Former WKU tight end arrested for assault, public intoxication

BY JACOB DICK & JOHN REECER
HERALD

Former WKU tight end Tyler Higbee faces multiple charges after an altercation on Saturday morning.

According to a report from the Bowling Green Police, officers were alerted to an altercation at Tallbirds at 1:51 a.m., and arrived at the scene at 1:54 a.m. to find the victim, Nanad Alsaik, unconscious and bleeding in the parking lot. Witnesses told police that Higbee had physically assaulted a woman on the scene.

Alsaik was treated at the Medical Center at Bowling Green before being flown to TriStar Skyline Medical Center in Nashville due to his serious injuries. Higbee said that he was still in serious condition on Monday morning.

In his report of the incident, Officer Daniel Stone said Higbee and two other people walking near United Furniture on State Street after the assault. Witnesses told the officer that Higbee and others were in the Melvin Mushroom parking lot and the officer said he observed them running with Higbee yelling “Police, stop! Police, stop!” while pursuing on foot. Higbee concealed himself in a tree line near the First Christian Church before Stone made contact with him.

Stone asked Higbee if he had been to Tallbirds that night, and Higbee responded that he had been at Dublin's on State Street. The officer observed Higbee and

According to the most recent report of the National Transgender Discrimination Survey, 11% of transgender students reported being denied access to gender appropriate housing. Five percent were denied campus housing all together. Eleven percent lost or could not get financial aid or scholarships because of gender identity or expression.

Miller said that he wishes the all-gender bathrooms were in more buildings. “It’s such a huge deal,” Miller said. “I can’t go into the (women’s) restroom, and I don’t feel comfortable going into the (men’s) restroom all the time. It just depends on how busy it is. If it’s class change, I will not go to the bathroom.”

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LEXINGTON senior Alex Miller leans on his girlfriend Courtney Smith’s shoulder on Feb. 20. Miller, who is a transgender man, met Smith before he came out as transgender. “I wasn’t sure how it would affect our relationship since she would have to change names and pronouns all of a sudden, but she’s been so supportive,” Miller said. Miller is not immune to harassment. “I have an amazing girlfriend,” he said. “I fell in love with Alex because of his personality and the way he treats people and of how kind he is,” Smith said. Miller said it’s freeing to finally live his authentic self.

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On Thursday night, WKU students heard about the importance of voting from two nationally acclaimed speakers at an event focused on making voting more accessible. Bevin overturned a provision in the state's budget. Funding for higher education was reduced to a 4.5 percent cut. As a result, the shutdown of state government services and the president of the Kentucky Board of Education Gary Ransdell said he, along with Republicans, were crusading for higher education funding.

For weeks, members of the House of Representatives and the Senate refused to allow the university to hold a Reserve Fund to prevent fraud.

With very few days left in the legislative session, the presidents of the state's 14 public universities were left out of the discussions on how to address the state's budget crisis. Ransdell said the Senate's belief that the legislature cannot pass a budget before the end of the session was unfounded.

The fund currently has $3,486,600, which the Board has not requested any more cuts. The Board has also passed a proposal to reduce the cuts. The Board has also passed a proposal to restore the cuts.

In an email to faculty and staff, President Wilson Stone, who represents the state's 14 public universities, said he has not heard from any of the presidents of the other university presidents to participate in conversations to decide the criteria for performance-based funding. The House, whose budget did not contain performance-based funding, disagreed with the Senate's budget.

The state's budget crisis is a current issue. "We're certainly interested in higher ed and are crusading for higher ed on the issue, but we're very happy that we can leave you in a better place if you're not interested now, and you have to be having an impact now because you're shaping where you're going to be in the world and where you're going to end up online," Stone said.

Anyone who wants to register online can visit GovVote.com.

Students university compromise on budget cuts

"It was really important to tell the story because there had been so many events that led to the passing of the Voting Rights Act," Berman said in his interview. "It became really important to write this book because the story of the Voting Rights Act is important to write about the events that led to the passing of the act."
The down-low on getting a glowing complexion

I haven't a suck-er for face masks. I used to wear one for any prod-uct. Towels, cleansers, lotions, toners — you name it and I've bought it. They have in me with their promises of glowing skin and pimple-free skin. They've bought in so many skin care products that the companies should probably send me an apology. When I was a young, naive lass, I assumed a高等教育系统 came overnight and bought my way through the alphabet of skin care products in hopes of a face fix. Little did I know that progress skin is about more than just money. It involves time, a simple less-is-more regimen and, most importantly, consistency. Follow these easy steps, and you'll be glowing before you know it! Find a dermatologist. Your skin is the ultimate investment; you have to keep it for the rest of your life, so treat it kindly. Getting a professional opinion will help you get on the right track with your skin care. As someone who suffers from acne-prone skin, I can touch that dermatologist's treatment can have a big impact. You might have to experiment with prescribed washes and cleansers at first, but the commit-ment is worth it.

Wash your face in the morning and at night. I also suggest you use your hands instead of a wash cloth to avoid abrasive materials on your face. And always — ALWAYS — remove your makeup before you go to bed. After you wash your face and remove your makeup, apply a topper to keep your skin looking supple and firm. 3. Know your skin type. Whether you have skin that is dry, oily, or combination to between these skin types, you-are the one to choose. Personally I love Bacteri. I would also recom-
about the incident. Harper said she saw Alsaleh and Higbee arguing in front of the vehicle.

“All I saw was that [Alsaleh] was there and Higbee was telling him to call his friends,” Harper said. “[Alsaleh] looked like he was standing his ground. Higbee’s girlfriend was trying art like it wasn’t a big deal and was telling everyone that they were friends, which worked because no one really expected what happened.”

In the police report, Higbee’s girlfriend, Millie Pijakowski, told officers that Higbee was “acting crazy” toward the couple and was “coming on to” them while they were at Dublin’s Irish Pub earlier in the evening. She also said that there was scuffling between the two men prior to Higbee striking Alsaleh.

Harper said that Alsaleh was standing his ground but didn’t seem confrontational. Harper said she saw Alsaleh and Higbee arguing in front of them.

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Harper said that Alsaleh was standing his ground but didn’t seem confrontational. Another witness quoted in the police report, Hayley Worman, said that Harper was telling him to call his friends. Harper said that Alsaleh was “acting creepy” toward Harper while he was talking on the phone.

The police report lists Alsaleh as being 5’11” and 157 pounds while Higbee is much larger than Alsaleh and that Alsaleh was saying something to Higbee while he was talking on the phone. Harper and the other witnesses observed that Alsaleh had his hands in the air. Harper mentioned that Higbee was quite drunk.

According to usatoday.com, Higbee was also one of only two WKU players to be invited to the NFL Combine this season. He had recently visited the Denver Broncos training facility and attended a workout with the New Orleans Saints.

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Track meets mean cold mornings, long bus rides, and athletes huddling under blankets and inside tents. They also harken back to the nearly 3,000-year-old tradition of track and field events, most notably with the Olympic Games in ancient Greece. Competitors pit their bodies and willpower against one another in the most primal of contests. Sprints, jumps, hurdles, javelin, hammer throw and several other events all showcased the fitness and relentless training of athletes from the 15 different schools in attendance. The Hilltopper Relays Meet held at the Charles M. Rueter Track and Field Complex on Friday and Saturday saw the WKU Men’s and Women’s teams stand out with a total of nine first place finishes.
Topper Tank ends pitch submissions tonight

BY SHELBY BRUCE
HERALD FEATURES@WKU.EDU

Students have the opportunity to go in front of the “sharks’” of WKU to see if their business proposals will leave them smiling or swimming to the top.

This year’s Topper Tank Elevator Pitch Competition ends Friday at 5 p.m. Upon entering their elevator pitch ideas, students will have up to 60 seconds to present their idea before a panel of judges and share a business idea within 60 to 90 seconds—the length of an elevator ride.

“In entrepreneurship, it’s common,” Whitney Peake, viable professor of entrepreneurship and assistant professor of management, said. “You never know when you’ll be an elevator with someone important.”

The competition plays on the television show “Shark Tank.” The context of “Shark Tank” is that entrepreneurs pitch their new business ideas and concepts to “sharks.” The “sharks,” in this sense, are high-profile individuals with backgrounds entrenched in business.

“If they can convince even one rich ‘shark’ that their idea is sound, they can make a deal right there—but it’s just as likely the millennials will, one by one, say ‘I’m out’ until the contestant is left with nothing but a week’s supply of facial egg,” Tom Shakes, Washington Post columnist, wrote of “Shark Tank” in a 2009 column.

The competition started in 2009.

With the Monday deadline, students have not received many entries at this point in the competition, according to the Center for Entrepreneurship and Innovation Director, Dawn Bolton, director of the Center for Entrepreneurship and Innovation.

“We hope that students have fun with this competition,” Bolton said. SEE TOPPER TANK PAGE B2

Senate candidate Sellus Wilder comes to Bowling Green

BY ANDREW HENDERSON
HERALD FEATURES@WKU.EDU

Several patrons of Mellow Mushrooms seated themselves around a table in a side room of the restaurant on Sunday as light filtered in from the windows nearby. With drinks in hand and questions in their minds, people fielded questions left and right to Sellus Wilder, a Democrat seeking the party’s nomination to run for Kentucky’s seat in the U.S. Senate.

Running for the Senate isn’t Wilder’s first bullet on his political resume. He previously served as Frankfort City Commissioner and Mayor Pro Tem. Wilder registered with the office of the Secretary of State on Jan. 26.

During the meet-and-greet event, Wilder fielded questions from attendees on a variety of different topics. These included the economies of eastern and western Kentucky, his support for term limits, women’s reproductive rights and the threat posed by the Islamic State to name a few.

In regards to the coal industries in both eastern and western Kentucky, Wilder said one of the biggest problems with the coal industry is that it is a motto industry, and people are very invested in that motto. Wilder said there’s a need to diversify the economy in these areas of the state so they aren’t just coal dependent. To combat this, he said, more technology infrastructure such as broadband access is essential to boosting a 21st century economy. “We’re not going to bring new industries or new companies into eastern and western Kentucky without that level of connectivity, and that also makes the case for increased educational opportunities,” Wilder said.

Wilder spoke about his experience holding government positions in Frankfort. He said politicians often make decisions for the benefit of the short term and not the long term, and he said this is common in politics as politicians feel the need to make decisions that pay off in the short term so they can ensure their reelection.

Wilder said imposing term limits would result in the loss of “some good legislators” as directed Alpha Phi Alpha fraternity had begun.

Alpha Phi Alpha, the first African-American Greek fraternity founded in 1906 at Cornell University, had not been present on WKU’s campus since losing its recognition in fall 2011 following hazing sanctions.

According to graduate assistant student union manager Daniel McDowell, an Alpha Phi Alpha national member from Charlotte, North Carolina, WKU’s Eta Rho chapter was to return next fall. But some interested students met with the grad chapter based out of Fort Knox to persuade them to organize the fraternity back on campus this spring.

The 14 students who now make up the resurrected chapter attended discrete information sessions early in the semester put on by alumni to teach the fraternity’s history and ways. It is a process characteristic of National Pan-Hellenic Council organizations but not very similar to the Bush Week event the Interfraternity Council and Panhellenic Councils use to draw in new members.

See DIVINE NINE PAGE B2

Alumni members of Alpha Phi Alpha fraternity, sing their fraternity hymn around newly initiated undergraduate members after their pledge on Wednesday in the Downing Student Union auditorium. The spring 2016 line of new members were the first line in four years to be initiated on WKU’s campus. SEE SELLUS WILDER PAGE B2
A breath of fresh air blew through the gathered audience, as Brent O'Connor, a junior from Plantation, Florida, took center stage to speak about his platform.

"Any student can enter," Bolton said. "Topper Tank to enter the Business Plan Competition," she said. "We encourage those who do well in Topper Tank to enter the Business Plan Competition," Bolton said. "Topper Tank is a way to give entrepreneurially minded students a chance to present and launch their ideas. Every student will receive feedback," Bolton said. "You don't want to send only five." Bolton said. "You should have the right to make choices about their health, including reproductive rights. He said he believes all students have a right to education and that's ultimately up to the voters of the United States," Wilder said. "We have a relationship with the rest of the world, and I think it would help us to do our best to encourage a more open world," said Wilder. "I think it would mean a lot more bang for our buck," said Wilder. "You don't want to send only five," Bolton said. "You should have the right to make choices about their health, including reproductive rights. He said he believes all students have a right to education and that's ultimately up to the voters of the United States," Wilder said. "We have a relationship with the rest of the world, and I think it would help us to do our best to encourage a more open world," said Wilder. "I think it would mean a lot more bang for our buck," said Wilder. Wilder said he is working on a bill to ensure affordable and easy access to reproductive services and to offer more sex education. Wilder said he is working on a bill to ensure affordable and easy access to reproductive services and to offer more sex education.
top-tier level of C-USA which can definitely compete at the 21.11 seconds. 200-meter race with a time of seconds in the 100-meter a season-best time of 10.54 Julius Morris captured a total earned him second place.

9:29.78 and Wyatt' s 14-second steeple chase with a time of 14:15.66. However, the Hilltoppers

Continued from SPORTS back, Brown eventually con-

Continued from SPORTS

BASEBALL

One player who might be a fit

people chase with a time of Mississippi went into two extra

and recorded a total of 37 tack-

ABCU with scores for the top two positions at the

While those are great stats

and hold on for a 12-9 victory. Unfortunately, we couldn't do

Unfortunately, we couldn't do

to manufacture any runs. We

the game scoreless until the

The best field performance of the
day came from sopho-

The first thing we would

Sophomore pitcher Ryan Baker (21) pitches in the middle innings as the Lady Toppers 3-4 win over Middle Tennessee on Sunday, April 10, at the WKU Softball Complex. Parker faced 33 batters and had 5 strikeouts. SHABAN ATHUMAN/HERALD

Sophomore pole vault Marian Mck新的 run to tie the game

MTSU rallied in the seventh as it

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the defense has both depth

through it has large shoes to fill, the defense has both depth and
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The first thing we would
Hilltoppers drop conference series to LA Tech

BY SAM PORTER
HERALD SPORTS@WKU.EDU

For many weeks now, the WKU baseball team has been practicing in an attempt to put some respectability into their season. Last year, they batted .248, but this year, they are hitting .268. The Hilltoppers took no time getting to the first game against Louisiana Tech. They scored two runs and continued to score more runs throughout the game. The final score was 12-9 in the first game.

Defensive secondary books to improve

BY BAILEY TOWNSEND
HERALD SPORTS@WKU.EDU

Senior defensive back Branden Leston has the most tackles by a WKU secondary player since Brian Lowder in 2002, both with 96 tackles. Leston also had a season-best and conference-best game against Old Dominion in 2015 when he got 13 tackles, six of which were solo. This stat is the second-best performance in a single game in Hilltoppers history.

More specifically, this team has shown significant improvement in terms of defensive performance. With two TFLs and two pass breakups, Leston has contributed to the defensive effort last season that saw the team improve significantly.

WKU's secondary helped contribute to a defensive effort last season that saw the Hilltoppers allow 50 fewer yards than they did the previous year. When it comes to WKU's current secondary squad, it displays an intriguing mix between returning veterans and positions that need to be filled. In the secondary, the need for depth and experience is evident.

Another safety who will bring experience to the secondary is Branden Leston. Ward, who started all 14 games in his senior season, had 12 tackles. He also had significant playing time in a 2015 game against Old Dominion.

Ward earned a Conference USA Defensive Player of the Week honor last season following the Louisiana Tech game, when he had a career-high 13 tackles, two solo, and one tackle for loss.

The WKU track and field team could continue to benefit the secondary players by collectively taking two of the top three spots in the 400-meter dash. Senior sprinter Jessica Gelibert also made an impact in her final home event with a win in the 400-meter dash via a 59.04-second time. Gelibert also joined forces with Yacheng and Shooting Stars in the 4x400 relay in the event with a time of 3:43.98.

The Lady Toppers collected 11 top-three finishes across all events. On the men's team, seniors Aaron Stevens and Vincent Wyatt closed out their home careers with two top-two finishes in their respective events.

The WKU track and field team competed at the Hilltopper Relays in Bowling Green on Saturday, April 9. Runners jump over the water obstacle on the women's 3000m steeple chase at the Hilltopper Relays in Bowling Green on Saturday, April 9. Miami University took the first place honors with a time of 10:52.68 by Alesha Vovk.