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Fall 1998

## UA12/2/16 Newsletter

WKU Spirit Masters

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Fall 1998 Newsletter

Western Kentucky University  
Downing University Center, Room 339  
Bowling Green, Kentucky 42101

### *A Word From the Chair...*

Let me be the first to welcome you back to the Hill for the 1998 Homecoming Festivities. We are excited about this year and continue to welcome every opportunity to live up to the high standards you have set forth in previous years.

There are several changes this year in the Spirit Master organization. Dr. Ransdell has appointed an advisory committee consisting of: Mrs. Lucinda Anderson, Dean Howard Bailey, Mr. Gene Crume, Dr. Luther Hughes, Dr. Carl Kell, and Mr. Jeff Younglove. This committee was established to assist with the selection process and to offer advice throughout the year. They also played an important role in the acquisition of new uniforms. In addition, we have increased the maximum number of Spirit Masters to thirty and have moved the selection process to the spring. As you can see, this is a busy time for us. We continue to strive for excellence in our work and hope to "raise the bar" with each new assignment. Please feel free to contact us at any point with comments or suggestions—once a Spirit Master, always a Spirit Master. And remember,

**"THE SPIRIT MAKES THE MASTER!"**

—Amanda Coates  
Chairperson

### *Making Memories...*

My name is Joni Flowers, and I am a senior marketing major from Mayfield, KY. I am so excited to be the 1998-1999 Spirit Master Historian. My goals are to produce the most

informative scrapbook and professional-looking composite ever! I feel that it is very important to capture memorable moments with photographs and to document impressionable events so that future Spirit Masters may see what the organization has accomplished. I am also excited about compiling the composite. A current Spirit Master's father is a professional photographer, and it is guaranteed that he will provide the highest quality composite available. As a member of Exec, I am working toward the overall advancement of the organization. In a short time, I have experienced the rush and excitement of being a part of this wonderful group and love the other twenty-eight OUTSTANDING people who make up the 1998-1999 Spirit Master class.

—Joni Flowers  
Historian

I am delighted to be Recording Secretary for the 1998-1999 Spirit Master class. I am also excited about the challenges and changes of this new year. This being my second year as a Spirit Master, I am looking forward to taking an active role on the executive side of the game!

As Homecoming approaches, I eagerly anticipate the arrival of old and new Spirit Master faces. Have a wonderful day, and GO TOPS!!

—Kathryn Thomas  
Recording Secretary

As Parliamentarian, I have been busy



revising the constitution. At the end of April 1998, the Spirit Masters voted on several amendments for this year's group. There are three major changes. First, the uniform for the ladies has been altered. Next, the constitution allows the selection committee to select a group that is composed of not less than twenty-four or more than thirty members. The last amendment refers to the time of the selection process. The 1999-2000 Spirit Masters will be selected in the spring semester instead of the fall. We are excited about these changes and believe they are representative of the growth of WKU Spirit Masters.

—Sarah Beth Young

Parliamentarian

### *Building Relationships...*

It is an honor for me to serve as the 1998-1999 Social Chairman. Our class will spend the year building relationships.

Through various social activities, we will hopefully have an opportunity to laugh together. Although the Spirit Master load may get a little heavy sometimes, we hope to have an opportunity to "make mud pies" (in the words of Parliamentarian Sarah Beth Young).

Our year has gotten off to a great start. With twenty-nine current members, we strive to build healthy relationships. Whether it is a small rumor on the Spirit Master Rumor Board or just the nomination of Spirit Master of the week in the Spirit Master box, our class is sure to develop life-long relationships.

—Duan Wright  
Social Chairman

**"When life seems to be sending you nothing but rain, and you're standing in a puddle of mud-MAKE MUD PIES!!"**



Welcome back to the "Hill"! We are so excited to have you join us for Homecoming '98. "Glory Days" is also a very appropriate theme for this year's Spirit Master class. This year we have sorority/fraternity presidents, Student Government members, alumni leadership scholars, etc.-the list goes on and on. We also have six homecoming candidates, so be sure to root for the Spirit Masters at half-time!

This has been a very busy year for our group. With the increased number of Spirit Masters, come additional assignments. At this point we have already exceeded 1000 hours. We have also decided to post hours in the office. This has precluded some stiff

competition and motivation for several people! We continue to be involved in OAR, 10K, and recruitment trips. It has been a pleasure getting to know each new Spirit Master and continuing to work with returning members.

—Liz Tweddell  
Vice Chairperson

I would like to begin by thanking everyone who contributed to this newsletter!! I hope that our articles exemplify the excitement and dedication that is so evident in this year's class. As Public Relations Director, I am honored to have the opportunity to communicate our enthusiasm to our school, our wonderful alumni, and our community. I could not have asked for a better group of people with whom to work!

This is my first year as a Spirit Master, and I was so thrilled to be chosen as one of the two sophomores in this year's class. As a Corporate Communication major with an interest in public relations, I hope to



continue the great PR traditions of Spirit Masters! Several of the projects I will be working on include Homecoming, Spirit Master inductions for the new class, and (of course) the newsletters.

Please feel free to contact me at any time with your feedback and/or suggestions.

-Leandra Y. Celaya  
Public Relations Director

### *Very Important People...*

As a first year Spirit Master and a sophomore, I have thoroughly enjoyed getting to know Dr. Ransdell. He and members of his staff have supported us in so many ways. Financially, personally, and morally he has played a key role in the beginning of this year and will continue to support Spirit Masters.

I am honored to have been nominated as contact for the President's office. I have met many wonderful and helpful members of WKU's faculty and staff. I hope to continue building relationships with even more excellent men and women.

-Shannon Jackson  
VIP Contact

I had never come into contact with President Ransdell until I became a Spirit Master. We were invited to go to President Ransdell's home for a picnic. The weather was beautiful, the food was good, and the company was delightful.

To make a long story short, I sat at the dinner table with President Ransdell and six other Spirit Masters. With a table full of students, it is not surprising that the conversation lead to campus parking. The issue concerning student safety in dark parking lots was raised. There had been a burned out lightbulb in a street light over looking a parking lot leaving the lot completely dark.

During the conversation, President

Ransdell was constantly asking questions..."How long has it been out?"..."Do you feel comfortable walking through the lot?"...and so on. As I was listening to the conversation I figured out what our President was doing.

The next day as I walked to class, I noticed WKU maintenance men busily working on the light. I feel secure in knowing Western has President Ransdell working for the benefit of our students.

-Dena Mastrean

A new division has been established under the new administration. Fred Hensley is the Executive Assistant to the President for Pubic Affairs and Governmental Relations. This division consists of Special Events, Media Relations, and Public Affairs. Jeff Younglove is my contact person for this area. They plan many events and activities often involving external groups which use Western's facilities. As Spirit Masters, we serve as hosts and hostesses for many of these special events.

—Katie Houchins  
Special Events Contact

Hi, I am Laura Shadowens, and I am the office of Alumni Affairs Contact. Alumni Affairs has been keeping Spirit Masters busy. On Sept. 25-27 Western celebrated the Golden Anniversary which honored alumni who graduated 50 years ago. Spirit Masters also work with the Alumni Office and Hall of Distinguished Alumni. Homecoming 1998 "Glory Days" will be busy for Spirit Masters because alumni will be coming to Western for the football game and other celebrations. On October 22nd, Alumni Affairs will kick off Homecoming with a Chili & Cheese Luncheon in downtown Bowling Green.

-Laura Shadowens  
Alumni Affairs Contact



### *Spirit Master Kickoff...*

The first experience I had with being a Spirit Master was the retreat. It was the night after we "got the call" and had our midnight ceremony at the infamous Henry Hardin Cherry statue. The retreat was wonderful because we all came together and made the effort to get to know each other. I knew then I was going to make many new friendships and have many memorable adventures.

-Jenny Hundley

The 1998 Spirit Master's Retreat was an incredible experience for the new inductees and previous members. It allowed the new class and previous Spirit Masters the opportunity to really get to know each other. In addition, all Spirit Masters were given time to acknowledge special people who have influenced them as well as the opportunity to share special moments of their lives. Personally, I will never forget the night of the 1998 Spirit Masters' Retreat; it gave me the chance to get to know some unique people with interesting lives.

-Toby McCraw

### *Bring in the Recruits...*

The Office of Admissions has been busy in the first three months of Fall 1998 with various recruitment programs aimed at prospective freshmen and high school juniors. Open Houses in Louisville, Owensboro, and Evansville have been successful, enjoyable experiences for all those involved. Focus on Western, Saturday Sept. 26th, resulted in an influx of prospective Hilltoppers on campus and at WKU's football game that night. Upcoming events include Open Houses in Muhlenberg County and Nashville. Spirit Masters will

be on hand to spread WKU spirit and to represent the WKU student body.

—Melissa Willard  
Admission's Contact

I am a senior from Russellville, KY, majoring in Family and Consumer Sciences with a minor in Family Studies. I am also currently serving as the contact person for OAR. Orientation and Registration is the office that handles orientation for incoming freshman. One of the responsibilities of Spirit Masters is to make these new students feel welcome and to make them members of Western's family.

As you can tell from my major and minor, family is very important to me. That is one of the reasons I love WKU so much. Since I have been at Western, my "family" has grown to be very large. I feel everyone I have met here is a part of my family—from my newly found friends to the staff and professors. Although I have only been a Spirit Master for a few weeks, the members and advisors of the group have already become like a part of my family. Working with the OAR office is a great way for us to facilitate new students' transitions into the WKU family!

—Kristy Vick  
OAR Contact

Hello! My name is Jean-Marie Lawson. I am a Senior Corporate Communication major and a third-year Spirit Master. Last year I was secretary of the organization and a member of the Executive Council. This year I am serving as the Student Recruitment Contact. My job each week is to contact Dr. Luther Hughes, Associate Vice President for Academic Affairs/Enrollment Management, and volunteer our services for any of his upcoming events. Some of the many exciting assignments for which he requests



our help are the WKU recruiting trips. So far this year we have traveled to Louisville, Elizabethtown, and Evansville; and we will travel to Nashville in November. Dr. Hughes is a member of our Spirit Master Advisory Council, and he is very important to our Spirit Master family!

-Jean-Marie Lawson  
Student Recruitment Contact

The Spirit Masters have been hard at work recruiting new Toppers. Although our main objective is to guide prospective students to representatives in their areas of interest, Spirit Master-student interaction is very important in making students feel comfortable and welcome. The class of 1998-1999 is looking forward to a great recruiting year.

-Laura Hancock

I am a junior from Louisville, KY. I graduated from duPont Manual High School, and I am a former WKU baseball player. My contact office this year is Football and Spring Sports. The job consists of making sure the Spirit Masters are involved with anything from the games to escorting recruits around campus. It is important to have good relations with these sports to help facilitate a better college environment for all of Western's students-current and future. Sports are an integral part of college life, and it is a Spirit Master's mission to assist in every aspect of the University.

—Jason Nemes  
Football and Spring Sports Contact

### *Show Me the Money...*

My name is Alan Gordon, and I am a senior majoring in Public Relations. As a returning Spirit Master, I am excited about the upcoming year. In the words of our

fearless advisor, "This is a new day!"

The Spirit Masters are attempting to raise funds through several projects. We would greatly appreciate your participation in making this one of the greatest years ever!

While cheering for our Hilltoppers, be sure to buy your Corvette Raffle Tickets from a Spirit Master at any home game. Who knows, you might just ride away in a shiny new Corvette! We would also like to encourage you to support us through WKU's annual Phonathon. When contacted by a WKU student, tell him/her that you want your donation to be directed to Spirit Masters. Thank you, and I look forward to speaking with you at Homecoming.

—Alan Gordon  
Treasurer

**"It's not Phonathon; It's  
FUNathon!!"**

-Scott Self  
Former Spirit Master

This fall one of the major assignments for Spirit Masters has been helping out with the WKU Phonathon. Two Spirit Masters volunteer every night to work at this event, which is an annual effort to raise funds for the university and specific departments. One of our Spirit Masters, Sebastian Pantano, is the manager of the Phonathon this year. This project, which will continue throughout this semester and the next, has been quite successful this year. So, if you receive a call one evening from a WKU student caller, please be generous in your giving.

-Cory Richardson

## 1998-99 Class

### *Returning*

**Amanda Coates**  
Senior, Health Care  
Admin.

**Alan Gordon**  
Senior, Public Relations

**Jean-Marie Lawson**  
Senior, Corporate Comm.

**Sebastian Pantano**  
Senior, Government

**Kathryn Thomas,**  
Recording Sec.  
Senior, Corporate Comm.

**Liz Tweddell**  
Senior, Elementary Ed.

**Sara Beth Young**  
Senior, Interior Design &  
Public Relations

### *New*

**Leandra Celaya**  
Sophomore, Corporate  
Comm.

**Chrysti-Carol Crick**  
Senior, Elementary Ed.

**Ryan Faught**  
Senior, Chemistry

**Joni Flowers**  
Senior, Marketing

**Laura Hancock**  
Junior, Chemistry

**Katie Houchins**  
Junior, Public Relations

**Jenny Hundley**  
Senior, Elementary Ed.

**Shannon Jackson**  
Sophomore

**Ebony Lincoln**  
Senior, Broadcasting

**Dena Mastream**  
Junior, Health Care  
Admin.

**Toby McCraw**  
Junior, Geography

**Jason Nemes**  
Junior, Gov't. & Sociology

**Tad Pardue**  
Senior, Finance

**Chandra Poole**  
Junior, Elementary Ed.

**Cory Richardson**  
Senior, Accounting

**Laura Shadowens**  
Senior, History & Gov't.

**Sanee' Smith**  
Junior, Eng. & Allied  
Lang. Arts/Sec. Ed.

**Kristy Vick**  
Senior, Cons. & Fam.  
Sciences Ed.

**Danielle Wharton**  
Senior, Broadcasting

**Melissa Willard**  
Junior, Chemistry &  
Biology

**Duan Wright**  
Junior, English

**Kara Yeckering**  
Senior, Psychology &  
History

### *Officers*

*Chair*-Mandy Coates  
*Vice Chair*-Liz Tweddell  
*Recording Sec.*-Kathryn  
Thomas  
*Historian*-Joni Flowers  
*Parliamentarian*-Sarah  
Beth Young  
*P.R. Director*-Leandra  
Celaya  
*Social Director*-Duan  
Wright

### **Congratulations to our Homecoming Queen Candidates!!**

Chrysti Carol Crick  
Jenny Hundley  
Jean-Marie Lawson  
Ebony Lincoln  
Chandra Poole  
Liz Tweddell

