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# Black college students should know and appreciate their heritage

By Dennis Rey Jones

*There are Negroes who never fight for freedom. There are Negroes who will seek profit for themselves alone from the struggle. Every minority and every people has its share of opportunists, profiteers, freeloaders and escapist.*

—Martin Luther King, Jr., 1963

*The Civil Rights Movement? You mean, with the Blacks a long time ago?*  
—Black student at Xavier University, 1985

In the 1960's racism was the ailment. King's "dream" was to be the antidote. As we observed Black History Month our attention was focused on Forsyth County Ga., where thousands of blacks held non-violent demonstrations to alleviate what has been ailing the all-white community for the past several decades: the national disease of racism.

While viewing this march on television, I became troubled by the lack of young blacks present.

If King were alive, would he ponder the question "where are my children whom I envisioned nurturing my dream into reality and preserving our black heritage?"

## Speaking Out

With this thought in mind, what has become of the once active movement by young blacks in the quest for King's dream?

Is it that today's young blacks view King's dream as being fulfilled? (When it hasn't!)

Are they too young to really appreciate the effort made by King and other civil rights activists? (It hasn't been that long!)

Or, have they just become lackadaisical in the nurturing of their black heritage and identity?

Taking into consideration the amount of involvement taken by Western's black student population, I have to choose the latter.

Since the early 1980's two black organizations, the Afro American Players repertory group and Western's student NAACP chapter, have perished. Not to mention the steady membership decline of other black organizations.

According to Howard Bailey, Dean of Student Life, "there never became a clear distinction between the purpose of the (student) NAACP chapter and its similiar associate, UBS (United Black Students).

"Such an extreme overlap of what the two organizations were trying to accomplish led to a fading out process" he said, "with the NAACP chapter finally becoming nonexistent."

Bailey also noted that Western's NAACP chapter should have dealt with trying to be conscious of student enrollment and promoting the employment of black faculty, while UBS should have focused more on activating the interest of black students already here at Western.

Black students seem to have divorced themselves from their heritage.

In our quest to integrate higher education and pursue the "good life", have we produced a generation of college students who lack a sense of heritage?

I don't think so. College age students were born after the civil rights movement of the 60s and therefore wouldn't be as aware of black culture and history as their parents.

But that's no excuse. We must always strive to know and love ourselves for all of the unique qualities and contributions to the world that make us a great people.

*Dennis Rey Jones is a Wheatcroft senior majoring in public relations. He is president of Western Kentucky Minority Communicators and is a past president of Afro-American Players.*

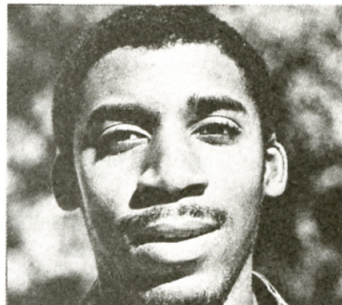
## Honorees

David Padgett, a Baltimore senior, was recently honored in the 1987 edition of Who's Who Among American College Students.

Padgett, a geography major, is also a member of Gamma Theta Upsilon International Geography

Honor Society and was a 1986-87 recipient of an American Geological Institute National Scholarship.

After graduating Western in May, Padgett plans to work a professional internship in Denver at the U.S. Bureau of Land Management. In the fall, he plans to attend graduate school at the University of California.



# Organizational Tidbits

## Black Scholastic Achievers

BSA began their peer mentor program this month to help students with academic problems. A BSA member is a mentor to five or six freshmen who need help in their course work, according to David Padgett, BSA president.

The BSA Potential Program has also begun working with black freshmen who have a 3.0 grade average or higher to help them maintain their averages, Padgett said. The peer mentor program & the potential program are under the direction of Miss Malone, Director of Scholastic Activities for Minority Students.

BSA has tentatively scheduled for April a dance at the Cellar, a car wash and a field trip, Padgett said.

New officers will be selected at the end of the semester, he said.

During February, BSA held its second annual Black History Trivia Gameshow and "This Week in Black History," an informational project.

Kappa Alpha Psi fraternity won the annual Black History Trivia Bowl for the second year in a row after beating Western Kentucky Minority Communicators in the final round for the second consecutive year.

Other organizations participating in the bowl, held Feb. 19 in the university center, were Amazing Tones of Joy, defeated by the Kappas in the first round, and Alpha Kappa Alpha sorority, defeated by WKMC in the first round.

BSA has no plans for the fall semester yet, Padgett said.

## Delta Sigma Theta

The sisters of Delta Sigma Theta are planning Delta Week for March 23-29.

The sorority will begin the annual

# Unsung heroes

## Toiling daily to make things easier for the students

Kermic Thomas, 26, is known the campus over as a man with a pleasing personality and an endless wit. And he's that kind of person because he enjoys his job as the university center's cafeteria supervisor.

Mr. Thomas has been supervisor for three years. In 1985, he graduated Western with a community health major and a health care administration minor.

When university president Kern Alexander, university personnel or any student organization plans a banquet, dinner or luncheon, it's up to Thomas to coordinate it. And he does so smoothly and successfully.

That's because he likes his job. He likes it most, he said, because of "the atmosphere, the people I work with, the people I work around and the customers."

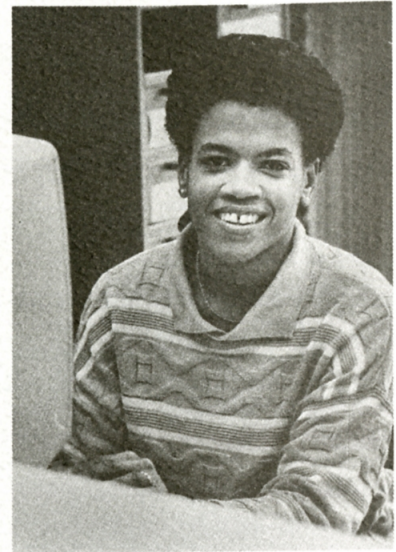
Mr. Thomas says, "I guess I'm a people-oriented person."

If you need a grade change on your transcript, chances are that Deborah Sloss will be the person who helps you out.

Mrs. Sloss, 31, has been a recorder in the registrar's office since Oct. 20, 1986. Her responsibilities include keeping students' transcripts

celebration with a Greek display, a service project at Parker Bennett Community Center (Just Say 'No' To Drugs) March 24 and the same display at the university center March 25, said Hilda Harville, president of the Deltas.

The annual fashion show will be March 26 at 8 p.m. in the Garrett Conference Center, there will be a dance at the Cellar on Friday, a dance at the Pavillion Saturday (with guest deejays Omega Psi Phi)



Lisa McKee Bailey



Deborah Sloss

accurate and updated and recording transfer hours and grades.

And if you earn a grade in a course to substitute and I or low grade, she'll be making the official change, too.

What Mrs. Sloss likes most about her job is "interacting with students," she said.

"If students come in and they have a problem with their records, we help them understand it," she said.

Annie Allen, a building service attendant at Thompson Complex-Central Wing, has enjoyed her 3½ years in housekeeping, she said.

The 32-year-old Glasgow native said she likes the students and faculty she comes in contact with.

"I never meet a stranger in my building."

and a dinner for sorority members Sunday, Harville said.

Activities for April include volunteering at Special Olympics, Walk For America and Big Brothers and Big Sisters.

The Deltas also tutor every Thursday at the Bennett center.

The Delta Sigma Theta convocation was slated for March 20-22 at Wilberforce College in Dayton, Ohio. Members of Western's chapter planned to attend.



h Sloss (above) and William Britt



Kermic Thomas

Jewel Tarrence has spent the last 10 years keeping house at Bemis-Lawrence Hall. And she loves the people she's met.

"It's really nice working there," said the 50-year old Auburn native. "It's a nice place and the people are really nice."

"And I like working with the girls. They're just like my children."

Lisa McKee Bailey has been a registration clerk in the registrar's office for almost three years.

Most students know Mrs. Bailey, 24, as someone who helps them register, drop and add classes, apply for grade transcripts and record grades and midterm deficiencies.

But Mrs. Bailey also helps students plan their courses and teachers, and often gives on-the-spot advisement.

"I like working with students

and being able to relate with them because I was a student," she said. "I enjoy helping others."

If you go to the Diddle Arena between noon and 2 p.m. or between 4 and 10 p.m. weekdays to check out a basketball or volleyball, William Britt will be the man helping you.

Mr. Britt, 64, has been the equipment room manager at night at Diddle Arena for the last 13 years. Before then, he was employed by Western for two years and attended North Carolina State University at Durham.

Mr. Britt, a Warren County native, said his favorite aspect of his job is "meeting different people."

"I'm always meeting people I've never seen before," he said. "Some of them are friendly, some of them are not, so I take the bitter with the sweet."

The Dow Jones Newspaper Fund granted \$3,000 to help pay for the workshop. Also, newspapers and other sources will sponsor students for \$250 per student. Sponsors include Associated Press International, United Press International, The Courier-Journal, The Tennessean, Jackson Sun, Owensboro Messenger-Inquirer, Park City Daily News, Paducah Sun and the Tennessee chapter of the Society of Professional Journalists, SDX.

## Western Kentucky Minority Communicators

Western's student chapter of the National Association of black journalists has become the first student organization to host a Dow Jones Urban Journalism Workshop. The workshop will be held June 21-July 3 and will include 24 minority high school juniors and seniors.

## Graduate Corner



By Kay Jones

Ntozake Shange is a black American poet, novelist, and playwright. Her first nationally successful piece of work was a play written in 1975 and performed on Broadway the following year entitled "for colored girls who have considered suicide/when the rainbow is enuf."

Although *for colored girls* is recognized as a play, Shange refers to the work as a choreopoem (a series of poems that unite to make a single statement). Shange describes, through poetry, prose and song what it means to be a black woman in a world of sorrow, pain, misuse and abuse.

Each of the seven women characters experiences a different reality, yet they all achieve a joyousness and self-understanding that strengthens them, even in the face of despair.

Ultimately, *for colored girls* is a celebration of living for black women everywhere because it is a work of hope and triumph.

To Ntozake Shange

I'M a colored girl.

Never considered suicide, though.

I give love too delicate to have thrown back in my face.

Never felt it shatter. Like you did.

I have loved assiduously.

But what do you expect if yours was only an experiment?

You are a woman with obvious illnesses.

Don't worry.

They're nothing that moving to the end of a rainbow won't cure.

Kay Jones, 23, teaches freshman English at Western and is pursuing a master's degree in English. She attends Western on a full graduate assistantship after graduating Kentucky Wesleyan College with a bachelor's degree in English.

# Tutoring

## SPECIAL SERVICES PROJECT

This federally funded project provides **counseling and free individual tutoring** for eligible participants. For further information, contact the program office in CEB 235, phone 745-4308.

## DEVELOPMENTAL STUDIES

The tutor coordinator in this office provides a matching service for students needing individual tutoring. Students may be matched with tutors for hire or with retired faculty members who have volunteered their services. For further information, contact Dr. Alice Rowe or Jim Garner at 745-5138.

## ACCOUNTING

Free tutoring for students who need help in elementary accounting classes (Accounting 200-201). Grise Hall, room 455 on Monday and Wednesday, from 1-2:30. Contact Mr. Sanborn at 745-3895 for more information.

## AGRICULTURE

(1) Paid tutoring by graduate students. Environmental Science and Technology Building, Room 268. Hours are flexible.

(2) Free consultation with Department of Agriculture faculty members. Environmental Science and Technology Building, Room 268, by appointment.

For further information on either of the above, contact Dr. Luther Hughes at 745-3151.

## ALLIED HEALTH

**Free individual tutoring** available in Dental Hygiene and Medical Records classes for those who qualify. Possibly more services will be available later in the semester. For more information, contact Doris Thayer (Medical Records) at 745-5239, or Dr. Ted Parks (Dental Hygiene) at 745-2427.

## BIOLOGY

Study Hall for Biology 131, TCNW 210 and 212. M-TH 8:00a.m.-12:00 noon and Friday, 8:00a.m.-4:00p.m. Contact Wayne Mason at 745-6012. This study hall is an opportunity for Biology 131 students to study lab or lecture materials on their own. Assistants will sometimes be available. For private tutoring contact Barb Dykstra or Ben Howard at 745-3696.

## CHEMISTRY

Chemistry Learning Lab, Thompson Complex-North Wing Room 317. Monday 10:30a.m.-4:30p.m.; 5:30p.m.-8:00p.m.; Tuesday 10:30a.m.-3:30p.m.; Wednesday 10:30a.m.-4:30p.m. and 5:30p.m.-8:00p.m.; Thursday 10:30a.m.-3:30p.m. Contact Dr. N.W. Hunter at 745-3457.

## COMPUTER SCIENCE

Programming Consultation. Thompson Complex-Central Wing, Room 203. Help is offered in debugging programs and with equipment problems. Contact Lab Assistant at 745-2911 or 745-2541 for hours.

## ECONOMICS

Economics 206 (Statistics) Lab, Grise Hall Room 439. Open 2:00p.m.-4:00p.m. **Wednesdays only.** Contact Economics Department at 745-2249.

## ENGLISH

(1) WRITING LAB, Cherry Hall 101. Hours 9:15-3:10 Monday-Friday, 5:00-9:00p.m. Monday-Thursday. Contact John Reiss at 745-5711.

## FINANCE AND MANAGEMENT INFORMATION SYSTEMS

Microcomputer Hardware/Business Software Lab, Grise Hall Room 336. CALL DEPARTMENT FOR HOURS AT 745-5283.

## HEALTH AND SAFETY

Free tutoring in biostatistics. Science and Technology Hall, Room 410C. Hours vary: contact Dr. Baum or Robin Roach at 745-4797.

## INDUSTRIAL ENGINEERING TECHNOLOGY

EET Course Tutoring, Science Technology Hall room 312, call John Carr at 745-5857 for appointment. Woodworking Opportunity Lab, Industrial Education Building room 101. Call Dr. Frank Pittman at 745-5397 for appointment.

## LANGUAGES

Spanish/German/French/Russian Language practice labs, Ivan Wilson Fine Arts Center. Spanish/German Room 240; French/Russian Room 248. Both labs open Monday-Friday 8:00a.m.-4:00p.m. Contact Dr. Carol Brown at 745-2401.

## MATHEMATICS

Math Lab, Thompson Complex-Central Wing, Lobby. Open:

Monday-Thursday 8:00a.m.-9:00p.m.

Friday 8:00a.m.-1:45p.m.

Sunday 6:00p.m.-9:00p.m.

Contact Mrs. Mary Humphrey at 745-6226.

## MODERN LANGUAGES AND INTERCULTURAL STUDIES

Beginning language students may get assistance in the departmental language laboratory.

# VOICE

*The Voice*, a bisemester newsletter prepared for and by black students at Western Kentucky University, invites your submission of articles and information about your organization.

*The Voice* is published by the Office of Scholastic Development, WKU, Bowling Green, KY 42101.

**Dr. Ronnie Sutton**  
Dean of Scholastic Development

**Ms. Shirley Malone**  
Director of Scholastic Activities for Minority Students

**LaMont Jones, Jr.**  
Student Editor

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## NURSING

Free Tutoring in nursing skills and counseling for Diabetic students, Academic Complex 112D. Call Nancy Lindsey at 745-3758 to set up an appointment.

## PHYSICS

Physics 250 help session, TCCW 201 Monday, 5:00p.m. for more information call Dr. Humphrey at 745-6197. Physics 207, 208, 232, 233, 251, 261, and 271 will meet at TCCW 208, M-TH 11:45a.m.-4:00p.m. and Tues. and Wed. from 6:00p.m.-9:00p.m. Call Dr. Humphrey at 745-6197 for more information.

## PSYCHOLOGY

(1) **Free tutoring** in Psychology 100, College of Education Building. Contact Dr. Howton at 745-2695 or 745-4390 for appointments.

# Regent Wilson

In August of 1983, Hughlyne Perkins Wilson was working in Louisville as assistant superintendent for personnel services in the Jefferson County school system.

Wilson thought her life was busy then—and it was—but it became a lot busier when former Gov. John Y. Brown Jr., named her to Western's Board of

Regents.

In a brief memo written shortly after her appointment, former Western president Donald Zacharias had this to say about the educational, civic and civil rights leader:

"Mrs. Wilson will bring to our board important insights about public education as a result of her personal career and outstanding reputation as a school administrator in Jefferson County. She is thoroughly familiar with Western's academic programs and reputation for quality graduates."



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