UA12/2/1 College Heights Herald, Vol. 91, No. 1

WKU Student Affairs

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NO MINORS ALLOWED: HILLIGANS CHANGES RULES

NEWS, PAGE 83

BUDGET BREAKDOWN
2015-2016 budget sees $7.9 million in cuts and reallocations

PROVOST/ACADEMIC AFFAIRS 45%

CHIEF FACILITIES OFFICER 7.6%

CHIEF ENROLLMENT & GRADUATION OFFICER 18.5%

FINANCE & ADMIN 5.5%

ATHLETICS 5.9%

STUDENT AFFAIRS 4.6%

DEVELOPMENT & ALUMNI RELATIONS 1%

PUBLIC AFFAIRS 1.1%

CHIEF INFORMATION TECHNOLOGY OFFICER 3.1%

*INCLUDES CHIEF DIVERSITY OFFICER, PRESIDENTAL EXPENSES AND UNIVERSITY WIDE EXPENSES

PHOTO ILLUSTRATION BY WILLIAM KOLB GRAPIC BY KATHERINE SPROLES

BY LASHANA HARNEY HERALDNEWS@WKU.EDU

With state funding remaining stagnant, the Board of Regents approved the 2015-2016 fiscal year budget of $386.5 million, which included $7.9 million in budget cuts and reallocations.

In a meeting with the administrative council, President Gary Ransdell said he would not expect an increase in tuition.

Although the university has significantly reduced spending since 2008, the lack of state funding furthers the need for continuing budget cuts.

We’ve reduced our spending by some $10 million dollars since 2008 and that’s why we will be working so hard in Frankfort to get a higher education funding model actually funded,” said Ransdell.

Only 18.8 percent of the budget comes from the annual state appropriation, while close to half the budget, 49.2 percent or $195.2 million, comes from tuition and fees. The budget included an increase for WKU’s resident, under graduate tuition and mandatory fees of $171 per semester, a total increase of 3.7 percent.

To balance the budget, the university cut or reallocated $22 million across all departments. One reason for the budget cut was an increase in awarding scholarships. The budget allocated money to expand scholarship offerings by

**SEE BUDGET PAGE A2**

Gordon Ford creates additional student fees

BY CARLY MATTHEWS

Gordon Ford, the former provost and vice president for academic affairs, said the fee goes toward providing services for students and making faculty selection more competitive. He said the fee was required to generate about $600,000 to address a number of needs in the department.

“It is not entirely clear exactly how it’s going to be spent yet, it won’t be spent all at once; it will slowly be addressed,” Emisle said.

Katz has created a committee to evaluate the ways the fees are being used and to make sure the money is being spent according to the website for Gordon Ford.

Although more money is being paid, the committee will only evaluate the uses for this year and will make recommendations next year.

**SEE GORDON PAGE A2**

Honors College and International Center open for some classes

BY ANDREW HENDERSON

Although the new Honors College and International Center will be operational come Sept. 25, others saw a little over 12 months, and they are currently in construction for a little over 12 months, and they are currently in.

Workers continue construction on the Honors College and International Center, Thursday, Aug. 20, 2015. The building will feature a third floor balcony, covered patio behind the building and benches adorned with inspirational quotes.

**SEE HONORS PAGE A2**

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1620 Can - 24 Pack $13.76
Russell said in an email. The building and a student community kitchen, couches, tables and chairs for study rooms,” Cobane said.

Craig Cobane expressed his excitement about a door,” he said. He said the building will also offer single occupancy, all-gender restrooms available for anyone’s use and has lockable doors for privacy.

One of the new features of the building is the addition of an international study. He said he was excited about the internationalization of their educational experience,” he said.

“Now everyone on campus will know where to go to internationalize their educational experience,” he said.

The building’s formal name is the Honors College and International Center. Cobane said while the shorthand is to call the building, it is actually the university’s headquarters.

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Hilligan’s denies under-lose their restaurant license.

To determine whether or not they will currently in court with the Alcoholic sense for a restaurant, Hilligan’s is bar and not a restaurant.”

cent of our sales had to be food, and we a bartender at Hilligan’s, said. “50 per-

restaurant license issue,” Bobby Ellis, at all.

side the restaurant. In fact, they have drinking age are no longer allowed in-

are under 21 may need to find a new WKU students, but those who

Runner, which was turned over to the WKu’s no. 1 source for campus news

While they still offer food on the Hilligan’s believes they will lose mon-

enough space so if there are any “walk-” students students who of the A few students who still can’t enjoy it. However, students

able to enjoy it. However, students

ey simply as a result of losing some of their clientele.

and Residence Life: a chance to move

find a surprising offer from Housing and Residence Life: a chance to move on

Courtney George, a Maysville Junior

and Honors College student, said she

"I don’t mind it personally. I know it’s temporary."

George said, however, the whole pro-

como seemed too complicated.

"It seems really redundant to put

on campus.

moves the students who had to be on campus be-

One other complication was the ongo-

Another complication was the ongo-

though some schools will sometimes

Another housing development that had some issues is the independent Midtown by Brookside. Midtown is an apartment development located just off campus, by the Alumni Center. Stu-

apartment development located just

In the future, Hilligan’s plans to

Hilligan’s believes they will lose mon-

enough space so if there are any “walk-” students students who of the A few students who still can’t enjoy it. However, students
Dressing for an A: how to dress for the Hill

THE ISSUE: Starting this semester, the Gordon Ford College of Business is asking students to pay a $15 fee per every credit hour.

OUR STANCE: With little information to go on, it seems as if this is a repetitive fee that has no immediate and direct impact.

I t’s no secret that college students are broke. With the cost of tuition and everyday needs, we tend to have very little left over. Surprising, students with an extra with fee and extra explanation create a lack of trust towards administrators.

The former provost and vice president of Academic Affairs, Gordon Emile, said this last Tuesday that the money collected through this fee goes to the roughly $600,000 estimated to be used in the college. These resources include job fairs, internships and free tutoring. The task force took their decision to the twelve members of the student advisory committee for approval, meaning only $2,700 of the roughly $600,000 estimated to be gained for the semester was represented.

Because this fee was implemented at the college level, as stated by Emile, it did not need to go through the university administration in order to be executed, and few students—the people directly affected by this—seem to have been consulted. Additionally, Emile noted, because the decision is made on the college level, there might be a chance that other colleges in the university could notice the amount of money being made and adopt their own student fees.

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Across
1 June celebrants
5 Biblical birthright seller
9 Gets the most out of 14 “Rent-”:
Reynolds/Minnelli film
15 Hip ’60s Brits
16 How spring rolls are often cooked
17 All there 18 “There’s no more to say!”
20 Suffer from unexpected slow sales, say
22 Spanish tar
23 Anticipated landing hr.
24 “Mayday!”
27 “Snow White” frame
29 Pollution control legislation
33 Thurman of “Playing for Keeps” (2012)
34 Binged (on), as chips
35 Snorkel user
36 Icy cover
38 Kilt, for one
41 Market section
42 Motrin alternative
44 Work on copy
46 One-up
47 Hub of the Broadway theater district
50 6’1”, 5’7”, etc.: Abbr.
51 Fair-hiring letters
52 Trif “T”
53 City in NW Pennsylvania
55 Disney theme park ... and a place for the ends of 20-, 29- and 47-Across?
60 Mistake in the cockpit
63 Fiery flow
64 Backspace, on a computer
65 Unit in an evidence locker
66 Elevator name
67 Campus books
68 Ollie’s chum
69 Multi-vol. library references
71 Bye that’s “bid”
79 Put in the wrong spot
80 Not domestic, flight-wise: Abbr.
81 Bath bathroom
82 White wine aperitif
83 “It’s not my fault!”
84 Thrown weapon
85 May birthstones
86 Cyber-shot maker
87 Nutritionist’s abbr.
88 Flat-changing tool
89 Ritzy properties
90 Seagull kin
91 Idiosyncrasies
92 “The Beautiful Girl”: 1973 #1 hit for Charlie Rich
93 Lit
94 Soft drink nut
95 Ancient Roman poet
96 Sunday service
97 Adopt-a-thon adoptee
98 Mad state
99 Opposite of strict

Down
1 Recipe smidgen
2 Berry from the Amazon rainforest
3 “It’s not my fault!”
4 Thrown weapon
5 May
6 Cyber-shot camera maker
7 Sums
8 Tournament in which Phil Mickelson was runner-up a record six times
9 Put in the wrong spot
10 Not domestic, flight-wise: Abbr.
11 Bath bathroom
12 White wine aperitif
13 Shifty
14 Put this on your calendar
15 Spotted cat
16 Bacon pieces
17 Like Erté’s art
18 “Put this on your calendar”
19 Spanish tar
20 Suffer from unexpected slow sales, say
21 Like Erté’s art
22 Spanish tar
23 Anticipated landing hr.
24 “Mayday!”
25 Spotted cat
26 Bacon pieces
27 Oversee, as a museum exhibit
28 Actor Estevez
29 Cartoon scream
30 Cartoon scream
31 City of Bowling Green
32 Get __ of: discard
33 Thurman of “Playing for Keeps” (2012)
34 Binged (on), as chips
35 Snorkel user
36 Icy cover
37 Holiday lead-in
38 Kilt, for one
40 Flat-changing tool
41 Market section
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SUDOKU

START

Note to Readers: The College Heights Herald screens ads for misleading or false claims but cannot guarantee any ad or claim. Please use caution when answering ads, especially when asked to send money or provide credit card information. The College Heights Herald is not responsible for the content or validity of these paid classified ads.


RIGHT: A fan looks up to watch R&B singer SoMo perform at the WKU M.A.S.T.E.R Plan concert Thursday, Aug. 20, 2015, at Diddle Arena in Bowling Green. Shaban Athuman/HERALD

Unbroken glow sticks rest in the hands of a sea of freshmen who file into the home side of Houchens-Industries L.T . Smith Stadium. WKU cheerleaders, Topperettes, the marching band and Big Red himself line the field. They begin to cheer, dance and play their instruments as the freshmen class respond with their own cheers for M.A.S.T.E.R. Plan’s kickoff on Sunday, Aug. 16. They collectively wave their red towels for the first time, signifying that their years as Hilltoppers have begun.

Since 1993, M.A.S.T .E.R. Plan has been used to integrate incoming freshmen into campus life through both educational and social events. Steve Briggs, assistant director for Housing and Residential Life, was at that first 1993 M.A.S.T .E.R. Plan as an administrator. He said it has been really neat to see the program evolve and advance over the years.

This year, M.A.S.T .E.R. Plan saw its largest class in years with over 2,000 freshmen. At the opening ceremony, students were divided into sorority recruitment teams to show more spirit than the other sororities. They shared cheers for their respective teams at the top of their lungs, trying to show more spirit than the other freshmen. The new Hilltoppers also jumped and cheered when each of their residence halls was called—proud of their new homes on the Hill.

When the cheering ceased, a mixture of nervousness and excitement flooded the faces of the coned. Augusta, Kentucky.

1. 15 sororities are a part of the panhellenic association at WKU
2. The Newest member of the group is Delta Zeta
3. 564 girls signed up for recruitment for fall 2015
4. There were 44 Phi Chis for fall 2015, six more than last year
FRESHMAN HAD TO RUSH

Rush is a stressful and exciting time for everyone involved, especially a native and freshman Felicia Thornsberry. “I was a tad nervous, but mostly excited,” she said.

Another incoming freshman, Ameena Kolb, from Louisville, had mixed feelings about rush. “I’m actually thrilled to be able to start college life, to kind of just find who I am versus who people want me to be,” she said.

The training to become a Pi Chi is an important part of the rush experience. “When you’re only having a five minute conversation with a girl,” Rice said, “It’s real awkward when your potential new members are around you and girls from my sorority walk by and I start to smile.” Patterson explained, “But then remember have to play it cool and pretend like I don’t even know who they are.”

One of Patterson’s main responsibilities is to provide advice to her group of the potential new members and to ensure that they remain positive during the process. “The best advice I can give is to look at yourself within the sorority and see if you are women to look up to,” Patterson stated. “Most of your week is to be like at the end of your four years.”

The training to become a Pi Chi is an important part of the rush experience. “I’m really excited to encompass all of the potential new members and to help them find their own home rather than pushing them to be a part of hers.”

“I decided to do M.A.S.T.E.R. Plan to step outside my comfort zone,” she said. “Coming to college is a very nerve-racking process.”

Student Government Association President Jay Todd Richey and President Gary Ransdell welcomed the incoming class by telling them, “Be all you can be—finish.” During the weekdays following the opening ceremony, students were greeted by their resident assistants providing them with a variety of college-level concerns, such as roommate relationships, money management and campus safety. Through out the evening, the class of 2019 was able to participate in a number of social events.

On Monday, during Big Reds Roar students were shuttled off to Preston Health and Activities Center, while other students could see “Last Comic Standing” semi-finalist Tracey Ashby at Van Meter Auditorium. Wednesday night offered GLOW Laser Tag for the M.A.S.T.E.R. Plan students. The magician Vince Charming also performed in DSU, while movie “Innuts” was screened on South Lawn.

Thursday closed with Meijer Mania, where students were shuttled off for free giveaways and live DJing at the new supersite. After the shopping adventures, Ball singer Seth closed the week with his captivating performance in Diddle Arena.

Bradford Higdon, the department co-chair of the advisory board for Western Leaders and a Mt. Washington, Kentucky, junior, is excited to see what the incoming freshman will accomplish in the future. “I think they’re going to be a great class. They’re all super, super pumped all the time,” he said.

“Marcel Mayo contributed to this report.”

PCh

AUGUST 25, 2015

The Pi Chis start a soft disassociation process at the end of the spring semes-
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helped support her in finding a chap-
ter that she can call home.

she decided torush because she
desires to be a part of a home away
domestic and freshman Felicia Thorns-

According to the Honors College and the Study Abroad and Global Launching program, however, for Louisville freshman Kerstin Boyd, M.A.S.T.E.R. Plan did not

In the classroom, Boyd, a native and freshman Felicia Thornsberry was a tad nervous, but mostly excited, to find herself in college. “I’m actually thrilled to be able to start college life, to kind of just find who I am versus who people want me to be,” she said.

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Easter traditions revived in August

BY SAVANNAH NEDDO HERALDFEATURES@WKU.EDU

A vibrant display of intricately decorated eggs lines the tables of the Kentucky Museum. Though it may not be April, these eggs are a Ukrainian Easter tradition known for their coating of beeswax and elaborate written designs.

On Saturday, Aug. 22, the Kentucky Museum opened its doors to 12 participants to dabble in their egg decorating skills at the Pysanky Workshop. The Kentucky Museum often hosts workshops that encourage WKU students and Bowling Green community members to expand their minds in historical, as well as artistic activities.

"I am trying to open the community to different types of art forms," museum clerk Lynne Ferguson said.

At the workshop, Susan Calloway Nimersheim led the participants through the egg decorating techniques. Nimersheim has a Bachelor of Fine Arts degree in art from WKU.

Decorating Easter eggs is not a typical art form—especially for the fall; however, Nimersheim believes that the time of year is irrelevant to expressing creativity through any art form.

"Why wouldn't you decorate Easter eggs in the fall?" Nimersheim said. "It is an outlet and an escape that has helped me get out of my head."

Pysanky derives from the Ukrainian verb pysaty, meaning "to write," which depicts the way these eggs are decorated. Each participant is required to bring three uncooked eggs. The decorative medium of beeswax is provided.

The intricate and unique designs are symbols for things in everyday life, and each carries a different message. Participants are given creative freedom to decide how they want their eggs to look.

Traditionally, these eggs are made for Easter; however, they can also be given to people on their wedding days as a symbol of good luck. The art form originated in the 18th century and transformed into an Easter egg tradition when Christianity was born.

Now, pysanky has become a rare art form. Workshop participant Susan Anderson commuted from Nashville to rekindle her love for pysanky egg-dying.

Anderson, originally from Ukraine, says her earliest childhood memories are from admiring the eggs locked away on her grandmother's mantelpiece.

"My grandmother died before I was born and I wanted to find a way to reconnect to my family and keep the tradition of pysanky going for another generation," Anderson explained.

While the art form of pysanky egg decorating may slowly be dying out, artists like Anderson, Nimersheim and Ferguson are still vying to keep the tradition alive.

Welcome back Architectural & Manufacturing Science students! We're looking forward to a GREAT 2015-2016 school year!
Craft brewers Bliss Ave Brewing Co. excited for what's to come

When Louisville native Rob Coffey decided to turn his home-brewing hobby into a business, he never really thought it would lead him to a prime location by downtown Bowling Green's Fountain Square Park.

After meeting and marrying Madisonville native and Bliss Ave owners Jennifer Coffey, the Coffeys decided to set up shop in a former wholesale craft beer zone was to open a brewery in their hometown. He and his party were "hershey hopping" on a Saturday night, starting at Bliss Ave Brewing Company.

"People are a fan of craft beer because they have "invested their time and energy into making the beers, so it seems like a more personal experience than just going to place 1 just distributing other people's beers."

The company has one beer on tap, a Hefeweizen called Monkey Band. They are hard to supplement with a variety of guest craft brews due to delayed construction of the interior.

The brewery's location, situated at 401 Park Row, hasn't been utilized in over 10 years. According to Bob Coffey, the space was still covered in gravel the past March.

"We were supposed to get the building ready and finished in mid-June, but we actually ended up getting it open in a month and a half before we opened," Jennifer Coffey said.

"Because of this, we started four weeks of brewing time prior to opening day was unable to happen," Coffey said. "Because of this, we were able to start our first batch for the season.

Russellville, or come here for drinks after dinner," he said. "It's that target market we were competing with Budweiser and the other big ones."

"If they were competing with anyone, they were competing with Budweiser and the other big ones."

"We need small steps to help people realize that we all are human."

"People should feel comfortable using the restroom. This is one step to make campus and the world a better place," Jennifer Coffey said.

"I want to make the beers that I want to make. I want to target that group. We want to expand their available offerings," Bob Coffey said.

"We have a lot of people that will come in that have just been to White Squire, or come here for drinks after dinner," he said. "It's that target market that we are able to make the same thing over and over again."
Dance Department lacks leadership for the fall semester

BY DAVID CAMARGO
HERALD FEATURES@WKU.EDU

After the recent $7.9 million university budget cut, the WKU Dance Department has also experienced a few cuts of its own. For the fall 2015 semester, three out of five professors in the department have left WKU to seek employment elsewhere.

Former department professors Eric Rivera, Angelica Rivera and Lisa Draskovich will not be returning to WKU for the upcoming semester. However, two newcomers, Meghan McKinley and Kylene Stephens, will be joining staff this fall.

Although there are now only three department positions to be filled, the lack of professors has left some dance department majors with a feeling of uneasiness.

Louisville Junior Heather Moore is disappointed to see her favorite professors, Eric and Angelica Rivera, leave the hill. 

“They were wonderful! They were two of my favorite teachers in the theatre and dance department,” Moore said. Moore is also worried that the new professors will have a tough transition into the department and working with current students.

“I know I am personally worried about the new professors not being familiar with our abilities,” said Moore.

Other dance majors, like Kokomo, Indiana, senior Sara Pecina, are excited to start working with the new dance instructors.

“They will be able to offer new, individual perspectives and I am eager to see what their classes will be like,” Pecina said.

that the quality of productions will go down.

Bowling Green Junior Jasmine Murillo, a frequent audience member of WKU productions, is worried that productions this year will be less enjoyable.

“It might be bad because dance and theatre majors, who were so close to the other teachers, may not be as dedicated now,” Murillo said.

If the production quality goes down, a decline of attendance could follow suit. Since the productions generate revenue for the department, a deficit could lead to more cuts within the already lacking dance staff.

Current dance students like Moore are hoping that new professors, McKinley and Stephens, will offer the expertise and individual attention to keep the productions running smoothly.

“It will be a little more difficult to receive as much attention as before since classes will be a little bigger,” said Moore.

Only time will tell how the dance classes and department-led productions fare over the fall 2015 semester.
The “International Year Of” series will continue its second year of cultural enhancement with South Africa as the 2015-2016 country. The “International Year Of” series selects countries based on university partnerships, study abroad opportunities and interests of the campus’ staff and faculty, according to Katherine Paschetto, programming coordinator in the Office of International Programs.

WKU aims to educate students, staff and faculty on how to be internationally connected and to apply it in their lives as well as in the classroom.

Students are thrilled South Africa is the focus of the “IYO” series this year.

“I'm really excited that WKU is showing more interest in our culture,” Nashville junior Michelle Egbujor said.

Egbujor is a first-generation Nigerian student and treasurer of African Student Union. She believes the focus on South Africa will dispel negative perceptions people on the campus may have about Africa.

“I was hesitant to go to South Africa this past May,” Saundra Ardrey, associate professor and the political science department head, said. “When I was growing up Mandela was in jail and apartheid was a serious matter.” Ardrey will be coordinating a study abroad trip to South Africa this school year. This study abroad trip will help achieve her promise made during the Zuheir Sofia Endowed International Faculty Seminar (ZSEIFS) to implement her newfound knowledge into the campus community. Ardrey and her counterparts studied South Africa for a year before they traveled there in May 2015.

“Braais are the cornerstone of South African culture,” Paschetto said. The event will be held in Centennial Mall on Sept. 10 from 1 p.m. until 3 p.m.

“Students can expect to discover South Africa in several ways this academic year—not only through a wide range of events, but also through their academic courses and in the community,” Paschetto said.
Despite shaky start, Lady Toppers excited for new challenges

VOLLEYBALL

Lady Toppers ready for new season

BY MATTHEW STEWART HERALD.SPORTS@WKU.EDU

The 2014 season was a year of firsts for the WKU Volleyball team. The Hilltoppers defeated their first ranked FBS team. The Hilltoppers defeated their first ranked FBS opponent (No. 19 Marshall), featuring their first ranked FBS opponent. The Hilltoppers defeated their first ranked FBS opponent.

WKU’s Nicole Roseland (33) battles to get the ball away from University of Tennessee-Martin’s Zara Musker (5) during the Lady Toppers’ 3-1 win over UT Martin in the season opener Friday, Aug. 21, 2015, at the WKU Soccer Complex.

The Lady Toppers are set high for the upcoming season, with a win against eighth ranked Purdue. The Lady Toppers are ready for the season. I think that this season will be a turning point for the team.

The Lady Toppers spent most of August in preseason camp, which consisted of two-week practices for the majority of the month. Practices featured attention in technique, schemes, team bonding and physical conditioning.

The team spent a large amount of time building team chemistry with a new group of freshmen, which will be crucial to the team’s success on the court.

The freshmen include goalkeeper Kasey Vincent, middlefielder Megan Morris, middlefielder Elle Young, forward Katie Strand, forward Hannah Cady, midfielder Callen Rogers and goalkeeper Nicole Roseland.

“The freshmen have also really been welcomed nicely,” Neidell said. “The upperclassmen have really stepped up their intensity level.”

Cady is one freshman in particular who is making her presence known on the Hilltoppers, bringing a goal and an assist in the team’s 3-1 win over UT Martin.

“The Hilltoppers feel this season could be their best. They have 21-17 over the past season, which was the best season in school history. The 2015 Hilltoppers feel like they can do better than that.”

A confident group of student-athletes who are ready for the season, I think that this season will be a turning point for the team. Head Coach Jeff Brohm said, “We want some pressure to be put on us to succeed and win at a high level and I think that is what this program needs. We need to continue to move forward and take that next step and I think with the schedule and the challenges ahead of us, we have to play at a high level to win.”

Experience plays a key role in why the Hilltoppers feel this season could be their best. They have 21-17 over the past season, which was the best season in school history.

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a leader and always make the right choices, do the right things, and show them the right track. Whether it be verbal or nonverbal, just by your actions, I've taken control of the role and I've worked hard to lead this team into battle.

The offense isn't the only side of the ball that is exciting Hilltopper fans for the 2015 season. The defense has already started turning heads at training camp. Returning nine defensive starters, depth and leadership are two qualities that the coaching staff hope improves a unit that ranked near the bottom in all statistical categories last season.

Key defensive players include Terry, a Second Team All-Conference USA selection; Rocker, who lead all defensive linemen with 45 tackles and 5.5 sacks last season; and lineman with 45 tackles and 15 sacks for loss. The duo combined for 108 tackles and 15 tackles for loss in 2015.

"On the defensive side, we have some great leaders that showed today," defensive coordinator Holt said after WKU's second scrimmage of the fall.

"It was a little hot and guys were a little cranky early, but then some of the seniors picked some kids up and the day ended on a good note. This last week I've really seen some of our seniors become leaders. A couple on the defensive line, a few senior line-

backers and good young leaders which is critical to any program. Expectations have begun to grow for WKU. USA Today ranked every FBS team going into 2015, and the Hilltoppers stand currently at 37, in the state of Kentucky behind Louisville at 28 and ahead of UK at 37. If we can make some progress, everything is possible, but that's the potential that's in there."
A operating budget, it may not stay afloat. It may not even look like there is a budget currently, the Athletic Department announced on Aug. 20 that WKU has been hit with a $1.03 million in projected spending, despite only anticipating $1.14 million in total revenue for the fiscal year.

This means that along with marginal subsidies from the NCAA, the university will have to pump around $1.6 million into their athletics program to sustain it. A $1.4 million dollars is a chunk of money, but in comparison to WKU’s nearly $400 million dollar operating budget, it may not seem like that much.

However, in a fiscal year that sees Academic Affairs trim students, students, and WKU’s Board of Regents members. "I know that we have committed to pay the scholarships to those students," said WKU's Athletics Director Todd Stewart.

"We have been very careful not to renege on that money right now because if you reallocate it and the program comes back, then we will have to pull it from somewhere else," Stewart did note that several students and athletes will still be paid because of the university agreed to continue to honor scholarships for where we are and where we want to go." According to Jenkins, the team hopes to go in the new season with a positive mind-set, stressing determination, hard work, and discipline to achieve their goal of success.

Athletics funding, subsidies in question
By JONAH PHILLIPS & BILLY RUTLEDGE

The 2015-2016 athletics budget currently sits at $23.3 million in projected spending despite only anticipating $23 million in total revenue for the fiscal year.

This means that along with marginal subsidies from the NCAA, the university will have to pump around $1.6 million into their athletics program to sustain it. A $1.4 million dollars is a chunk of money, but in comparison to WKU’s nearly $400 million dollar operating budget, it may not seem like that much.

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Jenkins keen on Palmer addition, experience
Complete skills & experience
Head Coach Erik Jenkins

"Palmer’s skill set and experience made him the right choice for the WKU program, coupled with his knowledge of the sport and experience as an athlete, has brought something new to the equation. He brings a lot of enthusiasm to the team. He is a guy that will work well with our staff and can recruit well. He understands the sport across the board and has an outstanding grasp on distance running since he was a distance runner himself," Jenkins said.

"And so we are really just looking forward to putting a good show through the year." Several Big 12 nations have come back from (Hinken) this season, Jenkins said. This season the men will have a strong lineup of talent. The WKU men's cross country team will look to its season as an athlete, has brought something new to the equation. He brings a lot of enthusiasm to the team. He is a guy that will work well with our staff and can recruit well. He understands the sport across the board and has an outstanding grasp on distance running since he was a distance runner himself," Jenkins said. "And so we are really just looking forward to putting a good show through the year." Several Big 12 nations have come back from (Hinken) this season, Jenkins said. This season the men will have a strong lineup of talent. The WKU men's cross country team will look to its

...
In addition to a massive roster overhaul, the coaching staff has also seen a shakeup, with Head Coach Matt Myers bringing in four new coaches at different assistant capacities to account for the departure of four assistant instructors including Lawrence Brenman.

Following a disappointing fifth-place finish in the Conference USA last season, change was certainly called for—but to think that the change was certainly called for—the end result still isn’t what it needs to be.” Stewart hopes investments will reverse “downward trend” from last season, combining with only eight familiar faces from last season, combining the student-athletes and the coaching staff, leaves Hiltoppers fans wondering what to expect. And that is a completely legitimate question. No one knows what to expect from a coach after a head coach that has more face new faces and a team roster in the same situation.

Yet Harper has already started to make changes, with Head Coach Michelle Clark-Heard inheriting, “I think that is the legitimate question: the men’s team has done this from scratch, we have higher goals than to just make it to the NCAA tournament, we want to do everything he can to keep Clark-Heard on the Hill. That’s what Ray is working to do everything he can to keep her here as long as we can so she can continue to build on that.”

So rather than rotating the coaching staff and floating out what will work the best, as the men’s team has done this, Stewart knows this, and while he says it is flattering to have other programs interested in your coaches, he wants to do everything he can to keep Clark-Heard on the Hill. "If you look at it from a competitive standpoint, she inherited a program that had 21 losses. This past year we won 21 games, and there have only been three teams in the history of Western Kentucky basketball, men's or women's, that have won 30 games.” Stewart said. “So that is what she has done and certainly we want to keep her here as long as we can so she can continue to build on that.”

When WKU Athletic Director Todd Stewart made the decision not to renew head coach Matt Myers’ contract at the end of last season, he made a bold move to bring WKU baseball back to the winning ways it once had under Bill Muskovitch. For Stewart, promise of a $1.5 million dollar payout because the coach was not “terminated with cause,” according to his contract. The payout is equal to Myers’ roughly $125,000 yearly salary. “For us, looking at the bios of the last two head coaches, the at the time we hired him the biggest reason that he was our choice was because he had 14 years of head coaching experience. He has been to multiple NCAA tournaments both as a head coach and assistant coach.” That experience WKU is investing in, coming from several different channels, but if trans- lated correctly and installed properly, that experience should help the program in an instant, “It means a lot to me to be the head coach here,” Stewart said. “It means a lot to me to be the head coach here.”

Stewart makes the decision to try to bring WKU into the 2015-2016 season as a shakeup, with Head Coach Michelle Clark-Heard as the head coach so that is what Ray Harper inherited,” Stewart said. “When you take a broad view 6-11 at the time and we were pulling in more revenue,” Stewart said. “I believe that’s what photography is doing that in the Conference USA. As a team, we have higher goals than just rotating the coaching staff and floating out what will work the best, as the men’s team has done this. From what support we have been able to generate; we need to improve attendance there—that is not her fault certainly by any stretch or our players, we just need to get more people at the games,” Stewart said. “I think if we do that, than that’s the only piece that’s missing.”