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Let the games begin

“Let the games begin”

Members of Alpha Phi Alpha fraternity perform the step portion of their routine during Spring Sing on Sunday evening. The fraternity did a routine with songs inspired by the game Bop It.

For more on Spring Sing see Diversions, page 10A

WKU will repair five steam lines this summer

WKU officials have determined that construction on broken steam lines around campus would be more aesthetically unpleasing than the constant leaks now, such as the one outside Matney Hall.

Five broken steam lines will be repaired this summer, said Bryan Russell, director of Planning, Design and Construction.

President Gary Ransdell said the project was saved until the summer because of the inconvenience it may bring people on campus.

“It just goes to be ugly and disruptive,” he said.

The process involves digging up steam pipes in five different locations, between Min- son Hall and Downing University Center, by Bennie Lawrence Hall and Barnes-Campbell Hall, by Wetherby Administration Building and Potter Hall, by Bates-Runner Hall and at the steam plant itself.

WKU’s hours could change this summer

WKU is considering changing its summer operating hours to 7:30 a.m. to 3 p.m. to save on air conditioning costs. In previous summers, the university has opened from 8 a.m. to 4 p.m.

Last year, vice president of Campus Services and Facilities, said the university plans to make an official announcement within the next week.

President Gary Ransdell said the new schedule has not been announced because officials are still collecting feedback.

“We’ve run the numbers and studied the data, and the bottom line is we need and peak hours of billing for energy ... we spend far fewer afternoon hours during the late summer,” he said.

Behind the Bells

Student plays bells at Guthrie twice a month

When Louisville junior Micha- el Masud patrolled Iraq as a Marine in 2006, he had no idea a future classmate and friend was there too, experiencing the other side of occupation.

Marcell is studying abroad at American University in Dubai, a city in the West Bank.

Marcell said in a Skype interview.

Marcell’s father was a Palestinian am- her family at the same time Mar- cell became real friends.

Friends of hers were killed by Israeli soldiers.

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senate meeting, 5 p.m., dowling university center 305 | college of health and human services majors and minors fair, 11 a.m. to 2 p.m., duc courtyard | baseball vs. arkansas state, 6 p.m., nick denes field opera theater — “crossing over: the classical singer goes to broadway,” 7:30 p.m., fine arts center 189

*A Taste of Honey,” 6 p.m., gordon wilson lab theatre. this play follows a young woman trying to find her way through life and love in working-class england.

saturday southern kentucky book fest, 9 a.m. to 3 p.m., carroll knicely conference center opera theater — “crossing over: the classical singer goes to broadway,” 7:30 p.m., fine arts center 189 baseball vs. arkansas state, 3 p.m., nick denes field gamers’ guild meeting, 5 p.m. to 10:45 p.m., duc 318

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Hundreds celebrate Downing's life at funeral Friday

By COLE CLAYBURN

As Dero Downing's body made its way through the aisles of St. James United Methodist Church on Friday, April 8, many hundreds lined the sides and gathered in the lobby outside of the funeral building outside of Downing's family and friends. It was almost as if the whole community was attending their good friend's funeral. Downing was WKU's fourth president, and his words reverberated in the minds of those who knew him and loved him. His passing was a shock to those who knew him, and his absence will be felt deeply.

The first time I got to see him, I was just for the few remaining weeks of winter. He bought it in 1947. It was his most prized possession. Throughout the winter, that coat wrapped me and my baby girl with love and warmth from my daddy’s hands.

Harriet Downing, the late Dero Downing’s wife, leaves the church behind her husband’s casket on Friday's service. It was late Friday afternoon, and she needed a winter coat, but she didn’t like the idea of buying a new coat just for the few remaining weeks of winter. “So Daddy offered me his coat,” she said. “He told me to take it, and I’m pretty sure he never wore it again.”

Bard received a Bible passage from the book of Ephesians in which Paul says not to be selfish, but to be humble and think of others as better than yourself. Ephesians in which Paul says not to be selfish, but to be humble and think of others as better than yourself.

Downing became well-known during his time as an administrator for publishing the WKU carillon and cleaning up any litter on the WKU campus.

Whether Brown just plays twice a month, he said, he takes well-known melodies and harmonizes them to relax. He said the bells make WKU town listen to, and he thinks it’s something that resonates all over campus and part of town.

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COLE CLAYBURN

When Dero Downing came to WKU as a freshman in the fall of 1934, he began a practice of sending handwritten letters to nearly everyone he met at WKU. By 1964, when Downing joined the Navy as a captain in World War II, he had written hundreds of letters.

“Each of his children, grandchildren, nieces or nephews, brothers or sisters had his or her own version of that coat — of Dero’s love and gracefulness,” Elizabeth Downing stated.

Fourteen years later, Goodman. It was late Friday afternoon, and she needed a winter coat, but she didn’t like the idea of buying a new coat just for the few remaining weeks of winter.

“Each of his children, grandchildren, nieces or nephews, brothers or sisters had his or her own version of that coat — of Dero’s love and gracefulness,” Elizabeth Downing stated.

Brown plans on playing the bells for as long as the scholarship allows him to, but he’s not sure when that time is up.

But he’s not sure when that time is up.

“I think it’s really neat to play something that resonates all over campus and part of town,” Brown said. “I play a recital that everyone in the whole city comes to listen to, and I think it’s such a huge honor to play this instrument in such a grand movement.”

LaGrange's Amanda Newman said the bell tower was one of the first things she noticed when she came to WKU.

She said the bells make WKU different from other campuses, and sometimes she just listens to them to relax.

“Downing’s grandson, Donald Smith, said most of the time they’ll act like adults. He had to nod agreement to that.”

In his closing remarks, Bard reminded those in attendance to always remember the way in which Downing lived his life and how he treated others.

“Write a letter, sing a song, praise God and lift someone up,” he said. “Make their day brighter and their load lighter. Live with passion and a vision that will outlast you. That is what our life coach Dero Downing did.”

Brown said people tried a word of encouragement someone he thought could use a word of encouragement or even someone he thought deserved a note of praise.

“I taught so much about character, integrity, relationships, perseverance, humility, kindness and love,” Smith said. “But we learned all of that through so much more than his words. We learned it through his actions.”

Even if Downing didn’t agree with something someone was doing, he’d take a gentle approach to it. He taught us so much about character, integrity, relationships, perseverance, humility, kindness and love,” Smith said.

But the letters were just one way that Downing became well-known during his time as an administrator for publishing the WKU carillon and cleaning up any litter on the WKU campus.

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When Reverend Rick Bard asked those in attendance who had ever received a letter from a Dero Downing, many hands went up. He had to nod agreement to that.

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Even if Downing didn’t agree with something someone was doing, he’d take a gentle approach to it. He taught us so much about character, integrity, relationships, perseverance, humility, kindness and love,” Smith said.
Wealthy students operate with a different set of rules than the rest of us and often spend money on things that seem like nonsense to us. Despite student complaints, students seem uninterested in political participation. SGA representatives become leaders from new, active students. But since executives positions were unopposed in the most recent election. And there were also only 35 candidates competing for 38

As students continue to ignore opportunities for input — elections, surveys, focus groups — they limit the reach of bodies like SGA to serving the whole campus. Essentially, an overall lack of participation leads to the same small group of students fighting for issues to benefit their individual agendas. And if the same people get re-elected again, SGA energy, funding, and support will be pooled into the same subset of students who win each year, which keeps the growth of student life at a standstill.

Similarly, the first leaders are the decision-makers for the majority of students, there will likely be little room for a difference in thinking. This is not to say the current SGA leaders are doing anything wrong. But, for instance, two of the three executive positions were unopposed in the student government election. And there were also only 35 candidates competing for 38 positions.

Likewise, there should be a level of competition and challenge to incumbent offi
cers from new, active students. But since there is not, SGA representatives become

regulatory; they have a defi nite preference to be very price conscious and

buyers or romantic buyers. Classic buyers tend to be very price conscious and

need it, it was so inexpensive I couldn’t

get a handle on it. So, I bought it.

The SGA president, for example, is

unaware of the impact groups like SGA can make. They will be caught in situations they might not have experienced since their introduction in 1949.

Eisenberg also documents how ex-
censive shopping can be considered an unhealthy addiction. But unlike other

self-destructive behaviors, unbalanced spending trends can be orchestrated and even actively promoted by many societal in-

stitutions.

In a discussion on the reasons people spend money on entertainment, he notes of

model railroading enthusiasts to illus-

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WKU retitles positions as associate VPs

By MIKE STUSIK

Just one race was contested in last week’s Student Government Association spring elections, but candidate Devon Leal Ambriz defeated Di- renzo Leal Ambriz for SGA president.

“If Stillwell would have ran the race was going to be contested, uncontested, as just 35 students were willing to step up,” Jesse said. “That just makes everyone of us feel we have a say in the university.”

Billy Stephens defeated De- renzo Leal Ambri for SGA presi- dent, while Kenli Black won the executive vice president race uncontested after Kate Stilwell dropped out of the race. Devren Hilderbrand ran unopposed for the administrative vice president position.

Students said that, given the circumstances, the elections went fairly well. “If Stillwell would have run this year, I think we would’ve had a close,” he said. “And I don’t think anybody else would’ve run to fill the open position.”

“It seems to be more energized and people seem to be more involved in the elections,” he said. “But when students are involved, the elections are more willing to join organizations, and partnerships will help SGA generate more applications. He mentioned Students in Free Enterprise, the American Marketing Association, and Imagewest as groups SGA could work with in the future to raise visibility.

“The senate elections were also uncontested, as just 35 students were willing to step up,” Jesse said. “And I don’t think anybody else would’ve run to fill the open position.”

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WKU offering fly fishing trip this summer

By TAYLOR HARRISON

erth@khherald.com

WKU’s American Traveler program is hosting a fly fishing trip to Missoula, Mont., from July 18-23.

“The trip to Montana should be a great experience,” said Raymond Poff, recreation administration director. “That area is kind of iconic for fly fishing.”

Poff and Jerry Barnaby, study away program director, formed the trip through American Traveler, which is a non-credit version of study away.

Poff will be going on the trip to assist, as he’s been fly fishing since he was an undergraduate student.

The trip’s $2,590 fee covers everything from equipment to lodging and meals, as well as advice from expert fly fishermen in the area. It doesn’t cover transportation to Montana.

When the university announced the Study Away and American Traveler program, I automatically knew that developing a fly fishing American Traveler program would be something that I would be interested in doing and that there was probably an interest with our faculty, staff, and alumni,” Poff said.

Ramady said WKU could accept as many as 10 or 12 to go on the trip with a minimum of five people. He said the trip would be cheaper than it would be if one took the same trip on his or her own.

“There will be one fly fishing guide for every two travelers, according to a WKU press release on the trip.

While Poff will be going on the trip, Barnaby is handling registration, which is underway now.

Non-WKU students are eligible for the trip, and Barnaby said many have asked about taking children. Though there is no requirement, Poff recommended taking children no younger than 10 or 12.

Poff instructs a 3-hour May term fly fishing class for circle. There will also be a fly fishing workshop on April 16 that focuses on casting techniques. Both workshops are available to all.

While the courses are offered, Poff said that no experience is necessary to go on the Montana trip this summer. Because there will be guides on the trip, beginners can come as well as people with fly fishing experience.

Ramady said the trip will consist of about 12 hours a day on the water, with the exception of Wednesday, which he said will be a “down day.”

Ramady said he may go on the trip, as well, to document it.

“We’re going to play it by ear,” he said.

Russell said it was not unusual for steam to erupt from manholes on the ground, but this past winter, there has been a lot more coming from the ground.

“When they catastrophically fail, like at DUC, it becomes very obvious that, ‘Oh my goodness, we have a real problem here,’” he said.

Russell said the engineering work on the replacement project is complete and now has been put up for competitive bidding.

We held our first pre-bid conference last week, and we had good coverage of potential bidders,” he said.

Russell said the company with the lowest, most qualified bid will be selected. Once these bids are in, WKU will choose the winning company on April 19, and then the construction will begin. The replacement should be done before school starts back in August.

“Once the old pipes are removed, new ones will be installed.

This construction is funded by WKU’s critical needs allotment, money set aside for things such as steam lines and roofs. Russell said Osborne said the project will cost close to $1 million.

Russell said the pipe replacement is necessary because of aging infrastructure on campus.

“Those pipes have been in the ground up to 50 years, and they have just deteriorated from the outside and the inside due to nature,” he said.

Russell said every year, the Facilities Management department pressure tests the lines and identifies the lines that need to be repaired. He said this year, failures appeared even though they had been tested.

“Catastrophic failures like that just happen like breaks on a car,” he said. “Even if you inspect them.”

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—RAYMOND POFF

Recreation administration director

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Like To
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By KEVIN ALLEN

The theatre department’s latest production offers an exploration of both the beautiful and dark moments in life with “A Taste of Honey.” By the end of the play, audiences’ perspectives are forever altered.

“The play tells the story of Josephine, known as Jo, a young woman living in 1950s Britain who finds love and friendship with a foreign person,” said William Leonard, professor emeritus of Arabic and director of the show.

“Lots of people live in a land of milk and honey, white and white people who are so fortunate only get a taste of honey,” Leonard said.

Louisville senior Liz Flores, who plays Jo’s mother, said the play is about how expectations for dealing with people don’t always come true.

“The play also deals with the social issues of the time, many of which are still being dealt with today, such as race, homosexuality and social class,” said William Leonard, professor emeritus of Arabic and director of the show.

“The play is not at all serious. Marcell said it balances the heart-rending realities of Jo’s situation with a dark sense of humor and several touching moments.

Tyrose Moore, a Nashville sophomore who plays Jo’s boyfriend, said the play primarily deals with the dangers of growing up too quickly.

“Enjoy your youth while you have it,” Moore said. “When you get a job, get a baby, get a job, that is when the responsibilities really kick in.”

Moore said she saw a lot of herself in the character, and people will enjoy the play because everyone can relate to the situations they know in the play.

“A Taste of Honey” will run from Thursday through next Tuesday in the Gordon Wilson Lab Theatre. It will start at 7 p.m. every day except for Sunday, when it will start at 3 p.m.

Ticket cost $11 for adults and $9 for students.

Talisman 2012 Editor

Herald Fall 2011 Editor and Ad Manager

Assaf said that there are differences from that time I learned not to make any stereotypical ideas were wrong, so I got to see a lot through the eyes of someone who had different experiences, is also an aspiring journalist who Marcell believes has a lot more optimism than she does.

I’d love for her to be able to come to WKU and read her poetry,” he said. “You don’t have so many people who can come and relate what some conflict in opinions and points of view that these conflicts never affect our friendship. We respect strongly the different religious and cultural differences.”

Still, the two friends do have their differences.

“A Taste of Honey” offers taste of performance art

By KEVIN ALLEN

Coming from different backgrounds can add a different dimension to the situation, said Solomon Kasasay, associate professor who teaches Middle Eastern Studies. He is a professor in the Multicultural studies.

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CULTURAL

CONTINUED FROM FRONT PAGE

Due April 12 by 4:30 pm

summer

WKU Sustainability Coordinator Christian Ryan-Dowding said during the hottest hours of the day, everybody is running their air conditioning. The utility company responds by raising prices during those hours, which makes it more expensive for the university to cool buildings.

Osborne said changing the rates gives people an incentive to keep the overall demand for air conditioning down during that period of day. He said the rate is higher for the hours between 7 p.m. and 11 p.m.

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SING

CONTINUING FROM DIVERSIONS

“It’s an exhilarating process,” Kuhn said.

Eleven groups on Sunday competed before a 15-minute intermission. Among those groups were Phi Gamma Delta, or the Fijis.

Nashville junior Aly Kahn said she helped the Fijis out with their routine.

“They knew I danced and asked me to help,” she said.

“This is my third year helping them.”

Kuhn said she helps the group with choreography and motivation.

Versailles junior Bruce Todd added that she’s the “mother” of the Fijis.

“I run around and help them with fitness, etc.,” she said.

“If they’re doing stupid stuff, I whip them. And if they’re doing well, I pat them.”

Todd said the Fijis’ theme this year was “Fabrication theme” and she helped out with some of the choreography.

“They call me the creative genius,” she said.

Richmond junior Malcolm Lamarre, Fijis member and performer, said that this is his third Spring Sing.

“My nerves are there, but they’ve calmed down this year,” he said. “After doing it for 6 years, I know what to expect.”

Versailles sophomore Grace Edwards, an Alpha Omron Pi member, waited in the concession stand line before the performance began. She later walked around with red letters on her shirt.

The sorority’s theme this year was “Candyland.”

Edwards said she helped the group choreograph.

“A lot of people pick out the people who would do costumes and makeup, but I pick out the people who would dress in costume and dance,” she said.

“I’m nervous but really excited,” she said. “We definitely have a chance. Everyone in my sorority brings it.”

Christina Abney, another Phi Mu member, waited in the concession stand line before the performances began, her yellow t-shirt covered with red letters on her black gym pants.

After the first 11 groups performed, the group did very well.

“I’m nervous but excited — really excited,” she said. “We definitely have a chance. Everyone in my sorority brings it.”

Leaunice Harris, freshman Christina Abney, another Phi Mu member and Pat Mc, had just taken the stage.

Leaunice freshman Hannah Delfina, a Phi Mu member, sat on the steps of the bleachers among other members after they had just taken the stage.

“The group this year was the card game UNO.”

“I was nervous before we were on, but doing it I was excited,” she said.

Leaunice freshman Christina Abney, another Phi Mu member and Pat Mc, had just taken the stage.

Abney said she only helped the group, she felt that the group did very well.

“There were a few logistical errors, but we masked them,” she said.

Abney said that overall, the Phi Mu gave one of the best performances.

“We were basically flawless,” she said. “I pray to God we win.”

“I’m nervous but really excited — really excited. We definitely have a chance. Everyone in my sorority brings it.”

Grace Edwards

APRIL 12, 2011 COLLEGE HEIGHTS HERALD
By LINDSAY KRIZ
news@chherald.com

WKU’s Greek Week 2011 kicked off on Sunday evening with a medley of songs inspired by the board game “Hungry, Hungry Hippos” during Spring Sing 2011 in Diddle Arena on Sunday evening.

By TESSA DUVALL
duvall@chherald.com

Wish you were here

When I went to Barcelona a couple of weekends ago, I planned to spend all of my waking hours on the beach, trying to soak up all the sun England has deprived me of over the last three months.

Instead, I spent hours in a Spanish police station, crying and confused.

My friend and I decided to check out a medley of events inspired by the board game “Hungry, Hungry Hippos” during Greek Week 2011 in Diddle Arena on Sunday evening.

As we were walking down into the metro, three men surrounded us, grabbed our wallets and ran.

Eating a late dinner, a Norwegian boyfriend stepped in to help us.

They talked to the information desk in the metro, drove us to the police station, translated to the police and wrote a note for us to give to a cab driver explaining what happened and telling him we would pay him with money at the hostel.

They helped us.

I had a couple of minutes, a Spanish woman and her Norwegian boyfriend stepped in to help us.

The guys who mugged us weren’t in a well-lit and busy metro station, like they were ready for a night out.

They were well-dressed in nice jeans and leather jackets, like they were ready for a night out.

Barcelona’s famous nightlife, which left much to be desired.

As we were walking down into the metro, three men surrounded us, grabbed our wallets and ran.

My friend chased one of the thieves up and out of the metro, while my thieves ran further into the station. I pushed one of them, we screamed the whole way, and there were at least a dozen witnesses.

Despite our best efforts to stop them, the thieves got away.

There we were. No money, no metro passes, no phone and no knowledge of the Catalan language.

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Despite our best efforts to stop them, the thieves got away.

There we were. No money, no metro passes, no phone and no knowledge of the Catalan language.

All we could do was yell “policia” and hope for the best.

Bad things happen to good travelers

Let the games begin

Greek Week kicks off with Spring Sing

By LINDSAY KRIZ
news@chherald.com

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Let the games begin

Greek Week kicks off with Spring Sing
Three WKU athletes make long recovery from ACL injuries

By EMILY PATTON | sports@wkuherald.com

Three WKU athletes are currently recovering from ACL injuries, each with their own timeline for return to play. The athletes are Maggie Wilder, a senior soccer player; Tiffany Elmore, a junior volleyball player; and Amanda Green, a graduate student on the WKU women’s soccer team. While they each have different timelines, all three are determined to come back stronger than ever.

Maggie Wilder

Senior soccer player Maggie Wilder suffered a torn ACL during a game against North Carolina on October 15, 2010. She underwent surgery on October 29, 2010, and is expected to return to full activity in six to eight months. During this time, she is working on strengthening her leg and improving her endurance through swimming and cycling.

Tiffany Elmore

Junior volleyball player Tiffany Elmore suffered a torn ACL during a match against Western Michigan on November 13, 2010. She underwent surgery on November 21, 2010, and is expected to return to full activity in nine to twelve months. During this time, she is working on improving her leg strength and agility through weight training and light drills.

Amanda Green

Graduate student Amanda Green suffered a torn ACL during a soccer game against Murray State on November 13, 2010. She underwent surgery on November 21, 2010, and is expected to return to full activity in twelve to fourteen months. During this time, she is working on improving her leg strength and agility through weight training and light drills.

See WKU Herald sports@wkuherald.com for more information.

TORN DREAMS

Three WKU athletes make long recovery from ACL injuries

By EMILY PATTON | sports@wkuherald.com

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See WKU Herald sports@wkuherald.com for more information.
WKU takes series, second place in Sun Belt from ULL league leader Troy.

ULL and three games behind surprising in second place, one game ahead of league standings.

The Toppers went Friday's series opener 5-1 behind the first complete game of freshman pitcher Justin Hage-

senior catcher Matt Rice and junior center fielder Kes Carter both hit home

scored and three stolen bases.

turning around to play at Austin Peay to-

to see junior shortstop Logan Robbins

finwood was satisfied with the

rentina's career.

Colony Heights Herald

2B

BASEBALL

By BRAD STEPHENS

A fan won the line for WKU when Louisiana-Lafayette came to Nick Denes Field over the weekend.

The Toppers went Friday having lost three of their last four Sun Belt Con-

The Toppers had their best offensive output of the series Sunday with six runs in the game's last four innings, and

The Ragin' Cajuns for second place in the conference games, and they were tied with

Louisiana-Lafayette came to Nick Denes Field over the weekend. WKU lost 8-6.

WKU senior catcher Matt Rice slides safely into home during the Toppers' game against Louisiana-Lafayette at Nick Denes Field on Sunday afternoon. WKU led 8-4.

WKU's Logan Robbins.

Sophomore pitcher Taylor Haydel

Topper lineup.

Topper fans were also glad

Melissa Anderson, assistant director of media relations, confirmed Monday that both today and Wednesday will be

The Toppers are 3-2 with a 7.08 ERA over 15 ap-

Facing his last game of the season, the sophomore pitcher will be getting back on the field.

A lot was on the line for WKU when Louisiana-Lafayette came to Nick Denes Field over the weekend.

that both today and Wednesday will be

Start times for both games are 6 p.m.

The Toppers got Monday off before

Topper Head Coach Chris Finwood

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WKU Alumni and Dodgeball Club founder Josh Raymer said that when he started the team in 2006, it was "pretty terrible." So bad that in the team's first year, it didn't play in any tournaments and only competed in intrasquad games.

In 2007, WKU officially joined the National Collegiate Dodgeball Association, but things didn't get much easier. The team went 0-7 that season and held the record for the worst loss at league history, 16-0.

But four years later, the team is No. 3 in the nation and was a favorite in the past weekend's NODA National Collegiate Dodgeball Championships, which WKU hosted at the Preston Center. Assistant Captain Andrew Swanson said the players adopted a new, winning approach. They just went out and played with no plan and decided they wanted to make it more seriously than they had in the past.

"It was really awesome to see the feedback from our players who accepted the seriousness," he said. "After last semester, we decided we wanted to win nationals." Swanson said they went as far as to study film of other good teams to emulate what worked for them.

"One of the best things is to take your diversions, and decide you want to make a more serious effort," Raymer said. "You always dream that when you start something, it will grow and turn into something, you can get excited for," he said. "I never expected it to happen this way." Raymer said. "It was really awesome to see the feedback from our players who accepted the seriousness. So for it to be what it is now, this early in the development process, is really amazing."
CONTINUED FROM SPORTS

**INJURIES**

ACL tears happen more commonly in females than in males. Cindy Hudson said research shows it could be related to the sex’s wider hips or that many are on their menstrual cycles when the injury happens.

Some sports also post higher numbers of the injury than others, like soccer.

“ACL tears are more common in female athletes than in male athletes,” Hudson said. “It is not only muscular memory, but it is also a confidence builder that you just don’t see when you are mentally. I anticipate her having a fantastic senior year.”

Senior runner Vasity Chemweno sat out the entire 2009 season and returned in the spring of 2010 just to have the injury happen again.

As he prepares for this season, Dalcourt said the knee still has “its days” where it bothers him.

“Rehab, with ACL injuries, it doesn’t stop,” he said. “It never stops. There are always areas you can get better. I’m probably a year out from my last surgery, and I’m still not there yet, but I’m working on it.”

Cindy Hudson said an athlete gaining confidence in his or her play after an injury is just another part of the rehab process.

During the 16-to-24 week stage of rehab, she said the athlete performs exercises similar to how they injured the knee.

“It is not only muscular memory, but it is also a confidence builder that gets them past. This is how I got it. I’m working on it again,” she said.

Both Wilder and Dalcourt echoed the thought that if you play timid, you are more likely to get hurt again.

“Instead of having confidence in it and coming back a bit too early. It is just a mental game. Once you get your first hit on it and get your first hit on it — get that first good cut on it — you’re fine.”

Cindy Hudson said she didn’t believe a torn ACL meant the athlete would never be the same again — it would just be “challenging” for her or he to do so.

“ACL injuries happen in constant progress to keep them at the level where they can play. I think what’s important is to have a time commitment to them. It is not just, ‘I got my six months rehab in. I’m done. Themselves to be in the training room for a year or six.”

Cindy Hudson’s husband, Travis, who is 32, has been out of basketball since an injury that occurred while the team was out of this year’s 16-hour a day travel team.

Although athletes may lose something physically, they typically return mentally stronger, he said.

“Anyone who hasn’t gone away for Elmore yet, Travis Hudson is the strongest returner of my career and will try to do so on the same week-end next year.”

“His body and his mind have not got better. He still gets a little thought of it, but I think he will come home and just think of it as a memory.”

“He was a head volleyball coach. This weekend’s meet should serve as an important stepping stone for the Sun Belt Conference championships. "We're gonna try to keep it on the second weekend of April," he said. "That way we can start a tradition and people know to come down here on this weekend.”

Next weekend the teams will split up and perform at a different meet across the country. Jenkins said this weekend’s meet should serve as an important stepping stone for the Sun Belt Conference championships. “Obviously we have a lot of work to do to be championship ready,” he said. “We gotta get healthy, but being at home, having good weather and having good team helps in the preparation.”

**SUCCESS**

While the competition was made up of teams in the region such as Bellarmine, Eastern Illinois and Kentucky State, Jenkins said the teams included some of the better track and field athletes nation- wide.

“We had a young man from Eastern Illinois who came up to second place in the country in the pole vault on our track,” he said. “He has never quite done those types of performances at your facility, then it warrants other schools to want to come and participate.”

While the teams were able to beat the heat, they also had to battle injuries. Senior runner Vasity Chemweno cut out a broached quadripod, and freshman Allison Riedling said she was not re- turning after suffering a stress fracture in her shin bone.

“I’m just coming back from an an- nery, so this is my second race in six months,” she said. “I’m pretty happy about how I did.”

Reading stressed the importance of athletes taking care of themselves dur- ing a hot match.

“You have to stay hydrated,” she said. “I drank like three water bottles before this.”

Jenkins said the program hopes to continue to host the Hilltopper Relays and will try to do so on the same weekend next year.

“We’re gonna try to keep it on the second weekend of April,” he said. “That way we can start a tradition and people know to come down here on this week-end next year.”

Freshman Zach Michaud participates in the hammer throw during Saturday’s home track and field meet. The Hilltopper Relays, which Coach Coach Hudson Jenkins said his team to continue to take place on this second weekend in April, is the only event WKU hosts each season.
Lady Toppers try to shake off three losses at Troy

By NICK BRATCHER

The Lady Toppers ventured to Troy for a three-game series last weekend, trying to follow a midweek split against Samford with some success in the Sun Belt Conference.

But WKU fell short, getting swept by the Trojans over three games.

The Lady Toppers first lost both games of Saturday’s doubleheader — 1-0 in the first and 7-6 in the second. They then dropped the series finale on Sunday, 9-0, in six innings.

A multitude of problems plagued WKU throughout the weekend.

The Lady Toppers managed just two hits in their shutout loss that opened the weekend.

Then WKU actually out-hit Troy in its second game, 11-8, but still came up short, lacking timely hitting.

In their third game, the pitching staff gave up eight walks, and Head Coach Tyra Perry said that number buried the team’s chances.

Sophomore outfielder Katrina Metoyer said the Lady Toppers’ numbers were evident to the team.

“One moment our hitting is there, but our pitching isn’t, and the next, our hitting is there but our pitching isn’t,” she said. “We need to have consistency.”

Junior Amanda Walden said the Lady Toppers’ woes didn’t stem from lack of effort, though.

“We came out here hoping we would get three wins, and we obviously didn’t do that,” she said. “We were confident and had the heart and everything we needed to win, but we just couldn’t put a couple things together.”

Perry said the team’s problems were multiplied by the close losses sustained on Saturday.

“We needed both games Saturday to spark us for Sunday instead of being down, but we couldn’t quite get those wins,” Perry said.

WKU fell to eighth place in the Sun Belt with the losses, seven games behind first-place Louisiana-Lafayette.

Perry said the team needed to look past the setback and keep pressing on through the season’s remaining conference games.

“We’re still in it,” she said. “We have to keep competing because we have four series — that’s 12 games — left, and we have to keep playing.”

The next three-game series comes this weekend at Florida International, starting with a doubleheader at 3 p.m. and 5 p.m. Saturday. The final game will be at 11 a.m. Sunday.

Metoyer said the in-conference pressure may be getting to the players because the team is so young.

“We are a young team,” she said. “I don’t ever think about it because it’s just another game to me, but pressure could be getting to some of our younger players.”

Walden said she was optimistic about the future as long as the team kept in mind why it plays the game in the first place.

“We have to play like it’s a game we love to play in order for us to win,” she said. “It’s hard, especially losing by so little Saturday, but hopefully we’ll get it together and start winning again.”

Perry said the team’s recent funk can’t be instantly fixed with extra work. But she said that’s only because the team has already learned what it needs to win.

“We’re all going to have to work together and believe in each other to come out of this,” she said.
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ON-CAMPUS
Best Campus Organization: (Non-Greek)

Best Fraternity:

Best Major:

Best On-Campus Event:

Best On-Campus Housing:

Best Place to Eat on Campus:

Best Professor:

Best Sorority:

Best WKU Athletic Team:

Best WKU Landmark:

RECREATION
Best Bike Shop:

Best Golf Course:

Best Place for Outdoor Recreation:

FOOD
Best Breakfast Place:

Best Coffee House:

Best Ice Cream or Frozen Yogurt Place:

Best Late Night Meal Place:

Best Mexican Restaurant:

Best Pizza Place:

Best Place for Appetizers:

Best Place for Dessert:

Best Place to Eat Healthy:

Best Restaurant:

Best Sandwich Place:

Best Sushi Place:

ENTERTAINMENT
Best Bar:

Best Place for Happy Hour:

Best Place for Karaoke:

Best Place for Live Music:

Best Radio Station:

Best Sports Bar:

PLACES & SERVICES
Best Bank or Credit Union:

Best Car Wash:

Best Cell Phone Service:

Best Off Campus Housing:

Best Place for Worship:

Best Place to be Spoiled by Your Parents:

Best Place to Study:

Best Place to Take a Date:

SHOPPING
Best Bookstore:

Best Clothing Store:

Best Flower Shop:

Best Liquor Store:

Best Place to Bargain Shop:

Best Place to Buy WKU Gear:

Best Sports Store:

HEALTH & BEAUTY
Best Nail Salon:

Best Place for a Hair Cut:

Best Place to Workout:

Best Tanning Salon: