Administrators start filling $7.7 million gap

BY SHELBY ROGERS
NEWS@WKUHERALD.COM

Administrators are now tasked with finding $7.7 million for the university’s budget, a job compounded by an eight-year drought in state funding and declining enrollment at WKU.

The project in its entirety currently needs to cover, and currently, WKU will have only $2.9 million of net gain from a tuition increase to fill the gap. The university lost $15.4 million since 2008, as state appropriations stagnated each year.

The biggest factor in this reallocation process, however, is scholarships. President Gary Ransdell said budget increase for academic scholarships will grow an additional $3.9 million to fund freshmen scholarship acceptance for the fall 2015.

“We know that more and more student’s acceptance for the fall 2015.

Students jump rope together at Valleypalooza Cinco De Mayo edition, Tuesday from 1 to 5 p.m.

Students unwind at Valleypalooza Cinco De Mayo edition, Tuesday from 1 to 5 p.m. This was the last print edition of the Herald this school year, but look for Stressbusters and the grad section on stands. Have a great summer, Toppers!
**Valleypalooza Continued from Front**

-ends a chance to take a break and have fun.

Hope and CamDon, WKU's residence therapy dogs, were also present.

The pair weren't the only dogs on campus, however. Kara Sullivan, a nursing senior from Louisville, also brought along her dog so that he would be able to socialize with students and other dogs.

Sullivan, who does not spend much time on campus due to the nursing program's being off campus, said she enjoyed being able to do something outside and spend time with their pets.

The event encourages people to get outside and spend time with their pets.

Kendra Comos, an Owensboro sophomore, said she liked the fact that the event was designed to bring people together.

"I mean, you get to meet new people, and it goes people out of their routine," she said.

With the semester drawing to a close and people preparing for finals, Valleypalooza offered some much-needed relief from the books.

"I think [Valleypalooza] is important right before finals," said De Wayne Parrish, a Louisville sophomore volunteering at the event. "It's a fun gesture of stress relief before all the students really have to go to work. It's fun to bring the community together and see all your friends right before you don't see them for the rest of the year because you're studying."
The Owensboro campus is not the only collegiate institu-
tion in the Owensboro com-
mittee who have projects in the works. Kentucky Wesleyan College, Brescia University, Daymar College and Owensboro Com-
mittee and Technical College (OCTC),
Though the presence of the other universities, Daviess
County wanted to provide the foundation for a four-year
public university in the com-
mittee. The county’s contrib-
ution led to the construc-
tion of the current campus
location, which opened in
2010.

All four of our campuses
are a part of WKU,” said Gene
Tice, Owensboro campus re-
gional chancellor. “They’re
located in a different area, but they’re WKU students.”

Students attending Owens-
boro campus typically com-
plete their associate degrees
before transferring to WKU
for a four-year degree.

“Part of the power outage in the PFT over winter break was
partially due to old voltage service,” he said.

The budget for Cherry Hall’s
needs fund is $100,000.

The Owensboro campus
has about 15 projects
amongst the members of the Plan-
ning, Design and Construc-
tion department about the
confirmed summer projects.

Monday, assistant direc-
tor of the PDC, said the sum-
mer projects are considered a
priority when we use the Critical
Needs Fund,” Johnson said.

The Owensboro campus
will also continue
developing the recently acquired
complex North Wing and the Hon-
ors College and International
College and Parking Structure 1.

The Owensboro campus
will include Rodes-Harlin
Road, which will be used as a
property at 1840 Russellville
Road, which will be used as a

High Voltage Phase Eight, and
services. This project is called
High Voltage Phase Eight, and
its budget stands at $41.1 mil-

Some of the summer con-
struction projects will focus on
the transition between schools.
King’s students come from a
diversity of backgrounds.

King’s students come from a
diversity of backgrounds.

In the past two days, I’ve
seen a staff library, a conference
room and a university book-
store—all amenities available
to those WKU students in
Bowling Green.

For students like Jennifer
Bois, an Owensboro senior
studying social work, the dif-
ference isn’t significant.

“We just see a smaller aspect
of the university.”

The Owensboro campus
would easily be mistaken as a
scaled-down version WKU’s
main campus.

The university fight song
appears on the walls. In ad-
tion to the classrooms, the
two-story building is also out-
tfitted with two computer labs, a
staff library, a conference room
and a university book-

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In the past two days, I’ve
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The weather is getting hotter, summer is finally upon us and classes are coming to an end. Before we finally get a chance to enjoy our downtime, most of us have some unfinished business to attend to that comes in the form of a Scantoon. Finals week, as much as we all dread it, is inevitable. We can’t fight the system, but we can adapt ways to make the pressures of finals week a little less grueling.

There are some magic strategies that will make you see your finals, but there is one method that may help you perform better on your exam studies.

Although studying seems simple enough, the way you study plays a crucial role in how much information you’re learning and retaining. To begin, you should make a list of all of your finals and projects that will be due during the week. This list will give you a timeline that will allow you to plan accordingly and ensure you are aware of your exam times since the times of the finals often differ from the class’s normal time.

After being aware of your exam times, you should find a quiet place to study. You may want to try the library, the Downing Student Union study lounge or a designated study area in your dorm. Having a quiet place to study allows you to stay focused and eliminates distractions.

The techniques you use while studying play a huge role in retention. If you are using a method that doesn’t work for you, then you will not be able to retain the information that you study. Everyone has different preferences, but a few options include making flash cards, repetitive reading of the material, speaking aloud to yourself, drawing pictures or making mnemonic devices and doing practice questions. You may want to go through these options and see which one is the most beneficial and stick to that.

Studying may seem like the most important facet of acing a final, but consistently studying can be hard on the brain. Don’t forget that your body needs sleep in order to function properly. If you sacrifice sleep for studying, you will have no energy the next day and your brain will not perform as best. Food is also extremely important. So, try to fill yourself with healthy foods that will give you energy and make sure to drink plenty of water. Coffee should be a staple of the navel week diet, but building yourself up with caffeine will cause you to crash. Taking one of yourself and falling asleep at night will help you avoid the caffeine trap.

To help de-stress yourself through our final week, there are many activities that aren’t on campus and that participate in the many finals week activities that are happening around campus, such as playing with puppies in Centennial Mall.

Finals week can be rigorous. It is stressful, exhausting and downright intimidating, but if you relax, study and keep yourself healthy, emotionally and physically, you will succeed.

The only thing standing between you and summer vacation is that cumulative biology exam, so buckle down and tackle one thing at a time.
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Brusters Ice Cream is looking for fun loving, energetic, hard working college students to join our team. We are now hiring scoopers for year round positions. Applications can be found at Brusters.com and dropped off in person anytime.

ACROSS
1 Common lunch item 6 Lowers, as lights
10 Drift gently 14 Half an Evergreen State city
15 Fancy entrance 26 Low-paying position, in slang
17 Bit of dental work 27 Country where Quechua is an official language
19 On deck 29 Baby’s boo-boo
23 Like “las” in Spanish 31 Béret bearer
24 Out of the reach of 32 Pope after John X
25 Hardy’s “The Return of the ___” 33 White Label Scotch maker
45 1961 Rick Nelson hit 34 Bridge measures
47 Nightly news fodder, with “the” 36 Deep-space energy source
49 “__ only a game” 41 Director Welles
50 Marshy areas 44 Tablet relative
51 Public figure? 46 Side with the ball
61 Clown of renown 48 Hot, for now
64 Met or Nat 49 “__ only a game”
65 Jazz singer 50 Marshy areas
O’Day 51 Public figure?
66 Crumbled ice cream topping 52 New England collegian
67 2013-’14 Magic Johnson Award winner 54 Born—
Nowitzki 55 Neither ahead nor behind ... and what 20-, 35- and 45-Across are literally doing
56 “Show Boat” composer 58 TV handyman Bob
57 Really gets to 60 Reputation
58 TV handyman Bob 61 Marshy areas
59 List-___shortening abbr. 62 Tulsa sch. named for an evangelist
60 Reputation ___ in the Art of Writing”: Ray Bradbury collection

PRESCHOOL
85 3rd graders
86 2nd graders
87 1st graders
88 Kindergartners
89 Preschoolers

PREVIOUS CROSSWORD SOLUTION
THANK YOU, JASON!
You have made working at the Herald an educational and fun experience for us all!
ABOVE: Freshman Kelsy Leppo, of Lexington (far left), Lauren Wagner, of Louisville (far right), and Zena Gavin, of northern Kentucky, enjoy time together in the ball pit at Valleypalooza: Cinco De Mayo edition, Tuesday, from 1 to 5 p.m.

ABOVE LEFT: Sophomore Felipe Silva, an international student from Brazil, plays a round of Hillbilly golf. ABOVE TOP RIGHT: Freshman Trevor Devlin, of Grand Rapids, Michigan (in yellow), cheers on his brother Travis Devlin (in blue) while he competes against Jordan Bybee, of Louisville. ABOVE RIGHT: Sophomore Felipe Silva, an international student from Brazil, attempts to knock down the piñata.

ABOVE: Sophomore Felipe Silva, an international student from Brazil, plays a round of Hillbilly golf. ABOVE TOP RIGHT: Freshman Trevor Devlin, of Grand Rapids, Michigan (in yellow), cheers on his brother Travis Devlin (in blue) while he competes against Jordan Bybee, of Louisville. ABOVE RIGHT: Sophomore Felipe Silva, an international student from Brazil, attempts to knock down the piñata.
TOBACCO WORKER STRUGGLES TO SUPPORT FAMILY

BY NICK WAGNER
LIFE@WKUHERALD.COM

It’s Cinco de Mayo in Mexico—people fill city streets to celebrate. Bets are placed on cockfights, supplies of Corona beer run dry in local stores, fireworks light up the Mexican sky and families gather together to remember and celebrate the bravery Mexico displayed when it defeated France at Puebla 153 years ago. However, there’s no fiesta for Rosalino Santiago Garcia.

While more than 120 million Mexicans celebrate the national holiday, Santiago Garcia, 32, is headed south for his 13th year in Kentucky’s tobacco fields. The 70-hour bus ride displaces him from his 21-year-old wife, Sabina, two sons, Leandro, five, and Josue, two, and 5 month-old baby girl, Elyssia.

“It’s hard to leave my kids behind… I always makes me sad,” Santiago Garcia said. “But I believe that any human in any job will always put their family first.”

It wasn’t even three months ago when the last tobacco harvest ended and Santiago Garcia hoped he could skip the next harvest. He wanted to spend time with his young family, but when he returned to his home in the southern Mexican state of Oaxaca, no work was available or at least none for his 13th year in Kentucky. The tobacco worker struggles to support family.

TG EATS

Tackling the spicy level 10 at Thai Thai is a thrill

OPINION@WKUHERALD.COM

Rather than write a regular food review for the last week of BG Eats this semester, I have chosen instead to do a food challenge. Well, the editors told me to do a food challenge. So, I began looking for options. The idea of slugging through a massive quantity of food was less than appealing, so I opted instead to test the resolve of my taste buds in a spice-based challenge. I was not looking forward to this.

The objective to conquer was at Thai Thai, a place favorably reviewed during last semester. Thai offers customers to specify the level of spiciness they prefer in their dishes, on a range from 1-10. Normally a level three or four is enough for a pleasant heat that can even induce a little perspiration. In search of a proper, if somewhat drained, challenge, this time I decided to ask for my green curry with a level 10 heat. This produced a laugh and quizzical glance from the waitress. I cautiously committed anyway.

The curry that arrived was in nocuous in appearance, which helped calm my anxious curiosity. The roasted vegetables and chicken that sat simmering in a bowl of milky, green-hued broth added a comforting familiarity. I asked for an additional serving of steamed rice to be safe.

Within minutes, my forehead was covered in sweat. I was not as thankful for the hint of pure spice creeping along the back of the tongue. This soon sparked into a swallow of fire that failed to subside until well after the meal was finished. The strain of a hard-fought battle quickly became visible.

Yet after several minutes of agony, multiple glasses of ice-water and a hovering helpings of rice, the curry was conquered. If my appearance assuaged the four that the spiciness would dominate any other flavor. This would actually taste good.

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Within minutes, my forehead started to sweat, phegans were unloosed from the nostrils, and the napkin turned into an emergency tissue. Common table manners were quickly discarded. Yet after several minutes of agony, multiple glasses of ice-water and a hovering helpings of rice, the curry was conquered. If my appearance assuaged the four that the spiciness would dominate any other flavor. This would actually taste good.

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The work isn’t easy, not everyone can do it... I’m happy knowing I can provide for my parents and my family.”

Santiago Garcia

TOP: At the municipal offices in Santa Ana, Oaxaca, Mexico, the name chosen by Rosalino and Sabina for their baby girl, Elyssia Yubizareth, is made official with fingerprints on March 10. NICK WAGNER/HERALD

BOTTOM: After attending a town fiesta in Xitla, Oaxaca, Mexico, everyone but Sabina succumbed to the comfort of bed. The fiesta featured a basketball tournament, rodeo and carnival rides. NICK WAGNER/HERALD

The idea was originally started four years ago by Robert Unseld, associate director of the Center for Career and Professional Development, and was only going to be a one-time thing. Because of the positive student response, however, the cranes have since become an annual event.

The cranes are made by the student staff of Center for Career and Professional Development. Pikeville junior Katie Stafford was the student worker who oversaw her co-workers in the making of the paper cranes. She said they began making the cranes during the first week of classes in August last semester. She, along with 14 other student workers, folded an average of 10 cranes every week before reaching a total of 2,800 cranes.

“I wasn’t that great at folding them at first,” Stafford said.

She said they watched instructional videos on how to fold the cranes to aid them in the process, and the process allowed the student workers to bond together in a way they may have not been able to. She said despite some instances when they thought they were on a time crunch, the crane making process, overall, went smoothly.

“As it went on it became second nature to fold the cranes, we could probably do it with our eyes closed,” she said.

Stafford said she remembers her first year seeing the cranes as a freshman student and confesses to still having her crane from her freshman year to this day. She said the cranes are a culmination of her year spent in the Center for Career and Professional Development. For other students, she believes the cranes offer a breath of relief before finals set in.

“IT’s finals week, it’s stressful and it’s nice to see that pop of color and be able to take it with you,” Stafford said.

An arrangement of paper cranes adorns a grassy area on Centennial Mall prior to finals week. The cranes, produced by WKU Career Services, serve as complimentary stress busters for students to pluck from the line as they walk to their last classes and finals of the spring semester. WILLIAM KOLB/HERALD

The highest paying job Santiago Garcia encountered paid 150 pesos for 10 hours of work a day—just short of an American dollar per hour—leaving next to nothing after buying the daily necessities of eggs, milk and tortillas.

The difference is apparent to Santiago García what work across the border can provide for one’s life.

Through the H-2A form, a temporary work visa, he’s garnered enough money to purchase two acres of land, build a new house, buy new appliances and furniture, but most importantly, he has the ability to provide for his children.

“The work isn’t easy, not everyone can do it... I’m happy knowing I can provide for my parents and my family,” Santiago Garcia said. “But at the same time, it saddens me knowing I can’t see or be with them, so I try not to think of them... It’s the sacrifice I have to make.”

BG EATS
Continued from LIFE

at the end was any indication, it was more of a Pyrrhic victory (check out the multimedia piece on WKUherald.com). I certainly did not emerge unscathed. The pangs of heartburn felt hours later were a painful reminder.

For those who really enjoy eating food (or anyone who eats for that matter), treating it as a nemesis puts the act in a very different light. To conquer it provides a new kind of satisfaction. Would I recommend it? Only if you’re really looking for a thrill.
Ecuador wraps up for Gatton expansion

The International Year Of… program was started when the Office of International Programs saw a need for more opportunities for internationalization. What we were realizing was there’s a large number of students who don’t go abroad and who may not have everyday interactions with international students, so what are we doing to internationalize their experience? asked Mike Stokes, assistant director for International Programs, said. “That’s what we were always asking.” We bring the world to them. There’s no need to leave. They don’t need to travel—they don’t need to go abroad.”

Chief International Officer Craig Coffey was interested in starting this type of program after seeing models from other schools.

The International Year Of Ecuador is largely attributed to the help the late David Coffey, who had some of the strongest connections in the country. The faculty planning committee was made up of seven other members, who helped guide and shape the events and courses that followed throughout this school year.

“We really rely heavily on a committee of faculty members with said expertise in the target country,” Stokes said. “We brought those students to other diverse perspectives. We brought the country and lend that to the class as a whole.”

Some other events include an exhibit running throughout the fall in the Kentucky Building called “Conscience of the Human Spirit: The Life of Nelson Mandela.” Fifty-one quilts will be displayed, whose was inspired by the South African politician. 

Africa Night, the result of collaboration between the African Studies Union and the College of Education and Behavioral Sciences is planned for a night in November. Attendees will have the opportunity to experience the food, music, fashion and dance of South Africa and other African countries.

In an effort to transform the learning experience for students at WKU, one of International Year Of South Africa’s goals is for faculty to extend international perspectives and create curriculum regarding the country, while bringing in outside speakers and creating other events related to the content of the class.

To help provide for this, the Zuhair Sofia Endowed International Faculty Seminar will occur this summer, which will take a small group of faculty, most without previous experience in the country, to three different South African universities in order to make faculty connections and further their discipline.

“It’s an intensive interdisciplinary study program that centers around the target country,” Cheney said. “We really we wanted to it be a springboard for the faculty members’ long term engagement with this country.”

The trip will be led by Mike Stokes, a biology professor specializing in wildlife ecology and part of the planning committee for International Year Of South Africa, who has been doing extensive research there since 2016, as well as leading study abroad trips in the summer.

“I found it a country of such contrast,” Stokes said. “That economically, socially, ecologically, almost every way I could imagine, I thought the country has fantastic challenges and opportunities, which is a big plus for us.”

By internationalizing faculty, the hope is that they will remain engaged with the connections they made in the country, to three different South African universities in order to make faculty connections and further their discipline.

“Most of all, they will become Kentucky’s future leaders,” he said. “We’re trying to get faculty members who will return and invite others to do this,” Stokes said. “For those who are familiar with a country, with internationalization, (WKU) is a good place to do it, and I hope that passion spreads.”

Governor visits WKU for Gatton expansion

Governor Steve Beshear stopped by WKU’s campus to celebrate the impending expansion of Florence Schnieder Hall, which currently houses the Gatton Academy of Math and Science.

Last year, the state allocated an additional $12 million to expand Gatton Academy to accommodate for 80 new students. This addition will bring the total number of Gatton students to 200.

While the building is being expanded, 80 additional students will stay in Diddle-Runner Hall starting in fall 2015. Upperclassmen honors students who had hoped to move into Bates are now being redirected to Gilbert Hall, which will be co-ed.

At present at the expansion phase were Speaker Pro Tempo Jody Richards and Kentucky senator Mike Wilson, who serves a Caudle-Ridgeway Education Senate Committee.

Julia Gensheimer, a Gatton Academy student, said to Gatton, her kindred spirit with various topics has increased substantially.

“You never know how to love in Africa, or Mathematics...and have established a love for chemistry,” she said. Gensheimer said she was thankful for Gatton Academy and how it has prepared her for college.

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Students were given the opportunity to go back to a simpler time on Wednesday, jamming out to some 90s hits and taking the familiar break from the often-stressful world of college. Louisville freshman Amanda Sebago said her interest was captured by the hoopscotch and the potential for face painting. “I love doing this stuff. I love coloring. I think this is a great way to de-stress everybody,” Sebago said.

Gallatin, Tennessee freshman Brittany Ward said the idea for their project developed early on in class. When they began brainstorming about problems that affected Bowling Green and the country at large, anxiety amongst college students was brought up. She said the support for the project was overwhelming, and everyone decided to take up the issue as a project. “Every single person in our class made anxiety their No. 1 or No. 2 choice, so it was an overwhelming decision to go with it,” Ward said. From there, Ward said her class of eight other students broke off into groups to get an academic perspective of anxiety. She said groups studied the physiological affects of anxiety, gender roles and sexuality, emotional support animals and anxiety and anxiety in college students. She said the group’s extensive research led them to a surprising conclusion. “Our research through interviews of students on campus and looking through journal articles online showed the week before finals is actually the most stressful,” she said.

Independence freshman Molly Couch is one of the students involved with the project. She said the group’s project constructed the typical format of the class so they could collectively try to offer students a form of alleviation before finals. She said the project is meant to offer a little bit of time for students to not have to think about exams, studying or worrying about what they have to do next.

“We wanted to recapitulate the spirit of kindergarten and preschool where you didn’t have so much stuff to worry about,” Couch said. Ward said they also passed out information about how to cope with anxiety, and the group also worked with the Counseling and Testing Center on this to assure they were taking the appropriate steps. Ward said her biggest hope for the project was to give students the opportunity to experience the good old days when everything was a little more stress free.

“It’s kind of a sense of nostalgia, and it’s really a break for people’s everyday cycle,” she said.

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Students use hammocks, puppies to de-stress

BY NICOLE ARES
LIFE@WKUHERALD.COM

While finals week may seem like the end of the world, students are finding plenty of ways to take their minds off of late-night cram sessions and ways to take their minds off of the end of the world, students here.

The hammocks strung across trees around campus are a testament to good physical education major, said Couch. “We will do whatever it takes to get students here.”

“CanDoo really belongs to 21,000 students. He has 21,000 owners,” Archey said. For students experiencing severe test anxiety or患有 the Anxiety and Depression Association, Archey suggested taking a “time-out” and practicing yoga, getting a massage or physically removing oneself from the stress triggers. Counting to 10 slowly and repeating the count also helps alleviate stress in a situation,

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Students who attended were able to participate in exploring the world of dogs, with schoolwork, it is still a relaxing environment and that helps me focus. Community groups also good resources to alleviate students’ stress.

Each year, Hilltop Heights Church offers a “Late Night Study Night” for any student, regardless if he or she is a member of the church, who needs a place to hang out and hammer down their schoolwork. The study sessions run from 9 p.m. to 1 a.m. the weeks before and during finals. The church also offers free energizing snacks and drinks to keep the students full, relaxed and focused.

Jacq Cline, assistant for the Downing Student Union, said students here. “CanDoo really belongs to 21,000 students. He has 21,000 owners,” Archey said. For students experiencing severe test anxiety or患有 the Anxiety and Depression Association, Archey suggested taking a “time-out” and practicing yoga, getting a massage or physically removing oneself from the stress triggers. Counting to 10 slowly and repeating the count also helps alleviate stress in a situation,

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WKU winds down with Pre-K activities

BY ANDREW HENDERSON
NEWSPAPER@WKUHERALD.COM

Students were given the opportunity to go back to a simpler time on Wednesday, jamming out to some 90s hits and taking the familiar break from the often-stressful world of college. Louisville freshman Amanda Sebago said her interest was captured by the hoopscotch and the potential for face painting. “I love doing this stuff. I love coloring. I think this is a great way to de-stress everybody,” Sebago said.

Gallatin, Tennessee freshman Brittany Ward said the idea for their project developed early on in class. When they began brainstorming about problems that affected Bowling Green and the country at large, anxiety amongst college students was brought up. She said the support for the project was overwhelming, and everyone decided to take up the issue as a project. “Every single person in our class made anxiety their No. 1 or No. 2 choice, so it was an overwhelming decision to go with it,” Ward said. From there, Ward said her class of eight other students broke off into groups to get an academic perspective of anxiety. She said groups studied the physiological affects of anxiety, gender roles and sexuality, emotional support animals and anxiety and anxiety in college students. She said the group’s extensive research led them to a surprising conclusion. “Our research through interviews of students on campus and looking through journal articles online showed the week before finals is actually the most stressful,” she said.

Independence freshman Molly Couch is one of the students involved with the project. She said the group’s project constructed the typical format of the class so they could collectively try to offer students a form of alleviation before finals. She said the project is meant to offer a little bit of time for students to not have to think about exams, studying or worrying about what they have to do next.

“We wanted to recapitulate the spirit of kindergarten and preschool where you didn’t have so much stuff to worry about,” Couch said. Ward said they also passed out information about how to cope with anxiety, and the group also worked with the Counseling and Testing Center on this to assure they were taking the appropriate steps. Ward said her biggest hope for the project was to give students the opportunity to experience the good old days when everything was a little more stress free.

“It’s kind of a sense of nostalgia, and it’s really a break for people’s everyday cycle,” she said.

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Students use hammocks, puppies to de-stress

BY NICOLE ARES
LIFE@WKUHERALD.COM

While finals week may seem like the end of the world, students are finding plenty of ways to take their minds off of late-night cram sessions and ways to take their minds off of the end of the world, students here.

The hammocks strung across trees around campus are a testament to good physical education major, said Couch. “We will do whatever it takes to get students here.”

“CanDoo really belongs to 21,000 students. He has 21,000 owners,” Archey said. For students experiencing severe test anxiety or患有 the Anxiety and Depression Association, Archey suggested taking a “time-out” and practicing yoga, getting a massage or physically removing oneself from the stress triggers. Counting to 10 slowly and repeating the count also helps alleviate stress in a situation,
Hilltoppers set to wrap up hot-and-cold season

BY JOHN REECER
SPORTS@WKUHERALD.COM

The Hilltoppers sit at 9-15-24 during conference play with only six conference games left, the Hilltoppers returned the favor and blew out the Bulldogs 15-6 in game two. Nevertheless, in under 24 hours the Hilltoppers returned the favor and blew out the Bulldogs 15-6 in game two.

Junior outfielder Anderson continues to prove to be one of the bright spots on the team with at least 40 innings pitched and a winning record (5-4). Josh Bartley is the only pitcher on the mound. WKU possesses a team ERA of 4.65 as junior pitcher and runs (43), all while sporting a .310 batting average on the season. Miller continues to prove to be one of the brightness on the season for WKU. Miller is currently second in Conference USA in home runs (12) and runs (48), all while sporting a .310 batting average on the season.

“Every day we are just trying to get to 1-0 at this point,” Miller said. “I just have to flush out everything that has happened these past couple of weekends and just look at every game as opening day.”

One of the main problems for the Hilltoppers in conference play proves to be the play on the mound. WKU possesses a team ERA of 4.65 as junior Josh Bartley is the only pitcher on the team with at least 40 innings pitched and a winning record (5-4).

The quality of play at home during conference play continues to be an area of concern for the Hilltoppers as nine of the team’s 15 conference losses occurred at Nick Denes Field this season. With only six conference games left, the Hilltoppers cannot afford to walk away with a losing record as they sit outside the conference play-offs.

“Everyone knows what’s going on so I’m not trying to increase the tension and pressure of these next couple of weeks,” Myers said. “I don’t want our senior Saturday to be just our senior Saturday. I want it to be a game that we need to win to get into the tournament.”

Winning the C-USA tournament will be the only way that WKU will earn a spot in the NCAA tournament considering that the team’s RPI presently stands at 93rd in the nation. The change from the Sun Belt to C-USA could’ve been a lot smoother for the Hilltoppers, but WKU has shown enough flashes of talent in its inaugural season in the conference to prove worth its pick. Only time will tell if the Hilltoppers can turn into one of the leaders of the conference year in and your out.

SPORTS CALENDAR

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<tr>
<th>Sunday</th>
<th>Monday</th>
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<th>Wednesday</th>
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<tr>
<td>BASEBALL VS. MARSHALL</td>
<td>Huntington, West Virginia at noon</td>
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<td>SOFTBALL VS. CHARLOTTE</td>
<td>Mintz at 10 am.</td>
<td>C-USA tournament</td>
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<tr>
<td>C-USA OUTDOOR TRACK AND FIELD</td>
<td>All Day</td>
<td>El Paso, Texas</td>
<td>All Day</td>
<td>BASEBALL VS. FLORIDIAN ATLANTIC</td>
<td>Bowling Green 6 p.m.</td>
<td>BASEBALL VS. MARSHALL</td>
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<td>C-USA OUTDOOR TRACK AND FIELD</td>
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<td>El Paso, Texas</td>
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<td>C-USA BASEBALL TOURNAMENT</td>
<td>Hattiesburg, Mississippi</td>
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<td>TRACK AND FIELD OUTDOOR NATIONAL CHAMPIONSHIPS</td>
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<td>Eugene, Oregon</td>
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Congratulations to...

Jessica "Abby" Zibart
Logan Secret
Wesley Osborne

Spring 2015 Library Student Assistant Scholarship Recipient
WKU Libraries & University Experience Student Research Award Recipients
BEYOND THE ARC

with WKU football strength and conditioning coach Justin Lovett.

The caption read, “Working it out at the gym, Justin. Former WKU basketball star Geoffrey George shows how he likes to keep the Toppers in tip-top shape.

Naturally, social media erupted at the shock of the news.

As the news spread, hundreds of replies poured in, with some expressing their love and support, while others asked for updates on his condition.

A few days later, Lovett released a statement, saying, “I appreciate the support from everyone. I’m working hard to get back to full health.”

The incident raised awareness about the importance of taking care of one’s mental and physical health.

Turn the page to read more about Lovett’s journey back to full health and the impact of this event on the WKU community.
less than impressive record, but within their 16 victories they field a series sweep of MTSU, who just recently swept WKU.

"This is the hand we have been dealt, and we can't do anything about that. Our goals still the same as it was at the start of the season and that's making the conference tournament," junior pitcher John Harmon said. "We have a tough road ahead, but I firmly believe that we are more than capable of doing that."

For the Hilltoppers, a point of emphasis in the series will be stopping the Marshall combination of senior infielder T.J. Diffenderfer and junior pitcher Chase Boster.

"They have really good starting pitching. Everyone in the league says that they have three really good arms that will give them a chance to win," Boster said. "Our arms will have to match theirs so that our offense doesn't feel the pressure because our offense is negated when we are behind."

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Diffenderfer is the Thundering Herd's best all-around hitter as he currently leads the team in RBI's (28), home runs (4) and doubles (10) while also having a .304 batting average. Boster is Marshall's best all-around pitcher as the right-hander is 5-1 on the season with a 2.59 ERA.

However, WKU should have a large advantage at the plate in the series as the Hilltoppers field a team batting average of .277 compared to the .260 average of the Thundering Herd. Marshall also only has 19 team home runs on the season compared to the Hilltoppers 41.

"We just have to find out everything that has happened these past couple of weekends and just look at every game as opening day," junior Anderson Miller said. "If we get into the tournament, we have a group of guys with our setup that can make a run."
Hilltoppers travel to Marshall for crucial conference series

• EVERYDAY
• Carryout
• Delivery

The Hilltopper baseball team (23-24) will travel to Huntington, West Virginia to play Marshall University (18-30) this weekend for what might be WKU's most important series of the season.

With a conference record of 9-15, the Hilltoppers are in a must-win situation. As they currently have eight conference wins, a three-game series against the Thundering Herd will be crucial for WKU's chances of making the conference playoffs.

According to Coach Jenkins, for each event the Hilltoppers meet to neutralize the points of their opponents. The throwers are expecting a good showing, who, according to Coach Jenkins, will really have to step up their game.

Senior Ja'Karyus Redwine was recognized with Indoor All-Americans for the second season in a row. He is expected to be the key player for the Hilltoppers in this game.

"We just got to keep playing hard," said Head Coach Matt Myers. "The Hilltoppers must win this series if they want to have any chance of making it to the conference playoffs.

"The Hilltoppers have shown great improvement over the past few weeks and I expect them to continue that trend in this game against Marshall.

"We plan on staying healthy, getting as many people in the field, and getting as many people in the front line to support the team. We will be ready to play, whether we win or lose," said Head Coach Matt Myers.

"This season the team has earned more than 50 C-USA honors, countless votes in their respective events, broken school records and the men were ranked in the top 15 in the OVC. We will execute for a full nine innings is our goal," said Head Coach Matt Myers.

"It's unfortunate we out played a lot of people and have not finished it lately. I expect this team to be ready Friday because they still know they can compete in their own hands. We will be ready to play, whether we will execute for a full nine innings is the big question."

HILLTOPPERS TRAVEL TO MARSHALL FOR CRUCIAL CONFERENCE SERIES

BY JOHN REECER

BY ALEXUS RICHARDSON

A successful WKU Track and Field regular season has come to an end, and in exactly one week, the program will head to El Paso, Texas for their inaugural outdoor Conference USA Championships.

This season the team has earned more than 50 C-USA honors, countless votes in their respective events, broken school records and the men were ranked in the top 15 in the OVC. We will execute for a full nine innings is our goal.

"Our game plan is simple," said Head Coach Erik Jenkins. "We plan on staying healthy, getting as many people in the front line, and getting as many people in the front line to support the team. We will be ready to play, whether we win or lose."