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Western moves to No. 6 after victory over Eastern.



CROSSWALK Campus, city, state officials make plans to improve safety on University Boulevard.

College Heights Herald

Christians crusade on campus



Kurt Fattic/Herald

Publicity draws in crowd for Bell

BY EMILY BAKER

Many local Christians prayers were answered and many volunteers' work came to fruition when Celebration '97 became reality Sunday night.

Celebration '97 features special guest concerts and a message by Ralph Bell, an associate evangelist with the Billy Graham Evangelistic Association.

Almost 7,000 people gathered for the opening night of the celebration.

Overall, we were very pleased with the attendance and crowd reception," Jackson said.

There was a concern about parking, but the only comments I heard about the shuttle were very positive. People said they had the best time on the buses."

Last night's attendance fell to 3,900. Stan Reagan, Bowling Green public relations chairman, said the drop-off could be because Monday is not a normal night for church.

On Sunday, Celebration '97 participants and the audience were welcomed to Bowling Green by Lt. Gov. Steve Henry, Speaker of the House Jody Richards, Bowling Green Mayor Eldon Renaud and Warren County Judge/Executive Mike Buchanan. Before delivering his message, Renaud presented Bell with a key to Bowling Green and

Bowling Green resident Bonnie Sherwood, left, and Brownsville resident Pam Bleivins sing praise songs last night during Celebration '97 in Diddle Arena. Sherwood and Bleivins are both members of Love-In-Action, a group collecting donations during the crusade to help the needy.

Groups spread word in new ways

BY LEIGH ANN MOORE

The ground outside of Diddle Arena trembles from the pulsating sound of drums, while thousands of people inside rock to the grooves of...Christian music?

That's right. Christianity, in some aspects, is changing face. "Fifteen to 20 years ago you wouldn't have seen Billy Graham having a youth night with groups like D.C. Talk or Amy Grant," said Bill Jackson, public relations director for the Ralph Bell/Billy Graham Associate Crusade.

Jackson said the message that Jesus taught 2,000 years ago remains the same, but the language and approach in teaching that message has evolved.

"We want to communicate with people in the language they understand," Jackson said. "Bell speaks to people where they are."

Campus minister Bryant Rudolph of the Baptist Student Union has seen a few changes in his group's operations, which utilizes social events for witnessing to students.

"Reaching students has always been about making friends... and sharing Christ through those friendships," he

said. "We try to meet students through participation in campus life."

The transitions BSU has been undergoing, Rudolph said, concern the image of Christianity.

"Reaching students has always been about making friends... and sharing Christ through those friendships."

— Bryant Rudolph Baptist Student Union campus minister

"Public opinion of Christianity has always emphasized too much on the don'ts instead of on what God does. He does give us a future and a hope," he said.

The Gideons, on the other hand, have not changed their

method of witnessing in nearly 100 years. The groups visits campus every fall and hand out copies of the New Testament.

"We call it silent witnessing. We simply plant the seed by getting the word to them," said Frank Williams, a member of the Bowling Green West Camp Gideons, who were on campus yesterday to distribute the books.

"We don't try to coerce them in any way. If they don't want one, they simply say, 'No thank you'."

Williams said the Gideons believe handing out the Bible is a very effective method of witnessing Christianity to students.

SEE WORD, PAGE 7

SEE BELL, PAGE 7

Monthlong program shatters rape stereotypes

BY BRIAN MAINS

They asked for it. Lorrie Reeves, community educator for the Rape Crisis and Prevention Center in Bowling Green, said that has been society's reaction to rape victims, and she hopes this month — Sexual Assault Victim Awareness Month in the state of Kentucky — will show how wrong that idea is.

"People do not ask to be rape victims," Reeves said. "Rape is no respecter of age, race or gender."

With a theme of "Believe Me," Reeves and other departments statewide hope to

hammer the message home.

Marigail Sexton, executive director of the Kentucky Association of Sexual Assault Programs (KASAP), said the month is designed to dispel myths surrounding rape and develop respect for victims.

Students, city residents gathered on DUC south lawn Thursday to Take Back the Night, a vigil to promote sexual assault awareness.

See story, Page 8

"(We want to) give victims of sexual assault, the same level of respect as other victims of crime," Sexton said.

That level includes everything from how police question victims to the public perception of those victims.

Sexton said sexual assault victims are looked upon as people who want the rape to occur, who antagonize a rapist by

wearing a certain type of clothing or who walk down dark alleys late at night.

Sexton said that is wrong.

Both Reeves and Sexton said it is the disbelief people hold toward rape victims which keeps the crimes from being reported.

"We see people go through the court system and they feel re-victimized" by the process, Sexton said. "They don't feel like it's worth it."

The proof is in the numbers, she said. In 1996 the Kentucky State Police had 1,272 reports of rape, with only 742 of those cases involving arrest, according to the Crime in Kentucky publication for that year.

In comparison, KASAP reported 7,657 instances of rape at the 13 rape crisis centers in Kentucky during the 1997 fiscal year. Reeves said many vic-

tims go to these centers for support, whether they report an occurrence of rape to police or not.

Sexton said the comparison between numbers of different years is a good way to draw conclusions, because even though numbers between years may fluctuate, the ratio of actual rapes and reported rapes hardly changes.





Crime Prevention Officer Allen Polk said campus police officers have taken that message to heart.

"I'm a student, and I want a safe campus too," said Polk, who has been the crime prevention officer since Aug. 11 and attends classes on campus with his wife.

With emergency stations throughout campus, various counseling services and

SEE RAPE, PAGE 9

Herald forecast

			
Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday
89° high	62° low	94° high	65° low
79° high	65° low	86° high	65° low

◆ Just a sec

Film festival begins tomorrow

A free film festival about three works of internationally-known artist Judy Chicago will begin at 7 tomorrow night in Gerard Auditorium in Garrett Center.
An introduction and follow-up discussion will be led by Brent Oglesbee, an art assistant professor. Refreshments will be served.

The event is in preparation for Chicago's visit Sept. 25.

Pikes kick off 'Peak Week' today

Greeks will put their athletic skills to the test this afternoon with a volleyball tournament. It kicks off Pikes Peak Week, a fund-raiser sponsored by the Pi Kappa Alpha fraternity.

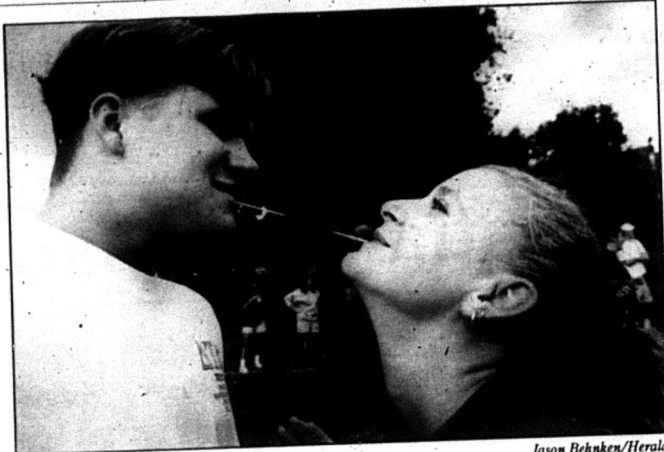
The three-day event will place Western fraternities and sororities against one another in various sporting competitions: volleyball, basketball and kickball. People who are interested in watching the competitions can see them from 3-6 p.m. today through Thursday at Lampkin Park.

The \$75 fee for fraternities and sororities to participate raises money for the Pikes' charity, Big Brothers, Big Sisters. Peak Week is the major fall semester fund-raiser for the fraternity.

Last year, the Pikes raised \$500 dollars from the event. This year, the group hopes to raise \$1,500.

◆ Clearing the air

A story in Thursday's Herald incorrectly identified junior cross country runner Iain Don-Wauchop.
The editorial in Thursday's Herald incorrectly identified Mother Teresa



Jason Behnken/Herald

Lip save: During Friday afternoon's new member Greek Olympics, Owensboro freshman Brandon Prather and Dawn Freeman, a sophomore from Hendersonville, Tenn., compete in the lifesaver pass. Prather is a new member of Delta Tau Delta fraternity and Freeman is a new member of Alpha Omicron Pi sorority. About two hundred students participated in the event.

◆ For the record/crime reports

Charges

◆ Timothy Lane Harvey, 1707 Pleasant Way, was charged Sept. 6 with speeding and DUI second offense after being stopped on Big Red Way. He was released from Warren County Regional Jail the same day on a \$500 unsecured bond.

◆ Brent Robert Jones, North Hall, was charged Sept. 7 with possession of alcohol by a minor, alcohol intoxication in the first degree, drinking an alcoholic beverage in a public place and

criminal littering while walking down Normal Drive. He was released from Warren County Regional Jail the same day on a \$500 unsecured bond.

Reports

◆ Sgt. Bill Key, Bowling Green Police Department, reported Sept. 9 the rear bumper on a trailer, valued at \$200, damaged while on display on DUC south lawn.

◆ Krystal Arbach, Bemis Lawrence, reported Wednesday a vehicle belonging to Chrystal

Dawn Massey, Bemis Lawrence, broken into and the driver side window, valued at \$200, broken, and a stereo valued at \$300 and two pair of sunglasses valued at \$240 stolen from the vehicle while parked in Egypt lot.

◆ Campus police reported Wednesday a vehicle belonging to Thomas Lance Houk, Keen Hall, broken into and a CD player, valued at \$300, a CD case, valued at \$10, 12 CDs, valued at \$168, and a CD mount, valued at \$15, stolen while parked in Egypt lot.

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SPRIT MASTERS: 'A chance to give back'

◆ From a field of about 60 students, 24 were chosen as official ambassadors for Western

BY MATTIAS KAREN

It was an unusually happy crowd that gathered outside Cherry Hall just before midnight Thursday. One after one they came, cheering and hugging each other, all with the same thought in their heads: They had made it.

It was the annual ceremony for the new Spirit Masters, the official student ambassadors of Western. For the chosen 24, it would be a night to remember for the rest of their lives. After two weeks of interviews, they had finally received the phone call from faculty sponsor Carl Kell that meant they earned the coveted title.

"I was hysterical when he called," Beaver Dam senior Sarah Young said. "I just started screaming."

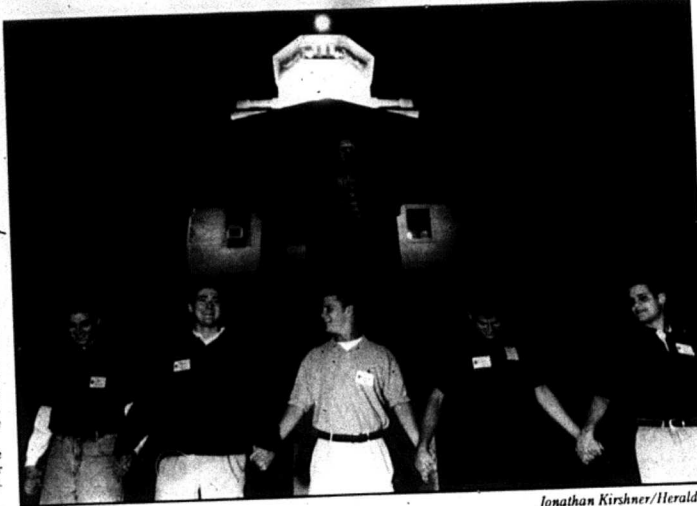
After introductions, Kell spoke about the coming year, saying it was "a morning of a new beginning" and that changes would occur since Western has a new president.

Strong relationships

He also talked about the strong relationships that evolve between Spirit Masters.

"The bond of friendship within this group is the strongest you will ever have," he said. He also mentioned that 11 marriages have taken place between Spirit Masters in the group's 17-year history.

The new members of the



Jonathan Kirshner/Herald

Alan Gordon, a junior from Mt. Gilead, Ohio, Bowling Green junior Ryan Faught, Owensboro senior Jason Payne, Hodgeriville sophomore Josh Detre and Sebastian Pantano, a junior from Wilmington, Del., stand in a circle in front of Cherry Hall at midnight Thursday. They are all new Spirit Masters. Returning and new Spirit Masters were called to meet for an introductory gathering.

group were all honored with the appointment.

"I'm glad to get a chance to give something back to the school, because it has given me so much," said Sebastian Pantano, a junior from Wilmington, Del. "This is the most exciting thing that ever happened to me."

Alan Gordon, a sophomore from Mt. Gilead, Ohio, was happy

with the chance to get to meet a lot of people.

"I believe this will be a great experience," he said.

Gordon was one of about 60 students who were called to the initial interviews in the search for new Spirit Masters.

Grades not only factor

"We look for evidence of activities and volunteerism,"

Kell said about the selection process, emphasizing that it is not only students' grades that count.

Chairman David Southard talked about the individual skills that evolved from being a Spirit Master.

"It's about bringing out the person and the leader in you," he said

First step in pageant begins tomorrow

BY MIKKI OLMSTED

Western women interested in showcasing their beauty and their talent in the Miss Black and Gold Scholarship Pageant should start clearing their calendars.

There will be an interest meeting at 8 p.m. tomorrow in Downing University Center, Room 226 for prospective contestants. The pageant, sponsored by the Alpha Phi Alpha fraternity, is scheduled for the same day as the local chapter's 25th anniversary — at 8 p.m. Dec. 4 in Garret Ballroom.

Despite the pageant's tradition, this is the first time in four years that Western's Eta Rho chapter of Alpha Phi Alpha has sponsored the local level of the national pageant. However, the local fraternity has been involved with the event for at least 10 years, according to program coordinator John Mark Eberhardt, a Louisville senior.

Here's how the experience goes. The woman crowned Western's Miss Black and Gold will advance to the state level of competition, Eberhardt said. From there, the winner will compete at the regional level. The woman crowned national Miss Black and Gold will attend the Alpha Phi Alpha national convention.

To enter the contest, students must submit an entrance application, available at the interest meeting. The deadline for the application is Oct. 7. Then, at a session Oct. 21, the participants will receive the guidelines for the competition.

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Opinion

Search marred by ethical lapses

Secrets and lies. That's what it boils down to.

It seems the actions of the Board of Regents during the search for the ninth president, particularly at the end, have been clouded by secrets and lies.

Of course, perception is always worse than reality. But the perception cast seems to be very shady.

Under the leadership of Chairwoman Peggy Loafman, the entire board has behaved unethically during this search. It seemed they wanted to keep everyone locked out of the biggest decision they've made in nine years.

The entire search has been filled with questionable actions.

The secrets

◆ When the search began in the spring, the board went into a closed session to discuss potential appointees to a presidential search committee. The attorney general said this meeting was illegal, violating Kentucky's open meetings laws. Did this really need to be talked about in secret?

◆ In a second spring meeting, the regents went into closed session without really saying why. So again, the attorney general said they broke the law because the public is "entitled to know the general nature of the discussion" that took place in the closed meeting.

◆ A more recent example: The regents met last Monday to interview the final two candidates, but they neglected to tell anyone about the meeting.

The lies

◆ When a reporter found out about last Monday's meeting, Loafman said

afterward that the board had not made a decision, when in fact earlier in the evening they selected Gary Ransdell.

◆ According to an article in The Courier-Journal, Loafman also told Edward Hammond, one of the finalists, last Tuesday that the board had not reached a decision. As of Thursday, the day before the official announcement, Hammond indicated that he had still not been told he didn't get the job. Let's hope he didn't find out in the newspaper.

◆ On Wednesday night, Loafman was at it again. She said a time for the announcement of the new president had not been set, but earlier it had been scheduled for 8:30 a.m. Friday.

The regents are probably doing what they believe to be in the university's best interest, but that doesn't mean they have the right to break the law. As the saying goes, the road to hell is paved with good intentions.

Good intentions, hampered through lies, are not in the best interests of the university — an ethical board of regents is. When the regents were elected or appointed, they took an oath to uphold the law. According to the attorney general, they haven't done that during this search.

How can we — the students, faculty and staff — respect the decisions made by our ruling body if they don't follow the law in making those decisions?

Students pay a lot of money to attend Western, and about \$80,000 of that was spent on this search.

The Western community has the



legal right to know when the board is meeting to make decisions about this campus.

The actions of this board destroys trust. And if they are allowed to continue to skirt the law, it could open the door for further abuses.

But worst of all, the board's behavior could leave a dark cloud looming over the new president's head, limiting his potential to carry out his job successfully.

The regents made a lot of mistakes,

but that doesn't mean it's too late to redeem themselves. It may be up to the two new regents, Lois Gray and Sara Hulse, to set an example for their more experienced peers.

Western is entering a new era with Ransdell at the helm, and this would be a perfect time to start fresh and build a better relationship with the community. A good first step would be to start following the law.

Otherwise, people will just assume the perception is true.

◆ Letters to the editor

Stop passing the buck on student safety

Concerning the safety problem when crossing University Boulevard. University Attorney Deborah Wilkins is quoted as saying, "I just want it to be clear that the university couldn't do anything EVEN IF WE WANTED TO." So, if I understand the quote correctly,

the university doesn't want to, but couldn't even if it did? Why wouldn't the university want to solve the problem, and why can't it?

I understand that it isn't a university-owned road, but this sounds to me like someone is passing the buck without making an attempt to solve the problem. The university should be leading the fight with the Kentucky Department of Transportation to get

something done instead of running away from it.

Students are being injured crossing from a university-owned building and parking lot to the main campus, and all Western can do is say it can't do anything? It shouldn't be up to the Student Government Association to lobby the state for action.

Perhaps the university can't make any changes to the state-owned road,

but someone in the administration should at least want to bring the issue to the state's attention and press the issue until something gets done.

We are a state university with representatives who meet regularly with the Governor. Why can't the university work together with the state instead of dodging responsibility?

SEE LETTERS, PAGE 5

People poll

◆ Do you think Bowling Green needs a landlord-tenant law?



"Yes, my friend had a problem with mice and the landlord didn't do anything about it."

Kechia Woodman
junior from Tell City, Ind.



"My friend had an eviction notice to move out in two days. They didn't even give him 30 days notice."

Todd Sailer
Evansville sopho- more



"I definitely think they should. I've run into slum lords in Bowling Green. The overall rental property here is pathetic."

Karissa Siler
Barstow senior



"They should have to keep it up. I've lived in apartments that were pretty run down."

Don Dixon
Louisville junior



"If you have land for rent, the property should be livable."

Reggie Bethel
Louisville sopho- more

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◆ Opinions can be expressed in letters to the editor. Deadlines for letters to the editor are 4 p.m. Friday for Tuesday's paper and 4 p.m. Tuesday for Thursday's paper.

Forum

Kinder, gentler doesn't mean better society

For years our nation's leaders have driven seemingly without end about creating a kinder, gentler nation. It seems that everyone is convinced that our world needs a greater sense of understanding as well as a greater ability to accept the various beliefs, creeds and lifestyles of the people around them.

On the surface this sounds great to most people, but I recently found a flaw in this theoretical gem. Let me explain.

While cruising through rural southern Illinois on my motorcycle, I had to stop in a small backwater town to get gas. This was a problem only because of the long history of prejudice I have endured in such places because of my love for motorcycles. On many occasions I have been told to leave or even been escorted from town only because I rode a

motorcycle and wore a leather jacket.

But this occasion was to be different. Instead of peering judgmentally at me, the single-toothed occupants of this place's front stoop began admiring my machine with a look I thought was usually reserved for livestock.

Instead of threatening me, the man behind the counter emitted a simple and pleasant, "nice bike." I was in shock. I expected the worst and was given politeness.

As I returned to my waiting steed, which was still surrounded by admirers, it was then that I realized the current popularity of motorcycles had removed the stigma left by past actions of degenerates and had movies and left a new-found respect and understanding for motorcycle enthusiasts.

On one hand, I was thrilled to

no longer be viewed as a threat by the people of these small towns. But on the other hand, I was disappointed.

Each person must find a way in which to rebel against conven-

The problem is that those of us who chose to rebel by secretly reveling in the unfounded fear and unrest of small-town dwellers have had our brand of rebellion erased. Our brand of passive rebellion has been obliterated by open-mindedness.

Does this mean that we must become tattooed and body-pierced freaks in order to fulfill our need for rebellion? Must we turn into drug-addicted, cross-dressing, bagpipe-playing sociopaths to horrify the mainstream of society? If we must go to such lengths to rebel, then what rebellion will the next generation be forced to resort to?

It seems that the idea of a kinder, more gentle and understanding nation has created a problem equal to or possibly larger than the ones it cured.

While understanding can be a

good thing in certain cases, a lot can be said for a good old-fashioned dose of distrust. I am in no way condoning racism, sexism or any other "ism," but I am saying that a reasonable fear of anything out of the ordinary or contradictory to the norm can be healthy.

If the accepted norm is to wear only black clothing and a blue shirt is considered rebellious behavior, then not only does each person have a much easier time rebelling but also a more fluid return to convention once the need for rebellion has diminished. It also won't require laser surgery or skin grafts 10 years later when that tattoo of a dragon eating a priest while holding a blood-soaked pentagram is not quite so cool.

Editor's note: Kelley Lynn is a senior print journalism major from Paducah.

Kelley Lynn

Commentary



tion. Rebellion is not only a normal part of life, but a very necessary one for a person to establish his or her individual moral and ethical parameters.

Rodes warriors bond, relieve college stress

For several guys in Rodes, Harlin, Saturday morning comes relatively early. At around 11 a.m. every Saturday, these weekend warriors invade the field between McCormack Hall and University Boulevard for the weekly game of football. If you've had to avoid a football in the middle of the road next to McCormack, you've seen these guys.

Most of the players played football in high school, but were a little too slow or a little too small to play at the next level. Others just love the game and couldn't find anyone else to play with them.

It doesn't matter what happened Friday night, who went to what party and got how drunk, these players still get up early Saturday morning, lace up their cleats and head to the "not-so-frozen tundra of McCormack field."

Rodes-Harlin football started the fall semester of 1996 by resident assistant Ben Ellis.

"I started it as a way to get guys together," Ellis said.

He said it started as a one-time thing to try to get to know people and for the residents to get to know each other.

Rodes-Harlin football has just expanded from there. The first year there were about 16 regulars who got up every Saturday morning to play. That grew to about 25 last year. Ellis usually calls those who don't get up on their own and has never heard "I'm too tired."

The game grew so much that Ellis decided to have a banquet to honor the players. About 24 die-hard football players invaded

Happy Inn one night to honor themselves and their fellow players.

I got into playing football with these guys through Ellis and through the constant proddings of my roommate. I never played high school football, backyard football or anything like it. I was a band nerd. Who would really want to play with a guy who was 5-10 and 130 pounds anyway?

Well, these guys do. This is more than just a football game. This is a chance to make friends and bond with other guys. I made most of my friends last year through my experiences with Rodes.

Harlin football

It's also a way to relieve the stress of college life and have a little fun. If someone made a bad grade on a test, they can just come out and make a tackle or catch a pass for a touchdown and the tension disappears for a while.

Problems disappear either through making the big play or just talking things out with the other guys. Football brings these guys closer every weekend. To keep emotions from erupting on the field, we have to at least like each other.

All of the programs that Western has tried to get students to stay on campus on the weekend have failed, yet one RA has kept a handful of guys on campus almost every weekend thanks to a love of football.

Editor's note: Scott Sisco is a sophomore print journalism major from Paducah.

Scott Sisco

Commentary



♦ Letters to the editor

CONTINUED FROM PAGE 4

Every time those of us who work in Jones-Jagers Hall hear tires squealing (which is far too often), we fear that another tragic accident for which no one wants to claim responsibility has occurred. Last year, our fears were realized. Thankfully no one was killed then, but what about next time? Perhaps legally Western isn't responsible to do anything, but what about morally? Does the university have any responsibilities for its students' safety? Apparently in this situation, the answer is no.

H. Davis Stone
Adult Education Specialist
Veterans Upward Bound

Writer misuses the word "rape"

This letter is in response to Andy Spears' commentary in

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Thursday's Herald. It's a great message, but the delivery is flawed.

Rape is as low an act as murder. Those who commit it are the most vile people on the planet. The victims are never the same. They must live with it and cope with it continually. But Spears, has a very distorted view of what rape is.

The fact that guys say that they'd like to "do" someone doesn't make them likely to rape. He also said those verbal actions say that men don't care about how they get sex, and don't view women as people.

What he doesn't mention is that women make the same statements about men, can we draw the same conclusions about them?

Yes, pornographic magazines do "objectify" women. But are the women who enjoy posing naked "dehumanized"?

The statement that if "no one bought this stuff companies wouldn't sell it" is one-sided. If no one posed for this stuff, it wouldn't exist in the first place.

Expecting a sexual reward for a good date may be stupid, but aren't rape. Haven't women ever used "he took me out to nice places and spent lots of money on me" when deciding to sleep with a man? That reflects badly on those women. The best deterrent is for females to use caution, good sense and more caution.

Todd Holloway
Bowling Green

♦ Submitting letters

Your opinions can be expressed in letters to the editor. Letters can be submitted through the internet Send them to Opinion Page editor Fred Lucas at herald@wku.edu

Writers are limited to two letters per semester. Letters must be typed or neatly written, with the writer's name, hometown, phone number and grade classification or job title. Letters submitted should be no more than 350 words

in length. The Herald reserves the right to edit letters for style and length. Because of space limitations we can't promise that every letter will be printed. The Herald will discontinue printing letters that offer little new insight to the debate on a topic.

Letters to the editor can be submitted to the Herald office at Garrett Center, Room 108, from 9 a.m. to 5 p.m. Monday through Friday.

Goals set for University Blvd.

BY CHARLIE LANTER

University Boulevard may become safer for students, but not this semester.

Short-term improvements topped the list of ideas at a meeting attended by state, city and university officials Friday, but no guarantees were made by those present.

Student Government Association President Keith Coffman said a lot of great ideas were discussed, but he still thinks the only solution is a skywalk between Pearce-Ford Tower and Jones-Jagers Hall.

"It's really the only solution that wouldn't affect traffic flow," the Russellville senior said.

Coffman and the SGA Congress renewed lobbying for a skywalk last semester when a student was hospitalized after being struck by a car while crossing the road.

The idea was originally proposed by SGA in February 1996, but was shot down by administrators because of cost and other concerns — mainly that the street is maintained by the state.

So instead of a skywalk, University Attorney Deborah Wilkins said Lance Meredith of the Kentucky Department of Transportation will submit a request to move the crosswalk at the intersection of Creason Street and University Boulevard. If approved, the crosswalk would be moved to the intersection of University Boulevard and Big Red Way.

The request would include plans to put a "scramble switch" at the intersection, which pedestrians could push to have all traffic lights turn red. Another part of the plan would be a flashing yellow light in front of Jones-Jagers Hall.

Coffman said he and Wilkins will look into possible improvements the university could make.

"It was agreed that if we could come up with the money, the university would put a fence down both sides of the road," Coffman said.

The purpose of the fence, according to Wilkins, would be to force students to use the existing crosswalks to encourage eventual

use of a possible skywalk. Wilkins also said Western may be able to improve lighting near the dorms along the north side of University Boulevard.

Bowling Green City Attorney Gene Harmon said legal issues are the main reason the city wants to see University Boulevard made safe.

Harmon said the city was sued last year over a pedestrian accident on University Boulevard and has recently been notified of another possible suit that could be brought against them in the coming months.

Bill Hayes, Bowling Green Public Works director and city engineer, said the city would look into building a sidewalk along Creason Street next to Egypt lot and Creason Field. But next semester would be the earliest the work could begin on the approximately \$30,000 project.

"We won't amend our budget until about December," Hayes said. "And by the time you get all the funding together and get it designed, it will be spring-time anyway."

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◆ Celebration '97

Students help with crusade

◆ **Campus ministries attend seminars to practice counseling for Ralph Bell visit**

BY KELLEY LYNN

With a lightness in her voice, Teddie Holt, an Eddyville Junior and Baptist Student Union member, related one of her experiences as a counselor for Celebration '97. "Last night I got to talk to a little girl. She was about 9 years old," she said. "She had been to church that same Sunday, and I had to clarify some things with her. We just sat down and went through a little book that I had and she made a decision (to follow Christ)." For Holt, counseling can be as beneficial to her as to the person in need. "It's helping me grow in my spiritual walk, just being able to explain things to someone

else and being able to see that change in somebody," she said. Bryant Rudolph, campus minister for BSU, said students from several Christian campus organizations went to a week-end counselor training session to prepare for Celebration '97. It was a two-day session which taught students how to hear people's testimonies and advise others during troubling times. "Students best minister to students," Rudolph said. "I can identify with where they are and the struggles they are going through." Helping to guide people is just a small part of the supporting role the various campus ministries have been performing. "We handed out a lot of fliers," said Hopkinsville sophomore Billy Houpt, BSU's outreach coordinator. "We talked to people in the classroom and people you run into on the street." Evangelist Ralph Bell said

local support for his ministry is invaluable. "It's very important," he said. "We strongly seek their involvement because they are ministering on campus and know the ins and outs there. So we ask them to provide leadership in helping to involve other students." The work for these student volunteers doesn't end when the crusade moves on. Each person who seeks guidance during the crusade will be given a follow-up counselor to continue guiding the person. "The follow-up is very important," Bell said. "All of our work would be in vain if we didn't have a good follow-up program." To Houpt, the most important preparation is in one's own heart. "I just emphasize the prayer part of it," he said. "If you're not prepared in your mind to give something to the crusade, you're not going to get anything from the crusade."

BELL: Evangelist shares vision, hope

CONTINUED FROM FRONT PAGE

read a proclamation declaring the week of Sept. 14-17 as Celebration '97 week. Reagan said he was pleased with the first night of the crusade. "The presence of large signs and the news media helped." People's opinions about Celebration '97 were as diverse as the audience itself. "I came to hear Ralph Bell preach the words and life of Jesus Christ, and I came away feeling inspired and encouraged to let Jesus rule in every area of my life," said Matt Hagan, a 1997 Western graduate and a resident of Ketchikan, Ark. Louisville sophomore Jason Watts was not as impressed. "He (Bell) wasn't as dynamic as I expected," he said. "It was stuff I'd heard before." - It was no accident that Celebration '97 came to Bowling Green this year. "Everywhere we go, we go by invitation, and the invitation came to us from pastors and lay people here in Bowling Green," Bell said

"It was their vision to do something, to join hands together in some way in a concentrated way to speak to their community." Bell, who has been associated with Graham for 32 years, hopes college students realize that "Jesus Christ is very real and relevant to their needs." "They (college students) may think everything's cool, enjoy parties and have a blast, but those nights when you're alone in your room with your own thoughts and there's something missing deep down inside, that's when you need to inquire about what you're really about," he said. Bell explained that the crusade is comprised of three phases: preparation, proclamation and preservation, or follow-up. "Counselors follow up with people they've counseled," Bell said. "Pastors are responsible for getting them involved in the life of the church and working through whatever problems they may have, such as marriage problems or alcoholism." Kelley Lynn contributed to the reporting of this story

WORD: Churches seek students

CONTINUED FROM FRONT PAGE

"In fact, it's so effective we've been doing it since 1899," he said, adding the organization now distributes the free books to 172 countries. Though local Christian organizations and churches may vary in their approaches, some agree there is a need for witnessing to college students. "Some are looking to redefine their lives now that they're

on their own," explained James Brown, campus advisor for the Episcopal Fellowship. "Some of them are running away from their lives, and some of them turn to the church." He said there is no simple approach, but students need to ask questions and explore religion. "College students are very smart, articulate and open to new ideas," Jackson said. "They can smell a phony a mile

away. If you're honest and speak it (the gospel) with love, they will take it in and make up their own mind about it." Rudolph also gives credit to the average student's intelligence and open-mindedness. "They're not stupid," he said. "In fact, they're a very intelligent group. Christianity is not a check-your-brains-in-at-the-door relationship with God. There has to be an appeal to the heart and the head."

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Program honors violence victims

BY MOLLY HARPER

Where there's a clothesline, there are bound to be kids running back and forth through the hanging clothes. Though the Clothesline Project's display of shirts created by victims of domestic violence is a somber tribute, the theme of Thursday's Take Back the Night rally was celebration and community.

Leaning over a marbled green shirt with the half-written message "I didn't know ..." was Camille Harris, a sophomore from Fairfax, Va.

Right before she graduated from high school, Harris went to a party with her friends. She drank too much and passed out, and when she woke up, a complete stranger was forging himself on her.

"I never really dealt with it," Harris said. "I didn't tell anyone, except for the friends that were there. I made them promise to never talk to me about it."

◆ This

year's

Take Back

the Night

featured

bands and

information

booths.

Less than a week after she was raped, Harris' family moved to a different state. The move, breaking up with her boyfriend and losing contact with her friends drove her to anorexia. Although she never brought it up during the counseling she received for her eating disorder, she was able to deal with her feelings about her assault.

Telling her mother proved to be the hardest part of her ordeal. "I really didn't tell her until a couple of months ago," she said. "It's like telling anyone makes it real."

Harris said she has a better image of herself now, and she's happier and healthier. She still doesn't know the name of her attacker, but it doesn't seem to matter now that she has come to terms with her assault.

It wasn't my fault that I was drinking. He would have done it whether I was sober or not," she said. "I accept the fact that it happened to me, and it doesn't define who I am."

The Clothesline Project, sponsored by the Anti-Violence Coalition of Kentucky, helps women who have been abused or assaulted express their pain through decorating a T-shirt to represent their experience. The shirts are put on display at events like Thursday's rally to raise the community's awareness of its domestic violence problems.

The Clothesline Project was just one of the organizations that donated its time and energy to the rally. Information booths were presented by groups such as the Rape Crisis Center, Western Counseling Services, Lincoln Trail Hospital and the women's studies department. Four Metcalfe County bands, Trip, Radiant Lull, DocPenny and Jimmy Lee, prepared for weeks in order to perform throughout the evening.


Community response to the event was overwhelmingly positive, said Phyllis Millspough, director of the Rape Crisis Center in Bowling Green. Millspough said she couldn't be happier with the light, reverent mood Take Back the Night inspired.

"We have kept with the theme we intended," she said. "Not a rally or a protest, but a celebration of the journey from victim to survivor."



Carrie Pratt/Herald

Metcalfe County residents Jami Wilcome, left, and Shyanna Pope, 4, hold a candle during a performance of Radiant Lull, a band from Metcalfe County. The two were at the Take Back the Night program on the DUC south lawn to show support for the band.




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RAPE: Education remains crucial

Students gripe about Gables

BY MATT BATCHELDOR

CONTINUED FROM FRONT PAGE

the campus police's willingness to undergo sensitivity training. Reeves said the school is one of the best equipped in the state.

"I can't say enough about Western's police department," he said.

She said such things as sensitivity sessions teach police how to deal with victims, and that sensitivity is important on a college campus.

"College freshmen are the most vulnerable," Reeves said. "One in four women and one in six men experience some form of sexual assault."

But education does not stop with the police department. Sexton said. It involves redefining the sexual superiority some men feel they must sustain.

"True rape prevention is not to teach women how to keep from being raped, but to teach a man not to rape," she said.

Until that day, there are some basic things people should know about the nature of sexual assault crimes, Reeves said.

Rule No. 1: It's probably someone you know. "It is very rare people are raped by a stranger," Reeves said.

She said 80 percent of rapes occur between people who know

each another.

2. Alcohol is a great contributor to rape.

Reeves said 70 percent of rapes are alcohol-related.

"You need a designated friend" when going anywhere drinking may be involved, Polk advised.

3. In many cases, rapists prey on those who seem to lack confidence.

"Display self confidence," she said.

4. Know what rape is. "A woman may be raped but not know it's legal rape," Reeves said.

Sexton said it comes in two degrees.

Under the law, first degree rape consists of forcible rape, which includes date rape and someone engaging in sex with someone who is under the influence.

Second degree rape, in general, is statutory rape, which is having sex with someone who is under the age of consent.

Also, though sexual assault prevention is usually geared toward women, there are approximately 1,000 reports of men being raped each year in Kentucky.

For them, reporting a rape can be more difficult because of the myth that "men always want sex," Sexton said.

"It's even harder for them to come forward."

It was billed as "Ultimate Student Living." All the conveniences of on-campus living and more were minutes from the Hill. Amenities like free monitored alarm systems were promised as standard.

But several students living at the Gables apartment complex say their experiences have been anything but ultimate, and they can't wait to leave 1909 Creason Drive.

"They advertised ultimate student living, but it's junk," said Jason Stowe, a sophomore from Kalamazoo, Mich. "It seems like they are preying on college students."

Students are complaining about pipes bursting, drywall cracking and doorknobs coming loose. They say the \$265 a month they each pay in rent plus utilities should cover more services than they receive in their four-bedroom apartments.

"The main reason everybody's pissed off is because of the things we've been promised," said Jennifer Hall, a junior from Springfield, Tenn. "We've gotten about a third of them."

But Jack Sheidler, one of the apartments' owners, said the complaints are coming from a small group of students.

"I honestly believe we run our operation more honestly and openly than anyone in town," he said. "I think we're doing OK."

When students like Hall first expressed interest in the Gables as early as May, then manager Gala Lowry mailed them several advertisements, one listing "50 reasons to love the Gables."

Two of those reasons were a computer lab and a swimming pool, which residents say they haven't received.

"We are paying for things we're not receiving — like a pool,

like a clubhouse," said Kerstin Kruse, a senior from Havana, Ill. ("Lowry" promised us the whole place would be done by Aug. 1.")

Edmonton senior Jennifer Glass and Hazard alumnus Joe Boese said they were also told the pool and computer labs would be complete before the school year.

Sheidler said the computer labs should be finished by the end of the week — their construction was delayed along with the Gables' on-site office complex.

As for the pool, Sheidler said it's too late in the year to install a pool. He said the pool will be opened a month early next year.

Promises of a fenced perimeter, designated parking spaces, nearby shuttle service and bike racks are among the "50 reasons" that haven't been honored, Kruse said.

Stowe said though the Gables' apartments aren't filled to capacity, he often can't find a parking spot in the lot.

"Two hundred eighty-eight people can live in these apartments," Stowe said. "I went and counted and there's 265 parking spots. That's bad math."

Sheidler said they converted to a permit system because non-residents were taking up too many spaces. As for the fence, it's on the way, Sheidler said. And that shuttle service that was promised? It was denied by the university, he said.

But Hall maintained that Gables management has turned a deaf ear to her concerns.

"They don't seem to care," Hall said. "Everyone I've talked to feels the same way."

Residents say new buildings falling apart

Student residents said they have experienced an inordinate amount of maintenance problems in apartments that were

finished just two months ago. Stowe points to cracks in his wall that construction workers plastered over with duct tape and repainted. White paint used to coat the trim along the bathroom doorway is splashed along the bathroom wall. Some areas were never painted.

Glass and Kruse said the building often vibrated during thunderstorms. They said the reinforced, "party-proof walls" they were promised don't exist.

"I could hear Fleetwood Mac — every word of the song," Glass said of her upstairs neighbors. "I could hear them having sex."

Sheidler contends that the apartments are up to code. He admits that new apartment buildings tend to settle, causing cracks — but those problems should be fixed.

"New construction doesn't mean perfect (construction)," he said.

Residents want out

With months left on their leases, several students said they were willing to pay \$530 to break them and move elsewhere.

Stowe is moving to a friend's apartment at the end of September and will put up the money to break the lease.

Kruse and Boese said they can't afford to break their leases, though they're considering it.

Glass paid to end her lease the first week of August, and moved back on campus to a resident assistant job at Bemis Lawrence.

But not everyone is ready to terminate their stay there.

Louisville sophomore Kristi Blue said though she's disappointed the Gables hasn't come through with promises, she's mostly happy.

"It's pretty cool," she said. "I like it because it's the first apartment I've had. It's my freedom."

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SAEs support football with 175-mile run

BY STEPHANIE SIRIA

At Patrick left Friday morning to go on a run with a few of his buddies.

But this wasn't any short jog. It lasted 175 miles, landing the senior from Port Huron, Mich., and his brothers in Richmond for the annual Western vs. Eastern Kentucky football game.

The Sigma Alpha Epsilon fraternity held its Run To Richmond for the 28th year. In the late Friday morning sunshine, about 50 SAE

brothers left Western's campus between Downing University Center and Diddle Arena, waving the purple and gold SAE flag as they made their way out of town.

"It's exhilarating for us," Patrick said. "We're really excited."

Since 1969, the SAEs have run the distance between Bowling Green and Richmond and have wound up on the football field at Eastern just before the brawl between the Hilltoppers and Colonels. When the brawl is at

Western, the SAEs from Eastern trot to Smith Stadium to meet up with their fellow brothers.

"It's a way for us to show our appreciation to the football team for all their hard work throughout the season," said Louisville senior Matt Walker. "It helps boost the spirit of the players before the big game."

After departing Bowling Green, the fraternity headed onto the backroads of Kentucky until hitting the Cumberland Parkway. From there, the group, followed by

four cars carrying members not running, traveled until they reached Interstate 75, from which they headed north to Richmond.

The SAEs got a little help Friday from Western's new president and alumnus, Gary Ransdell. The SAE brother kicked off the event by passing the game ball to football coach Jack Harbaugh.

"This is a terrific event for the SAEs here at Western," Ransdell said. "These are a great group of guys and it means a lot to be able to participate with them."

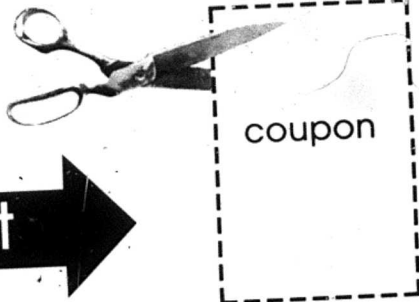
This year's run was a special one for the juniors and seniors in the fraternity like Patrick.

"This was my last run at Western and it was memorable," he said. "It's nice to see that us older guys still have the zeal to run that distance."

The SAEs raised \$20 pledges for every mile they ran on the trip. A portion of the proceeds will go to the family of an SAE member attending Louisiana State University who died last month from binge drinking.



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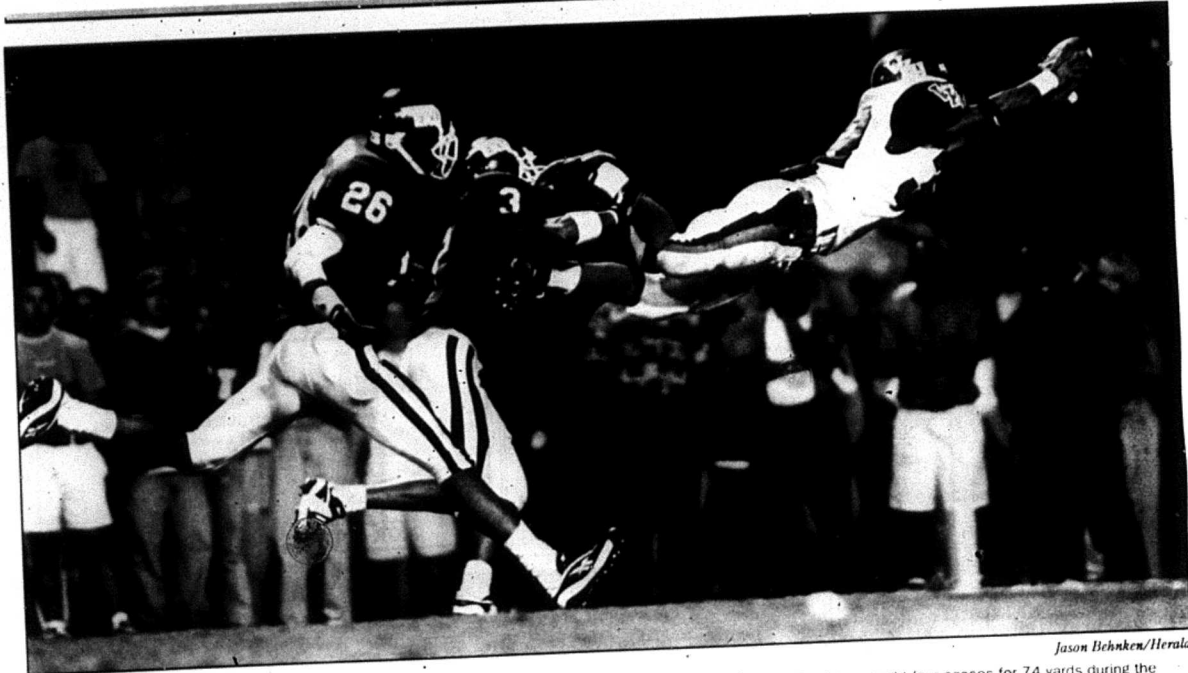


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Sports



Jason Behnken/Herald

During the third quarter of Western's game against Eastern Kentucky last Saturday night in Richmond, senior wide receiver Joey Stockton dives into the end zone

for a 58-yard touchdown. Stockton caught four passes for 74 yards during the game. The Hilltoppers won 37-21, bringing their record to 3-0

Stockton flies high in Tops' win

Western smashes Eastern 37-21; remains undefeated

By Travis Mayo

RICHMOND — All Joey Stockton was missing Saturday was a cape.

The senior wide receiver performed his Superman impression in the third quarter of No. 6 Western's 37-21 victory over in-state rival Eastern Kentucky (0-2). After catching a low pass from senior quarterback Willie Taggart, Stockton dove into the end zone.

"At about the five-yard line, I was thinking of something to do," Stockton said of the 58-yard touchdown reception. "It was either that or dunk the goal post."

Western coach Jack Harbaugh didn't mind the dive after what he called a well-executed play.

"That's fine, as long as he doesn't get hurt too soon and as long as he doesn't get hurt

doing it," he said.

The win was Western's fourth out of the last five against Eastern and the largest margin of victory over the Colonels since a 35-0 win in 1973.

Silence fell over the Eastern crowd when Western (3-0) took the lead 29-14 and the game took a turn toward Big Red Way.

The Toppers trailed 14-13 at the half for the first time this season. But Western's defense knew the game was far from over.

"We came out for the second half and said it was zero to zero," junior defensive end Odell Ford said.

A punt was the result of Eastern's first possession of the second half, setting up the Superman sighting. The Stockton touchdown was the beginning of 24 unanswered points for Western.

With the Hilltopper defense stopping

the Colonels, Taggart took advantage. He finished with 143 yards rushing on 17 attempts and completed six of 14 passes for 95 yards, one finding its way to the end zone. Taggart also ran in one of the Tops' four touchdowns.

But Taggart doesn't want the undefeated season to stop now.

"It's time to move on," he said. "We can't let down, but we have to keep pounding and pounding."

And that's just what the Toppers did after the pass of the night.

Ford recovered a fumble on Eastern's next drive, giving Western's most productive

player of the night — sophomore kicker

Jeff Poisel — a chance to put three more

points on the board.

Poisel tallied 13 points on three field goals (35, 40 and 26 yards) and four extra-

point attempts. It was the second-most kicking points in school history, behind

"Looking at Western's schedule, I don't know who's on there that can beat them, especially if they play like they did tonight."

— Roy Kidd

Eastern Kentucky coach

Chris Pino's 14 points against Central Florida in 1992.

"That's always nice to achieve personal goals, but the most important thing is that the team has a good game," Poisel said. Eastern coach Roy Kidd predicted good results for the Toppers' remaining games.

"Looking at Western's schedule, I don't know who's on there that can beat them, especially if they play like they did tonight," he said.

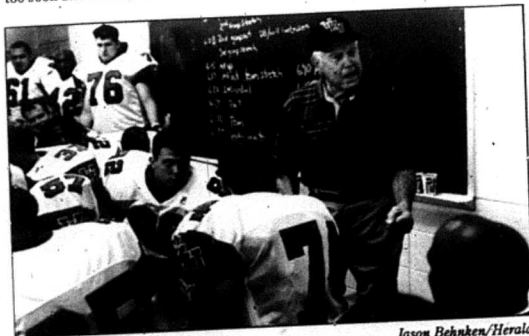
The schedule marked this game as an away game, but junior wingback Jade Gummer said it was played at home.

"Anywhere we go, it's considered our house and I was happy to come out with a victory out of our house," Gummer said, smiling.

Gummer ended the game with 50 yards on seven rushes.

Injury bug bites again

Junior offensive lineman Aaron Hamilton suffered a broken foot in Saturday's win over Eastern. Harbaugh said Hamilton is expected to miss a minimum of four weeks because of the injury.



Jason Behnken/Herald

Last Saturday in Richmond, 83-year-old Eck Branham gives a pep talk to Hilltoppers before the team takes the field against Eastern Kentucky.

Football fan's dedication has stretched 64 years

By Travis Mayo

RICHMOND — Deep within the Western locker room Saturday, inspiration came in the form of an 83-year-old fan.

As the Hilltoppers towered over him, he jumped up and down inside the huddle, screaming at the top of his lungs for a victory. He told the players to get the "juice" inside of them.

It worked: "They had the juice tonight," Eck Branham said, smiling, after Western won

against Eastern Kentucky.

It was the same fan who welcomes visitors into his house of red, from a Big Red dorm to a den filled with Western paraphernalia.

"I didn't know there was any other color but red," Branham said.

The road for Estill "Eck" Branham has been long. It began in his hometown of Prestonsburg, where he graduated from high school in 1933. He never thought it would come to Bowling Green.

After his high school gradu-

ation, Branham was visited by a representative from The Courier-Journal (Louisville, Ky.), who asked him if he ever considered going to college at Western.

"I told him, 'I don't know where that is,'" Branham said. But Eck rode to Western with the man the next week.

That's when he met the two men that would influence his stay on the Hill the most: Henry Hardin Cherry and E.A. Diddle.

SEE FOOTBALL, PAGE 14

Buck stops here if preparations are made

Every year, thousands of camouflage-clad hunters hit the wood in search of that monster buck. Millions of dollars are spent annually to fuel this desire for old mossy horns.

If you haven't tuned your bows and scouted your favorite hollow, there is still time. Bow season is around the corner and shops have been packed for weeks.

If you need work on your bow, be prepared to wait several days. Before you decide if your bow is hunt-ready:

- ◆ Look at the string and see if it appears worn or frayed. If it does, it should be replaced.
- ◆ Check the cables for the same wear and tear.
- ◆ Check the limbs for hairline cracks.
- ◆ Make sure the string prop-

erly feeds over the cam or wheel. ◆ Check the rest to make sure the arrow sets properly.

If you see any of these problems, tell your repairman.

Assuming your bow is tuned, work on other equipment needed for the upcoming season.

Probably the most important piece of equipment bow hunters use is a deer stand. Stands are very helpful, but if they aren't properly maintained, they can cause disaster. Make sure all bolts are tight-

ened and rivets still hold together. If you have a climbing stand, be sure to check all of the mechanisms to ensure a safe climb.

If you don't have a safety belt, get one! Almost all deer-stand accidents happen because safety belts aren't used.

If steps and ladders are used, be sure that they are properly placed on the tree. Check each rung for rotting.

A weapon hoist is another important safety feature that should be used every hunt.

When climbing your stand, you should never pack your bow up the tree with you.

Instead, tie a small piece of string to the bow and your belt and climb. After reaching the top, simply pull up your weapon. This ensures there are no accidental mishaps with the weapon on the way up.

Noise is also a factor with equipment. Picture this: You've scouted a great spot and the time has come to tag that dream deer. As you turn to aim, your stand lets out a moan that scares every creature this side of the Mississippi River.

To keep noise to a minimum, you must fix all creaks and moans. On your stand, you can unscrew all bolts and place electrical tape over the hole. Then

screw the bolt back down through the tape. The tape keeps the bolts from making contact with the surface of the stand.

You can also screw down an old door mat over the floor of your stand. This keeps noise down and also keeps toes warmer.

To keep your bow quiet, you can put moleskin over the sight window and behind the rest. This fabric will stop noise in the case your arrow falls off the rest and hits the bow.

Another cheap but effective item is a bow silencer. They tie on your string and dampen vibrations after the shot to prevent deer from "jumping the string."

If you prepared properly, everything will fall in place—including that buck of a lifetime.



GRASS ROOTS
Jed Conklin

Rugby club exposure unexpected

BY JED CONKLIN

When Western's men's rugby club traveled to Southern Illinois in Carbondale last season, the farthest thing from their minds were Playboys.

A journalist from the famed adult magazine was there to interview Southern Illinois for a rugby story, but Western's team got several interviews from the magazine. Western happened to be in the right place at the right time.

The club was ecstatic to see several Western players featured in the story that came out in this month's magazine.

The Playboy story is just one of many stories that are exchanged between the club's members at the rugby house, which is being renovated. Coming off an 18-2 season, the team promises another fantastic season.

The team also took first place in the Jock Strap and Banshee tournaments last year.

They lost three players from last year's squad. Andy Teller graduated, and David Thoma decided the Marney was his calling. Louisville senior John Albro was in a traffic accident involving a drunk driver during the Memorial Day weekend. The accident caused Albro to go into a coma. He was unconscious for about three weeks. However, doctors say he can never play his beloved game again.

Returning to the club are Leitchfield junior Chad Stephens; Louisville juniors Marty and Tim Wissing; Eric Sherman, a junior from Indianapolis, Ind.; David Haywood, a sophomore from Antioch, Tenn.; Owensboro junior Mike Roebuck; Jorge Conde, a junior from Gainesville, Fla.; Bowling Green sophomore Brandon "Thumper" Lewis and Rock Creek sophomore Mike Lewis.

The team encourages all students interested to call the Intramural office at the Preston Health and Activities Center for information about the club.

"Join the time-honored tradition of chivalry, camaraderie and athletic excellence," Tim Wissing said.

Players say that rugby is nothing to be scared of, and size is not what counts. Marty Wissing, one of the Western's top players, stands at 5-6, 150 pounds and excels at the sport.

"You always have a place to stay and socialize when you play rugby," Stephens said.

The team was supposed to play Kentucky this past Saturday, but UK's squad canceled the game. They are scheduled to play against the Nashville Posse at 1 p.m. Saturday in Nashville.



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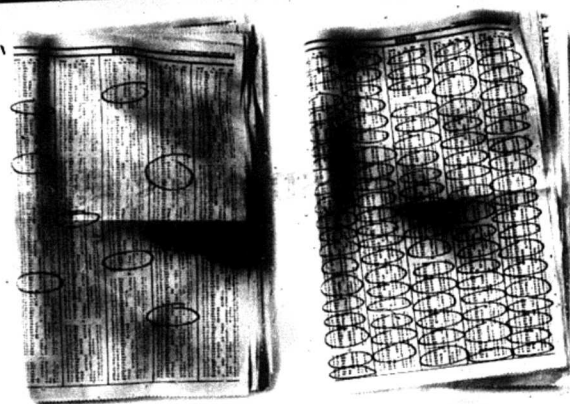
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Volleyball loses to Memphis in tournament

By Chris Abrell

Senior middle hitter Jamie Ritterskamp accepted All-Tournament honors for her third-straight tournament this weekend at the Hilltopper Invitational and was named Sun Belt Conference Player of the Week.

Freshman outside hitter Andria Humpert joined Ritterskamp among the All-Tournament team members. The duo combined for 94 kills in three matches.

Western evened its record to 5-5 in the round-robin tournament and finished second without the power of senior outside hitter Lori Cummings, who was injured last Tuesday at Cincinnati.

Cummings is opting for arthroscopic surgery on a tear in the medial meniscus in her right knee. Depending on the extent of the damage, she could be out for two months.

"My first reaction was how are we going to be ready this soon after finding out," Coach Travis Hudson said.

Western initially showed no signs of the loss. The Lady Toppers started with a three-game victory against Tennessee-Martin.

UT-Martin coach Milly MacDonell said her team played very poorly against Western — 19 bad that they beat themselves.

Game one was tight at 17-15, but the Skyhawks lost their composure in games two and three, falling 15-9 and 15-4 as Western stacked 46 kills, 53 digs and a

246 hitting percentage in its best match of the weekend. UT-Martin was held to .068 hitting accuracy and committed eight reception errors.

"Game one was a struggle, and we were fortunate to win it," Hudson said. "Game three was a lot of fun. They're starting to get a feel for each other, and things are starting to work better."

Next on the list is the Westerwinds of Western Illinois. Western took another three-game win, 15-13, 15-7, 15-6.

"It was all about ball control," assistant coach Ken Marshall said. "Everyone stepped up. The freshmen really brought us a lift."

Freshman middle hitter Christie Turnipseed and Humpert hit over 400 and combined for 33 kills and 25 digs.

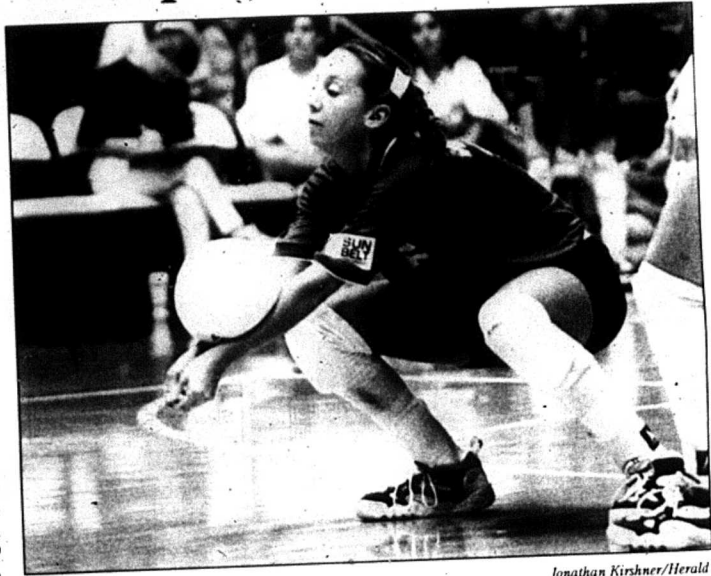
"With Christie Turnipseed, it's not magic," Hudson said. "She is in here every day trying to get in extra work I have to run her out of the gym."

Western's tyranny didn't last. Memphis ended the Lady Toppers' run to finish first. After losing the first game 15-11, the Lady Tigers never looked back, winning 15-7, 15-7, 15-9.

Memphis hit 276 for the match and tallied 69 kills, 19 more than Western.

"I thought we really played hard," Hudson said. "We really missed Lori (Cummings) in the third match because passing is what we struggled with."

Western travels to Washington, D.C., for the Georgetown Invitational on Friday and Saturday.



Jonathan Kirshner/Herald

During their loss to Memphis on Saturday, freshman outside hitter Andria Humpert digs the ball as freshman defensive specialist Beaven Hill stands by. Humpert, along with senior middle hitter Jamie Ritterskamp, was named to the All-Tournament team. The volleyball team will travel to Washington, D.C., this weekend to participate in the Georgetown Invitational Tournament.

Golf takes 13th place

By Scott Sisco

The Western men's golf team opened the fall season at the Rock Mountain Intercollegiate Tournament in Cheyenne, Wyo. The team finished 13th out of 16 teams with a score of 898. Nevada won with a score of 870.

The altitude of the course played a part in the way the team played. The Toppers drove the ball too far in the first round, got themselves in early trouble and finished the first round with a 305 score.

Last season's team average was 308, so Coach Brian Tirpak was pleased with the first round. The team improved to a 297 in the second round, equaling last year's best round.

The team shot a 296 in the final round for a total of 898, just one stroke from 11th place.

"We're the only team that did better each round," Tirpak said. "We just ran out of rounds."

The top player for the Toppers was junior team captain Nate Gilchrist. He tied for 16th with a score of 218 over three rounds. He was eight shots behind the winner.

Tirpak said he was pleased with the play of his top three players: Gilchrist, sophomore Charlie Cornette and senior Ryan Tucker. He said in most tournaments the play of his top three would have been enough to finish well. But to finish well here, the whole team had to play well.

"We all know we could have played a lot better," Gilchrist said.

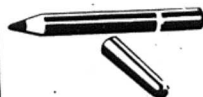
Cornette also played well, shooting a 220 for three rounds. He tied for 26th place at four over par.

Tucker came back from a year off to shoot a 222 for three rounds and finished in 33rd place. He was a Sun Belt All-Conference player before he redshirted last year.

The Topper's next match will be Monday and Tuesday at the Tristate Classic. The tournament will be held at Pickwick Landing State Park in Pickwick, Tenn.

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FOOTBALL: Supporter gives time, friendship

CONTINUED FROM PAGE 11

"Dr. Cherry and Coach Diddle put the Western spirit in me and it's still in me," Branham said. "I give them credit for me getting a college degree."

When his first visit to Western was over, Branham had to get home the hard way — by hitchhiking.

"Back then, I didn't have any other way to travel," he said. "You could catch a ride easy because (motorists) weren't afraid to pick you up."

Branham found a ride home that day. He found another months later when he made the trip to Western to play football and get an education.

Branham, who lettered as a quarterback from 1934-36 and also lettered in basketball and baseball while at Western, earned his degree in 1937.

He graduated from a place that was once unfamiliar to him, but had become his home.

"I liked it to start with, but I fell in love with it," Branham said.

After serving in World War II, Branham made his way back to Western to get his master's degree and watch the football team. He earned his master's in 1952, and then his coaching career began.

Branham coached high school athletics at every end of the state and later scouted for major league baseball teams. He scouted for the Cincinnati Reds for 12 years and the Cleveland Indians for six.

But wherever he was, Branham made sure he was in Bowling Green on the weekends during football season.

"There wasn't any other place to go," he said.

The support has continued. Branham, now a cattle farmer, still goes to Hilltopper games, sometimes watching from the sidelines and other times sitting with his second wife, Carol.

Carol and "Eck" were married on Valentine's Day in 1990, a day celebrated with the color red. Carol doesn't mind her husband going to the games.

"I usually right by his side. I used to go on the bus with him, but those bus trips killed me," she said. "He still rides the bus with the team sometimes, so now he has two seats to stretch out on."

Western coach Jack Harbaugh met Branham the first night he was in Bowling Green.

"I realized he epitomized the Western tradition," Harbaugh said.

But Branham is more than just a dedicated fan to Harbaugh — he's also a friend.

"He's really what the word 'friendship' is all about," Harbaugh said.

Western kicker Jeff Poisel listens when Branham has tips for him, but also feels Branham is an emotional lift for the team.

"To see him get so excited, it just gets everybody fired up," he said.

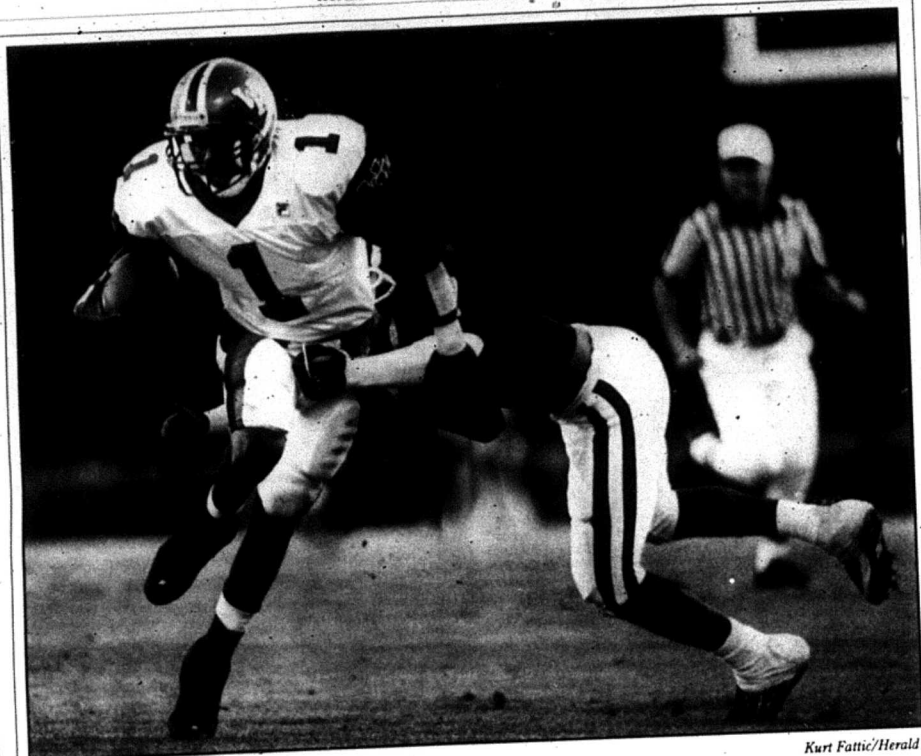
When Branham recently donated \$100,000 to the football program as scholarship money, he caught the public eye.

Branham said it was his way of saying thanks.

"Western gave me ways to look at life, and this is just my way of being able to do something for what Western did for me," he said.

Harbaugh said the donation is just a tip of the iceberg for Branham's contributions.

"The donation is fantastic, but what Eck means to this program and me personally cannot be measured in any amount of money," he said.



Kurt Fattic/Herald

Slipping away! Senior quarterback Willie Taggart breaks a tackle by Eastern Kentucky senior cornerback Robert Bryant during Western's 37-21 victory over Eastern at Roy Kidd Stadium on Saturday night. Western will face Austin Peay on Saturday at Smith Stadium.



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*Go off the beaten path.
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Hilltoppers finish high at Chattanooga

BY JENNY CHRISTIAN

The Hilltoppers took top honors in the Tennessee at Chattanooga Invitational on Saturday.

Western's men finished first, ahead of UT-Chattanooga, Murray State, Georgia Southern and Covenant College. Freshman Duncan Shangase lead Western's sweep of the top three spots with a time of 20:10.

"It was a nice race," Shangase said. "Everyone was looking forward to the first race."

After running the race pace for pace, an official decision separated the second-place finisher, senior Nick Aliwell, from Shangase. Aliwell, who also finished at 20:10, replaced junior Brant Beard at the last minute after a recurrence of Beard's Achilles and patella tendinitis.

Shangase and Aliwell followed a pack of UT-Chattanooga runners before they took the lead.

"After one mile I tried to move and Nick said no," Shangase said. "At about the three-mile mark, Nick and I decided to move."

Sophomore Aaron Mullins rounded out the top three just behind Shangase and Aliwell at 20:17.

Shangase was also named the Sun Belt Performer of the Week. The women's squad placed

second behind host UT-Chattanooga, beating Memphis, Murray State and Covenant College. Sophomore Patricia Dorgan lead the women, finishing fifth overall in a time of 18:28.

"Patricia ran the race very smart," Coach Curtiss Long said. "She was even-paced and moved her way up the pack."

Finishing within the top 10 was freshman Terri Hennessy in eighth with a time of 18:46, followed by sophomore Claire Gibbons in ninth at 18:48.

Long noted that sophomore Evelyn Corona and junior Kim Olson had a good meet. Corona placed 18th with a time of 19:17.

"We went out to have fun," Corona said. "We're really gearing towards our home meet. It's hard to race weekends back to back. We were not in full gear yet, but we performed well."

For Olson's first competition in 10 months, Long said she gave an excellent performance. She finished the five-kilometer race in 20:24, placing 25th.

Reflecting on the meet, Long said the new runners are in a pattern of adaptation. The teams are looking forward to their upcoming home meet Saturday.

"I'm so stoked for this year," Corona said. "I'm very anxious to see how we're going to do because we have some great talent."

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Tigers outscore Hilltoppers, 5-2

BY GEORGE ROBINSON

For 10 years, Memphis coach Chris Bartels has been at the helm of the Tigers' soccer program.

For the same amount of time, he's known Western coach David Holmes. But for the fourth straight time, Holmes' Toppers can't figure out how to stop Bartels' teams.

Western fell to Memphis 5-2 in their home opener Friday, having dropped the last three games and standing at 1-3. Memphis improved to 3-1-1.

"I never underestimate David's teams," Bartels said. "They're capable of coming back, but we just got off to a quick start.

Fifty-three seconds into the first half, Memphis senior forward Jeremy Tutor dribbled his way through six Hilltoppers to finish off the attack one-on-one with Western senior goalie Andrew Cecil.

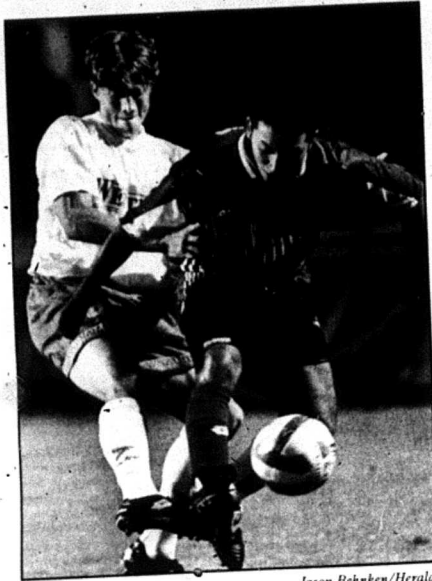
"That was sort of a fluke," Bartels said. "You usually don't expect anything that quick, but lucky for us we literally stumbled on to that one."

Another Tiger goal just 12 minutes later seemed to deflate the Toppers, but senior forward Mark Robson gave Western a boost.

With 15 minutes left, Robson downed a corner kick and weaved his way around two defenders and scored. The goal cut Memphis' lead to 2-1.

The Tigers struck quickly, scoring five minutes later when junior forward Ramon Aguillon blasted his second goal of the night, giving Memphis a 3-1 lead at the half.

"That's what hurt us the



Jason Bohnen/Herald

Friday night at Smith Stadium, senior midfielder Stephen Robinson, left, attempts to take the ball from Memphis senior midfielder Rolando Aguillon during Western's 5-2 loss. The Hilltoppers play at Belmont at 4 today.

most," Holmes said. "There's a big difference between being down 2-1 than down 3-1 at half."

Cecil continued to struggle

in the second half, allowing Tigers' sophomore forward Steven Brooks to score two goals. It's the second consecu-

tive game Cecil has allowed five goals.

Holmes, in an effort to find stability, placed senior forward Tom Morgan in the midfield.

"Coach was just trying something new," Morgan said. "We really can't hang our heads now. We have to keep thinking that these games will only help during our conference battles this year."

Western freshman defender Chris Lloyd capped the Topper's scoring with a 35-yard shot that sailed over Tiger sophomore goalie Brian Covey's head into the net.

Memphis, coming off an emotional win against then-No. 8 Portland, didn't want any let-downs going into the Western game.

"It's tough coming off a big game and trying to rejuvenate yourself for another one," Bartels said. "You can't live in the past, so you have to face the present and that's how we approached this game."

Memphis leads the overall series 4-3-1, but for the years that Bartels and Holmes have known each other, they know each meeting between the two teams could go either way.

"I've always enjoyed these games," Bartels said. "I don't know when the next time we meet, but I'm sure David will be anxious to get us."

Tops to face Bruins

Western will face Belmont at 7 tonight at Whitten Field in Nashville.

"This is going to be a busy week," Holmes said. "The guys have a good attitude. Win, lose or draw, we just have to get on with it."

WKU Athletics Calendar

Today
4 p.m. Soccer at Belmont

Friday
12 p.m. Volleyball vs. Wright State at Georgetown Invitational Tournament

6 p.m. Soccer at Louisville

Saturday
9 a.m. Cross country at Keriakes Park

11 a.m. Volleyball vs. Georgetown at GIT

4 p.m. Volleyball vs. James Madison at GIT

7 p.m. Football vs. Austin Peay at Smith Stadium.

Sunday
1 p.m. Soccer vs. New Mexico at Smith Stadium

Monday
Men's golf at Tristate Classic (Pickwick, Tenn.)

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College Heights Herald

Western Kentucky University ♦ Bowling Green, Kentucky

Tuesday, September 16, 1997

Volume 73, Number 7

Ramsey requests leave of absence

BY JASON HALL

Just days after being passed over for the presidency, James Ramsey has requested a leave of absence from his position at Western and will go to Frankfort as the state's full-time budget director.

Gov. Paul Patton made the announcement Friday, the same day Gary Ransdell was named Western's new president. Ramsey, the vice president for Finance and Administration, has been on loan to Patton for more than a year as the state's budget director and overseer of the Kentucky Community and Technical College System (KCTCS).

♦ James

Ramsey will help implementation state

higher education plan.

Before now, the positions were technically part time. "Dr. Ramsey is one of the most important people in our administration, even on a part-time basis," Patton said. "I'm delighted that he will be able to devote his full energies to the job and be able to lead the KCTCS through a very critical period as it seeks a new president and establishes a new system of our technical schools and community colleges."

Ramsey pointed out that his request for a leave, made last Thursday, has not been granted by interim President Barbara Burch. But he said he will need to be in Frankfort full-time from now until the end of the legislative session. Ramsey said he will continue to teach his economics class for the rest of the semester.

"I wouldn't leave them dangling or anything," he said.

Ramsey said he has made no plans for his future at Western.

As state budget director, Ramsey is responsible for implementing the Postsecondary Education Improvement Act, which gives him responsibility over all the Kentucky public colleges

SEE RAMSEY, PAGE 4A



Stephan Frazier/Herald

The Spirit Masters welcome President Gary Ransdell during Friday's Board of Regents meeting in Wetherby Administration Building. The board named Ransdell as the university's ninth president.

Ransdell's era on Hill begins

BY SHANNON BACK

Every seat in the Board of Regents room was filled Friday morning for the announcement.

Western's 24 Spirit Masters formed a tunnel of blue and beige from the president's offices to the regent's room. Students and faculty lined the walls and clapped as Western's new president and his family passed through the tunnel on their way to the podium.

"I would like now to introduce to you President Gary Ransdell, his wife Julie, and their sons, Patrick and Matthew," board Chairwoman Peggy Loafman said, officially marking the beginning of the Gary Ransdell era in Western history.

Loafman introduced Ransdell as a man who brings "vision, experience, passion and the commitment to lead us forward to a higher level."

Ransdell, 45, is the vice president for Administration and Advancement at Clemson University in Clemson, S.C. He will stay there until Nov. 10, when he begins his



Christine DeLessio/Herald

Regents Howard Gray, left, and Burns Mercer, right, greet Ransdell.

tenure at Western.

Friday represented the end of a seven-month search for a new president. Ransdell is replacing Thomas Meredith, who resigned last February to become chancellor of the University of Alabama system.

He and James Ramsey, vice president for Finance and Administration at Western, were the top two finalists. Monday night the two came together with the board for one final interview.

Regent Cornelius Martin said Ransdell's interview was impressive.

"He was a 10, and the others were a nine," he said shortly after the board voted Ransdell as the new president. "He's very focused and has good leadership skills."

"He's the total package." Straight out of college, Ransdell went to work at Western in the University Relations department. From 1978-81 he was the associate director of Alumni Affairs.

He was director of Alumni Relations at Southern Methodist University in Dallas from 1981-87. He's been at Clemson for the past 11 years.

Ransdell began his first speech as president by formally introducing his family, who he said is his "whole life."

SEE RANSDOLL, PAGE 4A

Community leaders surprised by selection

BY JERRY BREWER

The search is over. The man has been found. But the Bowling Green community is still craning its neck around Western, looking for James Ramsey to appear.

Gary Ransdell is Western's ninth president and Ramsey, the runner-up. But many community and business leaders wanted the roles reversed.

Mixed reaction came after Friday's announcement. Leaders were disappointed, surprised and skeptical, but at the same time hopeful that Ransdell will be an effective president.

"I was disappointed," said Sen. Nick Kafoglis, D-Bowling

Green. "I was very much in favor of Dr. Ramsey. And everybody I've talked to is disappointed. I think that a lot of faculty and community will be slow to warm up to him (Ransdell)."

Ramsey, Western's vice president for Finance and Administration, has built rapport over the years with the state legislature and is currently state budget director. State House Speaker Jody Richards said Ramsey

was "the perfect fit" for Western. Ramsey's bid for the presidency was endorsed by the local Chamber of Commerce.

Mayor Eldon Renaud said the community was pulling for him.

"I think that a lot of faculty and community will be slow to warm up to him (Gary Ransdell)."

— Nick Kafoglis, state senator

Richards said. "It will take time for him to gain everyone's support. It can't be done in a very

short period of time. But he will have the opportunity to prove himself."

The Chamber of Commerce wasn't disappointed with Ransdell, said Kevin Brooks, chairman of the commerce board. Brooks said the chamber hadn't heard much about Ransdell, though.

It's important for the president of a university to be on good terms with local businesses, the community and state government, leaders said.

Brooks said Western and the chamber interact daily on projects involving the community.

"You have to be in tune with what the business world expects of its graduates," Brooks said. "It

is essential in today's economy for the president of a university and the business community to have good rapport."

The state's new higher education reform makes interaction with the government pivotal for Ransdell, Kafoglis said. And much of Ransdell's ability to raise funds for Western lies with how well he works with the Bowling Green community, Richards said.

"I was impressed by Ransdell even though I was surprised Ramsey wasn't picked," Renaud said. "Western certainly isn't getting a bad president. He seems to have a vision and should serve Western well. He just has to adjust and get used to the community."

Opinion



Ransdell's 'to do' list

Welcome back, Gary Ransdell. We hope you enjoy your third climb up the Hill — first as a student, second as associate director of Alumni Affairs and now as president.

But this time your decisions and actions will affect the entire campus community.

We have a few suggestions to make your time here, as well as the time of students, faculty and staff, as pleasant as possible.

With your arrival, Western is entering a new era. You said you wanted to sculpt Western into a "university of excellence." A noble idea, but don't just scrap "Moving to a New Level" and "Western XXI," the academic blueprints that have guided our campus for the past decade. Combining some of these ideas with new ones of your own can only help the university in reaching that excellence.

But this is a new era not only because of your arrival but because of this summer's enactment of Gov. Paul Patton's Postsecondary Education Improvement Act. The responsibility of implementing those plans will be a big part of the job.

The new plan is centered around the regional universities being just that — regional. Western is a regional university, but that doesn't mean we can't strive for excellence on a national level. As you said in your acceptance speech Friday, think nationally and act regionally.

Your motto — "students don't care how much you know unless they know how much you care" — is a good sign that you do know why you were hired. But with all of your daily tasks, it may be easy to forget what Western is all about — the students.

Get away from the memos, the paperwork and the power plays of the office to go out, eat lunch in Downing University Center and meet with students. Let them know you're interested in their concerns. Remember you are their hired hand.

And just a hint: One of students' biggest concerns is finding a parking spot. Interim President Barbara Burch helped start a study on this situation. It's up to you to apply the information gathered from that study.

While you're addressing student concerns, remember safety. Keep an eye on the plans for the crosswalks on University Boulevard. They need to be completed so that no more students are injured there.

Also, as you said, the campus isn't "in as good a condition as I remember it." There are a lot of problems with the dorms and academic buildings, and part of your responsibility is to be a problem solver.

With all this and much more, you'll have your hands full, so don't try to micromanage every aspect of the university. You have a very capable faculty and staff. Let them do their jobs.

Your job is to represent for Western, to set policy and to be a fund-raiser, which you have had a lot of experience doing. You may be just the person to kick off Western's capital campaign.

It may be a tall order, but if you can take care of these issues, get to know students and implement your vision, your presidency will be more than a success.

You said the president's house will always be open. Don't forget you said that, because we won't.

So when's dinner?

People poll

◆ If you could be a tour guide, what would you show the new president?



"The Preston (Health and Activities) Center. It's so big and very well-known."

Angela Bumpus,
Hopkinsville senior



"I'd show him the Downing University Center so he could meet the students he's here to serve."

Felicia Butler,
Pembroke senior



"I'd show him the lack of parking, if anything."

Scott Foster,
Somerset junior



"I would show him Aramark food service. That's great. It's a big improvement from last year."

Bradford Elmore,
Bowling Green sophomore



"University Boulevard. Something needs to be done there to keep students out of danger."

Adam Howard,
Florence freshman

Friends express happiness, loss

Colleagues wish Ransdell best

BY CHRIS HUTCHINS

The mood at Clemson University last Thursday was bittersweet for the colleagues of Gary Ransdell. In an informal afternoon-meeting on the first floor of the Joseph A. Shirley Center for Philanthropy, the school's vice president of Administration and Advancement made some jokes, bestowed some compliments and told them he was moving on to bigger and better things.

Co-workers applauded and wept. Ransdell was moved, but happy. The next day, Ransdell was touring Western's campus, getting a feel for his new position of president. And the Clemson folks — some who had known him for 10 years — were fielding questions, providing snapshots of his personality.

"He's probably the hardest working individual I've ever known," — Debbie DuBose, chief alumni and development officer.

"He's an extrovert," — Constantine Curris, Clemson president.

"He's always dressed just right" — Marie Staedli, Ransdell's administrative assistant.

The consensus: The university community wasn't surprised when he was selected to be Western's president, said friend and co-worker Richard F. Simmons. Ransdell is qualified, focused and professional, he said.

"Of course we're going to say nice things. But we really mean it," the director of human resources said. "In every circumstance, he sees the real mission and knows what the

job is — and goes at it in the right manner. He never takes the easy road. There have been times when he could have, but he knew the hard way was the right way."

During his stay at Clemson, Ransdell spearheaded major fund-raising efforts, earning money for a university performing arts center, a golf course, several new academic buildings and funds to pre-

"He never takes the easy road. There have been times when he could have, but he knew the hard way was the right way."

— **Richard F. Simmons**
director human resources at Clemson

serve campus historical buildings. Those talents are going to be missed, but the university is glad he's moving up, Staedli said.

When he made the announcement here (Thursday

afternoon), we sent out an e-mail saying if anyone who was left in the building at 5 o'clock wanted to talk, he'd be happy to meet with them," she said.

"Usually, there aren't many people here at 5 — but the whole family was there, just waiting for him. They all broke into applause."

"But today," Staedli adds with a laugh and a note of irony, "the people in our office are in deepest mourning."

The people at Clemson have made some jokes, bestowed some compliments. And they're beginning to deal with the bitter pang of a friend lost — and sweet satisfaction, knowing Ransdell will be doing bigger and better things.

"When he gets there — that's when I think you'll see what we've been trying to express," Simmons said. "That will be evident to you when he gets there. He doesn't sit around and waste time. You'll see some action right away."

Students, faculty react to president

BY CHARLIE LANTER

Western's presidential search is over and positive reactions from students and faculty followed Gary Ransdell's appointment as the ninth president.

John Hardin, assistant dean of Potter College, said Ransdell's experiences at Western give him the attitude necessary to be an effective president.

"Alungi want to protect the campus," the history professor said. "It's not just a job, it's a part of his life."

Hardin said Ransdell was the best candidate for the job.

"There were four great candidates and of course different groups are going to express different preferences," Hardin said. "And the board has selected someone who can lead us into the next century."

Ransdell was the vice president of Administration and Advancement at Clemson University and is a 1973 Western graduate and former administrator.

Greenville Junior Stephanie Cosby said Ransdell seemed to

have the most vision of the four finalists.

"I'm impressed me that he came here and still saw something he could make better," Cosby said.

Cosby also said she would like to see Ransdell become a students' president.

"The president is supposed to be behind the students all the way and it seems like he plans to do that," Cosby said.

According to Utica senior William Hayden, Ransdell need not work hard to be more student-oriented than his former President Thomas Meredith.

"I don't think Meredith was all that great," Hayden said. "And since we've never had a president who interacted with students, we don't know what that would be like."

Martin Houston, dean of Ogdon College, said he is comfortable with the choice after the extensive search.

"I just want to see him continue in development and support of academic excellence so we have quality learning at Western," Houston said.

September 16, 1997

Herald

Ransdell back home on the Hill

By SHANNON BACK

Their story is so sweet. Every chapter has been perfectly planned.

A Sigma Alpha Epsilon fraternity guy meets a Chi Omega sorority girl. They fall in love at the top of Bowling Green's most famous hill — Western.

They marry their senior year and begin their lives together. They leave Western. But whenever someone asks where home is, their thoughts drift back to the Hill.

Gary and Julie Ransdell are reaching the climax of their fairy tale. They're returning home, but not to Central or West halls, and not even to Route 4 Sylvan Circle, where they lived when Gary worked as associate director of Alumni Affairs.

Their new address is 1700 Chestnut St., and Gary is Western's new president. They've committed to the newest chapter in their lives together to leading the Hill they still call home.

In the beginning

The year was 1970 and Western's SAEs were throwing a party. Chi O member Julie Bush planned to go with her boyfriend Bob. But when she arrived, another guy caught her eye.

Gary Ransdell had shaggy

blond hair, a mustache and an easy-going disposition. She knew right away there was something different about this new guy.

But since he was pledging, she had to wait.

It didn't take long before she went out with Gary, and from that day forward the two were inseparable. During their senior year they married. Gary cut his mustache and even though Julie hated it, she kept it in an envelope for years.

In May 1973 they graduated from Western. Julie with a degree in elementary education and Gary with a degree in mass communications.

Immediately after graduation, Gary went to work in Western's University Relations department. Julie taught fourth, fifth and sixth grades in Russellville and later in Heightsville.

From 1976-81, Gary was associate director of Alumni Affairs at Western. Then he moved to

Southern Methodist University and was director of Alumni Relations from 1981-87. For the last 11 years he's been at Clemson University in Clemson, S.C.

Through all the moves and all the career choices, Julie has been right by his side.

"It seems like yesterday that I was bringing my laundry back to Central (Hall)," she said Friday, looking down at her former home from the second floor of Downing University Center.

"So much has changed, yet so much has stayed the same. We've been at Clemson for 11 years. It's time to move on."

Friday, Sept. 12, 1997

At 6:45 a.m. the alarm sounded as it does every weekday in the Ransdell home. But for Patrick, 17, and Matthew, 13, it wasn't a school day.

They had a plane to catch. Cornelius Martin, a Western regent, had his private plane fly the Ransdells to Western. There, Matthew and Patrick watched their father accept a new position as Western's president.

The boys appear grown up, but at the University Bookstore they begin to act like the teenagers they are.

"Mom, I have to get seven T-shirts."

Matthew said, searching for the perfect picks for his Clemson friends.

As he handed Julie each T-shirt, he identified its new owner.

"Girls," Julie asked, her head snapping around to look at Matthew.

Although the boys look professional, one can tell what their hobbies are.

Patrick's tie is a pattern of baseballs, symbolizing his love for the sport. Matthew, sharing his brother's ambition, wears a tie of a baseball and a football.

Both boys play for their school teams. Patrick hopes to play in college, wherever that may be.

School tour

After lunch at Mariah's, it was time to show Matthew, where he'll start high school next fall.

At 1:30 p.m. Fred Hensley, vice president for Institutional Advancement, drove the family



Julie Ransdell shops with her sons Matthew and Patrick at the University Bookstore while waiting for the new president, Gary Ransdell, to meet them. Both were buying T-shirts for friends in Clemson, S.C.

minus Gary to Bowling Green High School. Gary stayed at Western and talked on the telephone with Gov. Paul Patton for an hour.

At the school, Principal Fred Carter led Matthew and his mother on a tour. Patrick followed behind and dreamed of his senior year. He will finish at Daniel High School in Clemson and spend time with his girl friend, Brooke.

Matthew was mesmerized when he toured the school gym and imagined himself playing for the Purples. He stood in the middle of the gym, unaware anyone was watching, and stared at the basketball hoop.

"As he left the school, he looked up at Julie and said, 'I think I could go to school here.'"

A new home

After the school tour, the family met Gary at the president's home with excitement showing on their faces.

They began the tour of the new Ransdell home with the kitchen and den, where Patrick quickly found his favorite spot: the couch in front of the wide screen television.

Then they moved on to the dining room and the entertaining room — a room that was a little too fancy for Julie's taste.

"It's gorgeous, but it's got to be home," she said of the bright

room with colorful sofas and paintings. "I'll be moving some of this furniture out and moving some of my own stuff in."

The room looked like Susan Meredith, the former president's wife, Julie said. That will change when her Dalmatian, Maggie, and her cats, Friskie and Tiger, move in.

"When my dog's fur is all over the place, it will look a lot different," she said, inspecting the room's three sofas.

Upstairs, Matthew and Patrick have picked their rooms.

"I want this one," Matthew said, pointing to the largest bedroom. "I can put more stuff in here."

Patrick not only picked his new bedroom, but a perfect pool room as well.

Maybe this will be the first time students will party in the president's home," he said a little later, flashing his mom a mischievous grin.

Julie grabbed her camera and beaded outside, but as she passed through the downstairs hallway she jumped. The phone was ringing, but she couldn't find it.

Liz Esters, the board secretary, opened a small box sitting on a chest in the hallway.

"Hello," Esters said. Julie shrugged her shoulders and said, "This is going to take a lot of getting used to."

Outside, Julie dreamed up her

first house project — a pond.

"We have a small one at home and I think it would look perfect here," she said flashing her small camera and touching the bottom of leaves as she passed under a row of trees lining a fence.

Gary joined his family outside and he and Julie walked around their new home. Bicyclers rode by and Gary made a point to introduce himself.

When the tour was over, Julie's eyes were still sparkling. "Who couldn't live here?" she said.

The future

Gary's first day in his new office in the Wetherby Administration Building will be Nov. 10. But Julie and the boys won't permanently leave until June 1998. Patrick will finish school in South Carolina and Julie said, "I'd be crazy to leave him."

Soon the family will begin to move their belongings into their new home. Gary has already begun his conversations with the governor. These days, he's planning his calendar and packing.

Soon the vacant president's home will become alive. The television will always be on. Student groups will be there often and Patrick and Matthew will be shooting hoops outside.

Julie said it won't be long before the carpet is ruined.



Gary Ransdell



Julie Bush

Gary and Julie Ransdell are pictured in photos from the 1973 Jaisman yearbook.

snapping around to look at Matthew.

Although the boys look professional, one can tell what their hobbies are.

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PRESIDENTIAL SEARCH TIMELINE



Thomas Meredith

Feb. 5
After 8 1/2 years at Western's helm, President Thomas Meredith turned in his resignation and accepted a job as the chancellor of the University of Alabama system.



Barbara Burch

April 29
Barbara Burch, vice president for Academic Affairs, was appointed interim president by the Board of Regents. She became the first woman ever to serve as Western's top administrator when she officially took charge May 12. The Board of Regents made the appointment during a closed session. The Herald again protested the legality of the meeting's closure and sought an attorney general's opinion.

Sept. 12
Western officially introduced Gary A. Ransdell as the university's ninth president. Ransdell was the vice president of Administration and Advancement at Clemson University. He will assume the president's position at Western on Nov. 10.



Gary Ransdell

Feb. 24
Regents appointed presidential search committee during a closed session. The Herald said the closed meeting violated open meetings laws and sought the opinion of the attorney general.

March 24
Presidential search committee began work.

May 11
Thomas Meredith's last day as Western's president.

May 15
Attorney General Ben Chandler said the regents illegally closed their Feb. 24 meeting.

June 7
Search committee interviewed candidates.

June 16
Regents appealed attorney general's May 15 decision, sued the Herald.

July 7
Search committee narrowed to four candidates. Attorney general said regents illegally closed their April 29 meeting.

July 28
Regents accepted four candidates: Edward Hammond, Eugene Payne, James Ramsey and Gary Ransdell.

Aug. 25 - Sept. 3
Presidential candidates interviewed on campus.

Aug. 6
Regents appealed attorney general's July 7 decision, sued the Herald.

RANSELL: Presidency is pledged to students

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He said he's always wanted to come back to the university where he got his start.

"Julie and I are honored to return to the place we met, dated, married and began our professional lives together," he told the group.

Ransdell said one of his top priorities is to "transform Western into an institution worthy of national recognition."

Ransdell said he is

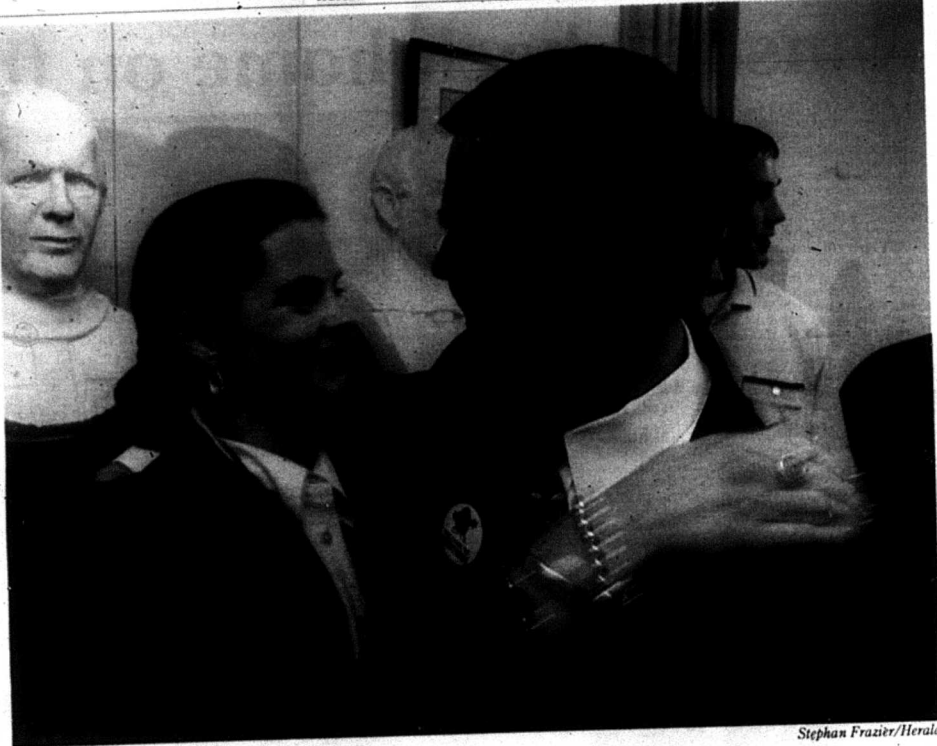
"It's always good to see some of the people you worked with move up the ladder."

— John Minton, former Western president

impressed with Gov. Paul Patton's plans for higher education.

I pledge to the governor my full capacity as president and our collective energy to insure optimum realization of the goals outlined in the Postsecondary Education Improvement Act," he said. "And I pledge to each of you our best efforts to ensure Western's rightful place as a leader in the fulfillment of the goals outlined in that act."

Among the crowd who turned out for the announcement was



Stephan Frazier/Herald

Western President Gary Ransdell hugs Gail Brooks, a 1975 Western graduate, after the Board of Regents meeting Friday.

John Minton. Minton served as Western's president in 1979. During his speech, Ransdell called Minton his "mentor."

"It's always good to see some of the people you worked with

move up the ladder," Minton said. "I was very shocked."

"Having served in this role, I know how the board operates and I'm pleased they chose (Ransdell)."

Ransdell ended his speech by asking Western students in the room to stand or raise their hands.

"Folks, this is why we're here," he told the group, point-

ing to students lined along the wall and others scattered around the room.

"It is to you that I commit my tenure as Western's ninth president."

Burch preparing to step down as interim

BY KRISTINA GOETZ

Barbara Burch has only 55 days left.

But the interim president said laughingly that she's not really counting down.

"I think it will be good to have a president again because it's hard to do both Academic Affairs and the president's job," said the vice president for Academic Affairs. "I think everybody was happy, quite frankly, to get past the uncertainties."

With the announcement of Gary Ransdell as Western's ninth president Friday, Burch will only occupy the president's office until he takes over Nov. 10.

She and Ransdell have talked several times about decisions she has made as interim, she said.

Burch said Ransdell made it clear that as long as she held the position, she also held the power of decision-making.

"Basically he said to me that I would continue to be interim and get things done," she said. "And I will — do that."

Burch added that if there was a decision that would have long-lasting effects on the university, she would consult him.

Ransdell's main focus now is to close ties at Clemson University while learning all he can about how Western works before his official arrival on the Hill.

"I will be making four trips to campus in the mean time," Ransdell said. "I will be using those meetings for information gathering."

Burch said since Ransdell is still vice president for Administration and Advancement at Clemson, he still has responsibilities there —

which might add to Burch's. "I need to be pretty sensitive about keeping him apprised of what's going on," she said.

Although she will give up the president's seat soon, Burch said there are still a number of tasks that she is working on.

One is taking Gov. Paul Patton's higher education reform legislation seriously.

She is also involved with some decision-making concerning the university's budget.

"We're at a big time right now when we do prioritizing," she said.

Burch said she also has travel plans to meet potential students in the next couple of weeks.

Burch said her reign as top administrator has not been unique.

"Whatever job you have, you ought to do it well," she said. "The only difference is that the president has a very visual job. I don't know if I really did anything special."

"I just did what I thought should be done."

Burch said the experience has given her a better sense of how all the parts of the university make the massive machine work, and has shown her how to look at problems on a larger scale.

"What a president does is try to take the primary reason for a university being and advance that," she said. "It is to help others understand what a university is all about."

But Burch said when the time comes, she will be ready to get back to her office.

"The funny thing about this is that I planned this summer to organize my office," she said. "If you look, you'll see it looks just like it did in April."

RAMSEY: Vice president leaving Western for state government

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and universities. He has been more directly involved with KCTCS, which is moving 13 of the state's 14 community colleges out from under the control of the University of Kentucky. That board will also oversee the state's 25 technical schools.

Both that board and the Council on Postsecondary Education, which will oversee the eight public universities, are looking for presidents. Since he didn't get Western's presidency, Ramsey's name has been mentioned in connection with many state openings, including the CPE post. Ramsey laughed when asked whether he would seek the job.

"I wouldn't be interested," he said.

Others aren't so sure. Gary Cox, acting president of CPE, said Ramsey is a great candidate for either board.

"Jim Ramsey is in the middle of everything that goes on in Frankfort from a policy standpoint," he said. "It makes less difference what he does, really."

"He has qualifications to do anything. It's just a matter of where Jim fits best

and what's in the best interest of Jim, what's in the best interest of the governor and what's in the best interest of CPE."

Faculty Regent Ray Mendel said he is "terribly worried" about losing Ramsey, but acknowledges that that is a likely possibility.

"I would suggest that Jim would be a viable candidate for almost any position in higher education he applies for," the psychology professor said. "But I also believe Jim and his wife's commitment to Western runs so deep that they will

advocate for Western in whatever position he is."

As for his plans, Ramsey's not talking.

"We'll just play it by ear and see what happens," he said.

Political ramifications

The selection of Ransdell shocked many who thought that Ramsey had an inside track to Western's presidency, both because of his position at Western and his close relationship with Patton.

But Patton's spokeswoman, Melissa Forsythe, said it was a misconception that

Ramsey was the "governor's choice."

Gov. Patton correctly viewed the hiring of a new president for Western as a job of the board, and he in no way attempted to intervene or influence that process.

"The selection of Dr. Gary Ransdell as president is the board's decision and won't have any negative effect on WKU's ability to participate in the postsecondary education reform effort currently underway," Forsythe said.

Board Chairwoman Peggy Loafman likewise doesn't fear any political backlash from Frankfort.

"I think we have a governor and a general assembly that is very interested in moving the state's universities forward," she said. "I think they have faith in this board that we made the right decision."

Mendel agreed.

"Jim Ramsey was the one, from the very beginning, who went to the governor and asked him to stay out of the process," he said. "And (the governor) did."

For his part, Ransdell spent more than an hour on the phone with Patton when he came to Western on Friday.

Cox said Ransdell's inexperience with Kentucky higher education politics might be an asset.

"He comes to this new agenda without any history in the old system," Cox said. "In one sense, he's a blank slate."

"I would suggest that Jim (Ramsey) would be a viable candidate for almost any position in higher education he applies for."

— Ray Mendel, faculty regent