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COLLEGE HEIGHTS
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**REMEMBERING THE
"BOWLING GREEN
MASSACRE"**
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TUESDAY, FEBRUARY 7, 2017 > WESTERN KENTUCKY UNIVERSITY > VOLUME 92, ISSUE 31

WKU to sue over open records decision

BY NICOLE ARES
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WKU announced Monday it will appeal an open records decision to the Warren County Circuit, meaning it will sue the College Heights Herald, according to university officials. The Herald was notified

informally of the appeal via an email from WKU General Counsel Deborah Wilkins on Monday.

"We did receive the opinion. We will be appealing the decision to the Warren Circuit Court," the email from Wilkins read. The decision comes after the

Kentucky Office of the Attorney General ruled on Jan. 26 WKU violated the Kentucky Open Records Act by denying requests from the College Heights Herald and the Kentucky Kernel, the student newspaper at the University of Kentucky. Since the opinion of the At-

torney General has the "force and effect of law" the university has two options: to release the requested records or sue its student newspaper.

WKU President Gary Ransdell told a Herald reporter Monday the decision to appeal was based on the universities responsibility to all of its

stakeholders.

"It's important for people to know this is about us sorting through the most responsible way to handle sexual assault on campus, not the way this administration or university

SEE APPEAL
PAGE A2

Tuition deficits may lead to university budget policy change

BY EMMA AUSTIN
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Department heads at WKU use one complex policy to determine what the next semester for their program will hold, but after mid-February, that reality may change.

WKU's carry forward policy allows programs to take unspent money and determine what use it will have in the coming fiscal year, but a pending executive decision could give WKU's administration overall control.

"We have to evaluate what's the best mechanism to cover any shortfall in tuition," Ann Mead, vice president for finance and administration, said.

Currently, the budget office provides each division with carry forward information in the fall. The carry forward is then allocated in thirds, the last of which is provided in early spring, Associate Vice President of Academic Budgets and Administration Ladonna Hunton said in an email.

Divisions are able to plan ahead and decide how to manage the budget each fiscal year. The current policy allows saving for purchases or one-time expenses without permanent funding.

"Deans and unit managers have always been conscientious stewards of their carry forward funds," Hunton said.

In response to a deficit caused by enrollment declines, university administration is considering a change to the policy, which would halt allocation of carry forward money until the estimate for tuition is met.

Between 2012 and 2015, total enrollment saw a gradual decrease, dropping from 21,124 students to 20,068. Though there was a slight increase of 209 from 2015 to 2016, Mead said not as many students returned this spring as anticipated.

Mead said a decision could be made as early as mid-February, going into effect immediately.

"What's gone wrong with the carry forward has nothing to do with the carry forward," Mead said. "What's wrong is we've had some decline in enrollment, but even a small decline in enrollment can cause some problems in your budget process."

Mead said during strong fiscal years, the carry forward policy worked well. Tuition revenue allowed

SEE BUDGET PAGE A2



Claudia Hanes, a 66-year-old retired Bowling Green teacher, waves her "unity flag" and holds a Women's March sign during the Unity Walk on Feb. 4 in downtown Bowling Green. "We're here to support our local community of refugees and immigrants and just anyone who feel ostracized by this man," she said. "[We want] To show them that the community is bigger than the man." KATHRYN ZIESIG/HERALD

"UNITY IS LOVE"

BOWLING GREEN JOINS IN UNITY, SHOWS SOLIDARITY

BY KATHRYN ZIESIG
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Hundreds of people of all ages, backgrounds, beliefs and ethnicities joined together at First Christian Church for a vigil and to begin their walk of solidarity through downtown Bowling Green Saturday afternoon. The marchers peacefully walked together holding signs, flags and candles in solidarity for immigrants and refugees.

The line of people walking down State Street from First

Christian Church wrapped all the way around Fountain Square Park and led to Christ Episcopal Church.

President Trump's executive order placing a travel ban on certain countries sparked protests and vigils across the country with people rallying together in response to show support for those affected by it.

According to the Unity Walk: Honoring Diversity in

SEE UNITY PAGE A2

ESports team hosts first live event, plans to keep growing

BY CASEY MCCARTHY
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Students filled tables on Saturday at the WKU eSports first live watch party for the match against Murray State University, which was displayed live on a big screen in DSU Nite Class. Free pizza was offered, and prizes were raffled off during the live streaming.

League of Legends is a multiplayer online battle arena video game that pits players of five against each other. The teamers select from a variety of champions, building up experience and collecting items to defeat the other team.

The WKU League of Legends team lost the match 2-1, winning the first game, before losing the next two.

Around 100 people showed up for the event, Nicholas Conrad, assistant coordinator for the eSports program at WKU, said.

The eSports program was approved

by the university last spring, and officially established last semester. This is the third official League of Legends match played by the eSports team, which competes in the Collegiate Starleague, an intercollegiate gaming league.

"We had a great turnout," Conrad said. "The crowds seemed to enjoy everything about it."

The eSports program is set to sign a contract with Twitch, a live streaming platform popular in the gaming industry, within the next few days, Conrad said. The contract involves a corporate sponsorship which could include \$1,500 in cash and items from the company, academic resources and guest speakers from Twitch coming to WKU to discuss the industry, trends and individual projects in the field.

Conrad said his ultimate goal for the program is to host an invitational at Diddle Arena, inviting five to eight

SEE ESPORTS PAGE A2



WKU Senior Josh Starnes, from Lexington, concentrates on his monitor during the first round of the League of Legends match against Murray State in Garrett Conference Center on Saturday. The WKU team is apart of the Collegiate Starleague that includes other universities from around the country. EVAN MATTINGLY/HERALD

APPEAL
CONTINUED FROM NEWS

feels about its College Heights Herald," Ransdell said.

WKU has 30 days to formally appeal this decision to the Warren County Circuit Court. If it does not do so within those 30 days, the Attorney General's decision will "have the force and effect of law," according to the Kentucky Revised Statute 61.880(5).

The Herald requested access on Nov. 1 to all Title IX investigative records into WKU faculty and staff sexual misconduct allegations occurring in the last five years.

These records include documents of six university employee resignations since 2013

after the results of Title IX investigations found violations of university policy, according to Assistant General Counsel Andrea Anderson.

WKU denied the Herald's request on two separate occasions, citing the Kentucky Revised Statutes exceptions to the Open Records Act which allow a public agency to withhold certain records.

WKU said the employees in question resigned or retired from their respective positions prior to any "final action" by WKU, which "did not result in the adoption of the preliminary records as the basis for final action at WKU, and therefore those records did not lose their preliminary status and therefore need not

be disclosed."

It also cited the lawsuit between the University of Kentucky and its' student newspaper the Kentucky Kernel over a similar records request. A Fayette Circuit Court judge overturned the Attorney General's decision, that UK should release the requested records, on Jan. 23.

Ransdell said the best outcome for the university would be for the institution to be able to determine the best course of action without making a media spectacle for victims and the accused.

"Title IX is relatively new in higher education and these situations are basically us trying to sort out our responsibilities," Ransdell said.

The Attorney General wrote on Dec. 7 using the ongoing Kernel lawsuit as reasoning for withholding records is not permitted by the Open Records Act.

The Herald appealed the records request denial to the Attorney General and on Nov. 29, the Attorney General's office requested copies of the records involved from WKU, which WKU denied.

The Attorney General's office then requested redacted copies of the records withheld "but only to protect the names and personal identifiers of students."

WKU responded that "merely redacting student names and personal identifiers of students would not

be sufficient to protect the identity of student reporting parties or witnesses who should be afforded privacy under both federal and state law."

The Attorney General issued its final opinion on Jan. 26 that WKU must make "immediate provision" for the student reporters who filed the requests to "inspect and copy the disputed records with the exception of names and personal identifiers of the complainant and witnesses."

The Herald will update this story as more information is made available.

Reporter Nicole Ares can be reached at 270-745-2655 and nicole.ares@wku.edu.

UNITY
CONTINUED FROM NEWS

Bowling Green's Facebook page, First Christian Church, the Islamic Center, the International Center, Christ Episcopal Church and the Bowling Green Women's Intercultural Café all came together to form the event to show Bowling Green is a strong united community.

"This walk is for our neighbors, not our hypothetical neighbors, but our actual ones," Megan Huston, the senior minister of First Christian Church, said. "Our prayer vigil is an opportunity to remember who we are and to assure our neighbors who happen to have been born in a different country or who may call god by a different name, that they are not alone."

The vigil and walk began at First Christian Church with speeches from multiple religious and organizational leaders in the Bowling Green area. Each expressed their wishes to make Bowling Green a welcoming place for all who wish to come.

"Bowling Green is one of the most welcoming communities I have ever lived in in the United States, and I am proud to call it home," Albert Mbanfu, executive director of the International Center, said. "I am glad that we have decided to embrace humanity instead of fear."

The walk concluded at Christ Episcopal Church where participants were welcomed inside for refreshments and fellowship with one another.

According to Rev. Kyle McDougall, associate minister of First Christian

Church, they had prepared about 250 candles thinking that would be a sufficient number, but were excited to see the numbers of people grew far beyond 250. Participants were handed candles before they ran out while coming into First Christian Church and lit them for their walk through downtown.

Claudia Hanes, a retired teacher from Bowling Green, carried a "unity flag", an American flag with a peace sign made from the stars, during the walk to show her support along with the other participants. She hoped to spread the message Bowling Green is not interested in the division of people, but instead unifying the community and loving one another.

Many other people held signs showing their thoughts and support for the cause saying things like "Unity is Love"

and "Refugees Welcome".

"It's not what America is about, and it's not the message we've sent to our neighbors ever, and I'm just appalled," Hanes said.

People of different backgrounds and ages came to show their support. Kim Timmer, a mother of two and Bowling Green resident brought her kids to the walk to teach them valuable lessons about diversity and acceptance.

"We brought the kids, so that they can see that when communities come together it's a beautiful thing," Timmer said. "We want them to see people loving each other and treating each other kindly."

Reporter Kathryn Ziesig can be reached at (270)745-0655 and kathryn.ziesig987@topper.wku.edu.

BUDGET
CONTINUED FROM NEWS

university-wide projects. However, when the university is faced by enrollment declines, the central budget is left without wiggle room.

The policy was revised in 2013, and a 10 percent cap was added to the policy, meaning a division could not receive a return higher than 10 percent of its original budget. The policy also added a tax on the carry forward to allocate a percentage to the central budget.

Before the carry forward policy was introduced, surplus

revenue and under expenditures were accrued to the university's central budget; there was no automatic policy to determine how the excess money would be allocated.

At the end of each fiscal year, all surplus revenue became one number for the entire university. Thomas Meredith, WKU's president at the time, would ask divisions what they needed before the money was redistributed, Mead explained.

"There was a use it or lose it mentality," Mead said. "Let's say it's June and I've got \$5,000 in my budget. I might be look-

ing around to see how I could spend it. It might be in the best interest for it to come central for university-wide priorities, but can you imagine saying there's money left over in my budget; I think I'll contribute that to a renovation project in athletics."

President Gary Ransdell initially introduced the carry forward policy to return balances to individual divisions. Surplus revenue is returned to its division to encourage strategically prioritizing projects that may require more money than the annual budget allows.

According to the policy, which has been in place for

almost a decade, it "provides additional fiscal flexibility and rewards good management."

There are a few exceptions to the policy, including revenue-dependent divisions, which are expected to cover all their expenses.

Some people use carry forward, which is considered one-time money, to take care of expenses that recur annually.

"If you think of it like a rain bucket, it fills up when it rains, but you don't know how much rain you're going to get, and you have some evaporation," Mead said.

Some costs come up that

don't have permanent funding, so there's a reliance on "filling the bucket" again with the carry forward. If the policy is changed, there would be no guarantee of how much money is returned to departments and other university-funded programs.

"To tell you the truth, it would not go over really well," Mead said. "We're in January; they've already spent some of it; they've probably planned to spend most of it."

Reporter Emma Austin can be reached at (270)745-0655 and emma.austin177@topper.wku.edu.

ESPORTS
CONTINUED FROM NEWS

collegiate teams to play live. Patricia Todd, marketing department chair at WKU, discussed the eSports program "coming a long way."

"As other programs and universities begin to take it seriously, it will blow up," Todd said.

Todd mentioned the support of President Gary Ransdell giving the program the opportunity to grow, adding incoming president Tim Caboni was open and accepting to the program as well.

Todd's daughter, Jessica Manrow, a music education graduate student at WKU, takes care of social media for the program. Manrow, a Twitch streamer, helps with the team's Twitch stream as well as acting as a liaison between the program and Twitch.

Manrow said WKU is among the first universities to become involved with Twitch. Manrow noted the importance of getting the program's name out there and building on it.

"I'd like to see more events on campus, eventually getting more teams, for more games," Manrow said. Man-

row said she believes Overwatch will be the next game they try and get a team for.

John Hay, a former WKU student and eSports team member, said the program has developed quickly, especially "by university standards."

"It has gone from a concept in our minds to gathering petitions back in late April, all the way to live events with a live stream, MC and free food," Hay said. "It's a culmination of everything coming together."

Hay, who is still involved with the team and program, noted the time and commitment put in by students. Hay said the students in the program don't have scholarships currently and have put in their own time, effort and resources on top of regular student responsibilities to make it all happen.

Hay mentioned international students on the team cutting their winter breaks short for practice.

"The international students on the team came back 10 days early to be here for the start of the regular season on Jan. 10," Hay said. "These students who only get to see their families when they fly home over break sacrificed for the team."

Both teams played from their own respective campuses, due to issues concerning campus resources, including computers and accessories. WKU played the event from a computer lab set up in Garrett Conference Center.

Though the live stream did feature a view of the team playing in Garrett, Jerome "Wanbli" Gollner, a senior from Louisville, said the team looked forward to hopefully playing in the same room as students watching. Gollner said this is typically how pro events are set up.

Gollner joined the team last semester and said he has played games in the genre for about 10 years. He noted how far the team has come in its short existence.

"At first, everyone brought their own laptop to play on," Gollner said. "Now, the team is the same, but we are a lot more professional."

Gollner echoed Hay's statements concerning commitment. Everyone has to want to be here and be willing to work at improving, Gollner said. Gollner considers himself to be the 'captain' of the team and mentioned his role of looking out for teammates and being available if they have is-

sues.

Gollner was born in Germany before moving to Louisville in 2006. The diverse team includes players from China, Dubai, United Arab Emirates and Chile.

William "Billy" Adams, a junior from Bowling Green, joined the team over the break as an assistant coach. Adams has worked as a professional analyst for professional teams and players.

Adams said strategizing includes studying pro teams and players, implementing strategies, as well as understanding goals, as individuals and as a team. Adams said building a good team relationship means listening to players as well.

Gollner said working to improve as a team meant overcoming egos and learning to take criticism. The team often swaps roles around in the game to help work on teamwork, he explained.

"The game is like an orchestra," Gollner said. "I don't tell them what to do, I just make sure they work together."

Reporter Emma Austin can be reached at 270-745-0655 and emma.austin177@topper.wku.edu

The following students attended the NPHC Greek 101 Session on January 30th, 2017:

- Alexia Cannady
- Alana Watson
- Iyonia Jackson
- Michaela Carter
- Marie Mennefield
- Haeven Butler
- Zharia Harris
- Shante Parker
- Brittany Perry
- Amaris Kelsey
- Tahjena Muldrow
- Kymberley Wiley

- Ashley Vaughn
- Kelsey Briscoe
- Cheyenne Mitchell
- Taylor Montgomery
- Paige Henderson
- Jeanice Boyd
- Kwanesha Caldwell
- Ashley King
- Jordann Barber
- Tyara Mack
- Bre'a Dickerson
- Jalien Jordan



- Jalil Brown
- Bradley Broady
- Terrea Thomas
- Braxton Johnson
- Camille Carter
- Taja Brown
- Charly Bush
- Deondra Bartee
- Kevin Moses
- Jordan Bryant
- Calen Gill
- Mark Clark III

- Malik Reynolds
- Maurice Patterson
- Lia Houchens
- Jalyn Works
- Autumn Johnson
- Hailey Whitehead
- Kerry Barr
- Ashya Watkins
- Tiye Gardner
- Timothy Maxberry
- Alexus Richardson

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

Event connects international and American students

BY JAMIE WILLIAMS
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The International Student Diplomats are planning a social event in response to President Donald Trump's executive orders blocking immigration from certain countries and supporting building a wall on the United States-Mexico border.

The event, Love Has No Borders, will involve Valentine's Day activities with an international twist and aims to connect international and American students.

"I want this bubble of international students to break and all of us to mix together," Nima Moradzadeh Esmaeili, president of the Association of Iranian Students, said.

Esmaeili said a lot of American students have been having problems with international students lately and even said a couple of Iranian students were shouted at and asked to leave the country.

"I don't want to fight them," Flavio Chavarri, president of the International Student Diplomats, said. "I don't want them to hate us."

Chavarri said some students have approached the diplomats to ask them to do something in response to the immigration ban, even if they can't

fix everything completely. The diplomats hope to ease worries of all international students — not just those who were personally affected by the executive order.

"The ISO [International Student Office] can do something to bring a little bit of light or find a golden lining," diplomat Srijita Chattopadhyay said.

"Honestly, I am up for this challenge," Esmaeili said. "It is a challenge, but I'm up for it, and I'm not going to give up."

In the spirit of Valentine's Day, Love Has No Borders will feature speed dating between international and American students. There will also be karaoke for international students to sing in their native languages.

Several speakers will be at the event including students from countries mentioned in the executive order. The speakers will talk about their home countries so guests can learn about them on a more personal level.

The Association of Iranian Students will also provide a way for guests to sign an online petition against the immigration ban. Signing the petition will be optional, but it will be available to students who feel like they want to do something more.

"It's not going to be political," Esmaeili said. "If they want to support it,



Sangria Wan listens as T. Ryan Hall, President of ESLi, discusses potential ideas for the upcoming event. The International Student Diplomats meet on Thursday to discuss how the recent ban has affected students at Western Kentucky University. The meeting was held to organize details of an upcoming event to promote interaction between International and American students, while showing support for those who have been affected. LYDIA SCHWEIKART/HERALD

they can support it." A prize will be awarded to the Greek organization that brings most of its members to the event. There will also be food for event guests.

Love Has No Borders will take place

Friday from 5:30 - 10 p.m. at the Faculty House.

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

Women's campus ministry to open chapter at WKU

BY SALLY WEGERT
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A new campus ministry will open its doors to women at WKU at a kickoff event on next Monday, Feb. 13, at 5:30 p.m. in Downing Student Union.

Delight Ministries, an organization which originated in Nashville, was started by two Belmont University students and has since opened chapters on over 65 university campuses in the United States. The mission of Delight Ministries is to "invite college women into Christ-centered community that fosters vulnerability and transforms stories," according to its website.

In late September of 2016, Marisa Williams, a 20-year-old student and Bowling Green native, decided to act on an impulse and began a women's

bible study of her own. After following the Delight Ministries' co-directors' Instagram accounts for some time, Williams became familiar with the organization and felt it would foster a positive community on WKU's campus.

"There are sororities and other things for college women and those are great communities, but Delight seeks to bring women from all different sides of campus together on a larger scale," Williams said. "We want to be as intentional about fellowship and loving each other as we are about following God's word."

The two Belmont University students who created Delight Ministries, Mackenzie Baker and Mackenzie Wilson, still involve themselves in Delight chapters outside of their own. Baker, co-founder and self-titled "Relation-

ship Director," conferenced with Williams over the phone in preparation for WKU's Delight chapter kickoff event.

"They've been a really great support system," Williams said. "They are always checking in and helping get everything in order."

With 43 campus ministries officially registered at WKU, Williams expressed having difficulty raising awareness of Delight's arrival on campus. Brooke Barnes, a freshman from Logan County had not heard of Delight Ministries but expressed interest in the concept behind the organization.

"I think it sounds like a cool idea," Barnes said. "Almost like a girls' club."

Barnes is currently involved with Christian Student Fellowship at WKU, but said she would be interested to go to Delight's kickoff event.

In the process of becoming an official campus organization, Williams recruited three other students and two faculty advisers to take part in coordinating the Delight chapter, naming herself as the team director. With under two weeks remaining before the event, Williams is hopeful in expecting a turnout of "at least 20 people," and is organizing snack food, games and a selfie-style photo booth for the party.

"However many people God wants to put there is fine," Williams said, sighing and sipping a Starbucks coffee. "If this ministry ends up helping even one person get closer to God, then that's amazing."

Reporter Sally Wegert can be reached at (270)745-0655 and sally.wegert795@topper.wku.edu.

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OPINION

Have an opinion? Tweet us @wkuherald or find us on Facebook at WKUherald as well. Let us know your thoughts about the editorial, or write us with what is on your mind.

CARTOON

Things As Real As The Bowling Green Massacre

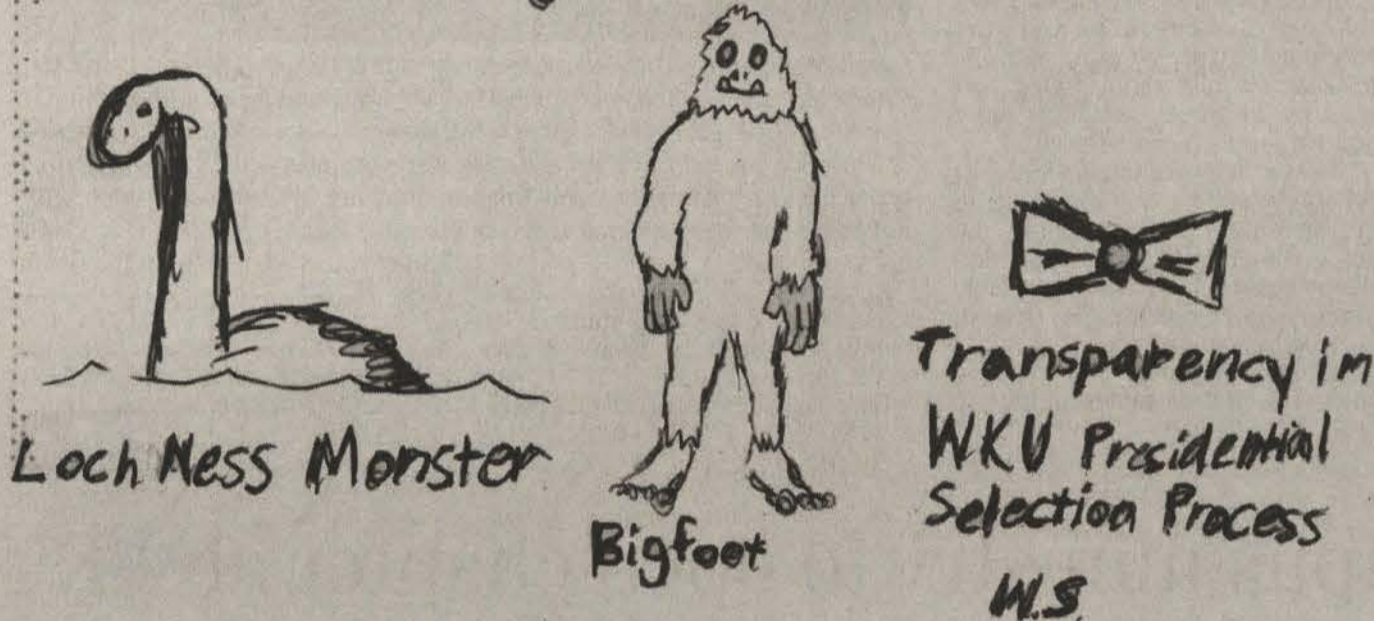


ILLUSTRATION BY WESLEY SLAUGHTER

WALK IN THE LIFE

Balancing the pressure to be well-rounded

BY MILLIE RONKAINEN
HERALD.OPINION@WKU.EDU

"You do not want to be so well-rounded as to be spherical." This perplexing phrase was voiced by my adviser when I asked her if my extra-curricular activities were adequate for an application.

As soon as she said this I realized I have been struggling with being spherical for a while.

As a pre-med student, I feel as though there are a lot of boxes I have to check and activities I must complete to make me well-rounded for my goals in life. Summer programs, prep classes, shadowing, research and leadership positions all compete for my time.

And all these pressures from outside make me feel inadequate and overwhelmed. The closer I come to applying to medical school the more obvious my inadequacies appear to me.

I have not attended a summer program, held a leadership role in an organization, shadowed as many doctors as my friends have and I have not always scored the highest on exams.

I feel like I cannot keep up and as though I am losing myself to the crowd and the competition. But am I inadequate?

God did not intend for us to be exact replicas of one another. He did not intend for us to be spherical, to-do lists with every item crossed off. He gave us unique strengths and hidden gifts in our personalities.

When we choose to develop our strengths through our activities, we lose our spherical nature and become faceted, catching the light and sparkling like diamonds. We stand out from the crowd and are prepared to accomplish whatever task God sets before us.

The difficulty in this is trusting God enough to embrace our uniqueness, trusting that it is okay to be original.

We need to stop feeling guilty for spending time doing things we enjoy. We need to stop comparing ourselves to our peers.

I am slowly becoming more comfortable with the idea of just being me and doing what I do for the sake of doing it. Does it benefit anyone if I complete an activity just to say I did it? I do not need to check every box to be prepared for what God is asking of me.

I can take an original path through life and succeed without checking all the boxes. I can be well-rounded without losing who I am in Christ. I will not be spherical.

SLICE TO SAVOR

Bless your dark chocolate heart

BY KELLY BURGESS
HERALD.OPINION@WKU.EDU



"Hey Kelly... Do you happen to have... Do you care if I have some of your..."
"Sure, go right ahead... It's right there on my desk!"

It's not a pencil, a piece of gum or a paper that you can count on me for, as you might expect. Anybody who knows me at all knows I always have a supply of dark chocolate on hand.

Dark chocolate may not be my love language, but let's just say it's always there for me when I need it. A great, sunny day is the perfect opportunity to treat yourself to a piece of dark chocolate. Days when you have a pile of homework as tall as Cravens Library are also excellent opportunities for a little chocolate pick-me-up.

Maybe it's just me, but dark chocolate is my go-to in almost any situation, so I always keep it close at hand. I used to think it was a bad thing I had developed a reputation for always harboring a stash of dark chocolate, but now I proudly fess up to the fact.

Not only is it an acceptable habit to snack on dark chocolate, but health experts and my amateur self-included, champion the rich, flavorful bean for its many health benefits. With Valentine's Day fast approaching, there's no better time to talk about the benefits of dark chocolate.

Being a rich source of antioxidants is just one of the many health benefits of dark chocolate. Other more widely known sources of antioxidants are blueberries, acai berries, and green or black tea. Antioxidants are so important to have in the body because they play a key role in preventing cancer and other chronic diseases.

Dark chocolate is also a good source of minerals and other nutrients, including iron, magnesium and fiber. Just an ounce of dark chocolate provides 19 percent and 16 percent of your daily iron and magnesium needs, respectively.

Iron is necessary for proper functioning of the main body processes, including transporting oxygen in the blood and sustaining muscle endurance. Magnesium is just as important as calcium in promoting bone health, as well! The same amount of dark chocolate also provides 12 percent of daily fiber needs, which offers a host

of health benefits, especially for the digestive system.

In the spirit of the season of love, it would be a disservice not to mention the benefits of dark chocolate to heart health as well. Consistent consumption of moderate portions of dark chocolate have been proven to lower LDL (bad) cholesterol, and raise HDL (good) cholesterol! This is the exact opposite effect of trans-fats in the body. Dark chocolate also lowers fasting blood glucose levels, which is important for people with diabetes, or for anyone looking to maintain optimal health.

One last question you may be considering is how much is one ounce of dark chocolate? A regular size candy bar is usually about 1.5 ounces of chocolate, and a Hershey kiss is about 0.16 ounce. Also, it is important to look for 75 to 90 percent cacao varieties when shopping for your daily dose.

As tasty and beneficial as it is, I caution you against eating too much of the coco-colored gold. One ounce daily is all you need to reap health benefits, without adding too many calories and sugar to your daily tab.

This Valentine's Day, bless your heart in a new way, and savor just a little of my favorite treat.

SPARSH'S PICKS

Electrify your semester routine with these songs

BY SPENCER HARSH
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The semester is already well underway, and you are probably settling into a routine, setting up your favorite walking routes, claiming a seat in each of your classes, and you may have even made time each night for homework.

Spring semesters can be a little rough since they feel longer due to fewer breaks and holidays. Routine becomes a standard product in the life of a student, but often routine can become boring. Typically, students turn to music to liven up the routine of their day-to-day and make the walk to class more enjoyable.

With this in mind, I give you five songs you can

add to your daily routine in hopes of spicing it up a little:

1. "GO IT ALONE" BY BECK -- This easy-rocking track from Beck's sixth album "Guero" fits well into a playlist you may listen to in-between classes. Its relaxed tone could also fit into a studying playlist or a playlist you listen to in the morning when you're waking up. A fun fact for this track is that Jack White from The White Stripes is playing the bass lines.

2. "TIZ A SET UP" BY GURU -- This tune offers an excellent throwback to '90s style hip-hop. Coming from Gang Starr's fifth album, "Moment of Truth," this track fits into a workout playlist or just something fun to jam to in-between classes. Hannibal Stax also appears on the track to offer some lines.

3. "FORCE" BY TROYBOI -- If you got excited for the most recent announcement of "Star Wars Episode VIII," then you may be even more excited about this track. As a dubstep-style track, Troyboi adds in tradition-

al sounds from "Star Wars" such as Darth Vader's breathing and lightsaber sounds. The track fits well into a study playlist if you study aggressively or your workout mix.

4. "WILD HORSES -ACOUSTIC" BY BISHOP BRIGGS -- This coffee-house style track fits well into a studying playlist with all the added benefit of being an enjoyable listen. The original recording of the track is a lot more hyped-up and modernized and may fit well into a workout playlist. A fun fact for Bishop Briggs is that she is in the lineup for Coachella this year.

5. "ONE HORSE RACE" BY TOM VEK -- This track brings in a good Indie vibe and is catchy. You could even find yourself singing along after hearing the track a few times. The track is something fun to listen to in-between classes or while driving around town. A few facts for the track is that it is also a part of the soundtrack for "Grand Theft Auto IV" and was on the B-side to Tom Vek's single "Nothing but Green Lights."

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3. For verification, letters and commentaries MUST include your name, phone number, home town and classification or title.
4. Letters may not run in every edition due to space.
5. The Herald reserves the right to edit all letters for style, grammar, length and clarity. The Herald does NOT print libelous submissions.
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THE FUN PAGE

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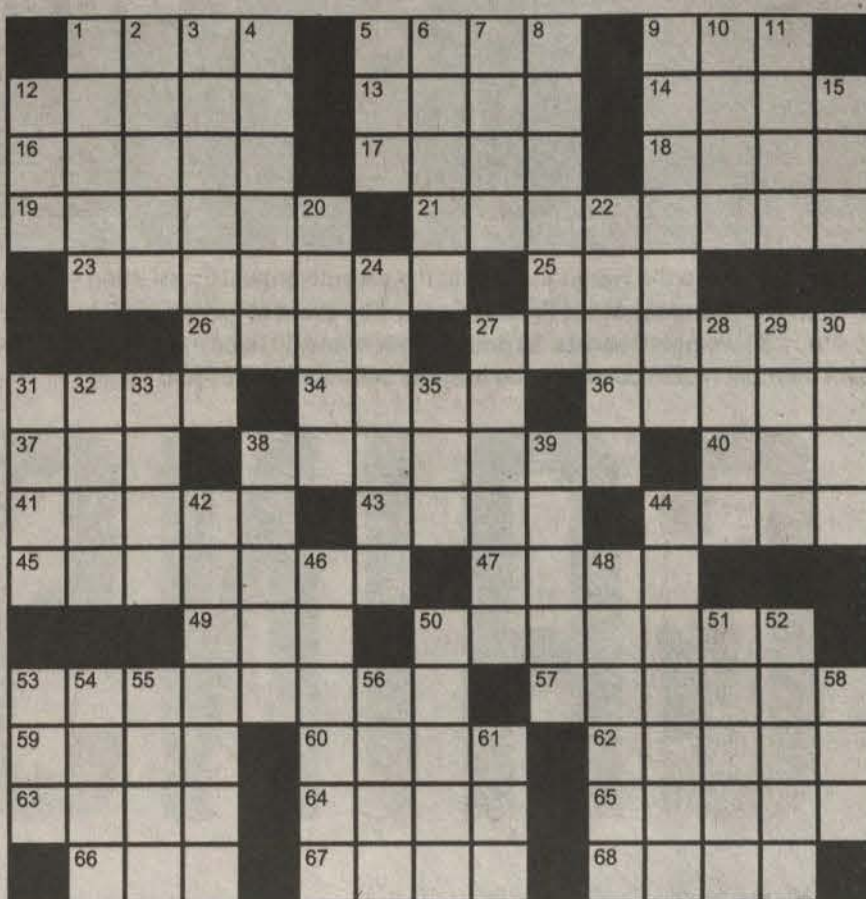
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Across

- 1 Blood fluids
- 5 Palm starch
- 9 Amazon, e.g.
- 12 Summits
- 13 Door opener
- 14 Roulette bet
- 16 Moves briskly
- 17 Spanish liqueur
- 18 The "O" in S.R.O.
- 19 Intercellular substance
- 21 Amusing account
- 23 Japanese entertainers
- 25 Withdrawn
- 26 Hadron's place
- 27 In pieces
- 31 Kind of hygiene
- 34 Fax button
- 36 Christopher of "Superman"
- 37 According to
- 38 Dockhand, e.g.
- 40 Loser at Antietam
- 41 Draw forth
- 43 Mozart's "Il mio tesoro," e.g.
- 44 Skating venue
- 45 Communist buddy
- 47 Mrs., in Germany
- 49 Bring into play
- 50 Turkish dynasty
- 53 Medical fear
- 57 Military vehicle
- 59 In alignment
- 60 Scored on serve
- 62 Type of cow
- 63 Supports



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- 15 Kind of flour
- 20 Bantu language closely related to Zulu
- 22 Bird's vibrant sound
- 24 Marine or parasitic protozoa
- 27 Aimless
- 28 Pastrami purveyor
- 29 All square
- 30 Raise a stink
- 31 Oil grp.
- 32 Change the decor
- 33 Jack-in-the-
- 38 Renter's paper
- 39 Home planet
- 42 Most primitive
- 44 Kind of sale
- 46 Call for, vehemently
- 48 Wild sheep of northern Africa
- 50 Bounding main
- 51 For the birds?
- 52 Brush
- 53 Mom-and-pop grp.
- 54 Seed covering
- 55 Hosiery shade
- 56 UN agency concerned with

Down

- 1 Scrawny one
- 2 Chew the scenery
- 3 Convicted one's hope
- 4 Sports stat
- 5 Calypso offshoot
- 6 Actresses Paquin and Faris
- 7 Enter
- 8 Preoccupy
- 9 Pain reliever

Twilight, the Movie

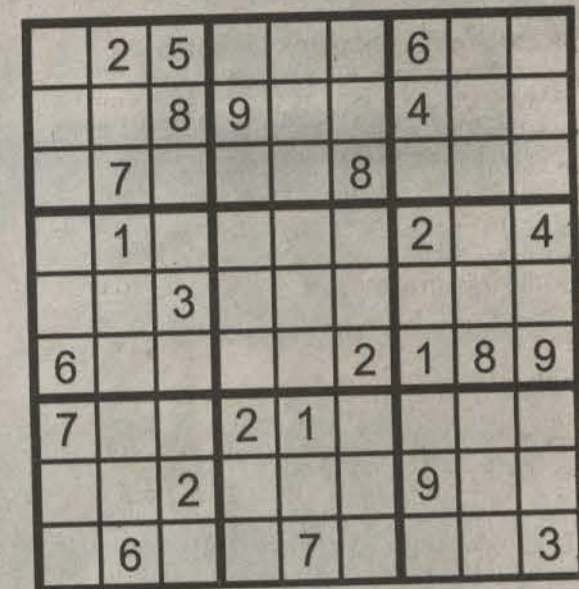
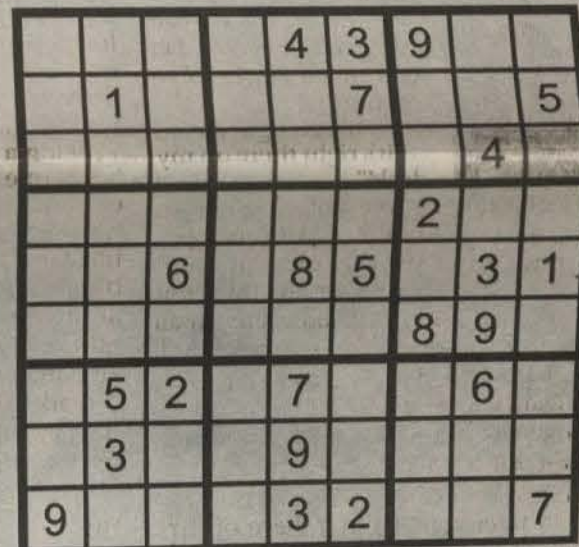
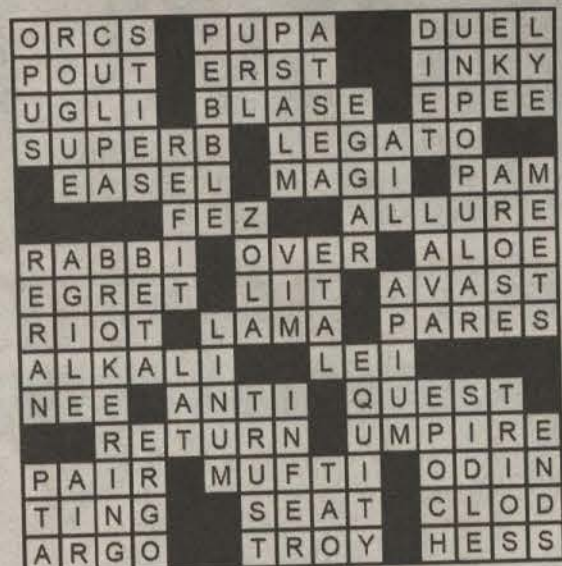
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1. Where is the first time Bella sees Edward Cullen?
(a) Biology Class (b) Cafeteria (c) Library
2. What is the beach where Bella and her friends go?
(a) La Push (b) Bethany (c) Avalon
3. What is Bella's middle name?
(a) Lisa (b) Angelina (c) Marie
4. Which character was NOT part of Edward's family?
(a) Carlisle (b) James (c) Emmett
5. What was Edward's special power?
(a) Strength (b) Could see the future (c) Mind reading
6. Who is the pitcher in the baseball game?
(a) Alice (b) Jasper (c) Laurent
7. Stephanie Meyer (Twilight's author) has a cameo appearance in what scene?
(a) Prom (b) Baseball game (c) Diner
8. What member of the Cullen clan did NOT like Bella?
(a) Rosalie (b) Alice (c) Esme
9. What color eyes do the nomads have when they meet the Cullens at the baseball game?
(a) Yellow (b) Red (c) Black
10. Where does Carlisle wear the Cullen crest?
(a) On a Ring (b) On a wrist band (c) On a chain around his neck

Solution

- 1. b 6. a
- 2. a 7. c
- 3. c 8. a
- 4. b 9. b
- 5. c 10. a

PREVIOUS SOLUTION



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Teams compete in the Waterfall event at the seventh annual CrossFitting 4 Cures fundraiser on Saturday at the Preston Center. The event consisted of 30 box jumps, 30 situps, 30 weighted squats, 30 double unders and 30 handstand pushups. One team member had to complete the exercise before the next could begin.



Jennifer Stephens, 34, from Shelbyville, completes the shoulder overhead portion of the Fast and Furious event at CrossFitting 4 Cures on Saturday at the Preston Center. Stephens has been doing CrossFit for four years and is the owner of Bourbon Barrel CrossFit in Shelbyville, KY.

GAINS FOR GIVING

PHOTOS AND STORY BY BROOK JOYNER

Eighty teams from Kentucky and surrounding states came together to compete in the seventh annual CrossFitting for Cures Event on Saturday at the Preston Center. Each team, consisting of three athletes, competed in four separate events: Fast and Furious, Waterfall, Hang Snatch and Gravity before awards were given to top finishers. CrossFitting 4 Cures was hosted by CrossFit Old School in Bowling Green and a portion of the proceeds benefited St. Jude Children's Research Hospital. Since the inaugural event in 2011, CrossFit Old School and its members have raised \$83,000 for the cause.

 PHOTO
WKUHERALD.COM



Spectators watch as Bobby Glenn, from Owensboro CrossFit, competes in the Hang Snatch event. Glenn and his team, Eskimo Bros, placed fifth for the hang snatch and sixth overall in the male RX division.



Precious Lee, 18, of Owensboro, completes the box jump portion of the Waterfall event as her teammates look on. She said their team did well in the event. "It was pretty tough but we got through," Lee said.



Justin Holland, 25, from Nashville, struggles to complete handstand pushups during the CrossFitting 4 Cures competition on Saturday, at the Preston Center. While most teams were affiliated with specific CrossFit gyms, Holland and his teammates were competing independently.



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LIFE



» **Team Penning:** Hold your horses and read about a team penning event held at the L.D. Brown Expo Center.



Community members hold candles at the Bowling Green Massacre Remembrance Gathering Friday. Organizer Justin Swindle, 27, said it all began as a joke with friends. "It somehow got super popular," Swindle said, "So we tried to make it matter by collecting donations." Donations will be given to the International Center of Kentucky. **ABBY POTTER/HERALD**

WKU student set to expand her knowledge of China

BY MILES SCHROADER
HERALD.FEATURES@WKU.EDU

Nashville junior Dominique Wood will partake in a study abroad trip to China next spring.

With the help of the Benjamin A. Gilman, Freeman-ASIA, and World Topper scholarships, along with the Diversity Abroad Grant, Wood will get to further her knowledge of Chinese history, language and culture.

Wood will earn up to 12 credit hours throughout the duration of her trip.

"I'm majoring in Chinese, so I have a strong interest in the area," Wood said. "I chose Chinese because I didn't really know anything about the history, culture, or language; so, I was curious. I'm really excited to go on the trip and learn even more."

Freeman-ASIA provides scholarships for U.S. undergraduate students with demonstrated financial needs to study abroad in East or Southeast Asia. From 2001 through the 2013 academic year, the organization supported 4,500 U.S. undergraduates from more than 600 institutions with their study abroad plans in East and Southeast Asia, according to their website.

Wood said the application process was extensive. She was required to create a plan for "service projects" that she would do after completing the trip. These "service projects" are a way for her to share her experience while studying abroad. She also had to write several essays to receive the scholarships, which were reviewed by advisers and friends.

Wood said she found out that she had been selected for the trip on her way to class one day. She looked at her email walking to Ransdell Hall.

"Honestly, for a second I thought it was fake because I was so shocked," Wood said. "At the end of the email I thought it would say something like, 'now all we need is your credit card information.' After the shock settled down, I sat down on a bench and called everyone I could think of."

During the trip, Wood will participate in a program that will put her through intensive speaking, listening, reading, writing and comprehending courses. She will also get to take cultural experience classes such as calligraphy and folk music.

"As a student, I hope to fly out of Beijing with more knowledge about China than I know what to do with,"

REMEMBERED?

BOWLING GREEN RESIDENTS COMMEMORATE 'MASSACRE'

BY ANDREW CRITCHELOW
HERALD.FEATURES@WKU.EDU

Members of the Bowling Green community gathered downtown and stood together in the cold Friday night, lighting candles and holding signs to commemorate a tragedy that never happened: "the Bowling Green massacre."

The Bowling Green Massacre Remembrance Gathering was held as a reaction to a statement made by Kellyanne Conway, counselor to President Donald Trump during a Thursday interview with Chris Matthews on MSNBC. Conway defended the Trump administration's recent restrictions on refugee admissions and travel from seven predominantly Muslim countries during the interview by falsely claiming that a "massacre" occurred in Bowling Green and was orchestrated by two Iraqi refugees.

"I bet it's brand new information to people that President Obama had a six-month ban on the Iraqi refugee

program after two Iraqis came here to this country, were radicalized and they were the masterminds behind the Bowling Green massacre," Conway said in the interview. "Most people didn't know that because it didn't get covered."

Conway was referring to the May 2011 arrest of two Iraqi men living in Bowling Green who were later charged for plotting to send money and weapons to Al Qaeda. The two men, named Waad Ramadan Alwan and Mohanad Shareef Hammadiwere, were mistakenly accepted as U.S. refugees and were resettled in Bowling Green in 2009. The two men never plotted a terrorist attack in the United States and no "massacre" ever happened in Bowling Green.

The Obama administration temporarily tightened security checks on Iraqi refugees and visa applications following the incident, but a ban was never instituted in 2011.

Justin Swindle, co-organizer of the Remembrance Gathering, said the

event was initially created as a joke directed toward Conway, but it eventually gained traction through social media.

"It was initially supposed to be just a few of us," Swindle said. "... I made a Facebook event that was public and invited some people and it just blew up from there."

Along with the burning of candles, some participants of the event made speeches and held signs saying things such as "we survived a massacre of truth" and "we stand with Bowling Green resident, ban lies, not people."

"Congratulations, Bowling Green," Adam Brownlee, Bowling Green, said during a speech. "Today we just became an alternative fact."

Donations for the International Center of Kentucky were also taken at the event. Speakers at the event used the platform to support local organizations such as Bowling Green #blacklivesmatter and Bowling Green Fairness. The speakers also voiced

SEE MASSACRE PAGE B2

SEE FREEMAN PAGE B3

Music venue hosts several touring acts, community music

BY OLIVIA MOHR
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A music venue hosts performances by Americana legends and up-comers from all over the country right here in Bowling Green.

The Warehouse at Mt. Victor and Michelle Deaton Catering is located at 2539 Mount Victor Lane in Bowling Green. Larry and Michelle Deaton own the business with the help of their son Adam Deaton.

Michelle Deaton Catering has access to an 8,000 square-foot banquet room. The Deatons host wedding receptions, high school reunions and other large events.

The Warehouse at Mt. Victor started in 2010 when the Deatons decided their banquet room would also work well for live music performances because their seating allowed for 450 guests.

The Deatons became friends with James McMurry, one of their favorite singer-songwriters, after attending many of his shows. He was the first musician to play at The Warehouse. His band performed on August 11, 2011.

The Warehouse books mainly Americana singer-songwriters, and several touring acts have performed there including James Mc-

Curry, Sturgill Simpson, Jason Isbell, Guy Clark, Robert Earle Keen, Steve Earle, Billy Joe Shaver, Todd Snider, Joe Ely, Shovels and Rope and Sundry Best.

The Deatons try to book artists who will either do well in Bowling Green or have never been to Bowling Green.

Larry Deaton is the concert promoter and talent buyer. He books the artists who play at The Warehouse and makes employment offers to the artists' booking agents.

"I enjoy booking the legends of Americana Music such as Guy Clark and Billy Joe Shaver along with new and upcoming artist[s] like Sturgill Simpson and Jason Isbell," Larry said. "It's a really great feeling to have them in our town, in our small venue, knowing they play [in] the biggest cities in the most famous venues."

Adam Deaton is the assistant manager and head bartender at The Warehouse. He runs the bar and makes sure the room is set up to meet the artists' requirements.

"The Warehouse at Mt. Victor and Michelle Deaton Catering are family-owned," Adam said. "We all work together, doing each others' jobs if necessary, to make sure everything runs smoothly. We provide really great live mu-



"My wife and I love music," Larry Deaton said. In 2010 Deaton started The Warehouse, a concert venue, in Mount Victor. "We built all of our vacations around seeing music ... that's all we did." **BRENDAN O'HERN/HERALD**

sic in a family-friendly venue. [People of] all ages can attend shows here. You do not have to be 21 because we are not a 'bar.' So, a family can come out together and watch a show here."

Ernest Small has performed with the Ernie Small Blues band for 35 years and the Mt. Victor Revue for six years. He has been friends with the Dea-

tons for over 25 years and has performed in several shows at The Warehouse. The Mt. Victor Revue practiced at The Warehouse when the band first started, and the band's name came from the name of The Warehouse.

"Having performed at nearly every venue in Bowling Green over the past 35 years, I have come to realize

that, through this community's support, that myself and countless others have been given the opportunity to express ourselves through music and develop a gift," Small said.

"Every artist I have seen there has been awesome and represents a style of music that I am just learning

SEE WAREHOUSE PAGE B3

MASSACRE
CONTINUED FROM LIFE

support for and encouraged people to attend The Unity Walk that happened in downtown Bowling Green on Saturday. Swindle said accepting these donations and using the gathering as a forum for discussion helped add purpose to an event that started as a joke. "I thought since we were reaching a

large group of people it was more helpful to actually be helpful than to just make fun," Swindle said. Bowling Green businesses have also taken jabs at Conway's remarks with drink and food specials such as the "the Bowling Green Massacre" pizza at Home Cafe & Marketplace and the "Bowling Green Massliquor Shot" at Hilligan's Bar and Grill. Conway retracted the "massacre"

comment on Twitter Friday saying, "I meant to say 'Bowling Green terrorists.'" Bowling Green mayor Bruce Wilkerson expressed sympathy toward Conway in a statement on Friday. "I understand during a live interview how one can misspeak and we appreciate the clarification," Wilkerson said. At the Remembrance Gathering, Swindle said during a speech that Conway's words were deliberate.

"She said that she misspoke, but really her intent was to turn people against Muslim folks and immigrants and refugees and that's something that we recognize," Swindle said. "Bowling Green is not going to stand for her using us as her ammunition."

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Allen County program creates buzz for learning

BY DANIELLE CHAVIS
HERALD.FEATURES@WKU.EDU

The Allen County Bee Keeper's Association held its annual Allen County Bee School program Saturday at the Allen County Intermediate School to educate local beekeepers of all levels in Southcentral Kentucky.

Several unique classes were offered such as Hive Observation and Cooking with Honey. The president of the ACBKA, Michele Boling, described the importance of the event to those wanting to learn about beekeeping.

"Keeping bees is not just as simple as buying a box of bees and throwing them in the back corner of your yard," Boling said. "Bees have a lot of challenges these days, and beekeepers have to understand their bees in order for them to survive."

The beekeeping community experiences difficulties maintaining hives because of diseases like Colony Collapse Disorder: an unknown condition affecting colonies with a disappearance of worker bees.

This disorder and other diseases can create unexpected population loss in wild and domestic bees. It is not a specific disease or influence from another organism, but simply the marked loss of vital pollinators that is detrimental to the hives and the ecosystem.

Bees are important in the ecosystem because of their active role in pollination, as pollinator bees increase fertilization of all plant species. The disappearance of bees and sustaining their health is concerning for scientists and beekeepers. In 2016, the United States Fish and Wildlife placed seven species of Hawaiian Bees on the endangered species list.

Harris Overholt explained how the Allen County Bee School had educated keepers in sustainable beekeeping and the endangerment of hive populations.

"People with new bees or wanting to get into beekeeping can see how to assemble the wood ware of a beehive; how to care and what to look for in the bees," Overholt said.

Overholt continued to explain how the Allen County Bee School program has been successful in educating beekeepers of Southcentral Kentucky.

"We have developed through these 13 years," Overholt said. "The last two years we have invited a nationally-renowned speaker to be a part of our program, and that has helped with the education and today it was Jennifer Berry who is from the University of Georgia, and she is a lab assistant and works with pesticides — their effect on insects."

Research is fundamental to understanding and preserving the health of bee colonies.



Tyler Bayton, of Clarksville, TN, points out the queen been in his bee hive display during the South Central Kentucky Beekeeping School on Saturday in Allen County. SILAS WALKER/HERALD

Bee schools provide a platform for researchers to share and inform beekeepers of the advancements in melittology: the scientific study of bees.

"Bee schools help disseminate current research, and best practices for taking care of your bees," Boling said. "This is a moving target, and every year there is new information and new techniques."

The sharing of new information and techniques is vital in preserving bee life. For newcomers interested in bee-

keeping, bee schools across the country provide the proper beekeeping education.

Bee School attendant Bobby Bush explained how his participation in the program this year has benefited his knowledge in beekeeping.

"One of the things I learned today was that I can take the healthy hives that I have and split them to make two hives out of them," Bush said.

Providing beekeepers like Bush with new techniques and information is the basis of

the Allen County Bee School's existence.

In the state of Kentucky, beekeepers have a list of beekeeping organizations. At WKU, the Office of Sustainability has a beehive. Students who have an interest in beekeeping can join the student organization Big Red Beekeepers.

Reporter Danielle Chavis can be reached at 270-745-6288 and danielle.chavis191@topper.wku.edu

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WAREHOUSE
CONTINUED FROM LIFE

to appreciate," Small said. "[I] want to continue to support the Deatons for their efforts to bring incredible performers to Bowling Green."

Jeremy Lynn Woodall from Waco, Texas, plays guitar for Billy Joe Shaver, who has performed at the venue. They

perform in many areas, and Bowling Green is a regular stop when they organize tours. Over the past few years, they have performed four to five times at The Warehouse.

"I always look forward to playing there," Woodall said. "We've had some magical times onstage there, and the staff and owners are probably the nicest folks on our route. We are treated like

family and I always hate to have to leave. The venue is constantly making changes that make the place better and better."

"I like Bowling Green and the people there," Woodall said. "We run into some characters on the road, but the people of Bowling Green are respectful, nice and fun to entertain. We look forward to many more shows at The Warehouse."

Some upcoming shows at the Warehouse include Sundry Best on Feb. 10, Shovels and Rope with John Morland on Feb. 17, and The Highway Finds Tour with Steve Maokler, Drew Baldrige and Smithfield on March 18.

Reporter Olivia Mohr can be reached at 270-745-6288 and olivia.mohr564@topper.wku.edu

FREEMAN
CONTINUED FROM LIFE

Wood said. "I also hope to gain a voice to become an example for other students who want to travel abroad. Especially other African American students like myself."

Wood added she would

even get to student-teach grade school students English, as well as some American culture.

"As a person, the main thing I hope to gain from this trip is confidence," Wood said. "Confidence in myself, my abilities and my knowledge. I think you can learn as much

as you want, but you need confidence to do anything with your knowledge."

Visiting the Great Wall and Forbidden City are two of the big things Wood said she would see. She also added she would enjoy visiting some art galleries to see some local work, find nice places to roam

around and visit gardens.

Wood said she would even like to try to visit South Korea or Japan while she is there because of how much cheaper it is than trying to fly from America.

"I just want to learn more about myself and to keep breaking out of my shell oc-

asionally," Wood said. "I've grown a lot since I first started going to WKU, and I really just want to continue that growth with this trip."

Reporter Miles Schroeder can be reached at 270-745-6288 and miles.schroeder178@topper.wku.edu

Southern Kentucky Team Penning Association hosts show

BY SKYLER BALLARD
HERALD.FEATURES@WKU.EDU

A layer of dust followed by the echo of a buzzer filled the arena of the L.D. Brown Ag Expo Center on Saturday as contestants halted their horses, watching the dust settle again as they listened for results over the loudspeaker.

The Southern Kentucky Team Penning Association hosted their monthly show on Feb. 4. The show featured six different events for all age groups, ranging from Team Penning to Ranch Sorting.

The SKTPA has been hosting shows at the Expo Center every month since 1993. The event offers practice to members in the area who are looking to compete at higher levels, such as regional and national competitions.

"This kind of show is one that helps us and our horses stay in tune," said SKTPA Secretary Dee Daniels. "It gives us practice at a reasonable price and helps our horses stay active."

Team Penning began as a sport for ranchers to compete against one another in ranch-like work such as horsemanship, cutting, speed, agility and teamwork. The goal is to separate three specified cat-

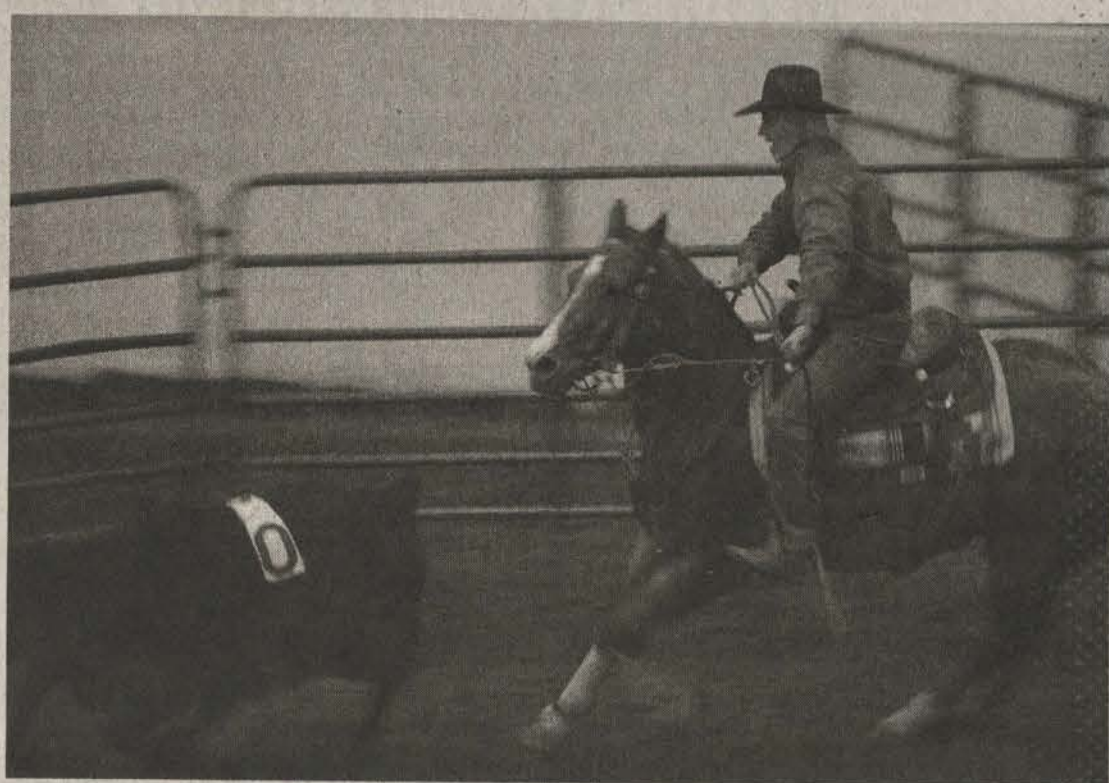
tle away from a small herd in 60 to 90 seconds. Riders work with one or two other partners to attempt to drive the three cows into a separate pen while keeping the rest of the herd back.

"Teamwork is absolutely the number one thing you have to have in this sport," Daniels, who helped to run the show and also competed, said. "Once you have the teamwork, it's a combination of cutting and speed."

Daniels took first place in Buckle 2 Man Ranch Sorting category with her partner Jerime Crecelius as well as first in Open Team Penning along with James Keith and Andy Schultz. First place in the Buckle Team Penning class went to Allan Kingrey, Michahel Bale and Robert Franks.

The show offered events for all ages, including a "peanut" category for riders 12 years old and under. Harper Farris, 6, of Glasgow, took home first in the Peanut 2 Man Ranch sorting category along with her partner, Kristie Gassaway. Harper's father, Danny Farris, provided the cattle for the event as well as competed.

Though many members participate in the competition as practice, according to SKTPA President-elect Greg Gassaway, it's the atmosphere



Southern Kentucky Team Penning Association President-Elect Greg Gassaway competes in the Team Penning and Ranch Sorting show on Saturday at the WKU L.D Brown Agriculture Exposition Center in Bowling Green. "I like the competitiveness that comes with this sport," Gassaway said, who is in his second year of office for the SKTPA. SKYLER BALLARD/HERALD

that keeps them coming back every month.

"The best part about these is that we all get to see what we call our 'horse show friends,'" Gassaway said. "This is the only time most of us get to see each other."

Gassaway took first place in the Open 2 Man Ranch Sorting class with his partner, Mi-

chael Bale.

In penning, it's common for competitors to ride multiple times in the same events with different partners. For Saturday's show, riders were allowed anywhere from two to six rides in each event.

According to Daniels, Team Penning is the largest equine family sport alive today. "This

event gives you the chance to compete with different people," Daniels said. "So I've gotten to compete with most of my friends here today."

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SANFORD'S SIGNEEES

GETTING TO KNOW SOME OF THE NEW HILLTOPPERS

BY EVAN HEICHELBECH
HERALD.SPORTS@WKU.EDU

Last week Mike Sanford signed his first recruiting class as a head coach, inking 23 players to the WKU's 2017 class. Here's a more in depth look at some of the future Hilltoppers.

Mik'Quan Deane, TE, Northeastern Oklahoma A&M: A junior college transfer from Northeastern Oklahoma A&M, Deane is one of just two three-star ESPN recruits in the class. A 6-4, 240-pound tight end from Tulsa, Oklahoma, Deane chose WKU over Oregon University and University of New Mexico, among others. He was a consensus top-100 JUCO recruit across all major recruiting services and was rated the No. 4 junior college tight end by 247sports.com.

"Mik'Quan Deane is a difference maker," Sanford said. "He really is one of the elite tight ends across junior college in the country. The thing about him that is important for our roster is that he can play and contribute right away."

Preston Mixon, OL, Montgomery, Alabama: One of the men tasked with replacing potential first-round draft pick Forrest Lamp, Mixon is the other

ESPN three-star recruit in the class. He picked the Hilltoppers over Purdue, Illinois, and Conference USA rival Middle Tennessee. The 6-4, 295-pound offensive lineman from Jefferson Davis High School was a top-170 offensive tackle in the nation and a top-100 player in the fertile recruiting ground of Alabama.

"Preston Mixon is an important piece of this puzzle that we put together," Sanford said. "We needed to really create some outstanding depth at tackle. He was a player that had some serious heat recruitment from Big Ten schools at the very end. He's a guy that personality-wise, his love of the game, it was a no-brainer for us to go after him."

Latheron Rogers-Anderson, DB, Columbia, South Carolina: One of the other talented prospects that took up until signing day to settle on the Toppers is 6-1, 190-pound defensive back Latheron Rogers-Anderson. Listed as an athlete by some recruiting services, Rogers-Anderson will play defensive back at WKU. He finished his senior season at Ridgeview High in Columbia, South Carolina, with 869 rushing yards, 11 touchdowns, 55 tackles and two interceptions while playing as both a wide receiver and corner back.

"He's a player that has incredi-

ble versatility," Sanford said. "He is a homebody. He definitely has a very very close relationship with his mother and down the stretch I think it was important for him to realize that he can succeed being away from home. Ultimately, he did feel that there was something different about our coaching staff and we felt there was something different about him from the standpoint of quality of character and leadership. He's a heck of a football player."

Cole Spencer, OL, Louisville: The only signee from the Bluegrass State, Spencer is one of three state champion players in the Toppers' signing class. The 6-4, 285-pound Trinity High product is another piece that will be expected to help replace some of the production of the departing big men up front for WKU.

"He's another player that had some serious heat on him late," Sanford said. "We feel like we're getting a great player from a great program in the state of Kentucky that's going to help us at tackle."

Davis Shanley, QB, Duluth, Georgia: Sanford has coached top-level passers like former Notre Dame quarterback DeShone Kizer, and his first quarterback recruit at WKU is 6-2, 190-pound

Davis Shanley. In his two-year career as a starter and South Forsyth High, Shanley threw for 4,017 passing yards and 39 touchdowns while also racking up 1,094 yards on the ground and 15 rushing scores.

"Davis really fits the mold of most quarterbacks that I've been around offensively within the system at Boise State and Notre Dame," Sanford said. "The other thing I learned about Davis, Shanley was when I did my in-home visit with him. Everything was going well, but I felt like at times he was a bit a standoff and rough around the edges personality wise. It didn't really all click for me about who Davis is until he challenged me to a ping-pong game. So we went down to the basement and played ping-pong and he's one of the most competitive human beings I've ever been around. To have a chance to see him compete, even through the avenue of ping-pong, he beat me 21-8. For his official visit, I got as many points as 11 and that was a big deal for him because he tries to hold everybody under double digits."

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Junior forward Johnson carrying Hilltoppers

BY EVAN HEICHELBECH
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Despite his team's mediocre 12-12 record, one Hilltopper is playing his best basketball in the midst of conference play.

WKU junior forward Justin Johnson was named the Conference USA Player of the Week on Monday afternoon after notching four straight double-doubles dating back to the Hilltoppers' 65-62 win over UTEP on Jan. 26.

Following a 23-point, 10-rebound performance in a loss to Louisiana Tech on Thursday, Johnson turned in a 12-point, 15-rebound effort in a bounce-back win over Southern Mississippi on Saturday.

Johnson shot 56 percent from the floor in 33 minutes per game last week while turning the ball over just once.

"He's been doing great just being our force down low and rebounding the ball," senior guard Junior Lomomba told the media following the win at Southern Miss. "I think he's been rebounding the ball very well."

After averaging 7.9 rebounds per game last season, the Hazard veteran is leading the 2016-2017 Hilltoppers in rebounding at 8.7 per game. Over the span of his current double-double streak, Johnson is pulling in just

under 12 boards every time he steps on the hardwood.

"Justin's playing well," Head Coach Rick Stansbury told the media on Thursday. "He saw a double team early in that first half, and then we went small and kept them from doubling him. They didn't want to double off of Que [Johnson]. That allowed him to attack the basket one-on-one."

Stansbury also talked about how his team has been prone to dig itself into inescapable holes, which is what happened in Ruston.

In the game at LA Tech — a game WKU came up short in a nine-point loss to the Bulldogs — Johnson was more productive, statistically speaking. He totaled a season-high 23 points, but his team failed to get the victory.

Saturday was a different story. Johnson's stat line was more balanced, and so was the team's scoring. Senior guards Pancake Thomas and Que Johnson went for 18 and 11 points, respectively, as WKU controlled the game and pulled away for a 17-point victory.

When asked about Johnson's production again, Stansbury offered a short, accurate assessment of how the team's success correlates to Johnson's.

"Justin was efficient," the first-year head coach told the media on Saturday. "Overall, it was a team effort considering those guys coming off



WKU forward Justin Johnson (23) looks to pass as he is surrounded by University of Texas at El Paso during Hilltoppers 65-62 victory on Thursday, Jan. 26, 2017 at Diddle Arena. KATHRYN ZIESIG/HERALD

the bench and adding to it too."

Johnson's Player of the Week honors are the first weekly award for any Hilltopper this season, and the first overall since former WKU forward George Fant shared the honor in January of 2015. It's also the first time a WKU player has claimed such honors outright since the Hilltoppers joined C-USA in 2015.

Fant's eight consecutive double-doubles in the 2014-2015 season

were the last time any WKU player had a streak greater than the four Johnson has going now.

Johnson will try to keep his career-long double-double streak alive when he and his team take the court next inside Diddle Arena on Saturday against Marshall.

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TOPS CONTINUED FROM SPORTS

WKU improved to 12-12 on the season and 6-5 in conference play.

The Hilltoppers will look to keep the momentum gained from wins in three of their last four games when they return home this Saturday for a matchup with Marshall.

"I think it was super important, just to get us momentum going into the home games," senior guard Pancake Thomas told the media after the game. "Now it has everyone feel-

ing good and in good spirits to try and get some more wins."

Thomas led the offensive attack to take down the Eagles. The senior guard scored 18 points while Johnson posted another double-double for the Tops with 12 points and 15 boards. Senior guard Que Johnson added 11 points as well.

"Whenever guys are making shots and whenever guys are attacking the basket and getting the ball down low to Justin, Anton [Waters] or Ben [Lawson], you get good looks off that," Lomomba told the media after the game.

C-USA basketball was turned upside down this past weekend with three of the top teams in the league being taken down. Middle Tennessee, Marshall and UAB all lost over the weekend. With upsets across the league, the conference race is still relatively open as seven teams have conference records of 6-5 or better and remain within four games of MTSU (10-1).

With top-tier teams Marshall, MTSU and UAB coming into Diddle Arena over the course of the next two weeks, the Hilltoppers have some big opportunities ahead.

"I think it's going to help big time because we got some days off," Thomas said. "When you get days off you be able to get in the gym some more. As far as practice, you don't get to work on your game as much but a couple off days, and you'll be able to get a little more skill work in."

Tip-off for Saturday's game against the Thundering Herd is set for 5 p.m. in Diddle Arena.

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LADY TOPS CONTINUED FROM SPORTS

Collins always talks about if you're going to press, you have to do it well. If you want to play fast, you're going to have to press. It's a lot more fun to get your hands on steals and getting in the passing lanes than trying to sit back and dictate what they're going to do."

The Lady Tops carried their momentum into the fourth quarter. Redshirt senior guard Kendall Noble found redshirt junior forward Kyvin Goodin-Rogers for a wide open three that pushed the Lady Topper lead to 17 points. Noble's assist was just one of sixteen assists that WKU racked up in the game.

"That was another thing we talked about at halftime," Clark- Heard said about her team's ball movement. "We felt like we were getting some good shots in the first half, but we also felt like we could've made the extra pass and got it another player on the team that was open. When you look at the 16 assists, you know we were moving the ball well."

The Lady Tops continued to cruise the rest of the way en route to a 79-53 victory. Redshirt sophomore guard Jaycee Coe's three at the end of the

game made her the ninth player to put her name in the score book. Four of those nine players, Ivy Brown (game-high 20 points), Tashia Brown (15), Noble (13), and Micah Jones (11) all broke double figures to lead the Lady Tops.

"That was something we talked about Thursday night after the game," Clark-Heard said about her team's depth. "We have a great team and we have different players that step up at different times, but we need everyone from the first person to the last person. I was very proud because they showed a lot today. Whenever somebody's number was called they were ready to go and do whatever they needed to do to help us win."

The win improves WKU to 17-6 (9-2 C-USA) on the season, which places them in a three-way tie for first place along with Charlotte and Middle Tennessee State. The Lady Tops are back in action on Saturday when they travel to Huntington, West Virginia, to take on Marshall. Earlier this season, WKU defeated Marshall 73-57 at E.A. Diddle Arena.

Reporter Sam Porter can be reached at 270-799-8247 and sam.porter270@gmail.com. Follow him on Twitter at @SammyP14.

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SPORTS



» **Justin Johnson:** Junior forward Johnson named Conference USA Player of The Week.



WKU forward Tasha Brown (10) makes a jump shot over Southern Miss players during the Lady Toppers' 79-53 win over Southern Miss on Saturday in Diddle Arena. **SILAS WALKER/HERALD**

Tops split pair of conference road games

BY MATTHEW STEWART
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After winning two games at home the week prior, the WKU men's basketball team headed down South for a pair of road games at the end of last week.

The Hilltoppers traveled to Ruston, Louisiana, on Thursday to take on one of the top teams in Conference USA in Louisiana Tech.

The Bulldogs (16-8, 8-3) took down the Tops by a final score of 76-67.

"It's kind of the same song and dance ... when you don't play well, get yourself in a hole, and then scramble and try to get it back," head coach Rick Stansbury told the media after the game. "Give them credit, [Jacob] Boykins jumped up and made some shots. He made some difficult shots to separate that game. The positive things this game were we got down 12 at half-time, and we had opportunities coming out of the locker room. We had two layups and threw them away. Those things are hard when you're fighting from behind."

Junior forward Justin Johnson led the Hilltoppers with 23 points and 10 rebounds and senior point guard Junior Lomomba was the only other Topper to score in double figures. Lomomba ended his night with 13 points while dishing out two assists along the way.

The second game of the road stretch was a different story, however. The Tops were in control for the duration of the game as they took on the Golden Eagles of Southern Mississippi. Stansbury and his squad started off on the right foot, going on several big runs in the first half.

The Hilltoppers built up a substantial first-half lead, going up 35-16 with just under two minutes to play before halftime.

"It was good to see us put two halves together," Stansbury said. "You're always concerned coming back out on that Saturday night when you play Thursday, especially playing a team that's probably coming in off their biggest win of the year, playing with some confidence. But our guys responded. I thought we came out ready to play offensively and defensively."

The second stanza was all Tops again as they traveled back home with a 64-47 victory. With the win,

FIRST PLACE FEELING

CLARK-HEARD IMPRESSED AS LADY TOPS MOVE BACK INTO FIRST PLACE

BY SAM PORTER
HERALD.SPORTS@WKU.EDU

Although the WKU women's basketball team swept both games in its homestand this past Thursday and Saturday, head coach Michelle Clark-Heard felt differently about her team's energy in each game.

Following a 67-58 victory against Louisiana Tech, Clark-Heard said her team "did not play with the energy that we usually play with." Two days later, Clark-Heard's feelings toward her team's energy had flipped following a 79-53 victory over Southern Mississippi, a game in which the Lady Tops scored as many points in the second half (53) as the Lady Golden Eagles scored in the entire game.

"That was one of the best games

we've played defensively," Clark-Heard said following the victory over Southern Mississippi. "Our energy and focus was there, and we followed the game plan to a T. That was Lady Topper basketball. We didn't shoot the ball well in the first half, but defensively we kept doing the things we needed to. We didn't let up just because we weren't making shots."

The Lady Tops led USM by just three points at the half before a 16-0 run blew the game open and gave WKU a lead much too large for the Lady Golden Eagles to overcome.

Trailing 6-5 early, junior forward Tashia Brown scored eight points during a 10-0 run that gave WKU a 15-6 lead after the first quarter. The Lady Tops pushed the lead to 17-6 and hoped the momentum would carry on

the rest of the half.

However, similar to the previous two games, the Lady Tops' opponent found a way to hang around, slowly chipping away at the WKU lead throughout the remainder of the second quarter. Holding on to a 26-23 lead at the half, Clark-Heard decided to implement a full court press in the second half in hopes of creating turnovers and shifting the momentum back in WKU's favor - and that's what happened.

The Lady Tops recorded three steals, all leading to points, during the 16-0 run that gave the Lady Tops a 51-36 lead at the end of the third quarter.

"We talked about pressing at halftime, how it was fun to play like that," junior forward Ivy Brown said about the full court press. "Coach

SEE LADY TOPS PAGE B5

SEE TOPS PAGE B5

WKU loses top linebacker McCollum to Purdue

BY TYLER MANSFIELD
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One of WKU's top defensive players, redshirt senior linebacker T.J. McCollum, has decided to transfer from the program in his final year of eligibility.

The program announced last Thursday that McCollum requested and was granted his release to transfer from WKU. He received his undergraduate degree from the school back in December.

McCollum, a 6-3, 240-pound native of Birmingham, Alabama, played the 2014 season as a redshirt freshman at Alabama Birmingham before transferring to WKU when the UAB program was terminated.

As he is leaving Bowling Green as a graduate transfer, McCollum is eligible to play immediately at another FBS school in 2017 for his final season of eligibility. However, there are restrictions on where the linebacker can transfer.

Despite being a graduate transfer, McCollum won't be permitted to move on to any Conference USA school or any opponents on WKU's 2017 non-conference schedule, which includes Eastern Kentucky, Illinois, Ball State and

Vanderbilt.

One school that isn't on the Toppers' schedule is Purdue, where former WKU Head Coach Jeff Brohm moved to in December.

According to a tweet that has since been deleted, McCollum could transfer to the Boilermakers' program. Sean Talsma, one of McCollum's former high school coaches at Clay-Chalkville High, posted a photo with McCollum saying that he is going to Purdue, but nothing has been made official by the school.

McCollum has been one of the most experienced and productive members on the defensive side of the ball for WKU since joining the Toppers under former Head Coach Brohm in 2015. During his time on the Hill, McCollum started 26 games.

As a redshirt sophomore in 2015, McCollum started in all 14 games for WKU and led the Toppers with 106 tackles, 69 of which were solo, and 11.5 tackles for loss for 30 yards in a campaign in which he was named a C-USA Honorable Mention selection.

As a redshirt junior in 2016, McCollum ranked third in tackles with 85, 45 solo, and seventh in tackles for loss with



Vanderbilt University running back Ralph Webb (7) is tackled by WKU junior linebacker T.J. McCollum (6) during the Hilltoppers game against Vanderbilt on Sept. 24, 2016 at L.T. Smith Stadium. McCollum transferred to Purdue where former Hilltopper Head Coach Jeff Brohm recently took the head coaching position. **JEFF BROWN/HERALD**

four. As one of three defensive captains for the past season, he recorded a forced fumble and defended three passes. McCollum missed three of WKU's 14 games this past year, including the Boca Raton Bowl, with multiple injuries.

With McCollum now headed elsewhere, WKU and new

Head Coach Mike Sanford now have seven returning players and two newcomers at the linebacker position. Sophomores Demetrius Cane, Tyler Obee and Drew O'Bryan, redshirt sophomores Canon Jackson and Jarrett Sippola and redshirt juniors Joel Iyiebuniwe and Masai Whyte all

return while freshmen Kyle Bailey and Juwan Jones join the program after signing their National Letters of Intent last Wednesday.

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