximum of one year.
The Louisville native and DuPont Manual High School product was a four-year starter for Western.
Towns played in 216 games, posting a .299 batting average,

18 home runs and 142 RBIs in his career.
As a freshman, Towns was selected as an honorable mention freshman All-American by Collegiate Baseball.
'Antone is a great kid,' coach Chris Finwood said. 'He can hit. He can run, so he's got a chance. At that level, it's all about how much you hit.'
Towns' father, former Hilltopper football player Tony Towns, said he is glad his son is playing professionally, and feels he should be there.
'The Otters have had 38 players sign to major league contracts since the organization began in 1995.
Towns' sister, Alana, is a junior on Western's softball team.
'I was happy, but I wasn't all surprised,' she said. 'He has the talent and he should play profes-

sionally. It's just a blessing that it came this way.
The Frontier League is an independent baseball league that began play in 1993.
The Otters will open their season on May 24 at the Florence (Ky.) Freedom.
Matt Willicie pitches inning in exhibition game
Former Topper relief pitcher, Matt Willicie (2000-2003), pitched in the ninth inning of an exhibition game for the Los Angeles Angels against the Kansas City Royals last Friday.
He struck out one batter, and he gave up one hit, but no runs. As a senior, he was the first relief pitcher to be named Sun Belt Conference pitcher of the year.
He was drafted by the Angels in 2003.
Reach David Harten at sports@wkuherald.com.

OVER: Tops travel to Little Rock

CONTINUED FROM PAGE 10A
The game began with the Commodores taking a 1-0 lead in the second inning. After making it 2-0 in the top of the fourth, Western took the lead thanks to a four-run inning that gave them a 4-2 lead in the bottom of the fourth.
Rider made his season debut after coming back from a bout of mononucleosis earlier this season. Rider went 2-2 innings, giving up only one hit and striking out one in the process.
Freshman pitcher Evan Teague went three innings and giving up one run on one hit. He struck out three.
'He started throwing really well,' Teague said. 'Our defense played well behind us. We got (Vanderbilt) to fly out and ground out. We had good sticks on offense, and we went out and played good team baseball.'
The game was the Topper's first since the end of spring break.
Western extended its winning streak to eight games during the break by defeating Akron twice, Wisconsin-

Milwaukee and Morehead State.
It was the Topper's longest streak since reeling off 11 straight wins from May 9-23, 2003.
Western also opened play in the Sun Belt Conference, hosting a weekend series against New Orleans March 24-26.
The Privaters ended Weiten's winning streak by taking the first two games of the weekend, 14-5 and 16-0.
Western was able to get a 13-3 victory in the third and final game to avoid the sweep.
Senior second baseman Matt Ransdell said the team has great will due to great play on the

ground and players coming up big in certain situations.
'We needed to be consistent during the winning streak, and we had it all together,' Ransdell said. 'Then we lost the two games to New Orleans and nothing was going right. We have to stay focused and consistent.'
Western travels to Arkansas-Little Rock this weekend for a three-game series against the Trojans. They play at 6:30 p.m. Friday, 2 p.m. Saturday and 1 p.m. Sunday.
Reach David Harten at sports@wkuherald.com.

Softball

Western has successful road trip over break

BY ABELY SHULL Herald reporter
The Lady Toppers hit the field for a week of nothing but softball last week, collecting four wins in seven games.
Western (19-15) spent the week working on things that would better their chances at winning ball games, sophomore first baseman Shelby Smith said.
With time off from the distractions of school, the Lady Toppers were able to eat, live and breathe softball, Smith said.
'We worked a lot on hitting, she said. 'And we did a lot of defensive-type situations that we have seen other teams do well.'
The Lady Toppers headed into the Indiana University Classic, where they faced off against the host Hoosiers in the first game.

The Hoosiers (13-11-1) edged the Lady Toppers 2-1 last Friday, giving freshman pitcher Jennifer Kempf her second loss of the season from the circle.
The Lady Toppers split two games in day two of the classic, dropping a 5-1 decision to Michigan State (18-10), but beating Indiana in a close rematch 4-3 on Saturday.
The Hoosiers lost a 3-0 lead in the fourth when the Lady Toppers started a rally at the plate, scoring three runs on three hits.
Western added a run in the fifth off senior shortstop Bailey Rolfs' double that scored senior outfielder Renikka Toliver from second base.
Senior pitcher Adrienne Lutrop would collect the win from the mound, fanning four

Hoosier batters. She did not give up a walk through seven innings.
The Lady Toppers swept the third day of the IU Classic, shutting down Wright State (0-20-2-0) and beating Michigan State 4-2 on Sunday.
Having several players step up throughout the classic helped the Lady Toppers finish the weekend on a positive note, junior outfielder Alana Towns said.
'The end of our line-up is starting to step up and hit, which helps us win ball games,' Towns said. 'Different girls were stepping up in different situations with a big hit or big plays which kept the intensity high.'
Western also played Lipscomb on March 18, and split the double header.
Kempf picked up her sixth win of the season, downing

Lipscomb (9-17) in the second game of the double header 3-0.
Western dropped the first decision to their first decision to the Bisons 5-1.
Coach Rachel Lawson was pleased with the way the Lady Toppers kept their composure from the first game to the second and getting the win, Kempf said.
Messages were left for Lawson, but she could not be reached.
Western plays Kentucky on Wednesday in Lexington for a double header.
The Lady Toppers open conference play at home in a double header at 1 p.m. on April 8 against Middle Tennessee State.
Reach Abbey Shull at sports@wkuherald.com.

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Notable

The Lady Toppers played their only overtime game of the season in Tuesday night's one-point loss at Kansas State. They were without senior guard Tiffany Porter-Talbert, who was suspended.

SPORTS

College Heights Herald • Western Kentucky University • Thursday, March 30, 2006 • Page 10A

Contacts

Sports Editor Beth Wilberding: sports@wkaherald.com
Photo Editor Jesse Osborne: photo@wkaherald.com

Kansas State 57 Western 56 (OT)

WNIT Semifinals

Lady Tops falter in Little Apple

Porter-Talbert suspended for final game

BY JAKE MITCHELL
Herald reporter

MANHATTAN, Kan. — Playing in unfamiliar territory, the Lady Toppers got exposed.

After failing to get a winning shot off in regulation, the Lady Toppers missed a chance to tie the game in overtime against Kansas State.

They fell to the Wildcats 57-56 Tuesday night in the semifinals of the Women's National Invitation Tournament in Bramlage Coliseum.

Down by three in overtime with six seconds on the clock, senior guard Ashley Butler took the ball down court for the Lady Toppers.

When everyone anticipated a three-point attempt, Butler cut to the basket.

She missed a lay-up, but junior center Sarah Shouse followed with a put-back to bring Western (27-7) within one.

The only problem was that there was less than a second left.

Butler thought the Lady Toppers were down by two, coach Mary Taylor Cowles said.

"At the end, all but one young lady knew we were down by three," she said. "The miscommunication there led to a lot of frustration."

The Lady Toppers dressed only nine players, and were without senior guard Tiffany Porter-Talbert.

Porter-Talbert, who averaged 16 points, missed her last collegiate game after being suspended for violating team rules. Freshman forward Taylor Koppke was also suspended, and neither made the trip with the team.

Porter-Talbert declined comment, and Cowles refused to elaborate on the nature of the suspension.

"It's frustrating and disappointing that she wasn't with us," Cowles said.

Problems plagued Western all night. It was the first overtime game Western had played all season, but it was the Wildcats' fifth.

"I think that the environment here going into overtime, and during the game, was very much in our favor," Kansas State coach Delt Patterson said. "I thought both teams really brought it."



(Above) Junior center Sarah Shouse (left) and sophomore forward Crystal Kelly pause momentarily during the post game press conference. Western lost to Kansas State 57-56 in overtime in the semifinals of the WNIT. (Below) Junior guard Tiffany Zaragoza attempts to call time out while battling for a rebound with Kansas State's Marlies Gipson.

Patrick Smith/Herald

The crowd of 7,538 fans in Bramlage Coliseum was the largest Western had seen all season.

The loss in the Lady Toppers' first-ever WNIT semifinal appearance ended their season. The Wildcats (23-10) move on to the WNIT finals tomorrow against Marquette.

Western had to fight from behind during the entire second half, and committed a season-high 28 turnovers for the game. Despite the sometimes sloppy play, the Lady Toppers found themselves in a position to win.

Trailing by three with 28 seconds to play, freshman guard Brienne Brown connected on a three-pointer from the top of the key to tie the game at 53.

It was the shot that forced overtime.

Kansas State junior guard Claire Coggins missed two foul shots on the ensuing possession, but junior guard



SEE WNIT, PAGE 8A

Baseball

Fourth inning rally leads to win

BY DAVID HARTEN
Herald reporter

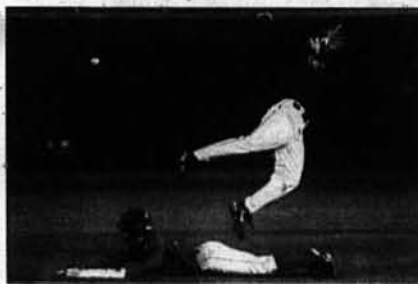
It's just something about those Southeastern Conference teams that bring out the best in the Toppers.

Western took advantage of a pitching breakdown and picked up a 6-4 victory against Vanderbilt at Drees Field Tuesday night.

"I've got nothing but respect for (Vanderbilt), Coach (Tim) Corbin and his staff," coach Chris Finwood said. "That's an outstanding baseball club over there that we beat tonight. I thought our guys played very well, and having (senior pitcher) Bryan Rider back, obviously it was big to have a guy like that you can throw at the end of games."

The win was the Toppers' (12-7, 1-2 Sun Belt Conference) second straight and 10th in their last 13 games. They also picked up their second victory over an SEC team this season. Western won 7-6 at Kentucky March 7.

The Toppers' victory stopped a five-game win streak for the Commodores (17-8, 5-1 Southeastern Conference).



Nick Adams/Herald

Junior catcher Jordan Newton slides into second base under a Vanderbilt player. Western won 6-4, improving to 12-7 this season. The Toppers play next at Arkansas Little Rock this weekend. They play at 6 p.m. tomorrow, 2 p.m. Saturday and 1 p.m. Sunday.

SEE OVER, PAGE 8A

Football

Spring drills open Saturday

BY JARON STAMM
Herald reporter

Flowers are blooming, the air is warming up and grown men are hitting each other.

With pads on, that is.

Western will kick off its spring football practice schedule at 1:30 p.m. Saturday at Smith Stadium.

While many schools are already underway with their practices, coach David Elson said the late start has given the Toppers coaching staff the chance to get more accom-

plished before the spring workouts begin.

"We just wanted to get a good solid eight weeks of lifting and running in and give our guys a good chance to rest," he said.

"We could've started earlier, but we wanted to be able to take our time! It gives us a chance to sink our teeth into last year's film."

Western was ranked No. 1 three different weeks in the Sports Network's Division I.

SEE DRILLS, PAGE 8A

Spring Break Continued...

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Notable

• The exhibit will feature 28 photos of staff members taken by the photojournalism department. The idea originally belonged to President Gary Ransdell.

diversions

College Heights Herald • Western Kentucky University • Thursday, March 30, 2006 • Page 1B

Contacts

Diversions Editor Lisa Ross:
features@wkuherald.com
Assistant Photo Editor Josh Armstrong:
photo@wkuherald.com

Overlooked

The photojournalism department will open an exhibit honoring campus' often-forgotten contributors These are their stories



Photo by Miriam Craft

Greg Lake, 60, of Metcalfe County, has worked in Western's electronics department for almost 20 years. Lake's work ranges from fixing fire alarms to overseeing score board operations at sporting events. "There's never a dull moment around here," Lake said. "You can say that for a fact."

"Why Western Works" opens at 9 a.m. tomorrow in Mass Media and Technology Hall



Jesse Osbourne/Herald

Tommy Price has worked on the Hill since 1964.

Painter in 42nd year beautifying campus

BY MACKENZIE ERD
Herald reporter

Western has had many employees come and go throughout the last 100 years, but only one can own the title of longest-tenured worker.

Tommy Price, the supervisor of painting and decoration, has been making Western's buildings beautiful since March 1964. He started out refinishing furniture such as chairs and desks, but his painting talents were soon discovered.

Tony Glisson, the director of Human

Resources, added up the math and confirmed that Price has been here for 42 years now.

"There is no question he has been the longest-employed person at Western," Glisson said.

Ironically, Price said he had no idea he has been here longer than anyone else.

"Western is just a good place to work," Price said. "There's really good people here and that helps you. Also, when you like what you do, you stick with it and want to do a great job."

SEE PAINTER PAGE 8B



Nathan Morgan/Herald

Herb Hess has been an electrician in Diddle Arena for almost four years.

Electrician utilizes chance at free classes

BY SAMANTHA HUPMAN
Herald reporter

An empty Diddle Arena surrounded Herb Hess as he took a break from his work. Hess, an electrician who works for Western's facilities management office, had been installing motion sensors for the lights in the restrooms in Diddle.

The noisy, high-energy atmosphere that most people associate with the stadium was absent that day. Hess said he usually does a lot of his work when students aren't around.

"The times when there's the least

amount of students here is when we're busiest," he said.

Installing motion sensors in the restrooms at Diddle and the auxiliary gyms is part of an energy conservation plan to save Western money in electricity bills, Hess said.

Hess has worked at Western for about four years. His sister informed him of the job opening at Western around the time he thought he was getting laid off from his previous job. He commuted to Bowling Green from Tompkinsville each day.

SEE ELECTRICIAN PAGE 8B

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Column

Our generation not apathetic

right to do so is guaranteed by the U.S. Constitution, as long as you do it peacefully.

And freedom of assembly is at the top of the list, so it must be important.

Many people claim this generation of college students is apathetic to issues facing the nation.

How could this have happened?

It doesn't make sense because many of our parents were those same students who protested the American involvement in Vietnam. Surely they didn't forget to pass the torch on to us.

Could it possibly be that the critics are giving us a bad rap?

I have heard experts compare the war in Iraq to the war in Vietnam, but I don't think they are on the same level as far as public impact.

The American death toll in Vietnam has been estimated at near 59,000, and the media, for

the first time was able to bring that bloody reality into homes all across America on a nightly basis.

Of course people were outraged.

This generation has become somewhat desensitized to violence because it is played all over the media. I'm not saying that we value American life any less than our parents did, but the impact just isn't the same as it was in the '60s.

To many, the war in Iraq is "over there" and not at home.

Some of that feeling is because of restricted media access. And that topic could be another column in itself.

Today's young adults have not seen that one life-changing event that brings a generation together.

Our grandparents survived the Great Depression. Our parents made it through Vietnam.

We got an eye-opener on Sept. 11, 2001, but it still wasn't

on the same level as those events.

When our time comes, we will know it and take part.

For now, we choose our battles and make small stands on a variety of issues.

Students across the country, even some in high schools, are currently protesting the proposed anti-immigration laws. And there's no doubt that some Western students will attend this Sunday's rally against the proposed laws.

That's not so bad for a generation that's supposedly apathetic.

Lisa Rossi is a senior news/editorial journalism and advertising double major from Highland, Ind.

The views and opinions expressed in this column do not reflect those of the Herald or of the university.

Reach Lisa Rossi at features@wkuherald.com

BLACK LINE

MUSINGS

Lisa Rossi

There's a lesson to be learned from those long-haired, guitar-playing, peace sign-flashing, hippie college students of the 1960s.

When many people come together for a common cause, they can foster change. The result may not be exactly what they had hoped for, but at least they're showing they care about SOMETHING.

If you wholeheartedly believe an authority acts unjustly, you can protest the act. Your

Campus life

Student group creates Taiwanese paper

BY NINA BOSKEN
Herald reporter

A group of international students now has the luxury of a newspaper in its own language.

The Taiwanese Student Association has started an online newspaper called The Taiwanese e-Newspaper this semester.

The paper, which is written in Taiwanese, is e-mailed as an attachment to each student and consists of about seven to eight pages, said Joanne Wu, a graduate student from Taipei, Taiwan, and the president of the group.

"A lot of times we don't know the big things that are going on at Western," Su said. "We use our e-mail often so it's

a good way to give students information."

The paper is sent out every two weeks. There are about 70 Taiwanese students at Western, said Robin Borzom, director of international programs.

"We want to have a newspaper for others to know what is important and to get to know each other."

"We want to have a newspaper for other to know what is important and to get to know each other," Wu said.

The paper is full of color and vibrant pictures, and includes features on Taiwanese students, news, and TSA and campus activities.

It also has a section where students can send one another messages.

Another section helps students in selling items such as TVs, microwaves or a car.

"My favorite part is the section where we sell stuff students don't need," said Megan Su, a graduate student from Kaohsiung, Taiwan, and one of the editors. "When new students come to America and need things, they can buy them from a student and make a new friend."

— Joanne Wu
Graduate student

Any Taiwanese student can write an article for the Taiwanese e-Newspaper, said Molly Chen, a graduate student from Tainan, Taiwan, and one of the editors of the paper. Students who want to write should e-mail the article to the Taiwanese Student Association.

There are two new editors for every edition, and there have been six so far, Chen said.

The students are still working to find more important information for the newspaper, Su said. Su said she hopes more students will want to write articles for future editions.

Reach Nina Bosken at news@wkuherald.com

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Campus life

Students compete for cash

By **HAULIE LAUN**
Herald reporter

All the audience has to do is enjoy the performance. The louder they clap, the better the chance a performer has of winning a \$300 cash prize.

The Black Student Alliance is hosting the fourth annual "Showtime at the Apollo" talent competition at 7 p.m. Saturday in DUC Theater. The audience chooses the winner during the show.

Admission is \$3.

Contestants could get booted off the stage if the audience does not enjoy the performance. Louisville senior Terrance Harris said.

Event organizers gave participants a fact sheet that explains the premise of the show. Harris said they are told there is a chance they might get booted, but it is not intended to hurt their feelings.

Students auditioned to perform in the show. "We're not going to let anyone make a fool out of themselves," Harris said.

There are going to be 10 acts in the competition, but there is a possibility of more, said Jamilia McKinney, a Radcliff junior and BSA-

vice president.

The show, which will mostly feature singers and dancers, is popular with students because they can have fun in a good atmosphere, McKinney said.

"Hopefully, everyone will come to have a good time and recognize their students' talents," said Faith Hood, a Frankfort senior and BSA president. BSA members are also collecting canned goods at the door to donate to a community organization, Hood said.

The show is being funded with money the BSA earned from a fashion show in the DUC Theater on March 16. They raised about \$420, Hood said.

The fashion show, "Rip Da Runway," was a way to recognize students with an individual style, said Harris, who was one of the coordinators of the event and a model.

This was the first year for the fashion show, and Hood says it will be bigger and better next year.

Reach **Suzie Laun**
at news@wkaherald.com.

Campus life

Students soak up charity rays while helping Katrina victims

By **MEGAN VENZIN**
Herald reporter

Maria Sorrell wishes her spring break had been longer.

The Hopkinsville sophomore spent last week volunteering her time at God's Katrina Kitchen, a facility that provides free meals in Pass Christian, Miss.

Seven months after Hurricane Katrina's destruction, the kitchen continued to swear with victims in need of comfort and a warm meal.

Sorrell vividly remembered what it felt like to comfort a man who lost his entire family in the chaos of Hurricane Katrina.

"He held my hand with tears in his eyes and said 'Volunteers are my family now,'" Sorrell said. "The volunteers really do make a difference."

Soon after Katrina devastated Mississippi and Louisiana, Western's Campus Crusade for Christ decided to help in the relief efforts by sending a group of students to damaged areas during spring break. Eighty students left Bowling Green on March 19 and returned on March 23.

As they neared their Gulf Coast destination, many of the student volunteers stared in stunned silence at the destruction outside their car windows.

Pass Christian is located about 100 miles east of New Orleans.

Lexington sophomore Emily Marshall canceled her plans to go to Panama City, Fla., and decided to help hurricane victims instead.

Marshall helped build sheds for victims who have been living in Federal Emergency Medical Association trailers.

She said she was surprised by the intensity of the damage and thought Mississippi looked like a war zone with its leveled homes and uprooted trees.

"It's seven months later and it still looks like it happened yesterday," Marshall said. "I was speechless, and I've never really been like that before."

The CRU groups from many of the nation's colleges arrived to offer relief to victims one week after FEMA left.

Marshall said the locals were very appreciative of the student volunteers who sacrificed their spring breaks to help clear debris and rebuild homes.

"The people are so lonely and so scared," Marshall said. "It was just a big deal to sit and talk to them."

Sorrell said she wanted to go and help the moment she heard the hurricane had hit. She said interacting with the victims made her realize she had

no room to complain about her circuvient living quarters and accommodations.

Daniel Hassell, a sophomore from Goodlettsville, Tenn., said he was challenged by his duties on the trip.

He had to arrive at God's Katrina Kitchen at 4:30 a.m. to serve breakfast on time.

Hassell and other volunteers scrambled nearly 100 dozen eggs. He helped feed more than 1,200 people by lunch time.

"Since the media had 'I covering it nearly as much, I had the mind set that it was going to be better," Hassell said. "It's not as OK down there as everyone thinks, and it's frustrating that people are beginning to forget about it."

Hassell said he was amazed by how many people had stayed in the city during the storm. He said that it was pleasing to know so many people have put up trailers where their homes used to be with hope that the city will be rebuilt.

Even though it was difficult for Hassell to see the difference his help made, he said he felt humbled by the experience and would like to go back.

Reach **Megan Venzin**
at features@wkaherald.com.

What's your story?

Dream becomes reality for student despite tribulations

By **SAMANTHA HUPMAN**
Herald reporter

Helping medical patients is something Pat Parnell-Grissom has wanted to do since she volunteered at a hospital at age 13.

"I thought it was the most important job in the world," she said.

Parnell-Grissom, a resident of Green County, is working toward that goal at Western's Glasgow Campus. She is getting her degree to become a registered nurse.

Although becoming a nurse has been her lifelong dream, it has taken her a while to achieve it. Parnell-Grissom moved to Green County around 1990, she said.

After a divorce, she left Indiana with her then 11-year-old son Dan.

Her father's family lived in the area, she said. She worked as a nurse's aid and held some odd jobs. Her aspiration of furthering her nursing education was put on hold to support her son, she said.

"I concentrated mainly on getting him raised," she said. Because of their trying times together, she and her son have a close relationship, Parnell-Grissom said. She encouraged him to go to college, and with the help of financial aid, her son attended school at Western's main campus.

In 1999, Parnell-Grissom became a licensed practical nurse by taking vocational school courses. But she still aspired to get a degree in nursing.

A short time before her death, Parnell-Grissom became a licensed practical nurse by taking vocational school courses. But she still aspired to get a degree in nursing.

"I think what impresses me most is she wants to know why she's doing something, not just how to do something," Buss said.

Parnell-Grissom voluntarily switched her work schedule from a day shift to a night shift in order to go to school, she said.

Going to school during the day and working at night doesn't allow her much free time. There are days when she is up for 30 hours in a row.

"When you get tired and



Pat Parnell-Grissom

Parnell-Grissom said.

She began working toward her nursing degree after that. She juggles a full-time class schedule at the Glasgow campus with a full-time work schedule at T.J. Sampson Community Hospital in Glasgow.

Wanda Key, one of Parnell-Grissom's nursing instructors, said her maturity and previous nursing experiences set her apart from other students.

"She's really interested in learning," Key said. "She enjoys taking care of patients."

Barbara Buss, who works with Parnell-Grissom at T.J. Sampson, said she is very dedicated to her education.

"I think what impresses me most is she wants to know why she's doing something, not just how to do something," Buss said.

Parnell-Grissom voluntarily switched her work schedule from a day shift to a night shift in order to go to school, she said.

Going to school during the day and working at night doesn't allow her much free time. There are days when she is up for 30 hours in a row.

"I brings tears to my eyes, and that's the only thing that keeps me going," she said.

Reach **Samantha Hupman**
at features@wkaherald.com.

you think you can't do it anymore, you just take another step," she said. "Each step is another one closer to finishing."

When she does have free time, she likes to work out on her treadmill and tend to the roses which she keeps in her yard.

"I don't ever like to miss 'American Idol' when I'm home," she said.

Parnell-Grissom's son lives in Louisville, but the two still talk every day, she said. She enjoys going on trips to Cumberland or Barron River Lake with his family and spoiling her two young grandchildren.

After she graduates from Western, Parnell-Grissom said she plans to work as long as she can, and then teach in a nursing school or volunteer at a clinic.

Thoughts of graduating and achieving the goals she has worked so long toward are what drives her through her life, she said.

"I brings tears to my eyes, and that's the only thing that keeps me going," she said.

Reach **Samantha Hupman**
at features@wkaherald.com.

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Bowling Green

Rally to oppose possible immigrant laws

By SHAWNAYE HOPKINS
Herald reporter

To lawmakers, cries from local U.S. immigrants may be muffled by the protests of those in cities such as Los Angeles, Detroit and Chicago, where many have rallied against tougher immigration laws.

But Bowling Green voices are no less important, said Vanessa Arguello of Bowling Green, a native of Nicaragua and Hispanic ministries director at St. Joseph's Catholic Church on Church Avenue.

She and others have planned a demonstration for 2 p.m. Sunday in front of the Warren County Justice Center at 1001 Center St. to raise awareness of pending legislation in Washington, D.C., that could affect illegal immigrants.

"Some local religious leaders are expected to speak."

"This is not about any nationality in particular," Arguello said. "We're talking about human beings whose rights are going to be violated."

In Bowling Green, those human beings are small in number when com-

pared to those in large cities across the country where protests have erupted during the past week.

But many immigrants live here, and Arguello said the legal citizens, like herself, are paying close attention to what happens in the nation's capital.

She said they will remember who supported their cause during the next election.

In December, the U.S. House of Representatives passed a bill that would make it illegal for anyone, including religious leaders, to provide social services to illegal immigrants.

Arguello found this news outrageous. "They're not terrorists," she said. "They come to work. They do the jobs that the American people don't want."

The House bill would make it a crime to be in the United States illegally. It also called for enhanced border security, including a fence along one-third of the Mexican border.

U.S. Senate Majority Leader Bill Frist, R-Tenn., introduced legislation earlier this month that also called for some new border security measures. The bill would also make it a crime to employ an illegal immigrant.

They came the bill that some immigrants have regarded as a minor victory.

On Monday, a panel within the Senate Judiciary Committee passed a bill that would allow immigrants to take steps toward becoming citizens. The bill is still pending in that committee, according to the information office of the legislative resource center in Washington, D.C.

Sen. Mitch McConnell, R-Ky., in a written statement released Monday, said he hopes lawmakers can come to an agreement on a bill that secures borders and creates a reasonable guest worker program that doesn't reward illegal activity.

Arguello received a phone call Monday from Marty Deputy, executive director of the Bowling Green International Center on Kerion Street, who asked her to attend a meeting that night to plan the demonstration.

In three hours, the group divided up responsibilities such as distributing fliers and contacting police and media.

Deputy, who prefers to call Sunday's event a "prayer walk," said the purpose of the event is to help people figure out

confusing policies regarding immigration and bills in Washington.

"A lot of this is a matter of freedom," she said. "There was one (bill) that the House of Representatives passed that I would be a felon if I helped an undocumented person. Well, I just think that's my right if I want to help anybody."

House Judiciary Committee Chairman F. James Sensenbrenner Jr., R-Wis., sponsored the House bill. He said, in a December written statement, that those breaking the law should be held accountable.

"This legislation aims to prevent illegal immigration and re-establish respect for our immigration laws," he said.

Concerns about the House bill have also pervaded Western as some administrators would be forced to become wary of who they advise, said Robin Borczon, director of Western's International Services.

Some organizations may not be trained in checking immigration status, and statutes are not always clear, she said.

The House bill included a provision

that employers would be provided with a reliable method for determining whether potential employees are eligible for work.

Borczon said new laws would also affect students whose parents are undocumented workers.

"Then there's the part of being human," she said. "We're all a product of being immigrants at some point or another."

[Nashville senior Bonnie Newby has participated in planning Sunday's demonstration but can't attend because of a class trip.

She teaches English as a second language at the Bowling Green International Center and has encouraged her students to attend.

"There was a lot of energy at the meeting," she said. "A few young people were there, which I was glad to see."

Arguello said a peaceful demonstration is planned, and the group may walk to the federal building and square and return to the justice center.

Reach Shawnaye Hopkins at news@skuherald.com

Campus life

Panel focuses on gay families

By SUZIE LAUN
Herald reporter

Being raised by same-sex parents isn't how most students would describe growing up. But this isn't as uncommon as some would think.

The women's studies program is holding a panel discussion on gay families at 7:30 p.m. today in the Gerard Auditorium in Garrett Center.

The panel is composed of three people who have experience with the issue of gay families, said Lane Olmsted, director of the women's studies program and coordinator for the panel.

Two of the speakers, Glasgow librarian coordinator Katherine Pennavaria and graduate student Harry Goley, are parents raising their chil-

dren in same-sex homes. The other speaker, Darnell Johnson, is the organizational manager for the Fairness Campaign.

The Fairness Campaign is an organization dedicated to gaining equal rights for people regardless of sexual orientation, according to the campaign's Web site.

The issue of gay families is important for students to understand, because it is politically and personally relevant, Olmsted said.

"Unless you live in a bubble you're going to know somebody who's gay," Olmsted said.

In 2000, about 12.8 percent of unmarried-partner households were made up of same-sex partners, according to the U.S. Census Bureau Web site.

People need to have a forum where they can have frank, honest discussion about (it), Olmsted said.

Pennavaria said students who attend the panel will gain a sense of what she and other panel members deal with.

Pennavaria said she is interested in where the students will take the discussion, since students will have the opportunity to ask questions to members of the gay community who are willing to talk about the subject.

"I hope people will perhaps have an opportunity to think about things differently and put a human face on the issue," Olmsted said.

Reach Suzie Laun at news@skuherald.com.

Campus life

Speaker takes it to the next level

By JOEY LESLIE
Herald reporter

Lorenzo Suter attributes some of his success to a mysterious feeling he calls "umph." It's a feeling of motivation that makes him strive to achieve one goal after another.

The 2002 Western graduate told students about his keys to success during a motivational speech in the Downing University Center Tuesday night.

Suter, an Omega Psi Phi alumna, spoke about his struggle and success in overcoming adversity as part of Omega Week. During the week, members of the fraternity scheduled events to contribute to the community and keep the flow of the semester moving, said Brannon Holby, a graduate student from Baltimore and an Omega member.

"I want to motivate people my age to excel," Suter said during

his speech. "I want to see my African American people take it to another level."

Several students in the audience laughed along with Suter and took notes as he outlined the path to success. Suter said it is important to learn from past mistakes, have a willingness to ask others for help and set specific, measurable and attainable goals. He urged the audience to be confident but not complacent.

"Don't be content," he said. "Nothing is going to be handed to you."

Suter works as a traveling nurse practitioner and runs a business in Bowling Green. He autographed copies of his autobiography, "The Y-Youth Truth," at the event.

Louisville sophomore Jessica Sutherland said Suter's message gave her a wake up call.

"I realize I need to start trying

to do bigger and better things," she said. Sutherland said she will look beyond teaching and strive to be a principal or school administrator one day.

Holly said the event was a way to reach out to anyone willing to listen in hopes of sparking motivation in people starting to achieve.

"Everyone's not self-driven," Holly said. "Hearing it from a product of success helps you want to do better."

Suter said he will continue to strive for one goal after another and will not likely ever be content.

"Why can't you take it to another level," Suter said. "Get out of the illusion and get into the dream and make it happen for yourself!"

Reach Joey Leslie at features@skuherald.com.

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Campus life

Dining services awarded for diversity

BY AMBER COULTER
Herald reporter

Food courts on the Hill are often associated with golden fried chicken and chocolate milk, but Western's contractor is being recognized for something quite different.

ARAMARK, which provides dining services for Western, has been honored for consistently recruiting employees of various races.

Black Collegian magazine listed ARAMARK on its list of "Top Employers for the Class of 2006" in its March 14 issue. The list documents magazine employees' picks for the top 30 employers in the nation for college recruiting efforts. ARAMARK ranked 29th.

Black Collegian magazine provides career and self-development information to students and professionals who belong to a minority group.

ARAMARK officials reported to Black Collegian that about 200 new hires from last year found work through on-campus recruiting efforts.

Tiffany Sellers, director of college relations for ARAMARK's national office, said diversity is important in the workplace because it encourages creativity and better client representation.

ARAMARK officials use a "talentscope of initiatives" to promote diversity in the workplace, Sellers said. The initiatives include giving employees training in diversity sensitivity and encouraging them to join diversity-oriented professional organizations.

ARAMARK can only promote diversity in the form of multicultural hiring because interviewers can't ask certain ques-



Nathan Morgan/Herald

Tobarious Speed enjoys his first day with Susan Revell at Accents, a part of Fresh Food Company. With a family background in cooking, Speed is a part of ARAMARK's diverse employee family. The company was recently recognized for having a diverse workforce.

through on-campus recruiting efforts, how many campuses are targeted and the amount of commitment to achieving on-campus hiring goals.

At Western, ARAMARK employs about 300 people during the fall, about 225 or 250 people during the spring and about 100 people during the summer, Biggers said. The company employs about 240,000 people around the world.

President Gary Ransdell said he reviews data every month about hiring searches at Western to make sure there is diversity in the workplace, which is a priority on the Hill.

"Our workforce simply has to reflect the broader society, both in terms of racial and ethnic backgrounds," he said.

List ranking in the Black Collegian magazine is based on how many people are hired

through on-campus recruiting efforts, how many campuses are targeted and the amount of commitment to achieving on-campus hiring goals.

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"Our workforce simply has to reflect the broader society, both in terms of racial and ethnic backgrounds," he said.

ARAMARK was listed for successful diversity employment in the Black Collegian, FORTUNE magazine, Black Enterprise magazine and Hispanic Business magazine in 2005.

ARAMARK also ranked number one in its industry in FORTUNE in 2006. The list, compiled by corporate peers, is based on eight criteria, including ability to retain talent and social responsibility to the community and the environment, said Julie Camardo, a spokeswoman for ARAMARK's national office.

The company also appeared in the 2005 FORTUNE 500 survey.

Reach Amber Coultter at news@wkuherald.com.

Campus life

Forum to explain need of student fees

BY KATIE BRANDENBURG
Herald reporter

Students don't often get to sit down and chat with Western's president.

But President Gary Ransdell thinks a conversation is needed.

Ransdell and other administrators will hold a forum with Student Government Association President Katie Dawson at 4 p.m. today to discuss a new \$46 student fee, which would start next year if approved by the Board of Regents on April 7.

The forum will be held at the fine arts center amphitheater.

The fee would help to expand and fix the heating and cooling system in the FAC, expand the campus wireless system and construct and operate a new health center.

Ransdell said he doesn't expect many students to support the fee because most won't understand why he feels it is necessary.

"The easy thing to do is to be opposed to anything that causes you to pay more money," Ransdell said.

The purposes of the forum are to open discussion on the fee and help students understand why it is needed, Ransdell said.

Puter College Dean David Lee, who will speak at the forum, said he expects students to support the new fee because most Western students feel responsible for the campus.

Lee said students will be able to understand the need for repairs to the FAC because most undergraduate students have to take general education classes there, he said.

Richard Kirchmeyer, vice president of information technology, and Gene Tice, vice president of student affairs and campus services, will also speak at the forum.

The idea for the event came when it was suggested during a talk with Ransdell at an SGA senate meeting earlier this semester, Dawson said.

Dawson said the SGA senate might pass a resolution about the fee based upon this forum next week at their meeting.

Reach Katie Brandenburg at news@wkuherald.com.

News brief

Western to celebrate good times on the Hill

On Monday, Student Government Association members will take a few hours to commemorate the group's time on the Hill as part of a Western centennial celebration.

SGA is hosting its 40th anniversary celebration beginning at 4 p.m. on April 3 at the DUC South Lawn. The event is open to students, faculty and staff.

Celebration activities will include a debate between SGA executive officer candidates beginning at 7 p.m. Michael Casagrande, Herald editor in chief, will moderate the debate.

Berea junior Kara Ratliff and Bowling Green senior Rob Watkins are running for SGA president.

Marion sophomore Jeanne Johnson is the only candidate for executive vice president. Amanda Allen, a junior from Goodlettsville, Tenn., and Taylorville junior Lindsey Lilly are running for administrative vice president.

The NCAA Tournament championship game will be projected on the Academic Complex at 8:17 p.m.

There will also be free food, games and an organization fair with Western clubs and groups during the festivities.

—Ashlee Clark

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Crime

Stolen lumber truck recovered

By COREY PAUL
Herald reporter

A Louisville businessman is thankful for the watchful eyes of one Western worker.

Campus police recovered more than \$138,000 worth of Boland-Maloney Lumber Company's lumber and equipment, after Zane Maintenance Supervisor Bobby Parnell reported a suspicious vehicle in the Center lot.

Parnell saw a large truck with a forklift attached to it in the Big Lots Parking lot on March 21 on his way to work at the WKU Research and Development Center.

When it remained in the same spot the next day, Parnell's attention was roused.

The truck was sitting with its windows down in the rain and had a Louisville license plate — two things Parnell said struck him as odd.

He said he didn't understand

why a lumber truck from Louisville would deliver to Bowling Green when there are several lumber companies in Bowling Green.

Parnell reported the license plate number of the truck and the bin number of the lift to campus police.

"It just didn't seem like it belonged out there, so I investigated it and sure enough, it was stolen," he said.

Campus police then entered the numbers into the National Crime Information Center and Law Enforcement Network of Kentucky computer networks and discovered that the vehicles were stolen from Boland-Maloney's lumber yard, said Sgt. Rocky Powell, a detective with the investigations division of campus police.

Campus police contacted Boland-Maloney, who sent someone to pick up the equip-

ment the next day, Powell said.

Some of the lumber originally taken was not recovered, said Bernie Kootz, controller for Boland-Maloney. Kootz said he could not disclose the amount.

Campus police estimated the value of the recovered lumber as \$10,000, a campus police report stated.

Kootz said his insurance company was optimistic that the equipment would be recovered but had doubts that the lumber would be.

Kootz said he was thankful to get some of it back. Louisville police are investigating the case with Boland-Maloney and are reviewing surveillance tape of the burglary to find a suspect, Kootz said.

Louisville police could not be reached for comment.

Reach Corey Paul
at news@wkuherald.com.

ELECTRICIAN: Keeps job interesting

CONTINUED FROM PAGE 1B

"I never pictured myself working here," Hess said. "It was perfect timing."

He said he enjoys the atmosphere and the interaction with students, faculty and others at Western. He previously worked at a factory and likes working in many places around campus.

"Moving around keeps it from

being repetitive," Hess said. "It keeps it from being boring."

Hess' supervisor Charles Harrison, director of maintenance, said Hess is a good worker who isn't afraid of a challenge.

Harrison said a university is a good environment to work in because it's stable.

Besides working, Hess also takes classes at Western. He is

working toward a degree in construction management and taking six hours per semester. Western staff are allowed to take six hours of classes each semester at no charge.

"You pretty much see it all," he said. "All the good and all the bad."

Reach Samantha Hupman
at features@wkuherald.com.

PAINTER: Looking to retirement

CONTINUED FROM PAGE 1B

The Kentucky Building and Potter Hall are two of the hardest buildings to paint on the exterior because they are the tallest on campus, 62-year-old Price said.

"We used to do our painting on ladders 60 feet tall, but now we use lifts because they are faster and safer," Price said.

Price said he always wanted

to be a painter. Born in Warren County in 1942, he started working on a farm with his father. Price later found himself painting at Western, and the rest is history.

"There used to be only three painters," Price said. "But now there are five because there are so many more buildings to work on. Even though Price has

enjoyed his four decades on the Hill, he said retirement might be in the near future. His sons Larry Joe and Gary Wayne, and daughter Judy Ann are all grown up, but there is still plenty of time to relax with his wife Evelyn.

Until then, Price will keep on painting.

Reach Mackenzie End
at features@wkuherald.com.

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Mechanic keeps Western rolling

By JESSICA SMITH
Herald reporter

The sound of car jacks creaking, drills buzzing and engines revving can often be heard behind green garage doors near Gilbert Hall.

And sometimes there are small explosions.

"Something funny happens every day around here," said Bob Zoellner, a tall, broad-shouldered man wearing a crisp grey-collared shirt, grease-covered jeans and tan-skinned work boots.

For the past five years, Zoellner has worked between the boiler room near Gilbert Hall and the automotive garage, keeping things running smoothly for students, faculty and staff at Western.

Zoellner sees the sun rise before most people crawl out of bed.

Whether it's changing lawnmower blades or working on Western's service vehicles, a

day's work begins at 6 a.m. and doesn't end until mid-afternoon.

"Every day is different," Zoellner said. "It'll be spring again, and they'll be tearing up stuff like normal."

But not everything is serious business.

Zoellner said his work days are sometimes casual and laid-back. He said he and his co-workers often sing or play practical jokes on one another.

"Every day is April Fool's Day around here," said Larry Holder, a welder who works with Zoellner.

"Someone will hide behind something and scare someone else. We'll also do various things like hide someone's tools or parts, or sometimes the car someone's working on if he falls asleep

working under it."

Paul Barbour, senior boiler operator, has known Zoellner since he started working at Western and said

his first impression of him hasn't changed much.

"He's nice and easy to get along with, and I knew he was a guy who likes to joke around," Barbour said.

Outside of work, Zoellner enjoys spending time with his wife of three years, Jennifer, and his 2-year-old daughter, Georgia.

On his days off, Zoellner said he likes to work in his yard, or play music.

In fact, Zoellner actually had the opportunity to play with Sheryl Crow before she became

famous. He said he met her in St. Louis several years ago when she was looking for a guitar player for her band.

"I was working as a driver for Frito-Lay. It was a full-time job, and I had bills to pay, so I wasn't that interested. But a few years later when she did become famous, I was like, 'Damn!'"

But for now, Zoellner's work in the automotive department lasts year-round.

He doesn't enjoy the luxury of winter or summer breaks since someone must stick around to help keep Western up and running.

Although there are times his job gets hectic, Zoellner keeps a positive attitude.

"You just take it as it comes," he said. "It's all you can do."

Reach Jessica Smith at features@wkuherald.com



photo by Andrew Heggerson

Bob Zoellner mixes work with fun in the garage.

Technician breezes through challenges

By A. LAYNE STACKHOUSE
Herald reporter

As a heating, ventilation and air conditioning technician, Jason Kiper's job is often unappreciated.

However, it is one of his goals to remain unnoticed by the people that he works to serve.

Kiper, who has been working at Western for almost four years, is a part of a team of technicians who regulate heating and cooling in all of the campus buildings. A major part of this job is to maintain and repair the mechanical heating and cooling systems by making modifications and updates.

The biggest part of his job, however, is to keep campus buildings pleasant for those who occupy them.

"Our goal is to keep students

and staff comfortable," he said.

Kiper's goal of being unrecognized seems logical to him. The better he does his job, the more it goes unnoticed.

"Our job is sort of to make sure you don't realize there are HVAC technicians because everything is working correctly," he said.

Although he often works on-call and must return to work whenever there is an emergency, Kiper feels that Western has more to offer than other businesses.

Western allows him to retain a personal life separate from his work. The university also promotes a team effort among HVAC employees, he said.

"We have to work together," Kiper said. "We try to help each other out as much as possible."

Because of this, Kiper's job requires a variety of skills in many technological fields.

He originally went into this field for control system aspects. However, Kiper has also been an electrical laborer and worked in construction at Western, he said.

Dwayne Coursey, a co-worker, said one reason Kiper is good at his job is because of his dynamic skill and personality.

"He's got a knowledge of pretty much anything on campus, and he picks up on everything pretty quickly," Coursey said.

Plant Operations Manager Dale Dyer has been Kiper's supervisor for almost a year and recognizes Kiper as a valuable employee and team member.

"He's a dedicated individual," Dyer said. "He gets the job done correctly."

Kiper's skills are especially valuable since this job is so team-oriented, with everyone working together to achieve the same goal.

Dyer said.

"We're all working toward the same mission: keeping students, faculty and staff comfortable," Dyer said.

Although Kiper encounters problems, mostly with older equipment, he said he enjoys the challenge.

"The most rewarding part for me is when you get involved in a complex and in-depth situation," he said.

His particular skills help him overcome problematic situations, which make him a very important Western employee.

Kiper's motivation to be challenged and to face every situation with a positive attitude makes him a beneficial member of the team, Coursey said.

"The more challenging thing you work on—the more satisfying finishing that work is," he said.

Reach A. Layne Stackhouse at features@wkuherald.com



photo by Jim Wynn

Jason Kiper works to keep Western comfortable.

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