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UA12/2/1 College Heights Herald - New Tops on the Block

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Homecoming theme based on conference move

BY LASHANA HARNEY
NEWS@WKUHERALD.COM

As WKU athletics continues to adjust to its new conference, students will be celebrating its move to Conference USA during Homecoming.

The move to C-USA inspired the 2014 Homecoming theme, “New Tops on the Block.”

Ginny Hensley, director of Alumni Programming, said “New Tops on the Block” was chosen for several reasons. Hensley said some reasons were the move to Conference USA and the reference to the ‘80s and ‘90s band New Kids on the Block.

WKU entered the athletic conference on July 1 after departing from the Sun Belt.

“Our ideas are always what’s going to come out of a student’s mind with this theme,” Hensley said. “We like to be able to have different possibilities.”

Hensley said she expects to see throwbacks to the ‘80s and ‘90s throughout Homecoming week, but also looks forward to seeing the students’ representation of the theme.

“There’s always a couple of things that show up that we never thought was possible,” Hensley said.

Hensley said the Homecoming committee consists of 30 students, alumni and staff. The committee comes together with ideas and suggestions for the theme then votes on the top three. The top three ideas are sent on to President Gary Ransdell, who has the final say.

Taylor Mill senior Jenna Lehkamp serves on the Homecoming committee. She said it’s a long process trying to choose a theme.

“All of the themes we choose are unique, but this year, this theme is just really fitting,” Lehkamp said.

Lehkamp said “New Tops on the Block” was perfect for this year.

“I saw ‘New Tops on the Block’ as very fitting for the move to Conference USA,” Lehkamp said. “We are literally the new tops on the block and the rest of the committee saw that as well. It’s also a perfect twist to New Kids on the Block.”

Hensley said the Homecoming committee will sometimes brainstorm ideas from relevant events going on in the country such as presidential elections or Halloween. Other theme ideas can be completely random.

“Sometimes it may not have anything to do with WKU at all,” Hensley said. “We’ve had Las Vegas themes, Mardi Gras themes and sometimes we take a play off of whatever team we are playing.”

Hensley said the process includes a lot of creativity, discussion and sometimes a little help from Google.

“We don’t try to steal other schools ideas but we do review them,” Hensley said.

Hensley said the process takes a year.

“We will start talking about next year’s theme right after this one is over,” she said.

Hensley said the Homecoming committee has done Facebook polls in the past, but this year Ransdell knew “New Tops on the Block” was the right path.

“Some years we have ideas that are very even in what we are looking at for the final selection and some years there is one that truly rises to the top,” Hensley said. “This year, this one did.”
Thursday, November 6

• Homecoming Chili and Cheese Luncheon and Pep Rally
  11:00 a.m. to 1:00 p.m.
  643 at Hitzents Park Plaza, 360 East 8th Avenue

• 2014 Summit Awards Dinner
  6:00 p.m. Social, 6:30 p.m. Program
  Knicely Conference Center, 654 Campbell Lane

• 2014 WKU Homecoming Concert
  Featuring Eli Young Band
  With special guest Frankie Ballard and Will Hoge
  Showtime is 7:30 p.m.
  E.A. Diddle Arena

• The 25th Annual Putman County Spelling Bee
  A musical theatre produced by the WKU Department of Theatre & Dance
  8:00 p.m.
  Russell H. Miller Theatre in the Fine Arts Center

Friday, November 7

• Pi Kappa Alpha Homecoming Golf Scramble
  12:00 p.m.
  Bowling Green Country Club, 251 Beech Bend Road

• Homecoming Parade
  "New Tops on the Block"
  5:00 p.m.
  WKU Campus to Downtown Bowling Green

• Homecoming Concert in the Park
  Featuring the Jordan English Band
  5:00 p.m.
  Fountain Square Park in Downtown Bowling Green

• Big Red's Roar 2014
  6:30 p.m.
  Fountain Square Park in Downtown Bowling Green

• Master of Public Administration Program Alumni Reception
  7:00 p.m. to 10:00 p.m.
  Augenstein Alumni Center, 292 Alumni Avenue

• Pi Kappa Alpha Homecoming Reception
  7:00 p.m.
  Pike House, 1328 Center Street

• ATO Alumni Happy Hour
  7:00 p.m.
  Holiday Inn University Plaza, 1021 Wilkinson Trace

• Society of African American Alumni Memorial Service
  8:00 p.m.
  Chandler Memorial Chapel, WKU Campus

• Society of African American Alumni Homecoming Kickoff Party
  9:00 p.m.
  Par Makers Clubhouse, 1080 Brownslock Road
HOMECOMING DAY

• WKU Student Publications
  Homecoming Breakfast
  8:30 a.m.
  Knicely Conference Center, 645
  Campbell Lane

• Alpha Omicron Pi Sorority
  Homecoming Breakfast
  9:00 a.m.
  AOII House, 1556 Normal Drive

• Library Confucius Institute
  Reception
  10:00 to 11:30 a.m.
  Helm Library Room 100

• Dental Hygiene Continuing
  Education Course
  9:00 a.m. to 12:00 p.m.
  Academic Complex 217

• Family and Consumer Sciences
  and Phi Upsilon Omicron Alumni
  Brunch
  10:00 a.m.
  Eloise B. Houchens Center, 1115
  Adams Street

• Alpha Gamma Delta
  Homecoming Brunch
  10:00 a.m.
  Alpha Gamma Delta House, 1540
  Chestnut Street

• Alumni W-Club Athletic Hall of
  Fame Induction Ceremony and
  Brunch
  10:00 a.m.
  E.A. Diddle Arena Main Floor

• Department of Agriculture
  Homecoming Brunch
  10:00 a.m.
  L.D. Brown Agriculture Exposition
  Center, 406 Elrod Road

• Kappa Delta Homecoming
  Alumnae Brunch
  and Tailgating
  10:00 a.m. to 3:00 p.m.
  Kappa Delta House, 1600 Chestnut
  Street

• Residence Hall Open Houses
  10:00 a.m. to 12:00 p.m.

• Sigma Alpha Epsilon
  Homecoming Brunch
  10:00 a.m.
  SAE House, 300 Alumni Avenue

• BSU/BCM Students vs. Alumni
  Flag Football Game
  10:30 a.m.
  WKU Intramural Complex

• Gordon Ford College of Business
  Homecoming Brunch
  10:30 a.m. to 12:30 p.m.
  Knicely Conference Center, 645
  Campbell Lane

• IMREC Sports Alumni
  Homecoming Picnic
  11:00 a.m. to 12:30 p.m.
  Grise Hall

• Ogden College Homecoming
  Tailgate
  11:00 a.m. to 2:00 p.m.
  WKU South Lawn

• Phi Delta Theta House
  Groundbreaking
  11:00 a.m.
  New Home Site, 330 Alumni Avenue

• Society of African American
  Alumni Tailgate Party
  11:00 a.m.
  Bates Runner Hall Lawn

• WKU PBS 25th Anniversary
  Homecoming Open House
  11:00 a.m. to 1:00 p.m.
  WKU Public Broadcasting, Academic
  Complex 153A

• College of Health and Human
  Services Homecoming Alumni and
  Friends Cookout
  11:30 a.m. to 1:30 p.m.
  Academic Complex Front Courtyard

• Department of Military Science
  and Leadership ROTC Alumni
  Homecoming Tent
  11:30 a.m. to 2:30 p.m.
  WKU South Lawn

• Augenstein Alumni Center
  Homecoming Opening Act
  12:00 p.m. to 2:30 p.m.
  292 Alumni Avenue

• Alpha Tau Omega
  Homecoming Tailgating
  Student Tailgating in the Valley

• College of Education and
  Behavioral Sciences Homecoming
  Tailgating
  12:00 p.m. to 2:30 p.m.
  WKU South Lawn

• Wesley Foundation Open House
  12:00 p.m. to 2:00 p.m.
  Wesley Foundation, 1355 College
  Street.

• Department of Agriculture
  Tailgating
  12:30 p.m.
  WKU Floral Design Training Center,
  514 Regents Avenue

• BSU/BCM Homecoming
  Tailgating
  12:30 p.m.
  Baptist Student Center, 1574 Normal
  Drive

• Honors College Tailgate
  12:30 p.m. to Kick Off
  WKU Campus

• Sigma Alpha Epsilon
  Homecoming Tailgating
  12:00 p.m.
  Student Tailgating in the Valley

• Spirit Master Homecoming Tent
  1:00 p.m. to 3:00 p.m. - Spirit Master
  Time
  Student Tailgating in the Valley

• 18th Annual Jim Wayne Miller
  Celebration of Writing Every Leaf
  A Mirror: A Jim Wayne Miller
  Reader
  2:00 p.m.
  Augenstein Alumni Center
  292 Alumni Avenue

• 2014 Homecoming Step Show
  7:00 p.m.
  E.A. Diddle Arena

• Society of African American
  Alumni Association
  Old School/New School Party
  10:00 p.m.
  Knicely Conference Center, 654
  Campbell Lane

Sunday, November 9

• 18th Annual Jim Wayne Miller
  Celebration of Writing Every Leaf
  A Mirror: A Jim Wayne Miller
  Reader
  2:00 p.m.
  Augenstein Alumni Center
  292 Alumni Avenue

• Phi Delta Theta Homecoming
  Reception
  7:00 p.m.
  Sloan Convention Center, 1021
  Wilkinson Trace

• 2014 Homecoming Step Show
  7:00 p.m.
  E.A. Diddle Arena

• Sigma Alpha Epsilon
  Homecoming Reception
  9:00 p.m.
  SAE House, 300 Alumni Avenue

• Society of African American
  Alumni Association
  Old School/New School Party
  10:00 p.m.
  Knicely Conference Center, 654
  Campbell Lane

• 18th Annual Jim Wayne Miller
  Celebration of Writing Every Leaf
  A Mirror: A Jim Wayne Miller
  Reader
  2:00 p.m.
  Augenstein Alumni Center
  292 Alumni Avenue

• 2014 Homecoming Step Show
  7:00 p.m.
  E.A. Diddle Arena

• Society of African American
  Alumni Association
  Old School/New School Party
  10:00 p.m.
  Knicely Conference Center, 654
  Campbell Lane

• 18th Annual Jim Wayne Miller
  Celebration of Writing Every Leaf
  A Mirror: A Jim Wayne Miller
  Reader
  2:00 p.m.
  Augenstein Alumni Center
  292 Alumni Avenue

• 2014 Homecoming Step Show
  7:00 p.m.
  E.A. Diddle Arena

• Society of African American
  Alumni Association
  Old School/New School Party
  10:00 p.m.
  Knicely Conference Center, 654
  Campbell Lane
NPHC Homecoming Step Show inspired by 90s sitcoms

BY SHANTEL-ANN PETTWAY
NEWS@WKUHERALD.COM

The National Pan-Hellenic Council, or NPHC, at WKU continues their tradition of putting on the Homecoming week Step Show with a performance this weekend.

This year’s Homecoming Step Show will be held in Diddle Arena on Nov. 8 from 7 to 9 p.m. following the Homecoming football game.

The theme for this year’s Homecoming Step Show is 90s sitcoms, such as “The Fresh Prince of Bel-Air.” Participants drew from a hat which sitcom they would emulate.

The confirmed Greek talents in the show are Sigma Gamma Rho sorority, Kappa Alpha Psi fraternity, Phi Beta Sigma fraternity, Omega Psi Phi fraternity and Iota Phi Theta fraternity.

The members of Sigma Gamma Rho will not be stepping, but will be represented by sorority sisters from other chapters from other universities; this form of stepping is called an exhibition.

“We voted to have an exhibition because we are small in number and it was less stress on us to do so much with a small amount of people,” said Louisville junior Danielle Burnley, vice president of the WKU chapter of Sigma Gamma Rho.

Numbers won’t stop members of Omega Psi Phi from stomping in the Homecoming Step Show.

WKU’s Gamma Theta Chapter, will be represented by three confident fraternity brothers.

“We're always confident, that's the only way to compete at a high level,” said Nashville senior Andre Scott, one of the participating members.

The NPHC Homecoming Step Show is a judged show, but the competition doesn’t cause tension between the Greeks.

“If there is any rivalry, it’s a friendly rivalry, but everyone wants to win and that’s what makes a good show,” said Spring Hill, Tennessee sophomore Ihyaszz Cole.

Step shows can take a lot of time to prepare for according to Louisville senior Devantre Chatman.

“We've been preparing since the summer by watching TV shows, finding outfits to wear and our preparation is going to give us a new look this year,” Chatman said.

Step shows are also showcases for those who are studying and planning to pledge to a NPHC fraternity or sorority.

“The people who choose to get on that stage show a form of diversity because there are nine different organizations that offer different opportunities to people and it shows them how excited we still are to be members of our specific fraternity or sorority,” Chatman said.
ELI YOUNG BAND TO HEADLINE
ANNUAL HOMECOMING CONCERT

The Eli Young Band’s concert at Diddle Arena is the headliner for the 2014 WKU Homecoming Concert.

The band recently released their album “10,000 Towns”, which reached the No. 1 spot on the Billboard country chart during its first week.

The band’s second hit “Even If It Breaks Your Heart” was co-written by singer-songwriter Will Hoge, who is also set to perform at Thursday’s concert. Hoge attended WKU with plans to become a history teacher before leaving to pursue a country music career in Nashville in the late 90s.

Along with Hoge, Frankie Ballard, another opening act, has made a spot on the charts. Ballard’s current single is “Sunshine & Whiskey” which reached the number five spot on the US Hot Country charts.

The Homecoming Concert is sponsored by the Campus Activity Board. The concert starts at 7 p.m. at Diddle Arena on Nov. 6. Student tickets are $24 and non-student tickets are $34.
Ogden Alumni are invited to stop by the Ogden College Homecoming Tent during the Festival of Friends South Lawn.

GO TOPS!
Students, community gear up for Homecoming Parade

BY JESSICA VOORHEES
NEWS@WKUHERALD.COM

Students and Bowling Green community members will march through the campus streets Friday to represent various organizations and athletic teams in the Homecoming Parade.

The Homecoming Parade will begin Friday at 5 p.m. at Parking Structure 1 and travel from Cherry Hall through downtown Bowling Green to Fountain Square Park.

Ginny Hensley, director of Alumni Programming, said the parade, a tradition since 1937, has grown each year since its route was expanded to downtown.

“For many years it was just on campus from the top of the Hill to the bottom, but about 10 years ago we took it downtown because Dr. Ransdell wanted to see it become more of a community function,” she said. “The students spent so many hours perfecting these floats and we wanted the community to be able to see it.”

Hensley said all 24 Homecoming Queen candidates will march, as well as many sororities, fraternities, service organizations and international student clubs.

“Any organization on campus is free to join,” she said. “We have everything from Habitat for Humanity, libraries, museums and the communications department walk.”

Hensley said the school also encourages the community to participate.

Joe Morel, community chair for the Homecoming Parade, said many downtown businesses will stay open late for the event and offer discounts to students in school colors.

Hensley said the stores, such as Pink Daisy and BlueTique, will offer discounts on apparel and she encouraged students to come early to shop.

Morel said community members also participate by decorating their stores or parading in floats.

Hensley said the Jordan English Band, WKU alumni, will entertain at Fountain Square Park at 5 p.m. as the parade moves downtown. After the parade, students will gather in the park for Big Red’s Roar pep rally.

Hensley encouraged students to partake in the spirited spectacle.

“Come out and get some candy and watch the Homecoming spirit in action, because it will be alive and well,” she said.
WKU sweethearts get engaged

BY KIERSTIN KIRK
LIFE@WKUHERALD.COM

For Louisville graduate Zach Talton and Murray senior Madison Schwettman, WKU is more than just a place to further their education.

“It’s the place where I decided to be a teacher, the place that inspired me to chase my dreams and do more than I ever imagined,” Schwettman said. “At WKU the spirit really does make the master.”

Talton made WKU’s campus an essential part in the next step of their relationship: the proposal.

“I wanted it to be big and elaborate and make it a part of us,” Talton said.

Talton and Schwettman first met through the Baptist Campus Ministry (BCM) in their early WKU years, but really got to know each other when she was cheering on the Tops as a cheerleader, and he was walking around, shaking his belly and eating fans’ heads as Big Red.

“It’s the cheesiest meeting, I know,” Talton said.

Talton said he put a lot of thought into the proposal. As the planning went on, word got around in the community. WKU’s floral shop heard what Talton was planning and decided to get involved.

The floral shop provided flowers for the occasion, and Talton hired a local horse and carriage service. The carriage was decorated with WKU memorabilia for the big day, Friday, Oct. 24.

Schwettman said police involvement caused a bit of initial scare.

“I saw that the cops were there and I was scared my friends were getting in trouble, but then I found out it was all part of the scheme,” Schwettman said.

Talton said, in the moment of the proposal, he was glad it was finally happening. After all the extensive planning, he

SEE SWEETHEARTS PAGE 13

CONTRIBUTED TO THE HERALD

Graduate Zach Talton, of Louisville, and Madison Schwettman, of Murray, celebrate their engagement on Friday, Oct. 24. Talton surprised Schwettman with a WKU themed proposal that night, complete with a horse and carriage, and flowers provided by the WKU Floral Shop.
was overwhelmed by Schwettman’s surprised expression. “I was completely surprised because the night before he got sassy and told me he wasn’t proposing soon,” Schwettman said. “He was just trying to throw me off track.”

Schwettman is not only excited about the proposal. She was nominated for Homecoming Queen by the BCM. “It’s been a blessing to be a part of something not a lot of girls get to do,” Schwettman said. “It’s a once in a lifetime experience I’ll never forget.”

They were grateful that WKU played such a large part in the next step of their lives together. “It means a lot, it’s my home and will become our home as we get married,” Talton said.

Homecoming Queen to be announced at Saturday game

BY RACHEL PHELPS
NEWS@WKUHERALD.COM

The ceremony for WKU’s inaugural Conference USA homecoming is Saturday.

The ceremony will take place at halftime of the WKU vs. UTEP football game in Smith Stadium on Saturday. WKU casted their votes for Homecoming Queen on Monday.

There are currently 24 candidates. Previous Homecoming Queen candidates have included Ann-Blair Thornton, who was named Miss Kentucky in 2011.

Candidates are selected differently depending on the type of organization they are representing, but common factors such as GPA and amount of service put into the organization are considered.

Many of the candidates expressed their excitement over being nominated.

Lexington senior Natalie Gilliam, representing Kappa Delta, Sigma Phi Epsilon and FarmHouse, said she was proud to be nominated. “I’m so excited,” she said. “I’ve always thought it would be one of the greatest things to do in college.”

Throughout Homecoming week, the candidates will be spending a significant amount of time together at different events, including a banquet and interview and a visit to Chandler Assisted Living where they will spend time helping residents.

Campbellsville senior Ashyya Robinson, representing Alpha Kappa Psi fraternity, said she was looking forward to all the events the Homecoming Queen candidates will do. “I think it’s going to be a good time for everyone to get to know each other outside of just posters hanging up,” she said.

For some Homecoming Queen candidates, this will be their last year on the Hill as a student.

Smiths Grove senior Meghan McGuirk, representing Alpha Gamma Delta and Sigma Alpha Epsilon, said she is a little bit nervous for Homecoming week, though she’s focusing on other things, such as her last year in college. “I’m just kind of taking it all in,” she said. “As a senior and everything, this year has been bittersweet and I feel like my last Homecoming is going to be even more so.”
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Pulitzer prize winner inducted into alumni hall of fame

BY KAE HOLLOWAY
LIFE@WKUHERALD.COM

Days after Sept. 11, 2001, Rick Loomis packed his bag and his camera and headed to New York. For the next month, he would document one of the biggest moments in recent American history: the aftermath of 9/11.

“I really got to cover a slice of American history,” he said.

His journey photographing the aftermath of the fall of the World Trade Center would not stop in New York. For the next few years, Loomis would travel throughout the Middle East, following the United States Marine Corps as they invaded Iraq and Afghanistan, covering many of the battles in the area for the Los Angeles Times.

“September 11 was nearly a decade into my career and… I had done some international assignments, but I had never thought to cover war or anything like that,” he said.

Loomis graduated from WKU in December 1993, after spending years on the Hill in what he considered a nurturing environment.

“(Western) was pretty much amazing,” he said. “We were all energized by what we were learning and just excited to put it into play.”

His bond with WKU and the programs and students here have lead him to want to give back to the university that taught him. Loomis and his wife, Liz Baylen, routinely come back to help with Mountain Workshops, the annual week-long program put on by the WKU photojournalism program.

“It’s my way to give back,” he said. “I’m forever proud of being from WKU.”

While enrolled, Loomis met Dave LaBelle, a former photojournalism professor who now teaches at Kent State.

“He was very passionate, very zealous about his work,” LaBelle said. “He always treated his teachers with respect and he was good to other students… He was just the kind of guy who would do anything for you.”

He and LaBelle, through years in the classroom and trips to Memphis, Tennessee, would form a bond that would last through the years when they both left the Hill.

“I performed his (wedding) ceremony,” LaBelle said. “Rick is kind of like an adopted son and a student and he’s become like a friend and a peer… it feels like family; whenever he does anything, it almost feels like one of my kids.”

Loomis’ skill with a camera took him to the Los Angeles Times in the months after graduation, a publication he still works for 20 years later.

“I spent about three or four months with my life in boxes packed to the ceiling in a kitchen in an apartment… it sort of was a tumultuous time,” he said. “I just started applying for every job I could apply for.”

His persistent application, and a recommendation from former professor Jack Corn, would land him his photographer position at the Times.

Loomis was awarded the Pulitzer Prize, one of the most prestigious awards in journalism, in 2007 for a series he did about the decline of oceans on a global scale.

“It was exhilarating and unexpected,” Loomis said. “My buddy, who I work with a lot, I think he was the first one I told after-wards, or pretty much in the top three people I think I told after it happened, he was excited to tell me, he said ‘you know what you just did?’ and I said ‘what?’ and he said ‘you just wrote the first line in your obituary’.”

LaBelle was right next to him when he accepted the award.

“I’ve got to say that was one of the top 10 moments of my life,” LaBelle said.

Loomis will receive another award this weekend when he’ll be inducted into the Alumni Hall of Fame with two other graduates, David “Doc” Livingston and Col. Gary “Mickey” Riggs, during Homecoming. LaBelle, again, will be by his side to show his support.

“Rick, like any good person, is a product of a lot of influence, a lot of teachers, a lot of experience, and I’m sure I had a small role in that,” LaBelle said. “It certainly makes me feel proud, it makes me feel proud, he’s just surpassed me in so many ways, that’s the ultimate compliment to a teacher really is when their student exceeds what they do, that they become better.”

Pulitzer prize winner inducted into alumni hall of fame
JAZZ MUSICIAN INDUCTED INTO ALUMNI HALL OF FAME

BY MADISON MARTIN
LIFE@WKUHERALD.COM

Previous inductees into the Alumni Hall of Fame have been known and respected by past students and colleagues as creating an impact on their lives both on the Hill and beyond.

David "Doc" Livingston, one of three inductees to the Hall of Fame this year, is one such man. His past students remark that he left an impression on those he came in contact with, and contributed something special to the jazz program here at WKU, with a list of accomplishments and performances that make him one of the most celebrated musical alums.

"(He) has had a major impact on our university, community, region and state," Joseph Stites, tuba and euphonium instructor and director of the Tuba-Euphonium Ensemble, said in an email.

According to his plaque, displayed on the Music "Wall of Fame," Livingston graduated from WKU with his Bachelor of Science degree in 1951.

Livingston is a keyboard and woodwind player, and played for dance bands as early as his high school days.

He was transferred from the Army infantry to the Air Force so he could play with the 4th Corps Band, and afterwards began to teach.

He filled music faculty positions in different Kentucky schools, such as band director and supervisor of music.

He then came back to the Hill as a music professor for the last 15 years of his teaching career. Here, he taught woodwinds, theory and composition and acted as the director of bands from 1965 to 1969. He was a part of the Gemini dance band and had the opportunity to perform with jazz legends Louis Armstrong and Dave Brubeck, as well as tour with Billy Vaughn.

"His musical talent is nothing short of genius," Marshall Scott said. "His ability to improvise, in a jazz sense, is just uncanny."

Scott, trumpet instructor and Jazz Band director at WKU, had personal experience working with Livingston. They played '40s-style music together at private dances and country clubs, with Scott on the trumpet and Livingston on the saxophone or keyboard.

"Playing with him was a real treat for me," Scott said. "I learned a lot of tunes by working with him; how to improvise, and how to entertain."

Not only is he a prestigious musician, but Scott said he is outgoing and very much so a people-person.

"It just seemed like he knew everybody," Scott said. "We'd go somewhere and we'd be between tunes and we'd be waiting to start the next tune, and he'd be in conversation with somebody he hadn't seen in 20 years or 30 years or whatever."

Aside from his musical talents, Stites said Livingston knew how to kick back, roll with the punchlines and tell a few of his own.

"(Livingston) is an enthusiastic teller of jokes and an incorrigible punster, but mostly he just loves to laugh," Stites wrote.

He will be inducted into the Alumni Hall of Fame on Friday, Nov. 7.

More than 550 people are expected to attend a luncheon Friday meant to honor the accomplishments of three WKU alumni, said Associate Director of Alumni Relations Tracy Morrison. The Nov. 7 luncheon held at the Sloan Convention Center is open to everyone.

Guests will see Los Angeles Times photojournalist Rick Loomis, music educator David Livingston and U.S. Army veteran Col. Gary Riggs initiated into the Hall of Distinguished Alumni.

Gary Riggs led students by building up the WKU ROTC program while pursuing a Masters degree at WKU. He earned a Bachelor of Science in English from WKU in 1958 and a Master of Arts in Education in 1974. He served in Laos and Vietnam.

"It's a great time to come and see the accomplishments of your fellow alumni and hopefully inspire you to do great things as well," Morrison said.
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