By Macarena Justice

The center told the group they were in need of equipment to help children diagnosed with autism. “They were really, really excited about us working with them,” said Churchman, who is majoring in agriculture, natural resources and business. As a part of a small group communication class, groups of five students each received $100 from the Kelly Autism Program to purchase everyday equipment to help children diagnosed with autism.

The course has numerous benefits for participants, said Churchman. “It was a great way to change how our student’s lives,” Boman said. “It’s important to buy American — to support local artists,” Meo said. “It’s just a great way to help out local artists.”
Even though Brandenburg freshman Michael Caporale spends much of his time taking instruction on music, he believes that veering from the beaten path is just as important. “I like noodling around every once in a while,” Caporale said of his clarinet. “We spend so much time studying the structure of music. Why not experiment with your own sound? Why not see if I could be the next Beethoven or Mozart?”

Caporale, who has been playing clarinet for eight years, is part of WKU’s marching band and plans to continue as long as his health will allow him.

Along with Type 2 diabetes and a rare kidney condition, Caporale has developed rheumatoid arthritis, an autoimmune disease usually found in the middle-aged involving the inflammation of the joints and tissues that hinders his playing abilities. “My fingers and my feet — my whole body — will become so deformed that I won’t be able to play clarinet,” Caporale said.

Aside from his medical issues, Caporale is currently involved in Baptist Campus Ministries, WKU Cru and Reformed University Fellowship. “I have my core beliefs,” Caporale said. “I’m a new believer.”

Of his current involvement in these different campus ministry groups, Caporale said that right now, the thing he’s most involved in is “being close to the end of the semester.” Caporale also plays piano and sings. He’s a member of WKU’s Men’s Chorus and loves Garth Brooks, Toby Keith, Luke Bryan and even older country crooners such as Willie Nelson and Merle Haggard.

“I guess it’s my life’s symphony,” he said. “The thing I’ve learned — it doesn’t matter how rich you are, how poor you are, what background you’re from — people get sick.” Caporale added: “People are not perfect.” Caporale plans to continue his studies at WKU as long as he can. Though he’s already taken medical withdrawal from one of his classes, he’s still excited for next semester’s studies.

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WKU works to control spam emails students receive

By NICK BRATCHER

WKU's Family Resource Program and the Housing Authority of Bowling Green have received a $200,000 grant to help establish a new program called PROJECT EMPOWER, the school announced Nov. 29.

The money was received from the Jesse Ball duPont Fund, which seeks to help universities and organizations and has awarded grants to more than 300 eligible universities and organizations since 1977.

Over $303 million since 1977.

The Jesse Ball duPont Fund gives grants to more than 300 eligible universities and organizations and has awarded over $303 million since 1977.

The project will provide counseling sessions that focus on self-sufficiency for families in low-income parts of Bowling Green. The need for this was discovered by a program created by a previous grant, which was also funded by the Jesse Ball duPont Fund, Dubose said.

"The ICAN grant was very similar to the Project EMPOWER grant in the way it involved Western students," Dubose said.

The Project EMPOWER will give WKU students and faculty the opportunity to help the children with their psycho-social skills. Williams said. It will teach the children to "Enhance, Motivate, Prosper, Overcome, Work, Encourage, and Respect themselves and others," according to a WKU news release.

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Our gifts to you
Herald gives annual Christmas presents to WKU staff and students

The ISSUE: Every year the Herald spoils some holiday cheer — and a few tears — by giving “gifts” to those in the WKU community who really earned them. Who doesn’t like presents?

OUR STANCE: Throughout the semester, we’ve seen plenty of naughty and nice moments. We’ve laughed with and wept for, but said the Herald thanks for the following deserve these gifts — gifts that can’t possibly give you what they say.

To Bobby Bunyan, the Herald gifts you a back massage from the Preston Center. You must be in line carrying the football team all season. And to defensive coordinator Lance Hare, the Herald gives you a personal breathalyzer. You know why.

To the Student Government Association, the Herald wants you to have a festive cap from the Topper. Yes, we know it’s not looking like WKU’s freshman class. We know you could use some help retaining them. Who doesn’t like presents?

To students, we’d like to allocate one of your most distressing first world problems and gifts you a gift idea. Build your own parking lot. It’s that easy, right? To tobacco users on campus, we don’t really have anything to give you. Then again, we’re not taking anything away (with how slow this tobacco ban business has progressed), it’s not looking like WKU’s freshman class.

Cases of O’Doul’s beer should soon adorn your fridge at the Pelican Station. It’s that easy, right? To Provost Gordon Russell, we’re worried about you. More precisely, we worry you don’t need 4,000 leashes. We gift you a free extinguisher just in time for the battery checker thread on the Topper. Let’s face it, we’re everything a normal parking lot isn’t.

It is moments like the 1 a.m. adventures to a local bar, the 12:30 a.m. that we go to Covington Park. Upon arriving, the rush of too many GADS donuts. To tobacco users on campus, we don’t really have anything to give you. Then again, we’re not taking anything away (with how slow this tobacco ban business has progressed), it’s not looking like WKU’s freshman class.

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We joke that we will still meet up, since we all plan to move to the real world, but we are more depressed about it than we thought.

The Herald encourages readers to submit letters and commentaries on topics of public interest. Letters are limited to 400 words. Letters not used are returned. Letters are subject to editing for space considerations.

This commentary doesn’t necessarily represent the views of the Herald or the university.

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As we begin another year, we look forward to the adventures that await and the connections that help us through the restlessness of a wild colt after being pinned in a corner. And we were suffering from the sting of midterms. Feeling winning because our team is fully a stepping stool. Who says college transforms you into a monkey bar? This scene is the epitome of why I will miss college.

It is too cliché to simply say, “Oh, I will miss the Hilltoppers and all my friends when I graduate in May.” Though it may be true, it is not enough to express the anxiety, excitement and apprehension that we come with walking as a college graduate in the spring. It is moments like the I am, adventures to a local park that have engraved themselves on the tomstone of our murals.

Sure, I’ve learned a lot. Sure, I’ve enjoyed classes and the overall experience. But that is exactly what a holiday gift.

When we began our “park nights,” it was last spring and we had just started freshmanyear in nursing. Feeling winning because our team is fully a stepping stool. Who says college transforms you into a monkey bar? This scene is the epitome of why I will miss college. It is moments like the I am, adventures to a local park that have engraved themselves on the tomstone of our murals.

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DECEMBER 6, 2011 COLLEGE HEIGHTS HERALD

Friday's Crossword Solution

ACROSS
1 Rift or rift (Euphorian) 15 Make a mess (Pilgrim)
10 Too smooth (Pompadour) 19 Able to dream (Obese)
14 To be a winner (Lottery) 20 Nickels, dimes, etc. (3, 3)
15 Pick a number (3, 3, 3) 21 Too many (3, 3, 3)
16 The other side of the coin (3, 3, 3) 22 Over the top (1, 7)
17 Good buy 23 Love padlocks 24 In the distance
20 Bally, formerly a running shoe (Puma) 25 RHM
21 Habitually sad (Crying) 26 Street without an exit (Suburban)
23 Snaky 27 Belly 28 Need
30 Derek and Diddley 31 Left-hand side ledger entry
33 Check in and out 34 Armed conflicts
36 Like sweetened yams 39 In the run-off
40 Gross, of course (4, 4) 41 Said to the go
45 Cool as ice (4, 4) 46 Wildebeest
47 Like seawater (4, 4) 47 Making noise (1, 1)
50 Nurtle (1, 1) 51 Lexpanded in value
54 Stender plant part (1, 1) 55 Costs
56 Adidas (1, 1) 57 Colors
58 Religious art (1, 1) 59 “About Nothing”
62 Refer to (1, 1) 63 Uninformed
65 Nose, in humor (1, 1) 66 New comedy
69 Parts of speech (1, 1) 70 Above
71 Converse 72 Short list
74 Bench board 76 How does WKU
78 Nonsense (1, 1) 79 Couch rumies

DOWN
1 Commanded 2 Fortissimo sign 3 Fast and furious
4 Talked wildly 5 A gas 6 Final hill
8 Paint pieces 10 Adopt a chick
11 Talk on and on 12 Persia, today
13 Minuted past 14 Talk to the hand 15 Helped
19 Talk to the hand 20 Talk to the hand 21 Talk to the hand
22 Holey breakfast nosh 23 Helped
24 Wear away 25 Result
26 Snerry or Doc 27 Two for Tea 28 Play the piano
30 Bring it on a day (2, 2) 31 Make joyous
32 Defeatist’s phrase (2, 2) 33 Distance across a pool (2, 2)
34 Guys (2, 2) 35 Guys (2, 2)
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College Heights Herald

Campus Events

email your events to editor@whakerald.com

Tuesday Dec. 1

9:30 p.m. DUC Auditorium Holiday Grand Opening
dec. 3-5, DUC 226

Student Government Association meeting 7 p.m, DUC 305

Monday, Dec. 5

Beginnings on Eating Right With Vitamins & Nutrients, 6-7 p.m., Health Services Lobby

Lecture Series on Dr. Carl Koll, 7-9 p.m, MMTH Auditorium

Wednesday Dec. 7

Independent Learning Registration Kickoff, 9 a.m. - 1 p.m, DUC Lobby

Mark Wolfschlicht Cornelius Tournament, 11 a.m.-1 p.m., South Lawn

Harlanston Session, 4-5:30 p.m, DUC 226

DUC Grand Opening 7 p.m., DUC 305

Thursday Dec. 8

Neon Tunes, 7-1 p.m., DUC Patio

BCM Christmas Program, 4-7:30 p.m, Centennial Mall

Stage Show: Star of Bethlehem, 7 p.m, Hardin Planetarium

Friday Dec. 9

Along Came a Dragon, 4 p.m, Lab Theatre in Gordon Wilson Hall

Concert Series: Holiday Pop Festiwal Featuring WKU Choral Groups, 8 p.m, Van Meter Hall

Saturday Dec. 10

Qualifying Demonstrations and Presentations, 9-11 a.m, Kentucky Museum

Dance Images Christmas Recital, 2 p.m, Van Meter Hall

Women’s Basketball vs. Florida International, 2 p.m, Diddle Arena

Monday Dec. 12

Final Exams Begin

Tuesday Dec. 13

Stage Show: Star of Bethlehem, 7 p.m, Hardin Planetarium
Nearly 1,200 will graduate next week

A total of 1,196 students will receive their degrees during commencement Dec. 16-17 at Diddle Arena. The 170th Commencement Graduate Ceremony will take place at 10 a.m. Dec. 16, and the undergraduate ceremony will be at 5:30 p.m. on Dec. 17. In total, students will earn 72 associate's degrees, 167 bachelor's degrees, 248 master's degrees, two specialist degrees in education and seven doctoral degrees in educational leadership.

The undergraduate ceremony will be broadcast on WKU-PBS, and both ceremonies will be webcast on www.wkusports.com.

President Gary Ransdell will speak at the undergraduate ceremony, which will also include a parade of international flags, recognition of honor graduates and the commencement of four Army ROTC graduates as second lieutenants.

Each graduate will also receive a Class of 2011 WKU red towel.

Lowe’s international business major Andrea Wallkamp will be recognized as the Ogden Foundation scholar, which is WKU’s top academic honor. The award is presented to one graduating senior who has demonstrated academic achievement and outstanding university and civic engagement.

DVDs of the undergraduate ceremony will be sold for $35 each and can be ordered at commencement or following commencement at www.wkujobs.org.

Joint admissions increase WKU's enrollment, ease student transition

By DIANA WILLIAMS

Joint admissions agreements don’t appear to be slowing down for WKU any time in the near future.

Brian Meredith, associate vice president of Enrollment Management, said the university is open to more joint admissions agreements and there are no-cut-off plans.

WKU currently has joint admissions agreements with at least 16 colleges that make up the Kentucky Community and Technical College System. WKU’s joint admissions agreements currently include: Owensboro Community and Technical College, Middletown Community College, Henderson Community College, Hopkinsville Community College, Bowling Green Technical College, and most recently, Elizabethown Community and Technical College.

"We would be more open to joint admissions agreements with year two schools," he said. "I think joint admission has helped us to reach our historic number this semester."

In October it was announced that WKU had achieved a record-setting figure of more than 21,000 students enrolled.

Joint admissions allow a student to enroll at both WKU and a community college. The student will complete their first two years at the community college while receiving an advisor from WKU and many of the services WKU students receive. After they have completed two years, they are able to enroll at WKU and complete their degree.

These agreements also translate to WKU’s regional campuses. Connie Tice, director of WKU-Owensboro, said that of the 1,200 students that attend WKU-Owensboro, more than 300 are joint admissions.

"We are able to begin at OTC and continue into WKU-Owensboro, eventually graduating with a degree," Tice said.

"You have people who complete a bachelor’s degree never having set foot on the Bowling Green campus," he said.

Meredith said the university is in the process of contacting another two-year community college, but it is in the preliminary stage and nothing is official at this stage.

Meredith said the time it takes to create a agreement for each school is different and does not follow the same timeline.

"It depends on each institution," he said. "It could take anywhere from a few months to a year to complete a course." Meredith said January 2012 could possibly bring news of new agreements with another two-year school.

Overall, joint admissions is about making the student transferring process less stressful, he said.

"It just helps the student make an easier transition from a two-year institution in a four-year institution," Meredith said. "The whole philosophy is to make it an easier transition."
Kara Key said she thought when she graduated she would be able to find a good job in broadcast news, ideally in Cleveland, Ohio — though no jobs were waiting. When she graduated from WKU in 2010, no jobs were waiting. “I didn’t think it would be this difficult,” Key said.

She said she started out slow, looking and just trying to get a feel for what was available, but Key had been unable to find any employment that would further her career. Instead Key found only part-time jobs that could just help with little income. Key said she learned more about the job hunting process after graduation.

“If I didn’t know what to expect until I really got out of here,” she said. “I knew there would be a lot of hard work, but I didn’t think it would be as hard as it was going to be.” Key said the biggest challenge for her was the fact that she felt as if something was wrong with her. “I am unsure. What did I do wrong when I go through the interviewer, and still don’t get the job,” she said.

Another WKU alumna, Amanda Montgomery, graduated with anthropology and horticultural degrees but has been looking for a job for more than a year, yet nothing can be found.

“Nothing is hiring for horticulture,” the Greenwood, Ind., native said. Montgomery’s department portal internships and field school opportunities and provided help with curriculum visits, but it wasn’t enough.

Montgomery and Key all discussed the financial ramifications due to their circumstances. They have all had to cut back on their normal spending. “I’ve been forced to live,” Montgomery said. “I can’t pay my bills or have an entertainment budget.”

Between 2008 and April 2011, the job market declined by seven million jobs, according to the Bureau of Labor statistics. So what should current students do to prepare for the real world?

Robert Unsal, an associate director with WKU Career Services, said students should start early with their career search. “Students need to get serious about job searching,” Unsal said.

Unsal said most students know they are graduating the August before, and they must actively work to gain employment. “Time in, success out,” he said.

Unsal said that is not just about the here and now, but about being able to stand the best complete professional package. In order to gain employment, students must be able to sell themselves.

“Students must be able to articulate what makes them a good fit,” he said.

Unsal said that in this economy, students have had to adapt like no other generation. “We are being forced to walk into a place and get hired.” Unsal said. “There is something valuable in being well dressed and walking into a place and shak- ing the hand of a hiring manager.”

Unsal’s biggest tip for a student is to have confidence and have an understanding of what you are bringing to the table. “Buy a nice suit,” he said. “A good first impression is a great start.”

But our greatest need was for forgiveness, God said to us. Savior.

If our greatest need had been knowledge
God would have sent us an educator

If our greatest need had been technology
God would have sent us a scientist

If our greatest need had been money
God would have sent us a financier

If our greatest need had been power
God would have sent us an entertainer

If our greatest need was for happiness
God would have sent us an entertainer

If our greatest need was for security
God would have sent us a financier

This Christmas may you see and know how great His love is toward you!

From: Christian Faculty & Staff Fellowship

DECEMBER 6, 2011 COLLEGE HEIGHTS HERALD

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Unhappy WKU gradus search for jobs after school

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If our greatest need had been power, God would have sent us an entertainer.
If our greatest need had been happiness, God would have sent us an entertainer.
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But our greatest need was for forgiveness, so God said to us, a Savior.

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A victimology class at the DeBerry Special Needs Facility in Nashville brings two starkly different people groups together: inmates serving hard time and young adults pursuing higher education.

Patrons support city through Holiday Bash

DECEMBER 6, 2011

Whether you purchase a ticket to the event had a number of ties or food.

Fellow junior Morgan Cornelius said that the Holiday Bash was a great fun way to earn money for juvenile arthritis.

Elizabeth Madariaga of Bowling Green said it was the club’s second year and they wanted to come back.

Rebecca Solofra, a junior at WKU, said that she volunteered last year and she had her eye on some things she associated with Hope Harbor.

Kelly Jenkins of Boys and Girls Club said it was the club’s second year at the event, that they had been asked to attend last year and they wanted to come back.

He said he looked forward to the live auction and bidding charities.

During the silent auction, those who purchased a ticket to the event had a number and could place a bid on an item.

A无声 class at the Dettery Special Needs facility in Nashville brings two starkly different people groups together: inmates serving hard time and young adults pursuing higher education.

CLASS

The club is hoping for $15,000 with auction items like trips to Cancun and Sheld Island.

"We all need to support each other," she said.

WIN

Earlier this year, WKU held a 12-point second-half lead on Virginia Commonwealth in their final game of the Charleston Classic, only to watch VCU go on a 10-0 run and eventually win 69-64.

Freshman forward George Fantоч that he didn’t go to the Holiday Bash at the Nashville Baseball and could place a bid on an item.

Bob Karrick, dressed as Santa Claus, handed out candy canes Friday to the students of Alpha Omicron Pi and other attendees of the National Corvette Museum’s second Holiday Bash.

WIN

Commonwealth in their final game of the year.

We’ve been working hard. I know we’ve got a lot more losses than wins, but we’ve been working real hard in practice and I think it’s startin’ to pay off.”
**BOWL CONFIRMED FROM FIRST**

But hopes for the Toppers playing in the Birmingham bowl died when undefeated No. 4 Houston was snubbed by No. 24 Southern Miss in the Conference USA Championship Game.

With the Cougars' at-large Bowl Championship Series hopes done, there were suddenly just enough C-USA teams to fill all of their contractual ties in non-BCS bowls.

But what the BBVA Compass Bowl, which had a secondary tie-in with the C-USA, was obliged to take a team from that league was Pittsburgh instead of Southern Methodist to face the Big East's Pittsburgh.

So before fans start making promises that they'll travel for a bowl game, they need to first cross over the street from their stadium.

Meanwhile, Shoemaker said the conference and bowl affiliations are just as important to New Orleans as to WKU.

“WKU fans did everything they were supposed to do this past week. They braved several bowls’ Facebook and Twitter pages, namely the BBVA Compass Bowl, constantly posting — and hoping even being ignored — for the bowl representation to WKU in an at-large bid.

Their efforts didn’t go unnoticed, as Compass Bowl officials responded to social media discussions by calling the fans for their hearty interest. But when was the last time that happened to the entire sea- son?

WKU averaged 15,310 fans at the team’s six home games — the third lowest total among bowl eligible teams.

But where was that passion the entire sea- son? Why? Because they couldn’t guaran- tee more fans would come with Lafayette in the game.

The Toppers were the only team with a winning record to be left out. Why? Because they wanted to because of contractual tie-ins with other conferences.

Bowl Championship Series Execu- tive Director Bill Hancock plainly said that attendance matters when bowl committee chooses teams.

It’s all about money when it comes to bowls, and the only data the commit-tees have to go off of is how teams do in at- tendance.

Perhaps the best example that WKU could show how well it’s doing is a game was the Sept. 1 game against Kentucky at Lexington.

Total of 25,099 fans showed up, but there’s no telling how many were there to support UK and how many were supporting WKU.

Some bowls, particularly the Compass Bowl, simply couldn’t choose WKU even if they wanted to because of contractual ties with other conferences.

But what is probably the most interesting thing about bowl selection isn’t a mathematical thing. Even if WKU had finished first in the Sun Belt this year, they wouldn’t have guaranteed a bowl berth.

Take the New Orleans Bowl, for example, which showed third place finisher Louisiana-Lafayette over sec- ond place finisher WKU.

Lafayette, with its close prox- imity to New Or- lis, gets the real- istic finishing be- hind and even losing to WKU.

But he said the efforts of WKU admin- istration were important. They had all the attention, they made all the phone calls.

He even acknowledged the attendance aspect.

“Of course,” Bjork said. “We need to perform better in the non-conference games. And we need to pack our stadiums. That’s really what it comes down to… really, we need our fans to show that same passion they showed toward Birmingham (Com- pass Bowl), we need that year-round in our stadium.”
Lady Toppers look to reload for 2012

By LUCAS AULBACH

A rough NCAA Tournament loss on Fri-

day night ended the 2011 season for the Lady

Topper, but their roster looks good for an-

other next season.

Senior middle hitter Tiffany Elmore was

the team's single-game leader in kills and

blocks, and conference tournament champions in the Sun Belt, with just one home loss and one

away loss.

Lady Toppers hope that underclass-

men and incoming players can fill the hole in

the middle left by the departure of Williams

for us on the court all year."

Senior middle hitter Tiffany Elmore

Agreed with Hud-

son, saying the serve had been a tough part of

the game for the Lady Topper.

"We didn't serve the ball very

well," Hudson said.

"We'll still look at this as a great season,

we'll still look at this as a great season,

which is what did in the Lady Top-

pers."

Three recruits sign to join WKU next season

Noelle Langenkamp, middle hitter — A two-time all-state selection in Ohio, the

6-foot-2 inch middle hitter owns school records for kills and blocks in a match

and is the all-time block leader at Ursuline Academy in Cincinnati. She finished

her three-year varsity career with a total of 657 kills and 275 blocks.

North Langenkamp, middle hitter — A two-time all-state selection in Ohio, the

6-foot-2 inch middle hitter owns school records for kills and blocks in a match

and is the all-time block leader at Ursuline Academy in Cincinnati. She finished

her three-year varsity career with a total of 657 kills and 275 blocks.

Haley Bodway, outside hitter — Bodway was named one of the top-five recruits

in the state of Minnesota this year by prepvolleyball.com and finished her six-

year career at Jefferson High School in Bloomington, Minn., as the 13th all-time

kill leader in the state with 1,512 kills.

Rachel Engle, outside hitter — Former high school teammate of WKU setter

Melanie Stutsman and cousin of defensive specialist Ashley Potts, Engle had 312

kills, 60 blocks and 235 digs and earned first-team all-State and all-Area in her

senior season at Floyd Central High School in Indiana.
**SPORTS**

**WKU finishes year with pair of sweeps**

By Kurt Carlson
sports@wkuherald.com

WKU's season over after four-set loss to Marquette

By Lucas Aulbach

**VOLLEYBALL**

**Down and Out**

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**MEN'S BASKETBALL**

Toppers ‘grow up’ in win over Bowling Green State

By Cole Clavillourn

sports@wkuherald.com

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**CONTACT:**

**SPORTS @WLU**

**By COLE CLAVILLOUR**

sports@wkuherald.com

**THE TOPPERS SHOWED SIGNS that they’re starting to mature on Sunday.**

**By COLE CLAVILLOUR**

sports@wkuherald.com

After building an 18-point lead — WKU’s largest of the season — Bowling Green State eventually clawed its way back into the game, thanks to a total of 21 turnovers from WKU and 18.2 percent shooting in the second half.

**THE TOPPERS TOOK DOWN the Lady Toppers, 70-59, on Saturday night.**

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**MEN’S BASKETBALL**

Toppers ‘grow up’ in win over Bowling Green State

By Cole Clavillourn

sports@wkuherald.com

The young Toppers showed signs that they’re starting to mature on Sunday. After building an 18-point lead — WKU’s largest of the season — Bowling Green State eventually clawed its way back into the game, thanks to a total of 21 turnovers from WKU and 18.2 percent shooting in the second half.

But the Toppers (3-6) eventually did what they haven’t been able to do much this season — close a game out.

They earned their third win of the season with a 60-53 victory at home over BGSU.

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