Fall 2005

UA35/8 The Topper

WKU Veterans Upward Bound

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VUB Webpage Has Valuable Resources for Students

If you haven't checked out the Educational Resources button on the VUB webpage (http://www.wku.edu/vub/), you could be missing some valuable articles and information to smooth your transition from VUB classes to postsecondary classes. Navigating the webpage is easy when you use the "Index" and "Study Skills" links at the top of the webpage. For your convenience, you can download many of the articles separately in a pdf version by clicking on the link found at the end of the article. Email links for all VUB staff members are located at the bottom of the webpage.

You can read about a wide variety of topics including ACT test preparation, study skills, and managing stress. Several articles cover important study skills like note taking, how to read and comprehend a textbook, taking tests effectively, and even how to read and understand a college course syllabus. Managing time effectively is all important to the success of busy students, so you'll find helpful advice for making the most of your time.

Other topics of interest include "Being a Good Listener" and "Studying is Individual. Do What Feels Best for You." You'll find helpful links to study skills web sites and a suggested reading list of books for college-bound students. All of the books, as well as CDs and some equipment, are available to check out in the VUB classroom.

Keep Up the Good Work!

Remember we want you to contact us when you graduate so we can show our appreciation and share your success with vets who are preparing to enter postsecondary school.

October starts a new grant year for VUB and we will be looking for a lot more people to join VUB. If you have friends or relatives who might be interested, please tell them about us and then follow-up by contacting a VUB staff member. We have flyers and brochures if you wish to distribute them.

Student Spotlight: John Barry

John Barry recently completed a course of study at VUB where he studied for the ACT test, worked on researching skills, and improved his algebra ability.

Barry, who graduated from Logan County High School 18 years ago, recently received notification that he had a very respectable composite score of 25 on his ACT. This former Marine, who entered military service in June immediately following his high school graduation, was an air traffic control communications technician stationed at Marine Corp Air Station New River in Jacksonville, North Carolina.

Currently, Barry is enrolled at Western Kentucky University for the fall to pursue a four-year degree in Industrial Sciences. He plans to continue working full time.

(Continued on page 3: Student Spotlight)
You can find step-by-step instructions for creating your own free email account in the section called "Helpful Computer Tips" and for calculating your grade point average (GPA).

More information is coming soon to the Educational Resources webpage. Look for future topics about financial aid, career, and academic advising. Check it out—you could be missing out!

**VUB Fall 2005 Student Workers**

This fall you might see a new face in the VUB office. VUB alumnus and WKU student Cody Norris will be joining returning student worker Kevin Crum in the VUB office.

Both Crum and Norris have regular hours in which they're available, and among their other duties, they will be here to help us answer your questions. Whether you want to know what it's really like to return to school after a few years, or you just want to know who to contact at the VA to answer your questions, both Crum and Norris are around to help.

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**Time**

by John Barry

With the moon so bright, shining on your face
Two people sharing time, just lost in space
Alone but together, no thoughts or words
One soul with two bodies in all the world

That perfect moment when time stands still
No excuses, no judgment, just moving at will

Time spent with you goes by so effortlessly
Sitting here now I feel so helpless
Time alone with you puts my heart at ease
When I look into your eyes, I've finally found peace

Caught up in the moment, but with lasting impression
Closing my eyes, I see only one expression
Then I think to myself, what's happening to me
Everything I've dreamed just happens to be

Time spent with you goes by so effortlessly
Sitting here now I feel so helpless
Time alone with you puts my heart at ease
When I look into your eyes, I've finally found peace

My heart has been shattered, broken and split
I'm not holding back, so be careful with it
Our eyes meet and I start to feel strange
The pieces fall together and I start to feel a change

It's been so long since I've felt these things
In bed at night you fill my dreams
These things I feel scare me so much
This wall I've put up crumbles with your touch

Time spent with you goes by so effortlessly
Sitting here now I feel so helpless
Time alone with you puts my heart at ease
When I look into your eyes, I've finally found peace
with the Berry-Kerr Group in Bowling Green, Kentucky. He has been with the company that makes bottle caps and lids for nine years.

When he isn’t working or going to school, John likes to spend time with his eight-year-old daughter Katie, a third grader at T.C. Cherry Elementary School. He also plays golf, writes songs and poetry, and plays the drums. He learned to play the drums while in the Marines and played in several bands during his six years in the military.

Enjoy Barry’s song entitled “Time” on page 2 of this issue.

Well, school has begun, both in Veterans Upward Bound and in colleges, universities and other postsecondary schools. This marks a change for several of you and a goal to reach for others. I want to encourage you to “stay the course.” Many obstacles may pop up to make you question if you will stay in school. If you have doubts, please contact a VUB staff member and voice your concerns because we might be able to cut through some “red tape” or help you see a way to stay in school. If you are a participant in the Student Support Services program at WKU, please rely on them because they can help, too.

We have now heard that VUB will survive this grant cycle. We rewrite our proposal in 2006 to start a new grant cycle October 1, 2006. It appears we will only receive a nominal funding increase the first year, with the likelihood of receiving no increases the following three years of the grant cycle. Those years will be lean when it comes to buying supplies and upgrading computers.

I want to congratulate all of you who earned academic recognition last year and urge all of you to strive for academic honors this coming year. People at the university tell us that veterans from our program are a delight to have in class and do better, on the whole, than other students.

*COLLEGE SUCCESS TIP*

Professors expect and appreciate people who ask questions and are active learners. Don’t be passive and sit quietly if you are confused in class. Ask questions.

Along this same line, it is your right to challenge grades if you are sure they are recorded incorrectly or unfairly. Remember the military standard of “chain of command” but you can ask to have a grade reviewed. Even professors can make mistakes and you are usually the only one who will get a change made so take an active role in being sure you have a clean and accurate transcript.

News and Notes

- Although we do not have the dates for this fall’s Veterans Day Parade, we hope you’ll be thinking about joining us when it is announced. Traditionally, the parade has been held the Saturday before Veterans Day (November 11). We know many of you either participate in or come out for the parade, so this year consider joining VUB as we ride through the parade, recognizing our veteran participants and promoting the idea of furthering veterans’ education.

- Two VUB alumnae placed in this year’s PBL state competition. Glenda Murley won first place in the Business Math category, while Dorothy Isomura came in second in the Medical Terminology category. Congratulations to both.

- Also, congratulations to Glenda Murley for being named as one of thirty-two All-Academic Scholars in April 2005. This statewide honor included a $500 cash gift, plus a $500 scholarship from the University of Louisville. Murley was also the recipient of the 2005 local VUB scholarship.

- Congratulations to these VUB alumni who have earned a 3.0 or higher during the Summer 2005 term: Christopher Adair, Kelly Anderson, Thomas Brannon, Jacob Durbin, Katherine Faesel, Jay Faulkner, Will King, Kimberly Mack, Bill Martin, Mike Miclotto, Ward Moran, Carlton Potter, Kimberly Smith, and Race Stork.
## Important Numbers and Dates

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<thead>
<tr>
<th>Date</th>
<th>Event Description</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Oct 22*</td>
<td>ACT Test Date</td>
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<tr>
<td>Nov 4*</td>
<td>Registration Postmark Deadline for Dec 10 ACT Test Date</td>
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<tr>
<td>Nov 23</td>
<td>VUB Fall Semester Postsecondary Registration Deadline</td>
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<tr>
<td>Nov 24-25</td>
<td>Thanksgiving Holiday</td>
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<td>VUB Office and Classes Closed</td>
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<tr>
<td>Dec 8</td>
<td>VUB Fall Classes End</td>
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<td>Dec 10*</td>
<td>ACT Test Date</td>
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<td>Dec 20-Jan 1</td>
<td>Holiday Break</td>
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<td>VUB Office and Classes Closed</td>
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<td>Jan 6*</td>
<td>Registration Postmark Deadline for Feb 11 ACT Test Date</td>
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<td>Jan 16</td>
<td>VUB Spring Classes Begin</td>
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*Please call early for information on test dates. VUB may pay testing fees, but to do so we must have your application at least six weeks prior to the registration postmark deadline.