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WKU Student Affairs

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President Gary Ransdell announced via email Monday afternoon that portions of WKU’s 2015-2016 fiscal budget would be reallocated due to WKU facing “financial challenges.”

Ransdell cited two significant factors that contributed to WKU’s budget woes: decreased funding from the state and an enrollment decline.

Kentucky has provided additional non-state funds to support higher education since the 2010 biennial budget was passed and has been cutting funds in most years since then, according to the email. For enrollment, Kentucky’s public postsecondary universities and the Kentucky Community and Technical College System achieved enrollment of 228,636 in fall 2014, however by fall 2015, overall enrollment had declined in 219,500, a drop of 8.6 percent, with KCTCS experiencing the highest rate of enrollment decline.

WKU has lost $15.6 million in state funds since 2010 and internally reallocated an additional $7.1 million to meet WKU’s fixed costs increases and ensure a balanced budget annually, according to the email.

Cost drivers for WKU include scholarships and mandated tuition waivers, increases in employee benefits such as retirement, health care and workers compensation. Contractual obligations such as insurance, computer software, library subscriptions and maintenance are also considered costly to WKU. The increased expenditures of the cost drivers add up to $10.6 million that WKU needs to cover.

There are only three ways to cover the increased expenditures: increased state appropriation, increased tuition and/or reduction of existing aid, according to the email. WKU’s most significant cost driver is tuition, WKU’s tuition for undergraduate resident students for the 2016-17 academic year is $4,741 per semester.

The resident undergraduate tuition is capped at 3 percent for next fiscal year. However, WKU’s waivable tuition will generate approximately $4.3 million, but not only $1.3 million when enrollment losses are calculated. In order to achieve a balanced budget, WKU’s tuition for non-resident students will increase to $7,872, according to the email.

Ransdell said providing a breakdown of specific areas for how and why funds will be reallocated in the upcoming fiscal year’s budget would be of great interest to students. Because the food pantry was completely filled with cans, a mountain of canned goods lie on top of each other in the living room of the Office of Sustainability. The WKU food pantry is run by Madonna L. May, a student assistant at the Office of Sustainability. “Fifty-three people have come into the food pantry since January,” said May. “That’s already a quarter of the people that came in last year.”

The Hilltopper Pride check series will be available to purchase for a nominal fee.
Police cited Radcliff junior Brandon Price, a guard on the WKU basketball team and resident of Northeast Hall, on May 2 for failure to wear a seatbelt and possession of drug paraphernalia at Forrest Drive and Old Morgantown Road.

WKU Police responded to a report of a suspicious person on May 1 at the University Boulevard lot. Upon contact with the person, police said he was very irate after his vehicle was booted by Parking and Transportation.

Bowling Green freshman Ashton Hardin, Bemis Lawrence Hall, and Louisville freshman Takeia Gentry, Pearce-Ford Tower, were involved in a physical altercation on April 29 at PFT.

Police arrested Hebron junior Jared Adams, McCormack Hall, on April 29 in front of Grise Hall for an e-warrant out of the Warren County District Court.

Owensboro junior Darrel McCormick reported on April 29 his backpack and Dr. Dre Beat Pill speaker were stolen from behind his work desk on the third floor of the Downing Student Union. The estimated value of the stolen items was $353.95.

The division Enrollment Management will receive $457,000 to secure its base operations with permanent funding. Enrollment Management is responsible for Admissions, International Student Recruitment and Support Services. Other scholarship adjustments include department scholarships, faculty/staff dependent child scholarships, graduate fellowships and athletics grants-in-aid. The total increase for these scholarships is $819,400.

Division vice presidents are in the process of developing targeted reductions in each of their budgets and will have flexibility in how to manage impact on division operations. A detailed summary of how WKU will reallocate centralized funds is still being finalized.

The budget increase for WKU’s academic scholarships will increase almost $3.9 million in order to fund projected freshmen who are accepting scholarship awards and returning students. The entire scholarship program is being re-evaluated with changes coming with the entering class of fall 2016. Fixed cost increases for employee benefits, such as health insurance and retirement total almost $1.66 million. Contractual obligations, property insurance and utilities and maintenance on new square footage on campus require a budget increase of about $1.2 million.

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After an election controversy, the student government is looking to continue successes in SGA.

President-elect hopes to continue successes in SGA.

BY LASHANA HARNEY
10/1 WKHerald.com

Taylor's time at the Student Government Association (SGA), she said, has been eye-opening.

"I think the No. 1 thing that we have accomplished this year has been successful, but students how much I care and how much I want to make a difference," he said. "It is our job as student government to make SGA more inclusive.

"I think SGA definitely impacted my life, but not in the usual way," Taylor said. "It has made me familiar with the administration on campus.

"I would just kind of go to class, go to meetings, maybe have been involved in another student organization but I wouldn't feel that familiar and that involved in the day to day administrative life of the campus," she said.

"I hope this will show not only me but students how much I care and how much I want to make a difference," he said.

"The entire purpose of MyCampusToo is to make student government more inclusive, to make SGA more student-based and to show others how he is involved in the day to day administrative life of the campus," she said.

"I will not miss running around like a chicken with its head cut off and putting in long hours to do all the things," Taylor said. "I will not miss the pressure of turning."

"I will not miss the stress and stressful situations," Taylor said. "I will not miss the non-student responsibilities."
Together for a better future needs to be made, but WKU has made successful strides in the past few months. Pasting changes, insurance risks, membership cancellations, confusions regarding policies, issues of racial and sexual assault, hazed, road safety and student government issues—was there anything the Herald didn’t cover this semester?

The past four-and-a-half months have made a lasting mark on WKU. In February, the administration introduced a parking proposal that will likely solve many of the issues campus currently faces. Earth Week saw ways we can improve to make campus sustainable, as well as promises from new Student Government Association president-elect Todd Eichy to further those efforts next year.

The housing situation during Snowmageddon provided an impossibly immediate occasion of re-evaluating and reforming protocol for extreme weather. The campus community survived and thrived through circumstances that threatened to the heartbreaking and wonderful faculties’ efforts to their campuses, but it’s too soon to be forgotten.

An event half the country away prompted President Gary Ransdell to vehemently discourage racism at WKU. Later in the semester, he and other administrators made the decision to suspend the Swim & Dive team for five years as a zero-tolerance act against hazing and sexual harassment. This semester, Ransdell has proven that student safety is a top priority. It is a comfort to attend a university where student safety factors into so many important decisions.

As the year closes out, new classes learn in the fall of 2015. With them comes more breaking news, administrative decisions and face navigation. We do our best to report the news and also use our opinions page as a place to present our ideas about the world. We hold people in high positions accountable for their actions, and we continue to do that standard. Our main goal is to continue reporting and breaking important news that matters to this campus community, and provide a steady flow of transparency that is essential at a public university. We believe this is what our readers need and deserve.

As always, we are an ear for the campus community. If there’s something you think needs attention, we want to stand in solidarity with you. This is what our readers need and deserve.

The campus community survived and thrived through circumstances that threatened to bring the university. We hold people in high positions accountable for their actions, and we continue to do that standard. Our main goal is to continue reporting and breaking important news that matters to this campus community, and provide a steady flow of transparency that is essential at a public university. We believe this is what our readers need and deserve.

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MAY 5, 2015

THE FUN PAGE

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59 Lima is its capital
60 Ireland, poetically
61 Chianti and Merlot
63 Sombrero, e.g.
64 Battleship letters

SUDOKU

PREVIOUS CROSSWORD SOLUTION
TOP: Lavender Chrissie walks out of the Paddock onto the track for the 10th race of the Kentucky Oaks at Churchill Downs, Friday May 1. Chrissie finished the race in eighth place. HARRISON HILL/HERALD

TOP LEFT: Patrons make their way out of Churchill Downs after American Pharoah won the 141st Kentucky Derby in Louisville, Saturday May 2. The 2015 Kentucky Derby drew a record crowd of more than 170,000. NICOLE BOLLIAUX/HERALD

BOTTOM LEFT: Horseshoeer Steven Norman, from Midway, shoes Supersonic the morning of the 141st Kentucky Derby on the backside at Churchill Downs in Louisville on Friday, May 1. JEFF BROWN/HERALD

BOTTOM: Jockey Victor Espinoza celebrates after crossing the finish line first aboard American Pharoah during the 141st running of the Kentucky Derby May 2, at Churchill Downs in Louisville. It marks the second straight year Espinoza has won the the biggest horse race in North America after winning last year, riding California Chrome. LUKE FRANKE/HERALD
Senior shines as drag ‘diva’

BY NICOLE ARES
LIFE@WKUHERALD.COM

Drag queens are makeup artists, costume designers, choreographers and stage performers all in one. With little or no help at all, these men spend hours transforming themselves into majestic pieces of art, all for the rush of one performance.

A major subset of the drag community are drag divas—biological women who live to be mistaken as their male drag queen counterparts.

Musical theatre major by day and “bio-queen” by night, senior EB McKinney performs in drag shows as a biological female.

McKinney has taken on the persona of a bio-queen—a female performance artist who adopts the typical style of male drag queens—at Play Dance Bar in Nashville. “Girls in this region don’t call themselves bio-queens or faux-queens, they call themselves divas and get insulted when someone calls them anything else,” explained McKinney. “I prefer for someone to call me a bio-queen.”

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Glasgow senior EB McKinney performs as a drag diva at Play, a Nashville club, on the weekends. She is a biologically female performer, but uses techniques and a stage presence similar to those of female impersonators.

PHOTO ILLUSTRATION BY LEANORA BENKATO & KEVIN HENLEY/HERALD

RAs provide unique atmosphere for residents

BY ABBY PONDER
LIFE@WKUHERALD.COM

Semester after semester, resident assistants plaster tiny cut-outs of cartoon characters on the doors of their residents. RAs, however, do much more than peruse Pinterest and come up with unique events for students.

“For me, it’s about the relationships that you build,” said Parish Richard, a sophomore from Radcliff. “I’ve met so many cool people that are now good friends of mine just from being an RA. That’s probably the biggest thing for me: the relationships that let you connect with people.”

In addition to building community environments, RAs also create bulletin boards and door decorations, or “door decs,” three times per semester. While the floor themes don’t have to convey a universal message across all the buildings on campus, they are intended to be informative and educational, but also creative.

Richard said she designs her floor themes in Gilbert Hall around relevant topics. Around Valentine’s Day, she organized a bulletin board highlighting the do’s and don’ts of dating.

“For me, personally, I’ll pick themes based on what’s going on around campus or stuff that I’ve specifically done,” she said. “When I studied abroad and went to Costa Rica, I made my whole theme of door decs and stuff about studying abroad using globes.”

In Minton Hall, former RA and Shepherdsville junior McKenzie Pendle described her creative process as one of “just having fun.” She uses a Pinterest page as a starting point, but then adds her own unique twist to the theme. “I enjoy the relationships I’ve built with people more than anything,” Pendle said about her time as an RA.

SEE DIVA PAGE B3

SEE RA PAGE B3
I’ll Sell Back

Books for Cash
May 4 - May 15

The WKU Store, Main Campus in DSU
Monday-Friday 7:30 - 5:00
Saturday 10:00 - 2:00

May 11 - May 15

Sellback Trailer in The Valley
Monday-Friday 9:00 am - 4:00 pm

Sellback Trailer at PFT
Monday-Friday 9:00 am - 4:00 pm

Nashville Road Store
Monday-Friday 10:00 am - 5:00 pm
Saturday 10:00 am - 2:00 pm
Campus Activities to host stress-relieving events

Kamiah Champion, CAB President

"It's like going to the club or going to a bar or club and audience members try to incorporate what they do in musical theater, film and television into a new form. It's allowing her to combine her passion for different arts," explained McKinney. "So I will be an outlet for others who are thinking of becoming drag queens."

Despite the new, McKinney still has the utmost respect for the original queens, she said. "I have always had the utmost respect for all of the same sex drag queens. This is a forgotten and disrespected art form," says McKinney. "The time, dedication and money that these men sacrified to be a performer is extraordinary." At first, McKinney worried about coming from a small college and weak banter. But after hearing the work that went into being a drag queen, she realized she would like to incorporate what they do into her costume and makeup.

"I spend two or three days shopping around Goodwill, Hobby Lobby, Marshalls and one in seven men will have some kind of sexual assault experience in their lifetime, according to a survey conducted by the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention. College-aged women in particular are area to any organization," says McKinney. "We just hope we have a good turn-out."

Laves said that the posters also challenge ideas about consent, such as "no means yes," "if she didn't say anything, they will think before they act," Skipper said. As long as he hopes by McKinney. "We're doing this to allow people to express themselves in a different medium."

Elizabeth Madariaga, Sexual Assault service coordinator

"If you are interested in music, in being an entertainer, or are interested in any other performance arts," says McKinney. "You have to be a bio-queen because as a performer it's a platform for you to express yourself."

"In the future, I would like to continue performing in live events, but helping and learning from other drag queens," McKinney said.

"In my opinion, musical theater and drag are the most fun," McKinney said. "It's a little bit of fun for everybody no matter what you like to do," Dunn said. CAB is also sponsoring the Food Court concert following the end of CAB-OOM.

"Paint U is basically a big paint party," said Dunn. "We will be celebrating our annual CAB-OOM event on May 4 at South Lawn. CAB-OOM has been going on for several years now."

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### The Final Countdown

**Free Events to Attend During Finals Week**

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<thead>
<tr>
<th>Sunday</th>
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<th>Wednesday</th>
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<tbody>
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<td><strong>MAY 11</strong></td>
<td><strong>MAY 13</strong></td>
<td><strong>MAY 14</strong></td>
<td><strong>MAY 15</strong></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Starbucks Exam Jam Free coffee and cookies 8 - 10 p.m. DSU</td>
<td>Paws for Stress 1 - 4 p.m. DSU courtyard</td>
<td>Latino Recognition Ceremony 6 - 9 p.m. Kentucky Building Welcome Center</td>
<td>Navitas Graduation Ceremony 2 - 4 p.m. DSU 1071</td>
<td>Grad Ceremony 5 p.m. Diddle Arena</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Iowa City Library Exam Jam Free coffee and cookies 10 p.m. - midnight Helm-Cravens library</td>
<td>Starbucks Exam Jam Free coffee and cookies 8 - 10 p.m. DSU</td>
<td>Starbucks Exam Jam Free coffee and cookies 8 - 10 p.m. DSU</td>
<td>Starbucks Exam Jam Free coffee and cookies 8 - 10 p.m. DSU</td>
<td>Outstanding Black Graduates Ceremony 7 - 11 p.m. Van Meter Hall 0204</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Iowa City Library Exam Jam Free coffee and cookies 10 p.m. - midnight Helm-Cravens library</td>
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### 2015 Spring Finals Schedule

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Time</th>
<th>Monday</th>
<th>Tuesday</th>
<th>Wednesday</th>
<th>Thursday</th>
<th>Friday</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>8:00 A.M. TO 10:00 A.M.</td>
<td>Classes meeting first at 11:10 a.m. Tuesday</td>
<td>Classes meeting first at 9:10 a.m. Monday</td>
<td>Two Sections of ACCT 200, 201, CHEM 222 and FIN 330</td>
<td>Multiple Sections of ACCT 200, 201, CHEM 222 and FIN 330</td>
<td>Reserved for Study</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>10:30 A.M. TO 12:30 P.M.</td>
<td>Classes meeting first at 11:30 a.m. Monday</td>
<td>Classes meeting first at 12:45 p.m. Tuesday</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td>Classes meeting first at 10:20 a.m. Monday</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>1:00 P.M. TO 3:00 P.M.</td>
<td>Classes meeting first at 12:20 p.m. Tuesday</td>
<td>Classes meeting first at 12:40 p.m. Monday</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td>Classes meeting first at 9:30 a.m. Tuesday</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>3:45 P.M. TO 5:45 P.M.</td>
<td>Classes meeting at 4:30 p.m. Monday only; 4:00 p.m. Mon/ Wed</td>
<td>Classes meeting at 3:30 p.m. Tuesday only; 3:30 p.m. Tues/Thurs</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td>Classes meeting at 3:30 p.m. Thursday only; 5:00 p.m. Tues/Thurs</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>6:00 P.M. TO 8:00 P.M.</td>
<td>Classes meeting at 5:30 p.m. Monday only; 7:00 p.m. Monday only; 7:00 p.m. Mon/ Wed</td>
<td>Classes meeting at 5:00 p.m. Tuesday only; 6:30 p.m. Tuesday only; 6:30 p.m. Tues/Thurs only</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td>Classes meeting at 5:00 p.m. Thursday only; 6:30 p.m. Thursday only</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

### Late Afternoon & Night Classes

**NOTES:**

1.) All final examinations for Main Campus and South Campus courses must be administered according to this schedule.
2.) Final examinations for regional campus courses are administered at the regular class meeting time during finals week.
3.) Class times not included in the above schedule will have a final examination time selected by the instructor and approved by the department head.

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**Congratulations!**

**VOTED BEST SORORITY - BEST OF THE HILL 2015**
Food changes coming to WKU next semester

BY JESSICA VOORHEES
NEWS@WKUHERALD.COM

New food options rest on the horizon for WKU students, including beer, international fare and gelato.

Gary Meszaros, assistant vice president of Building and Auxiliary Services, said the biggest upcoming change in dining will be Brew Pub, a restaurant featuring alcoholic beverages, sandwiches and a dance floor. Steve Hoyng, resident district manager for Aramark, said Brew Pub will include mostly "bar food," such as double dogs, hamburgers and jalapeño poppers.

Meszaros said the restaurant will reside in the Garrett Conference Center on the main floor. He said renovation of the building will take place in 2017, and he will meet with architects and people from Student Affairs on Friday to draw up the plans.

"We're still going through the process, and nothing is final," Meszaros said.

The Student Government Association requested the availability of beer on campus in December.

Meszaros said next year the Passport Café will open in the new Honors College and International building in August or September. He said the café will provide a small snack bar to students.

Hoyng said the café will also feature gelato and American items with "international flair."

Hoying said the menu of Redzone will change next year to keep student favorites, such as chicken fingers and pancakes and eliminate other less popular items, such as the Kentucky bourbon salad.

Hoying said the WKU Restaurant Group will discuss redesigning the menu at Fresh Food Company and the operating hours of dining locations on campus at the end of the school year.

Calendarn

TUESDAY, MAY 5

Valleypalooza: Cinco de Mayo Edition
Location: The Valley
Time: 1 p.m.

"Last Chance to Dance"
Location: Fine Arts Center Russell Miller Theatre, Room 0214
Time: 4 p.m.
Admission: Free

Student Government Association Meeting
Location: Downing Student Union 2081
Time: 5 p.m.

Teafusion Workshops
Location: Tea Bayou, 906 State St. 42101
Time: 12 p.m.

Bowling Green Farmer’s Market
Location: 1731 Scottsville Road
Time: 6 p.m.

Invisible Universe
Location: Hardin Planetarium
Time: 7 p.m.

WEDNESDAY, MAY 6

"Why People are Bad" Food for Thought
Location: Knicley Conference Center
Time: 11 a.m.

Student Identity Outreach
Location: DSU 2122
Time: 7 p.m.

Gatton Academy Expansion Celebration
Location: Gatton Academy Library
Time: 4 p.m.

THURSDAY, MAY 7

CAB-OOM
Location: South Lawn
Time: 2 p.m.

Time: 7 p.m.

African Drum Circle
Location: DSU 1037
Time: 7 p.m.

FRIDAY, MAY 8

Best Buddies End of the Year Banquet
Location: DSU 1037
Time: 6 p.m.

SATURDAY, MAY 9

Pickin’ on the Patio
Location: Boyce General Store
10551 Woodburn Allen Springs Rd,
Alwaton, KY 42122
Time: 5:30 p.m.
Mural Guest: Todd Strangler

Around the World in 80 Minutes
Location: Fine Arts Center Recital Hall
Time: 3 p.m.
Admission: Free

ENHANCE your MOTIVATION

Alex Oldham, WKU Junior
Psychology Major
Bowling Green, Kentucky
TOP: Owensboro graduate student Gabby Canant (center) cheers for All Deeds Done during Mayhem on Friday at Circus Square Park.

LEFT: Andrew Shepard plays with his band Roadkill Ghost Choir during Mayhem on Friday at Circus Square Park. The free concert, hosted by Revolution 91.7, featured nine local and regional bands with proceeds from the event going to support Rainhill Equine Facility.

MIDDLE LEFT: Arafat Amira from Prince Hookah Lounge smokes hookah during Mayhem.

BOTTOM: Lucas Loyd performs with his band All Deeds Done during Mayhem.
The second rung in the ladder had become easier for her to climb than the first and the third rungs more so than the second and so on. She has done this before.

Just the season before the former WKU player was climbing a similar ladder in New Orleans, cutting down the net in celebration of her first conference championship with WKU. But her journey to the Hill and all the success that has come with it, is not unique; it is not what you would expect from a proven Division I coach.

“We’re pretty funny. I think my story is a little bit different than most people’s,” Head Coach Michelle Clark-heard said. “I didn’t start playing basketball till the 8th grade, but I knew I wanted to be a basketball player and tryout, saying that if she didn’t like it, at least she tried. “So I showed up at tryouts and of course he made it seem like I was the best player in the gym, which I wasn’t,” Clark-heard said. “But I am just very thankful for having someone that recognized she tryout.”

“I wanted to be really good. I lived right across the street from a park, which is why I wanted to be a basketball player. I learned to love basketball under Head Coach Jerry Wilson at Atherton High School in Louisville. Wilson saw potential in the athletic freshman and insist she tryout. “He knew who my friends were and everything about me; I didn’t start playing basketball till the 8th grade, but I knew I wanted to be a basketball player,” Clark-heard said.

Wilson pushed Michelle to at least go to the tryout, saying that if she didn’t like it, at least she tried. “So I showed up at tryouts and of course it seemed like I was the best player in the gym, which I wasn’t,” Clark-Heard said. “But I am just very thankful for having someone that recognized me… From that day forth, he became a really big inspiration in my life.”

Growing up on the east end of Oak Street in downtown Louisville, Clark-Heard lived across the street from Butl Park, where, after she received a gift from Coach Wilson, she learned the art of determination.

“The more I was around basketball the more that I loved it, and the more I thought I wanted to be really good. I loved right across the street from a park, which is why I wanted to be a basketball player. I learned to love basketball under Head Coach Jerry Wilson at Atherton High School in Louisville. Wilson saw potential in the athletic freshman and insisted she tryout.”

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Congratulations to our Fall 2014 and Spring 2015 Study Abroad Photo Contest Winners!

Spring 2015 Global Classroom, Courtney Shearon, Belize

Spring 2015 Hilltoppers Abroad, Merry Krueger, United Kingdom

Spring 2015 New Horizons, Shelby Higginbotham, Wales

Spring 2015 Thank You WKU, McKenzie Perdew, United Kingdom

Fall 2014 Cultural Encounters, Andrew Miller, Oman

Fall 2014 New Horizons, Erin Burris, United Kingdom

Fall 2014 Global Classroom, Kelli Ralston, Germany

Fall 2014 Hilltoppers Abroad, Sarah Stackhouse, Italy

Find out how you can SET YOURSELF APART through Study Abroad!
Visit our website for more information: www.wku.edu/studyabroad
was actually really beneficial to me; it gave me my first red, white and blue experience," Clark-Heard said. "I really need that to work out for me."

While her introduction to basketball was later than that of most of her high school teammates, it didn't take long for Clark-Heard to establish herself as a top athlete in the state of Kentucky. "I was one of the best athletes on the side of their respective sports. She remembered playing in Diddle Arena with Atherton in the state bas- ketball championship game. Clark-Heard went on recruitment visits to San Diego and WKU, but after her visit to the latter, she said she knew her new home would be at WKU. As a four-year letter winner, she contributed to a team that saw four out of high school, offering me before anybody else in the state what she has done." Sanderford coached Clark-Heard during her time as a student-athlete at WKU. As a four-year letter winner, she contributed to a team that saw four,

The more I was around basketball the more that I loved it, and the more I wanted to be really good, I lived right across the street from a park, which was actually really beneficial to me."

Michelle Clark-Heard, Women's Basketball Coach

NCAA tournaments, two Sun Belt Confer- ence tournaments (1989, 1998), and totalled 99 wins. Upon graduation, Clark-Heard spent eight and a half years between Bowling Green and Louisville working in vari- ous parks and recreation departments. After relocating from Bowling Green Parks and Recreation to Louisville, she decided she wanted to get back into basketball. Ken Smith, head coach at Dupont Manual High School, was familiar with basketball tournament and being mentored by the size and enthusiasm of the crowds. She was drawn into the competitive atmosphere that WKU provided. There was one more thing that WKU provided that no other university did have and that was the scholarship opportunity. "Coach Sanderford and the staff of- fered me a scholarship, and they were the first to offer—I never forgot that," Clark-Heard said. "I don't know if you have noticed but Michelle has huge hands," Sanderford said. "One of the first things I noticed about Clark-Heard was getting job, Division II), five years as an assistant at Cincinnati, two years at the University of Nebraska," Sanderford said, who was anxious to give Clark-Heard the opportunity of credit for believing in me, coming away from a good job, but that is really what she wanted to do, so I hired her as a GA and she went to graduate school at the University of Nebraska," Sanderford said. "Once she graduated, I had an opening and hired her as an assistant coach."

Clark-Heard's coaching career pro- posed as follows: one year as an as- sistant at Dupont Manual High School under Ken Smith, four years (GA/As- istant) at Nebraska, three years as an assistant at Cincinnati, two years at Kentucky State (her first head coach- ing job, Division II), five years as an assistant at Volf, and current head coach at WKU (three seasons and counting).

The bounce from program to program allowed Clark-Heard to observe many different coaching styles and really come to terms with the style of coach she aspired to be. "I didn't know if I wanted to be a head coach at first, but since I got the Divi- sion II head coaching job of course I loved it," Clark-Heard said. "I loved the part of seeing and knowing that the players and coaches were doing, and wondering what was going on. And I really liked that part, and I didn't re- alize that until I got to Kentucky State."

Not only did she gain her first head coaching experience at Kentucky State, but also the confidence, vision and basketball IQ required to be a successful coach in Division I. "I really got there (Kentucky State), but I think what really helped push me and made me the coach I am today (was at my time (at Louisville)) Clark-Heard said. "I knew I had laid down the foundation of what kind of coach I wanted to be at Kentucky State, WKU weighs more and more on her mind."

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"I came in one day to the office with a woman from the school who looks over me," Clark-Heard said. "At first I actually thought she might be talking to me about one of my players (trying out for the team)." In the upcoming weeks, Clark-Heard will shift her focus to the U.S. national team. From May 13 to 17, trials will be held for the U.S. Women's Basketball national team.

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WKU drops in close series against conference rival MTSU

By John Reecer
Sports@WKUHerald.com

The WKU baseball team (23-20) dropped all three of its conference games this weekend against rival Middle Tennessee State (28-20) in Murfreesboro, Tennessee in heartbreaking fashion.

In the first two contests, the Blue Raiders managed to mount comebacks late to win on the last at bats of both match ups. The sweep puts WKU at ninth place in the conference standings, meaning the Hilltoppers are currently out of the conference tournament.

“It’s unfortunate,” Head Coach Matt Myers said. “We got to make plays to win. We had enough chances to make plays this series, and we just didn’t do that.”

The first game saw an all-around performance from the Hilltoppers for the first seven innings as WKU held on to a 4-2 lead. The Blue Raiders, however, mounted a fierce comeback to score three runs in the final two innings.

Junior starter John Harman gave the Hilltoppers a quality start. The right-hander lasted 5.1 innings, only giving up two runs on seven hits. Following his effort with a solo home run in the first inning, and senior first baseman Ryan Church, who continued his hot streak with two hits and an RBI.

The second match up saw most of the same heartbreak for WKU as the Blue Raiders rallied from a 4-3 deficit in the ninth inning to win 5-4.

The critical play of the game occurred with two outs and two strikes left in the bottom of the ninth. MTSU hit a single out to right field. Junior right fielder Trevor Lowe fumbled the ball and threw it to home plate in attempt to stop the game挽救ing run from scoring, but MTSU managed to stop around the tag to tie the game at 4-4.

“That should have been an out, and it shouldn’t have ever happened,” Myers said. “We weren’t ready to make the tag there, but you can’t ask for a bet- ter throw from Trevor Lowe.”

Senior pitcher Brennan Pearson went 6.1 innings, only giving up three runs on seven hits. Sophomore pitcher Kevin Elder also gave Pearson solid relief.

“Kevin Elder was outstanding tonight, and he was so gutsy,” Myers said. “We did not deserve that kind of result.”

The last game of the series on Sunday, showcased a Blue Raider victory as MTSU out-hit WKU 12-8. The Hilltoppers committed three errors in the 9-2 blowout.

“Those guys over there just have some mojo going right now,” Myers said. “They aren’t better than us, but they have a lot of moxie right now. We just have to find some ways to win.”

The Hilltoppers will be back in action in their final mid-week game this week against Lipscomb University in Nashville on Tuesday at 6 p.m. They will visit Marshall in a pivotal three-game league series next weekend.

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CLARK-HEARD
CONTINUED FROM C3

I think that is one of the things that has made her the very successful coach—she understands what it takes to be a great teammate.”

Paul Sanderford

Sanderford and Clark-Heard have been together for the last 19 years, which is huge for any coach.”

For Clark-Heard, the conference championships and NCAA appearances are exciting and well-earned, but they are not all pieces to her puzzle as a coach.

“For all my players, I feel like I had a part in their growing up and in their maturity...I am just so proud of Michelle and her accomplishments—I take a lot of pride in that,” Sanderford said. “I think her strongest asset is her ability to connect with the players, which is huge for any coach.”

Photography by Paul Sanderford

For more information, please visit the WKU Athletics website at www.wku.edu/athletics.
The National Football League hosted its three-day draft last weekend and no players from the WKU football team were selected. However, three former players continued to gain some buzz and have now signed undrafted free agent contracts with three different teams. Offensive tackle Cameron Clemmons signed with the San Diego Chargers, tight end Mitchell Henry is headed to Green Bay and cornerback Cam Thomas will join the Buffalo Bills. The men will join seven former Hilltoppers who were in the NFL last season, including linebacker Andrew Jackson of the Indianapolis Colts and cornerback Jonathan Dowling of the Oakland Raiders, both selected in the 2014 NFL draft. Other former Hilltoppers in the NFL include running back Antonio Andrews, who played with the Tennessee Titans last season; running back Bobby Rainey, who is a Super Bowl winner with the Ravens and currently is signed to the Tampa Bay Buccaneers; and tight end Jack Doyle, who is currently signed to his hometown team, the Indianapolis Colts. Defensive back Derrius Brooks has found a home with fellow former Topper Bobby Rainey on the Tampa Bay Buccaneers roster. Rounding out the pro Toppers is defensive end Quanterus Smith, who is currently under contract with the Denver Broncos.

Herald Sports Staff
Sports@WKUHerald.com

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Toppers finish regular season at Kentucky Relays

BY ALEXUS RICHARDSON

The Lady Toppers (31-12, 16-5), who were picked to finish fifth in a pre-season poll, have finished their regular season in Conference USA regular season champions. The finishes of the regular season against Middle Tennessee (22-29, 5-19) ended with WKU sweeping the series 2-1.

The first two games were played on Saturday, April 11, at the Mt. SAC Relays. Game one, 4-3, but fixing game two tied due to MTSU’s strength at the mound.

Game three was played Sunday, April 12, at the conference regular season Championship with the last run scored 11-7.

“I think we all feel good about how the season went,” said Kramer. “It’s kind of crazy to think that I have three in one year under Coach Tudor. It’s great. It’s exciting.”

WKU took advantage of the middle Tennessee pitchers, who collectively had nine hits. LaRosa contributed six hits to the game along with Shawna Sadler post- ing five. Kramer contributed three runs for the Lady Toppers.

Franklin began the game with a single, but quickly got out of the first after Franklin hit a single, but was out at second base. Sadler hit a single and a walk. WKU’s pitcher for the first game was Megan Chocallo (5-5), who gave up seven hits, five runs, and one walk. WKU's pitcher for the second game was Janna Scheff, who threw a grand slam over center field in the second inning to set the tone for the game. The final run for the Lady Toppers came in the fifth, when Breese Holloway had a hit and a walk. WKU’s pitcher for the third game was Janna Scheff, who went 1.1 innings, allowing just four hits and one walk. WKU’s pitcher for the fourth game was Megan Chocallo, who gave up seven hits, five runs, and one walk. WKU’s pitcher for the fifth game was Sadler, who had made the score 4-0 after two back-to-back singles, an RBI and a single.

The last run for MTSU was in the sixth inning, when Sadler came up to bat. Sadler had batted the left field, pulled back 9-4. Due to a home run hit by Sadler, who is a single by Frankin single, and a single by Sadler, and was based off of a Hannah groundout and an error from Chocallo.

Game Three WKU-3, MTSU-2

Middle Tennessee posted a total of three pitchers in the circle during the last and final game of the series. The Blue Raider senior Cassie McGhee (5-4) took the loss, giving up four runs, four hits, and one walk. WKU’s pitcher for the final game was Sadler, who had the score 4-0 after two back-to-back singles, an RBI and a single.

In the third frame, MTSU had two scorers on base due to two walks. By the bottom of the fourth, the Blue Raiders had made the score 4-0 after back-to-back singles, an RBI hit to center and home was bunted by Carlie Jenkins.

The Lady Toppers matched six hits in the fifth inning and pulled back 9-4. Due to a home run hit by Sadler, who is a single by Frankin single, and a single by Sadler, and was based off of a Hannah groundout and an error from Chocallo.

“We never even threw a no-hitter until this year, so it’s just kind of crazy to me that I have three in one year under Coach Tudor. It’s great,” said Kramer.

Traffic and field

The Lady Toppers clenched C-USA regular season title by BY HUNTER FRONT

SPORTS@WKUHERALD.COM

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The Lady Toppers clenched C-USA regular season title by HUNTER FRONT

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The Lady Toppers (31-12, 16-5), who were picked to finish fifth in a pre-season poll, have finished their regular season in Conference USA regular season champions. The finishes of the regular season against Middle Tennessee (22-29, 5-19) ended with WKU sweeping the series 2-1.

The first two games were played on Saturday, April 11, at the Mt. SAC Relays. Game one, 4-3, but fixing game two tied due to MTSU’s strength at the mound.

Game three was played Sunday, April 12, at the conference regular season Championship with the last run scored 11-7.

“I think we all feel good about how the season went,” said Kramer. “It’s kind of crazy to think that I have three in one year under Coach Tudor. It’s great. It’s exciting.”

WKU took advantage of the middle Tennessee pitchers, who collectively had nine hits. LaRosa contributed six hits to the game along with Shawna Sadler post- ing five. Kramer contributed three runs for the Lady Toppers.

Franklin began the game with a single, but quickly got out of the first after Franklin hit a single, but was out at second base. Sadler hit a single and a walk. WKU’s pitcher for the first game was Megan Chocallo (5-5), who gave up seven hits, five runs, and one walk. WKU’s pitcher for the second game was Janna Scheff, who went 1.1 innings, allowing just four hits and one walk. WKU’s pitcher for the third game was Janna Scheff, who went 1.1 innings, allowing just four hits and one walk. WKU’s pitcher for the fourth game was Megan Chocallo, who gave up seven hits, five runs, and one walk. WKU’s pitcher for the fifth game was Sadler, who had made the score 4-0 after two back-to-back singles, an RBI and a single.

The last run for MTSU was in the sixth inning, when Sadler came up to bat. Sadler had batted the left field, pulled back 9-4. Due to a home run hit by Sadler, who is a single by Frankin single, and a single by Sadler, and was based off of a Hannah groundout and an error from Chocallo.