

4-1995

## UA35/8 The Topper

WKU Veterans Upward Bound

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# THE TOPPER

APRIL 1995

Volume 2 Issue 2

## VUB GOES TO D.C.: How We Chose Who's Going

**O**n May 27, a group of VUB students and staff will board a plane in Nashville for VUB's second annual cultural trip to Washington, D.C. The students chosen for the 16 available tickets met several requirements. The competition was based on a point system, with points being assigned by the individuals' instructors.

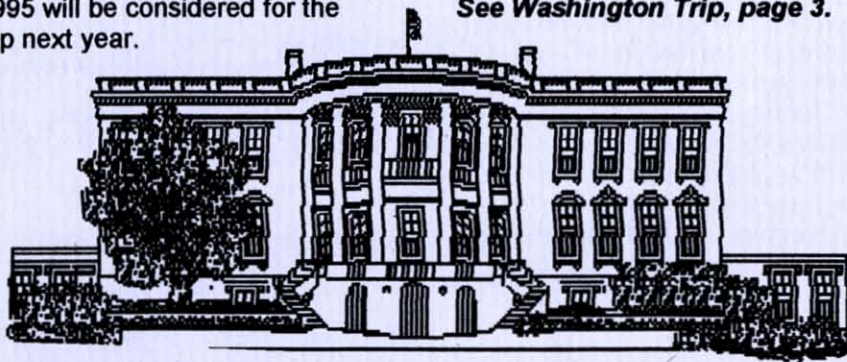
To be considered for the trip, students had to be actively enrolled between June 1, 1994 and March 1, 1995. These dates were chosen for two reasons: 1) Students enrolled in the program prior to June 1, 1994 had a chance to attend the Washington trip last year, and 2) the airline reservations required that we choose by mid-March which students could go. This means that students enrolling after March 1, 1995 will be considered for the trip next year.

Points were given to students based on the percentage of class meetings they attended. For example, students attending class 90%-100% received 5 points, whereas students attending below 60% received -5 points. Therefore students with poor attendance records were less likely to be chosen.

Former students were given points based on three criteria: 1) VUB completion/post-testing; 2) application/admission to postsecondary program; and 3) enrollment in a postsecondary program. Current students were given points based on: 1) academic progress; and 2) participation in VUB auxiliary services.

Students involved in conflict or wartime activity were given 5 points.

*See Washington Trip, page 3.*



## Student Spotlight: Rick Livingston

**R**ick Livingston enrolled in VUB on February 13, 1995, and is planning to enter WKU or vocational school in the near future, where he plans to study real estate management or industrial maintenance. After completing school, he hopes to follow in his mother's footsteps as a manager/owner of rental property.

Rick was born in Livingston, Kansas, where he lived with his six sisters and three brothers. Five months after high school graduation he enlisted in the Army's delayed entry program and was stationed at Fort Knox as a Motor transportation Operator and Petroleum Supply Specialist. Love bloomed at Fort Knox, where Rick met his future wife, who lived in Auburn, Ky. He decided to settle in this area because he likes the people here, and he was hired at Country Oven Bakery. He and his wife have one son, Rick Jr.

VUB instructor Jeanette Prerost reports that Rick is serious about his work at VUB. He quickly reviewed several math texts and continues to increase his vocabulary by using new words daily. Rick enjoys class and stated, "Work I do in the program helps me in everyday life."

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# What's Up, Doc?

**Financing Your College Education:  
Who's Gonna Pay for All This?**

Rick Faulkner is "Doc," a VUB alumni who now serves as our VA work study student. He majors in Social Work. All advice given here is un-official and sanctioned only by the School of Hard Knocks, from which he holds a PhD.

**G**reetings, Fellow Vets! Last issue, we covered some general information on returning to school. I hope the information was useful. I did receive positive feedback from some of you, and welcome your comments and questions. You can contact me here at VUB.

One of the most troubling aspects of "getting into school", is how to finance the expedition. In this issue we will examine the three most common forms of financing for veteran students returning to college or technical school: The VA, Federal and State Financial Aid, and various loan programs. We will also look at some other forms of money that you may not know are available.

The first place to check is the Veterans Administration. Depending on the length and time of your service, and the program of educational benefits you fit, the VA may help finance your education. Since the programs have undergone many

## Veterans Service Officer Now at VUB

**T**he local Veterans Service Officer, Martin Schenck, will be available to answer your questions and provide you with information about the VA. Mr. Schenck will be in our offices on alternating Fridays beginning on March 24. He will be available from 1:00 p.m. til 4:00 p.m.

Feel free to call our office at (502) 745-5310 to verify the times and dates Mr. Schenck will be available.

changes I won't try to cover them all here. Check out a copy of Federal Benefits For Veterans and Dependents. Not only will you find every educational benefit for veterans, but there is also important information about other things you may have coming. If you haven't noticed already, most things that are available are not advertised, and it pays to do some digging on your own. Here is where I want to add a footnote. When dealing with the VA, GET THE INFORMATION FIRST-HAND!! Before you take someone else's word, remember that your case may be totally different from their's, so you owe it to yourself to find out on your own.

If you are collecting a disability from the VA, you may qualify for Veteran's Rehabilitation Training (ch.31). This will cover up to four years of training, at a college or tech school.

The next step is to complete a Free Application for Federal Student Financial Aid (FAFSA). These forms are available at VUB, and in the financial aid office at the school you attend. If you are planning to attend school in the fall, the deadline for submitting the FAFSA is May 30. The form is self explanatory, and the staff at VUB can help you with the paperwork. Remember that even if you are getting educational assistance from the VA or GI Bill, that will not disqualify you from the grant money. Submitting the FAFSA automatically puts you on the list for Pell Grants, as well as other federal and state financial aid. If for some reason you don't qualify for a grant, a loan may work for you. Most have low interest rates and

long pay-back periods.

Another resource to look into is money from private sources. I would caution against private loans, but scholarships and tuition reimbursement programs are available through many churches, clubs, and companies. If you belong to an organization, ask about their policies. You may be pleasantly surprised.

Financing your education is no easy task. We all have additional responsibilities that "typical college kids" don't have. But by first learning what is available, then utilizing the resources wisely, you will be on your way. Remember the staff at VUB can be your most valuable information resource. We are here to help you succeed, whatever your educational goal. Till next time, keep your head down.

Doc



## Persian Gulf Veterans' Facts

- 697,000 Service members served in the Persian Gulf.
- 337,500 Persian Gulf service members have become veterans.
- 138,000 of those veterans have utilized the VA health care system (including approximately 10,000 inpatients). This figure contains all medical contacts, not only those which were gulf-related.
- Of that number, 34,000 have received medical evaluations under VA's Persian Gulf Registry examination program. Some 85% report symptoms.

source: Kentucky Veteran News.

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# Focus on Careers



Increasingly our economy is becoming service-sector dominated, and so too is the job market." Any of you searching for a job recently have probably learned this fact first hand!

So where will the jobs of the future be? The charts to the right may give you some ideas.

The information provided is from *Job Choices: 1995*. A free copy of this valuable resource is available to each active VUB student. If you have not received your copy, Martha has one for you. Also, if you have not completed a COPS Interest Inventory, please see Martha to do so.

## Washington Trip (cont. from p.1)

since part of the Washington trip involves visiting the many war memorials.

Finally, students were given an "instructor recommendation" of 1-10 points. Then the points were totaled, and the top 16 students were notified that they qualified for the trip.

Several activities are planned for the Washington trip, including a tour of the White House and visits to Arlington National Cemetery and the Vietnam Memorial Wall. Look for details about the trip in the next issue of The Topper.



### Demand Expected to Exceed Supply

Adult education teachers  
Chiropractors  
Computer scientists and systems analysts  
Construction and building inspectors  
Cost estimators  
Counselors  
Engineering, science, and data processing Managers  
Funeral directors  
Health services managers  
Human services workers  
Inspectors and compliance officers, except construction  
Loan officers and counselors  
Metallurgical, ceramic, and materials engineers  
Occupational therapists  
Operations research analysts  
Pharmacists  
Physical therapists  
Physicians  
Podiatrists  
Property and real estate managers  
Recreational therapists  
Registered nurses  
Respiratory therapists  
Restaurant and food service managers  
Roman Catholic priests  
School teachers—secondary and special education  
Speech-language pathologists and audiologists  
Veterinarians

Source: "The 1992-2006 Job Outlook in Brief," Bureau of Labor Statistics, *Occupational Outlook Quarterly* / Spring 94.

### Demand Expected to about Equal Supply

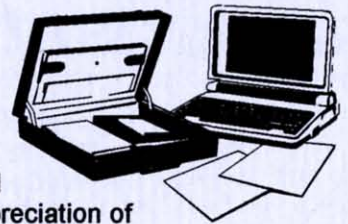
Accountants and auditors  
Agricultural scientists  
Chemical engineers  
Chemists  
Civil engineers  
College and university faculty  
Dietitians and nutritionists  
Economists and marketing research analysts  
Electrical and electronics engineers  
Employment interviewers  
Geologists and geophysicists  
Hotel managers and assistants  
Industrial engineers  
Industrial production managers  
Landscape architects  
Mechanical engineers  
Meteorologists  
Mining engineers  
Nuclear engineers  
Optometrists  
Petroleum engineers  
Rabbis  
Retail managers  
School teachers—kindergarten and elementary  
Social scientists and urban planners  
Social workers  
Sociologists  
Underwriters  
Urban and regional planners  
Writers and editors

Source: "The 1992-2006 Job Outlook in Brief," Bureau of Labor Statistics, *Occupational Outlook Quarterly* / Spring 1994.

## The Director's Desk



I was looking at the title of this insert and decided it was time to clean/clear my desk. Since the completion of the grant application, I have kept my office clean to the appreciation of the building housekeeping and office staff.



Every time we put together the newsletter, we have something or someone new to describe. This time is no exception. In December, the Veterans Administration office in Louisville designated the Veterans Upward Bound program as an Education Center. This certification enables VA to refer qualified veterans under vocational rehabilitation to receive refresher coursework and VA benefits while enrolled in our program.

Every other Friday afternoon when classes are not in session, the classroom becomes the official office for the Veterans Service Officer for the counties surrounding Bowling Green. Martin Schenck (an alumnus) will be available to provide assistance for area veterans' needs.

Finally, I am excited about the new counties (Adair, Green, Cumberland, Ohio and Muhlenburg) we will be adding to our service area. The additional counties and the reestablishing of an active program in Glasgow at WKU/Glasgow campus are only broadening our outreach efforts.



# THE TOPPER

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KY 42101

PLEASE FORWARD  
ADDRESS CORRECTION REQUESTED

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## Important Numbers and Dates

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

|           |  |
|-----------|--|
| April 9   | National Former POW Recognition Day  |
| May 4     | VUB Awards Dinner (6:30pm)   |
| May 8     | VE Day—50th Anniversary WWII   |
| May 19-21 | Kentucky Vietnam Veterans Reunion<br>Capital Plaza<br>call: (502) 363-5296 or (502) 449-3113 |
| May 20    | Armed Forces Day   |
| May 24    | Rolling Thunder "Ride To The Wall"   |
| May 27-29 | VUB Washington Trip  |
| May 29    | Memorial Day (observed)  |
| June 14   | Flag Day   |

### **ADDRESS CHANGE REQUESTED**

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