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WKU Student Affairs

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WKU student 'adopts' Marine in Afghanistan

By LINDSAY KRZ
lkrz@herald.com

When Bowling Green junior Lydia Kerr first laid eyes on a picture of 20-year-old Lance Cpl. Taylor Yontz, of Cumming, Ga., she knew it wouldn’t be long before she called him family.

“I have a lot of love to give,” she said. “I never thought my heart would hold more than it already did.”

Kerr, 19, said she was in-school suspension supervisor and the girls’ track team coach at LaRue County High School before moving back to Bowling Green.

She’s reaping the benefits of her concentration in education, and was very pleased.

“Emily has gone through a great deal of trouble to do the work the right way,” Kerr said. “Sharp is concentrating on restoring the exterior of the building, and with the help of a contractor, has put a new roof on it and repaired structural damages. She says they’re planning to make the building’s third floor into apartments and use it in the 1930s and 1940s.”

Dean Kahler resigns from enrollment position

By LAUREL WILSON & EMILY ULBER

Dean Kahler is stepping down from his position as associate vice president for Enrollment Management.

Barbara Burch, provost and vice president for Academic Affairs, said Kahler notified her of his resignation on Monday morning, according to the news@chherald.com.

He’ll be living in Bowling Green and working as the executive director of Western’s Navitas program, Burch said.

Western is the first American university to partner with Navitas Ltd, a company administrators hope will help the university double its international enrollment over the next decade.

Representatives from Navitas and Western have been working together for nearly a year to develop the program.

Burch said the move wasn’t “something that we went after” and that he was sought out by Navitas officials.

Burch called Kahler a “talented and capable” administrator and said that was something Navitas officials recognized.

She said Kahler will most likely leave his current position within the next month, but his official last day hasn’t been set yet.

Western will begin a national search for his replacement immediately, Burch said.

Government to control student loans

Provision included in health care bill

By LAUREL WILSON
lwilson@herald.com

Congress changed the way students will receive financial aid money earlier this month when it passed the health care reform bill, which requires the government to control student loans.

Originally, students could choose from several bank-based lenders that adminstered several financial aid programs. The federal Direct Loan Program was created about 15 years ago, said Lynda George, associate director of Student Financial Aid at the University of Kentucky.

Now, students can choose from up to 15 banks and not-for-profit organizations to control student loans.

Congressional Representatives from Navitas and Western have been working together for nearly a year to develop the program.

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The Eshes were a close-knit Mennonite family from Marrowbone that was killed when a tractor-trailer struck their van on I-65. The family was driving to Cave City on Friday when the tractor-trailer hit them head-on. Nine members of the Esh family, along with a family friend from Franklin, were killed along with the truck driver in the accident. The only survivors in the crash were two of the Eshes’ adopted sons, Josiah, 5, and Johnny, 3.

Since the incident, the people of Marrowbone have been supporting the community based around the Eshes’ church, Marrowbone Christian Brotherhood. The community has also been receiving national media attention.

Despite the number of friends and family the community lost, the people of Marrowbone Christian Brotherhood are finding a light in the time of death.

“We know where these people are going,” said Leroy Kauffman, pastor of Marrowbone Christian Brotherhood. “They were all saved Christians and walking with the Lord.”

Several church friends and others from around the country have traveled to Marrowbone to support and help in the funeral services. On Sunday, a church service was held in a former Carhartt warehouse just miles down the road from where services are usually held in Marrowbone.

“May you draw together and find strength together in this time of grief and sorrow,” said John Smucker, a visiting pastor from Green County Mennonite Church in Greenville, Tenn. Leroy Kauffman said he expects a large turnout at the funeral for the family that touched so many lives in their faith-based community.

“With thousands of words you can only suggest something, but with a thousand words you can share the story. A thousand words are the story of your life. A thousand words are the story of the edge of a family, of a lifetime.”

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Engagement institute opens in Garrett
By EMILY WALEY
Students interested in social issues and civic engagement officially have a place on campus to discuss their ideas and learn about new issues.
The Institute for Citizenship and Social Responsibility, an organization that promotes social responsibility, was conceived in 2002. Now, with the completion of new facilities, it has a place here at WKU.

The new space is found in room 109 of the Garrett Conference Center, and the open house will take place from 3 p.m. to 5 p.m. Students will be able to tour the new space and learn about what it offers, according to a Western press release.
The space will hold educational classes for ICSR courses and will be “open to all students, faculty and staff who are interested in developing community, citizenship and civic engagement,” according to the press release.

Program Coordinator Tony Shoemaker described the space as “an institution for innovation.”

“The space that the ICSR has been given will serve not only as a place to work on WKU’s campus,” Shoemaker said in an email. “Like any institute, we hope to be successful enough to encourage others.”

“I think restoring older buildings adds to the building’s limestone facade. The building burned in 1899 but was rebuilt. The original operable facade that was rebuilt following the fire still lines the facade that was built in the 1900s. Johnson has been working on restorations for the past 15 years. It’s really a creative outlet to take an eyesore and make it into a source of pride,” he said.

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OUR VIEW: There are a number of important issues on campus that the newly elected president should tackle. The student government should also promote student discounts and increasing sustainability.

The new president should also promote new ways students can have a voice. Students aren’t likely to bring all their problems directly across the SGA office, so the president should improve the organization’s campus presence and continue reaching out to students.

The president will serve as the strong advocate for students’ big concerns, such as domestic partner benefits and other important issues. The president should be a strong advocate for students’ big concerns, such as domestic partner benefits and other important issues.

The new SGA president will walk have more to offer than just a job. He should connect with students and voice his concern for students.

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WHY PAY MORE

But the new legislation means that beginning July 1, all students will receive student loans from the federal government, Franzaim said.

Although KHEAA will no longer be able to award student loans at that time, the organization will still be in charge of the KHEAA program and other student financial aid programs in the state, Franzaim said.

The legislation basically removes private lending arrangements from the student loan equation, President Gary Ransdell said.

Western students will continue to work with the federal government instead of private lenders, Ransdell said.

"It puts the government in the lending business," he said. "It’s eliminating the middleman."

The plan should allow lower interest rates, save taxpayers money and increase the number of Pell grants, Ransdell said.

Although KHEAA will still be in charge of student loans from the federal government, Franzaim said, "the organization will not be able to administer student loans at that time."

Ransdell said, "The Chinese government is becoming a world language," and the Chinese language and culture into public schools and the business sector.

Western will have the first Confucius Institute in Kentucky, he said.

The institute will create and sustain a Chinese language program at public schools in Warren County, Ransdell said.

It will also have a physical presence at Western, with display space in the library and eventually creating classrooms and computer labs, he said. "We recognize that China is becoming a world economic, military, and the Chinese language is becoming a world language," Ransdell said. "The Chinese government wants to increase trade, and we want our students to understand and embrace future world languages and cultures."

A plaque from Beijing will be unveiled in Helm Library on April 22, and construction of the facility will begin at that time, Ransdell said.

"We are very proud to be a partner in this initiative," Amy Eckhardt, co-director of Western’s Confucius Institute, said. "As officials were developing the Chinese Flagship program, they decided to build upon what they were already doing and share their resources with the region."

Both the Chinese Flagship program and the Confucius Institute are "part of a larger mission to advance learning, understanding, and appreciation for China and the Chinese," she said.

Western has been pursuing the Confucius Institute for the past year, and Randell went to Beijing in January to complete negotiations.

The Chinese government will find the institute, although Western will have to provide matching funds, Randell said.

Western can use grant funds such as the Chinese Flagship funding to get the university’s portion of the money, he said.

Reporter Emily Ulber contributed to this story.

By LAUREL WILSON

Western officials are hoping to expand these developing partnerships with China to the Bowling Green area through a new program.

The Confucius Institute is a program run by the Chinese government at universities throughout the world. It teaches Chinese language and culture into public schools and the business sector. President Gary Randell said.

Western will house the first Confucius Institute in Kentucky, he said.

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Reporter Emily Ulber contributed to this story.
Three days after being crucified and buried, Jesus was missing from his burial tomb. Some say Jesus’ disciples were so shocked and confused that he rose from the dead. If that’s true, why would they die for something they knew wasn’t true? Wouldn’t you? And there wasn’t a mass suicide, where they banded together in some delusional binge. Each of them left family and jobs, traveling to distant countries, preaching that Jesus died and came back to life. If the disciples were making it all up, each of them chose to do these things for something they knew wasn’t true. Doesn’t make sense.

What does make sense are the historical facts. Even while being tortured, the disciples insisted that they, as well as hundreds of other Jews, had seen Jesus alive. When some were arrested and ordered not to speak about Jesus’ resurrection, they responded, “We cannot help speaking about what we have seen and heard!”

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Jesus died and came back to life. If the disciples were making it all up, each of them would have to die for something they knew was a lie. Doesn’t make sense.

Three days after being crucified and buried, Jesus was missing from his burial tomb. Inside the tomb, Peter and John saw the burial cloths still lying there, empty. After that, the disciples went to work with Western’s strength until they were running through the Toppers’ individual drills and play one-on-one within the formal framework.

Slaughter said the goal is to improve his ball handling while maintaining his shooting touch and inside defense — all the while putting the finishing touches on 6-3, 180-pound prospect who will be asked to play point guard rather than shooting guard in his senior season.

If there’s anything worth working against, Slaughter said Head Coach Ken McDonald said it’s that he’d be an understanding shooting guard but fits just right at the point, where Slaughter began his role as the head of his senior season.

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What do you think? You may never be persecuted for your belief in Jesus like the disciples were for theirs.

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WHAT'S YOUR STORY?

MARCH 30, 2010 COLLEGE HEIGHTS HERALD

By HANNA DEMIRJIAN

WHAT'S YOUR STORY?

CONTINUED FROM SPORTS

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**BASEBALL**

**By MIKE STUNSON**

**Shamrock Shootout team Sofa King Good was defeated by Get It Boyz in the final round of the tournament.**

**FOOTBALL**

**By COLE CLAYBOURN**

Walking into a 20-game losing streak, it didn’t take Coach Chad Williford long to find out what he needed to concentrate on this spring: getting fundamental fundamentals.

He said the coaches are getting down to the basics in a new program, installing Toppertalk. He’s also bringing in the Rook’s, a local Family Enrichment Center of Williamson County, Kentucky, Delta sorority. This year’s tournament was the eighth event.

According to a KD press release, the tournament is hosted annually by Western’s chapter of Kappa Delta sorority. This year’s tournament was the eighth event.

**MEN’S BASKETBALL**

**Slaughter ready for next step**

**By JONATHAN LINTNER**

Slaughter has been a senior guard on the Western Kentucky University basketball team since his freshman year. He has helped lead the Hilltoppers to two conference championships and a berth in the NCAA Tournament. But now, Slaughter is faced with a decision: to turn pro or return for his senior season.

In the past, Slaughter has been known for his defensive skills and his ability to hit the big shot. But this year, he has also shown his scoring ability, averaging over 10 points per game. He has been named to the All-Sun Belt Conference team and has been named to the All-American team.

Slaughter is also known for his work ethic. He has always been one of the first players to arrive at practice and one of the last to leave. He has never missed a practice or a game due to injury.

**FOOTBALL**

**Western focusing on little things**

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Walking into a 20-game losing streak, it didn’t take Coach Chad Williford long to find out what he needed to concentrate on this spring: getting fundamental fundamentals.

He said the coaches are getting down to the basics in a new program, installing Toppertalk. He’s also bringing in the Rook’s, a local Family Enrichment Center of Williamson County, Kentucky, Delta sorority. This year’s tournament was the eighth event.

According to a KD press release, the tournament is hosted annually by Western’s chapter of Kappa Delta sorority. This year’s tournament was the eighth event.

**MEN’S BASKETBALL**

**Slaughter ready for next step**

**By JONATHAN LINTNER**

Slaughter has been a senior guard on the Western Kentucky University basketball team since his freshman year. He has helped lead the Hilltoppers to two conference championships and a berth in the NCAA Tournament. But now, Slaughter is faced with a decision: to turn pro or return for his senior season.

In the past, Slaughter has been known for his defensive skills and his ability to hit the big shot. But this year, he has also shown his scoring ability, averaging over 10 points per game. He has been named to the All-Sun Belt Conference team and has been named to the All-American team.

Slaughter is also known for his work ethic. He has always been one of the first players to arrive at practice and one of the last to leave. He has never missed a practice or a game due to injury.

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