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SGA supports military students

BY JAMIE WILLIAMS
HERALD.NEWS@WKU.EDU

The Student Government Association approved two pieces of legislation to help WKU's military students during its Tuesday meeting.

The senate voted in favor of a resolution that would support giving priority registration to Army ROTC students and in favor of providing funding to Textbooks for Troops.

"It's a way to show these students that they're not just a number — that WKU cares about them," said Kent Johnson, WKU Military Student Services coordinator.

Currently, student groups "deemed to have special scheduling needs" are allowed to schedule during priority registration. ROTC cadets are required to take additional military classes and have training three days per week, which can make scheduling difficult.

Additionally, ROTC students who receive a scholarship sign a contract stating they will graduate within a specific timeframe. If they fail to meet the requirement, they may have to finish their degree using personal funds.

"It's definitely a big issue," ROTC student John Kello said. "I've seen this happen a couple times. I'm only a freshman, but I've seen this happen to some friends of mine."

The senate also approved funding for the Textbooks for Troops program, which loans books to eligible military students for free. The program runs solely on donations, and the \$300 from SGA will help keep the program from cutting back.

"It's become such a cultural norm now — they know about it, they're spreading the word — that we would hate for us to have to cut back on that program," Johnson said.

Textbooks for Troops is a program unique to WKU and has helped over 1,900 students since it began in 2011. According to WKU Military Student Services, the program has helped more than 171 students during this semester alone. In addition to providing books to students at WKU's main campus, the program serves regional campuses and even students abroad.

During the meeting, Chief Justice Cody Cox announced the judicial council had selected its next chief

SEE SGA PAGE A2



Jay Todd Richey, 22, of Glasgow, is a senior majoring in political science and Asian religions and culture. Richey is the president of WKU's Student Government Association and has been a part of SGA for four years. "It was the first thing I got involved with at WKU freshman year," Richey said. "It's the only campus organization that represents the needs of all WKU students and has the capacity to make positive change for WKU." TYGER WILLIAMS/HERALD

'BE THE BEST'

GRADUATING SGA PRESIDENT REFLECTS ON TWO TERMS

BY JAMIE WILLIAMS
HERALD.NEWS@WKU.EDU

Jay Todd Richey, president of the Student Government Association, arrives to his scheduled office hours several minutes late because an earlier meeting ran over time. He apologizes profusely and takes five more minutes to straighten out the rest of his daily schedule.

He talks as much as he can before he has to leave for his next class and another meeting. He is interrupted with a budget question, a call from the chief of police and emails from his professors but always apologizes before getting back on track.

Richey's small office is situated in the back corners of Downing Student Union where it overlooks South Lawn. The bells in Guthrie Tower ring out periodically.

The walls of his office are adorned with certificates and awards — from his internship in Beijing, from an American Model United Nations conference, the Dero Downing Award for Outstanding Contribution to WKU. Surrounded by his honors and accolades, Richey still hasn't found what he's been searching for his whole life: something that he can unequivocally be the best at.

When Richey was a toddler, singing was his main mode of commu-

nication. During his childhood, he loved anything that was flashy and full of showmanship. His mother said by age 5 he could recite the Wizard of Oz word for word.

"My parents love to tell this story about how when I was like three or something, my dad, pretty burly guy, came home," Richey said. "I was running around in a diaper and red high heel shoes with a witch's hat and reciting the Wizard of Oz, because that's what I loved to do."

His love of showmanship led him to an interest in rock 'n' roll in elementary school. Richey began taking guitar lessons to follow his dreams of

SEE RICHEY PAGE A2

Confucius Institute displays work by distinguished artists

BY EMILY DELETTTER
HERALD.NEWS@WKU.EDU

Over 60 paintings from 13 Chinese artists are on display at the Confucius Institute exhibit in the newly refurbished space in Helm Library.

The exhibit, which opened on Wednesday, is called Exposing Chinese Culture to the World through Art. It showcases traditional Chinese painting and calligraphy.

Opening day events included demonstrations of traditional bamboo painting, followed by remarks from President Gary Ransdell and Confucius Institute Director Wei-

Ping Pan.

President Ransdell opened the exhibit with commentary about the importance of the display for WKU's students, faculty, and staff.

"One of the things I love about the location for this particular art exhibit is that it's easily accessible," Ransdell said. "I want as many students as possible to see the cultural distinctiveness of Chinese art."

Ransdell continued by noting the longevity of the Chinese art tradition.

"Art like this has evolved, not through generations, but through eons of time, involving a culture that has roots so deep it's hard for our nation to understand how far this art

goes back in time," he said.

Confucius Institute Director Wei-Ping Pan followed Ransdell, noting that the long list of goals for the institute was almost complete — with the start of the art exhibit and the grand opening of the Chinese Learning Center on campus May 5.

"[The exhibit] is a simple way to show our students that we have an art exchange with Chinese culture," Pan said.

The paintings on display were selected with the help of 798 Art District in Beijing and are now the property of WKU, with the market value of one of the paintings worth over \$60,000.

Attendees were able to view the

paintings during the reception that followed the opening remarks. Taylor William, a sophomore majoring in Chinese was especially interested in the calligraphy pieces.

"I first got interested in Chinese because of their calligraphy," said William. "It's so interesting and different from the way we write."

Demonstration booths also allowed guests to try their hand at bamboo painting, a traditional Chinese style of painting that requires a specific hand placement for the brush so that it never lifts off the paper.

For Brittney Gruber, a sophomore

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RICHEY

CONTINUED FROM FRONT

being a rock star. After taking lessons for a couple years, Richey continued teaching himself guitar with the help of online videos.

"I had conflicting thoughts, and I still do to this day," Richey said. "Half of me said, 'oh my god, I have to do this someday.' The other half of me said, 'look how good they are; I'll never be that good.'"

Despite playing lead guitar and vocals for a band in his sixth grade talent show, Richey didn't earnestly start singing in front of people until the next year. Richey's mother pushed him to try out for an opening in Junior Beta Club, even though he had initially skipped auditions. The club would be putting on a six-minute talent performance of Hair-spray, and it needed a male lead.

"I would never — I would never willingly have auditioned because I had extremely low self-esteem," Richey said. "I still do, to this day."

With Richey as the lead, the club went on to win first place in state competition and second place in national competition for its performance.

"He was so good," Richey's mother said. "I was supposed to be video-taping him, but I couldn't because I was crying. I was so proud of him."

Richey decided that this was what he wanted to do, and he continued to be in the club's musical performances until he aged out after ninth grade.

"I cried when it was over," Richey said. "I was mortified. Seriously, I had no idea what I was going to do with my life."

Richey was able to put off that decision after his old Junior Beta director decided to create a drama club at Barren County High School in time for his junior year. Over the next two years, Richey was selected for roles as Prince Charming in Cinderella, Link Larkin in Hairspray, and the Beast in Beauty and the Beast.

In school, Richey also played various sports such as track, golf and baseball, but none of them interested him as much as music. He devoted himself to theater and guitar, but still didn't feel like he was good enough at anything.

"My whole life I've always just wanted to identify something, something that I'm the best at — anything," Richey said. "I don't care what it is; I just want it to be something."

Richey found his niche in performance, but he was still hesitant to pursue it as a career. He didn't think he was good enough to continue on a music path in college, and began searching for an alternative.

"As much as I love the stage, and as much as I love making people happy for a brief moment, it's fleeting," Richey said. "I wanted to do something that was more

sustainable."

Richey's political science experience got off to a rocky start when he was rejected from the McConnell Center, a prestigious undergraduate leadership program at the University of Louisville.

"I was beyond mortified," Richey said. "It was one of the hardest days of my life, because not only had I rejected theater in terms of pursuing it as a career, but I had said maybe political science was right for me. Then I didn't get it, so maybe it's not."

After the rejection, Richey declined to go to UofL all together, not wanting a reminder of what could have been. He set his sights on WKU and, shortly after, decided to become involved in SGA.

"I distinctly remember in my essay for the Honors College, I talked about leadership on campus," Richey said. "I said, 'if you want a student that cares about leaving the university better than when he entered, then you should accept me.'"

Richey's fixation on SGA started out as another quest to find an activity where he could be the best, but that changed after he joined the organization. Richey said being in SGA is radically different since he can use his position to do a lot of good for people.

After attending a few SGA meetings during his freshman year, Richey ran for senator and was elected by the student body. During his sophomore year, Richey served as Speaker of the Senate and planned to run for executive vice president for the next year. Richey hoped that if he was elected EVP, he would have a better chance of being elected president his senior year.

The day before election applications were due, Richey realized the EVP at the time would not be running for president, so he decided to run for SGA president instead.

"I was ready to take a strong stance and make very shaking decisions that I thought would be in the best interest of the student body," Richey said.

Richey won the election and re-election the following year, making him SGA president for both his junior and senior years at

My whole life I've always just wanted to identify something, something that I'm the best at — anything."

SGA President Jay Todd Richey

WKU. This made Richey the first two-term president for WKU's SGA since 1988 and one of only three two-term presidents since 1974.

During his time as SGA president, Richey led the creation of three new committees: Sustainability, MyCampusToo and SAVES (Standing Against Violence-

and Ending Self-Harm). He revamped the SGA's website, authored nine bills and resolutions, and appointed senators who would more accurately represent the demographics of the student body. He represented the student body on the Board of Regents, University Senate and presidential search committee.

Zach Jones, who ran for

EVP on the ticket opposing Richey in 2016, hopes all Richey has done to rebrand SGA will be a legacy not easily dismantled by future administrators.

"Whether you like him or not, he's certainly made a huge impact on the university and on SGA as well," Jones said.

The WKU Alumni Association provides alumni relations to over 106,000 graduated Hilltoppers through digital, print, in-person and regional services with the purpose of engaging alumni.

Anthony McAdoo, executive director of the WKU Alumni Association said that Morel was the perfect candidate.

"Based on his prior involvement with the Alumni Association, homecoming and his fraternity, the board believed that [Morel] was the best candidate to fill the vacated position," McAdoo said.

There are a total of 30 members on the national

board, including 27 elected officers and three officers. Nine new members are selected each year, and serve for two years.

Morel will be filling a vacated term—meaning the person who previously held his seat was unable to fulfill their duties as a member of the board.

"There are great leaders already on board," Morel said. "I want observe and find the best way to use my time and talents."

Morel also said he was eager to begin duties on the board, more specifically dealing with the transition of Tim Caboni as the next president of WKU. Morel said Caboni

can be reached at (270)745-0655 and emily.deletter304@topper.wku.edu.



Top: Richey has been playing since he was in 6th grade. Richey enjoys genres from hard rock, classic rock, punk rock, metal and alternative. "I saw a Green Day music video [Holiday] and knew I wanted to learn electric guitar," Richey said.

Bottom: Noah Stevens, 19, sophomore studying International affairs, Arabic and middle eastern studies has been friends with Richey for two years. The two are both in the political science department and have study abroad together in Morocco in the summer of 2016. "Noah and I are very similar," Richey said. "I just follow his foot steps," Stevens said.

Photos by TYGER WILLIAMS/HERALD

games were a huge part of his childhood, he now only has a few hours of free time per week to play.

Above the television is a poster of George Washington, replacing the posters of Green Day that decorated his room as a kid. Richey checks his phone to find he and Line are seven votes behind in a Housing and Residence Life competition for the best decorated dorm room.

Richey spends a few minutes coming up with a Facebook post to garner support for their submission, conversing with Line to come up with a witty remark. He settles on, "Guys we are losing! Vote for the one with James Line in the dirty clothes basket where he belongs!"

In spite of his efforts, they end up losing the competition by 28 votes.

Reporter Jamie Williams can be reached at 270-745-6011 and jamie.williams539@topper.wku.edu.

Alumni Association appoints new Board of Directors

BY EMILY DELETTER

HERALD.NEWS@WKU.COM

The Western Kentucky University Alumni Association has selected a new member to serve on its National Board of Directors. Joe Morel was one of 33 nominees considered to fill the recently vacated position.

A 2002 graduate from WKU, Morel is a senior mortgage lender with Franklin Bank and Trust Company and currently resides in Bowling Green with his wife and two children.

Morel, a lifetime member of the WKU alumni association, said he was humbled

and honored when he heard the news.

"I believe my experience will help create a smooth transition, but I'm grateful for their confidence in my abilities," Morel said.

Morel was active during his time as an undergraduate at WKU, involved with his fraternity, student government, the campus activities board, and worked as a Spirit Master. As an alumnus, he continued to contribute his time as chairman with the Alumni Association working on the Homecoming parade, on the chapter advisory board of his fraternity and sitting on committees with student activities.

justice, and Lane Hedrick was selected to be the next associate chief justice.

While the judicial council selected Carlson and Hedrick,

the two must receive approval from the senate before they officially take their positions.

Cox also announced spring election applications are due

April 4. The next SGA meeting will be held next Tuesday at 5 p.m. in Downing Student Union.

Reporter Jamie Williams can be reached at 270-745-6011 and jamie.williams539@topper.wku.edu.

SGA

CONTINUED FROM FRONT

justice and associate chief justice. Annalicia Carlson was selected to be the next chief

CONFUCIUS

CONTINUED FROM FRONT

passing through the exhib-

it, attempting this style was much more difficult than she anticipated.

"The instructors said I was

a natural, but I don't know," she said. "It's a lot harder than it looks."

Exposing Chinese Culture

to the World through Art will be on display in Helm Library until May 31.

Reporter Emily DeLetter

can be reached at (270)745-0655 and emily.deletter304@topper.wku.edu.

Professor presents on human rights attitudes

BY MONICA KAST
HERALD.NEWS@WKU.EDU

A WKU professor emeritus gave a presentation on human rights as part of the College of Education and Behavioral Sciences Reach Event.

Sam McFarland, professor emeritus and human rights activist, gave a presentation titled "Who Cares about Human Rights?" The presentation was part of the Spring 2017 Reach Event, for which several College of Education and Behavioral Sciences professors gave poster presentations and symposiums of their research.

McFarland began his presentation with a brief overview of the history of human rights, which he said he views as the "most important untaught topic" at universities. McFarland's recent research centered on the question "who cares about human rights?"

As part of his overview of human rights, McFarland distributed copies of the Universal Declaration of Human Rights, adopted by the United Nations in 1948. McFarland broke down various parts of the declaration and noted its importance to human rights.

"If you get nothing else out of this presentation today, that will be the most valuable thing that I can share," McFarland said of the declaration.

McFarland also broke down various pieces of research that discuss "who cares" about human rights. According to a Gallup poll from Jan., 53 percent of Americans view "promoting and defending human rights in other countries" as "very important," and 34 percent view it as "somewhat important."

"In summary, these polls suggest strong support for human rights in the United States and around the world," McFarland said. "But there are country variations."

McFarland went on to present another poll, which outlined variations in different countries' opinions about human rights. McFarland said

the United States shows strong support for protection of civil and political rights, but less support for economic and social rights.

According to information presented by McFarland, the United States polls above the global average in protecting rights such as freedom of speech, freedom of religion and the right to express opinion. However, the United States polls below the global average and countries like Russia and the United Kingdom, when it comes to protecting rights such as government assistance in food and healthcare.

"We are less supportive than any other nation, really, that's been studied on support for social and economic rights," McFarland said.

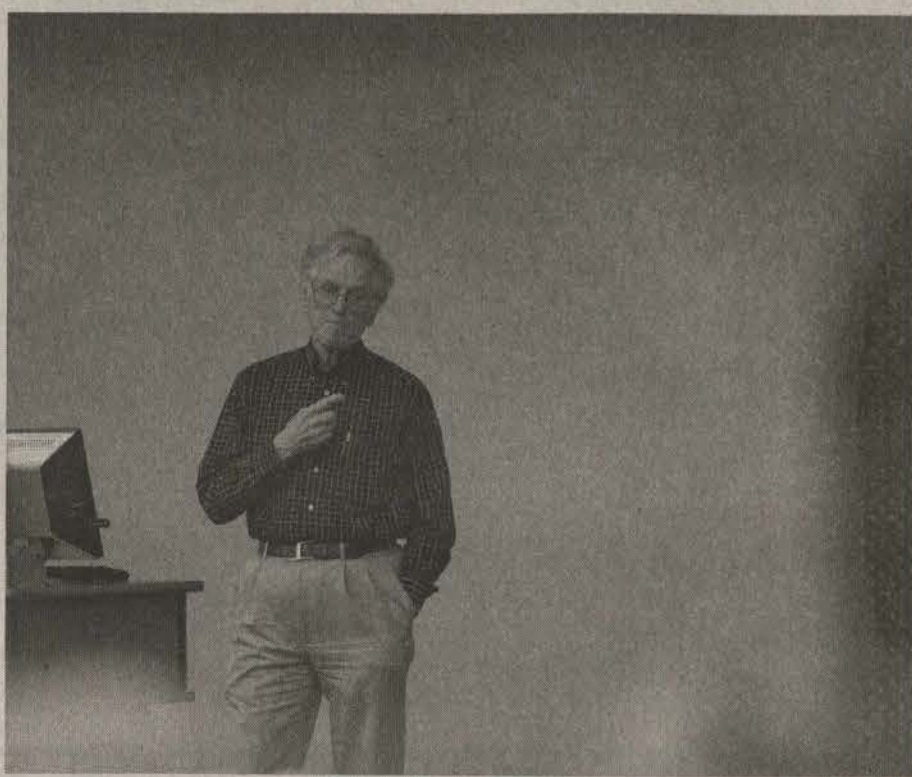
As part of his presentation, McFarland also discussed various ways he has collected data on human rights and how people care for human rights. Using two different methods, the Human Rights Choices Questionnaire and the Human Rights Scenarios Scale, McFarland and those he's researched with found several major reasons someone may or may not care about human rights.

High levels of ethnocentrism, a "general tendency to dislike all outgroups," will cause someone to care less about human rights, according to McFarland and Melissa Matthews, a former graduate student at WKU. Alternatively, high levels of "identification with all humanity" will cause someone to care more about human rights.

McFarland ended his presentation by briefly discussing the Syrian War, which he said has displaced over 4.9 million Syrians. McFarland said accepting refugees is one of the "more divisive issues in American politics these days."

"People are at extremes," McFarland said. "They are either very much for or very much against this issue."

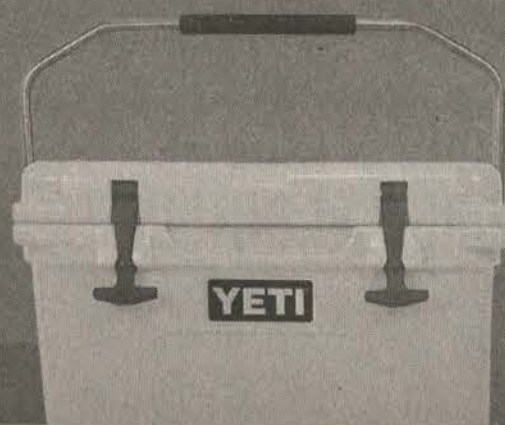
Reporter Monica Kast can be reached at 270-745-0655 or monica.kast187@topper.wku.edu.



Sam McFarland discusses his extensive research during his talk entitled "Who Cares About Human Rights?" on Tuesday. KENDALL WARNER/HERALD

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Photos from students, alumni, faculty and staff are welcome.

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- 7:00 a.m. Registration Opens
- 8:10-9:40 a.m. Concurrent Morning Sessions I (Talks and Posters)
- 9:50-10:50 a.m. Sigma Xi Lecture: Dr. Karen Oates
- 11:00 a.m.-12:30 p.m. Concurrent Morning Sessions II (Talks and Posters)
- 1:40-3:10 p.m. Concurrent Afternoon Sessions (Talks and Posters)
- 3:10 p.m. Conclusion

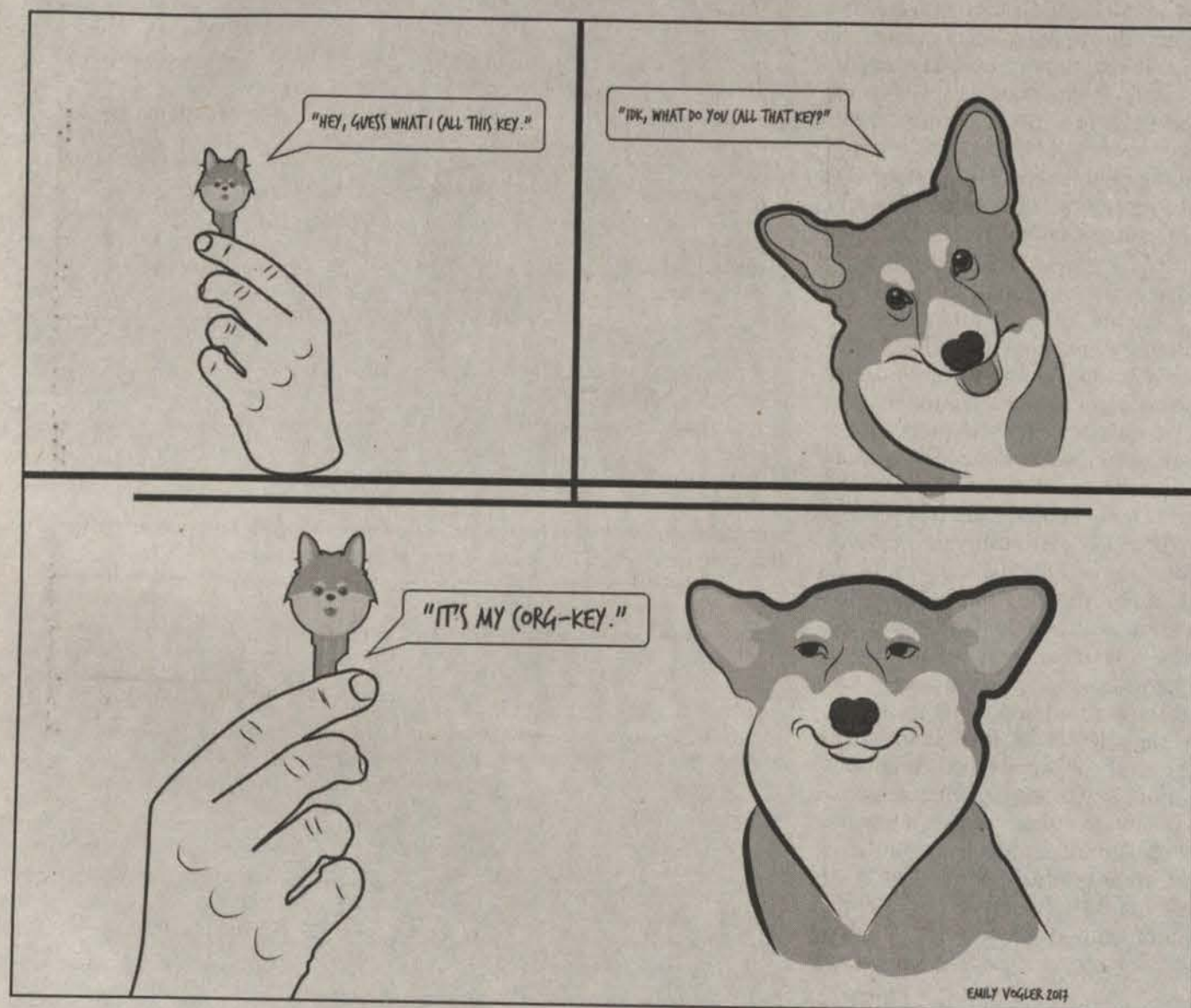


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OPINION

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CARTOON



WALK IN THE LIFE

Learning to appreciate the silence around me

BY MILLIE RONKAINEN
HERALD.OPINION@WKU.EDU

I spent the first weekend of spring break on a retreat with the Dominican Sisters of Saint Cecilia in Nashville. The sisters live a beautiful dual life of apostolic mission and contemplative monasticism.

In other words, they teach at schools in the community, but return to the Motherhouse for prayers, Mass and spiritual reading. They also spend time each day in silence. There are also areas of the Motherhouse, like bedrooms and stairwells, which are reserved as "silent areas."

During the retreat, we were encouraged to maintain silence at certain times and in certain places. Walking into silent areas or leaving a retreat talk without chatter felt like entering a refreshing oasis of peace and quiet.

I learned a lot about myself in two days.

The retreat was about grace, our hearts and healing from feelings of inadequacy, something I have struggled with for a long time. I was able to use the silence to reflect on the deepest crevices of my heart. I learned what hurts me, my desires and what fulfills those desires. Most importantly, I learned my self-worth and how much God cherishes me because I am His.

If we had not been encouraged to embrace the silence of the Dominican community, I doubt I would have found peace without the distraction of noise.

A line from a prayer we said really stuck with me: "In the silent hours of the night, bless the Lord." It reminded me to praise God and bless Him even in the stillness of my heart, when I felt I had nothing left to give to Him.

"Awkward silence" is a phrase I heard a lot over the summer at camp, but I think the mentality that silence is awkward has become more obvious to me over the past couple of years. For example, when we go out to eat and the conversation dies down for a moment, our phones come out. I see people listening to music while they are researching in the labs around my research lab. Silence, coupled with eye contact, is avoided because we do not want to feel awkward.

I used to be afraid of silence. Sometimes I still am, mostly because the lack of noise allows me to think. But God speaks to me, to all of us, in our silence. In the book of Kings, God appeared to Elijah in a quiet breeze rather than an earthquake or fire. Mother Teresa, a woman accustomed to living in the chaos of Indian slums, said "In the silence of the heart God speaks ... It is only when you realize your nothingness, your emptiness, that God can fill you with Himself."

As much as silence feels awkward, it is necessary for a good relationship with God, one filled with healing and love.

SALTED POPCORN

'LOGAN' AND 'GET OUT' OFFER UNIQUE THEATER EXPERIENCES

BY JACK JOHNSON

HERALD.OPINION@WKU.EDU



Jack Johnson

2017 is in full-swing, and with a new year comes new cinematic experiences. However, the first three months of the new year have been surprisingly sparse with knock-out blockbusters, give or take a few thriller films.

Though I'm sure the rest of 2017 will yield some strong popcorn flicks – Marvel Studios is coming out with three more films this year – these early months have delivered a few gems, namely James Mangold's "Logan" and Jordan Peele's "Get Out."

It could be said, originally, horror films were made to represent the deep, dark, uncomfortable thoughts that society is too polite to provide discourse about. Classic horror films, such as "The Thing," focus on paranoia; "Psycho" harkens to Freud's Oedipus complex. Jordan Peele's "Get Out" focuses on liberal racism – the thing seemingly progressive people do to invalidate people of color.

The film stars Daniel Kaluuya as Chris, who is invited to meet his white girlfriend's parents at their estate. Within the first forty minutes of

the film, Chris is constantly confronted with characters pointing out – in not-so-subtle ways – he is black. Several of the scenes with this dynamic made me uncomfortable; not in a cinematic way, as if the movie is bad, but uneasy to be put into Chris's situation.

While I thought Peele was being too heavy-handed with these scenes initially, I understand now that it was necessary to portray liberal racism in not only an easy-to-understand manner, but in a way that would make the audience uncomfortable, too.

Coming from a writer whose focus has been predominantly comedic, Peele defies any expectations we could have had before seeing this film. His direction with casting also paid off. Kaluuya kills it as Chris, who is an instantly likable character who could have easily been played as the straight man.

Although "Get Out" isn't a particularly frightening movie, it's not meant to be. In fact, Peele's film stands as a horror film made, specifically, to highlight fears and issues we still have in our modern society. For that reason alone, "Get Out" is a highly unique movie that is definitely worth a watch.

If social commentary laced in with horror themes isn't your jam, and if action movies are your jam, I'd implore you to go watch "Logan" while

it's still showing. Not only is "Logan" an R-rated Wolverine film – I mean, come on, that alone sells the movie – it also concludes the story of the characters played by Hugh Jackman and Patrick Stewart, as Wolverine and Professor X, respectively.

In Mangold's film, the year is 2029, no mutants have been born in 25 years, Professor X has a degenerative brain disease and Logan is losing his healing factor. Oh, and there's a little kid! It's a good old family-fun type film. Especially if you consider seeing Wolverine literally impale people with his claws. Grandma will love that part.

Jokes aside, "Logan" is an interesting film. I won't give away any spoilers, because I'm a decent human being, but it's pretty common knowledge among moviegoers this will be Jackman's last outing as Wolverine, and it is a fine send-off. One of the aspects of "Logan" I enjoy most is the realism it is grounded in.

While Jackman and Stewart have played these characters several times before, this film shows real development and offers an extremely satisfying conclusion to their arcs. Just like "Get Out," this movie defies genre expectations. "Logan" could've hammed it up like any other superhero film we've seen, but it didn't. It took a chance, and it paid off in spades.

LETTER TO THE EDITOR

Mental math won't do, learn how to budget

Another spring break has passed on the Hill. If you traveled, you are probably paying much closer attention to your available balance in your checking account than you were before spring break. It's also possible your balance was just too low to begin with, which kept you from going anywhere in the first place.

After spring break, many students realize they need to learn how to better manage their money. If this is your situation, fear not. I, too, was in your shoes during my first three years of college.

I took a trip every spring break with-

out a set budget and spent more than I should have each time. Essentially, my budgeting process consisted of looking at my account balance and doing some minor mental math before making purchases. Big surprise! That mental math is wrong most of the time.

I realized this, and resolved to learn how to manage my money this year. When I left for my spring break destination this year, I was already confident that when I got home everything had been budgeted for, and I was not going to be eating ramen noodles for the next week. How did this happen for me? I took advantage of the free re-

sources provided to the campus community by the WKU Center for Financial Success.

I learned how to budget and, coming full circle, I am a now financial counselor for the Center. Trust us, we get it. Budgeting in college is difficult. You have to deal with inconsistent income, somehow project expenses that change on a monthly basis, figure out how much we really need in loans and make sure we do not spend residual scholarships too quick.

On the other hand, budgeting can be difficult in college because most of your costs are covered, but you want to

begin to create good financial habits. At the Center, we work with students like you, who are fully capable of managing your money, but just need help with a starting point.

If you want to get to a place where you are not concerned about how you are going to pay your monthly bills, where you are not lacking clarity on your student loans, or want to learn how to build your credit score – we can help. To connect with us, visit our website at wku.edu/cfs or stop by our office in Grise Hall 320.

LETTER BY ZACH JONES

COLLEGE HEIGHTS
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1. Letters shouldn't exceed 250 words. Commentaries should be about 500 words and include a picture.
2. Originality counts. Please don't submit plagiarized work.
3. For verification, letters and commentaries MUST include your name, phone number, home town and classification or title.
4. Letters may not run in every edition due to space.
5. The Herald reserves the right to edit all letters for style, grammar, length and clarity. The Herald does NOT print libelous submissions.
6. Submissions must be received by 7 p.m. on Sunday and Wednesday.

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THE FUN PAGE

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World Records

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- A record-breaking clover discovered in 2002 had how many leaves?
(a) 18 (b) 11 (c) 9
- In 2003, what fruit tipped the scales at a massive 11.6 lbs?
(a) Kiwi (b) Pear (c) Lemon
- What motorized furniture item broke a world record in 2007 with a speed of 92 MPH?
(a) Recliner (b) Sofa (c) Table
- In 2006 the 'most tattooed person' in the world lived where?
(a) New Zealand (b) Ghana (c) Sweden
- What wireless internet provider set a record in 2006 with 45,687,117 subscribers?
(a) Virgin (b) NTT Docomo (c) AT&T
- How long did a man stand on one foot to break a world record in 1997?
(a) 64 hrs, 50 min (b) 52 hrs, 20 min (c) 76 hrs, 40 min
- In 2005, a 4.1 lb apple was found where?
(a) England (b) Japan (c) United States
- What was the distance of the longest pogo stick journey in 1997?
(a) 13.8 miles (b) 29.3 miles (c) 23.11 miles
- The longest certified marathon for men and women was established in New York. What was the name of the 3100 mile race?
(a) Self-Transcendence (b) Marathon of Life (c) The City Run
- What balloon animal was created in 6.5 seconds?
(a) Lion (b) Dog (c) Giraffe

Solution

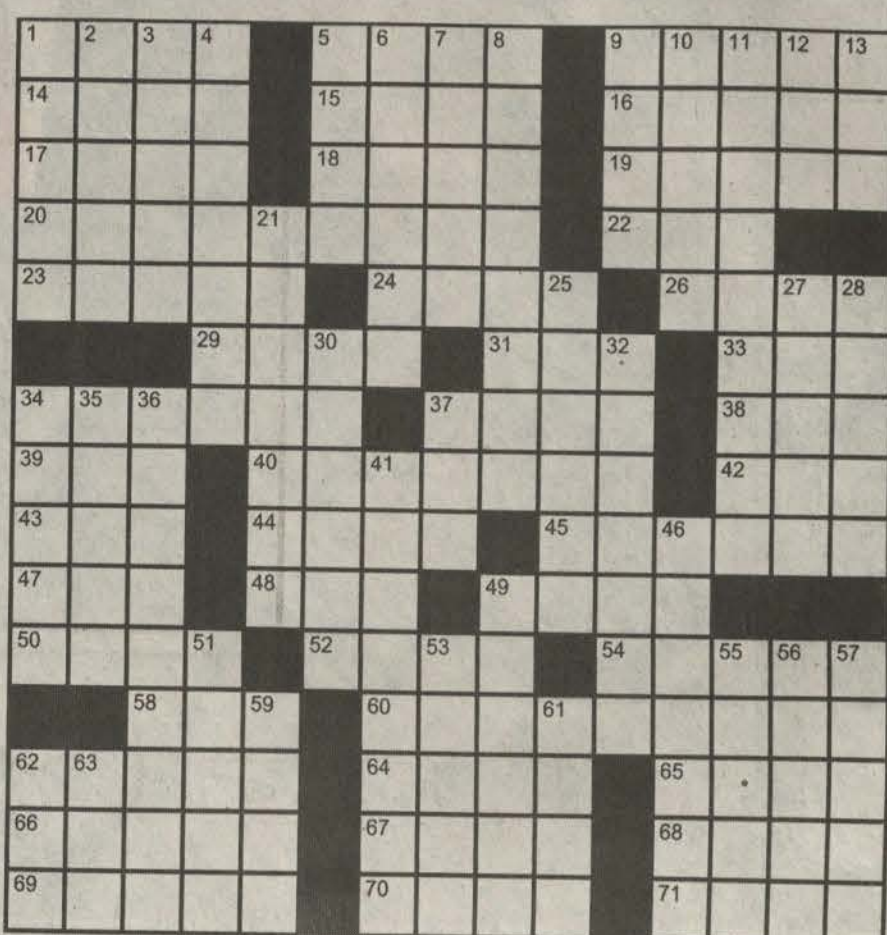
- a. 6. c
- c. 7. b
- b. 8. c
- a. 9. a
- b. 10. b

PREVIOUS SOLUTION

S	O	W	R	A	V	E	L	A	C	T	
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T	R	Y	H	E	N	R	Y	P	H	D	

Across

- Parking place
- "Goldberg Variations" composer
- Grassy areas
- Coin in Cancún
- Dwarf buffalo
- Blockhead
- Spherical triangle sides
- Dejected
- '50s dance
- Here and there
- Rocker Nugent
- Mimicking bird
- Seed coat
- Red letters?
- Evenfall
- Part of some uniforms
- One of the five W's
- Languorous
- Fill to the gills
- Absorb, as a cost
- Mudder's fodder
- Faux pas
- Old hand
- Keats creation
- Wicked
- Sheen
- "My country" follower
- Hectoliter part
- Dermatologist's concern
- Letter after theta
- Actress Foch or Dobrev
- Clear the slate
- Glass component
- Stock woes
- New moon, e.g.



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- Children's author Blyton
- Set aside
- Flip response?
- E-mail command
- Lackawanna's lake
- Actress Moorehead
- Ancient colonnade
- Telephone button
- Summoned
- Hooded jacket
- Show fear
- Poor golfer's advantage
- Cheery tune
- French farewell
- Like a mountain peak, maybe
- Silent assent
- Hog heaven?
- Hitchhiked
- Recently
- Portion
- Chopper part
- Wooded
- Examined
- Hindu loincloth
- Dashboard feature
- Computer user's problem
- Peruvian money
- Smug self-serving earnestness
- Ump's calls
- Vegas attraction
- Supermarket section
- Fair-sized musical group
- Stave off
- Old photo color
- Oil of wintergreen, e.g.
- Imbroglia
- Icelandic epic
- School org.
- Witch

Down

- Involuntary twitch
- Poet Bysshe Shelley
- Extinct Italic language
- Taqueria offering

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President Donald Trump begins speaking to a packed Freedom Hall in Louisville on Monday. President Trump's main focus of the night was the repeal and replacement of The Affordable Care Act. **BRENDAN O'HERN/HERALD**

PRESIDENTIAL VISIT

Trump delivers speech in Louisville

Donald Trump's rally in Louisville drew a crowd of Kentuckians. Though the event did not start until 7:30 p.m., supporters started lining up around 5 a.m. One woman, who was in line by 7 a.m., had previously been to 20 other Trump rallies during his campaign. Upon entering Freedom Hall, there was just one table to buy official hats and t-shirts. In the arena, two large signs hung above the stage, one reading, "Promises Made" and the other, "Promises Kept." This seemed to be alluding to the fact that Trump would be repealing and replacing The Affordable Care Act as he said he would during his campaign, which was the main focus of the rally. The crowd started to file in at 4:30 p.m. so the Secret Service could thoroughly check every individual as they entered. To many people's surprise, Gov. Matt Bevin walked through the crowd with his family to their seats in the front row. As soon as Bevin entered the hall, people stood on their feet and applauded the governor. This was in stark con-

trast to Sen. Mitch McConnell, who was booed as he walked across the stage and began to speak. When President Trump came out, the crowd was ecstatic. Supporters stood on chairs and waved, some stood with both fists in the air. Throughout the speech, there was only one incident involving protestors; however, the President did not give it any attention, and they were escorted out promptly. For most of his speech, Trump focused on health care; however, he did mention that he would ensure coal workers would have plenty of jobs, which was met with thunderous applause. The President finished the rally with his famous lines, "Together we will make America strong again, we will make America wealthy again, we will make America proud again, we will make America safe again, and we will make America great again." With that, the President left Freedom Hall to the Rolling Stones song, "You Can't Always Get What You Want," and his supporters filed out.



A man raises both fists in the air as State Representative Jonathan Shell spoke about the political direction Kentucky is headed. Shell acted as an emcee at Donald Trump's rally at Freedom Hall in Louisville on Monday. **BRENDAN O'HERN/HERALD**



President Donald Trump enters Freedom Hall to a standing ovation during his rally in Louisville on Monday. **BRENDAN O'HERN/HERALD**



President Donald Trump speaks during his rally at Freedom Hall in Louisville on Monday. **BRENDAN O'HERN/HERALD**



LIFE

RAM volunteers check ticket numbers as people are let into Cookeville High School for the free medical clinic on Saturday morning, March 18. RAM is a nonprofit organization that provides medical care in underserved, isolated, or impoverished communities. SKYLER BALLARD/HERALD

OPEN WIDE

Remote Area Medical hosts free clinic in Tennessee



Crossville, Tenn. Native Ray Buechler, 47, gets teeth pulled during the RAM medical clinic in the gym of Cookeville High School. Tooth extractions are the most common service done by volunteers during clinics. SKYLER BALLARD/HERALD

BY SKYLER BALLARD
HERALD.FEATURES@WKU.EDU

At 2 a.m. on Saturday, a steady rainfall was illuminated in the headlights of hundreds of cars packed into the parking lot of Cookeville High School in Cookeville, Tennessee.

At 3 a.m., a group of volunteer ROTC members from Tennessee Technical University tapped on the windows of each car, handing out small paper tickets to grateful, grinning and weary faces.

At 5 a.m., men and women dressed in scrubs and volunteer shirts filled coffee cups in preparation for the long day ahead.

At 6 a.m., Stan Brock, founder of Remote Area Medical, swung open the doors, welcoming Tennesseans to the Cookeville Remote Area Medical free mobile clinic.

Remote Area Medical, often referred to as RAM, is the largest provider of free mobile medical care to the underserved and uninsured in the United States. The non-governmental organization has been working to bridge the health care gap for Americans for the past 31 years.

"All Americans should have peace of mind," said Brock, who established the organization in 1985. "Everyone should have access to medical, dental or vision care when they need it."

During the clinic on March 18 and 19, the Knox-

SEE DENTAL CLINIC PAGE B2



Kaitlynn Sosbe, picks out a new pair of glasses during Remote Area Medical's free mobile clinic in Cookeville, Tenn., on Saturday. During the clinic, RAM volunteers offered vision care, as well as dental and general medical needs. SKYLER BALLARD/HERALD



Candelaria Sebastian, right, and her sister, Carmen, left, get their vision tested by volunteers during the RAM clinic as Sebastian's son, Danny, watches. The Cookeville natives came to the clinic to get new glasses. SKYLER BALLARD/HERALD

Event to uncover fake news phenomenon

BY ANNA LAWSON
HERALD.FEATURES@WKU.EDU

After the past election, the idea of fake news seems to be on the tips of everyone's tongues. Knowing what's real and what's fake, a seemingly easy task, has become increasingly difficult. Even logging into Facebook has become a risk, due to the looming fear of being fooled by fake news.

Tonight, however, students will be given the opportunity to learn how to navigate the media world, without a fear of fake news. The event, "How To Spot Fake News," will consist of a discussion led by WKU professors Mac McKerral and Guy Jordan. The event will be held from 4 p.m. to 6 p.m. in Downing Student Union.

"Anytime people get together to talk about important issues I hope it offers an opportunity for them to re-think their own behavior," McKerral

said.

The event, which is hosted by the Residence Hall Association, will start with a general discussion between McKerral and Jordan about fake news, and will then be open to a larger discussion with students.

a senior from Franklin Kentucky Jacob Holt, and the Resident Hall Association President, said many people feel a new civic responsibility since the election to make smart choices.

"We live in an era where anybody can start a blog; we live in an era where anyone can say anything on the internet; where all speech, in a way, is kind of equal," Holt said. "Which is amazing, there's never been another time in human history where that has happened."

He said while this can be good, it can also lead to confusion and misleading ideas.

"In our current times, there are a

lot of people that can identify words in different ways," Holt said. "There is the dictionary definition of terrorism, and then our society has a definition of terrorism."

Holt said he hopes the event will challenge students' beliefs, and make them question what they see.

"No one is completely immune to reading untrue things, that's just our society," he said. "Everyone has a voice."

Jordan said in order to understand what is real and what is fake, society must first have a solid understanding of what they know as well as what they don't.

"A lot of fake news preys on the ignorance of its consumers," Jordan said. "It's not just how much you know; it's knowing the limits of your own ignorance."

McKerral said there are many ways for students to understand if something is legitimate; however, the

problem is that people don't question things, sometimes due to their political philosophies.

"It's not a matter of 'I don't have the time,'" he said. "It's 'I'm not going to do it because this is what I believe.'"

Holt said it is every citizen's responsibility to stay informed and understand what is real and what is fake.

"Our reality and our society is defined by what we know, by what we read, by what we consume, and it's important to be a good citizen," he said. "If you are voting, or making choices on things that aren't true or even shades of not true, that can be a dangerous thing."

Around four in ten Americans receive their news from online sources. Fifty percent of Americans ages 18 to 20 and 49 percent of ages 30 to 49 get their news from online sources, ac-

SEE FAKE NEWS PAGE B2

A Q & A with novelist Silas House

BY ANDREW CRITCHELOW
HERALD.FEATURES@WKU.EDU

The Capitol Arts Center in Bowling Green will host a play today created by Kentucky-based novelist/playwright, Silas House, and musician, Sam Gleaves, entitled "In These Fields." The performance starts at 6 p.m. and will consist of monologues written by House and songs written by Gleaves.

House and Gleaves will both appear in the performance, along with actors and musicians Adanna Barton, Carla Gover, Jason Howard and Deborah Payne. Described as a "folk opera," the play focuses on the food of the south and its effect on the region's culture and people. House said a "folk opera" is distinguished from a traditional opera in its approach to instrumentation and emphasis on socially-conscious messages, stating, "a folk opera is more apt to use 'folk music,' the music of the common folk: guitars, banjos, fiddles, and the like."

House is a best-selling author whose works include "Clay's Quilt," "Eli the Good" and "The Coal Tattoo." In addition to his work with novels and plays, House is also a journalist whose work has been included in *No Depression* magazine and *The New York Times*. House is currently the NEH Chair of Appalachian Literature at Berea College.

House made time to talk to the Herald before his appearance at the Capitol Arts Center to discuss "In These Fields."

We were asked to write this play together by the Southern Foodways Alliance, a large organization that holds a conference every year and always has a closing show that focuses on a different aspect of food. Our only parameters were to write about corn. Initially we found this to be a pretty daunting assignment, but once we started to think about it, corn is such a part of everyday life for us as Southerners and Americans. The main things that came to mind for us that had to do with corn were cornbread, moonshine, but it eventually became much broader as we began to think about the way food brings us together. We ended up writing about everything from the Cherokee Removal to slavery to the way rural people are often shamed for how they eat.

The production is based on southern food. What does the food of the south say about the region's identity, and how is its cuisine an indicator of something deeper than just a meal?

While both Sam and I have a strong connection to the raising, preparation, consumption and ceremony of food, I think writing this play made us even more aware of how much profound it is in our lives. Food is not just nourishment, it's our culture. One of the things that binds a particular culture together more than anything else is its food ways. When immigrants move, they bring their food and music with them. And those two things are the main ingredients in this play. No pun intended.

and hope to have about 1,000 patients," said Tennessee Tech student and RAM volunteer Antonia Susnjari.

For many of the individuals, RAM is the primary source of healthcare. Because the tickets are handed out on a first-come, first-serve basis, many camped out in the parking lot to ensure their spot in line.

Ray Buechler, 47, of Crossville,

What was it like working with Sam Gleaves? How did you start working with him, and what did he bring to the table?

Sam is one of my favorite songwriters, and I think some of his best work is on display in this folk opera. Every song is a gem. It's always tricky to collaborate on a project with other artists--we tend to be passionate about our work--but Sam and I are so much like family that it's easy for us to be really honest with each other without getting angry. We communicate very well, and that's the main thing you need with a collaborator, especially on a project like this that we worked on for nearly a year. The most nerve-wracking part of the whole thing wasn't the writing of the play but putting together a cast, aligning their schedules, etc. And we're very lucky because our cast is so great and committed and passionate about their roles.

What advantages are there to working with a collaborator like Gleaves versus taking on more solitary pursuits, such as novels and short stories?

I think we both admire each other's work, so we inspire each other, and we want to make each other proud, so that makes us work harder. And I really think we created something special together in this play.

Music is obvious-

ly a big part of the performance of this production, and you've spent time writing about music as a journalist. Does your love for southern-based music influence your other works as well? Why or why not?

Always. Anytime I write a novel I make a soundtrack of about 75 songs. Good writing should always be about emotion and no other art form captures emotion so succinctly and powerfully as music. I turn to it for inspiration throughout the writing process.

What has the reception been to the performances so far? What can an audience member take away from "In These Fields?"

Well, we got a very long standing ovation at the premier, so we breathed a big sigh of relief about that. We think that the play will make people feel a range of emotions. Our audiences always laugh, and we often see people wiping away tears. They clap along and tap their feet. But the main thing we want is for our audience to keep thinking about the themes we've presented long after they've left the theater.

Reporter Andrew Critchelow can be reached at 270-745-6288 and andrew.critchelow121@topper.wku.edu.

DENTAL CLINIC

CONTINUED FROM B1

ville-based organization provided free vision, dental and medical services to nearly 900 individuals. This was the second mobile clinic hosted in Cookeville, and the first to be organized by college students.

"We have around 300 volunteers

FAKE NEWS

CONTINUED FROM B1

cording to the Pew Research Center.

"The people who are doing the sharing need to be a lot more responsible," Holt said. "If I send you a link and you think, 'well, I'm the greatest guy in the world,' then you're going to be easily duped."

McKerral said he hopes students will understand how easy it can be for false information to enter the mainstream, where people eagerly believe. However, it is important to always be skeptical. He said fake news comes to us constantly and in many different forms.

"Having some basic understanding of what's out there, how it works, and what the intent is, is helpful," he said.

Jordan said many things go viral because of "click bait" that preys on emotion, and everyone should be relentlessly second-guessing, starting at an early age.

"Old people tend to be more set in their ways," he said. "If you learn to think critically when you're young, you're going to be more likely to have that be your frame of mind when you're older."

McKerral said it is important for college students especially to take news consumption seriously, and always be willing to look at multiple sides to an issue.

Tennessee, arrived in the parking lot 12 hours before the doors opened. Buechler was in need of dental services and received one of only ten tickets that included dentures.

"I've never seen something like this," said Buechler. "It's nice that they do this for so many people that can't afford it."

Though the event is free of cost for

those who receive tickets, Dental Assistant Yvonne Evans of Antioch, Tennessee doesn't let her patients leave without paying her the price of a hug.

"It's crazy, the stories you hear," said Evans. "Many of these people have nowhere else to go. It's worth it any time we can help a person out of pain."

"I wish my students were as excited about real news as they are fake news," he said. "Everybody wants to talk about the fake stuff, and no one wants to read the real stuff."

McKerral said the responsibility is not only on the news sources but equally on the consumer.

"Sometimes, lack of willingness to check things out, and also how our country has become so politically divided, makes that something most folks will take a pass on," he said. "That's just kind of irresponsible."

Many times people only look at news sites that they know they will agree with. However, McKerral said this can be dangerous.

"People go get their news from places where the news is going to

mirror their philosophies, and their feelings and their positions," he said. "They aren't willing to go and look at the other sides to try to find out whether they're really in a good spot."

Jordan said he always encourages students to question authority and ask questions in his classes.

"Having students that are willing to question authority and encouraging students to question authority, that's a really good skill," he said. "If a student is confident about standing up for something, that's a really good habit."

Reporter Anna Lawson can be reached at 270-745-2655 and anna.lawson850@topper.wku.edu

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Local residents share views on immigration

BY SRIJITA CHATTOPADHYAY
HERALD.FEATURES@WKU.EDU

The landscape of the American thinking suddenly reached a new height when then-presidential candidate Donald Trump campaigned on the fact that if elected the President of United States of America, he would build a wall between Mexico and America.

While some people took up to protest his campaign, others like Justin Burr saw the positive impact of the ideology behind the wall. The 38-year-old Bowling Green resident and business owner may not find logic in spending money on the physical erection of a wall, but he supports the concept President Trump is trying to achieve.

"I think if people look further into the deal, you have whatever nationalities came here legally and ask them about the same exact issue; I think more times than not they are going to agree with me," Burr said. "It is just like cutting the line to the shoulder at the interstate."

Burr said a lot of people who have been supporting the wall get labeled as "racist against Mexicans."

"The wall is just a picture. It is all a mental game," he said.

In 2008, "Yes We Can" was the optimistic mantra used by former President Barack Obama to drive his candidacy, "Build That Wall" has similarly stirred the innate patriotism among the Trump supporters as a phrase that safeguards the "American Dream."

Quoted under the 30 of Donald

Trump's wildest quotes in CBS News, in June 2015 during the Grand Old Party Campaign, Trump said "I will build a great wall -- and nobody builds walls better than me, believe me -- and I'll build them very inexpensively. I will build a great, great wall on our southern border, and I will make Mexico pay for that wall. Mark my words." What Trump's wall hopes to accomplish is to create a permanent halt on immigrants crossing the country border without proper documentation and taking away jobs from the American market.

As reported by Reuters, the Department of Homeland Security estimated the cost of building the wall on the southern border at \$21.6 billion with a three-and-a-half-year construction period. On Sept. 1, 2016, the presidential candidate Trump tweeted out "Mexico will pay for the wall." Although, it is not clear as to how President Trump will make that happen.

According to a recent article by Washington Post written by national correspondent Philip Bump, Trump's team has suggested that one mechanism for forcing Mexico to pay for the wall is by increasing tariffs on Mexican products sold in the United States. Those increased costs would be borne by American consumers, but this would get Mexico to pay out of pocket to protect its industries. But, the details still remain unclear. Various prototypes of the wall will be presented to the President in the coming months, as stated in another Washington Post article.

A 48-year-old small business owner of Las Pal Mas-a Hispanic grocery store from El Salvador, Rosalio Guillen, said that there is nothing anybody can do about the way Trump is leading the country. Guillen, who has lived legally in America for 25 years, feels upset for Mexican customers and their families.

"Most people come here to achieve dream of a better life for their family," Guillen said, standing behind the cash counter while helping a customer as his young daughter runs around the store. "And now they're scared to go work or go to the shop."

Moving from Michigan in 2012, John Hael, 46, is a Corvette assembly worker at Bowling Green. "We got to know who is coming in and who is going out," he said while Chalking the pool cue at Overtime Bar and Grill. "You don't need a wall. Maybe just an outpost. With technology today, if you have an outpost you can watch and keep an eye."

Hael feels that constructing the wall is a good hypothetical idea and will help the country to keep a check on the "bad apples." But, at the same time, he feels that expense of the wall is a big factor that would have a huge impact on the economy of the country. "There are ways of doing things legally that everybody keeps forgetting about," he said.

The idea of the wall has left some Mexicans residing in America scared about their future in the country. But, people like Javier Villanuella feel strong and ready for the fight. The 53-year-old server at El Mazat-

lan restaurant is appalled by Trump's presidency. "Trump is like Hitler, Lenin, and Mussolini," Villanuella said. "He cares about himself and only himself."

Villanuella legally moved to Bowling Green in 2007 and has worked hard to make a living for himself. He regularly pays his bills, his taxes, prides the fact that he has no criminal record and is currently in the process of getting his American residency.

"Not everybody is a criminal and want to deal drugs," he said.

He said that none of the immigrants in the country, whether legal or illegal, are after the American jobs.

"American people do not like to do hard jobs," he said. The idea of a wall on the border upsets him. "My thinking will not change his mind or the world," he said.

While there are people who support the wall and people who are against the wall, between them there is a segment of people who do not want to bother themselves about the issue. A saleswoman by day and a bartender by night, Bethany Wethington, 30, a resident of Bowling Green, does not care about the wall.

"The government is going to do what they want to do," Wethington said. "It does not affect me at all. I just hope they do not make me pay for it."

Reporter Srijita Chattopadhyay can be reached at (270) 745-0655 and srijita.chattopadhyay524@topper.wku.edu.

State department sponsors Pakistani student

BY BRYSON KELTNER
HERALD.FEATURES@WKU.EDU

It took Rida Fatima a year to get to Bowling Green. After going through a selective application process, she was chosen out of thousands of applicants from all over Pakistan for the exchange program that brought her to WKU.

Fatima is here through the Global U-GRAD Pakistan program, a semester-long exchange through the U.S. Department of State. This is WKU's second year of hosting the Pakistan program, but WKU is currently applying to host a Tunisia program through the same sponsor.

"The Global U-GRAD program provides undergraduate students from Pakistan and Tunisia with the opportunity to study in the U.S. for one semester to one year," Ashley Givan, WKU's sponsored international student adviser, said. "The goal of the program is to build capacity of youth leaders from underserved populations from these areas."

According to the program's website, nearly 85 percent of the program's alumni returning to Pakistan reported involvement in community service activities. More than 50,000 Pakistanis have benefited from community initiatives developed by alumni, according to the website.

The U.S. Department of State sponsors the U-GRAD program on a fellowship.

"They [the U-GRAD students] have to complete community service hours, do a pre-departure orientation, attend a welcome workshop in Washington, D.C., and attend re-entry workshops later in the semester," Givan said.

Givan said U-GRAD students must also fulfill specific academic and cultural requirements like taking a U.S. culture course and giving a presentation about his/her own country.

Fatima, an electrical engineering

major, recalled the interview process for applying.

"I remember it quite clearly," she said. "For my interview, there was an American representative and a psychologist. They wanted to make sure what we were saying was true and all. It was actually really intense."

After interviewing, she had to pass an English exam and fill out more paperwork, but she said it was all worth it when she received her acceptance email.

"I was not able to breathe," Fatima said. "I was in disbelief the whole time. I didn't believe it until I got here. It's like, is this magic?"

Fatima waited eight more months before making the move to the U.S. - her first trip to the country. After spending almost two months here, she said she has felt nothing but welcomed.

"It's amazing," she said. "I love the people here. I love their hospitality and how friendly they are. I never felt like I was a different person. I had heard that I might face racism and everything, but I have not faced anything like that at all."

She said she has a positive perception of the country mostly because of her time as a Hilltopper.

"The credit goes to WKU," she said. "It's a warm environment. It is really a home away from home."

Fatima said she has experienced several American traditions since she has been here, including a wedding, a super bowl party and a "Galentine's Day" get-together.

When asked about what American tradition she has enjoyed the most, she gave a simple response: "Pop-Tarts."

Fatima said she wants to take in more traditions before she leaves in May.

"I want to go skydiving," she said. "I also have to fish. I have to camp."

When asked if she planned on visiting Mammoth Cave, she said, "Oh my gosh. I have to do that too."

Fatima said she also loves the freedom to be herself.

"In Pakistan, there are some boundaries that are set for women - like 'that's how they should be acting and how they should be behaving,' but here I can be what I want to be," she said. "I actually explored myself here."

Givan said students like Fatima are the reason the U-GRAD program is important.

"This program is a huge asset to

not only WKU, but also to American higher education," Givan said. "We get the chance to host students whom are leaders both in and outside of the classroom. It allows American students, staff and faculty to learn more about other cultures. Anyone who knows Rida understands what a privilege it is."

Reporter Bryson Keltner can be reached at 270-745-6011 and philip.keltner856@topper.wku.edu.



The following students attended the NPHC Greek 101 Session on February 27th, 2017:

Whitney King
Donielle Coleman
James Owens

Charlene Daniel
Christopher Currin
Jasmine Banks

THE OFFICE OF STUDENT ACTIVITIES PUBLISHES NAMES OF STUDENTS INTERESTED IN JOINING AN NPHC ORGANIZATION TO ENCOURAGE TRANSPARENCY AND SAFETY FOR ALL STUDENTS INVOLVED. ANY AND ALL QUESTIONS MAY BE DIRECTED TO NPHC ADVISORS RANDALL P. BOGARD AT RANDALL.BOGARD@WKU.EDU OR JOSCLYNN.BRANDON AT JOSCLYNN.BRANDON@WKU.EDU



Rida Fatima, Junior, was selected to come to WKU from Pakistan through an exchange program, to study electrical engineering. "I love the diversity of this place! I don't even want to imagine about leaving this place. The thought itself deeply saddens me," said Fateema. EMILY MOSES/HERALD

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New, old faces highlight spring football storylines

BY JEREMY CHISENHALL
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WKU Head Football Coach Mike Sanford met with the media on Tuesday to preview the Hilltoppers' start of spring practice on Thursday. With an entire new coaching staff and a lot of players leaving and entering the program, Sanford highlighted a handful of different topics and storylines to keep an eye on heading into spring ball.

A new offense

With all the staff turnover this year, Sanford is implementing a new offense this season that WKU is going to work to perfect in spring ball.

"We're going to be implementing new schemes," he said. "We want to do a great job of teaching, and we've had an opportunity over

the course of the last five, six weeks to integrate. Some meeting time, some film study as part of our off-season program."

Starting quarterback Mike White commented on the offense, saying he's not concerned about the new schemes even after having a wildly successful first year under former coach Jeff Brohm, and he's eager to learn the offense.

"Being quarterbacks, not just me, all the other quarterbacks included, you want to get in that playbook," White said. "You want to learn it as fast as possible, so when you go out in spring it's not as much of a challenge."

"We might shift a lot more in this offense than we did previously, but at the end of the day we're going to throw the ball like WKU knows, and

we're also going to run the ball."

Leon Allen returns

Leon Allen is looking to return from his knee injury he suffered back in 2015. Allen was a dominant running back before the injury, running for 345 yards in a game against Army back in 2014, and posting 33 carries in a game against the Marshall Thundering Herd back in 2014 as well. Allen's coaches and teammates are excited about his return.

"The situation with Leon is very similar to where it was when we first talked about him," Sanford said. "The number one goal for Leon is to get this degree from Western Kentucky and to finish what he started on the football field as well."

"He set records his first

year," said defensive lineman Derik Overstreet. "To have him come back off of injury and still be leading all the...I think he led in every weightlifting (category). He led in the squat, bench, everything. Just to have him come back should be good for the team."

Next man up

WKU graduated 24 seniors last year, which means there's plenty of opportunity for young players to step up into a key role this season. The loss of players like Forrest Lamp leaves huge holes at certain positions.

"I just had a chance to watch Forrest Lamp do some o-line drills out there on my way back into the office, and yeah, we're losing a pretty good one out there," Sanford said.

"That group is young. It's inexperienced," Sanford said of the offensive line. "The one thing that we're going to try to get out of spring ball is to identify our seven or eight guys in that group that we feel like we can win with."

The goal in spring football is going to be to figure out the versatility of its linemen, and to see who can play where, but positions won't be set in stone, Sanford said.

WKU will certainly be relying on guys who have been waiting on their chance to start this year.

Reporter Jeremy Chisenhall can be reached at 859-760-0198 and jeremy.chisenhall1921@topper.wku.edu. Follow him on Twitter at @JSChisenhall.

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Dr. Karen Kashmanian Oates is a nationally recognized scientist, science educator, and higher education leader. She is a Professor of Biochemistry and the Dean of Arts & Sciences at Worcester Polytechnic Institute. Among the honors she has received was induction as a fellow into the prestigious American Association for the Advancement of Science. She is a former deputy director for undergraduate education at the National Science Foundation.

Almost every policy decision—from the work of homeowners' associations, to the passing of new town ordinances, to the type of food in our school cafeterias—has a science and policy base. Every one of our college and university students will become a community citizen, making decisions that affect the lives of those in their communities. Dr. Oates explores how to move from an environment which is inert to one which is active and participatory.



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THE WALKTHROUGH

How WKU athletics stand one year after Harper's departure

BY EVAN HEICHELBECH
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On March 17, 2016, Ray Harper resigned after four years as head basketball coach at WKU. One week prior, Michelle Clark-Heard and the Lady Toppers were upset by Marshall in the Conference USA tournament, ending any big postseason hopes after yet another successful regular season campaign. Also, Jeff Brohm was preparing for his third year as the Hilltoppers head coach, leading his team into spring practice with a quarterback competition that lingered on all the way until opening weekend six months later in September.

Fast forward a little more than one calendar year from Harper's resignation, and the landscape of Hilltopper athletics is quite different. Three of WKU's biggest programs are entering crucial points in their respective cycles of development.

With no disrespect to WKU volleyball coach Travis Hudson and his highly successful program, in roughly 365 days Clark-Heard went from being a relatively new face of success on the

Hill to the longest tenured of the most watched athletic teams at WKU.

If the Lady Toppers aren't getting enough attention, they should be. Clark-Heard has won 20 games in each of the five seasons she's been at the helm, most recently leading WKU to 27 wins before Kendall Noble and company fell to Ohio State in the first round of the Women's NCAA Tournament last Friday. With redshirt seniors Noble and Micah Jones departing after giving Clark-Heard and Hilltopper fans five years of lasting memories and wins, Clark-Heard faces a new challenge in the upcoming season.

Clark-Heard has players returning that are more than capable of winning another C-USA championship. Winning won't be an issue. The challenge Clark-Heard faces heading into the fall is not only sustaining the success she has had, but also taking the next step and winning one or more games in the Big Dance.

While getting to the Big Dance hasn't necessarily been the issue for Clark-Heard, a winner of three conference tournaments in five seasons, it has been for the men's basketball program. After two consecutive trips

to the NCAA Tournament in 2012 and 2013, the program has tailed off in recent years.

The names Rick Stansbury and Mike Sanford likely didn't mean anything to Hilltopper fans a year ago. But in late March, they hold a lot of significance within the WKU athletic program.

Stansbury's first year as head coach was mostly a forgettable one, but the expectations for next season's team continue to mount. Stansbury added a second in-state talent earlier this week, as Scott High School guard Jake Ohmer joined Kentucky's Mr. Basketball winner Taveion Hollingsworth in the Hilltoppers' 2017 class.

If Stansbury's name floating around in speculative reports about Power-5 head coaching vacancies even after he had a losing season at a mid-major school wasn't enough to prove that he has national intrigue tied to his name, think of it this way: It's been a while since fans could excitedly imagine two or three or four different starting lineup combinations between seven or eight players before the next season even started. Stansbury can recruit high-cal-

iber athletes to Bowling Green, and he's proven since the day he accepted the job that he's not afraid to brand WKU as a national contender.

The third "premier" sport on the Hill is entering an interesting phase of its rapid progression. Rookie head football coach Mike Sanford has embraced his task of continuing to elevate the standard of success that Brohm established in three short years. The enthusiasm to succeed that Sanford has worn on his sleeve since he was announced as head coach was most recently evidenced on Tuesday when he spoke with the media for a half hour about spring practice. Not a season opener. Not a bowl game. Thirty minutes of talking about spring practice.

With these three programs climbing up and down different tiers of progression, I'd say Todd Stewart has three leaders that are more than ready and capable to keep WKU sports on the rise.

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Ohmer commits to WKU, Hollingsworth earns honors

BY TYLER MANSFIELD
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Entering this past week's 100th Whitaker Bank/KHSAA Boys Sweet Sixteen State Basketball Tournament, Scott High School's Jake Ohmer was verbally committed to play both college baseball and basketball at the University of the Cumberland.

It turns out Ohmer won't be residing in Williamsburg the next four years. On Monday, he committed to play basketball at WKU.

With WKU head men's basketball coach Rick Stansbury watching each, Ohmer poured in 106 points in the three games he and Scott played in. Garnering attention of not only the thousands of fans at the University of Kentucky's Rupp Arena, but also the veteran head coach's, Stansbury offered Ohmer a full scholarship to play Division I basketball on the Hill.

One day after the two spoke in the

tunnel following the Eagles' 80-79 loss to eventual state champion, Bowling Green in the state semifinals on Saturday, and after Stansbury spent Sunday with the player's family, Ohmer verbally committed Sunday night to become a Hilltopper next season.

"This past week has been an exciting experience for me and a dream come true," Ohmer said in a Tweet Monday that also included photos of the red towel, the inside of E.A. Diddle Arena and the outside of campus at dusk. "I have committed to Western Kentucky University."

The 5-foot-10 guard averaged 35.3 points, 11.7 rebounds, 4.3 assists and 3.0 steals over the three-game span. He scored 41 points in a 77-64 win over Harlan County in Wednesday's first round, becoming just the 21st player in the Sweet 16's 100-year history to score at least 41 points in a game.

In his final high school game, an 80-79 loss to Bowling Green in the semifinals, Ohmer posted 33 points while

grabbing eight rebounds and dishing out five assists.

"Jake's incredible," Scott head coach Steve Fromeyer said following Saturday's semifinal loss. "He has left a legacy at Scott High School. It's something he won't forget. It's something his family and his brother won't forget. Fifteen years from now when they all have beer bellies at Thanksgiving and they're playing with their kids, they'll be talking about it. It's something they all got to experience together."

Ohmer isn't the only in-state player headed to WKU next season, as he joins Paul Laurence Dunbar's Taveion Hollingsworth, who signed back in November.

Hollingsworth has racked up numerous awards and recognition in the past few weeks.

After winning the prestigious Kentucky Mr. Basketball award on March 14, the three-star guard was selected for the Derby Festival Basketball Classic before winning Gatorade Kentucky

Player of the Year on Monday.

Hollingsworth also became Lexington's all-time leading scorer with 2,422 points in boys' basketball with a mid-range jumper from inside the three-point line that rolled in 3:26 remaining in the third quarter of a 86-85 Feb. 14 loss to West Jessamine. Hollingsworth passed former Bryan Station star Mike Allen, who's previous record was 2,408 set during his senior season in 1989.

As it stands now, WKU's 2017-18 includes seniors Justin Johnson and Tyler Miller, redshirt juniors Lamonte Bearden and Jabari McGhee, redshirt sophomore Moustapha Diagne, sophomores Tobias Howard and Damari Parris, redshirt freshman Robinson Idehen and freshmen Josh Anderson, Taveion Hollingsworth, Mitchell Robinson, Jake Ohmer and Miles Weber.

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SPRING GAME

CONTINUED FROM B6

Louisiana Tech. However, Allen was granted a medical redshirt and is expected to be ready to play in 2017 after not playing for almost two full seasons. In 2014, Allen finished seventh nationally with 2,018 yards from scrimmage and will look to get back to his "old" self in time for the season opener.

"The ongoing challenge with Leon is the full rehabilitation with his knee," Sanford said. "It's been a situation where he's taken a couple step forwards and then a step back. That's expected with the significance of his injury. We're supporting him towards his goals of getting his degree and getting back on the field and finishing what he started. We're working hard to make sure he accomplishes that."

The Hilltopper defense will also have two new leading tacklers next season. Linebacker Keith Brown and defensive back Brandon Leston both graduated, which will force other players to step up. Notable names going into spring

include linebackers Joel Iyiegbuniwe and Ben Holt, who saw significant playing time in the Boca Raton Bowl.

"I feel really good about our linebacker corps," Sanford said. "I'm really excited to see Iggy [Iyiegbuniwe] play. His off-season has been absolutely dominant. Masai Whyte is another guy that has bought in to everything we've commanded from a physical and mental standpoint. Ben Holt has a look in his eyes of a guy that can't wait to get back on the field and knock some pads around. I feel really good about that group."

"I'm very excited about where our team is at right now," Sanford finalized. "I'm just excited for football. If there's one thing I've learned about this roster at WKU and what we inherited, is that these players just love when the football is out there. Anything that has to do with playing the game of football and competing is when you see the lights go on. It's unlike any team I've been a part of."

The Hilltoppers will continue with their spring training up until the Red-White game on Saturday, April 22.



Quarterback Mike White throws the ball during the Hilltoppers Red-White game on April 23, 2016 at L.T. Smith Stadium. SHABAN ATHUMAN/HERALD

The game will kick off at 3 p.m. at Houchens-Smith Stadium. WKU will kick off the regular season on Saturday, Sept. 2 against Eastern Kentucky University.

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BASEBALL

CONTINUED FROM B6

but he would be caught trying to steal second soon after. Designated hitter Kole Cottam's RBI single into left field scored second baseman Riley Mahan, who reached on a walk, and put the Wildcats on the board early.

UK increased its lead to 3-0 on centerfielder Marcus Carson's two-run homerun with one out in the inning. His second blast of the year forced the Toppers to have to play from behind with their deficit continuing to grow.

Troy Squires got a hold of a Ciocco fastball with one out in the top of the fourth and plated Mahan before being thrown out trying to reach second. The run put Kentucky up 4-0.

"Being down 4-0 against a Power 5 conference team is always a challenge," Pawlowski added. "But if our guys stay with their plan and their approach, they have the chance to be successful. They battled."

Trailing by that score in the bottom half of the same inning, Wood hit a single up the middle to send both Kraft and Peter home and help cut WKU's

deficit to just two at 4-2 entering the fifth. Kraft's RBI single in the bottom of the eighth brought the Hilltoppers within 4-3.

The Hilltoppers wouldn't get any closer, falling short by a single run.

"I really think we played one of our best games tonight, honestly," Duckworth added. You can't win every time you play your good games, but like Coach [Pawlowski] said, if we play like that this weekend, we'll be fine."

WKU now travels to Murfreesboro for a three-game series at Middle Tennessee this weekend, beginning Friday evening at 6 p.m.

The Blue Raiders (8-11, 0-3 C-USA) are coming off a series sweep at Florida Atlantic, as the Owls won 7-6, 10-1 and 7-6, respectively.

MTSU is led by Aaron Aucker, who is batting .345. On the season, Aucker has 19 hits to go along with 10 runs in 55 at-bats. On the opposite side of the ball, Jake Wyrick sports a 2.63 ERA and is 3-0.

Reporter Tyler Mansfield can be reached at (270) 935-0007 and tyler.wkuherald@gmail.com. Follow him on Twitter at @CallMeMansfield.

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SPORTS



» **The Walkthrough:** How WKU athletics have evolved one year after Ray Harper's resignation



Junior first baseman Nathan Methuen (18) tries to tag out UK infielder Luke Becker (10) as he slides back in to first during the Hilltoppers' 4-3 loss to the Wildcats on Tuesday at the Bowling Green Ballpark. JACK ATKERSON/HERALD

TAGGED OUT



Infielder Thomas Peter (7) bats during the Hilltoppers' 4-3 loss against UK on Tuesday at the Bowling Green Hot Rods stadium. EVAN BOGGS/HERALD



Freshman pitcher Jeff Ciocco (34) faced 17 batters and allowed 6 hits on Tuesday's game against the University of Kentucky. WKU fell to UK 3-4. JACK ATKERSON/HERALD

WKU FALLS TO KENTUCKY, MTSU UP NEXT

BY TYLER MANSFIELD
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After suffering a 17-2 defeat to Kentucky back on March 1 in Lexington, the WKU baseball team looked to come out on the winning side of things in the two team's second meeting of the season on Tuesday evening at Bowling Green Ballpark. It would be much closer than 15 runs, but behind a strong offensive performance, the 19th-ranked Wildcats were able to sweep the season series with the Hilltoppers, taking a 4-3 victory. It marked the first time WKU (7-15 overall, 1-2 Conference USA) had lost to Kentucky at Bowling Green Ballpark, as it entered Tuesday with a 4-0 all-time record in downtown Bowling Green.

"What we talked about after the game is how hard our guys played," WKU head coach John Pawlowski said. "Everyone's disappointed that we didn't win the game, but I told them the one we can take for them is that ingredient of how hard you have to play and compete. If you do that, you have the chance to play and compete with anyone on our schedule." Starting right handed pitcher Jeff Ciocco struggled to find a rhythm on the mound for WKU, giving up six hits and four runs while also committing four errors in four innings. Righty Devon Loomis put together a strong outing in relief, striking out three UK batters while giving up just one hit in two innings. On the opposite side of the ball, catcher Hunter Wood went 2-for-4 on the day, powered by a two-run RBI single in the fourth inning that brought WKU

within two at 4-2. Designated hitter Kaleb Duckworth also effectively contributed, going 2-for-5 with a big double in the fifth. "Last game against (Kentucky), we only had one hit, so everyone's working on getting our foot down and hitting the fastball," Duckworth said. Kentucky outhit the Toppers, 9-8, on the day and had an overall hitting percentage of .265 (9-of-34) while Western had a mark of .242 (8-of-33). "Kentucky's an outstanding program," Pawlowski noted. "They deserved to win. Give them credit. But I really liked the way our guys competed today - I thought they did a great job." Kentucky got its first hit on third baseman Luke Becker's right field single that leadoff the second, SEE **BASEBALL** PAGE B5

Sanford era underway as WKU begins spring practice

BY SAM PORTER
HERALD.SPORTS@WKU.EDU

Spring football starts this week which means a new era has officially begun for WKU Football. First year Head Coach Mike Sanford will look to continue the recent success of the WKU football program after taking over for current Purdue head coach Jeff Brohm. Brohm led WKU to a 23-5 record over the past two years including back to back C-USA championships and bowl wins. For many players on WKU's roster, Sanford will be their third head coach during their time on the Hill. "Anytime there is a new staff that comes in, there is an opportunity for

getting playing time," senior defensive lineman Derik Overstreet said. "Especially right now, it's a time for everybody to show what they have. If someone felt like they didn't have the opportunity to play last year, they have it now." Last season, the biggest question entering spring football began with the quarterback position. With Mike White returning for his senior season after a stellar junior year, the biggest question entering spring ball in 2017 pertains to the pieces around the quarterback position such as the offensive line and wide receiver positions. Forrest Lamp and Taywan Taylor were both key pieces to WKU's offensive success, and both are projected to

be drafted in the early rounds of May's NFL Draft. One of the bigger challenges this spring will be replacing those players. "Going through this offseason we've heard a lot of 'You lost a lot. How are you going to replace that?' It's the next man up mentality," White said. "We have a lot of young receivers like Lucky Jackson and Quin Jernigan who have seen the field. They just didn't get the production because you have guys like Taywan Taylor and Nicholas Norris in front of them. It's not like we're coming in with brand new guys. We'll find a center. We have a bunch of young guys that I have a lot of confidence in. They've worked their tails off this offseason. I know we'll find the right

guys." Another position still in question is at the running back position. Ace Wales graduated after an impressive senior season, opening the doors for several younger backs such as sophomore Quinton Baker, redshirt sophomore Marquez Trigg and redshirt junior D'Andre Ferby, who returns from a season ending shoulder injury that he sustained in his first carry of the 2016 season. Also in the running back mix is a familiar face that Hilltopper fans haven't seen in a while. Leon Allen hasn't seen the field since September 10 of 2015 after suffering a gruesome leg injury in WKU's match against SEE **SPRING GAME** PAGE B5