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DIVERSIONS

The ultimate investment

Price for raising a child? \$149,820.

Page 11

College Heights Herald

SPORTS

Baseball opens season against Xavier Saturday.

Page 13



Volume 73, Number 35

Western Kentucky University ♦ Bowling Green, Kentucky

Thursday, February 12, 1998



Dozens of people stand outside a clinic to see the doctors and nurses of Children of The Americas in Puerto Barrios, Guatemala. The Bowling Green-based program donated checkups and operations for children who normally would not be able to afford such treatments.

Delt parties banned

BY DAN HIEB

The party atmosphere has come to a halt at Delta Tau Delta fraternity, which was placed on social probation Tuesday night by the University District Review Committee.

The two-month probation ends April 12 — until then, the fraternity isn't allowed to host parties or social gatherings at its houses, located at 1533 and 1535 Chestnut St.

"If they want to shut us down that bad, it tells us we must be doing something right with our parties," said Jeff Bezold, second vice president of the fraternity.

The decision was made during the committee's annual recertification meeting.

"It's our fault, but I thought it was a little too severe," said Jeffrey Dant, president of the Deltas. "Especially with it being February already. That's a large part of our semester."

Among the accusations against the fraternity: ♦ Creating parking problems by blocking the city alley running behind the fraternity's

SEE DELT, PAGE 10

Student ratings reviewed

BY MOLLY HARPER

Most students see the chance to anonymously evaluate their teachers at the end of the semester as the ultimate form of revenge. Sometimes the only thought that keeps students sane during finals is: "Wait'll he/she sees what I wrote in the additional comments box."

But the efforts of the Faculty Senate, the Faculty Evaluation Advisory Committee and the Student Input to Teaching Evaluation Committee may make vengeful acts against professors a little harder to pull off.

In Spring 1997, the Faculty Evaluation Advisory Committee (FEAC) made six recommendations to the Student Input to Teaching Evaluation Committee aimed at making student evaluations more effective.

The recommendations ranged from broad issues, such as written transcripts of student comments being given to department heads, to smaller details like training for faculty members to better understand the results of their evaluations.

Why pay so much attention to something written by students?

"They're the one piece of quantitative evidence of our performance we have from the students, the consumers of our product," said FEAC chairman Joe Millichap, an English professor.

As a result of these recom

SEE STUDENT, PAGE 10

Silent Suffering

STORY BY CARA VANWINNIE • PHOTOS BY CARRIE FRATTI

Volunteers in Guatemala find state of child welfare, medical care hard to ignore

To understand the situation in Guatemala, it really needs to be seen.

About 85 percent of the population lives in poverty. Houses are made from recycled metal and don't have water or electricity.

The medical care is even more inadequate.

The unsanitary operating rooms in the hospitals are cluttered with nurses who eat between surgeries. The equipment is unsterilized and outdated, there are holes in the walls, and the hospital beds are rusted.

"It's a culture shock at its best," Judy Schwank said. "It's a Third World country. When you are wondering about having money for food and shelter, you can't worry about medical care."

Children of the Americas is a nonprofit organization in Bowling Green that worries about their medical care. Its mission is simple — to offer social justice to needy children everywhere.

Schwank and her husband, Bill, are the driving force behind Children of the Americas, but they have a lot of help. They work together with a team of volunteers who give up their time, money and services to travel around the world and give hope to those who need it — children. The program mainly concentrates on Latin American countries because Bill is a native of Guatemala.

Linda Shober, director of health care services for Children of the Americas and a registered nurse, said she will never be able

to forget the first time she walked through a Guatemalan hospital.

She remembers seeing signs on the walls telling parents they were responsible for the care of their children. She remembers walking down the hall and stepping over holes in the floor and being able to see the level below her.

But most of all, she remembers the children.

"There were babies that were just waiting to die," she said. "Waiting because their parents could not afford treatment."

The last time Shober walked through a Guatemalan hospital, things hadn't changed much.

The holes were still there, babies were still crying — and still waiting to die.





Tim Hulsey, a Bowling Green plastic surgeon who accompanies the medical teams to do reconstructive surgeries, said scenes like the one Shober describes are more the norm in Guatemala.

SEE SUFFERING, PAGE 8

In the Hospital Infantile in Puerto Barrios, Guatemala, 11-year-old Glendy Marizol Elias lies in her bed suffering from malnutrition. Elias' father lost his job and stopped providing her with food. "I think that the way that many of these children live here is an unbearable burden for us," said Judy Schwank, the executive director for Children of The Americas.



Herald forecast

			
Friday	Saturday	Sunday	Monday
46° high	35° low	55° high	35° low
55° high	35° low	55° high	37° low

Just a sec

Sirens to go silent

Friday's testing of Western's public defense sirens will be the last this semester. Campus police Capt. Mike Wallace said the tests, held at noon on the first Friday of the month, have ended for the rest of the semester.

With the spring storm season approaching, Wallace said, the drills might be confused with an actual alarm. Any siren heard from now until the end of the semester indicates a tornado warning, and shelter should be taken immediately.

Scholarship offered

The Catherine C. Ward Scholarship is being offered for the 1998-1999 school year by women's studies. The deadline for applications is Feb. 27.

To be eligible, students must be full time, have completed at least 30 semester hours and be a declared women's studies minor with an overall grade-point average of 3.0.

The award is \$1,000. Applications can be picked up at the women's studies office in Van Meter Hall, Room 103, and must be accompanied by a transcript, two letters of recommendation from faculty or staff and a two-page essay on how women's studies has impacted the applicant's life.

For more information, call 745-2253 or 745-6477.

Football player arrested

Delvecchio Walls, a sophomore from Sarasota, Fla., was arrested Tuesday on disorderly conduct charges after striking Louisville freshman Archimeda Taylor and an unnamed female outside the Preston Health and Activities Center. Campus police Lt. Terry Blanton observed the blow, which severely bruised Taylor's left cheek and mouth.

Police later charged Walls with fourth degree assault.



Nick Fedyk/Herald

Under cover: Theatre majors Alicia Wheeler, a senior from Gallatin, Tenn. and Radcliff senior Shameca Ashby share an umbrella to stay out of Tuesday's rain outside the fine arts center.

For the record/crime reports

Reports

• Andi D. Cailles, Gilbert Hall, reported a mirror, valued at \$20, stolen from the fourth floor restroom at Gilbert.

Charges

• Andreas O' Neal Carothers, Franklin, was charged Sunday with disregarding a traffic control device and operating on a suspended license. He was stopped after

failing to stop at a red light at the intersection of University Boulevard and Big Red Way. He was released from the Warren County Regional Jail the same day on a \$100 cash bond.

• Richard Dale Breland, Cave Springs Avenue, was charged Tuesday with operating a vehicle on a suspended license and disregarding a traffic-control device. He was stopped after failing to stop at a

red light at University Boulevard and Russellville Road. He was released from the Warren County Regional Jail the same day on a \$262.50 cash bond.

• Emanuel Delvecchio Walls, Pearce-Ford Tower, was charged with disorderly conduct after police observed him striking a female in front of Preston Health and Activities Center.

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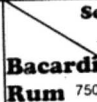
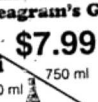
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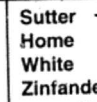
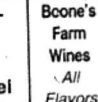
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	Canadian Mist	750 ml	\$6.99
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Likewise, the Herald appreciates any ideas for ways we can improve the paper, be they story ideas or a need for crossword puzzles.

Our office is in 122 Garret Conference Center. Feel free to drop by or give us a ring. The phone number is 745-6011. Our e-mail address is herald@wku.edu

College Heights Herald

Policy change in Poland and PFT

◆ Pearce-Ford Tower will stay open during breaks, and Poland will be coed next semester

By Leigh Ann Moore

Cadiz sophomore Sha Radford knows the problems some students face when they cannot live on campus during school breaks.

In fact, she lost her job over it. "It was very stressful," she said. "I needed to work to pay for school, but I did not have a place to stay."

Radford tried living with someone else, but said it just didn't work out. "It's not the same as having your own space."

Next semester, however, when Pearce-Ford Tower becomes a 10-month dorm, living through the breaks will be a lot easier for students like Radford.

"PFT will stay open throughout all the breaks, so that anyone needing to stay on campus during that time can," Housing Director Kit Tolbert said.

Input from several campus offices and students throughout the years prompted the added service, Tolbert said.

"We just said that it's time we offered this option," she said.

Radford said she is happy about the change and is hoping to get into PFT next year.

Donna Cheshire, international programs assistant director, said that while the change will benefit students who work in Bowling Green during the breaks, it will also be helpful for international students.

"A lot of students get to go home, but for most international students, 4,000 miles is too far to

go home," she said. In the past, students have had to live with friends, in hotels or travel if they had the money. Many of them also move off campus because the dorms are closed during breaks.

Tolbert said there will be an increased cost of keeping PFT open during the breaks. Staff will still man the front desk 24 hours a day and come in for cleaning and maintenance. Part of those extra expenditures will be made up with an increase in the cost of living in PFT.

"Right now we have five differential costs between where you live," Tolbert said, adding that another level of costs will probably be charged for break housing.

Poland going coed

PFT is not the only dorm on campus that will see a major change in the upcoming year. Poland Hall, which has been an all-male dorm for the past three years, will once again house members of both sexes.

"We handed out student surveys, and one of the things they wanted more of was coed dorms," Tolbert said, which prompted the change.

Two floors of Poland will also be declared wellness floors, where students who choose not to drink or smoke can live with others who choose the same lifestyle. Tolbert said the wellness floors will be tested out in Poland to see how popular they become, and Housing will then expand them to other dorms as the program grows.

"We're really looking forward to the changes," she said. "All the decisions to make them were based largely on student input."

Bill to eliminate college tuition tax

By Shannon Back

The U.S. Senate Finance Committee approved a tax bill provision Tuesday that could make prepaid tuition and savings plans 100 percent tax free.

The provision, proposed by Sen. Mitch McConnell, is part of the Parent and Student Savings Account Plus Act, which is headed to the Senate floor. Robert Steurer, a spokesman for the Kentucky Republican, said he is confident it will be passed.

"The bill has the support of Senate leadership, and it's contained in the education bill ... so it looks pretty good at this point,"

Steurer said the bill expands the education IRAs enacted in the Taxpayer Relief Act of 1997. The provision is modeled after McConnell's 1997 bill, The College Savings Act, Steurer said.

If the bill is passed, he said students will not be taxed when they withdraw prepaid tuition and savings plans, even if they draw funds

periodically to pay for tuition, books and other school supplies.

"In this era of skyrocketing educational costs, where the cost

of college has risen three times as fast as inflation, it is vital that we encourage American families to save to keep pace with the rising cost of higher education," McConnell said.

The tuition savings plans have helped make higher education more affordable and allow more children to reach the goal of receiving a college degree.

From 1980 to 1994, college

tuition rose 234 percent, while the average household income rose only 84 percent, according to statistics provided by McConnell's office.

Paul Borden, executive director of the Kentucky Higher Education Assistance Authority, said more Kentuckians will be able to afford these programs if the bill is passed.

"It has a compounding impact on their savings," he said. "Even the student, when they get their disbursements, won't have to pay taxes on them."

Kentucky established its tuition savings program in 1988, and has more than 2,700 participants contributing nearly \$6.4 million toward their children's education. Borden said he is "cautiously optimistic" that number will increase over the next several years.

"The families that already save through this should make their support well-known," he said. "This is an idea that (McConnell) has been promoting for several months."

"I think it's a tremendous step forward for Kentucky."

◆ A bill in the U.S. Senate would give college students a tax break on prepaid tuition and savings.



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Kilcullen has failed; it's time to go

In 1993 Western impressed the nation by making it to the "Sweet Sixteen" of the NCAA Tournament.

In 1995 the Hilltoppers sailed to victory over Michigan in the first round of the tournament, and pushed basketball powerhouse Kansas to the limit in the second round losing by only five.

After that it appeared Western's already-good basketball program would go nowhere but

• The issue:
Western basketball has had three consecutive losing seasons under the leadership of Coach Matt Kilcullen

• Our view:
Western hasn't lived up to its winning tradition. It's time for Kilcullen to leave

But now, for the third-straight year, the nation's eighth-winningest team of all time is having a hard time clinching a victory on the court, with a record of only 7-15. This season

is coming close to Western's worst season when it finished 5-16 in 1963-64.

Rather than wondering where the team may be seeded in the NCAA Tournament, Western fans must question whether their team will even get through the first round of the Sun Belt Conference tournament, once almost a given that Western would win.

Western has been like a great ship which has hit rough waters in the past but has continued to sail forward. But now, there's an anchor that's not only holding the ship in place, but pulling it down.

The only way to keep the ship from sinking is to toss the anchor.

What or who is this anchor?

It's none other than the captain himself.

When a tradition-rich team takes such a rapid plunge, it's time to look at

leadership.

It's time for Matt Kilcullen to go.

The team has gone progressively downward since Kilcullen took the helm.

His coaching techniques have failed. His recruiting needs work, and as long as Western keeps losing, recruiting good players will become more and more difficult. Without a good crew, a ship will go nowhere.

Kilcullen was hired because he had a

good record in rebuilding losing teams.

Maybe that's the problem. Trying to rebuild a winning team only served to turn the tide on that winning tradition.

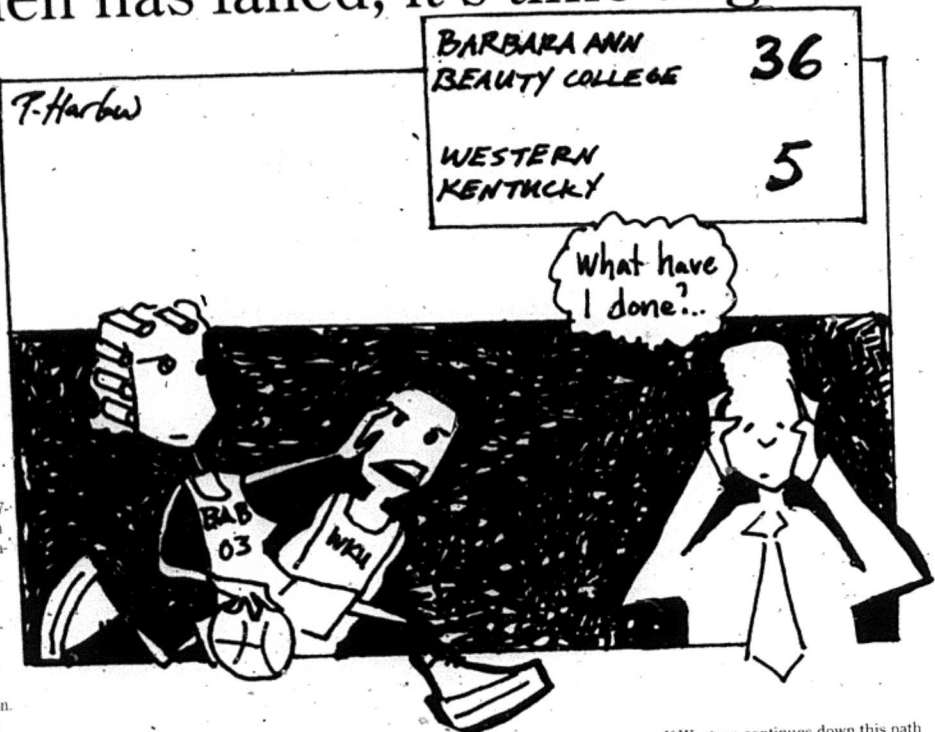
With back-to-back NCAA appearances, the Hilltoppers were sailing full speed ahead when Kilcullen was hired for the 1994-95 season.

But in the following seasons Western finished 13-14, then 12-15.

We can't let one inept coach drag this great program down.

If Western continues down this path where it is seen as a joke, people will forget how successful Western once was. This is not something we can afford to get used to.

As much as we hate for people to lose their jobs, we believe it's more important that they do their jobs when they have them. The university should give Kilcullen the boot to honor the tradition, and more importantly to honor the future of Western basketball.



◆ Letter to the editor

Western ignores commuters

Again the insensitivity of the hierarchy of Western was shown last Wednesday through Friday. Administrators asked commuting students to risk life and limb to come to class. As a commuter who

travels one hour each way to attend classes, I watch the weather and call Kentucky state police to get updates on road conditions. Last Wednesday at 6:45 a.m., Channel 13 reported that schools in Warren County and Butler County were closed. (These are the two counties I have to go

through to get to class.) I then called the Kentucky state police road conditions line. It said not to travel unless it was an emergency. But still Western did not cancel classes. Western had the good grace to cancel classes in Elizabethtown, Glasgow, Fort Knox and its other

satellite schools, but that common courtesy was not extended to the commuting students who attend the main campus. The administration must remember not all students live in the Bowling Green area. Yellow parking permits are abundant, so there are students on the roads.

To ask us to make the decision to come to class was irresponsible. The administration must remember we are part of the community at Western, and to ignore us is detrimental to us both.

Cons Wallace,
Greenville senior

People poll

◆What d



"He's doing the best he can with what he's got."

Tom Suoy,
Smiths Grove
senior



"I've heard a lot of other people say he needs to discipline his players more."

Jeff Smith,
Frankfort senior



"I have no clue. I don't even watch football."

Ashley Schmidt,
Louisville senior



"It's hard to say. Obviously he's having a down season."

Ray Brown,
graduate student
from Norfolk, Va.



"We used to be a top 25 team, so it's time for him to move on."

John Adams,
Louisville senior

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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

FEB 12 1998

Guatemala tragedy painful, unforgettable

Juana Ramirez sat silently in her chair. She had nothing to say.

Her son was dead, and all she could do was watch. Her efforts to save him hadn't paid off.

It isn't easy to get to a hospital at 10:30 p.m. when you live 1 1/2 by boat, then two hours by car from the nearest hospital.

Especially when you don't have a car — or a boat.

She did what she could and waited until the next morning to get to the hospital in Puerto Barrios. But that was too late for Ezekiel Orlando.

He died at 8:13 a.m. Jan. 21 from a rattlesnake bite. He was 5.

It's amazing how watching someone die can affect you. It makes you feel like a part of you has died, too. Even if you don't know the person, a part of you does — the part that has feelings.

That's what happened to me that morning.

My method of coping with Ezekiel's death was to stare into space like Juana did. It was easier that way. I didn't have to think about it. I could push it out of my mind until later.

But later came much sooner than I imagined. I found that I couldn't push it out of my mind. I didn't know how. I still don't.

I remember the desolate hospital room filled with the pier-

cing sounds of babies rhythmically crying. Some of them screamed for their mothers; others cried to be fed.

Ezekiel would never cry again. He would never ask for his mother, nor would he ever need to be fed.

Juana sat less than a foot away from her son's lifeless body. My friend Carrie and I stood less than that away from her.

For an eternity, no one said anything. A lot can happen in 10 hours. People die in 10 hours. Ezekiel died in 10 hours.

He died in a run-down hospital in Guatemala with his mother and two Americans by



Cara VanWinkle
Commentary

his side. He died because the first hospital he went to couldn't do anything to help him. They sent him to the Hospital Infantil hoping maybe he could receive treatment. But he didn't because the doctors couldn't help a snake bite victim.

In the end, no one could. The doctor later told Juana that had she been able to bring Ezekiel in earlier, he would have had a chance.

Guilt was the last thing this mother needed. Wasn't grief enough? Wasn't seeing her child blue with death enough?

No one came to remove Ezekiel from the table where he



Carrie Pratt/Herald

Waiting for a ride home. Juana Ramirez stands outside the morgue at Hospital Infantil in Puerto Barrios, Guatemala. A casket lies in the background holding the body of 3-year-old Ezekiel Orlando, who died from a rattlesnake bite the previous evening.

died. His body remained on the table for everyone to see. For everyone to mourn.

Except no one did. No one noticed that this child was no longer living.

No one noticed that this mother was dying, too.

Between wiping away her tears, Juana had to wipe away the flies that were drawn to her son's already-swelling body.

Now yellow with death, Ezekiel had become cold and

stiff. And so had I. The reality of his death was setting in. I couldn't keep my tears back any longer.

And so I didn't. I wish I could say they healed me, but they didn't. Every day I have gone back to Jan. 21, and every day I remember something more.

How his arm was swollen and blue. How you could see the fang marks on his right hand. How, for a while, Juana didn't cry. And then how she

did. How she couldn't understand a word I said to her. How it didn't matter.

All that mattered to her at that moment was her son was dead. At 19 and expecting her third child, Juana was preparing to bury her first.

His name was Ezekiel Orlando. His life ended at 8:13 a.m. Jan. 21. He was 3.

Editor's note: Cara VanWinkle is a senior public relations and print journalism double major from Eminence

Opposing views on what to do about Iraq

America can't afford to repeat past mistakes; solve problem now

Once upon a time there was a conquered nation. This nation thumbed its nose at the rules and regulations set up by the organization of nations that conquered it. This nation began stockpiling weapons of mass destruction and weapons capable of all sorts of atrocities.

The organization of nations did nothing because its hands were tied by indecision and torn alliances. Our own nation sat idly by and did nothing because many people didn't want to be a "bully." These people felt we should stay out of it. It was on the other side of the world, and it wasn't our problem.

Sound familiar? Well it should. This is a description of our current problem with Saddam Hussein, and it also describes another world leader turned bully, Adolf Hitler. Hitler disavowed the League of Nations by rearming Germany and invading the Rhineland. Hussein has disregarded the rules of the United Nations and is stockpiling chemical and biological weapons.

The difference between the two is that we can stop Saddam now before he has the chance to get even more powerful. If he is allowed to continue building his arsenal, then we may very well wake up some morning with an outbreak of anthrax or some other biological concoction he has cooked up. Then it will be too late.

Most people in the field of psychology would agree that a bully who gets what

he wants will only become more greedy, wanting more and more.

When Hitler marched through Europe, each time he conquered a nation he signed treaties with the surrounding nations, stating he would go no further and would leave them alone. The ink wasn't even dry before he invaded one of the countries he had a treaty with.

He repeated this whole pack of lies until he owned most of Europe. This is the very thing we must refuse to do with Saddam Hussein. If we back down from our original position, he will gain strength and readjust his desires to the next forbidden conquest until he gets it — and so on. Our must

make a stand. I'm not a warmonger — far from it I still vividly remember watching bodies being unloaded from transport planes returning from Vietnam. I also remember hearing tales told by my uncles who served in World War II and visiting the graves of those who didn't return. War is not glamorous; war is hell. But if we must fight, let's do it now while the threat is relatively small and the battle is on foreign ground and not our own.

Philosopher George Santayana once said those who do not remember the past are doomed to repeat it. Let's not repeat the mistakes we made with Hitler because this time we might not win.

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



Kelley Lynn
Commentary

Unprovoked attack would make America no better than enemy

Here we go again. Bombs over Baghdad. Where are Bob Dylan, Peter, Paul and Mary and Simon Garfunkel when we need them?

The United States has announced it may bomb Iraq because Saddam Hussein is not allowing U.N. weapons inspectors full access to Iraqi facilities. It was reported on ABC News that the U.N. weapons inspection team has uncovered and destroyed 10 times the amount of weapons of mass destruction than was destroyed during the Gulf War. If this is true, then the inspection team is doing a good job. Why do we want to lob some more bombs and missiles at Iraq?

I know Saddam is a closely watched, but I am also suspicious any time both sides of the American political spectrum agree on an issue. I want someone to stand up and ask "what if?" I wish people would be more critical thinkers and question the effectiveness of a course action, rather than simply saying OK.

During the Gulf War we hurtled a few hundred million dollars' worth of bombs and missiles into Iraq. We turned a lot of sand into glass, but by and large our bombing campaign was ineffective. Had it been effective, the destruction of Iraq's weaponry would have been more complete. Secretary of Defense William Cohen has admitted that a new bombing campaign would only have limited effect — similar to our campaign of 1991.

What will the United States obtain? A reputation for picking on smaller

nations? Justification for Saddam to launch his own brand of terrorism directed against the United States? Imagine this: We bomb Iraq, and the next morning half of New York City is dead from the release of anthrax. We should not allow fear to dictate our actions nor should we allow a small bully nation like Iraq to propel us into launching an unprovoked attack.

I heard Iraq has enough weapons of mass destruction to destroy the city of Tel Aviv. So the ball should be in Israel's court or in that of other Arabian nations threatened by Saddam. To justify military action, a threat real or perceived must exist. Is there any real threat to the United States? No.

The current missiles possessed by Iraq do not have the range capable of striking the United States. The only threat that exists is to other Arab states and Israel, who have no protest against Iraq. Saudi Arabia, a major U.S. ally during the Gulf War, has refused to allow U.S. war planes to attack Iraq from its bases.

We must question several points. Why don't most Arab nations perceive a threat from Iraq? If they do, why aren't they in favor of military action? Why are there no other NATO nations, except Great Britain, in favor of military action against Iraq? What can be gained from a strike, admitted by Cohen, to be of limited damage to Iraq's capabilities? Do we need to gain the reputation of being a terrorist rogue bully?

Editor's note: Dave Enyart is a senior English major from Sulphur Well



Dave Enyart
Commentary

Pager, cell phone use on rise among students

BY JOHN DARR

Girls are clenched to their dates' arms. Out of the darkness the visage of the killer appears. The knife raises slowly, while in unison there is a gasp, then—

BEEP! BEEP! BEEP!
That pager just ruined the moment for every other person in the theater.

Ten years ago this rarely happened because only doctors and mobile professionals wore pagers, and cellular phones were virtually nonexistent.

But today the integration from business to personal use has made pagers and cellular phones a part of our new communication era, whether we like it or not.

"It used to be a more-service-associated program," Sue Baylor, customer care manager at Arch Paging, said. "They would get their assignments on the road with the pager. It was a must."

That "must" feeling transcended from business to the teen scene. Low cost and snazzy styles made cellular phones and pagers attractive not only to parents as a security device but to teens as a fashion accessory.

I get a lot of calls from concerned parents," Western graduate Todd Carter, owner of A1 Cellular and Paging said. "And it is not just from Bowling Green. Parents from all over the region want to know how they can keep in touch with their student."

Lexington freshman Taylor McCarty said he sees a cellular phone as another way for his par-

ents to monitor him.
"My parents bought it to keep the ball and chain on me," he said. "They call to see if I'm in any type of danger, just to keep tabs on me."

Trusting parents getting cell phones for their children has become a norm, but retired Professor Dallas Wheat's children

"Pagers use to cost a hundred-plus dollars to activate, but now they can be as cheap as \$40 for a whole year."

— Sue Baylor
Customer care manager,
Arch Paging

talked him into getting one for himself.

He said his work causes him to be in isolated areas where security and protection are provided by the phone he carries.

Baylor said when businesses began investing in mobile communications, the prices dropped and technology became better, offering the mobile option to parents and students.

Pagers used to cost a hundred plus dollars to activate, but now they can be as cheap as \$40 for a whole year," Baylor said.

Carter said students may not have the established credit required to get a cell phone, so their parents end up footing the bill.

People how much they can cost, Hudson sophomore Chris Ledford said. "They use them like a regular phone, like at home. I won't buy them because I would have the same temptation."

It may be a form of convenience or security, but today's pagers and cell phones have become stylish — from neon to wood tones and patterns.

"The ability to communicate made it popular," Nashville freshman Melissa Zimmerer said. "Once one person had one, everyone had to get one."

Some companies have more than 15 styles of pagers in a myriad of colors.

Baylor said the cost between styles is generally the deciding factor because the more you pay, the more you get. Range, sounds and the ability to have words instead of numbers are some of the options.

"My freshman year in high school they started popping up," McCarty said. "I think it had a lot to do with people on TV having them, and it became more socially acceptable."

Pager pessimists like Louisville sophomore Cliff Hilton recognize the need, but scoff when the convenience becomes a disruption.

"It doesn't bother me when the phone rings in a movie and the person jumps on it and turns it off — things happen. But when they begin talking out loud and I am catching half a conversation, then it is a problem."

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Web resumes a good idea

BY MATTIAS KAREN

As the Internet grows wider and wider, a relatively new service is being provided that could help college students find a job: electronic resumes.

As more companies are using the World Wide Web to communicate with customers, they are also making it easier for potential employees to contact them.

"This has really taken off in the last year," said Becky Bennett, a career specialist at the Career Services Center, referring to the expansion of resumes-on-the-Internet.

Bennett said several home pages, such as CareerMosaic, have sections where people can post their resumes for free for companies to look at.

Some companies also have made it possible for people to post resumes directly on the their World Wide Web pages, for a more direct contact.

Xerox Business Services is one of the companies that would prefer to be sent an electronic resume over a traditional one.

"It would impress me right away," said John Kappel, staffing and developing manager at Xerox. He also said that sending a resume by e-mail is a better way yet.

"That would get my attention at once," he said. "That shows that they have taken the time to get in contact with me personally, which shows that they are interested in the job."

Bennett advised, however, that it is best to also prepare a paper resume that can be sent later.

Bennett said she will be conducting an electronic job search workshop for students interested in this, but the date is yet to be set.

"If we do it this semester, it will probably be right after Spring Break," she said.

The workshop, which will be free, is meant to teach students how to format a resume for the World Wide Web and use the Internet as a source to find job vacancies.

And the number of job opportunities available on the Internet is vast.

"A simple word search on 'job'

on the Internet gives over 1.5 million hits," said Nicki Artest, vice president of advertising and public relations at The Reserves Network.

Artest also stressed the importance of showing computing experience when seeking a job.

"All students should have a section with just computer skills on their resumes," she said. "It's amazing what kinds of doors these skills will open."

She also pointed out that not only computer-oriented fields will be impressed by this.

"I can't think of any profession where it wouldn't be better to have these kinds of skills than it would be without them," she said.

Kappel said that knowledge of the Internet in general is going to be crucial for people looking for jobs in the future.

"Most managers use the Internet today for their businesses," he said, adding that one of the first questions he asks at an interview is about the interviewee's computer background.

"If people don't know computers, I don't talk to them long," he said.

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◆ **Black History Month events**

Today

"What is Wrong with Black Unity?" A discussion with Dr. John Long at 7 p.m. in DUC 226.

Tuesday

Visual Arts Display and Demonstrations opens at 9 a.m. in DUC 310 and continues through the 20th. The event is sponsored by AFAM Players and AFAM Studies Department.

Showtime at Western at 7 p.m. in Garrett Ballroom, sponsored by the Amazing Tones of Joy.

Wednesday

"Religion in the Community" Performances by Amazing Tones of Joy, beginning at 6 p.m. in DUC 226.

"What We Mean When We Sing" Performances by

Andrew Roles and 3-1-3, beginning at 7 p.m. in DUC 226.

Feb. 19

John Roberts lecture "African American Family Reunions: The Search for Family and Home in the Post Migration Era" begins at 7:30 p.m. at the Kentucky Museum.

A **cultural coffee house** will be held from 7-10 p.m. at Nite Class.

Feb. 20

Old School Jam, a 70's dance, will be held from 10 p.m. to 2 a.m. in Garrett Ballroom.

Feb. 24

An **Evening of Poetry**—Beginning at 8 p.m. in DUC 226. Sponsored by the Delta Sigma Theta sorority.

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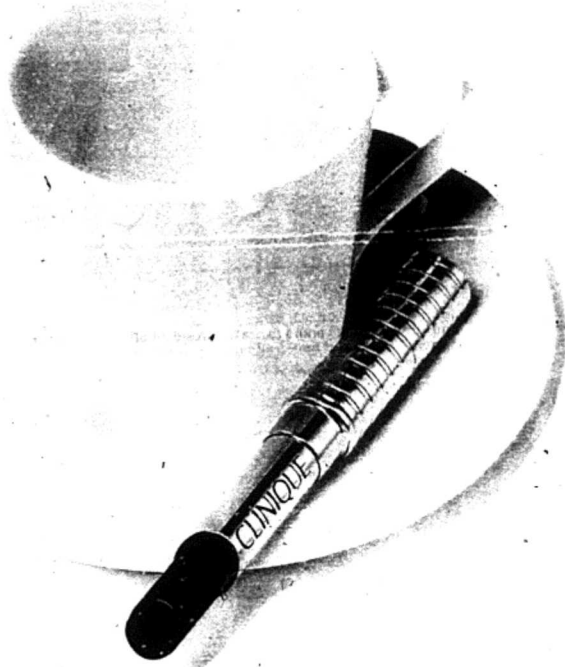
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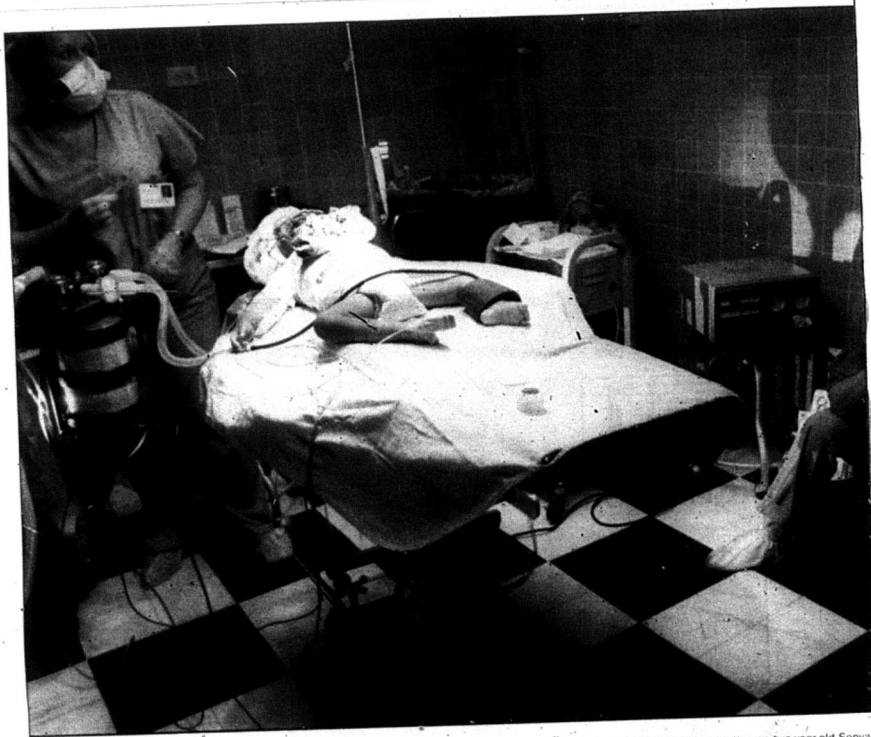
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Patricia Clark (left), an anesthesiologist from Owensboro, and a Guatemalan translator wait for a doctor to begin a cleft palate operation on two-year-old Sonya [name obscured] from Guatemala City to Puerto Barrios, a six hour trip, to undergo the free surgery.



Left: Two-year-old Edgar Soto leans on his mother's shoulder while waiting to see a doctor with Children of The Americas about his severely cleft lips.



Four-year-old Israel Lima had been in the United States for five months undergoing surgery for clubbed feet. "My heart is beating fast," said Marley Calderon of receiving her son back from Lexington resident Rosemary Varice.



Photos by Carrie Pratt/ Herald. Diaz. The child and her mother traveled from

the Value of Children

SUFFERING: Supplies, doctors needed

CONTINUED FROM PAGE 1

"The problem is there are no medical supplies there," he said. "If you need a special piece of equipment and the hospital doesn't have it, you're out of luck."

Individuals sometimes buy supplies for their own surgeries, Hulseley said. But even then there is the problem of finding physicians who can perform them.

So the hope rests on the shoulders of outsiders, which is not Schwank said.

"Their own people won't do anything to help them," she said. "So we do. And that infuriates me."

When the medical team went to Guatemala on Jan. 17-25, it tried to accomplish one thing — to help as many children as it could. But the results can be discouraging.

"You think, 'I'm going to go in there and fix all this stuff,'" Hulseley said. "But you don't."

Team members simply do the best they can in the time

they have.

"We don't go down there to do 100 kids," he said. "We go down there to do them one at a time — just like we do here."

When the children's problems are too complex to be handled in Guatemala or will require numerous follow-up treatments, Children of the Americas will bring them to the United States and place them in foster care, so they may be referred to Shriner's hospitals across the nation for free treatment.

Glasgow resident Tootie Bishop is one of the program's foster parents who has opened her home to Guatemalan children.

In eight years Bishop has had 19 foster children, each of whom has made an impact on her family's life.

"Having them in our home has become a family affair," Bishop

said. "My kids have to give up their time, space and privacy for these kids. But we all do it together."

"We do it because we try to give a little of our fortune to those who aren't so fortunate."



Left: Two-year-old Lidia Jzafel Rauer traveled one hour by bus and four hours by foot to reach the clinic to see the American doctors. The doctors

diagnosed her with Neurofibromatosis, which they decided to be possibly treatable in the United States. Above: Domirilita Lopez rests while waiting for her granddaughter, seven-year-old Helida Mansal Gergons, to be released from the care of the Americans in Hospital Infantil. The two had traveled by boat and four hours by bus for the young girl to undergo a cleft palate operation.

STUDENT: Comments cause concern

CONTINUED FROM FRONT PAGE

mentations, the Student Input to Teaching Evaluation (SITE) Committee made six changes to the method of student ratings.

First, six questions were identified as "core items" to be used in every department. The core items measure the professor's understanding of course topics, interest in teaching, class preparedness and overall effectiveness.

"The changes in the rating instrument were meant to refine it as a response to some concerns the faculty had," said SITE subcommittee chairwoman Sally Kuhlenschmidt.

One of the smaller changes included changing "uncertain" to "neutral" in the answer column.

"The rest of the scale was dealing with quantitative measures, from best to least," Millichap said. "People who are uncertain probably shouldn't rate that area."

Department heads, and individual faculty members, will now receive summaries of the core items and transcribed comments. Deans and administrators can later request these materials.

As a result of the SITE and

FEAC committees' labor, these changes began last fall. The Professional Responsibilities and Concerns Committee of the Faculty Senate reviewed them and the overall effectiveness of the process.

According to committee chairman Zack Murrell, the fundamental issue was how to constructively evaluate teaching at Western.

"The PRC took the view that the SITE questionnaire was an effective assessment of teaching," the biology assistant professor said. "We were also in agreement with the SITE committee suggestion that the student ratings should be recognized as only one piece of information to be used to evaluate teaching effectiveness."

Murrell said the committee's main concern was the use of anonymous student comments in evaluations and who would have access to these comments.

The committee agreed that the comments have merit, but their anonymous nature could be destructive to the process by not representing student learning and being misread by administrators.

Murrell said this concern arises from two issues.

"The first issue concerns the anonymous nature of the comments, providing an easy target for disgruntled students to 'get' at an individual faculty," Murrell said.

Murrell said the second issue is the comments' sampling method. The first problem with sampling is that the comments are undirected and not all students respond with comments. The second is the enormous amount of time it takes to read every student comment.

The PRC recommended a "middle-ground" approach based on these problems to serve the university best.

"The department head would be aware of differences in classes and students, and would be able to evaluate comments from one class in light of comments from all the faculty," Murrell said.

Murrell said the committee hopes these recommendations to the administration provide individual faculty members and department heads with information that could improve teaching, protect faculty from frivolous investigations and abuse, and provide the administration with a fair, effective means of measuring problems in the classrooms.

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DELTA: Many complaints registered

CONTINUED FROM FRONT PAGE

houses. The fraternity has also been warned about cars being parked on the front lawn.

- Having an excessive number of noise complaints. Nine noise complaints were responded to by Bowling Green police last year. Five of those complaints came between Sept. 24 and Nov. 7.

- Generating litter throughout its property and neighborhood.

- Partying too late. When the fraternity became part of the university district, it said all parties would end by midnight Sunday through Thursday and by 1 a.m. Friday and Saturday.

- Receiving negative comments from neighbors who filled out surveys about the fraternity.

The Deltas, which joined the university district in 1996, have been in trouble with the review committee during each ensuing annual review. Prior to Tuesday night's actions, the fraternity had been on a more lenient probation for the past two years, with the understanding it would work to correct problems.

"The concern is that it's every year," said Janet Johnston, administrative assistant for the City-County Planning Commission. "The committee is tired of having to put you on probation every year."

In her report to the review committee, Johnston wrote that the Deltas "had not made a good faith effort" to resolve the issues.

Steve Robertson, the fraternity's advisor, told the committee he felt the fraternity was being targeted to take responsibility for the actions of an entire neighborhood. Robertson also said the problems could be attributed to changes of leadership within the fraternity.

"Sometimes, when they're passing the information to new leaders, these issues aren't really a high priority," he said.

Student Activities Coordinator Charley Fried said he thought the committee made an example of the Deltas. But he also said Robertson's presentation probably didn't help their chances for leniency.

Dant said the fraternity already has plans to put up a fence to help ease parking problems in the alley behind its houses.

And Bezold said the frat house's party ban wouldn't keep the members from having fun.

"We've got some people who have houses, and we can just have our parties there," he said.

"Bigger parties" —



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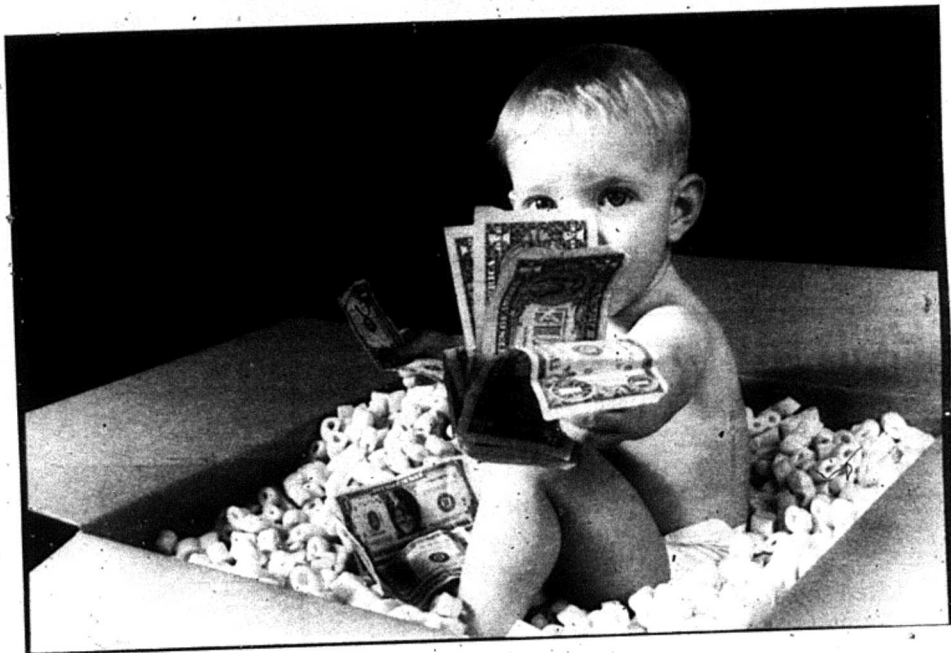
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The ultimate investment

Photo
illustration
by
LeeAnn
Scantlin

Story by
Scheri
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It's the American dream — having a great job, owning a pink house in the suburbs with a two-car garage and having a family.

But most people don't realize that raising a family could ultimately cost more than the house, garage and fence combined.

The Department of Agriculture has released the government's latest estimate on the cost of raising children. The report, issued in 1996, said the average cost of raising a child until age 17 is about \$149,820.

Franklin freshman Carlissa Roberts said the estimate shocked her.

"I'm overwhelmed," she said. "That is just an outrageous amount."

Roberts, who is the mother of a 4-year-old and an 8-year-old, said she never really considered cost when deciding to start a family.

"I was really young," she said. "I don't think a lot of people take these statistics into consideration."

Ramona Racz, also a student and mother of two, said the new department information didn't seem high enough.

"I think that sounds low," the Bowling Green senior said. "I see how much money I give my daughter for her senior year alone."

Racz said she would have guessed the cost of raising children to be much higher.

"I would think honestly that it would cost about half a million," she said. "Just think about the cost of clothing, schooling and food."

Roberts agrees that children require a lot of money.

"They need money for everything," she said. "As a mother now, the statistics will make me think before I have any more children."

According to the department's report, housing costs about 37 percent, with food expenses coming second, accounting for about 20 percent of rearing costs. Overall, raising children in the urban West is the most expensive, while raising children in the urban or rural Midwest has the lowest expenses.

In a two-parent home, an average of 24 percent more family income is spent on a single child. However, those households with three or more children spend about 23 percent less on each child than a family with one child.

The report's statistics change slightly when describing single-parent homes. For instance, more is spent if a single-parent home has only one child, and less is spent per child if a household has three or more children.

With the department's new information, some are left wondering whether it is even worth having children.

Economics professor, Steve Lile said the estimate is astonishing at first.

"I think at first we find it shocking or surprising," he said. "Then we recognize that in that figure is some opportunity cost."

These opportunity costs are opportunities that are lost because of the responsibilities of raising children.

"For instance, some of that figure represents income that would have been earned, but wasn't because a parent stayed home," Lile said.

Lile said even though some parents return to work, there still is money or opportunity lost during the initial medical leave.

"That figure includes the foregone income," he said. "It also includes child-care expenses for those who continue to work."

As a father of two, Lile said he didn't think he would spend \$150,000 on each of his daughters.

"It sounds like an absurd figure," he said. "But, then again, it does include all the things we take money out of our pockets for."

The department estimates are based on several assumptions. Households are assumed to earn the same income, and inflation is not taken into consideration. However, the department stands by the

report as accurate and beneficial.

There has been an increase in the cost of rearing children since 1960. The report said that in 1960 the average American child cost \$129,900. Compared with today's estimate of about \$150,000, some may wonder why the increase. It is simple — child care.

In 1960 less than 30 percent of mothers worked. Today, however, that number has grown to about 70 percent. Therefore, more money is spent on child care today.

The effects of high child-raising costs may have taken a toll on the birth rate in the United States.

According to the National Center for Health Statistics, a division of the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention, the U.S. birth rate has tied a record low set in the mid-1970s.

The birth rate has fallen 38 percent since 1960 and 13 percent since 1990.

Racz said she doubts cost really has an influence on the fall in births.

"People today are finally realizing how to prevent pregnancy," she said. "Plus, people are so mobile now that kids may be in the way." Roberts, who said she didn't really look at the numbers, said the study may influence some people's decisions to have children.

"I guess people are going to pay more attention," she said.

It's as 'Good As It Gets'

It's time for a micro rant. What's with the South and the letter K? Aside from the obvious trio, I mean, I'm so sick of going to restaurants with kuntry kookin', places that offer kyt and kyt options. Here's a little-known fact in the history of our state: Its original spelling was Kentucky.



WEEKEND SUPERPICKS
Chris Hutchins

I'm serious here. I'm surprised we haven't named this newspaper the Kollege Heights Herald, with the misspellings we've had in countless issues. What's next? Komputer klases? Kable TV? The sekond koming of Khrist? All this bumpkin bulkrap is driving me

Nah. That joke's too obvious. Well, let's get down to business. This week you're reading Weekend SuperFlicks. My mission to review the best movies in town (that hasn't been reviewed by the Herald already), and then wrap it all up with two genuine SuperPicks at the end. So, reader, are you ready to ingest correctly spelled words for a change?

Kool
Flick of the weekend

♦ "As Good As It Gets," a romantic drama starring Jack Nicholson, Helen Hunt and Greg Kinnear. Rated R for language. Grade: A

"As Good As It Gets" is a great love/hate story between Melvin, a cruel man suffering from obsessive compulsive disorder (Nicholson), and the waitress

named Carol who lets him into her life (Hunt). The film is a roller-coaster ride in the lives of the pair and an artist (Kinnear) struggling to rediscover his inspiration.

According to folks I know in the mental health biz, Nicholson's performance as a sufferer of the disorder is superb. His behavior is warped and destructive, wrecking his relationship with Carol — and days later, taking steps to save it. It hurts to see Melvin fall on his face and to see Carol lose faith in a man who's so used to being alone. Hunt's role as a jaded, yet ironically vulnerable, New Yoahk waitress is excellent, as is Kinnear's take on Simon, the artist.

In the end, it's fascinating to see how Melvin, a mean-spirited man, can find self-love — and how the peripheral characters in his (and our) life can benefit from that revitalization.

♦ Supershort reviews for other movies playing in town: Avoid "The Replacement Killers" and

"Starship Troopers" — both flicks are all brawn and no brains ... and, unfortunately, no fun either. "Boogie Nights" is an energetic romp through the 1970s' porn-movie explosion with Dirk Diggle (Mark Wahlberg), an up-and-coming porn star. Excellent.

Real SuperPicks

♦ Murfreesboro, Tenn.'s southern rock band Redstone will be playing tomorrow night at O'Pawley's Pub. I've never seen the band play, but I've listened to the members' self-titled CD — these guys are good. If you like your tunes one-half Eagles and the other half Led Zeppelin, go to the bar to see what's cooking Friday. Good stuff.

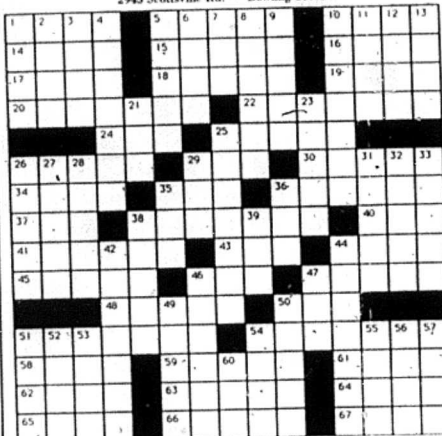
♦ I'm breaking my "weekend event only" rule, but I must support the causes of my dear friends. Any time between 3 and 10 p.m. next Tuesday, hit the Downing University Center's recreation floor and put on some bowling shoes for a great cause.

The local Big Brothers-Big Sisters is hosting its College Bowl-for Kids' Sake, and it needs your help. Gather a caravan of your friends, and call the organization at 781-1180 to get some information on how you can help raise money to support programs for children in Bowling Green.

What's in it for you? Free pizza, free T-shirts and peace of mind. That last part is priceless, people.

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Across

1. Squabble
5. Grover Cleveland, in 1888
10. Rover's remark
14. Johnson
15. Roman magistrate
16. *la Douce*; 1963 film
17. J
18. Inclined to speak out
19. In order
20. Stroll
22. Muscle-bone attachments
24. Poet's word
25. Allots
26. Like a haunted house
28. Nourished
30. Blood channel
34. Labels
35. One 3rd-day creation
36. Inaccuracies
37. Prof. group
38. Convention programs
40. Light color
41. Meal
43. Patriotic org.
44. Style
45. Winter toys
46. Blushing
47. More positive
48. Discourage
50. Drink
51. Frugal
54. Attack
58. Show up
59. France's chief manufacturing center
61. One with a forked tongue
62. Distressful utterance
63. Act in a theatrical manner
64. Ms. Adams
65. Large amounts colloq.
66. Coty and Descartes
67. ___ out, dispatch
7. Command to attack
8. On cloud nine
9. Find a new tenant
10. Britain's ruling family
11. Cookie
12. Arabian sultanate
13. Domino
21. Put forth effort
23. Gets closer to
25. Ramble
26. Observatory sightings
27. Beast of burden
28. Divine love
29. Tullion
31. Part of a gas engine distributor
32. Switch
33. Ed
35. Cpl.'s superior
36. One of two head appendages
38. Item of value
39. Prince Andrew, to Beatrice
42. Envelope item
44. Speaks indistinctly
48. Find a new title for
47. Adder's answer
49. Source of light
60. Mothers' Day gifts
61. Word to a pest
52. Sport
53. To ___ unanimously
54. Orthodontist's concern
55. Right-hand man
56. Picnic spoiler
57. ___ Scott decision
60. Nancy's man

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Red square spaces in E.A. Diddle Arena lot must be cleared on the following day:

**Sunday, February 15
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Hilltoppers vs. Texas Pan-Am

Please note: Three (3) hours prior to all home basketball games, red square spaces in Diddle Arena lot must be cleared or cars are subject to removal.

Answer to last week's puzzle:

C	A	R	A	T	T	R	L	M	S	C	A	B
A	D	O	R	E	A	U	T	O	T	A	S	
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4. Youths' colloq.
5. Wharf
6. Skunk's defense

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Sports

FEB 12 1998

Xavier brings top pitcher to the Hill

BY TRAVIS MAYO

This weekend will be a reunion of sorts for Western's Matt Idlett and Stephen Stemple.

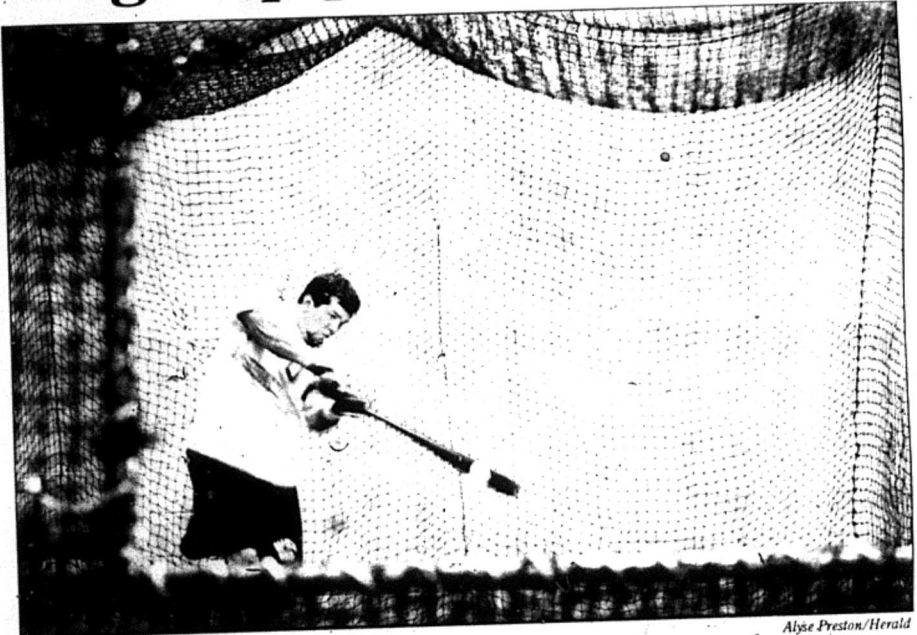
The juniors will take the field with the Hilltoppers against the Xavier Musketeers and their star pitcher, junior Lou Witte. All three played together on an 18-year-old summer league baseball team, the Midland Redskins, in Cincinnati. Now all three are competing to get the 1998 season underway. The teams will meet at 12 p.m. Saturday at Deneb Field for a doubleheader and at 1 p.m. Sunday.

"We've always been real competitive," Stemple said. "Me, Lou and Matt were pretty close friends, but I'm sure it will be different when we step on the field. That'll probably just make us more competitive."

Stemple, Western's top returning pitcher from 1997 with a 3.89 earned run average, will be facing one of the nation's top pitchers in the form of an old friend. Witte led the Atlantic 10 Conference last year with 12 wins, which ranked eighth nationally, and a 2.98 ERA. He was the conference's 1997 Pitcher of the Year.

Idlett said that Witte being one of America's premier collegiate pitchers is just added incentive for him and Stemple to do well. One of Western's top hitters returning from last year with a .324 batting average, Idlett said that Xavier's pitching must be matched by the Hilltoppers. He added that for pitching to be one of the team's strengths this season, leadership must show up on the field.

Stemple said that keys for this weekend will be for Western's infield to be solid and keep errors down. If that happens, he said, pitching will do



Alyse Preston/Herald

During practice Wednesday, Bowling Green junior T.J. Freeman hits balls in the batting cage. The Hilltopper baseball team will play its first home game against Xavier on Saturday.

its job. Stemple said the team is capable of anything on offense. Sophomore Lorenzo Ferguson, who led the Tops with a .339 batting average and eight home runs last season, is looking forward to facing the Musketeers' Witte. As far as hitting goes, he thinks starting off against the best puts the rest of the season in perspective.

"If you've seen the best, you can't get any better," Ferguson said.

Opening the season at home will be like a breath of fresh air for Western. The team kicked off 1996 and '97 on the road against two of the top teams in the nation. The Tops played eventual national champion Louisiana State two

years ago and then Georgia Tech last season. Both meetings resulted in losses for the road team.

Idlett said playing at home will be an easier transition for the players. While the Tops will be playing top teams on the road later in the season, he said getting their feet wet this weekend is a plus.

Western coach Joel Murrie is looking for good competition in a Xavier team that finished 32-26 last season and won its conference division.

"I know they're a good ball club," Murrie said. "If we come out and execute the way we're capable of, there will be some exciting baseball that we'll have an opportunity to win."

Winning out schedule could propel women to greatness

BY JERRY BREWER

For 25 games, the Lady Toppers have flirted with greatness.

They beat No. 7 Texas Tech in November and winked at greatness.

They started the season 8-1 and blew a kiss at greatness.

They won a thriller at home against No. 4 Louisiana Tech on Jan. 25 and whispered sweet nothings in greatness' ear.

So when are the Lady Toppers and greatness going to fall in love? The answer to that question could become apparent Saturday — on Valentine's Day, appropriately — when Western's women's basketball team plays Lamar (5-16, 2-7 in the Sun Belt Conference) at 7 p.m. in Diddle Arena.

The Lady Toppers also host New Orleans (9-11, 5-4) at 7 Monday night in Diddle.

The regular season is down to five games for No. 18 Western (18-7, 7-2). The Lady Toppers are in third place in the conference, a half game behind second-place Arkansas State (16-7, 8-2).

Arkansas State still must play at conference front-runner Louisiana Tech, and consider Tech's 45-game home winning streak. Western looks to be in position to finish second in the conference if it can win its last five games.

"We're so close to being great, it's scary," said junior forward Shea Lunsford, who is averaging 9.2 points and 6.1 rebounds this season. "Coach (Steve) Small said we have a litte ways to go but a long way to go. We're almost there, but we have a lot of things to work on."

Small may be in his first year as Western's head coach, but he's been here as an assistant through many late-season Lady Topper surges. This team could be likened to the 1992 Final Four team that had seven losses going into the postseason but made it to the championship game in the NCAA Tournament.

Small has said publicly that Western is a potential top-10 team if it can play with more consistency.

"We're knocking on the door," Small said. "You know

you're knocking on the door because if a few mistakes can be turned into positives, we're there. We can play with anybody in the country. But if we don't improve, we can get beat by anybody."

Lamar and New Orleans will begin the greatness test.

In Lamar, Western faces a team in transition. Its coach the past four seasons, David McKey, announced his resignation this week. Teams traditionally either fold or rally around a coach during these times, and Western's challenge is to be up to task.

"What's happening with Lamar is Lamar's concern, not ours," Small said. "I know Coach McKey well. And obviously he's going through a hard time, but we can't worry about that. We're trying to do everything we can to win the last five games."

Lamar is led by freshman guards Danyelle Grimes (12 points per game) and Jwanda Robertson (10 ppg).

New Orleans, which played

SEE WOMEN, PAGE 16

Dolphins next for Tops

BY GEORGE ROBINSON

A young freshman high school basketball player suffered a tremendous loss.

To that point, the event was the highlight of his career. A state final basketball game in Pennsylvania, a loss to his team's rival school.

That night he cried, showing an emotional side of his character that still lingers to this day.

"I was real young then," Western junior guard Monty Latimer said. "I didn't know how to really take it. It was just a painful experience."

Dec. 27, 1997. It happened again, but this time it was different.

Latimer, the emotional and vocal leader of the Hilltoppers, suffered a knee injury at Lamar in Beaumont, Texas, that has kept him from fully pursuing his goal of playing Division-I basketball.

This, however, is a little different experience than his days at Sto-Rocks High in McKees Rock.

"I've waited so long to get to this point of college basketball, and then it's like it's taken away," he said. "It's just not the same when you can't play at all."

With Latimer out of the starting point-guard position, Western has had to forge on without his

on-the-court fire and will continue to as they take on Sun Belt Conference foe Jacksonville at 6:30 tonight at the Jacksonville Coliseum.

The Dolphins (6-15, 4-9 in the Sun Belt) defeated Western (7-15, 4-9, 75-70) in Diddle Arena on Jan. 22, a game Jacksonville coach Hugh Durham calls lucky.

"We've been 500 since that game," Durham said. "I think the way we won that game, through good offensive execution, we'll have to do that ten-fold because Western is going to be ready."

The Tops may be ready, but not with Latimer. His injury has been cleared by doctors, but frightened of further injuring the knee, he'll forgo possibly the rest of the season that includes five games and the conference tournament that starts Feb. 27.

"I'm not going to push this," Latimer said. "I'm not going to rush into coming back. I don't want to do anything to jeopardize the rest of my career."

In the meantime, every team members' minutes has risen, including junior guard Kyle Chapman. Chapman has gone from zero to four minutes per game.

"Everybody has to step up," Chapman said. "It's tough when you lose your leader, but everybody gains experience with that loss."

SEE TOPS, PAGE 14

♦ Swim news

Tops to face Yellowjackets, Falcons

BY JENNY CHRISTIAN

Western's men's swim team hosts the final meet of the season in the Preston Health and Activities Center on Saturday. Bowling Green State University and Georgia Tech will provide the opposition for a heavily favored Hilltopper squad.

"Our effort is to be as competitive as we can in the events that on paper that we shouldn't be."

— Randy Julian
Bowling Green State coach

Western Kentucky doesn't seem to have any real gaps in their lineup. Bowling Green coach Randy Julian said.

Although there aren't any injuries or illnesses keeping any swimmers out of the meet, coach Bill Powell expects this meet to be more of a challenge than his team had originally planned for. While Georgia Tech poses less of a threat, the Falcons of Bowling Green could sneak up on the Toppers.

"Bowling Green is the tougher of the two," Powell said. "They're better than we thought." The Hilltoppers will be focusing on consistency throughout the meet, hoping the Falcons won't find any chinks in their armor. Bowling Green's game plan recognizes the solid lineup Western has, but hopes to give the team a surprise.

"Our effort is to be as competitive as we can in the events that on paper that we shouldn't be," Julian said. Specifically, Julian referred to the 200-meter butterfly, where the Tops have consistent times and his squad falters. Western also has Bowling Green's coach concerned when it comes to the 200-meter medley relay and the 400-meter freestyle relay.

"If we're a little bit off, they can smoke us," Julian said. Georgia Tech is coming into the meet with individuals who pose more of a threat than the team as a whole. Theral Mackey, who broke Western's 100-meter breaststroke record last year, is returning this year. Yellowjacket diver Kevin Brooks is another strong point for the team.

Otherwise, Powell said he feels the Yellowjackets aren't that strong. Seth Baron, Georgia Tech's coach, is thinking of the meet as a last stop before conference meets.

"It's going to be a very good meet," Baron said. "Everyone's looking to some final preparation for their respective conference meets."

The Hilltoppers could finish this season on a high note with two more wins, since both teams fell to the Tops last season. Powell, however, has reservations that his team may not be as focused and concerned as it should be.

"I'm afraid our kids aren't taking this real serious," Powell said.

Tops: Injured guard lends support

CONTINUED FROM PAGE 13

Freshmen guards Rashon Brown and Nashon McPherson have prospered in Latimer's absence. McPherson has scored in double figures in three of the past four games, including a career-high 21 points against Texas-Pan American last week.

Despite Latimer's obvious limitations on the court, that hasn't stopped him from being vocal from the bench. Latimer traveled with

the team to Jacksonville and said he feels it necessary to talk to the younger players.

"Right now, that's the most important thing I can do," he said. "I've got to let these guys know that when they step out there, they've got my full support and it helps."

During games in Diddle, Latimer is often the first to clap, the first to cheer and, even with an ailing knee, the first off the bench during timeouts.

"It wouldn't be me if I didn't do

those things," he said. "That's just in my nature."

With the Toppers struggling to find some sort of chemistry and momentum before conference tournament play, they'll have to pull out a string of physical, mental and emotional wins, beginning with Jacksonville.

"Right now, we want to get back at everybody," said Western coach Matt Kilcullen. "Monty's our link, but right now he'll have to do it vocally."

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Tops sign 14 recruits

HERALD STAFF REPORT

Western football has signed 14 athletes for the 1998 season. Coming out of high school are: Chad Alexander, a 6-foot-1, 195-lb. running back/linebacker (Warren Central High School - Bowling Green); Matt Arcadi, a 6'1" and 185-lb. wide receiver (Bayshore High School - Brandenton, Fla.); and David Harvey Brown, a 5'10", 240-lb. fullback (Churchville-Chili High School - N.Y.), winner of the National Strongman Contest for 17-year-olds and New York all-stater.

Other high school signees are Shadon Brown, a 6'1", 190-lb. linebacker (Danville High School - Danville, Ky.) and Honorable Mention all-stater, Matt Ogden, a 6'2" and 225-lb. linebacker (Davess Co. High School - Owensboro, Ky.) and Honorable Mention all-stater, Mitch Ryan, a 6'2", 260-lb. defensive lineman (Calloway Co. High School - Murray, Ky.) and Second Team all-stater, and Rod Washington, a 5'11", 290-lb. offensive/defensive lineman (Apopka High School - Apopka, Fla.).

The junior college signees are 6'3", 240-lb. defensive end Steve Durosier and 6'1", 200-lb. fullback Brian Maney, both from Scottsdale Community College in Arizona.

Three sophomore Division I-A transfers also signed with the Tops: Matt Payne, a 6'4" and 275-lb. offensive lineman from Miami (Ohio) University; Corlan Phillips, a 5'10" and 190-lb. fullback from Arkansas St. University, brother of current Western junior defensive back Caris Phillips; Derek Potter, a 6'1" and 240-lb. linebacker from Kansas University.

Rounding out the list of transfers are juniors Mario Strayhorn, a 6'1" and 214-lb. linebacker from Notre Dame University and Mark Williams, a 6'3" and 253-lb. defensive lineman from the University of Cincinnati.

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GRASS ROOTS
Jed Conklin

Canoeing in winter memorable experience

BY JED CONKLIN

The snow blanketed the landscape, trees bowed with the weight of the fresh whiteness, and the stark contrast of nature had changed to a bleached surrealness.

A crystal flow of water turned a brilliant emerald. Like underground windows, the hole's reflection of white seemed to be another subterranean world.

The canoe tracked well on the small river, and the glowing landscape provided a backdrop of silver as we paddled on. Bluffs and waterfalls, black in appearance, contrasted sharply with the snow.

The silence was deafening; only the occasional splash of falling snow from the treetops above broke nature's breath. Time was erased, location lost, and the feeling of true peace pumped into my veins.

We were canoeing on the Gasper River, and it was breathtaking. The snow fell for two days, and the accumulation was substantial. It all started when a friend invited me to paddle the river by his new house. I could not resist.

I have never enjoyed a trip more, and it will be awhile before I can top it.

Every single bend in the river provided another Kodak moment. Icicles, a foot in length, hung over the edge of rock cliffs, occasionally toppling to the water below. Tracks in the snow showed past presence of nature's creatures. The falling flakes looked like confetti celebrating nature's purity.

The beating of my heart matched the gurgle of the water, and the water and my eyes reflected equally the snowy scene.

A sudden explosion of movement snapped me to attention just soon enough to make out a mature tom turkey madly flapping across the narrow river. Slowly we approach. We slipped up on the weary bird only to spook him again as his flight takes him up a ridge and out of sight.

The six miles went quickly, and Jason's truck appeared blurry in the diagonal descent of falling snow.

I urge each of you to take a peaceful canoe ride to clear form your brain all the buzz campus can cause.

Canoes are at your fingers and need only be rented from the Preston Health and Activities Center. Take the time and a friend and go. You will not regret the experience, and remember to bring a camera.

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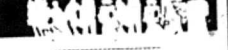
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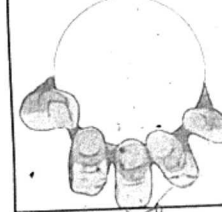
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WNBA looks at Townsend

By JERRY BREWER

Freshman guard Natalie Powers returned to practice with the Lady Toppers in light drills this week after a four-week absence because of a stress fracture in her right leg.

"I'm going to see how it goes," Powers said. "I'm going to try to go hard and work until I can go full speed. Sitting out has been a little boring. I'm excited to get back out there."

Powers has not been cleared to play in games, only in light workouts. Western coach Steve Small said Powers probably won't play a game until the middle or end of February.

In 12 games this season, Powers has averaged 1.2 points. But her ballhandling and decision making were getting her more minutes each game.

Junior forward Kristi Hartley received a teasing about her scoring drop off over the past month. She got engaged to former Western soccer player, Lee Hunt on Christmas Eve, and Lady Topper fans have said she hasn't been the same since.

Hartley takes the joke, flashing her trademark smile, showing those rosy cheeks. But Hartley could use a break from the kidding.

She scored 16 points off the bench in Western's 89-60 win over New Orleans on Feb. 2.

"It wasn't my engagement," Hartley said laughingly. "I just was missing easy shots. My confidence was way down. Once I made my first couple (against New Orleans), I got it back."

If she continues to play like she did Monday, Hunt may hurry up and put an ASAP on that wedding day.

A scout for WNBA expansion team Detroit approached Small about one of his seniors two weeks ago. She wasn't interested in senior center Leslie Johnson or senior forward Danielle McCulley, who both figure to be pro draft picks. She was interested in senior guard Laurie Townsend. The scout, Small said, was impressed with Townsend's three-point shooting.

Upon hearing the news, Townsend was delighted, Small said.

Perhaps professional basketball and Townsend are a

match. In times when shooting has become a lost art, Townsend is hitting 47.8 percent of her three-pointers (43-of-90). She is averaging 9.3 points per game.

Freshman guard LaVonda Johnson is fun-loving, spirited and has one of those smiles that's contagious. Ask her about her 4-for-28 shooting in games this season, and — even in shock — Johnson still can find humor.

"Four for 28," Johnson said before laughing. "Miss, I didn't know that. That's not gonna be in the paper, is it?"

To Johnson's credit, those numbers are deceiving. At Warren East High School, she averaged 23.9 points as a senior, shot 51 percent and was an all-state selection. But in her first season as a Lady Topper, Johnson has found herself behind a deep, talented, experienced crew of Western guards. And when she enters the game, it is usually near the end, and the play is sloppier.

"That's kind of frustrating," Johnson said. "I get in at the end, and the game's intensity is down a bit. I know I'm a better shooter than that."

WOMEN: Privateers up next

CONTINUED FROM PAGE 13


Western close at home during the first half before losing 89-80 two weeks ago. Loves to shoot the three-point shot.

Nine players on the Lady Privateers' 13-woman roster are guards. New Orleans attempted 39 threes against Western on Feb. 2.

Small said good half-court offense and defense will help the Lady Toppers handle the smaller Lady Privateers.

Junior guard/forward Jenny Anderson leads New Orleans in scoring (16.2 ppg) and rebounding (7.0 rpg), while freshman guard Stephanie Kindreth and senior guard Amber Magner both average 10 points.

Senior center Leslie Johnson leads Western in scoring (17.2 ppg) and rebounding (8.7 rpg), while senior forward Danielle McCulley averages 15.4 points and 8.1 rebounds. Senior guard Laurie Townsend averages 9.4 points, while junior guard Katarisha Witcher averages 7.4 points and a team-high 3.1 assists.



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