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WKU Student Affairs

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Faculty requests data from admin.

BY SHELBY ROGERS
NEWS@WKHERALD.COM

In a unique turn of events, members of the faculty are requesting information from the WKU administration. The Budget and Finance committee reported in the most recent faculty senate meeting that it's looking into the financial situation and the costs involved. The faculty members expressed their concerns about the transparency of the university's financial situation.

Andrew West, the chairman of the Budget and Finance committee, said that the committee is in the process of reviewing the university's financial statements. He said that the university is facing potential problems in funding last week's student work studies, and it uses those funds along with institutional/financial aid money to pay its student workers. Since President Barack Obama has yet to declare the Kentucky storm a state of emergency, WKU has no guarantee of federal support in funding last week's student pay.

The caveat changed the debate from whether or not WKU would receive federal funds to whether or not WKU needed to be willing to front the full cost of paying students for last week's scheduled hours.

Students use air waves to broadcast Spanish speaking program

Students use air waves to broadcast Spanish speaking program

HABLAñESPOñOL

Students use air waves to broadcast Spanish speaking program

PHOTOS AND STORY BY NICK WAGNER

F or more than a decade, the American dream wasn’t even a tangible thought for Mexican immigrants and WKU students Carlos Zavaleta and Alejandra Valadez Rodriguez. Zavaleta immigrated to Nashville with his family at age 10, while Valadez Rodriguez moved to Franklin, Tennessee when she was 15. The two would live their prepubescent and teenage lives with the thought of deportation forever in their minds. Either of their families could’ve been ripped apart by a simple traffic stop.

“I was scared for my parents,” Valadez Rodriguez said. “I was scared for my parents, for my family, and for the future. There was a probability that if they were deported, it could’ve been at any time.”

Rodriguez moved to Franklin, Tennessee in 2002.

Brazilian-born Zavaleta immigrated to Nashville with his family at age 10, while Valadez Rodriguez moved to Franklin, Tennessee when she was 15.

The two would live their prepubescent and teenage lives with the thought of deportation forever in their minds. Either of their families could’ve been ripped apart by a simple traffic stop.
The university decided the means to allow them to be paid for hours that would be getting paid for the missed work week," Burnette said. "We get paid every two weeks, so getting reduced by half, we would have to reduce our groceries just to make ends meet."
WKU to host Republican gubernatorial debate

BY ANDREW HENDERSON

While the majority of WKU’s campus was dealing with frigid temperatures, ice-covered sidewalks and roads and the threat of black ice, the Christian Student Fellowship suffered a flood of problems of its own.

Saturday night, Feb. 21, the basement area of the CSF building was causing water to pour out into the basement.

Frank said they had sustained irreplaceable damage and had to remove the carpet due to contamination. Their equipment used for wor-ship services, such as the projector, were reported as damaged at this time. They are in the process of cleaning up the flood and have made arrangements to clean up the basement.

“Our early estimate is $30,000,” freshman pastor, said he got the call about the flooding while he was at a student informing him that sewage had mixed with the water that flooded the basement.

Chris Ayers, associate pastor, said he got the call around 4 a.m. and drove to the campus to assess the damage.

He said that CSF would hold an event on campus that night after the flooding, he assured everyone that the church would be prayerful and continue to help people who had been affected by the flood.

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Saturday night, Feb. 21, the basement area of the CSF building was causing water to pour out into the basement.

Frank said that sewage had mixed with the water that flooded the basement.

Ayers said that the flooding would not affect the upcoming concert. He said that he has told students not to worry about the flooding and to focus on the concert in efforts to raise money for HOTEL INC.

Despite the somewhat grim circumstances surrounding the flood, CSF all three men were in agreement that this mark for a higher purpose and the best thing to do is pray.

“We're looking for more hours and donations to get us back,” Wilkins said.

BY TYLER PROCHAZKA

Another significant event that CSF faces the issue of is its Tuesday worship services.

“We're looking for man hours and donations to get us back,” Wilkins said.

The basement of the Christian Student Fellowship building flooded Saturday morning and is currently in the process of being cleaned up.

"Big thing right now would be prayer," Wilkins said.
FISHY BUSINESS: ADMINISTRATION NEEDS NEW BAIT

According to the Center for Disease Control, more than one-third (78.6 million) of the adults in the United States are obese. In 2013, Kentucky was ranked fifth in self-reported obesity statistics with several states trailing behind. When seeking refuge from this devious, eating health concern that has touched almost half of our society, it is imperative to look at what we are putting into our bodies. Although obesity can be genetics, it is caused from not taking the proper nutrition into our bodies. We can begin to solve this epidemic by starting right here at WKU.

The most well-known healthy options offered on campus are Subway and The Fresh Food Company. These two selections, although offering healthy choices, lack diverse foods that are needed for students to continue to eat there. Eating a sandwich every day is sure to bore anyone. The Fresh Food Company, being the healthiest option for students, does not provide meals that are always appealing.

While the nutritious choices on campus seem slim, there are many ways to accomplish staying healthy. Almost every food place on campus offers healthier alternatives to the things that are already on their menus. For example, Chick-Fil-A includes a grilled chicken sandwich option that is found on the menu. My first guess would be the “fishers of men” example, going to extreme lengths to increase the number of students attending WKU. My second guess would be a几招 to cover up, casting their hooks deep into the sea of alums and Commonwealth community—just yearning for a bite.

The problem, though, lies in the community—just yearning for a bite. A university with ongoing construction for new installations, professors driven goals, a handful of buildings falling apart and a penchant for relying on tuition increases for the exact amount of money it costs to maintain it, exactly, isn’t exactly seen too tasty. The saying goes “catch a man to fish, you’ll feed him for a lifetime.” This is an all call for someone to buy the administration a new tackle box—its tools could use a tune-up before their next trip.

CHECKING UP

Conscious choices for better living

According to the Center for Disease Control, more than one-third (78.6 million) of the adults in the United States are obese. In 2013, Kentucky was ranked fifth in self-reported obesity statistics with several states trailing behind. When seeking refuge from this devious, eating health concern that has touched almost half of our society, it is imperative to look at what we are putting into our bodies. Although obesity can be genetics, it is caused from not taking the proper nutrition into our bodies. We can begin to solve this epidemic by starting right here at WKU.

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Based on the text, the main points are:

1. The need for healthier food options on campus.
2. The lack of diverse and appealing options.
3. The problem lies in the community's appetite for healthy food.
4. An all call for someone to provide healthier alternatives.

The article highlights the need for improvements in the campus food options to address health concerns and promote better nutrition. The author suggests that the administration should take action by providing healthier alternatives to students to help combat obesity and improve overall health.
Classified Advertising Manager: Ashley Edwards
advertising@wkuherald.com

HELP WANTED

AllStar Photo Labs is seeking a qualified part-time graphic design person to work in our lab/design area. Qualified candidate will have a good working knowledge of CS4 or higher. Start training this month with flexible hours and a good work environment. Please send resume to: Richard@4allstar.com or call 270-781-6511 ext 2.

AllStar Sports Photography is seeking photographers, photographer trainees and coordinators. Must be able to relate well with children and work as a team. We furnish equipment and transportation. Experienced photographers earn up to $4/hr per hour including travel time. This is seasonal work and primarily on Saturdays. Please send resume to Richard@4allstar.com or call 270-781-6511 x2.

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Customer Service Representative
Post and Spa Depot is looking for an open and outgoing team player. Someone who enjoys helping customers one on one. Position is full-time and weekends required. Compensation includes both hourly wages and commissions. Please apply in person. 1020 Williams Court, Bowling Green, KY.

Pool and Spa Depot is seeking an open and outgoing team player. Someone who enjoys helping customers one on one. Position is full-time and weekends required. Compensation includes both hourly wages and commissions. Please apply in person: 1830 Wallace Court, Bowling Green, KY.

Professional Dog Breeding Kennel in search of P.T. kennel assistant -including Saturdays- MUST LOVE DOGS. Ag students preferred. email resume to: job1498@yahoo.com

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Accross
1 Pharmacy purchase
5 Figure (out), slangily
9 Early Yucatan settlers
14 German “a”
15 Irish New Age singer
19 “Star Trek” lieutenant
20 Trophy prized by actors
21 Watermelon eater’s discard
23 Austin-to-Baton Rouge direction
24 Flat hat with a pompon
26 40 polos?
28 Football club based in Lombardy
32 Many a casino visitor
33 Bank offering
34 Kelly of morning TV
37 Moral code
39 Texter’s “Horrors!”
40 4 tire inserts?
42 Squeeze (out)
43 Local news hr.
45 Mix
46 ESPN analyst
47 Wife of Abraham
49 Chatty gathering
51 600 stand-ups?
54 Plea at sea, briefly
55 “Sadly…”
56 Pouty expression
58 Repetitive musical piece
62 ACC team with a turtle mascot

Down
1 Geometric art style
2 Frees (of)
3 Like the word “waitress,” briefly
4 Gummy bear ingredient
5 Susan of “L.A. Law”
6 Small bills
7 Oven-safe brand
8 Stand in a painting class
9 East Lansing sch.
10 Nonreligious sort
11 Mall directory words
12 Bombing missions
13 Sings like Ella
14 ShrinKen Asian sea
16 Broadband initials
18 Harry and “…Home Alone” bad guys
20 Harry and …Home Alone” bad guys
22 Broadband initials
24 Ground breakers
28 Plenty
29 Fesses up
30 Document sealed by King John in 1215
31 Petty peeves
35 Salt (away
36 “Not…” deal
38 Boston NiAer
40 Islamic prayer leader
41 Notable periods
44 Thrive
46 In some respects
48 That guy
49 Notable periods
50 Five-time Wimbledon champ Bjorn
51 Goes on with
52 Pause punctuation
53 Khartoum’s land
57 Cut a line from, say
59 Well-kept
60 Computer giant
61 Norway’s most populous city
63 NBC comedy staple
65 Some Bronx trains

The Fun Page

SUDOKU

Start Here

Previous Crossword Solution

James Madison
Olive Chace
Bonnie P. Brown
George H. W. Bush
India Teas
Golden Maggie
Fever Dish
Chef Great Asu
Myself Lewis
Keats Irall
Team Driver

You made it!

FEBRUARY 26, 2015
A5
WKUHERALD.COM

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Khin Maung Nyunt, 77, is a political refugee from Burma. Nyunt was a captain in the Burmese Army. He soon, however, joined the ranks of the growing numbers of protestors in Burma in the 1960s after believing the military was brainwashing him. He was thrown in military prison for three years without trial.

After being released, Nyunt fled Burma in 1972 for Thailand, where he became an English teacher. He and his wife moved to the United States 10 years ago and became a part of the Foster Grandparent program, a program that provides volunteers age 55 and over with opportunities to serve their community.

He volunteers at the Migrant Head Start Child Care program in Bowling Green. He assists teacher Critina Neighbor in the classroom. The children refer to Nyunt as ‘Grandpa Jimmy.’

On top of this, Nyunt also focuses his time on taking care of his wife, who recently had both hips replaced. The couple also recently discovered she has glaucoma and needs eye surgery, but due to the recent snow storm, had to push back the appointment.

Khin Maung Nyunt sits outside during Kathina, the offering of the robes to Buddhist monks, marking the end of the rainy season in Burma, on Nov. 1, 2014 at the Buddhist Temple in Bowling Green. “Burma was once the rice bowl of Southeast Asia,” Nyunt said. “I was brain washed by the dictator that the military was saving the people, but then day-by-day I noticed the poor condition of the people.”

Felix Pascual, 4, answers ‘Grandpa Jimmy’s’ questions about the colors of the objects in front of them, Oct. 31, 2014. Nyunt’s first language is Burmese and his second language is English, but he helps teach a class to Spanish-speaking children. “As a survivor I became a teacher. We take care of these kids as if they are our own,” Nyunt said. “We have an obligation to give back to our society before we die.”

A feast of traditional Burmese food is offered to five Buddhist monks, while Khin Maung Nyunt, an elder, prays on Nov. 1, 2014 at the Buddhist Temple in Bowling Green.

Photos and story by Nicole Boliaux

‘Grandpa Jimmy’

Khin Maung Nyunt explains the difference between a noun and a pronoun to his class of four Burmese Bowling Green residents in the Creekwood apartments in Bowling Green on Feb. 8. Nyunt recently started teaching English to Burmese residents in his community every Saturday and Sunday morning.

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Part-time faculty proclaims rich passion for theater

BY ANNA LAWSON

Even since she saw her first Broadway show, “The Phantom of the Opera,” when she was four-years-old, Elise Iannuzzi knew she wanted to be on a stage. Five years after seeing “Phantom of the Opera,” Iannuzzi auditioned for one of the orphans. She said she was nervous of a stage even at a young age, she was never even at a stage.

“I was hooked. We bought the cast recording, and back then it was still a recording, and back then it was still a recording,” she said.

“I've never gotten stage fright on tape, so I would listen to it over and over,” she said.

“I'm passionate about being in theater,” she said. “You have to have a certain mentality when you do theater. You have to enjoy it. There isn't enough money to do it for any other reason.”

Five years after seeing “Phantom of the Opera,” Iannuzzi auditioned for her first show, “ Annie” and got the part of one of the orphans. She said even at a young age, she was never nervous of a stage.

“I've never gotten stage fright”

Thai Express: a sweet experience of national fare

BY JOHN GREER

Thai Express located on US 31W Bypass features many dishes, including the vegetarian Pad Thai with mixed vegetables and fried tofu. The restaurant also carries an assortment of bubble teas— a pearl tea mixed with fruit or milk with tapioca pearls.

The restaurant keeps the booths and tables bare, and contemporary pop music still hums in the background.

That ubiquitous national chain, Pad Thai, was available in several different permutations. Opting for the vegetarian version might have seemed like a rather boring route. The meat was not missed. The restaurant iscribe a sizzling of vegetables, a sweet of rice noodles and a medley of vegetables.

JONES PAGE B2

Wesley Grider, a nationally known poet and professor at TTU, will be the guest poet and judge of the annual Goldenrod poetry contest, hosted by the English Club.

An alumnus of WKU, Jones is a BuzzFeed LGBT editor and a recipient of the Pushcart Prize. His Twitter, @theferocity, was ranked by TIME Magazine as one of the best of 2014.

He is the author of the collection “Pedal to Brakes,” released in September of 2014. His poems deal with race, sexuality and life in the South.

While his poems aren’t autobiographi- cal, they are inspired by his life experi- ences as a gay, black man growing up in the South. This collection was one of the five finalists for the National Book Critics Circle’s poetry award, the winner of which will be announced March 12.

“We’re grateful we got him locked down before his schedule starts filling up like crazy, as it undoubtedly will from all this exposure,” Eryn Karmiller, vice president of the English Club.

Jones will aid the English Club in deciding the winners of the Goldenrod poetry contest. The English Club will choose the top 10 submissions, and of those, Jones will pick the top three. The top three will each get a certificate and a modest cash prize; the first-place winner gets $30; second place gets $20 and third place gets $10.

As part of his visit, Jones will lead a workshop for the 10 contest finalists prior to his reading. The finalists, as well as the Creative Writing Faculty and members of the English Club, will then accompany him for dinner. The finalists will read their poems at his reading, where he will decide the winners.

Eryn Karmiller, vice president of the English Club, said she’s pleased such an acclaimed poet is coming to WKU.

“Almost immediately after we nailed him down as our guest poet, he was named one of five finalists for the prestigious National Book Critics Circle Award for his latest poetry collection, ‘Preclude to Brakes,’ and had a piece published by the New York Times,” she said. “We’re grateful we got him locked down before his schedule starts filling up like crazy, as it undoubtedly will from all this exposure.”

Karmiller said as a result of his recent “buzz,” anticipation of a larger attendance.

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Dick Cantrell called the Hill home for 47 years before he retired, nearly twice as long as the average lifespans of WKU administrators to other WKU students as well. Iannuzzi was also hired at WKU as an Art Theatre Appreciation instructor this semester, and said it is one of her goals to inspire students to pursue acting. "I can direct," she said. "I can act. I can sing. I can do it all with kids. But this is a completely different monster. It's my first year doing this."

Her mother says that she enjoys teaching both college students as well as theatre professionals. "I am just so proud of her," Stuart said. "She loses being involved with youth theater and involved in the university setting, I know she is thrilled to be teaching."
Documentarian to show film on feminism

BY JESSICA VOORHEES

The emotional filmmaker Jennifer Lee is the director of “Not Your Typical Woman,” a new documentary that offers a glimpse into the women’s liberation movement in the 20th century. The film, which premieres at 10 a.m. March 3, and is sponsored by the department of Diversity and Community Studies, explores the lives of women who were ahead of their time. The final season, which aired Monday, March 1, featured the character Leslie Knope, a woman known for her hard work and maintaining the sanctity of public service. Knope is a complete role model for women, including young girls who want to be change makers.

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Outdoor Leadership Program helps students develop survival skills

BY SAMANTHA WRIGHT
NEWS@WKUHERALD.COM

Most classes incorporate group projects into their curriculum. Only one blindfolds the entire class as a part of the lesson plan.

Chloe Carr, a sophomore from Harrisburg, Illinois and a student in the Outdoor Leadership Program, said she enjoys the course because it is a direct approach to learning wilderness skills.

“There are a lot of hard, physical skills that are taught in these classes,” she said. “I enjoy the more hands-on approach.”

The Outdoor Leadership Program has existed since 1991, as part of the Recreation Administration School of Kinesiology, Recreation and Sport.

Its first course was a Wilderness Stewardship course that ran for 4-14 days in the field. Then in 2006, an Outdoor Leadership Program minor was formed, which included a professional immersion semester, where students spent around 30 days engaged in assorted expeditions.

The program for the minor is highly competitive, with only 12 students accepted each semester, to form a cohort.

“Competitive, with only 12 students accepted each semester to form a cohort,” said Carr. “It worked. I was one of 12 of us — with climbing rope, some of the blindfolded victims. However, we did it in less than 20 minutes, which is impressive.”

“I think is impressive.”

The program allows students to gain certification in many areas, such as Wilderness First Responders, NOLS Trainers and Kentucky Water Watch Certification. It also includes service projects that give back to the community, such as trail maintenance and river cleanups.

Students keep a journal and participate in daily debriefings. They also take part in peer review. Classes are held in Diddle Arena, and students take regular field trips that can last anywhere from an hour to a full day.

Steve Spencer, one of the instructors for the Outdoor Leadership Program, said the program fulfills many uses.

“Leadership training is for folks desiring outdoor REC positions—but teaches life skills that benefit all,” he said. “Well, one of the things a lot of research has been done lately on is this idea of the importance of nature in people’s well-being and the connection to the natural environment,” she said.

“Leadership Training is for folks desiring outdoor REC positions—but teaches life skills that benefit all,” he said.

“By completing this program, I hope to feel more confident in my abilities as not only an outdoor leader, but a sure decision maker in everyday life,” Carr said. “Also, we cook and are forced to be creative in our backcountry cooking. This is a huge motivator to learn to cook well for me, things other than rabbit and rice.”

As for being blindfolded, Carr said the activity was an experience she won’t be forgetting soon.

“The first day of class, I didn’t know who anyone was, but we played a name game,” Carr said. “Immediately afterwards, we were tied together—all 12 of us — with climbing rope, some of us blindfolded or a leg tied up, and sent from the second floor of Diddle Arena to DUC to spend $12 at a vending machine.”

For Carr’s group, the trust exercise served its purpose.

“It was a trust and team building exercise,” she said. “I believe that you are only as strong as the weakest in your group,” she said. “It worked, I was one of the blindfolded victims. However, we did it in less than 20 minutes, which I think is impressive.”

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“The first day of class, I didn’t know who anyone was, but we played a name game,” Carr said. “Immediately afterwards, we were tied together—all 12 of us — with climbing rope, some of us blindfolded or a leg tied up, and sent from the second floor of Diddle Arena to DUC to spend $12 at a vending machine.”

For Carr’s group, the trust exercise served its purpose.

“It was a trust and team building exercise,” she said. “I believe that you are only as strong as the weakest in your group,” she said. “It worked, I was one of the blindfolded victims. However, we did it in less than 20 minutes, which I think is impressive.”

The Outdoor Leadership Program helps students develop survival skills

TOP: Lexington junior Zac Burton serves “naked scramble” to Bowling Green junior Jaci Gaddie and sophomore Rebecca Woodburn during field training in Chuck Crume Nature Park in Bowling Green, on Tuesday, Feb. 24. In pairs, the students set up camping stoves and cooked inventive meals from a mystery ingredient which had been assigned beforehand by professors Steve Spencer and associate professor Tammy Stenger-Ramsey.

ABOVE: Sophomores and juniors in the Outdoor Leadership Program bike from the WKU campus through Chuck Crume Park off Nashville Road in Bowling Green, on Tuesday, Feb. 24, to practice for an upcoming six-day camping trip.

LEFT: The Outdoor Leadership Program sets up temporary camp in Chuck Crume Nature Park off Nashville Road in Bowling Green in preparation for the upcoming six-day camping trip led by Professor Steve Spencer and Associate Professor Tammy Stenger-Ramsey. The professors demonstrated site-hand washing and food disposal techniques as part of a leave-no-trace curriculum. Tuesday’s run-through is part of the course’s “see one, do one, teach one” curriculum, and prepares the students to react in the field. “You never know what can happen once you get out there,” said Spencer, who has been an outdoors instructor for over 20 years.
The Illustrated Man: Trency Jackson’s path through adversity

It’s business as usual for the Lady Topper Basketball team as they sit in first place in the Conference USA in their inaugural season in the conference.

After being named C-USA Preseason Player of the Year and an All-Conference selection, Chaity Gooch and fellow senior All-Conference selection Alexsis Gowan have led the Lady Toppers to a 23-4 overall and 12-2 league record. The two are tied for the lead in Lady Topper scoring this season with 456 points each.

But it’s been consistency throughout the entire squad—not just the leaders and starting lineup—that brought the Lady Topper’s to the heights they have achieved.

Solid bench play from WKU’s reserves has proved to be a consistent thorn in the sides of opponents this season, a point that is expressed in more columns than just points.

While averaging 16.8 points from the bench in C-USA play this season, it has been the depth on the defensive side of the ball that has allowed the Lady Toppers to persevere. hazie Jaylyn McClain is coming off an impressive hat trick.

SEE WOMEN’S BASKETBALL PAGE C2

SPORTS@WKUHERALD.COM
BY JONAH PHILLIPS
MEN’S BASKETBALL

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The words “God’s Child” and “Loud. Energy. Active. Loud. ” are used to describe Jackson’s up-tempo personality.

“The three teammates busted out laughing. The comments were the words fellow seniors T.J. Price and George Fant used to describe Jackson’s upbeat personality. “He’s a high spirit,” Fant said. “He likes to laugh. He likes to make everyone else laugh and have fun. He’s a good guy. When he first came in, I could tell from the jump he was a good guy.”

“If he’s not talking, something is wrong with him,” Price said. “He’s the type of person if you’re having a bad day, he’s going to want to be around because he’s going to make you laugh. He’s going to do something. It can be the sorriest things sometimes.”

The trio will play their final home game for WKU Feb. 26 and graduate in May, a goal that seemed far away for Jackson a short time ago.

After high school, Denver enrolled into Northwest Florida State College, where he spent his freshman season leading his JUCO school to the NJCAA national title game. A year later, Jackson transferred to Texas Tech University with high aspirations of playing Division I basketball.

The dream was short lived, as Jackson was deemed academically ineligible after starting the first 11 games. Jackson moved back to Mississippi.

SEE TRENCY JACKSON PAGE C2

SPORTS@WKUHERALD.COM
BY BILLY RUTLEDGE
RESERVE play key to Lady ‘Topper success

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HILTOPPER BASEBALL TOPPED BY BELMONT 9-1

A four-run second inning by Belmont, the WKU baseball team could never get back into Tuesday's game in Nashville as the Bruins beat the Hilltoppers 9-1.

In a game where Belmont knocked out four different solo home runs, along with seven extra base hits, the Hilltoppers struggled at the plate as #11 runners stranded on base.

"They were huge," Mikhal Jones said of Brunson's game winning home run over MTSU. "Every day they are getting hotter and better. We really needed them to step up..." and they showed up huge.

Clark-Heard said he is proud of how the Hilltoppers have played this season. "I would probably be back in the streets," he said. "I could give up basketball," Jackson said. "I really had to mature. I need to do different things for us and our team-mates are helping her along the way."
Hilltoppers look to win-out last four C-USA games

BY JONAH PHILLIPS
SPORTSPUKHERALD.COM

The Hilltoppers will return to Diddle Arena, after a nearly three-week hiatus, Thursday night to take on Florida Atlantic.

They will stay at home for Saturday’s Conference USA clash against Florida International, and look to put an end to their current four-game losing streak with four games remaining in the regular season.

After beginning league play stop the conference with a 4-6 record, the Hilltoppers have since lost four straight since those were on the road where the team holds a 4-7 record.

Entering the weekend, FAU sits in last place in the conference at 1-13 (9-21 overall), while FIU sits in 10th in the 12 team league with a 6-8 in conference play and a 2-72 overall. Against FIU and in Diddle Arena, the Hilltoppers hold an 18-5 overall record.

The Hilltoppers will look to take it up a notch ends on the offensive side of the ball. Head Coach Ray Harper maintains it is important to stop giving up “touching fouls by playing a more solid defense.”

“If the Hilltoppers win out their games this season, Head Coach Ray Harper would become the very first coach in program history to win 20 games in each of his first three seasons at the post of head coach.

Despite the current losing streak, WKU would have the fourth seed in the upcoming C-USA Tournament and a first-round bye if the season ended today. They anticipate that surprising wins will offer a similar result.

Harper has maintained a calm demeanor would the losing streak and still sees his team potential as high in the face of recent adversity.

“If we were losing by 30 and playing terrible then the alarms would be going off, but they aren’t,” Harper said.

“We are so close, but at the same time it doesn’t do you any good to be close. You have to get over the hump and you have to win games, and I know we can do that.”

WKU defeated Florida Atlantic earlier this season in Boca Raton, 88-85 in overtime, but the Owls have won two of the last three games contested in Rodney Green.

The Hilltoppers lead the all-time series between the two schools 11-3. T.J. Price leads C-USA in scoring at 17.0 points per game, and in that current position would become the first Hilltopper to lead a league in scoring since Jack Jennings completed the feat in the 1972-73 Sun Belt Conference season with 19.1 ppg.

It would be the highest finishing average of any Hilltopper conference campaign since George Fant and Price, both of which Harper believes have made big strides as athletes and students in their final Hilltopper campaigns.

“Start with George and T.J.,” Harper said. “5,000 point scorers, they are on the same team, they have meant a lot to this program, but more importantly when they leave I know they are going to do well, and that’s all I care about— prepping these guys for the next basketball.”

Action starts on Thursday, at 7 p.m., in Diddle Arena with the same tip-off time set for Saturday’s contest against FIU.
The honors continue to roll in for the WKU Swimming and Diving program. After the men's side repeated Conference USA champions this past weekend and nabbed several meet honors, the program as a whole has brought in more honors, this time by way of academics. Senior Claire Conlon has been named to the C-USA All-Academic team while her Lady Topper teammates earned the title of College Swimming Coaches Association of America (CSCAA) Fall 2014 Scholar All-America Team. The honors come for Conlon, a South Africa native, after boasting a 3.62 GPA as a business economics major and having received honorable mention in the same category last season.

Head Coach Bruce Marchionda noted his program's "team effort" on the weekend, despite some traditionally not categorizing swimming and diving as a team sport. "It was a total team effort at the end of the week," Marchionda said. "WKU had 15 first-place finishes…and of those 15, five came in the championship events." While athletes such as sophomores Fabian Schwingenschlogl (named Swimmer of the Meet) and Zach Batus (named men's invitational Diver of the Meet) put forth first place finishes in their respective events over the weekend, other athletes are still looking for their qualification path to the NCAA Championships.

Accordingly, Marchionda will send select individual athletes to the University of Georgia this weekend in hopes of qualifying for NCAA's (men's in Iowa City, Iowa and women's in Greensboro, North Carolina). Marchionda collected his fourth career conference title over the weekend, but clearly sees work to do before NCAA's on March 19 to 21 (women's) and March 26 to 28 (men's) due to his drive to keep his team competing.

The WKU Men's Swim and Dive team jumps in the water with their trophy after winning the Conference USA Championship on Saturday, Feb. 21 in Knoxville, Tennessee. 

SAVANNAH NEDDO/SPECIAL TYRONE HILL

WKU track and field heads to Birmingham for C-USA

The WKU Track & Field team heads to Birmingham, Alabama this week for the Conference USA Indoor Track and Field Championships.

The program enters the competition after combining for 11 indoor championships since 2006 in the Sun Belt Conference.

"We are ready," Head Coach Erik Jenkins said. "We have a very young, enthusiastic team and I think they are ready to compete so it should be a good competition… I think they are physically ready, obviously they have a lot of growing to do as student-athletes, but they have been in several big meets indoors and put out some solid performances.

Jenkins is expecting a strong showing on the men's side from Ventavius Sears, who ranks amongst the top of the conference in the 200-meter dash (21.40 seconds), 400-meter dash (47.42 seconds), long jump (7.34 meters) and triple jump (15.35 meters).

"Ventavius Sears is going to compete in four events at the conference championships," Jenkins said. "He has a legitimate chance of winning all of them. He also was a double American as a true freshman. The thing about Ventavius is, last year at NCAAs he actually qualified for five events, and we had to pull him out of three of them. That is how good he is."

On the women's side, Jenkins said Carrol Hardy should have a big meet. "Carrol is an incredibly talented young lady," Jenkins said. "She is going to do well but as she gets stronger she understands the event groups more she is going to do even bigger things over the next few years."

The Hilltoppers enter the championships with leaders in four different events, and Jenkins knows his team's strengths are in the sprinting events. Sophomore sprinter Emmanuel Dasor leads the way with conference-best times in the 200 meter (21.28) and 400 meter (47.29) dash. He also anchors the 4x400-meter relay that ranks first in the C-USA and 27th nationally.

"We have a very talented sprint group, so we hope to do very well from 60 meters to 400 meters and the relays as well." Competition was set to begin on Wednesday, but has since been postponed until Thursday, due to severe weather forecasted in the Birmingham region.
BY JONAH PHILLIPS
SPORTSWRKEDAL.COM

Spring Fling cancelled following last weekend’s Holiday Inn Hilltopper Classic had been cancelled following last weekend’s cancellation of the Holiday Inn Hilltopper Spring Fling.

Mother Nature is to blame for both events cancellations that would have had the Lady Toppers pitted against Bowling Green, Indiana State, Cleveland State, Butler and Northern Kentucky this upcoming weekend and games against Saint Louis, Illinois State, Ohio, Saint Louis and UTEP last weekend.

The Lady Toppers have been led by the pitching of senior transfer Miranda Kramer. In her first competitive weekend and second competitive game for the program Kramer threw WKU’s eighth no-hitter in school history. Her earned run average sits at 1.40 while the team’s is 3.17 on the season.

Larissa Franklin has spear-headed the Lady Topper pro- team had intentions of having both event cancelations that would have seen the team had intentions of having both event cancelations that would have seen the team had intentions of having both event cancelations that would have seen the team had intentions of having both event cancelations that would have seen the team had intentions of having both event cancelations that would have seen the team had intentions of having both event cancelations that would have seen the team had intentions of having both event cancelations that would have seen the team.

The WKU baseball team played No. 1 ranked Vanderbilt at Nashville on Wednesday to kick off a four-game series that will take the team to Carbondale. Illinois for a series against Southern Illinois.

This week’s games will be a critical stretch for the Hilltoppers as they try to use this stretch of games to work out some early season issues involving their pitching staff that currently holds a 6.33 team ERA on the year.

“Our starting pitching has got to get better,” Myers said. “We can’t go to our talented bullpen so early. We have to be able to go five to six innings until we throw in our other guys.”

WKU’s performance at the plate has been a different story. Eight different players have batting average of at least .250, four of which are batting at least one home run.

Senior first baseman Ryan Church and senior designated hitter Philip Diedrick’s performances at the plate stand out from the other Hilltoppers. Diedrick is batting .348 with eight RBI’s and 17 total bases, while Church and Phillip Diedrick are batting average at .469. The team’s average is .318.

The Hilltoppers can also hit with power as they currently have 33 RBIs on the season, highlighted by six different players having batting at least one home run.

“Baseball is a team sport, but they do the little things very well, which makes them tough to beat.”

As of press time on Wednesday the Vanderbilt game had not concluded. Check WKUHerald.com for updates.

BY JOHN REECER
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