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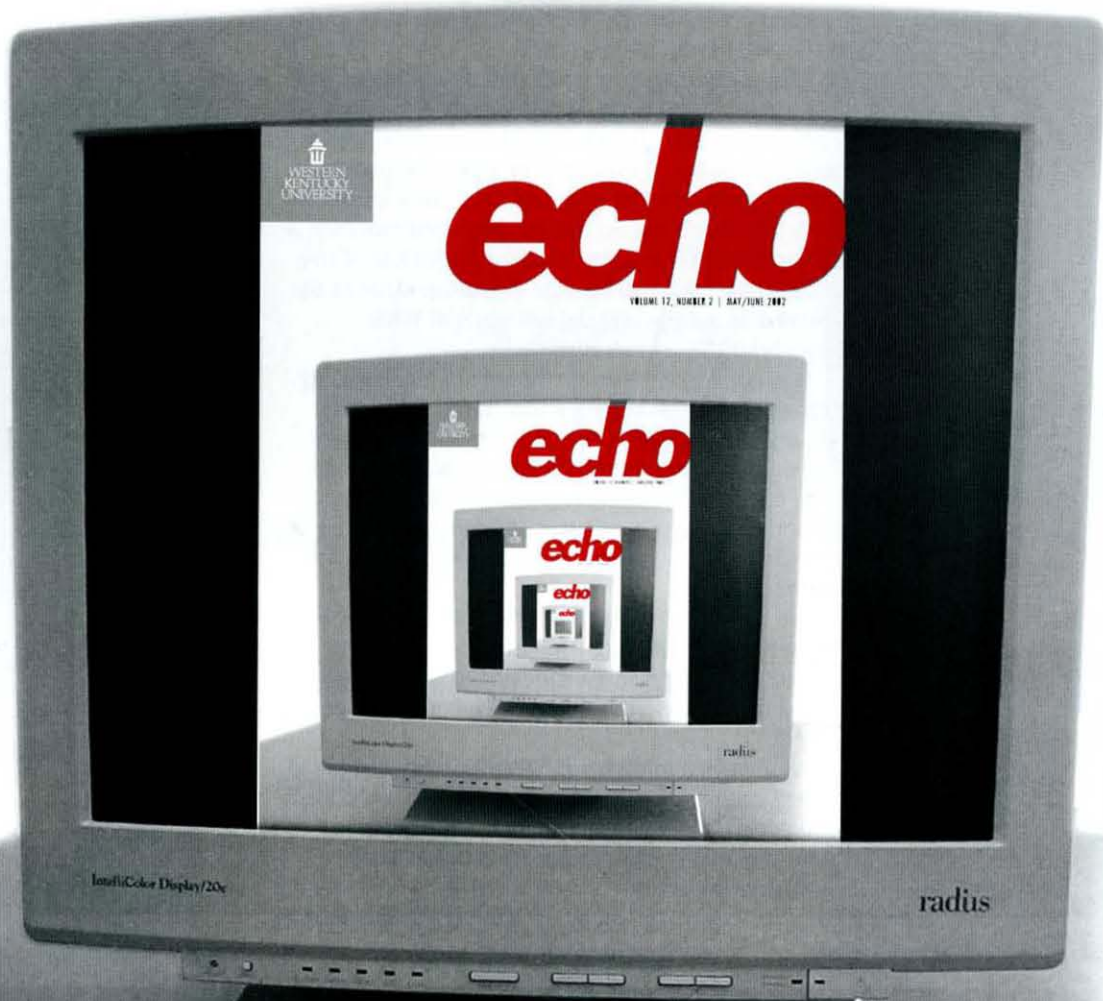
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echo

VOLUME 12, NUMBER 2 | MAY/JUNE 2002



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Editor's Note

The staff of Echo magazine congratulates the faculty, staff and administrators of Western Kentucky University on another successful academic year. Despite the challenges of seemingly endless construction and record student enrollment, and the fear and confusion caused by the Sept. 11 attacks, employees of WKU remained focused on the students, and how best to serve them under such trying circumstances. On behalf of the entire Echo staff, I wish all of you a happy and productive summer.

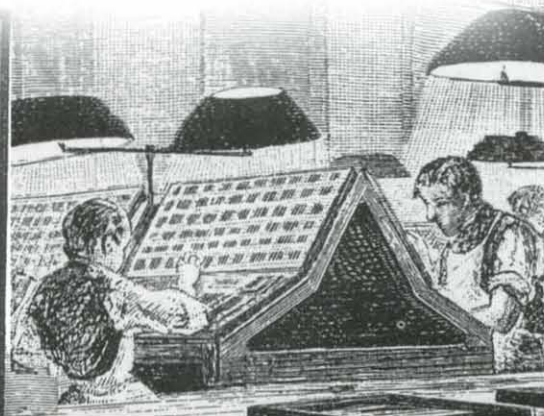
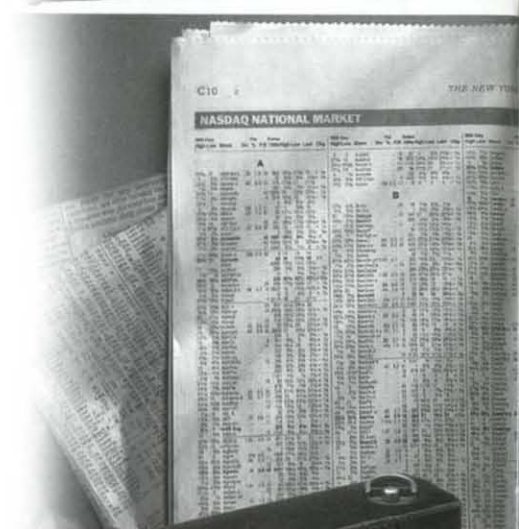
I am pleased to announce that beginning in August, Echo will become an exclusively electronic publication. This change will allow us to deliver interesting news and information about the people and programs at WKU with improved timeliness and efficiency. Echo online will be published monthly, a vast improvement over the current schedule of five times a year. We will be able to feature more of the remarkable people and departments at WKU throughout the course of the year.

Echo online will be distributed via an all faculty, all staff e-mail containing a link to the Echo web site, www.wku.edu/echo. The e-mail will also be sent to the all retired list. Readers who are not on these e-mail lists but wish to receive an e-mail notification of when a new issue of Echo online is posted should e-mail me, kimberly.parsley@wku.edu, with your request.

We will be working throughout the summer to create a content driven, user-friendly, appealing website that supports the kinds of comprehensive stories to which Echo readers have become accustomed.

As always, I invite you to submit story ideas and professional activities. Your suggestions are critical to making Echo a publication that is truly for and about the faculty, staff and friends of Western Kentucky University.

Kimberly Shain Parsley



echo

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Coming to a computer screen near you
— the August 2002 issue of **Echo**
magazine will be electronic!



Focused on Storytelling

New building, new technology won't change photojournalism program's emphasis on content

By Tommy Newton

The images flash onto the screen. Smoke rising from the New York skyline. Tears flowing down people's cheeks. Candles burning in memory of those killed at the World Trade Center.

Pictures, however, tell only part of the story. There's sound. Sounds of grief. Sounds of hope. Sounds of despair. Sounds of music. Sounds of family and friends sharing their stories of those lost when the buildings collapsed Sept. 11.

Sounds and pictures, however, tell only part of the story. There's text. Words and numbers provide additional context and information about the sights and sounds.

In this multimedia presentation, the images, sounds and writing come together to tell the story of people affected by the attacks on America. "I'm proud of my students and my colleagues. I've never been prouder," said James Kenney, coordinator of Western Kentucky University's photojournalism program. "It's a real testimony of the spirit of our program."

The presentation, produced by WKU students and faculty, is the latest chapter in the story of the nation's premier journalism and broadcasting program. This fall, WKU's School of Journalism and Broadcasting will add an emphasis in new media to its photojournalism sequence.

The new media emphasis “increases our expertise to ensure that our graduates will be knowledgeable of best practices in the field,” said Jo-Ann Albers, director of the School of Journalism and Broadcasting. The school’s Center for 21st Century Media is Western’s second program of distinction.

“It’s interesting that before we get started that we’ve produced a piece that is representative of what we want to do with that program,” Kenney said.

The Sept. 11 DVD “is almost exactly the kind of thing we want to do but under different circumstances,” he said. “We want to take an issue and bring together several elements of media and produce it in a way to distribute in a digital format.”

But taking this latest step into the digital age doesn’t mean the photojournalism program is going to lose sight of its mission or its tradition.

“Content – telling stories — is what we’ve always been about,” Kenney said. “That has not changed, should not change and will not change. We may be using different tools but the result is the same. We are storytellers.”

No amount of high-tech equipment or computer editing software can hide the lack of content in a story, he said.

While economic and production issues forced the newspaper industry to move more quickly into the digital era, Western’s move has been more gradual as the department blended traditional darkroom techniques and digital imaging systems.

“We didn’t want to abandon what has taken us this far,” Kenney said. “We have fought hard not to let technology become the star of the program. Our students are the stars of the program. That won’t change.”

That emphasis on student success has increased enrollment in Western’s nationally recognized photojournalism program. In recent years the program has had 120 to 130 students; last fall the number rose to about 180.

“I’m sure the Western Kentucky photojournalism program is mentioned in anyone’s short list of schools to recommend,” Albers said. “We’re receiving queries from all over the world.”

The new students are being greeted by new faculty. Kenney, who came to Western in 1993 as photojournalist-in-residence, took over as sequence coordinator last year

when Mike Morse took optional retirement. Morse, who has been with the program since it was established more than 25 years ago, remains on board in a part-time role. Joe Imel, chief photographer for the *Daily News*, also is a part-time instructor.

Tim Broekema and Jeanie Adams-Smith are the newest full-time faculty members. Broekema returned to Western last fall after serving as director of photography at the *Kalamazoo (Mich.) Gazette*. Adams-Smith, who was a photo editor at the *Chicago Tribune* and a Knight Fellow at Ohio University, began her duties this semester.

“I feel really blessed to have such a great group of people on the faculty,” Kenney said. “The talent and energy we have here is tremendous.”

Another change for the program will be the move into the state-of-the-art Media and Technology Hall.

“With the new building, the photojournalism program is gaining a showcase location on the first floor, an additional studio and electronic imaging lab, extra office space, a gallery that it will control and greatly enhanced security for equipment and labs,” Albers said.

The building also will include a darkroom. Although the use of darkrooms has been reduced in the digital age, “we feel there’s still a value in it as a teaching tool,” Kenney said. “It makes our students better to have a taste of it.”

That’s why the photojournalism program’s tradition of excellence, producing quality students and teaching visual storytelling skills won’t change in a new building or with new technology, he said.

“The new building is a sign of a job well done,” Kenney said. “Many people before me – people like Mike Morse, Jack Corn, Dave LaBelle, Suzi Post, David Cooper – worked really hard in less than ideal conditions and accomplished much.”

Kenney also recognized others outside the photojournalism program – Albers; David Whitaker, former department head; David Lee, Dean of Potter College – who have been supportive and allowed the program to flourish.

“We must remember that a new building will not make us great. It will make us better,” he said, “but only if we continue to produce quality journalists who can write the stories, take the photographs and produce the audio and video.”



PHOTO BY MICHAEL W. BUNCH



PHOTOCOLLAGES BY TOM MEACHAM

W E S T E R N W O R K S T O B R I N G

Girls & Science

By Miranda Wilemon

Stacy Wilson has been in the minority ever since college. When she decided to go into engineering as a freshman at Tennessee Tech, she didn't expect to be so alone.

"I would go to classes and there would be maybe two or three girls," she said.

Wilson said it was hard to feel like she belonged in her department even though she had always been good in math and science.

By graduate school, Wilson said she was the only woman in the engineering

department and she is now the only woman engineering professor at Western Kentucky University.

"You learn to depend on yourself a lot," she said.

Female under-representation in scientific fields is a growing problem that has received little attention until recently. After attending a women-in-science conference at the University of Kentucky, Wilson felt that an effort to interest more women in science needed to be started at Western as well.

"Just to give girls some confidence—it's okay to be smart," she explained.

Katrina Phelps, associate professor of psychology, said that many girls shy away from science because they don't feel like it's what they are supposed to be interested in.

"We're losing really, really bright minds that could be doing great things in the field," she said.

Phelps and Wilson are now part of the WKU Community Outreach to Girls in Science, a group committed to encourage girls' interests in the sciences.

The program is targeting girls who are interested in nontraditional fields of study, or fields where the employment

rate is 75 percent male.

Nearly all of the Ogden College of Science and Engineering is involved. From chemistry and physics to agriculture and geology, most of the sciences are represented in the committee because lack of female enrollment extends to every scientific field.

"For everybody, this is an important issue," Wilson said. "Everyone at Ogden College is concerned about women in their programs."

Phelps said that the under-representation of women in scientific fields is a nationally recognized problem. She believes the problem may have its root in the schools, where a distinction is made between boys' and girls' interests in science as early as middle school.

"In elementary school, the interests are the same across the board," Phelps said, "but by middle school, something happens."

Molly Kerby, enrollment management instructor, thinks that if girls had more women to look up to, the distinctions and uneven test scores might eventually even out.

"There aren't that many women [scientists] to be good role models," Kerby said

The project is hoping to change that.

The "Girls to Science" idea was born of a partnership between WKU's Community Service and Outreach committee in the Women Studies department and WISE, or Women in Science and Engineering. Kerby said that the committee originally wanted to start a mentoring program for girls who were already interested in science, but after Phelps wrote the proposal and the project received a "We Can" grant (which stands for Women Engineers Changing Attitudes Now), "Girls to Science" expanded. Not only did the committee hope to support girls that were already interested but hoped also to raise awareness and spark interest. "Girls to Science" is now an umbrella heading for several projects.

The committee held a networking luncheon on April 11 for women in the sciences on Western's campus. The luncheon offered an opportunity for female faculty and staff members to voice their concerns about under-representation and to give suggestions about how to solve the problem.

The program also sponsored "Science Day" on April 25, targeting girls

from local middle schools. Science Day allowed girls to choose from 11 different science-related classes and offered a Saturday of workshops, lectures and team projects. Parents and teachers attended an awards ceremony at the end of the day.

In addition to these projects, "Girls to Science" will hold a magic show on May 9 open to both girls and boys from local middle schools.

"We hope to show some of the cool stuff science can do," Phelps said.

Finally, as the lynchpin of the whole operation, a "Girls to Science" webpage has been developed.

"This is the piece that we hope keeps people hooked," Phelps said.

The site (www.wku.edu/girlstoscience) profiles a different female scientist each week and offers a chatroom option where girls can communicate with other girls and with women in their fields of interest from all over the state.

"The younger you can turn them on to science, the better chance you have that they will pursue it," Phelps said. "Just giving it some attention is the first step."

Miranda Wilemon is a senior journalism student from Birmingham, Ala.



Conserving Energy— A Bright Idea

By Kimberly Shain Parsley

Most of us don't give much thought to energy efficiency. We may wince when the electric bill comes due during a particularly hot July, but generally, as long as the lights come on when we flip the switch, it doesn't much enter our minds. This began to change as the rest of the country watched the news reports of the rolling blackouts in California not long ago. Suddenly, energy efficiency assumed a greater portion of our attentions. This was especially true for institutions as large and with such vast energy needs as Western Kentucky University.

With the campus in need of so many maintenance and construction upgrades, it appeared unlikely that improving its energy efficiency would be possible in the near future. But that was before Energy Savings Performance Contracting.

What is performance contracting? If you don't know, that's OK. You really have no reason to know, since the Kentucky General Assembly only recently made it applicable to public postsecondary education institutions and other state agencies.

John N. Osborne, associate vice president of campus services and facilities, explained that performance contracting is a contract whereby an energy service company, in this case LG&E Enertech Inc., conducts a field audit of an agency and upgrades the facility, receiving payment for the work over a specified number of years from the savings realized as a result of the improvements.

"This is one of those cases where it's almost too good to be true," Osborne said, "but if done properly, it is a very good program because you literally take energy savings to pay for improvements that are energy related on our campus."

Sounds like a good idea, so when do we start? Actually, the project is nearly complete. The proposal was approved in August. Construction began in October and is slated to be finished by July 1, but is running well ahead of schedule.

Performance contracts have existed in the private sector for several years, but had not been applied to state institutions. It wasn't that the state prohibited this type of

contract, rather legislation did not exist to specifically allow for it. Such legislation was enacted in 1997.

Western was selected to be the first state institution allowed to enter into a performance contract. Osborne said this was because, "We showed the most interest, and convinced the powers that be in the Division of Facilities Management in Frankfort that we were most eager to be first, and the most prepared."

"We have a significant amount, over \$66 million, of deferred maintenance projects on this campus," Osborne said. "This was one way to reduce our backlog of deferred maintenance. Even though it was only in energy related projects, all that is in our inventory of accumulated backlog."

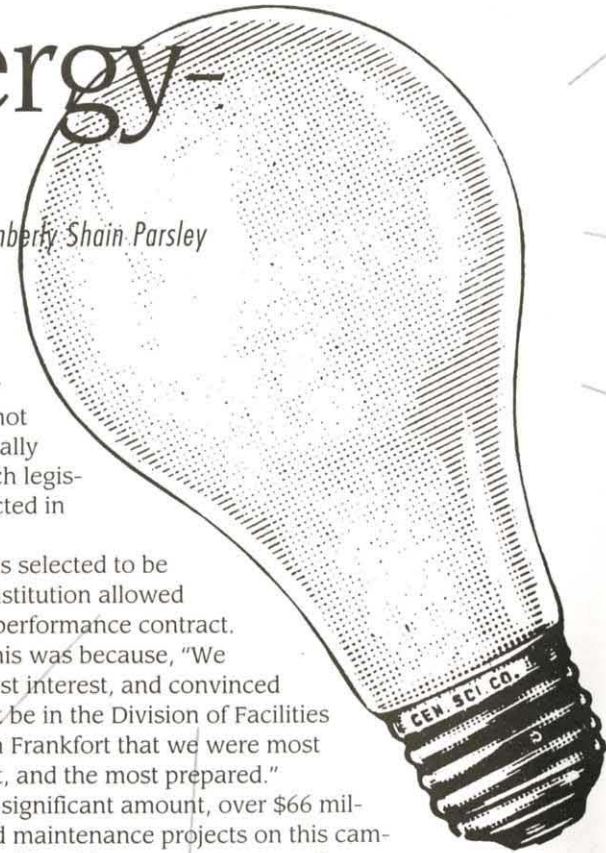
Osborne said he frequently receives calls from other state agencies interested in entering into a performance contract. He is pleased to report the success of the project and largely attributes that success to Project Manager Ben Johnson, who serves as Western's liaison between WKU and LG&E Enertech and its subcontractors.

"A total of ten buildings were evaluated for their individual energy savings improvement possibilities," Johnson said. "It came as no surprise that the potential for energy savings was extensive, so certain items were singled out and addressed."

Light fixtures were retrofitted in five buildings, those being Cherry Hall, Environmental Science and Technology Building, Academic Complex, Wetherby Administration Building and Cravens Graduate Center.

Johnson said the new lights use less than 80 percent of the energy used by the old lights (many of them 20 to 30 years old) they replaced. He said that the cost of the new lights can be recouped in less than two years from the energy savings.

Johnson said that approximately 21,457 fluorescent lamps were replaced. This equates to about 85,800 linear feet of lamps. If laid end to end, they would stretch more than 16 miles.



In addition to increased energy efficiency, the project had other environmentally friendly components. Many of the old lamps could be recycled. Approximately 10,728 old magnetic ballasts (more than 13 tons) were replaced. Many had to be properly disposed of because they contained a hazardous substance. The old ballasts never posed a health risk because the hazardous substance was always contained within a part of the ballasts.

"No risk was posed. It wasn't exposed. It was just internal to a device," Johnson said. "But the nice thing is that now it's gone."

The bulk of the work has been in Cherry Hall, with not only lighting, but also heating and cooling units being overhauled. Johnson said that most people wouldn't notice the changes, except that the lighting in their areas might be a little better or they might stay a little more comfortable. The crews on the project have been working mostly during the nighttime hours in order to cause as little disruption as possible.

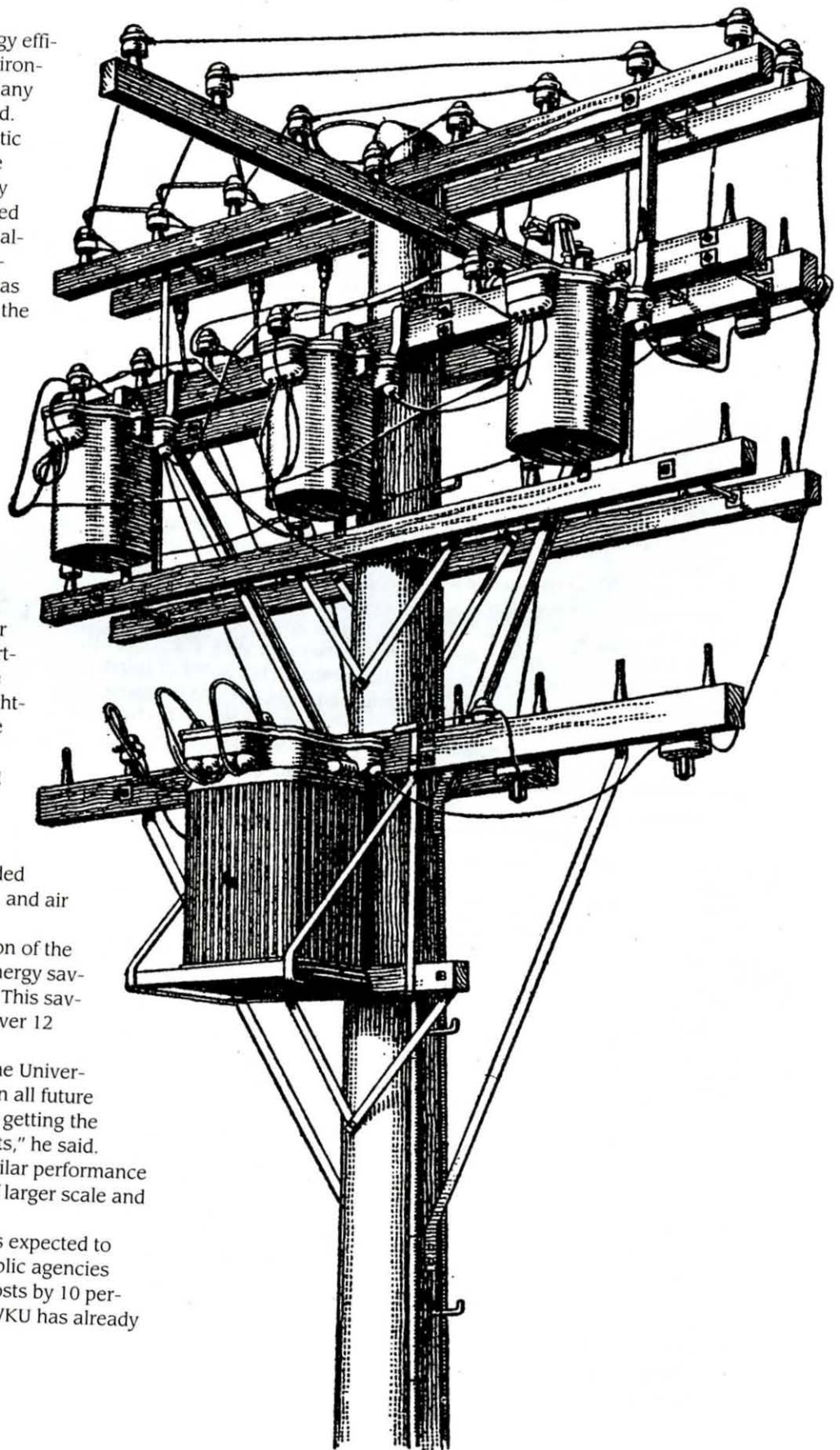
Five other buildings, those being Academic Complex, Helm Library, Environmental Science and Technology Building, Cravens Graduate Center and Grise Hall, will be upgraded with new HVAC, heating ventilation, and air conditioning, control features.

Johnson said that upon completion of the construction upgrades, there is an energy savings guarantee of \$252,408 per year. This savings will be used to repay Enertech over 12 years for the cost of doing the work.

"The result of the project is that the University will save in excess of 8 percent on all future electric utility bills while immediately getting the benefit of much-needed improvements," he said.

Osborne hopes to enter into a similar performance contract in the near future, but one of larger scale and scope.

The Kentucky Division of Energy is expected to mandate in the near future that all public agencies and institutions reduce their energy costs by 10 percent. Johnson is proud to report that WKU has already met that requirement.



While We're on the Subject...

By Kimberly Shain Parsley

When most of us open our mailboxes, we can determine from the packaging or return address whether or not the letter is worthy of our time. Unsolicited sales papers, catalogs and special offers are routinely trashed without a second thought. We know that though the envelope says we might have won \$25,000,000, we probably didn't. Credit card companies have gotten quite clever about disguising their entreaties in a way that doesn't tip us off to the actual contents inside. But it doesn't take us long to realize that the absence of a return address or even an address label made to look like it was handwritten is actually one of many unwanted invitations to increase our debt ratio.

of it demands our attention or piques our interest, much of it does not. So how do you know what messages are worth the interruption? An effective subject line can eliminate the uncertainty.

I am guilty of deleting messages that I suspect are irrelevant to me. When I started thinking about this article, I began tinkering around with my subject lines, sending my colleagues messages with subject lines like, MOST BRILLIANT THING YOU'VE EVER READ or IMPORTANT—MUST READ! It got their attention, but I was also frequently informed that my message, typical mundane office stuff, didn't live up to its promise. A NO SUBJECT heading might be more likely to be opened

than one titled, INFORMATION. At least it offers the allure of a mystery.

So what is a subject line? It goes back to the days when people regularly sent printed memos to inform or more often remind someone of something. In pre-E-workplaces, the average person might receive a handful of memos a day, as opposed to today, when people may send and receive 10 to 100. Have you ever counted them? I think you would be shocked. So with so many E-mails, forwards and replies, a subject line takes on a much

greater importance. It is like a teaser to the actual message, the cool trailer to the movie, the commercial for a popular sitcom, or the free sample at the mall. It has to rope you in and make you want more, more, more.

Bob Skipper, WKU's director of media relations, knows about effective subject lines. News releases are

now sent to the media via E-mail. Skipper knows that if the subject line doesn't make a newspaper or TV reporter want to know more about the story, then the reporter won't open the message and the story won't appear in the paper or on the six o'clock news. Thus, information about Western never makes it to potential students and their parents.

"A subject line to an E-mail has to perform the function of the lead in a newspaper," Skipper said. "It has to give as much information as possible. Reporters get so much E-mail, they don't want to have to read through the body of the message to find out what the message is about."

And neither do employees at Western.

E-mail has become a form of communication critical to conducting the business of the day. At the same time, it has replaced the telephone as the biggest disruption to conducting the business of the day. Subject lines help the receiver of a message determine which messages to open and in what order to open them. They are how your messages compete with those of others for the attention of your colleagues.

Subject lines should be as specific as possible without being wordy or lengthy. Specificity is especially important if the receiver may not recognize your name or E-mail address. FIRE, as a subject line might not be appropriate, while FIRE PREVENTION SEMINAR TODAY, is less ambiguous and will avoid alarming receivers. Admittedly, FIRE, would get your message read by nearly everyone.

So keep the uses of subject lines in mind the next time you send a message. I must end this now, as my computer just dinged, alerting me to the arrival of more messages.

son has 166 messages, 16 unread (4.07 MB of 5.00

	Subject
	Surprise
	Claim Your COMPLIMENTARY Subscription!
	Air and Hotel Specials from \$200!
	Latest Specials Available Now!
	Thank You for Joining!
	You've got to try this game!
	Get Free Video Email Today!
	ArtToday - huge discounts for old members

Yes, we've become skilled at spotting trash-worthy snail mail, but what about E-mail?

My in box is forever full of messages simply titled MEETING, or TUESDAY or ECHO. I have a folder full of messages titled simply, ECHO. We at Western send and receive virtual truckloads of E-mail. While much

Congratulations, Concrete Canoe Team Regional Champions!

Building a Tradition of Success

By Tommy Newton



PHOTO BY SHERYL HAGAN-BOOTH

For the 7th straight year WKU's Concrete Canoe Team is the Ohio Valley Regional Concrete Canoe champion.

In athletics, it's easy to see that success and tradition aren't built overnight. The same is true in academic pursuits, especially in Western's Department of Engineering.

Over the past several years, Western students and faculty have built a tradition of excellence in civil, mechanical and electrical engineering. In two civil engineering competitions – the concrete canoe and steel bridge events — Western has become a national player.

The concrete canoe team has finished in the nation's top 10 for the past two years – eighth in 2001 and 10th in 2000 – and has loftier goals in 2002, its 10th year of competition. The bridge team finished 25th nationally in 2001 in just its second year of competition.

Western, which hosted the 2002 Ohio Valley regional competitions in April, finished first in concrete canoe and third in steel bridge contests.

But reaching that point and keeping the dreams of another trip to nationals alive takes months of hard work, preparation and enthusiasm.

When the concrete canoe team began its work in August, adviser Matt Dettman, civil engineering professor,

told the group that hard work would be needed to maintain the tradition of excellence and reminded the team that finishing eighth in the nation was a great accomplishment. "Other schools would be happy with an eighth-place finish in regionals," he said.

The bridge team began its work in October with a similar goal in mind – improving its national ranking. In just two years, Western has made its mark in the National Student Steel Bridge Competition with 25th and 38th place finishes.

As the academic year progressed, team adviser Greg Mills, civil engineering professor, remained confident Western could improve its national standing but realized that competition at the regional level would be tougher in 2002. By late February, the bridge had begun to take shape, moving from design into fabrication.

For its 10th year in the event, the concrete canoe team named its vessel "Evolution" to describe the progress of Western's program and the yearly changes in the canoe project.

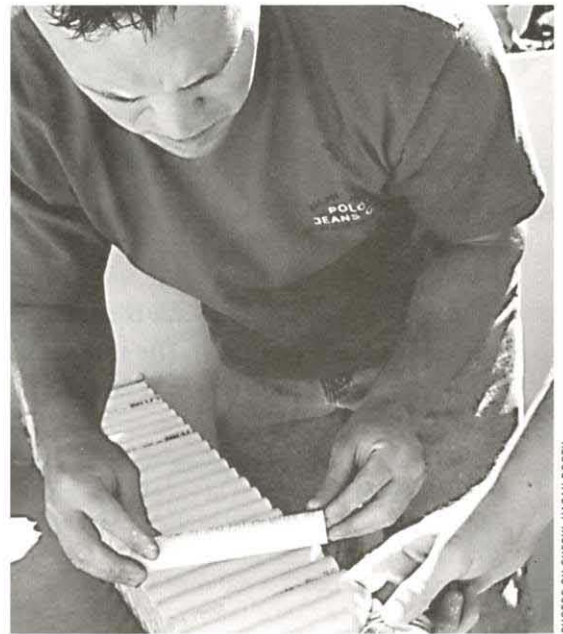
Evolution is an apt description of the process both teams undertook to maintain an engineering tradition of excellence. On the following pages, in photographs and text, you'll get an idea of the work that goes on behind the scenes to build a successful program.

Building the concrete canoe requires nine to 10 months of hard work – design, testing, building, practicing, competing. The first step in the process is to dismantle the form of 2001's canoe, "Aquavette."

The 25-foot long form is made of foam, plywood and drywall compound and rests on a well-built lumber stand. Dismantling it is no easy task.

"If you want to do well at nationals, you've got to start from scratch right here," Clay Ellis, a Beaver Dam senior, said in between swings of his hammer. This is Ellis' third year on the canoe project. He got his start by helping the rowers and has moved up in responsibility each year.

Once the old form is discarded and new models are designed and tested, a new form will be built.



PHOTOS BY SHERYL HAGAN-BOOTH

Getting to the finished product requires smaller steps along the way. In October, the team designed and built smaller concrete models that were tested in a wood and stainless steel structure called the weir tester.

Clay Ellis and Matt Shockley, a Mount Washington junior, glued short pieces of 3/4 inch pipe into place. When the models were ready for testing, water was pumped into the weir tester, creating turbulence and flowed through the small pipes to simulate race conditions.

Ellis, Shockley and Deneatra Flener, a Morgantown senior, also worked to mix concrete and build small models. The 10 models – each with a slightly different design – were made of foam, plywood and fiberglass mesh and were covered by the concrete mix.

While Ellis and Shockley smoothed the 1/2 inch thickness of concrete, Flener mixed the ingredients that would be the key element of the concrete canoe. That mixture includes Portland cement, ceramic 714 and 1430 (small aggregates), microspheres, recyclospheres, glass bubbles, durafibers, structural fibers, acrylset, latex and superplasticizer. Following a list of amounts, she weighed each ingredient and placed them in a 5-gallon bucket. The key is keeping the concrete lightweight but strong, Flener said. For example, glass bubbles provide strength without weight.

The form evolved into its final shape by the end of November. The form is built of 97 wooden cross sections separated by 2-inch foam sections. Each cross section is a different size giving the form its shape from the wide middle to the pointed ends.

The main difference in this year's form is "a backbone all the way down" that should help in the overall shape of the boat and help keep the boat straight in rowing competition, Ellis said.

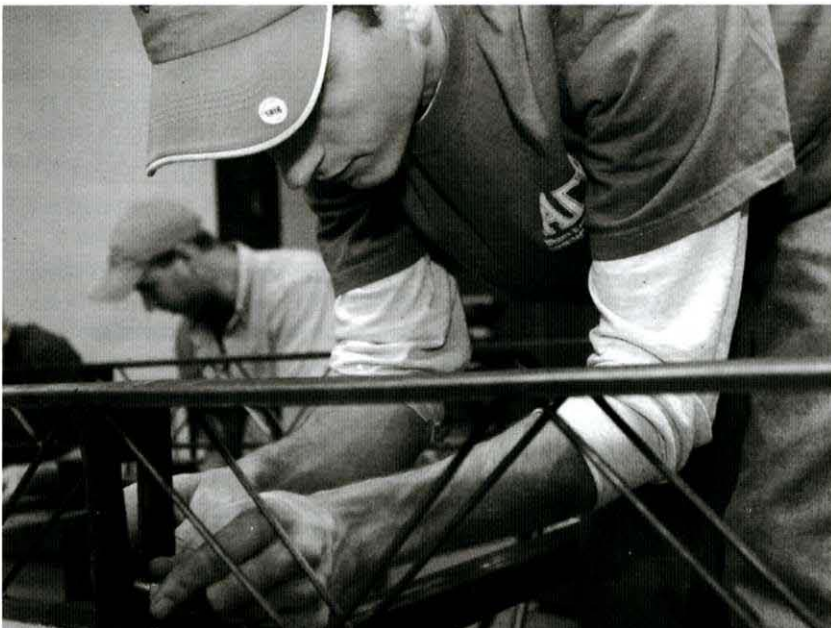
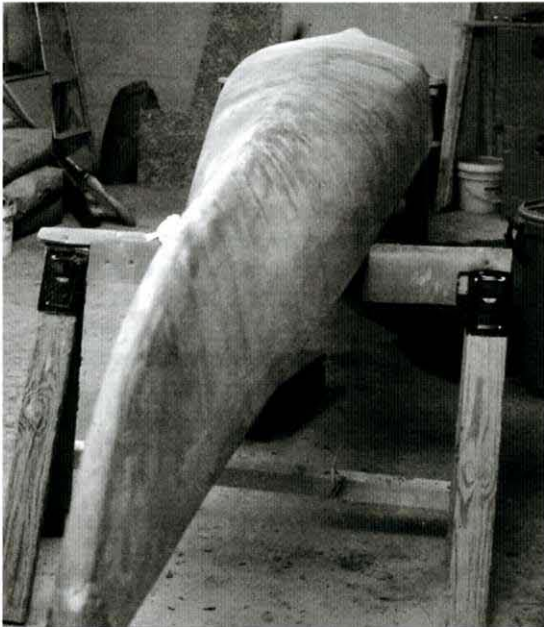
In late November, team members used drywall compound to fill holes on the form and sanded it. After the holiday break, a fiberglass canoe was built for practice and additional testing.

In late February, the team spent 21 hours pouring the concrete for the finished product. Before mid-March, team members sanded the concrete and prepared it for painting. In the final month before the April competition, team members practiced rowing at Basil Griffin Park and at the Diddle Arena pool.

But the work isn't limited to pouring concrete or padding the canoe. The team also is required to build a display that provides information about the project and to make oral presentations and written reports.

"In the fall, we do all the rough work. In the spring, we wrap it all up," Ellis said.

PHOTOS BY SHERYL HAGAN-BOOTH



In just two years, Western engineering students have made their mark in the National Student Steel Bridge Competition. The team received the 2002 rules and specifications in October and began making plans for this year's entry.

During the fall semester, team members began the design work to improve upon the bridges WKU students built in 2000 and 2001. Team adviser Greg Mills told the team that the 2002 national champion would be the team that uses the rules to optimize the bridge design for structural strength, weight, assembly time and economy.

By early March, team member Dan Haney, a Munster, Ind. senior, was confident that Larry Shelton's (Owensboro senior) engineering calculations had improved the design. "We've basically taken last year's design and improved it," Haney said as he drilled holes in a piece of steel. "We looked at last year's bridge and asked ourselves, 'How can we make this better.'"

Submissions for entry in the Professional Activities page should be sent to Kimberly Parsley, kimberly.parsley@wku.edu. **The submission deadline for the August/September edition of Echo Magazine is Friday, June 21.** All submissions must be sent electronically. Please include name, department, title, current position, name of presented or published work and name of publication or conference. No acronyms or abbreviations please.

Counseling and Student Affairs

Drs. Vernon Lee Sheeley and Aaron W. Hughey presented "Legal Updates: What's Happening in Postsecondary Education (ADA Issues)" at the 26th Annual College Personnel Association of Kentucky (CPAK) Conference, Feb. 28, at Georgetown College.

Engineering

Dr. Robert A. McKim returned for a one-year period as the chairman of the South East Society for Trenchless Technology. This professional society represents industry and academic organizations from the nine southeastern states and Puerto Rico at the national and international level.

Dr. McKim presented a paper entitled "Combining Vacuum Excavation and Pipe Bursting Technology for Lateral Rehabilitation – A Case Study," at the North American Sewer Rehabilitation Conference, Atlanta, October 2001.

Dr. McKim also presented a paper entitled "The Development of Risk Ratios for Sewer Prediction Modeling," at the No-Dig Conference 02, Montreal, April 2002. The paper will be presented in the 2002 proceedings.

Economics

Dr. Brian Goff's article (with Robert McCormick, Clemson & Robert Tollison, University of Mississippi), "Racial Integration as an Innovation: Empirical Evidence from Sports Leagues," was published in the March 2002 issue of the American Economic Review, pp. 16-26.

Dr. Stephen Lile (with Dr. Michelle Trawick), presented a paper, "Explaining Church Performance: Evidence from SBC Congregations in the Midwest" at the 66th annual meeting of the Midwest Economic Association, Chicago, Ill, March 14-16, 2002.

English

Dr. Joe Millichap's critical book, *Dixie Limited: Railroads, Culture, and the Southern Renaissance*, was published in March by the University Press of Kentucky. His solicited entries on "Railroads" and "Tobacco" appear in *A Companion to Southern Literature* (Baton Rouge: Louisiana State University Press, 2001), 718-720, 906-907.

Dr. Millichap presented on a panel entitled "Rethinking Southern Literature" at the bi-annual meeting of the Society for the Study of Southern Literature (SSSL) in March. He also was elected to the SSSL executive council and to its C. Hugh Holman Award Committee select-

ing the best work in Southern literary studies published in 2001.

Geography and Geology

Dr. Katie Algeo presented an invited lecture entitled "Locals on Local Color: Resisting the Construction of Identity in Appalachia" at Ball State University, October 2001.

Dr. Algeo also presented a paper entitled "Tobacco in Transition: Issues Affecting Burley Growers and Communities" at the Curing the Future: Issues and Strategies in Remaking Tobacco-Dependent Communities in North Carolina Conference, Greenville, N.C., March 2002.

Dr. David J. Keeling published a chapter entitled "Transportation Challenges for Latin America in the 21st Century," in Gregory Knapp's (ed.) *Latin America in the Twenty-First Century: Challenges and Solutions*. Austin: University of Texas Press.

Dr. Keeling gave an invited lecture entitled "Argentina in the 21st Century," at Hofstra University, N.Y., November 2001.

Dr. Keeling also gave an invited lecture entitled "Theory and Methodology in Land-Use Planning" at the Karst Dynamics Institute, Guangxi Normal University, Guilin, China, January 2002.

Debbie Kreitzer presented a paper entitled "Environmental Globalization and the International Biosphere Reserve Project" at the Kentucky Academy of Science Annual Meeting in November 2001 in Murfreesboro, Tenn., and at the Annual Conference of the Association of American Geographers in March in Los Angeles, Calif.

Dr. Rezaul Mahmood, with K.G. Hubbard and Q. Hou, published a paper in 2001 entitled "Soil moisture monitoring and modeling in the Great Plains," pp. 163-171 in *Automated Weather Stations for Applications in Agriculture and Water Resources Management: Current Use and Future Perspectives*. Hubbard, K. G. Geneva and Sivakumar, M.V.K. (eds.). Lincoln, NE: High Plains Climate Center.

Dr. Rezaul Mahmood, with J.O. Adegoke, R.A. Pielke Sr., J.L. Eastman and K.G. Hubbard, published a paper in 2002 entitled "Modeling the impacts of irrigation on midsummer surface energy budget and the convective boundary layer (CBL) in the U. S. high plains." Preprints, 16th Conference on Hydrology, The American Meteorological Society. The American Meteorological Society: Boston, pp. 192-195.

Dr. Mahmood presented a paper entitled "Soil moisture and evapotranspiration in Great

Plains: The Role of Heterogeneous Soil Physical Properties and Land Uses" at the 56th annual conference of the Southeastern Division of the Association of American Geographers, Lexington, Ky., November 2001.

Dr. L. Michael Trapasso published an article entitled "Tourism in the 'Land of the Ozone Hole': A Perception Study," in the Proceedings of the First International Workshop on Climate, Tourism and Recreation, International Society of Biometeorology, Report on Commissions and Study Groups, WP7, pp. 1-14 (2002).

Dr. Trapasso attended an International Society of Biometeorology conference in Thessalonika, Greece, October 2001.

Journalism and Broadcasting

Dr. Augustine Ihator's research work entitled, "Corporate Communication: Challenges and Opportunities in a Digital World," was published in PUBLIC RELATIONS QUARTERLY, Vol. 46, No. 4, Winter 2001.

Dr. Ihator also presented a paper entitled, "The Impact of the 20th Century Social Change on Public Relations Practice," during the Annual Conference of the American Association of Behavioral and Social Sciences, Las Vegas, February 2002.

Modern Languages and Intercultural Studies

In February, Dr. Darlene Applegate, assistant professor of Anthropology, was appointed by the Governor to serve a two-year term on the Kentucky Natural History Museum Board, which is charged with visioning the development and implementation of a Kentucky Natural History Museum. Dr. Applegate also recently submitted a contract report entitled "Phase I Archaeological Survey for a Proposed Telecommunication Tower Site in Bowling Green, Warren County, Kentucky" to ATC Associates in Louisville.

Music

Jooyong Ahn, visiting professor of conducting and music director of the Bowling Green-Western Symphony Orchestra, guest conducted the Busan Philharmonic Orchestra in Busan, South Korea, on Dec. 28, 2001. The program consisted of works by Dvorak, Rimsky-Korsakov, Kreisler, Bellini, Mascagni, Verdi and Handel.

Jooyong Ahn also conducted the Carl Orff's master work "Carmina Burana" with combined choirs of University Singers, Chamber Singers and the Bowling Green-Western Choral Society with the Bowling Green Western Symphony Orchestra at the First Baptist Church in Bowling Green on April 25.

continued on page 20

STUDY: AMERICANS CONTINUE TO OVERESTIMATE COLLEGE COSTS

Americans believe that the nation's colleges and universities provide a high-quality education and serve as an economic engine for their home states, according to findings of a national survey released last week by the American Council on Education (ACE). However, the public believes that future state budget cuts could threaten the educational quality of institutions and limit the economic benefits they provide. The national survey is the third study ACE has conducted in recent years on public opinion regarding the value, cost, and quality of U.S. higher education institutions. The latest study focuses only on public colleges and universities, while earlier surveys — conducted in 1998 and 2000 — examined opinions on all higher education institutions, both public and private.

Source:
American Council on Education, 2/11/02
<http://www.acenet.edu/hena/issues/2002/02-11-02/national.survey.cfm>

LUMINA REPORTS STUDY ERRORS

The Lumina Foundation for Education has reported errors in its research report - Unequal Opportunity: Disparities in College Access Among the 50 States - released Jan. 7, 2002. Lumina found that several institutions were misclassified in the affordability column and in one other column. The report was met with resistance when it was released last month; the higher education community criticized the foundation's methodology and deplored its use of potentially polarizing language such as "inaccessible" and "unaffordable."

Source: Lumina Foundation, 1/23/02<http://www.luminafoundation.org/monographs/adv012402.shtml>

STUDY FINDS SAT TEST AN ACCURATE PREDICTOR OF COLLEGE ACHIEVEMENT

The College Board and University of Minnesota researchers recently concluded that the SAT test is a valid predictor of college success. The findings are based on a meta-analysis of 1,700 studies on how well the SAT predicts performance in college, encompassing over a

million students. The team found the SAT accurately predicts GPA during the first year and later years in college.

Source:
Daily University Science News, 2/5/02
<http://unisci.com/stories/20021/0205023.htm>

MORE GRADUATES MIRED IN DEBT, SURVEY FINDS

The number of university students borrowing money to cover educational expenses is on the rise, according to a new study by the State Public Interest Research Groups. Between 1992 and 2000, education debt doubled in size. Today, two-thirds of all college students borrow to finance their educations, and four out of 10 students are saddled with "unmanageable" debts after graduation. According to the study, the average college student graduating in 2000 owed almost \$17,000, a hefty increase over the average \$9,188 owed by 1992 graduates. The report used data supplied by the United States Census Bureau and the National Center for Education Statistics at the Department of Education.

To read the full report, visit:
<http://www.pirg.org/highered/burdenofborrowing.html>

Source: New York Times, 3/8/02
<http://www.nytimes.com/2002/03/08/education/08DEBT.html>

NACUBO ANALYZES COLLEGE COSTS

The National Association of College and University Business Officers recently released a study examining college costs. The study indicates that of the colleges surveyed, most spend more to educate their students than they receive in tuition fees. The accompanying methodology will allow any college or university to show in plain English how much it spends to educate its students. NACUBO undertook the study in response to the 1998 National Commission on the Cost of Higher Education report that recommended colleges develop a clear and simple way of explaining college costs to policy makers and the general public. This comes on the heels of a controversial report by the Lumina Foundation, "Unequal Opportunity: Disparities in College Access Among the 50 States," which was criticized for its lack

of campus data in its calculations.

To read the NACUBO report, visit:
http://www.nacubo.org/public_policy/cost_of_college/

BOOMERS FUEL GROWTH OF ADULT EDUCATION

Adult education programs report a significant rise in enrollment, thanks to baby boomers. According to the National Center for Educational Statistics and the Census Bureau, the number of U.S. college and university students over the age of 35 has increased from 11.7 percent of those enrolled in 1980 to 20.8 percent in 2001. This surge has been most visible in professional degree programs, but unconventional study tracks have also witnessed a rise in enrollment. Greater opportunities for career advancement and the availability of online educational options are widely credited for re-energizing interest in higher education among older adults.

Source:
Associated Press, 2/27/01
<http://fyi.cnn.com/2002/fyi/teachers.ednews/02/27/boomer.business.ap/index.html>

CAN THE NEXT NCAA PRESIDENT REFORM COLLEGE SPORTS?

After serving as the head of the National Collegiate Athletic Association for nearly a decade, Cedric Dempsey is stepping down. Over his eight-year term, Dempsey has led the NCAA to new heights of profitability and visibility. However, some issues plaguing some member schools remain unresolved, including the increasing commercialization of college athletics. While past presidents of the NCAA have hailed from university athletic departments, some believe naming a former university president to the position will lend greater legitimacy to the NCAA and its angle in this debate. One thing is certain: Dempsey's replacement faces several challenges on several fronts, not the least of which is a call by the Collegiate Athletes Coalition to increase compensation for student athletes.

Source: American Prospect, 3/11/02
<http://www.prospect.org/print/V13/5/just-r.html>

Voices FROM THE Past

By Sue Lynn Stone

Music has always been a big part of the Hill. From the practice rooms to the playing fields, Western Kentucky University students bring our campus alive with the sound of music. Fifty years ago this spring, a football player, a basketball player, a music major and a recently graduated piano player/composer bribed Campus Security Officer Aubrey Hoofnel with a ten-dollar bill for access to Van Meter auditorium. There, with the assistance of another football player (whose job it was to lift the piano's sticking pedal), Jimmy Sacca, Don McGuire, Seymour Spiegelman and Billy Vaughn recorded Billy's composition, "Trying," on a portable reel-to-reel tape recorder.

After local DJ Bill Stamps received 15 requests for "Trying" the first night he played it on his popular late night program "Whistling in the Dark," he persisted until he got the ear of Randy Wood, president of Dot Records in Gallatin, Tenn. Wood then chose to make a professional recording of the song in Van Meter. Jimmy Sacca recalled that after six hours of takes with midnight approaching, Wood suggested that they try just one more. He liked what he heard. They then recorded "You Made Up My Mind" for the flip side in only 30 minutes. Wood selected the name "The Hilltoppers" and promoted the young quartet as college students.

The record was released in May, and the summer sales figures were about to make Dot Records give up on The Hilltoppers. Gathering Jimmy, Don, Seymour and Billy in his office to break the news, Wood was interrupted by a call from a Cincinnati distributor requesting 1,000 copies of "Trying." The song hit *Billboard* charts on Aug. 16, and went on to reach number seven and sell more than three million copies.

On Oct. 26, The Hilltoppers premiered on Ed Sullivan's Sunday television show, clad in Western Kentucky State College beanies and letter sweaters, gray flannels and white bucks. Ironically, the quartet had to purchase sweaters in New York, as the television technicians did not think their Western athletic sweaters would be camera-friendly. The beanies disguised Billy's receding hairline. Had it been color television, the contrast between maroon sweaters and red beanies would have been unsettling.

Don McGuire said that at the time, he had been uncertain what to expect from the choreographer. Although



PHOTOS COURTESY UNIVERSITY ARCHIVES

The Hilltoppers - clockwise from top: Jimmy Sacca, Seymour Spiegelman, Don McGuire, Billy Vaughn

Jimmy's previous performance experience was evident, the rest of the swaying Hilltoppers appeared a bit star-struck.

In January 1953, The Hilltoppers' second single, "I Keep Telling Myself," reached number 26 on the charts, while side B, "Must I Cry Again," rose to number 15.

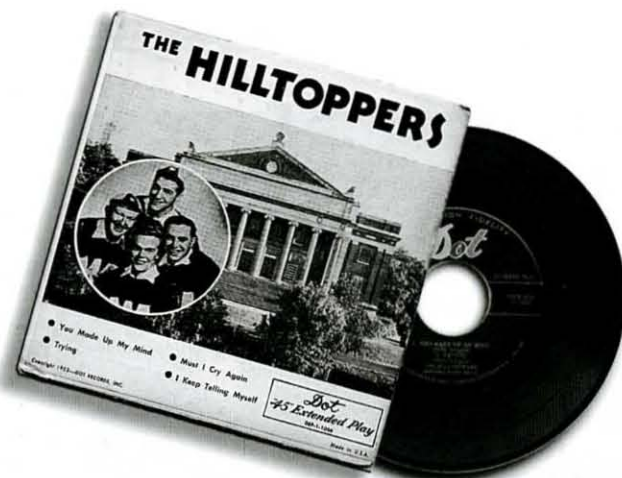
Normal life for the three college students soon became four days of classes and three on the road (or, more accurately, in the air). Billy Vaughn's diploma earned him the flexibility to drive rather than risk his life weekly as his cohorts headed to cities across the continental United States and Canada in a chartered plane. Friday and Saturday performances usually consisted of two sets: the first in their trademark sweaters and beanies, the second in tuxedos. Sacca said that the early days consisted of much more than just performances at nightclubs, colleges and community events: Successful groups knew that radio show appearances, television spots and teenage fan clubs promoted record sales.

Their efforts paid off on Nov. 27, 1953, when Jimmy received a telegram from *Cash Box* magazine notifying him that the Juke Box Operators of America had voted The Hilltoppers the best vocal combination of 1953.

Getting a college education was not the only disruption to The Hilltoppers' success as entertainers. Jimmy, Don and Seymour each served in the U. S. Army. Drafted in March 1953, lead singer Jimmy Sacca's voice was not silenced by his tour of duty in Japan, Okinawa and Korea. The common music business practice of "canning" recordings to be released over a period of time allowed devoted

The Hilltoppers' sheet music of "Trying" received a dedication from Ed Sullivan when they appeared on the Ed Sullivan show in 1952.

Handwritten sheet music for the song "Trying" by The Hilltoppers. The music is written on two staves. The first staff has a treble clef and a key signature of one flat (Bb). The second staff has a bass clef and a key signature of one flat (Bb). The lyrics "You don't have to try any more, you're home" are written above the first staff. The signature "Ed Sullivan" is written below the first staff. The first staff has a 7/8 time signature and a C7 chord. The second staff has chords Ebdim, Fm7, and Bb7aug5.



The Hilltoppers' first 45 record with "You Made Up My Mind," "Trying," "Must I Cry Again," and "I Keep Telling Myself."

fans to continue hearing new songs by the group without interruption. During this time, "P.S. I Love You," "I'd Rather Die Young," "Love Walked In," "From The Vine Came the Grape" and "Till Then" all hit Billboard's top 10 chart, and "If I Didn't Care" hit number 17.

Ever the promoter, Sacca wasted no time upon his return stateside, forming a traveling group of Hilltoppers with Eddie Crowe, Clive Dill and Bob Gay. A year later, Karl Garvin and Lou Master replaced Clive and Bob; the national fan club publication, *Hilltopper Topics*, assured its members that this substitution was also temporary until Don and Seymour were discharged from the Army. Finally on March 1, 1957, the originals reunited with the exception of Billy Vaughn, who continued his work as a successful composer and music director for Dot Records rather than as a member of The Hilltoppers. Eddie Crowe replaced him in the group.

During the 1950s, The Hilltoppers toured Great Britain, Germany, France, Japan, Okinawa, Formosa and the Philippine Islands.

The Hilltoppers' own fan club newsletters document the oncoming popularity of rock 'n' roll. The July-August 1957 issue included a story entitled "Elvis for President?" Responding to the question "What do you think of Rock and Roll?" in November-December 1957: Seymour commented, "... I shall be happier when rock and roll is relegated to a position of lesser importance on the popular music scene."

The calypso hit, "Marianne," and "The Joker" both released in 1957, were The Hilltoppers' last hits to appear on the Billboard chart.

The group performed on tours from 1968 to 1979, much to the delight of fans who fell in love to their ballads in the 1950s.

Please join the Hilltoppers and their fans as "P.S. I Love You: The Hilltoppers" opens May 11 at 2 p.m. at the Kentucky Building!

Sue Lynn Stone is the University archivist.

Changing the Face of Kentucky's Teachers

By Kimberly Shain Parsley



Leslie Godo-Solo first came to Western Kentucky University as a teacher at Maplewood High School in Nashville to bring her Spanish class to the Foreign Language Festival here. That's when WKU recruited her. Not actively, not even intentionally, but the campus and the people made quite an impression on her.

"I thought wow, what a nice university. I like it here," she said.

That was five years ago. Since then, Godo-Solo has been recruiting others to Western and to the teaching profession through her work as coordinator of the Minority Teacher Recruitment Center. She is responsible for recruiting minority students who want to be teachers into WKU's College of Education and Behavioral Sciences. That means working closely with the admissions and financial aid departments, visiting area high schools, building and maintaining relationships with high school guidance counselors and devising programs to bring students to campus to learn about Western and the many opportunities it can hold for them. But that's just the beginning of what she does. She said the real work begins once students enroll. She supports minority teacher education students by referring them to tutoring when needed, administering scholar-

ships, helping them with the student teaching portion of their educations and informing them of job opportunities and writing letters of recommendation once they graduate.

"Basically, I provide any assistance that they need to be admitted, matriculate, graduate and get a job," she said.

Godo-Solo said that her experience as a teacher has allowed her to be more effective in recruiting and assisting students. "I know what we're looking for in classroom teachers, the rigors of getting through the program, the coursework and the testing requirements," she said.

According to Godo-Solo, opportunities to visit schools to talk about minority opportunities in teacher education are unfortunately rare. To ensure that such information gets to interested students, she has written and been awarded several grants from the Kentucky Department of Education to bring students to campus for summer residential programs. The Teacher Bridge Program is one example.

The Teacher Bridge Program allowed minority high school and community college students to come to campus and learn about the requirements and classes involved in becoming a teacher. This program was on campus from 1999-01, but this year, Godo-Solo said she's doing something a little different. A grant from the Council on Postsecondary Education will allow the Minority Teacher Recruitment Center, in collaboration with Teacher Services and the area community colleges, to host a three-day residential seminar that will bring about 50 community college students to the WKU campus to learn about teacher education programs and requirements.

"What we found was that there is a disjoint in getting the community college students here," she said. "They didn't always get connected with our office and didn't know exactly what they ought to be doing to be admitted into teacher education."

The seminar will help students get accurate information about testing requirements, become familiar with the campus and meet with advisers.

In the summer of 2000, Godo-Solo

wrote and received a grant from the Kentucky Department of Education to fund the Minority Educator Early Identification Program, designed to interest middle grade students in teacher education.

"We need to start interesting even younger students in teacher education," she said. "By the time they are in high school, if they haven't been following a college prep program and no one has talked to them about the importance of doing well on the ACT and making the grades, it is much more difficult for them."

She said getting minority students interested in becoming teachers as early as possible gives them an advantage once they get to college. They are more likely to fulfill the College of Education Admission standards and receive scholarships.

Godo-Solo said this need to start encouraging interest in teacher education among minority students at a younger age underscores why it is so important to have minority teachers in schools.

"I think it is important that students see themselves — that they see others — but that they see also themselves in their teachers," she said.

Godo-Solo said that in Kentucky, minority students make up 12.8 percent of all students, while only 4.1 percent of teachers are minorities. "There is a great need to bridge this gap," she said, "not only because minority teachers act as role models for minority students and greatly influence students of color, but because they also act as role models for white students as well. The presence of minority teachers in the classroom helps white students appreciate other cultures and increases their exposure to diversity."

This year, Western awarded over \$190,000 in scholarship funds to minority students majoring in teacher education. That makes Western second only to the University of Louisville in Kentucky in both the amount of scholarship funds awarded and the number of scholarship recipients. Godo-Solo is proud of this, and proud to be able to help those students reach their goals.

"I thoroughly enjoy what I do because it allows me to utilize so many different skills and because I have daily opportunities to impact students' lives," she said. "No day is the same, and it is a wonderful feeling to help students develop emotionally and professionally."



Jooyong Ahn

JUST CALL HIM MAESTRO

By Kimberly Shain Parsley

Jooyong Ahn, visiting professor in Western Kentucky University's Music Department and Music Director of the Bowling Green Western Symphony Orchestra, was born in Seoul, South Korea, to a musical family. His uncle played the piano and his father the piano and organ. Ahn too studied the piano, but soon became bored with it and instead chose the violin, which he came to love.

He played the violin in his junior high orchestra, which read from hand-written sheet music because copy machines were not available. Someone had to copy the music from the orchestra score. Ahn volunteered.

"I knew the music because I looked at it for hours and hours," he said. "Sometimes I knew the music better than the teacher."

That was when the seed was planted. Ahn said he sometimes thought to himself, someday, maybe I'd like to be a conductor.

Ahn continued to love and study music, receiving his undergraduate degree from Kyung Hee University in South Korea in violin and viola performance, but still, the idea of becoming a conductor never left him. He decided to pursue his dream, and soon came to the United States, to the Shepherd School of Music at Rice University in Houston, Texas, where he received a degree in orchestral conducting.

"I'm like the pilot of a big airplane, a Boeing 747," Ahn said. "I have 300 passengers plus a dozen crew. That's like my life, being conductor of the orchestra."

The airplane analogy is an apt one, since Ahn's career allows him to travel all over the world as a guest conductor. He recounted some of his most memorable performances, one of which was in 1993 in Latvia. The date was Nov. 22, the 30th anniversary of the assassination of President John F. Kennedy, a fact that had escaped Ahn, but surprisingly, not the people of Latvia.

For the concert, Ahn had programmed a piece called "Elegy," composed by Samuel Jones, Ahn's mentor from Rice University. Before the concert, Ahn was interviewed by a local television station and presented with the significance of the date. A stunned Ahn then told the interviewer how Jones had composed "Elegy" right after Kennedy's assassination.

"I told them about the story behind the composition," he said. "That's why that concert is memorable."

Another performance that Ahn treasures came in 1994 in Slovakia, where he was asked to give a concert of American music. This was important to Ahn because he had become a citizen of the United States and this was the first time he had the opportunity to conduct a performance of works by all American composers. It was also the first time a concert of all American music had been performed in that country.

"I wasn't sure whether they would accept the American music since they used to be a Soviet ally," Ahn said, "but the reception was wonderful."

So wonderful in fact that the audience asked for an encore, which Ahn had not prepared. So they played for the second time that night, "Adagio," by Samuel Barber, 1910-1981.

"They were thrilled. I had a standing ovation and everything," Ahn said.

In addition to conducting, Ahn has taught in South Korea and Pennsylvania, and said he enjoys teaching at Western. "I like this area, and Bowling Green has so much potential for cultural growth."

WKU Music Department Head Mitzi Groom said, "We're pleased to have him. He's a fine addition to our department. We're very proud of what's go-

ing on with the orchestra."

She said that Ahn's greatest contribution is his willingness to meet and listen to members of the community, something she said is critical to the success of the Bowling Green Western Symphony Orchestra.

The orchestra is made of students, community members and hired musicians from Nashville and Louisville. Both Ahn and Groom said that a major challenge facing the orchestra is a lack of string players, something that is increasingly a nationwide issue. Ahn attributed the problem to a historic link between instrumental music programs and athletics.

Groom agreed. "We can't have marching violins at halftime, and they don't carry well in Diddle Arena."

Ahn said that even larger orchestras such as St. Louis and Cincinnati are feeling the effects. As professional string players begin to retire, he estimates that 80 percent to 90 percent of their replacements will be from Japan, China and Korea. He said that unless the trend shifts, all the string players in symphonies will be Oriental.

He pointed to Western's own music department, where there is no full-time string professor (only two part-time professors from Nashville) to illustrate.

Groom said that a nationwide shortage of music teachers is contrib-

uting to the decreasing number of string players. "It goes in a vicious circle. When you don't have enough teachers, you don't have enough students. When you don't have enough students, you don't have enough teachers."

Groom said that the responses from students toward Ahn have been nothing but favorable. Ahn teaches a music appreciation course for non-majors, and Groom said it is great for the students in that class to see their professor conduct an orchestra. She said he's had a positive impact on the students he teaches in class and those he leads in the orchestra.

"I've heard very good things from the kids about rehearsals," Groom said. "He's very matter-of-fact and down to earth in rehearsals, but he gets a lot of stuff done and being musical at the same time. A lot of times those four things just don't go hand in hand."

She said the diversity he brings to the department, being from South Korea, and his experience as an orchestra conductor benefit the students, the orchestra and the community.

"He's flexible and adaptive, but also scholarly," Groom said, "and that's evidenced in the product he gets after he stands in front of the symphony."



MAKING MUSIC

The Old-Fashioned Way

By Miranda Wilemon

It's a typical Monday morning. Molly Kerby, enrollment management instructor, sits in Helm Library, room 6. Three floors up, Jack Montgomery, library automation and technical service coordinator, sits behind a computer screen in 309 and all the way across campus, Susan Morris, T/Tas staff assistant, is just getting her day started in Tate Page Hall. There they are, all hard at work for Western from 8 to 4:30. But by that night, they've kicked off their shoes and with all thoughts of their day job behind them, they get started on what Kerby calls their "stress reliever."

They make music.

"We can do other stuff besides research!" Kerby laughed.

The three Western employees are also known as *Lost River*, a local band blending folk and Celtic accents into original music. With a mix of guitar, harmonica, flute, mandolin and banjo, they create a sound that Montgomery calls "mythic folk," receiving inspiration from British Isles, Appalachia, and southern gospel.

The band originally formed in August 2000, when the three were asked to put some songs together as the entertainment for the annual meeting of the Women's Alliance.

Morris thinks the spontaneity that got the band started is one of its defining characteristics. "Between us all, we can put something together, which is kind of neat," she said.

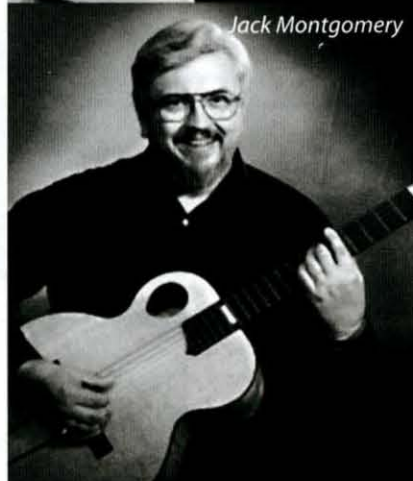
Montgomery agreed. Everything clicks, he said.

"We've managed to put together a unique sound without the standard clash of egos that is so common in this business," he said.

Most of the music the band plays is original. Kerby said that some of the copyright laws restrain their abilities to perform other people's music. Yet she also said that they have found some pieces online from as far back as the 16th



Molly Kerby



Jack Montgomery



Susan Morris

century that they rewrote and made their own.

"Jack had to rewrite the lyrics because they don't make sense to us anymore," she said.

Morris said that she finds the diversity in their music as interesting as the diversity in the people she plays with. She said that everyone in the band shares both their ideas and their favorite kinds of music.

"Even though we're all from different decades, we all just like music," she said.

But it's not just about the music. Montgomery said he feels that the mutual goodwill between the bandmates is the glue holding the group together.

"We have a genuine affection and respect for each other which comes through in the music and performance," he said.

Lost River gets around town. They've played at Barnes and Noble, at the Coffee Zone and they play every other Tuesday night at the Cumberland Grill. They also played at the "Diversity Rocks" concert.

Kerby said she loves the band, though not everything works like clockwork. Even finding a place to practice every Monday night can be a struggle. She said they'd been practicing at Susan's house most recently, but that the arrangements may have to be changed.

"We just kind of wander around," she explained. "Susan's husband's about to jump off the balcony—we're driving him crazy."

Despite the small difficulties, she also said it's worth it.

"That's sort of our getaway and we love playing," she said.

Morris agreed. "I just think it's great!" she said. "We'll continue playing as long as we can."

Currently, Kerby and Morris are helping Montgomery with a solo CD, "Onward to Avalon," and also hope to record *Lost River's* own CD sometime next year.

Miranda Wilemon is a senior journalism student from Birmingham, Ala.

PHOTOS COURTESY OF LOST RIVER

PROFESSIONAL ACTIVITIES, continued from page 12

Dr. John Carmichael, Band, guest conducted the District XII Senior Band in Reston, Va., and the United States Army Ground Forces Band at the Southern Division College Band Directors National Association Conference in Atlanta, Ga.

Dr. Mitzi Groom, department head, has participated in conventions, conferences and meetings of the American Choral Directors Association in Honolulu, Hawaii, Charlotte, N.C., Chicago, Ill., Oklahoma City, Okla., and West Palm Beach, Fla.

Premieres of compositions by Dr. Michael Kallstrom have been performed in Nashville, Tenn. ("You Might Like to Hear My Organ,"), London, England ("Headbanger"), and Los Angeles, Calif. ("Crazy Rhythm"). He served as guest composer and performer for the New Music Festival at Heidelberg College, and for the Southeastern Composers League Forum at Mercer University.

Sylvia Kersenbaum, Piano, performed for the attendees at the Kentucky Music Educators Association Conference in Louisville, Ky.

The University Choir, under the direction of Dr. Ronnie Oliver, was invited to perform at the Kentucky Music Educators Association Conference in Louisville, Ky. This distinguished honor was granted to only two universities in Kentucky.

Dr. Wayne Pope, Voice, was a guest artist with the Mineral Area College Choirs, Choral Society and "KICKS" Jazz Band in Farmington, Mo.

Dr. Marshall Scott, Trumpet, and Mr. John Martin, Guitar, performed in a faculty jazz quartet at the Kentucky Music Educators Association Conference in Louisville, Ky.

Joe Stites, Music Education, adjudicated band festivals and marching contests in Muhlenberg County and Madisonville, Ky., and also served on the International Board of Phi Beta Mu, an honorary bandmasters fraternity, at the Midwest Clinic in Chicago, Ill.

Dr. Robyn Swanson, Music Education, presided at the February meeting of the Kentucky Music Educators Association Conference in Louisville, Ky., and currently serves as President of that organization.

Nursing

Susan Jones was selected by the National Council of State Boards of Nursing Inc., to participate as a National Council Licensure Examination (NCLEX) item writer in a NCLEX item development panel session held in Chicago, Ill., Feb. 20-23, 2002. Jones was one of 15 nurses from across the nation to be selected for this prestigious assignment.

Psychology

Dr. Steven Winger published two articles entitled "The anxiolytic effect of aqua aerobics in elderly women," and "Instructors' and classroom characteristics associated with exercise enjoyment by females," in *Perceptual and Motor Skills*.

Public Health

Drs. Michael Ballard, Dixie Dennis and Lisa Lindley received a grant award of \$50,000 from the Summer Teacher's Academies, Kentucky Department of Education for a one-year period. The project title is "Personal and Social Skills," and is intended to assist K-12 teachers across the Commonwealth in developing standards-based, content-focused health instruction units.

Dr. Leila Dabbagh served as guest editor of a special issue of *The Health Education Monograph*, focusing on women's health. She also had an article entitled "Female Genital Cutting: Applying the PRECEDE-PROCEED Model to Understand the Incentives for the Practice," published in the same issue.

Dr. Dixie L. Dennis and Dr. Michael D. Ballard have an article entitled "Ecstasy: It's the Rave," (In Press) in *The High School Journal*.

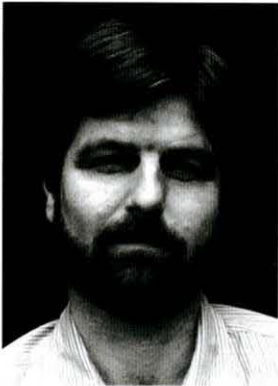
Congratulations
on a successful academic year



*to our commencement
participants,
our students and the faculty who
helped them reach this milestone.*

It's Economic Development, Stupid!

By Aaron W. Hughey



Good morning, class. Economic development. When we hear the term, and we have been hearing it a lot lately, the general reaction is usually less than enthusiastic. Actually, it sounds suspiciously like something you'd run across on C-SPAN. "The President's Conference on Economic Development." It also sounds like a topic that would cause most of us to surf on to the next channel without much hesitation.

To put it bluntly, economic development just seems like it would be really, really BORING.

When I first started looking into economic development, I was more than a little skeptical. The term seemed vague and somewhat mysterious. Perhaps even a bit faddish.

Admittedly, in some of its more ambiguous incarnations, economic development does share a few similarities with those concepts people tend to invent when they don't have enough real work to do. Yet I was sufficiently intrigued to pursue it further. Looking back, it was the right decision.

As is often the case, first impressions can be very deceiving. Those of you with an open mind know exactly what I mean. The rest of you probably don't.

Anyway, the more I looked into economic development, the more I realized that this is important stuff. Perhaps even critical to our survival. Or at least our quality of life.

If you've made it this far, please don't stop reading now. As much as parts of this article may read like a sermon, I'm not trying to convert the nonbelievers. I recognized that as a futile endeavor on most college campuses long ago. I am simply attempting to explain why economic development is inherently linked to the future efficacy of higher education as a cultural institution.

Oh, and the fact that if we don't take issues like economic development more seriously, then a large

percentage of those reading this piece will probably be out of a job within the next few years.

If that didn't get your attention, then you are free to move on to the next article in this magazine or perhaps something else that is more suited to your intellectual capabilities. Too bad *Echo* doesn't have a cartoon section.

To be fair, getting a handle on economic development is often hampered by the fact that a lot of the folks who are currently writing about it don't seem to have much of a clue about what it is or why it is important.

Then again, we should be used to that in higher education. I routinely run across "experts" in the academy. A few actually deserve the title; the majority tend to be of the self-proclaimed variety. Regardless, after talking with many of them for just a few minutes, I find myself

wondering how they remember to breathe on a consistent basis.

But I digress. That's a lecture for another day. Let's get back to economic development.

Economic development is currently a major thrust on both the national and state/local level. In a very fundamental sense, Western Kentucky University contributes to the economic development of the region through its very existence.

Western is obviously a major employer within the area and contributes significantly to the local economy. Undeniably, Western also

contributes to economic development through its graduates. On average, those who successfully complete their degrees at Western are more likely to have a higher standard of living and overall quality of life than those without a college education. This, in turn, positively impacts the economy in a number of tangible and intangible ways.

There are those who feel that this should be the extent of the institution's involvement in economic development. Unfortunately, most of those who hold this view are wrong. Their view of the purpose of higher education seems to be frozen in the distant past.

Let me try to explain this once more. Please note that the following explanation is targeted at those among us who are rather slow on the uptake.

The views expressed here are not necessarily those of the Echo or University Relations staff. Letters to the Editor and commentaries are welcome and should be sent to kimberly.parsley@wku.edu. Submitted materials may be edited for length and clarity.

In order to flourish, higher education must change. Those of us who work in what is affectionately known as the Ivory Tower must recognize and accept that the academy is fast becoming just like most other societal institutions. We are no longer "special."

More than at any point previously, colleges and universities are subject to the same forces and pressures as other institutions. We no longer occupy an "exempt" role in our societal hierarchy. We no longer have an exclusive contract on the transmission of culture or even the development of new knowledge. We have competitors who can arguably do a better job on both counts.

Accordingly, those of us who work in higher education should not see ourselves in anyway transcendent or otherwise superior to those who work elsewhere. We increasingly owe our existence, in great measure, to the basic laws of supply and demand. Higher education is now a mature industry. It's time we started acting like one.

Which brings us back to economic development.

You really can't think about economic development without thinking about business. Yet within the context of higher education, there are those who apparently think that business is a bad word. Academe is not a business, they remind me. It is something much more virtuous.

Business is concerned with the ruthless pursuit of financial gain. Higher education, on the other hand, is concerned with the more noble pursuit of knowledge and insight.

Herein lies a key component of the paradigm shift in which we find ourselves today. A shift that is taking place, I might add, much to the chagrin of those who are desperately struggling to sustain a romanticized, antediluvian view of higher education that is quickly disintegrating all around them.

The absolute truth of the matter is that even within the sacred halls of academe, business is a viable concept. When you strip away all the philosophical rhetoric and stoic references to institutional mission and vision, higher education is just as much a business as IBM, General Motors, or Walmart.

Think about it. Each semester, our clients vote with their checkbooks on whether or not we will stay in business. If you doubt this for even a second, then you are probably delusional.

But again I digress. That is a sermon for a different Sunday. Back to economic development.

In addition to the economic impact precipitated by its existence and the graduates it produces, Western also contributes directly to the economic development of the region through the programs and services that it provides to the community. Through its continuing education and leadership development programs, as well as other outreach initiatives, Western seeks to promote economic development within a more defined framework.

In the past, these kinds of programs and services have been considered peripheral to the institution's central

mission. In the future, they will be reflective of its core value system.

Lastly, economic development is, at its essence, about jobs. Retaining jobs and creating jobs. Like it or not, higher education has an ethical, if not a moral, obligation to analyze and understand workforce trends. It also has an obligation to use this information, along with other market-driven considerations, when advising students on potential majors and careers.

For those who may be comprehension-impaired, let me phrase this more concretely. Individual departmental enrollments will become increasingly irrelevant if it cannot be demonstrated, in a tangible way, that what the department does contributes significantly to economic development on both an individual and a collective level.

Keep this in mind when students inquire about the availability of jobs in their majors. Don't get me wrong, I am all for producing an educated citizenry. But it has to be an educated citizenry that has the knowledge and skills that will be needed in the new economy or the point is really mute.

An educated citizenry that has the financial means to maintain a high standard of living would also be good. Being intellectually enlightened is one thing. Being intellectually enlightened and living on food stamps is another.

Finally, if you find the term "new economy" confusing or you still aren't sure exactly what it means, then I strongly suggest that you take a little time to get up to speed on the current state of affairs in the world. Things are fundamentally changing as a result of the technology; i.e., information, revolution. Wake up.

Hint: If you still have an aversion to e-mail and the Internet, chances are pretty good that you have not yet caught on that we have entered a new era in the evolution of civilization. Moreover, if you are a faculty member who still hasn't figured out how to put your course syllabi on the web, I certainly wouldn't share it with anyone; it's not something I would want my colleagues to know about.

In any event, please do us all a favor and try to get with the program before you become too much of a liability or, in the very least, an embarrassment. And for heaven's sake, Don Quixote, please stop fighting the inevitable.

But I digress for the third time. I guess that's a signal that I should probably bring this effort to inform and enlighten to a close.

The bottom line is that everyone at Western is either directly or indirectly involved in economic development. It is an inescapable part of academic life that shows no signs of going away. Get used to it.

Class dismissed.

Dr. Aaron W. Hughey is a professor in the Department of Counseling and Student Affairs and a frequent contributor to Echo.

Cangemi rewards fellow faculty in Psychology Department

By Carol Cummings

Dr. Joseph Cangemi, a member of the WKU Department of Psychology for more than 30 years, is supporting his fellow faculty members in a unique way. He recently made a \$20,000 commitment to create the Joseph P. Cangemi Psychology Faculty Award.

Cangemi said this award will support a well-rounded faculty member who has demonstrated excellence in teaching, research and public service.

"I have been with Western Kentucky University for 32 years, and a number of people have been very kind to me and supportive of me," he said. "We have many outstanding and deserving people in our department. This award will ensure that an exemplary professor is rewarded each year."

The first *Joseph P. Cangemi Award* was presented to retiring department head, Dr. John O'Connor in April 2001.

Cangemi said it was particularly fitting that O'Connor received this first award. "I am grateful for the support Dr. O'Connor has always shown me," he said. "I am pleased to give something back to my department and give it in a different way."

Dr. Karen Adams, dean of WKU's College of Education and Behavioral Sciences, said it is fitting that O'Connor, with whom Cangemi served for many years, was the first recipient of the award. "Since Dr. Cangemi was such an outstanding faculty member himself, it is particularly significant that, as he retired from his full-



PHOTO BY SHERYL HAGAN-BOOTH

time faculty position, he made a gift to ensure ongoing recognition for other outstanding faculty."

The first award was \$1,000, but Cangemi is confident that the award will increase in the years to come.

O'Connor called Cangemi a "dynamic teacher" and one of the most popular instructors in the department. "He has written extensively on leadership and organizational behavior for three decades and is a highly valued management consultant at the national level," O'Connor said.

Cangemi has published numerous books, and his more than 300 papers and articles have appeared in over 80 periodicals. He was a 1983 recipient of the Distinguished Alumnus Award from State University of New York, and a 1996 recipient of an honorary doctorate from William Woods University. In addition, Cangemi received a 1999

honorary doctorate from the Moscow State University of Humanities in Moscow, Russia, sponsored by the Russian Academy of Sciences. He was Western's 1999 and 2000 nominee (one of two) for the Carnegie Foundation's Professor of the Year national award, and he has also received numerous awards for teaching, research, and public service at Western.

Carol Cummings is a senior development writer/researcher in Development and Alumni Relations.

WKU astronomy program to help NASA search for planets beyond our solar system

Western Kentucky University's astronomy program will participate in a NASA mission to search for Earth-like planets around stars beyond our solar system.

The Kepler Mission is scheduled for launch in 2006 and will use a unique spaceborne telescope to look for extra solar planets. The ground-based portion of the mission will utilize Western's STARBASE telescope network for observations and research.

"Western Kentucky University has never been involved in a space mission before. That's why it is very exciting to be on the team for the Kepler Mission," said Dr. Charles McGruder, head of the Department of Physics and Astronomy. "We expect and hope that Western will be involved in many more missions."

Western will be the lead institution in the educational portion of the mission called the Wide Access Technology Transfer Program. The WATT program has a budget of \$625,000 over four years, said McGruder, who added that 1 percent to 2 percent of the budget for all NASA space missions must be spent on educational programs.

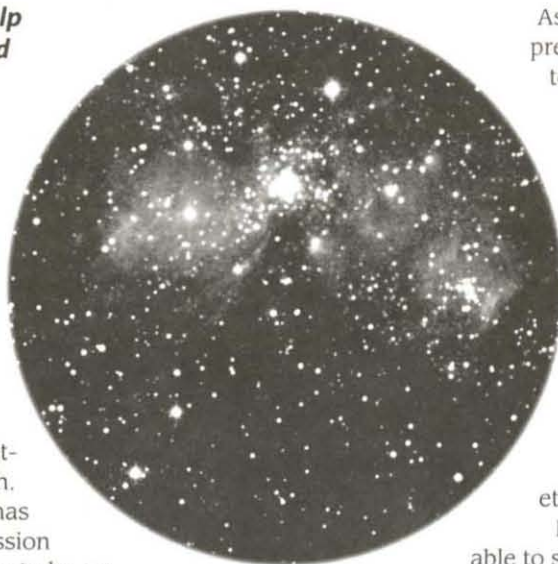


PHOTO COURTESY OF NASA

As part of the Kepler Mission, high-precision imaging equipment to detect light from stars will be installed in the spaceborne telescope and in telescopes at educational institutions. For example, McGruder said, options could include placing the devices in a robotic telescope at Kitt Peak National Observatory in Arizona and at a proposed telescope in Israel. "Essentially this will allow us to measure the brightness of stars very accurately and that is what is required to detect extrasolar planets," he said.

Making research technology available to students is the key idea of Western's STARBASE (Students Training for Achievement in Research Based on Analytical Space-science Experiences) Network.

Through the Wide Access Technology Transfer program, "we will provide students and teachers with access to the high technology achieved by the Kepler Mission," McGruder said. "That's what STARBASE is all about." More information about NASA's Kepler Mission is available at <http://www.kepler.arc.nasa.gov/3>

WKU students selected for sports journalism seminar

Photojournalism students Justin Fowler, a Columbia junior, and Yuli Wu, a junior from Ann Arbor, Mich., and print journalism student Malcolm Knox, a Louisville senior, were among 41 students who attended the 11th annual Collegiate Sports Journalism Seminar at Churchill Downs in Louisville on April 25-28. The Collegiate Sports Journalism Seminar is held in conjunction with the media build-up to the Kentucky Oaks and Derby. A group of the nation's top student journalists, who have an interest in a

sports journalism or sports photography career, are selected each year to participate in the three-day event.

Seminar participants interacted with and learned from some of the nation's premier sports journalists and photographers who served as guest speakers during a series of panel discussions. Students also participated in a day long sports journalism workshop on April 27, opening day of Churchill Downs' 2002 Spring Meet. The students produced a collection of sports stories and photographs to be published in an electronic newspaper available on the seminar's official website, www.churchilldowns.com/seminar. The Collegiate Sports Journalism Seminar is open to full-time college juniors and seniors in undergraduate programs. Selection of participants is based on nominations from professors or departmental chairpersons and on work samples submitted by applicants.

The tuition-free program is made possible by several sponsors, including the Daily Racing Form, Kentucky Horsemen's Benevolent and Protective Association, Kentucky Thoroughbred Association, National Thoroughbred Racing Association, National Turf Writers Association, Nikon, The Blood-Horse, Turf Publicists of America and Visa Triple Crown Challenge. Churchill Downs Incorporated hosts the seminar and serves as its main sponsor.



Yuli Wu

PHOTO BY DAVID KHOL

Congratulations

to the 2002 College Faculty Award Winners

Each year, Western Kentucky University honors faculty members who have made outstanding contributions in the areas of Teaching, Research/Creativity, Public Service and beginning this year, Student Advisement.

We salute the following outstanding faculty members:

Award for Teaching

Dr. Thomas Noser, Economics
Dr. Jeanne Fiene, Educational Administration, Leadership, and Research
Dr. Fred Siewers, Geography and Geology
Dr. Lisa Lindley, Public Health
Mr. James Kenney, School of Journalism and Broadcasting
Ms. Deborah Lively, Liberal Arts & Sciences Division

Award for Research/Creativity

Dr. Youn Kim, Economics
Dr. Joseph Bilotta, Psychology
Dr. Shivendra Sahi, Biology
Dr. Thomas Nicholson, Public Health
Dr. Augustine Ihator, School of Journalism and Broadcasting
Mr. Haiwang Yuan, Library Public Services

Award for Public Service

Dr. Douglas Fugate, Marketing
Dr. Katrina Phelps, Psychology
Dr. Richard Gelderman, Physics and Astronomy
Dr. Michael Ballard, Public Health
Dr. Michael Ann Williams, Modern Languages and Intercultural Studies
Dr. Karen Powell, Liberal Arts & Sciences Division
Mr. Jonathan Jeffrey, Library Special Collections

Award for Student Advisement

Dr. Linda Parry, Management
Dr. Ken Crawford, Biology
Ms. Susan Jones, Nursing
Dr. Joe Stites, Music
Ms. Martha Houchin, Health Sciences Division



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- Trying
- Must I Cry Again
- I Keep Telling Myself

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Please join the Hilltoppers and their fans as "P.S. I Love You: The Hilltoppers" opens May 11 at 2 p.m. at the Kentucky Building!



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