Higher ed could get 2 percent cut

By LAUREL WILSON

The fiscal year will start on July 1, 2010. The cut would amount to $20 million each year for the state’s public universities, said Brian Wilkerson, communications director for House Speaker Greg Stumbo, D-Prestonsburg.

President Gary Ransdell, left, looks on as Athletics Director Wood Selig announces his resignation. Selig’s last day at Western has not been set. He resigned to accept the same position at Old Dominion University in Norfolk, Va.

By ANDREW ROBINSON

Ransdell: New athletic director within a month

Former Western tennis player Kay Tinius always wanted one more thing included in the over $100 million in construction and renovation to athletic facilities during Wood Selig’s 11 years as athletic director. She wanted to find some more tennis courts, as just two or tucked away near Nick Denes Field.

But now Tinius will have to wait for the next athletic director to get some more courts built — in addition to what President Gary Ransdell called “big shoes to fill” — after Selig announced Friday he is resigning to take the same position at Old Dominion University in Norfolk, Va., replacing Jim Eurotto.

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HPV Fact #10: The treatment for genital warts can be a painful process and can involve cutting, freezing, or burning the warts.

HPV Fact #17: Even after treatment, genital warts can come back. In fact, 25% of cases come back within 3 months.

Why risk it
Visit your campus health center.
Faculty evaluate freshmen performance

By SHAKIA HARRIS
shakia.harriss@wku.edu

Freshmen will soon get a sneak peek at their classroom performance.

Fifth week assessments, which are designed to measure academic standing for 100-level courses, became available for faculty last Friday. On Tuesday, according to an e-mail from Donah Kahler, vice president for Enrollment Management.

Kahler recommended that students take the assessments in order to know if they are on track for success.

Teachers give “marks” to indicate whether a student is passing or failing the course, and if there are excessive absences or absences at all.

Kahler said the AARC contacted 1,891 students and 795 students received at least one “F.” The majority of the remaining students who were contacted indicated they were not at risk of failing or dropping out.

The AARC contacted the 795 students who received at least one “F” and sent them a letter explaining that the marks were not to indicate that the students failed the course. The letter also notified the students who received the marks of the upcoming assessments.

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Staying on the ball
Open letter to Ransdell, search committee for Selig’s replacement

In light of Athletic Director Wood Selig’s resignation, Western is in need of a new one.

After already replacing one important member, the university’s basketball community last fall — football Head Coach David Elswick — and feeling a little dazed about the current situation.

Selig said he was leaving Western for personal reasons and moved to his roots by being with his family in Virginia. He accepted the athletic direc-
tor position at Old Dominion University in Norfolk, Va.

To make sure Western hires the right candidate for the job, the Herald is offering

Some ideas about qualities to look for when replacing Selig.

The new athletic director will need to

be able to adapt easily to Western’s envi-

ronment.

Western’s football team just moved to the Football Bowl Subdivision, so whoever

they hire needs to be able to build the program back up and just get it back on the right path.

The position requires someone who

will be optimistic about Western and is aware of any potential problems Western faces with scholarships before coming into the position.

But the new athletic director cannot put all the focus on football. Some atten-
tion should go to Western’s other sports, maintaining and elevating them to bright-
ner futures as well.

The new athletic director should work to

secure the resources and funding to make Western a destination for coaches looking for a long-term job. It’s important as West-

ern continues to grow that the program has the resources necessary to succeed at the highest level.

Transitions can be more difficult if those leading them aren’t experienced. Western should aim to fill the position with someone who has done it before.

Our new athletic director must be open to

Western’s football team just moved to the Football Bowl Subdivision, so who-

ever replaces Selig must have the know-

ledge and edge to build the program back up and just get it back on the right path.

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Spring 2010 Tuition and Fee Payment Reminder

Due date for Payment of Tuition and Fees for the Spring 2010 semester is:

TODAY

For additional information, please refer to: www.wku.edu/bursar/
Western’s plans for construction may be stalled.

President Gary Ransdell appeared before legislators earlier this month to testify whether he wanted state funding for new construction on campus or maintenance of current facilities.

Ransdell said he asked for funding for existing facilities instead of money for new construction.

“It makes sense to take care of the buildings you have before building new ones,” he said.

Every two years, Western creates a six-year Capital Plan, outlining priorities for construction projects on campus and how much money would be necessary to complete those projects, said John Osborne, vice president for campus services and facilities.

Osborne said he initially recommends the Capital Plan to Ransdell.

After working together on the plan, it’s presented to the Board of Regents, where it’s reviewed, he said.

“It’s an evolutionary process,” Osborne said.

After approval from the board, the plan is submitted to the Kentucky Council on Postsecondary Education and the Capital Planning Advisory Board.

The Kentucky Legislature gets the final say when it determines the university’s operating budget for the upcoming biennium, Osborne said.

According to the Capital Plan, Western’s No. 1 priority for the 2010-2012 biennium is to complete the final phase of renovation of the science campus.

This includes renovation of Thompson Complex Central Wing and Hardin Planetarium, Osborne said.

Ransdell said although it is too early to tell, he would be surprised if any of Western’s construction projects receive state funding.

Ransdell said any of Western’s construction projects receive state funding.

Kentucky legislators will adopt a final budget at the end of March, Osborne said.

Bryan Russell, director of Planning, Design and Construction, said many projects are dependent on state funding.

“The process is ‘all based on needs and wants,’” Russell said.

“’There’s always the next biennium if they don’t get it this one,’” Russell said.

SGA election applications available

The Student Government Association spring election will take place in late March.

Applications for the spring election will be available to students Wednesday at the SGA office in Downing University Center, Room 130, according to the SGA Web site.

Students can apply for senator, administrative vice president, executive vice president and president.

The president also serves as the student representative on the Board of Regents.

SGA President Kevin Smiley will preside in May.

Smiley said he wants someone who really cares about the position as the SGA’s next president.

“Obviously you want to see someone who has a passion for it and a certain level of organization,” he said.

The applications are due in the SGA office by March 15.

There will be a mandatory information session for candidates on March 15.

Candidates will begin campaigning after spring break, and the election will take place on March 30 and 31.

—Emily Wadley

By TESSA DUVAL

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DUCK
CONTINUED FROM SPORTS

Duck’s numbers this season haven’t quite lived up to previous years. Her 9.2 points per game is a low- average for a full season since her freshman year, but senior guard Ken- zie Rich said Duck’s contributions are felt far beyond scoring.

“After a lot of people don’t understand,” Rich said. “Even if she wasn’t play- ing that well offensively, she can shut down another team’s best player on defense. She’s a great leader, and she’s been playing really well.”

Head Coach Mary Taylor Cowles has plenty of memories of her fifth- year senior, citing as one of her favor- ites Duck’s performance in Western’s 2007-2008 Sun Belt championship run that earned her Most Valuable Player.

But Cowles said Duck’s most valu- able assets are her leadership and her intensity.

“She understands the game and really has that poise about her, and that’s something she’s had since she was a freshman,” Cowles said. “She always gets the toughest de- fensive assignment on the opposing team....”

Duck admits that her journey has not been as smooth as she pictured when she first stepped on campus. In fact, she joked recently that she had expected last year’s Senior Night celebration to be “all about her,” and that it was going to be “the Dominique Duck Show.”

But Duck was denied her moment in the spotlight — at least until last Wednesday.

She scored 12 points and grabbed five rebounds in Western’s Senior Night victory over South Alabama, finally giving her the Diddle Arena send-off she wanted.

Duck said she and the Lady Top- pers have a few more chapters to write before she’s ready to close the book on her collegiate career.

“Duck’s contributions are felt far beyond scoring,” Cowles said. “Even if she wasn’t playing that well on offense, she can shut down another team’s best player on defense. She’s a great leader, and she’s been playing really well.”

TACTICS
CONTINUED FROM SPORTS

Senior closer Bart Carter worked six innings of relief for the weekend and said he always knew the offense was going to back him up.

“I always have confidence in the offense,” Carter said. “I knew we were going to win as long as I kept the defi cit right there.”

After Friday’s game — one when the Toppers gave up 13 runs — the pitching staff settled down the next two games, giving up only three runs in the next 18 innings. The Kent State offensive attack had just 12 hits in the last two games of the weekend series.

“We’ve got kids with a lot of character,” Finwood said. “We talked about the mis- takes we made Friday, and the last two days our pitchers have done their job.”

Finwood said he’s proud of the resiliency of his team after the tough loss Friday.

“These guys are used to winning,” he said. “Even the guys who are playing every day for the fi rst time have won a lot of times.”

Western goes to Nashville tomorrow to face Belmont.

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After winning their previous outing, the Lady Toppers have an advantage in that they are the defending champions. However, the team is not taking anything for granted and is focused on bringing home the title once again.

The Lady Toppers are off to a strong start in the 2010 season. They have won their first two games, defeating Eastern Kentucky and Ohio University. They have scored 10 runs in each of their first two games, which is a good sign for the rest of the season.

The Lady Toppers are a team to be reckoned with. They have a strong pitching staff and a solid lineup. They are also a team that can score runs in bunches and has a good defense.

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Senior guard Anthony Sully said Western never gave up on the season, even in the worst of times.

“I guess we were down, but we never had doubts of ‘This is it. We’re only going to win one game in the Sun Belt (Conference Tournament),’ and we’re not going to make a run,’” Sully said.

Now the Toppers have junior forward Sergio Kerusch back in the starting lineup, a consistent rotation and senior guard A.J. Slaughter playing the best basketball of his collegiate career.

Slaughter scored a career-high 31 points in the Toppers’ win over South Alabama last Thursday then scored 11 points in overtime to lead Western past Arkansas State on Saturday.

Along with a different attitude, McDonald said the last five games have brought about a change in demeanor — that it’s time for the Toppers to “hunt” again rather than play to not lose.

“I’ve made that comment precisely to our team,” McDonald said. “Enough being hunted — let’s go out and hunt a little bit and have an attitude about us and expect great things from ourselves.”

McDonald and Slaughter will have a fair share of chances — starting with a game Thursday night at Florida Atlantic — but playing good basketball is the only thing that will make postseason play a good experience.

“A victory would be another step toward a No. 3 seed and a first-round bye in the Sun Belt Tournament — something Slaughter said would boost Western’s confidence.

“I’m happy that the guys are sticking with it after all we’ve been through,” Slaughter said.

“Now we’re going to have a chance to do something special at the end of the year.”
Toppers hunting for Sun Belt lead

By JONATHAN LINTNER

Order is close to restoring itself in the Sun Belt Conference — at least the order Coach Ken McDonald envisioned heading into this season.

Western (17-12, 10-6 Sun Belt) has won four straight games — the in-conference stretch — moving the Toppers into the middle of the Sun Belt’s East Division to 1-1/2 games from the conference’s overall lead.

McDonald said his team’s late-season run is because of an attitude adjustment after a five-game losing streak that ran through January.

“There was just a lot of gloom and doom, and the guys have done a great job thinking about the task at hand — that we’re just got to just play better,” McDonald said.

Western’s men’s swimming and diving team celebrate after winning the final race of the competition and sealing their place as Sun Belt Conference champions.

McDONALD

Title wave

Women’s men’s swimming and diving team cashed in on this weekend’s Sun Belt Swimming and Diving Championships with a slim victory over Denver in the men’s relay medley.

And that event foreshadowed how the rest of the meet would unfold, as the Toppers narrowly defeated the Pioneers, 916.5–857.5, to claim their first conference title since 2007.

“Everybody was expecting me to win,” Arvo said. “I won’t even once I’d make top eight. When I got sixth in prelims, that took the pressure off. I got more comfortable.”

Western adjusting to small-ball tactics

By MIKE STUNSON

The Toppers were able to get it done in their first season of 2010 with a small-ball mentality.

Western (2-1) racked up 36 hits in its series win over Kent State, but only five of those hits were for extra bases. The Toppers scored 26 runs in the series with a collection of singles brought home by Kent State’s bases and four sacrifice.

Head Coach Chris Finwood said small ball is how the team will have to win games this year, but he doesn’t necessarily see it as a bad thing.

“This year’s group — we have to manufacture runs more,” Finwood said. “He can run, he’s got great bat speed.”

Sophomore Logan Robbins, left, and senior Matt Payton, both Western infielders, nearly collide as Robbins tags second base for a forced out in their game against Kent State at home Saturday afternoon. Western won the game 13-0 after a 13-10 loss on Friday. Western closed the series with a 2-3 win on Sunday.

By JEREMY BROWN

Senior forward Dominique Duck has been her second try at making some senior memories.

After taking a medical redshirt nine games into last season, Duck is back — and she’s enjoying her last season, but lingering effects from a knee injury suffered during her junior year have put a stop to that.

“When we knew we could do this thing,” Marchionda said.

The Toppers went into Saturday night’s finals with a 10-point edge over Denver. But the team distanced themselves from the Ponyeers, 916.5–857.5, to claim their first conference title since 2007.

Duck getting her swan song

Senior forward Dominique Duck has been Western’s women’s basketball team’s lone senior last season, but lingering effects from a knee injury suffered during her junior year have put a stop to that.

“Last year, we had a lot of new faces, at the same time, it’s taken forever,” Duck said, laughing. “Last year, we had a lot of new faces, and it obviously couldn’t play. But I think everyone’s settled in this year, and everything is coming together.”

BEN SEVERANCE/HERALD
It started with playing in his grandmother’s garden. The landscaping and nursery hobby became a passion as the years went on, and in March 2009 Louisville freshman David Durbin created Durbin’s Nursery and Landscaping. “His grandmother had a green thumb, and he always followed her and helped her,” Pam Durbin said about her son. David Durbin grew up with a love of nature and had a job in 2005 selling produce and nursery stock. “We would sell perennials and annuals, and vegetables and trees and shrubs,” he said. However, near the end of his senior year in high school, David Durbin had to have surgery on his shoulder. His boss thought he shouldn’t work as much, but stripping away his affection for this environment did not sit well with him. “I was tired of working for someone else and not getting paid enough,” David Durbin said. “I liked doing what I did, just not who I worked for.” He left his old job with the skill and knowledge that allowed him to start his own business. One of his first jobs required three 14-hour days decorating the front of a house in Louisville. And he has another big job in the works, including removing shrubs, planting weeping cherry trees and lining the sidewalk with ornamental grasses. His nursery on his parents’ property in Louisville now fosters about 200 roses, 150 trees, boxwood bushes and many more plants that he often travels out of state to purchase. “Knockout roses are probably our biggest seller,” he said, then laughed when he realized not many would know what those were. “Those are the flowers that are right outside of DUC.” He said he hopes to go to Pennsylvania, Oregon and Texas, but he mostly travels to McMinnville, Tenn., which he said is the nursery capital of the United States.

Stimulus money funds restaurant

Manpuku Japanese Steakhouse and Sushi Bar, 2323 Nashville Road, wouldn’t be here if it wasn’t for the stimulus bill passed by Congress last year, co-owner Anh Nguyen said. Nguyen said she had been trying to open the restaurant with her husband, Nghiem Cao, and brother, An Nguyen, for several months before she finally got the financial backing from the government she needed to open her restaurant and live her dream. She glanced around the dining room with bright green walls and bamboo decorations, making sure her customers seemed happy. “It’s just something I always wanted to do,” Anh Nguyen said. “It feels really good to work for myself. I feel independent and I like to be that way.” Manpuku had its grand opening on Jan. 22, almost a full year after the American Recovery and Reinvestment Act of 2009 was passed into law.

A Green Thumb

Freshman grows his own landscaping business

His grandmother had a green thumb, and he always followed her and helped her.” —PAM DURBIN

David Durbin’s mother

LEFT: Courtesy of Manpuku

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A lot of banks turned me down for loans last year,” Anh Nguyen said. “It was a hard time for everyone. It hit us.” The restaurant is next to South Campus on Nashville Road, and Anh Nguyen said she enjoys the students who have tried the restaurant since the new semester started. “Students come in for lunch when they don’t have classes because they don’t have to go very far,” she said. Winchester freshman Sarah Collins tried Manpuku during her second week of classes. “Sometimes I get tired of eating on South Campus cause there’s not a lot of options,” she said. “I didn’t know if I would like Japanese food; I’ve never had it before but I liked it. It was definitely switching things up from what I usually eat.” Manpuku has chicken teriyaki for $5.49, and it can be served with mixed vegetables for an additional $2. Fresh rice meals cost between $5.99 and $10.99.

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Rave DMZ hosted 'Serenity' on Friday at the Handclap Nightclub in Bowling Green. Rave DMZ was promoting 'Serenity' as the first rave in Southern Kentucky in almost a decade. The event showcased local disc jockeys from Bowling Green and Nashville.

Fierce competition, deep research, feisty campaign ads. Three Western students are campaigning for the Republican Party, but each represents a different candidate. They each want their senator to win the 32nd district, which includes the Bowling Green area.

Union senior Shane Noem said he and Louisville seniors Timothy Gilliam and Julia Bright started working together for the Warren County Victory Office and have stayed in touch since.

"All three of us have been very active in the county’s Republican politics," Noem said.

The three friends are part of the College Republicans group on campus, which is how they kept their friendship alive. Both Noem and Gilliam told offices in the group.

Each said they believe the work they have done throughout the past year in paying off.

"We have put in countless hours of volunteer work over the past couple of years, and now we’re beginning to see the fruits of our labor," Gilliam said. "Between Shane and Julia, I can’t think of two better people I’d want to share this experience with.

The feeling of having to compete against friends isn’t as gut-wrenching as it seems," Bright said. "Having two of my friends running the competitors’ campaign is kind of nice," Bright said. "It’s comforting to know we are all in the same boat trying to balance school, running a campaign and our other various commitments.

Noem’s candidate is Mike Wilson, Gilliam’s is Ed Mills and Bright’s is Regina Webb. Each said they chose to back their candidate for specific reasons.

"Regina has been a leader in the 32nd district for years as a small business owner, a tireless philanthropist, and through her involvement and support of the Bowling Green Chamber of Commerce, Regina has seen firsthand the wasteful spending that goes on in Frankfort," Bright said. "She hopes to bring back the idea of acting as a public servant, rather than a politician to Frankfort."

Noem said having so many similarities to Wilson attracted him. They’re both conservative and Christian. Wilson is the general manager of Christian Family Radio.

"I would like to do my part, and I feel that getting Mike elected will make Warren and Butler counties a better place," Noem said.

Gilliam said he supports Mills because of his wealth of knowledge and experience.

"Aside from that, he is the only candidate that can unite Republicans and defeat Democrat Mike Reynolds in November," Gilliam said.

As the race continues and these seniors get ready to graduate, they said they will always remember the lessons they’ve learned from this experience.

"No matter which one of our candidates wins the Republican primary, after May 18, we will all be back on the same team supporting the Republican candidate and hoping for victory in November," Bright said.

By WHITLEY TOBIN
news@chherald.com

"Friends campaign against one another"

We have put in countless hours of volunteer work over the past couple of years, and now we’re beginning to see the fruits of our labor.

—TIMOTHY GILLIAM
Louisville senior

"We have put in countless hours of volunteer work over the past couple of years, and now we’re beginning to see the fruits of our labor."

—TIMOTHY GILLIAM
Residents sample treats, support hospice at event

By WHITNEY KROMITZ
news@chherald.com

About 1,000 people crowded around tables in a large, stuffy hall on Sunday afternoon to get a taste of samples of ice cream, cake, fudge and cookies, all made out of chocolate.

Tables draped in white cloth were stacked with chocolate fountain, strawberries and pies, and the bitter scent of melting chocolate wafted around tables in a large, stuffy hall on Sunday afternoon to get a taste of samples of ice cream, cake, fudge and cookies, all made out of chocolate.

The tasting was part of the annual Chocolate Festival for Hospice of Southern Kentucky at the Showtime Convention Center in Bowling Green.

Julie Pride, community development coordinator for Hospice, said community members sample several different types of chocolates from local businesses for a $5 admission fee. All the proceeds will go to Hospice.

“We want to make sure people that need care can get it even if they don’t have the financial capabilities,” Pride said.

About 35 vendors provided their food for the event that has grown every year since 1994, said

“More and more people come ev-

ery year,” she said. “I really think it’s becoming an event that people look forward to now.”

Bowling Green resident Donna Fenney has attended the Chocolate Festival for the past three years.

“I come every year now just to show my support,” she said. “I think it’s giving away chocolate.

Some of the businesses that par-

ticipated in the festival this year were

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Ingram said traveling was a great way for friends to bond.

“Sure, we all have a wander-

by JULE PREE

summer coordinator development coordinator

More and more people come every year, I really think it’s becoming an event that people look forward to now.”

About the chocolate.

“I think this is one of the best fund-raisers we have every year — in

May. And this year may be

the last dollar, somehow,” she said.

As for the food, there were de-

inations from local organizations and businesses for auction including a signed basketball from University of Louisville basketball head coach Rick Pitino and a hot air balloon ride.

Pride said some of the items can go for more than a hundred dollars.

“The support is phenomenal,” she said.

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Gary did it, So should you.

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"I've always liked Japanese food ever since I spent the sum-
time there a few years ago," For-
said with enthusiasm. "I was
erally excited when I heard a new
restaurant was opening in Japan-
sesville." As food writer for the
restaurant, she's been able to com-
known for its delicious Japanese
food, she said. "It's really easy to get
mely to try something new now," she
before laughing. "It's a lot harder to get
them to keep coming back."}

"They may create some unique styles, but for
the most part, I'd expect everyday hairstyles. There
won't be any helicopter styles," she said. "It's the
same style as before."

The hair show is one of several events hosted by
the sorority during their yearly spring week event.

"Fantasy is for show purposes," Lewis said.
"It's a way to have fun and create styles.
They may make some unique styles, but for
the most part, I'd expect everyday hairstyles. There
won't be any helicopter styles," she said. "It's the
same style as before."

"Being that I do know how to do hair, I want to
show what I can do and get more customers to make
their designs in categories ranging from braids,
upstyles, natural, hairstyles for men, and fantasy
"Fantasy is for show purposes," Lewis said.
"Since hair is a big part of African-American her-
tage, we thought it would be good for Black History Month," she said.

"I wanted to try a variety," she said. "Everybody
wants to know that all hair is beau-
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