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COLLEGE HEIGHTS HERALD

Western Kentucky University • Bowling Green, Kentucky

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

www.wkuherald.com



H. Rick Mauch/Herald

Hilltoppers cutting a new rug

Players, coaches excited about new \$900,000 synthetic field

BY KEITH FARNER
Herald reporter

Two years ago, Western's football team hosted Florida A&M in less than desirable conditions for a first round playoff game.

Rain was torrential, play was slow and the field was sloppy. By game's end, Feix Field had turned into a mud pit.

"We had a monsoon and the field was pretty much a quagmire," said Craig Biggs, assistant athletics director for facilities. "We had to spend

\$10,000 to \$12,000 to get the field ready for the next week."

With that, a search began. Biggs spent the next 18 months checking out five brands of synthetic turf at high schools and colleges across the country.

He was looking to replace the easily damaged natural grass at Feix Field. But the decision ultimately came down to one simple fact: AstroPlay, a rubber-based turf, was cheaper by about \$30,000.

And yesterday, efforts to improve the football field were completed with

the installation of the new AstroPlay surface. By all accounts, the new turf is a hit.

Biggs said the maintenance of the new surface does not compare to that of natural grass. And he said the surface is consistent rain or shine.

The entire project — costing about \$900,000 — is included in the \$32 million Diddle Arena renovation plan. Also part of the field project will be the "gutting" of the intramural fields. Putting in new irrigation and drainage systems along with moving and widening the fields along University

Boulevard will allow room for both football and soccer fields, Biggs said.

But the turf is what has the football team talking. Soon after his choice for the new turf, Biggs became pretty popular with the team.

Among the most excited about the turf are head coach Jack Harbaugh and senior place kicker Peter Martinez. Harbaugh said he remembers a time when artificial turf was a disgrace to even mention. But times have changed.

"When I was at Michigan back in

SEE RUG PAGE 9

Lawsuit

Jury rules in favor of Western

BY MAI HOANG
Herald reporter

Charles Whaley spent the last two years convinced that Western officials discriminated against him in fall 2000 when he wasn't hired for a position at the Center for Gifted Studies.

But after three days of arguments, a Warren County Circuit Court jury needed just over an hour Friday to disagree with him.

Whaley was one of 10 people who applied for the position of associate director for the center in 2000. He was the only male of five finalists who interviewed. The job was eventually given to Tracy Inman, a woman.

Stephen Emery, Whaley's attorney, tried to convince jury members that Whaley was treated differently from the other job applicants because he was a man.

"Charles was well qualified," Emery said during his closing argument. "... Western Kentucky University has been acting to exclude males from these types of positions."

But the jury unanimously agreed that Whaley was not rejected for the job because of his gender. They also agreed Whaley wasn't discriminated against because of a disability caused by a 1996 car accident that crushed both of the Alvaton man's ankles.

Greg Stivers, Western's attorney, said Whaley's testimony during cross-examination helped Western build its case.

During the trial, Whaley testified he never received equal employment forms from Western's department of Human Resources. That, he said, was a violation of the Kentucky Civil Rights Act.

But forms that were signed by Whaley and sent to the department in 2000 were presented to the jury. Stivers credited Western personnel for documenting its procedures during the hiring process.

General Counsel Deborah Wilkins said Friday that she was not surprised by the verdict.

"I was confident that once they heard the proof they would come to their decision," she said. "I think it's a validation of the hiring process. It's a fair and equitable process for applicants."

Emery said Whaley may file an appeal.

"The story may not be over until we make a decision to appeal," he said. "This might just be the first chapter."

Reach Mai Hoang at news@wkuherald.com.

Campus police



Chief trying to build stability in police force

STORY BY JOSEPH LORD PHOTOS BY ED LINSMIER

◆ ON PAGE 3, READ ABOUT WESTERN'S SEARCH FOR OFFICERS

Brian Ward is a busy guy.

He spent Friday night at Pine Knob Outdoor Theater playing the role of the prankster in "Lucy and Ruth's Diner." Other times, Ward moonlights as a personal finance analyst.

But that's nothing compared to his day job.

Ward is a campus police officer, and he says he's at Western for the long haul. Finding officers to stick around like Ward has been hard to come by for the force.

"I enjoy being a police officer," said Ward, who has been with the department for 13 years. "I've never awoken in the morning and dreamed going to work."

Deane's vision

Since he first set foot on the Hill in 2000, Chief Robert Deane has had one vision for his department — experienced offi-

cers patrolling the Hill. A veteran force, he said, would give Western optimal police coverage.

"What I'd like to do is get a department together and keep them together for five or six years," he said.

But that vision has been easier said than done.

While he and many of his subordinates have tried to staff an experienced police force, better-paying jobs at bigger departments have proven a constant and often overpowering menace.

Capt. Eugene Hooper said the department lost two officers this year. One of them, Sgt. Terry Scott, became a state arson investigator.

Campus police are now trying to fill the two vacancies left open by Scott and Officer Jared Rickard's departures.

Better paying jobs

The situation is frustrating for



Officer Brian Ward gets a discounted rate for one of his son's textbooks — one of the benefits of being a university employee. His son, B.J., is a sophomore at Western. Above: Ward responds to a fire alarm at Science and Technology Hall.

Deane. Often, the officers he hopes will serve Western from their first day on the job to retirement leave because of one reason: money.

New Western officers start

out making \$21,420 a year and an additional \$3,100 for maintaining their officer certification.

While strides have been made, the department still isn't where Deane would like it to be.

Western's pay scale is low, compared even to its closest neighbor, the Bowling Green Police Department.

SEE OFFICERS PAGE 3

Name change

"I am grateful for it ... I served with good people."

It is Central no more — let's call it John D. Minton Hall

BY ZACH MILLS
Herald reporter

John D. Minton served just over six months as Western's president in 1979.

Now thousands of pedestrians will see his name everyday as the university prepares to rename one of its most highly-visible dorms — Central Hall near the Downing University Center.

John D. Minton Hall was made official by President Gary Ransdell at the May 31 Board of Regents meeting. A dedication ceremony for the renaming is scheduled for Oct. 25.

Ransdell said the decision to rename the dorm made sense because of the example of leadership Minton, a long-time teacher at Western, exemplified.

He said Minton was "one of those rare

individuals" who accumulated a high reputation among faculty as well as students.

Minton said he was "sentimental and emotional" about the honor.

"I am grateful for it," Minton said. "I came to Western at a good time, and I have appreciated the opportunities that have been given to me. I served with good people."

Tom Hiles, vice president for Institutional Advancement, said the decision to use Minton's name to adorn Central was not related to financial donations. Hiles' staff has pursued naming rights donations for other campus buildings.

Minton served as president at Western

SEE MINTON PAGE 2

ON THURSDAY



Michael at the helm

It's a new football season, and the Herald reporters will be there to cover every second of it. Watch for our special football section, including a story on starting quarterback Jason Michael.



For more pictures, graphics, galleries and interactive storytelling, visit our improved Web site, located at www.wkuherald.com.

Weather watch

Today	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
83° 65°	83° 65°	83° 65°	85° 64°	86° 66°

2 Day

By the numbers

208 Days until Spring Break.

55 Foreign countries represented by students on the Hill.

a thousand words Beyond the Hill



If puns are "pun-ishment" for you, take an aspirin before you read any farther.

While some would run for air conditioning the moment a drop of sweat rolls down their face, John Potter would rather retreat to his "ear conditioning." Elephant ears, that is. Dubbed the "International Plant of the Ear," the plants are scattered across an antique international farm truck in the yard.

John Potter not only has his own method of air conditioning, but he also has his own Web site. But you won't get to his site from a computer. A gargantuan stuffed spider is the only occupant of the weather-stained white web strung between two A-frames outside. A nearby sign reads, "Peas grow to our website."

Adorning the lawn are Potter's rusty trucks, which sport nifty names like Betty, Dumpy, Dodger and Vanna White. "Vanna's the one with nice headlights," John said.

With a smile, John explains that more than 200 potted Alocasias and Elephant Ear plants sit on the barn's 22-foot sloped roof.

John works the outside nursery full-time with occasional help from his wife, Karen. There, they trim, plant and arrange. But they don't mind the dirt or even the rain. They just enjoy life and smile whenever possible.

Edward Linsmier is a sophomore photojournalism major from Virginia Beach, Va. He can be reached at linsmea@wku.edu.

Crime Reports

Arrests

◆ Alicia Ann Abell, Schneider Hall, was charged Thursday with driving under the influence and disregarding a traffic control device. She was released Friday from Warren County Regional Jail on a \$500 unsecured bond.

◆ Laurel Dianne Heidgen,

Meredith Hall, was charged Friday with DUI and disregarding a traffic control device. She was released the same day from Warren County Regional Jail on a \$500 unsecured bond.

◆ Andrew Scott Roberts, Hollis Chapel Road, was charged Saturday with DUI, disregarding a traffic control device, possession of marijuana and possession

of drug paraphernalia. He was released the same day from Warren County Regional Jail on a \$1,000 unsecured bond.

◆ Stephanie Nicole Cruse, Poland Hall, was charged Sunday with DUI, disregarding a traffic control device and possession of alcohol by a minor. She was released the same day from Warren County Regional Jail on a \$1,000 unsecured bond.

◆ Stephanie Leigh Brown, Louisville, was charged Sunday with DUI, possession of marijuana, possession of drug paraphernalia and speeding. She was released the same day from Warren County Regional Jail on a \$1,000 unsecured bond.

◆ Leah M. Mishell, McElwain Court, was charged Sunday with possession of a controlled substance and possession of drug paraphernalia. She was released yesterday from Warren County Regional Jail on a \$1,000 unsecured bond.

Reports

◆ Laura L. Rogers, Rodes-Harlin Hall, reported Thursday \$1,200 in damage to the passenger side window and dashboard of her 1993 Chevrolet Z34 parked in the Kentucky Street lot. Items worth a total of \$675 were stolen from the vehicle.

◆ Campus police Sgt. Kerry Hatchett reported Thursday the driver side window of a Jeep Grand Cherokee broken out. A CD

player and a pair of sunglasses were stolen from the vehicle parked in the Kentucky Street lot.

◆ Gail Simone, music department, reported Thursday five keys valued at \$10 stolen from the fine arts center.

◆ Mackenzie L. End, Wilkerson Road, reported Friday a CD player worth \$300 stolen from her 1997 Honda Civic parked in the Arts lot. No damage to the vehicle was reported.

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MINTON: Central Hall gets new name

CONTINUED FROM FRONT PAGE

from Jan. 8, 1979, to July 31, 1979.

He began teaching in the history department in 1958 and during the 1960s, he served as Associate Dean of Graduation Instruction and Dean of Graduate College.

On Aug. 16, 1970, Minton was appointed vice president of administration and vice president of student affairs on July 1, 1981.

Minton retired from Western in August 1986 and later returned to

Western's history department where he taught part-time until 1996.

Minton finished his undergraduate work at the University of Kentucky, and attended Vanderbilt where he received his doctorate.

"Over those years the people that I worked with made my job easier and better and probably made me look better," Minton said of his time at Western.

Reach Zach Mills at news@wkuherald.com.



Minton

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Got a gripe?

Sound off

Go to www.wkuherald.com

Take the poll on what you think administration should do about parking problems on campus

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OFFICERS: 'We can't afford to be the training ground for larger departments'

CONTINUED FROM FRONT PAGE

"The problem is we can't offer them the money large departments can afford to pay," he said.

Western is not alone. At other state universities, like Eastern Kentucky, officers are leaving at an even higher rate for better paying jobs at bigger departments.

"In the last 12 months, we've lost six officers," said Tom Lindquist, public safety director at Eastern.

He said with 18 campus officers and a nationally-recognized law enforcement program, Eastern is constantly replacing officers who leave for better jobs.

Similar to Western, pay is the biggest problem for the university, Lindquist said.

A common practice

While officers continually leaving for bigger jobs and better pay causes major headaches for the likes of Deane and other campus police officials, it is a reality they must deal with.

Larger departments will recruit from smaller departments and more times than not, they will attract a new officer. Deane said the practice is commonplace.

Recruiting from smaller departments is a financially logical move because bigger departments get an officer who is already trained and ready to hit the streets their first day on the job, Deane said.

But Officer Penny Bowles of the Bowling Green police, a larger department, said her department does not recruit officers from Western.

"We have officers who come here from other departments," she said.

"But we don't go to other departments to ... steal officers."

Many times when officers leave campus police for another job, they take with them the 16 weeks of training at the state police academy that Western paid for to their new employer.

Fran Root, training branch manager of the Department of Criminal Justice Training Center in Richmond, said about 500 would-be police officers will go through training there this year. The program consists of 650 hours of course work.

It's a difficult program, Root said. An average of four officers per class quit or fail before they complete training.

Officers who receive training in Richmond are paid by their employers during the 16 weeks of training. Their other expenses, including housing, are covered by the state.

"It's very demanding, both physically and mentally," said campus police officer Larry Dvorak, who completed the program last October.

Dvorak said he doesn't plan to leave Western anytime soon.

Making some strides

Officer Ward and Sgt. Jody Burton welcome new recruits, such as Dvorak, with open arms. Deane said the department is trying to decrease turnover despite the setbacks.

Deane said strides include increasing pay and highlighting the benefits of working at Western, including six free credit hours a semester and half-priced tuition for relatives.



Edward Linsmier/Herald

Officer Brian Ward plays "Junior," a comical gas station attendant in the production of "Lucy and Ruth's Diner" at Pine Knob outdoor theater. Ward and his father have been cast in several of the theater's outdoor productions.

"We can't afford to be the training ground for larger departments," Deane said.

Taking advantage

Ward said his plan is to retire from Western in about six years and

begin wearing his personal finance analyst hat full-time.

Right now, Ward is taking advantage of a benefit offered by the university.

His son, B.J., is a junior at Western. Ward said B.J. gets half-

priced tuition as a relative of a university employee.

"That comes in handy," Ward said.

Reach Joseph Lord at news@wkuherald.com.

The sisters of Alpha Omicron Pi would like to welcome all of the incoming freshman and new transfers to WKU. We especially would like to welcome and congratulate our wonderful new members.

Emily Ashby	Kelly Harris	Heather Patterson
Katie Becht	Ashley Long	Traci Riggs
Erika Brown	Carrie Lorenz	Tara Robinette
Megan Castlen	Abigail Lovan	Brandi Robles
Cecilia Crutcher	Lacey Luxon	Brittney Sams
Donna Davis	Lauren Maddox	Stefanie Sellers
Heather Dillard	Sallie Mills	Amber Skees
Ashley Edwards	Mandy Morales	Amber Smith
Sarah Elliott	Sarah Moseley	Victoria Stedman
Megan Engle	Sarah Murray	Jamie Sullivan
Amanda Ferrell	Jamie Nollner	Jessi Taul
Katie Gosser	Kacy O'Reilly	Sara Vallett
Alicia Greenwell	Lindsey Ousley	Phanida White
Charissa Hallman		Jennifer Whitehurst
Jodie Holder		Jasmine Wood

We hope everyone has a great, fun-filled semester!
♥ Alpha Love ♥

Police need to fill two positions

BY JOSEPH LORD
Herald reporter

Campus police are searching for two new officers, but it could take months before any new recruits are patrolling the Hill.

Filling the two vacancies would eliminate all open positions in the department, Chief Robert Deane said. The department now has a 21-officer force.

Capt. Eugene Hooper said a four-member committee has received about 30 applications for the two openings and has narrowed the prospects to 14.

"It's probably going to be a month or a month and a half before we start making selections," Deane said.

He said applicants go through a series of background checks, screenings and tests before being hired.

Hooper said the committee will make recommendations to Deane based on evaluations and results from a test compiled by the committee, which includes Hooper, two sergeants and a dispatcher.

The two open positions in the department became available during the summer when Sgt. Terry Scott and officer Jared Rickard left for different jobs.

Scott became a state arson investigator and Rickard found employment in the private sector.

Hooper said the two new officers, if untrained, will be sent to the Department of Criminal Justice Training Center in Richmond for a 16-week program. They'll return to Western for 11 weeks of field training.

Deane said new officers are paid \$21,420 a year, plus \$3,100 from the state for maintaining their officer certification.

Gene Tice, vice president of Student Affairs and Campus Services, said it isn't unusual for campus police to have vacancies at the beginning of the semester. "I think my first year we had five or six vacancies," he said.

Deane said it can sometimes take a year before a vacancy is filled, provided the new hire doesn't fail during training.

"Then we'd have to start all over again," he said. "But I'd rather do that than make a bad selection."

Hooper said the vacancies won't affect safety on campus. "We're still able to perform our job, but it does stretch us a little bit," he said.

Reach Joseph Lord at news@wkuherald.com.

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OPINION

The Creed

"Congress shall make no law ...
 abridging the freedom of speech,
 or of the press ..."

— First Amendment, U.S. Constitution

Editorial

Every year, we say the university should do something to make it better. Every year we get ignored.

New school year, same old parking problems

According to President Gary Ransdell, Western doesn't really have a parking problem.

It's really just a location problem.

To a degree, he's right. There are new parking spaces available if you want a 30 minute up-hill hike to get to your first class. Better yet, you can shuttle in from a "remote parking area on Campbell Lane."

The options aren't exactly appealing.

But even more importantly, there still aren't enough spots.

Sure the university added several hundred parking spaces over the summer, but they also took a lot away because of construction.

No one we can find knows exactly how many spaces are on campus. After all of the addition and subtraction, we might have the exact same number of spaces on campus as last year.

Add in 1,000 extra freshmen and everyone with a tag is a little upset.

Every year, we say the university should do something to make it better. For good measure, here's this year's list of suggestions.

- ◆ Increase hours for the shuttle system. Right now, the Big Red Shuttle runs until 8:30 p.m. Monday through Thursday. That's great for the students who gave up and decided to park on Campbell Lane. But what about the kids who did find a parking spot in the Egypt lot? The internal loop shuttle only runs until 4 p.m. Let's make sure it starts running until 8:30 p.m. to make sure students are safe as they go to any of the commuter friendly lots on campus.

- ◆ While we're talking about the shuttle system, let's start running the shuttle to various apartment complexes like Western Place and Hartland, so those folks don't have to drive. Don't say there's not enough cash. Charge a small fee for those who want to use the service.

- ◆ Campus is pretty creepy at night. During the day, the trees are nice, but at night, there's no telling who might be behind them. We know now that students are going to have to park far away no matter what. Let's hope WKU police continue to patrol campus at night.

Let's also make sure that when lights go out in the parking structure or remote lots that they're replaced immediately.

- ◆ We want more emergency poles in parking areas. A student living in Minton Hall (which used to be Central) who had to park in the new gravel lots around Kentucky Street could walk to the dorm without ever passing an emergency pole. Plus, parking lots are some of the most high crime spots on campus.

Maybe we should be a little more forgiving of the administration. After all, they have designated parking spots about 30 feet from their door. Most of them have probably rarely made the hike from Egypt to Cherry Hall. If students had that luxury, they wouldn't be complaining either.

Here's a quick challenge for the administrators. Give up your coveted parking space for a week. Offer it to a frazzled commuter desperate for a parking spot.

See what its like for students who search campus for a parking spot at 9 a.m., then call us and tell us there isn't a parking problem.

This editorial represents the majority opinion of the Herald's 11-member board of student editors.

The Issue:

Despite new lots, parking is still a problem on the Hill.

Our View:

Administrators should take our advice and make more improvements. Start small. It can't hurt.



Editorial

Living in the dorms is a part of being a student at Western.

Plan for next year's dorm crunch

Because of Western's inability to plan, a number of Western students were faced with a dilemma over the summer.

Many received letters that said the university was short on beds. Upperclassmen were out of luck and freshman could be placed on a waiting list.

Besides being a public relations nightmare for the Western (stories about the fiasco ran in the Daily News and The Courier Journal), it has left many freshmen out of an integral part of college life.

Let's face it, living in the dorms is a part of being a student at Western. Every student has hated the dorms at some point in their life. They've seen the questionable items in the bathroom, and they've been up until 5 a.m. because of a neighbor's thumping radio.

It's just part of the transition to college. Most new kids probably live in a hall with other freshman.

Together, they learn to face the Hill — and grow up.

But because of poor planning, many freshman won't get that opportunity.

Although housing administrators aren't giving numbers for how many freshmen were denied a bed, it may be significant.

Until all the dorm renovations are complete, and until administrators manage to tame our enrollment growth, housing will continue to be a problem.

And if administrators are smart (and we hope they are), they'll start planning for next year's housing crunch now.

The Issue: Western couldn't house all of its students for the fall semester.

Our View: Shame on you for not planning for the housing crunch. Students are missing out on valuable opportunities.

- ◆ They'll suspend sophomore on-campus living until all renovations are complete. The administrators have already said that more upperclassmen are living on campus to enjoy the renovated dorms. Get rid of the sophomore requirement and a few more spaces will open up. We guarantee it.

- ◆ Let everyone know that there aren't any promises for housing after June 1. By then, administrators should have a good guess of how many freshman are coming to school and upperclassmen have had more than enough time to register for housing.

Come August, you're on your own.

This might allow for a little more planning.

College is about making friends and learning to live on your own. Dorm life is important in this process.

But because the university didn't plan well enough, the transition might be a little rockier for some.

This editorial represents the majority opinion of the Herald's 11-member board of student editors.

Letter to the editor

Herald ignores intramurals

As the new marketing assistant for the intramural-recreational sports department, I am looking for ways to inform the students about the activities happening at the Preston Center, the Sports Complex and the Health & Fitness Lab.

A major interest in marketing concerns the media coverage. Obviously, the Herald, because of its accessibility to the student population, would be our first choice. Although the major sports receive a great deal of coverage in the Herald, the publicity and interest stories concerning programs and activities in the area of intramural-recreational sports is close to non-existent. Regardless as to where the blame might fall, it is a benefit for the students to be informed about all the programs and activities sponsored by the university.

Last year, we made an effort to increase the amount of coverage by taking out a full page ad in the Herald once every two weeks. Although news about the major sports appeared as news items without cost to them, we paid for our page in the paper. The department is now trying to determine whether or not this page made a difference in student awareness.

The Herald, in keeping up with the times, has made changes that are of benefit to them. Unfortunately, these changes present major problems for us. Since the new pages are larger, the cost for a full page ad is more. Also, the new procedure in submitting ads places a great deal more work on the part of those submitting ads and requires purchasing additional, expensive computer software.

In brief, we would like to know if the "Intramural-Recreational Sports Page" as it appeared in the Herald last semester, will be missed!

Sarah Irvin
 Columbia graduate student

People Poll

What's the longest you've had to search for a parking spot?



"Way too long. Probably 30 minutes."

Brian Penn
 Fredonia sophomore



"I don't drive. A lot of people said they've searched for hours."

Nicole Hite
 Louisville freshman



"Well, I've been parking at my mom's office. It's about three miles away."

Mallory Chaffin
 Bowling Green freshman



"About an hour or so. You pay \$65 and can't park anywhere."

Damell Holt
 Hendersonville, Tenn. freshman

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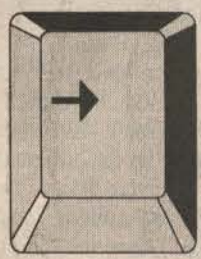
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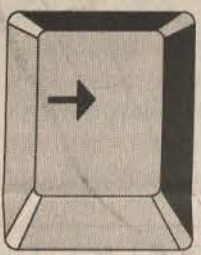
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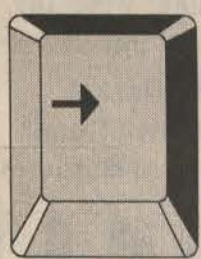
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► News Briefs

Miss KY USA pageant entries requested

The 2003 Miss Kentucky USA Pageant is accepting applications from women ages 18 to 27.

The pageant will be held at 7:30 p.m. Dec. 1 at the Center for Rural Development in Somerset. The winner will receive an all-expense-paid trip to represent Kentucky at the

2003 Miss USA pageant.

For more information, contact Betty Clark: P.O. Box 225, Benton, Ky., 42025; phone (270) 527-1912, fax (270) 527-5582.

Alumnus promoted to vice president

Embry-Riddle Aeronautical University in Daytona Beach, Fla.

announced Aug. 19 a Western graduate will now serve as its vice president of Affiliate Operations.

Guy McClurkan, who graduated from Western with a bachelor of science degree in health care and business administration, started with Embry-Riddle in 2000 as director of business development.

In his new role, McClurkan will expand training operation.

Board of Regents

Western alum is newest regent

By MAI HOANG
Herald reporter

While she attended Western in the early 1980s, LaDonna Rogers was a Spirit Master, a position of student leadership.

Seventeen years after she graduated, Rogers has taken on a new leadership role — appointed by Gov. Paul Patton in June to replace former regent Peggy Loafman, whose term expired June 30.

Rogers applied for the newest regent opening in May and was chosen from three nominees by a state selection committee.

Patton selected Rogers in June for a six-year term.

"He felt she would bring a lot to the Board of Regents," said Rusty Chevront, a spokesman for Patton.

Rogers graduated from Western in 1985 with a degree in mass communications. After

graduation, she worked in Frankfort as an assistant to the Secretary of the Cabinet, L. Roger Wells Jr.

Rogers called her time at the governor's office the most exciting four years of her life. She's now the director of Human Resources at T.J. Samson Community Hospital in Glasgow and a member of the Glasgow Independent Board of Education.

She said being a member of the board will give her the opportunity to give back to the university.

"I'm giving them a return on their investment on me," she said. "... As comy as it sounds, I am who I am because I went to Western. Western made me what I am."

Rogers said her goal is to sim-



Rogers

ply help maintain the quality of education at Western.

"(I want) to make Western the best university in Kentucky," she said. "With the work (President Gary) Ransdell has done, that is an achievable goal, and I look forward to

being a part of that." Although Rogers has only served as a regent since July, Ransdell said he thinks she will be a good addition to the university's governing body.

"Since I've come to know her, I've been impressed with the manner in which she thinks things through and asks relevant and meaningful questions," Ransdell said.

Reach Mai Hoang at news@wkuherald.com.

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Credit Union

Service One moving off the Hill

By JOSEPH LORD
Herald reporter

Service One Credit Union, located on the lower level of Garrett Center for the last 19 years, is planning to move off campus into its own facility in the next two years.

Service One president Valerie Brown said the credit union, which has about 4,000 members nationwide, will not vacate its on-campus location until at least December 2003.

The credit union plans to build a more spacious banking facility that will border campus, she said.

The credit union pays the university \$10,180 yearly to lease about 500 square feet of space in Garrett, Brown said, but that the space has become too cramped for employees.

"They'll have hopefully a much larger facility with a drive-thru," said Brown, who works at an off-campus office in Bowling Green.

The credit union's five-year renewable lease ends in October. Brown said the facility will

renew its lease and remain in Garrett until a new location is found.

"It's much better for the credit union not to lease property but to own property near the university," Brown said.

Louisville junior April King, a credit union customer, said she'd welcome a move if the new building is within walking distance of campus.

"It was convenient coming up here," she said.

Brown said Garrett is good for the credit union's purpose, but the move is needed.

"We're in a really good spot, there's no doubt about it, but we're on a lease," she said. "So we really just want to insure we stay close to campus."

Brown said the credit union recently purchased a building and property near campus at East 15th Street with the intention of making it their new home.

But the credit union is now searching for another location because the building at East 15th would not accommodate a drive-thru.

Gene Tice, vice president of Student Affairs and Campus Services, said he believes students would welcome a move to a new facility if it were a convenient location.

John Osborne, vice president for Campus Services and Facilities, said administrators are aware of Service One's intention to move.

There have been no plans made between Western and Service One about the possible relocation, he said.

Brown said the automated teller machine located outside Service One's door could possibly stay in its current location, even if the credit union moves.

The on-campus location has three full-time and three part-time employees. The credit union is open to Western faculty, staff and students, as well as public educators. Service One also has locations in Bowling Green on Campbell Lane, 31-W Bypass and the Glasgow campus.

Reach Joseph Lord at news@wkuherald.com.

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Service One Credit Union Announces Scholarship Recipient

Cynthia Vance Hines has been selected as the recipient of the Service One Credit Union Scholarship for the 2002-2003 WKU academic year.

Hines has an undergraduate degree in Health Care Administration and is currently pursuing her Masters of Business Administration at Western Kentucky University. She is Human Resources Director at Commonwealth Brands in Bowling Green.

The Service One Credit Union Endowed Scholarship was established in partnership with the WKU Foundation to provide its credit union members an opportunity to receive financial assistance in pursuing their education at WKU.

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Campus Life

"It's pretty cool. There's lots of free stuff."

Welcome Back Western Bash a hit, games ignored

BY CASSIE RILEY
Herald reporter

tables set up to give information and gifts to students. The booths included Club 302, Kroger and Spirit Masters.

"We've been here since 10:30 a.m.," said Leigha Cook, a Medical and Laboratory assistant at UrgentCare, a local medical facility.

"A lot of students have come by and are familiar with us," she said.

Not only were students given the opportunity to acquire awareness of local businesses, but they were also given a number of free gifts. A lot of booths gave away more than just pencils and magnets.

The give-aways ranged from t-shirts to cups to chip-clips.

Henderson senior Kristen Churchwell attended the festival for the first time this year. She expressed mixed feelings about the event.

"It's almost like they're taking advantage of the stu-

dents with all the free stuff," she said. "But I'm getting it too."

Like many other students, the promise of give-aways drew her to the informational fair.

"It's pretty cool," said Eric Reid, a senior from Lafayette, Tenn. "There's a lot of free stuff."

In addition to a bagful of goodies, Reid was one of a group of students to win prizes from the drawings held by the various businesses at the fair.

At 6 p.m., students gathered around the bell tower to see FLOOD'. Passers-by stopped in their tracks or sat on the grass as FLOOD' covered the song "Meet Virginia" by the popular group Train.

WHHR-FM 91.7, the Revolution was also getting in some advertising by giving away Frisbees and stickers while the band promoted the release of their new CD



Edward Linsmier/Herald

Somerset sophomore Amber Stigall enjoys listening to FLOOD' on DUC South Lawn Thursday with friends, Owensboro junior Jennifer Stone, Owensboro sophomore Jason Stone and Russellville junior Sam Freudenthal.

Center and Downing good," Georgetown freshman University Center. Jeremy Spors said. "They made a lot of covers and most of them were pretty

Reach Cassie Riley at features@wkuherald.com.

Story time

"I did feel like I was leading a double life for a while ..."

Fields' story: Sharing graduation day with twin

BY BETH SEWELL
Herald reporter

Morgantown senior Brent Fields and his identical twin, Clint, have shared almost everything since day one. The only thing they haven't shared is a university.

Brent chose Western while his brother chose Belmont University in Nashville.

Now the two are sharing the same graduation date, but the ceremonies are 60 miles apart.

"I can't believe we're going to graduate on the same day," Fields said. "My mom said she's not going to either so she can be fair about it, but my dad said he's going to Clint's because his college costs more."

With the possibility of his parents missing his graduation, Fields will instead be looking in the audience

for his two groups of friends — members of the Baptist Student Union and members of Alpha Gamma Rho.

"A lot of people think it's strange to be so involved with BSU and be in a fraternity," he said. "I did feel like I was leading a double life for a while, but I enjoy being in both organizations."

Fitting in with the stereotypical images of a "frat boy" wasn't easy for Fields — he didn't want to. It was important to him that his religious beliefs not be compromised and that everyone know and understand that.

He made it clear to his fraternity brothers that he did not drink, and even clearer that he was never going to.

"I just don't see the point in it," he said. "I joined a fraternity for the



WHAT'S YOUR STORY?
Brent Fields

friendships, not the drinking and parties."

The brotherhood of AGR was what initially roped Fields into the fraternity. He enjoys being around others interested in agriculture who come from farming families.

As an agriculture major, owner of

3,000 acres of corn and soybeans and an ambassador for the agriculture department, it is important for Fields to be around people who share his passions.

"AGR gave me a way to be around guys who were interested in the things I was," he said. "It gives everyone a common interest to build off of."

After only two years with the fraternity, Fields was elected as the rush chair for AGR and activities director for the Interfraternity Council.

Although fraternity life keeps him busy, Fields remains even busier with his faith.

He is the music minister at his church in Cromwell. There he organizes all of the church's services, works with the choir and is putting together a praise band.

As a member of the BSU council leadership team, Fields has been active in many of the BSU's services.

"It's a great Christian atmosphere," Fields said. "The first thing I went to when I came to Western was a worship service called 'Power Source.' It was amazing to be in a room with Christians all your age."

With all that Fields has been active in, it's hard to imagine his core cheering section absent during graduation, but he isn't worried about it.

"While I'm here, I want to make the most of everything I can," Fields said. "And I know that there will be people cheering for me along the way."

Reach Beth Sewell at features@wkuherald.com.



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Movie review

Witty characters make for cool flick

'Serving Sara'
Grade: B

By DEVINN WINKLEMAN
Herald reporter

"Serving Sara," starring Matthew Perry and Elizabeth Hurley, is your typical comedy. In the film, Joe Tyler is sent to serve divorce papers to Sara Moore.

In the process, Sara (Hurley) gets tipped off by Joe's co-worker, Tony (Vincent Pastore, of "The Sopranos") and runs for her life trying to avoid Joe (Perry).

When catching Sara and serving the papers, Joe gets an offer he can't refuse. Sara tells Joe she will pay him \$1 million to forget about serving her the papers and instead serve them to her womanizing husband,

Texas millionaire Gordon Moore (Bruce Campbell).

He accepts the deal and goes on a nationwide manhunt to find Moore.

The film offers a lot of laughs in an almost sketch comedy-like manner. Perry and Pastore exchange petty insults in the office and Perry and Hurley find themselves acting out in comedic situations like "milking" a bull.

Although some of the jokes are crude, they're well placed and don't end up reducing the movie into something Adam Sandler would star in.

Cedric the Entertainer also stars in the movie as Perry's boss and does a wonderful job.

His dialogue is quick and smart, his actions are comical and he almost ends up stealing the spotlight away from Hurley and Perry.

If only director Reginald Hudlin had given him a slightly

bigger role in the film.

The only two problems with the film are that it's as if Hudlin begs Perry to act out "Chandler," his character from "Friends."

Perry does some accents and acts out different roles to get the papers served (veterinarian, flower deliverer, etc.) but with his sarcastic wit and quick actions, it spells out Chandler Bing all over again.

The other problem is that the ending is too cliched and predictable. With a movie this good, it's a shame the ending had to be so tiresome.

Overall, despite the boring and unimaginative ending, the dialogue is smart, the characters are witty and fun and the story makes for a good comical setup filled with some enjoyable moments.

Reach Devinn Winkelman at features@wkuherald.com

The Catholic Faith?

If you are a WKU student interested in joining the Catholic Church or would like to know more about the Catholic faith...

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Women's basketball

Truitt leaves program, plans to transfer

Guard has been unhappy for two years

By J. MICHAEL MOORE
Herald reporter

The year has just begun, but Lady Toppers coach Mary Taylor Cowles already finds herself having to fill a roster spot.

Jamie Truitt, a guard from Owensboro, has decided to forego her last two seasons of eligibility on the Hill and find another place to finish her basketball career.

"It started my freshman year," Truitt said. "I really wasn't happy. When we got a new coach

(Shawn Campbell) I thought I'd try it again. But, at that point, I was so miserable that I found myself not working as hard."

Truitt said she didn't want to experience another coaching change, adding she "couldn't play under those circumstances."

Truitt will stay on campus this semester and take classes in physical education and health, taking the time to look for a transfer school.

She would not comment on specific schools she's looking at, but said she is focusing her efforts out of state.

Cowles said she became aware of Truitt's decision before school began this semester and thinks the action will benefit

everyone.

"It was the best decision for Jamie and the best decision for everybody," Cowles said.

In two seasons as a Lady Topper, Truitt averaged 5.6 points and 2.1 rebounds a game. Known most for her three-point shooting ability, Truitt connected on 62 three-pointers in 53 games — a 33.2 percent average.

Cowles said there are no plans to give away the scholarship made available with Truitt's departure. While Krystal Gardner, a recent walk-on, seems a possible candidate, Cowles said no plans of that nature have been discussed.

"Krystal has shown a lot of excitement and interest," Cowles

said. "We decided to give her an opportunity on a walk-on basis."

Recruiting trail

Brandie Hoskins, a 5-foot-10 shooting guard from Dayton, Ohio, visited Western Aug. 19.

Hoskins, a high school senior, is considered to be one of the top 25 recruits in the country. She averaged almost 25 points a game during this summer's Amateur Athletic Union (AAU) season.

Several other Division I schools, including Notre Dame, Michigan State, Ohio State, Duke, Florida State and Dayton have reportedly shown interest in Hoskins' play.



H. Rick Mach/Herald

Southwest Recreational Industries workers lay down the AstroPlay surface last week at Smith Stadium.

Rug: Cost is \$900,000

CONTINUED FROM BACK PAGE

the '70s, artificial turf was a hindrance. It was a hazard. It was a knee killer," Harbaugh said. "What we've done with technology now, we've made it actually better than grass, and I'm happy our university decided to give it to us."

And after a sub-par 2001 season when he connected on just 14 of 22 field goal tries, Martinez is glad he can trust the field again when lining up kicks.

"Being sure-footed, not having to worry about a plant foot, not being in a puddle of mud, not being on a sand pit, not being on the beach," Martinez said, are advantages of the new turf.

The band, women's soccer team, a physical education class

and intramural teams will all play on the new surface.

But while the new surface is coming up roses for now, there could be some thorns before it's over.

The turf will need to be replaced every 15 years and if the field gets too dry, dust could get in players' eyes. Also, Biggs said if a hard rain comes in the early stages, the turf could shift.

Just don't tell Martinez that. "I can't wait to get on it. I'm so excited," he said.

And while he expects there will be some issues his crew will have to deal with initially, Biggs is confident in his choice. "(The players) are chomping at the bit to get on it," Biggs said.

Reach Keith Farnar at sports@wkuherald.com

BOUNDS: Western loses gem in Just

CONTINUED FROM BACK PAGE

the latter from time-to-time.

It's the kind of thing you do for people you respect greatly.

Those who work in a public relations capacity often get branded as tools of their employers. And to a very large extent they are.

But having worked alongside him the past two years, I'd venture to say that while Just has had the university's best interest at heart, he has done his best not to sugarcoat the truth.

That is not only a rarity, it is nearly non-existent in the profession.

And his quiet exit only backs up the kind of attitude and integrity he has brought to the Hill for over three decades.

I only hope that the next guy, whoever it is, can make my job as easy as Paul Just has.

Kyle Hightower's column appears on Tuesday and occasionally on Thursday. You can reach him at 745-6291 or by e-mail at htowa@hotmail.com.

It's the kind of thing you do for people you respect greatly.

Watch for the Herald's Football Special Section on Thursday!

SENIOR: Development of young crop important

CONTINUED FROM BACK PAGE

depth that we didn't have last year," Holmes said.

And if that crew can score some points, Western will have a little more experience and certainty on the other end. Junior Daryl Sattler will start in goal for the third consecutive season. He was chosen by the coaches as a pre-season honorable mention all-conference goalkeeper.

He and Buerger are staples.

But the youngsters will have to improve on the Toppers' woeful scoring output from a year ago if they plan to compete for a conference title.

Last year, Western scored 24 goals in 17 games, and departing senior Andy Fertick led the way with four goals. It was an anemic effort when compared to Missouri Valley Conference champion Southern Methodist's 61 goals, led by conference play-

er of the year Luchi Gonzalez and his 21 goals and 11 assists.

Thus, it's not surprising the Mustangs have been picked by the coaches to repeat as MVC champions and Western was chosen to finish eighth in the 10-team league.

"This conference is really tough," Holmes said. "Every game is tough."

SMU is ranked eighth in the nation and fellow MVC team Creighton is 19th. On paper, the Toppers look to face long odds in trying to better last year's 7-10 record.

But just this weekend Buerger beat the odds. He put his team in position to win. And he let a rookie finish it off.

It may be wishful thinking, but the Toppers hope that was a prelude to the coming season.

Reach Danny Schoenbaechler at sports@wkuherald.com.

NEW: Position should help Lady Tops defend

CONTINUED FROM BACK PAGE

that the addition could help other teams more than us."

Miller has similar sentiments.

"I think Travis has a really good point," she said. "We were great defensively and we already kept either Tracy or me in the game, so it won't affect us much in that way."

Still, Cecil remained optimistic about the new position. And the big-hitting sophomore stands to benefit perhaps more than anyone else.

"I would hate to be serving against (Tracy or Ashly) because they get everything up," she said. "And it's a perfect pass every time."



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Individuals must be able to work approximately 24 hours per week on day shift. Salary commiserate with experience and education.

Applications will be accepted from 8:00 a.m. to 4:00 p.m., beginning August 23, 2002 or you can submit your resume to Lord Corporation, Human Resource Department, 2800 Pioneer Drive, Bowling Green, KY 42102.

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Interested applicants should obtain an employment application from the Human Resources Department in City Hall, 1001 College Street, Bowling Green. Completed applications must be submitted by 4:00 pm, September 5, 2002.

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Social Security Summer Forum

The Bowling Green Social Security office is hosting "Social Security Summer Forum 2002, Across the Generations". The forum will be held at Western Kentucky University's Downing University Center this Wednesday, August 28, 2002. Registration begins at 8:00 A.M. with the forum beginning at 8:50 A.M. The forum will conclude at 12 noon.

U.S. Congressman Ron Lewis will be the keynote speaker with Eleanor Jones, Acting Deputy Assistant Regional Commissioner from Atlanta also speaking. Workshops will be offered covering the following topics:

- Ticket to Work
- Solvency
- Social Security-Impacting the Local Economy
- Medicare Update
- Understanding Social Security
- Fraud
- Electronic Services

Register for the forum at the table that will be located near the auditorium in the Downing University Center.

Column

His old desk is empty, his new team is second-rate and I wonder: Who cares?



PLAYGROUND NOTES
Kyle Tucker

Where in the World is Bobby Sippio? It's a game Western faithful will be playing for years. "What if ..." and "If only ..." will be the game's catch phrases, along with "Remember when ..."

As chalk meets blackboard again for the beginning of fall classes and NFL training camps, Bobby Sippio can be found in neither.

Sippio was one of 38 underclassmen who declared for the NFL draft after last season. Of those, 26 were selected.

Sippio was not. Seven rounds came and went. Two days, 261 names. No Bobby Sippio.

Two Toppers, his defensive backfield mates, were selected. Joe Jefferson went in the third round to the Colts. The Saints took Mel Mitchell in the fifth. Sippio's phone never rang.

It seems unthinkable that a guy who picked off a school-record 10 passes, ran two back for scores and was the school's first unanimous first-team All-American as a sophomore could fall so far.

Even in a disappointing junior season, clearly lacking focus, he put up decent numbers (38 tackles and five picks).

So where did he go? Where in the World is Bobby Sippio?

In his own world, best I can tell. But how did he get there? How did the once-promising star fade?

Oddly enough, the NFL's online draft

site offered some insight. In his profile, Bobby's obvious positives were listed.

These are the things Bobby thought would make him a millionaire despite his other antics.

Tall. Great hands. Leaps well. Reliable tackler. Natural instincts.

But it's the negatives that caught my eye. They tell the story. Right there in black and white. They're talking about football, obviously, but speak almost as accurately about his pitfalls in life. They lay a framework, in football terms, for how the prolific pass-stopper and playmaker fell victim to his own punkdom.

"Lacks balance turning out of his backpedal."

Yeah. Bobby lacks the ability to balance other-worldly ability with down-to-earth good sense.

Just before that stellar sophomore campaign, Sippio was suspended from the team for "attitude and conduct," related to a series of mouthings and misconducts. He later admitted that he "brought the situation on myself," and that his "head got kind of big."

Good thing he learned his lesson, huh? His career — or more accurately, his character — has been in a steady backpedal ever since.

"Has a tendency to lead with his shoulder before tackling, taking him off his feet a bit."

the baggy in plain sight.

The officer pegged it as the green stuff — the dimes you puff, not the millions Bobby blew. You know what they say: If it looks like weed, and it smells like weed ...

No, Bobby, light it up isn't the way that one ends. But I digress. The point is, off to jail he went — again.

Add that to his already shady past, and the pros only saw cons. Maybe if he were Oklahoma's Quentin Jammer, who was taken in the first round. But a I-AA player jumping early, after a down year, doesn't have that luxury. Definitely not smooth.

And, in the section labeled "Career Notes," you'll find this laughable observation: "... one of the best pass thieves in the nation."

Yep, and if you need a parking pass, he's not bad at nabbing those, either. His arrest for swiping a Western parking tag last November was just a pathetic note on his rap sheet. Months from being a millionaire and he needs a \$60 tag?

It reads like a summary of his near-deceased career. His aptitude as a stopper had fame in his grasp. His ineptitude as a person tackled him short of the goal, forcing a fumble that he may never recover.

Where in the World is Bobby Sippio? Actually, if you're interested, he's

located precisely at minus 89.59 degrees west longitude and 40.69 degrees north latitude. In short, he's in Peoria, Ill.

Sippio, once a potential first-round NFL pick, is playing for the Peoria Pirates of arenafootball2. He's playing for peanuts in a league widely considered a last shot for has-beens and never-weres.

Attempts to reach Bobby were unsuccessful. And while his team won the prestigious ArenaCup last week, he apparently didn't do much. Only his name, now Robert Sippio (apparently sounds more law-abiding), appears on the roster. No stats are to be found.

But some think he still has a shot at making the NFL. Sadly, though, I wonder: who really cares? His mom and the rest of his unconditionally loving family do, I'm sure. But I don't. Do you?

There are far too many stand-up guys in sports for me to waste my time rooting for one who's willing to blow it all on a parking pass and a puff.

I don't feel sorry for Bobby Sippio. He's had second, third and fourth chances. All he had to do was be a star on the field and manage not to screw up, and he'd be rich today.

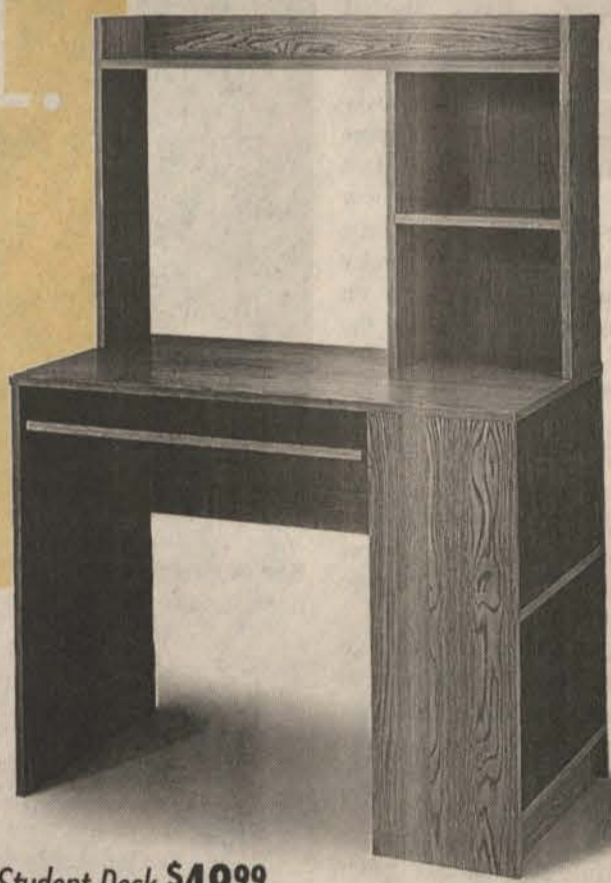
No, I don't feel sorry for Bobby. I feel sorry for those who count on him.

Reach Kyle Tucker at sports @wkuherald.com.

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Notable

• Men's soccer will rely on young talent after losing 11 seniors from last year's team. This year's squad has 10 freshmen and only two seniors.

SPORTS

College Heights Herald • Western Kentucky University • Tuesday, August 27, 2002 • Page 12

Contact:

Sports editor Kyle Tucker:
sports@wkuherald.com
Photo editor Andreas Fuhrmann:
photo@wkuherald.com

Volleyball

"I think that we will have the two best liberos in the conference."

New position proves bigger isn't always better

BY DANNY SCHOENBAECHLER
Herald reporter

In a major rule change, NCAA volleyball has instituted a new defensive position called the libero.

The libero, pronounced LEE-bah-ro, is a player who can play only on the back row and cannot serve or attempt to block.

The position appears to have several advantages. It gives teams a chance to keep a player who is a defensive specialist and a good passer in the game. It also gives shorter players more of a chance to play major college volleyball.

"People are constantly try-

ing to find new ways to make the game more exciting," head coach Travis Hudson said. "This allows smaller athletes a chance to play our game, and it will raise the overall level of play."

Teams must designate one player as the libero prior to every match, and the player must wear a different color uniform.

Hudson said that the Hilltoppers will have the libero wear the home jersey when they are on the road, and the road jersey when the team is at home.

According to Hudson, players who have been referred to as defensive specialists can now play a more important role for the team.



Samuel M. Simpkins/Herald
Freshman volleyball player, Abby Borrer, left, and sophomore Ashly Miller listen to head coach Travis Hudson during practice.

"It makes it a much more vital role on the team," he said. "I think it will make everybody better." Sophomore hitter Amanda Cecil agrees.

"There are some people that think it could hurt the sport, but I think it is a good thing," she said.

The Toppers have two players that will be taking the duties of the libero: junior Tracy May and sophomore Ashly Miller. Both are proven defenders and passers for Western.

May was second on the team with 297 digs and is the top returning defender for Western. As a freshman last season, Miller tallied 188 digs.

"I think that we will have the two best liberos in the conference," Hudson said.

And by constantly having the liberos in play, Cecil said, the Toppers should be a

stronger unit.

"I think it's really cool that we get to keep either Tracy or Ashly in the game almost the entire match," she said.

Miller is also excited that she'll be more of a featured weapon in Western's attack.

"I really like it because it gives the defensive specialist a bigger role in the game," she said.

But one possible negative of the libero is the fact that it could give lesser teams a boost in their attempt to catch Western in the conference.

"It gives other programs a chance to challenge us," Hudson said. "We were already such a good ball-control team

SEE NEW PAGES

Men's soccer

Senior leads youth movement

Buerger's experience, rookies' talent are key

BY DANNY SCHOENBAECHLER
Herald reporter

Ben Buerger gave a display last Saturday night of exactly what his coach and teammates know he can do.

Western was trailing Cumberland College 3-1 in an exhibition match when the fifth-year senior captain put the team on his shoulders and carried them back.

He scored two goals in four minutes to force an overtime that the Hilltoppers won on a golden-goal penalty kick by freshman midfielder Brandon Bailey.

Buerger has started throughout his career on the Hill and will be the focal point on an enormously youthful squad. The Toppers lost 11 seniors from last year's team. With the new season kicking off at home Saturday against Kentucky Wesleyan, they'll count on Buerger to bring along the newcomers.

"Ben is our captain, and he has done a terrific job in the preseason," Western coach David Holmes said.

Freshman forward Steven Medlock agrees that Buerger has been a model captain so far.

"I think Ben Buerger has done a great job bringing us together," he said.

Fittingly, Buerger plays in the central midfield where he can help the team in an assortment of ways and keep a watchful eye on his green mates. He will be joined in the central midfield by red-shirt freshman Ritchie Mupfudze, who also figures to be an integral part of any



H. Rick Mach/Herald
Senior Ben Buerger, left, and freshman Steven Medlock compete for the ball during practice Monday night at the intramural fields.

Toppers success.

"Ritchie brings some athleticism to the field that can be really exciting," Holmes said.

Buerger agreed.

"When Ritchie has the ball, he can take on anyone on the field," he said.

And while Toppers will be relying on some very young scorers, Buerger thinks the

inexperience factor can be overrated.

Medlock and sophomore Justin Goodman will play up top as strikers, and freshmen Bailey and Daniel Payne should see plenty of time as the outside midfielders.

"We have some attacking talent on this team, and some

SEE SENIOR PAGE 9

THE BUERGER FILE

NAME: Ben Buerger, team captain
CLASS: Senior
HOMETOWN: Louisville
MAJOR: Physical education
HEIGHT: 6'1"
WEIGHT: 185
POSITION: Midfielder
HIGH SCHOOL: Eastern High School
BIRTHDATE: Sept. 29, 1979

Column

No fanfare needed, he's just leaving

So much is often made of how athletes exit their respective sports.

How an athlete leaves the game often creates more of a spectacle than anything they ever did between the lines.

You've heard all the "Today I feel like the luckiest man in the world" type stuff. You've seen all the ticker tape parades and year-long farewell tours.

But the latest Western sports legend to call it quits isn't one of those guys.

He isn't even an athlete. He's an old guy with white hair who could pass for Santa Claus.

Really, he could.

For the past 36 years, dating back to his sophomore year on the Hill, Paul Just has been a major player behind the scenes of Western athletics.

Not only that, but he's one of the few people still around that can give an eye-witness account of the best and worst moments in Hilltopper sports history.

Just, Western's sports information director for the past 25 years, will step down from that post — at least in a full-time capacity — on Sept. 31.

I know of his departure, and if you're reading this, now you know it.

But as many press releases as Just has penned over the years, you should know that there wasn't one issued about him.

My guess is that he didn't want one and probably never thought of it as a big deal. People who truly love what they do usually don't.

"I could work for 50 years and not get done with every-



OUT OF BOUNDS
Kyle Hightower

thing I want and need to do," Just said.

He was originally supposed to leave the post on Aug. 1, but agreed to stay through September so the selection committee headed by Athletics Director Wood Selig can hire his replacement.

While he has gladly answered the occasional questions Selig has thrown his way, for the most part he is taking a back seat in the process.

"It's called an early retirement, but I will still be around," Just said. "I'm going to do the part-time thing because I don't think I can go cold turkey."

"I just feel like it's time, and I want to spend more time with my kids. And I think I owe it to my wife, who has had to do 95 percent of the parenting the past 25 years."

But the homecoming that Just's wife and children will soon get is truly a loss for Western.

Because as well-known as the red towel is in Western folklore, so too is Just's trademark beard, red blazer and infectious smile.

The athletes know him as Paul, but many still call him Mr. Just. I find myself saying

SEE BOUNDS PAGE 9

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