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WKU Student Affairs

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WKU named fair trade university at conference

By JOANNA WILLIAMS
news@chherald.com

The $2.3 million in budget cuts for fiscal year 2011-2012 that President Gary Ransdell announced on Friday will come at a price for students.

Ransdell outlined how the cuts would be broken down across departments in an email to faculty and staff at the end of last week, adding that students would be faced with higher tuition next year.

The Board of Regents raised tuition 5 percent for in-state students and 3 percent for out-of-state students in June 2010. Ransdell said divisions across the state have seen between a 5 and 10 percent tuition increase each year over the last few years.

He said WKU is expected to raise tuition by about 5 percent for this fall. “It may be a percent higher or a percent lower, but it won’t deviate from that very much,” Ransdell said. “I think that will be consistent across divisions of higher education in Kentucky.”

Ransdell said every division on campus would share the “difficult reality.”

“Those immediate challenges is how we can most prudently make spending $2.3 million on while maintaining as little negative impact as possible on our faculty, staff, and students,” Ransdell said.

Ransdell said divisions choose to make the required cuts in entirety up to those hierarchical respective divisions.

That division will see a $1.4 million reduction and lose 12 full-time faculty and staff positions.

RKU details $2.3 million in budget cuts

Ransdell says 5 percent tuition hike likely on the way

By ELIZABETH BEILMAN
news@chherald.com

The largest chunk of the cuts will be from the division of Academic Affairs, which totals almost $1.5 million. More than $2.2 million of that comes from personnel reductions, according to a document Ransdell attached to the letter.

Eliminated positions in Academic Affairs include seven full-time faculty, five full-time staff and three part-time transitional retirement faculty positions, according to the document.

TUESDAY, MARCH 22, 2011

Contact Joanne Williams at jwilliams@chherald.com.
CRIME REPORTS

Reports

Audri Cawley, Keen Hall, reported on Thursday that her ring and money were stolen in the Preston Center. The value of the theft was $105.

Justin Carwile, Keen Hall, reported on Saturday that his ring and money were stolen in the Preston Center. The value of the theft was $100.

Maggie the Musical

By James Armstrong & Joshua H. Cohen
Music & Stage direction by Tracey Moore
Friday, March 25 • 7 p.m.
Russell Miller Theatre

Talk back with the authors following the performance
Free for mature audiences

Sudoku

CONTINUED FROM FRONT

Being able to host this convergence was the launch pad for what we hope to see across the country," Harris said. "Sustainability Coordinator Christian Ryan-Downing said now that WKU is open in a social and environmentally responsible way, it opens the door for students to become aware of making conscious decisions.

"Having a fair trade option whenever possible is a way to educate," she said. "When people can see that they can choose between a regular coffee and a fair trade coffee, that is helping them be socially responsible."

Ryan-Downing said this also helps students see that WKU is committed to making an environmental impact.

"We want our students to see that their school is open in a social and environmentally responsible way," she said. "And this is a way to illustrate that.

Mari Vaughan, a senior from Mexia, Mo., and co-founder of WKU AID, said the group’s next goal is to educate students.

“We have the dedication and the resolution, now we need the students to understand what fair trade is,” he said. Harris echoed those thoughts. "Everything that we’ve done to raise awareness about the convergence is what we’re going to try to do after," Harris said. "Just because we signed the resolution, as meaningful as it is, it doesn’t mean we are going to decrease the implications that has for how people perceive and interact with the world."

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SGA candidates to play off in Wednesday debate

By MIKE STUNSON

The SGA Student Government As-

sociation organizational aid budget is newly

SGA could give last of org aid money tonight

Wendy's

Jen's

Domino's PIZZA!

I benefited tremendously from her wealth of knowledge of literature and drama," she said. "I learned so much more in my English classes than I thought I would in a typical English class." She explained that her father unexpectedly died, and she needed every professor to tell them the situation. "They all expressed sympathy, of course," she said. "But Pat had my personal info and called me. She expressed great remorse and was thoroughly and honestly upset." English Professor Mary Ellen Miller said everything about Taylor stood out. "She was a fabulous person in every category," she said. Miller said Taylor taught at WKU for more than 40 years after receiving her doctorate from Southern Illinois University. Taylor was also an actress and was recently in the campus production of "Death of a Salesman." Miller said, "She played so many roles — I would never have expected a professor to do that." Miller had planned to visit Taylor at the hospital the day before and had talked to her on the phone on Friday. "I'm just wondrous, she had no idea what something was," Miller said. Miller said she called Taylor's husband on Saturday and learned that he had died early that morning. Miller said, "We're going to miss her greatly." University and Memorial services will be held at Hardy and Son Funeral Home from 11:00 a.m. to 1:00 p.m. — the same day as what would have been Taylor's birthday. The University English Department Head Karen Schneider said, "We will miss her extremely, and the students who took her classes will miss her tremendously."

Twins

By COREY ALDERDICE

They said, "We have to separate and do our own things," he said. "We can be happy with each other and still be happy with ourselves."

They said that they started working together for the tuition benefits. They get to take classes that are free as WKU employees. "It helped me in my graduate work because university employees get their tuition benefits. It allowed me to come back to school," Travis said. Travis has taught a fruit and vegetable class at the University. "His personality and memoiral services will be held at Hardy and Son Funeral Home from 11:00 a.m. to 1:00 p.m. — the same day as what would have been Taylor's birthday. The University English Department Head Karen Schneider said, "We will miss her extremely, and the students who took her classes will miss her tremendously."
The Student Government Association extended its application deadlines to March 19 without much notice. Our STANCE: SGA should have put more effort into publicizing the extension to give the student body a fair chance.

THE ISS ULE: Getting the word out, especially considering the opportunity was publicized on the SGA website to give the student body a fair chance.

The SGA application for spring elections opened February 28 and was initially set to close March 4. Though the original application opening was February 28, the SGA Facebook page, the Herald thinks SGA could have used more aggressive means of getting the word out, especially considering that most students’ brains were probably focused on spring break.

SGA Chief Finesse Diana Crockett said they were disappointed that there seemed to be less interest in submitting applications among students. She also said they discussed extending the deadline before the break, though it wasn’t announced until Monday, March 14, giving anyone interested only until 3:50 p.m. the next day to finish their application.

The hasty decision could have caused some interested students to go unaware. Facebook and the SGA home page are certainly good starting options for sharing SGA news and updates, but with only 588 Facebook fans on the page, we can accurately say it was not the most effective in reaching more of the student body.

Furthermore, Crockett said they were sent about the extension but would not clarify if they were only sent to SGA members or all full-time students meeting the GPA requirement. Therefore, with such short notice, many students might have missed out.

KENDRICK BRYAN
Senior student SGA assistant vice president

Kendrick Bryan is an industrial engineering major and SGA assistant vice president. In his role, Bryan helps change the parking notification policy to remind De- cember graduates that they can turn in their parking passes for money. If elected, he plans to emphasize many prov- inces regarding academics, athletics, and outreach. Imagine being able to obtain three hours of credit for CLEP exams on offer for campus for $100, and the SGA is working on an exam reimbursement program aim to alleviating the cost of pursuing your college goals.

The SGA is working to place iPads and additional test prep books in the Educational Resources Center and Apple TV units in the Technology Resources Center. Moreover, the SGA wants to have transcript discount days at Potter Hall.

In addition, I recognize that outreach is a huge area for the organization, which is why I will push for SGA to create new partnerships with the American Marketing Association, Finance/Wealth and Students in Free Enterprises. I will also encourage branch members to have a presence at Academic Transition Program events and international student events.

Furthermore, it is my hope that SGA can help in raising awareness about the 2011 and 2012 state elections by promoting a voter turnout campaign and pushing for WKU to host candidate de- bates on campus. More people need to attend to learn about a governor’s debate in Downey University Center or Van Meter Hall.

I will also pursue the Awards program to work through the Athlete of the Year to mentors programs like Big Brothers Big Sisters, Junior Achievement and Upward Bound. Athletics and SGA can work together to promote student orga- nization spirit competitions and meet and great sessions with student athletes.

The SGA election is March 29-30 on TopNet. Vote for a candidate that understands every issue needs a champion.

Bryan: I'm committed to enhancing the Hill

See Bryan's complete platform on page 4.

EDITORIAL

More notice needed for SGA election deadline extension

The Student Government Association election is March 29-30 on TopNet. WKU students were not quite aware of its deadline.

Our EDITORIAL: SGA should have put more effort into publicizing the extension to give the student body a fair chance.

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Bryan: I'm committed to enhancing the Hill

See Bryan's complete platform on page 4.
Motorcycle safety courses

DELO provides various motorcycle safety courses.

By TAYLOR HARRISON

As the weather warms up, so does the opportunity to ride motorcycles. WKU’s Division of Extended Learning Outreach is making sure those rules are safe.

DELO provides the community with 36 non-credit, four-credit hour motorcycle courses. Participants don’t have to be WKU students but must be 16 or older and have parental consent if they’re under 18.

Safety is the main focus,” said Shari Woodard, director of Continuing Education.

Two different courses — basic rider and experienced rider — are offered. The basic course costs $125, and the experienced course is $65, according to a WKU press release.

The basic rider course starts in a classroom, where the students learn about safety techniques and the different parts of a motorcycle.

Lates, the students work with actual bikes that are provided for them. They practice sitting on the bike, work with different parts of the bike and finally complete an obstacle course.

This course takes a weekend to complete, and a motorcycle license is not required.

Woodward said many 16 and 17-year-olds take the class, but the majority of the people who take this course are adults. Each class consists of just 10 students because of the size of the range. We do not go over 10 because we want to make sure everyone has space to ride safely,” Woodward said.

The experienced rider course lasts one day, and it requires people to have their own bike and a motorcycle license.

WKU students also get a 10 percent discount. Woodward said the course instructors are chosen from a list of people qualified to teach the class.

“At this time, we don’t have any instructors who are actually employees of the university,” Woodward said.

This course is made possible because of DELO’s partnership with the Traffic Safety Institute of Eastern Kentucky and the state departments of Transportation and Justice.

It is one of about 15 sites in the state.

Karen Dunslike, program assistant for DELO, said WKU gets the word out about the course in a few different ways.

“We have advertising in some local publications and give brochures and cards to DMVs,” Dunslike said.

Other DELO programs

Other programs offered through DELO are the faith in nursing course.

Faith community nursing is for people who are already an RN, and it is a holistic approach to the nursing profession,” Woodward said.

Woodward said this branch of nursing focuses on a patient’s emotions and spiritual life.

Prepare nurses to help religious patients focus on their faith.

“Recognize a person’s faith is important. It’s part of the healing,” said Woodward.

Other courses offered include a trout maintenance course, a grant writing course and a fly fishing course.

Woodard said there is a fly-fishing trip to Montana coming up. This trip will include guides to help the participants find the right places to fish.

“We think it’s great for dads and sons,” she said. “It’s a great family activity.”

DELO also has an arts actions program. Because of this, orchestra classes are provided in schools as well as private lessons.

Woodward said the college also have the opportunity to perform with professional symphonies.

You can’t maintain the same quality of academics with fewer faculty members. Cutting any faculty lines is a cut that will be difficult to heal.”

—PATTI MINTER

Associate history professor and faculty regent

Gary Ransdell’s presidency, state universities have lost $150 million in federal funds to do so.

She said the saw faculty positions cut during her first month as a faculty regent in December 2007.

“Ever since then, we have been faced with cuts after cut while the growth has remained constant,” Minter said.

More vacant faculty slots, the university would have to hire part-time or adjunct members, who are hired to teach one course for a semester, she said.

Minter said this could result in less stability for academics.

“We need every tuition dollar we can get, and now we’re cutting them,” she said. “Our mission is academics, and this should be the one place that should not be cut.”

In total, 104.4 million in stimulus money was awarded from the Recovery Act to educators across the country, she said.

WKU received a total of 35.4 million in stimulus funds through the act, Minter said.

Budget reductions of between 11.6 million and 13 million are common for WKU, she said.

“Those are also some years where the university budget has been reduced by more than 8 percent,” Ransdell said.

Ransdell said WKU’s priority is trying to figure out how to make the reductions in each division while impacting as few of the WKU community as possible.

“The global recession has affected all aspects of our local, regional, state, and national economies,” he said. “But as bad as it has impacted us at WKU, I must also acknowledge that our total impact over this period of time has not been as bad as most other states and many other public universities.”

BUDGET

CONTINUED FROM FRONT

All of these positions are currently vacant, Russell said.

Campus Services and Facilities will also lose five positions.

Reading into the latest round of cuts, there were 75 full-time faculty members at WKU, said Gordon Emelie, chancellor and vice president for Academic Affairs.

“We simply don’t have the resources to put as many faculty in the classroom as we would like to have,” Emelie said.

Loss of these instructional positions are recommended by deans to him before being approved. He said he tried to protect some divisions, such as Continuing Education.

“Different colleges have handled this in different ways,” he said. “Some units ended up with a smaller cut than others.”

WKU officials across the board, from Ransdell to the division of Finance and Administration, have had to make the reductions in each division while impacting as few of the WKU community as possible.

“Some universities may decrease their quality of academics with fewer full-time faculty members. Cutting any faculty lines is a cut that will be difficult to heal,” said Russell.

EMILIE SAID.

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TUITION

CONTINUED FROM FRONT

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According to ed.gov.

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The Pointe at Western College Heights Herald March 22, 2011

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PATTI MINTER

Assisted history professor and faculty regent

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COLLEGE HEIGHTS HERALD

5-
Lights and sounds

By KATHERINE WADE

There are about 3,000 trees on WKU’s campus, and each of them is identified by species, size and location. This dedication to tree care and inventory allowed WKU to become recognized as a Tree Campus USA for the first time in 2010. The honor was announced February 22.

Tree Campus USA is a program in partnership with the Arbor Day Foundation that recognizes college campuses that are committed to managing their campus forest.

Sustainability Coordinator Christian Ryan-Dowling said the trees on campus are a huge part of the university’s history and sense of place.

“We’re not only leading to the remarkable beauty of our campus — they provide comfort and shade, reduce heat iso- lation and help us conserve energy in our buildings, act as a carbon sink and provide habitat for wildlife including our white squirrels and hawks,” she said.

According to arbitrary.org, universities must meet five standards to become a Tree Campus USA. They must have a tree advisory committee, a tree care plan, a tree program with dedicated annual expenditures, an Arbor Day observance and a service learning project.

Landscape Architect Helen Siewers is one of the members of WKU’s tree advisory committee.

Siewers said the purpose of the committee is to implement the campus tree care plan, which involves identifying and caring for the trees necessary to maintain a sustainable campus tree environment.

President Gary Ransdell, also a member of the tree advisory committee, said becoming a Tree Campus USA is another national recognition that validates just how serious the university is about sustainability.

Ransdell said the trees on campus represent the university’s values and are important from a visual perspective.

“I’m a tree guy. I take that very seriously,” he said. “Our trees are one of the things that make us distinctive, and if we lose track of that, we’ve lost something as an institution.”

Ryan-Dowling said they have nicknamed Ransdell “the Lore’s” after the Dr. Seuss character who speaks for the trees.

Before any tree can be removed from campus, even if it is dead or dying, Ransdell said he must personally sign a form of approval. He said he has tough rules to be planted for each one removed.

“I am not going to wake up one day and find the char- acter of our campus has changed on my watch,” he said.

Ryan-Dowling said the Arbor Day Foundation acts for very small grants for Tree Campus USA members, so they feel it provides them with an “identity.

“It is very visible and tangibly shows we are good stew- ards of our campus forest and the local community,” she said.

WKU honored for ‘distinctive’ trees

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AMERICA’S FAVORITE SANDWICH DELIVERY GUYS!
Central City senior Claire Kelly wants to be natural.

She wants to feel her hair running down her back. She wants to wear a sleeveless blouse with her bare armpits.

She hasn’t worn shaving cream on her arms or legs since Dec. 10. “It’s about experiencing my body naturally,” Kelly said. “I like feeling it all. It’s a cooler experience, a little less.”

When her teammate was writing a pep talk for her, she learned the history of why women shave their legs or armpits: it was 12, experiences discomfort in the reaction to the social repercussions.

Central City senior Claire Kelly hasn’t cut the hair on her head in three years or shaved her legs or armpits since Dec. 10. “It’s less about growing out all of my hair and more about just feeling like a natural woman,” Kelly said.

Beginning in November, women started shaving. As a result of her experience, Kelly has been wearing pants because it’s too hot and ties to class but is anxious about wearing a skirt. “I have never worn a skirt but I’m considering it,” Kelly said.

She also said a boy once told her “men don’t want to feel that” in reference to her leg hair. “It’s supposed to be liberating,” Kelly said. “But you don’t know how weird it is until you have to go out in skirts.”

Kelly prefers to wear slips, but lately she has been wearing pants because it’s too hot and she’s nervous about going out in a skirt.

“With shaving, it’s really hard to put my self-esteem in question,” Kelly said. “But I don’t know what strangers will think. They don’t know me or why I’m doing it.”

She said a boy once told her “men don’t want to feel that” in reference to her leg hair. “It’s about experiencing my body naturally,” Kelly said.

When her hair was cut to her shoulders in high school she felt “emasculated.” Since then, her “most spiritual experience” has been growing out the hair on her head. “I’ve grown to love this serious attachment to it,” she said. “I used to be a bit of time taking care of it, manipulating it. It’s an important part of me to be able to.”

Central City senior Claire Kelly hasn’t cut the hair on her head in three years or shaved her legs or armpits since Dec. 10. “It’s less about growing out all of my hair and more about just feeling like a natural woman,” Kelly said.

Junior second baseman Ivan Hartle, who hit a go-ahead RBI and sparked the Toppers Friday, said the top three batters were slow with the bats today, but “we’ll just keep it up and keep it at it.”

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CONTINUED FROM SPORTS

Donahue said the performance of Perkins and Hage-

“Women are not going to rebel against something they feel they have to do,” Gaskin said. “Kelly agrees women may feel pressure to conform to societal norms and not rebel against them.”

Kristi Branham, an assistant professor in women’s studies, believes the social repercussions of shaving for other people’s comfort, “It’s not about being natural at all,” Kelly said.

Donahue arrived in Austin on Tuesday and returned to Bowl-

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Freshman linebacker Matt Smith delivers food in Red Zone on Thursday. Head Coach Willie Taggart said:

"They don't know what our guys look like. They think, 'Oh, these big football players are mean,' and a lot of them are just big teddy bears." —WILLIE TAGGART

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SOFTBALL
Professor improves Lady Toppers' mental game
By Nick Batcheler
nbatcheler@wkuherald.com

WKU softball began this season trying to recover from the loss of seven starters from last year’s team.

The Lady Toppers (15-11) needed a way to rapidly mature their young team and believe they’ve found an answer with Betsy Shoenfelt, sports psychologist and WKU professor.

Shoenfelt, who’s taught at WKU since 1983 and also worked with the volleyball and women’s basketball programs, presented a series of workshops to the softball team over the past year to help prepare the players’ mental approach.

Head Coach Tyra Perry said speaking with Shoenfelt brought the Lady Toppers to a new level.

“Anytime we have a sports psychologist on staff, it’s great. We’ve purchased books from those teams’ psychologists, and we’re talking about their points as coaches.”

But when you have someone come in that’s a professional whose method has been proven, it really helps reinforce those points.”

Shoenfelt said her sessions have revolved around harnessing the mind to focus on what a player can control.

The Lady Toppers were carried over the weekend by rock-solid starting pitching.

See PREPARE, PAGE 6

CLAYSEON DONAHUE

SWIMMING & DIVING
Donahue gets second in 100 fly at NCAAs
By Lucas Aulbach
laulbach@wkuherald.com

Clare Donahue’s final season at WKU ended with success. She finished second in the 100 NCAA Swimming and Diving Championships in Austin, Texas.

Donahue set two school records in the 100- and 200-yard butterfly events, in which she placed second and 14th, respectively.

Both performances set new school records, and her second-place finish in the 100 fly in which she recorded time of 51.44, was the highest individual national finish for a WKU swimmer in school history.

“There were so many little things that went into the win,” Donahue said.

SEE DONAHUE, PAGE 8

SPORTS
Former WKU student athletes deal with life after sports
By Emily Patton
sports@wkuherald.com

After a career beginning with T-ball and ending with playing six years as starting first baseman at WKU, Shannon Smith had to say goodbye.

The farewell was neither by choice nor injury, instead because of a fate that nearly 360,000 other NCAA athletes have to face annually.

When the final pitch was thrown in the Sun Belt Conference softball tournament last May, Smith had exhausted her eligibility in the sport.

“I was so ready to be done with it, but when it finally was done, I was like, ‘Oh, gosh, what do I do now?’” Smith said. “It’s been such a big part of my life for so long, I couldn’t go on without having it in my life.”

Smith, an accounting major who graduated in December 2010, had a career waiting for her with Ernst & Young in Nashville before she was a junior at WKU.

The 22-year-old said going from student athlete to full-time employee hasn’t been easy.

“I know a lot of my teammates are really lucky having a job coming out of college. It’s a big transition.”

Smith now lives in Goodlettsville, Tenn., and commutes through Nashville traffic to work each morning.

Because the softball team plays more than 40 games in a typical season, Smith said her new lifestyle isn’t nearly that different.

“All the adversity I faced in the sport especially prepared me for accounting and the lifestyle,” she said. “Waking up early and then staying late doesn’t have the same effect on me as much as it does the other new hires.”

Since ending her sports career at WKU, Smith has joining a slow-pitch softball team in Bowling Green and plans to start a league at Ernst & Young.

“I still can’t get away from it,” she said.

SEE FINAL PAGE 8

Wku begins Sun Belt play with sweep of MTSU
By Brad Stephens
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WKU players spent the preseason talking about trying to win the Sun Belt Conference championship.

After sweeping Middle Tennessee this weekend at Nick dues Field, the Toppers are on their way to reaching that goal.

WKU now sits atop the Sun Belt standings.

Defensive specialist Kelly Potts, a five-year senior, reentered in volleyball her freshman year and played the next four. Potts will graduate with a marketing degree in May, but her volleyball career ended in December. “There are goods and bads about not playing anymore, but I have more free time,” Potts said.

SEE BASEBALL PAGE 7

By Nick Batcheler
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WKU softball began this season trying to recover from the loss of seven starters from last year’s team.

The Lady Toppers (15-11) needed a way to rapidly mature their young team and believe they’ve found an answer with Betsy Shoenfelt, sports psychologist and WKU professor.

Shoenfelt, who’s taught at WKU since 1983 and also worked with the volleyball and women’s basketball programs, presented a series of workshops to the softball team over the past year to help prepare the players’ mental approach.

Head Coach Tyra Perry said speaking with Shoenfelt brought the Lady Toppers to a new level.

“Anytime we have a sports psychologist on staff, it’s great. We’ve purchased books from those teams’ psychologists, and we’re talking about their points as coaches.”

But when you have someone come in that’s a professional whose method has been proven, it really helps reinforce those points.”

Shoenfelt said her sessions have revolved around harnessing the mind to focus on what a player can control.

The Lady Toppers were carried over the weekend by rock-solid starting pitching.

See PREPARE, PAGE 6

CLAYSEON DONAHUE

SWIMMING & DIVING
Donahue gets second in 100 fly at NCAAs
By Lucas Aulbach
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Clare Donahue’s final season at WKU ended with success. She finished second in the 100 NCAA Swimming and Diving Championships in Austin, Texas.

Donahue set two school records in the 100- and 200-yard butterfly events, in which she placed second and 14th, respectively.

Both performances set new school records, and her second-place finish in the 100 fly in which she recorded time of 51.44, was the highest individual national finish for a WKU swimmer in school history.

“There were so many little things that went into the win,” Donahue said.

SEE DONAHUE, PAGE 8

SPORTS
Former WKU student athletes deal with life after sports
By Emily Patton
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