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## UA12/2/1 College Heights Herald, Vol. 74, No. 38

WKU Student Affairs

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# Dorm ads overstate apartment costs

## Advertisement part of campaign to boost dorm occupancy

BY BRETT CORBIN  
Herald reporter

Housing and Residence Life has deluged mailboxes recently with promotions claiming that living off campus costs about twice as much as living in a dorm. But

the method used to arrive at the comparison was far from scientific and numbers released by the university earlier conflict with the claim.

A postcard size advertisement mailed to students' permanent addresses a few weeks ago claimed that during four months students pay \$815 rent in a dorm and pay an average of \$1,509 off campus. That means that while the average dorm room would cost \$203.75 per month, students off campus would be shelling out \$377.25.

And since Feb. 1, a "Play Doh"

versus "Play Dough" campaign sent to campus mailboxes has suggested that students will be rolling in Benjamins if they opt to continue living in dorms. The department sent a small canister of Play Doh, which said "living off-campus really saves you dough," to every student who lives on campus.

Kit Tolbert, director of Housing and Residence Life, said to get the number advertised in the post card "we just went down the phone book one afternoon and took the average of 10 complexes.

"I used my phone bill to estimate the cost of phone service."

The \$1,509 is derived from the cost of a two bedroom apartment, including cable with one movie channel and phone service. But the \$1,509 price tag assumes that off-campus dwellers have no roommates to share the cost with. If the price is cut in half, an off-campus apartment would cost about \$189 a month.

A survey conducted in May 1997 by two marketing professors concluded that the average student actually pays about \$207 a month in off-campus rent and utilities.

Chicago senior Charles Schultz stresses convenience, rather than price, as a reason for living on campus.

"You set yourself up for success by living on campus," he said. "If you're lazy, living on campus is better due to location. If you can handle getting to class everyday, living off campus is more fun."

Some students who don't like dorm living have traded "Play Dough" for the benefits of off-campus living.

SEE DORMS, PAGE 6



Chris Hamilton/Herald

**Ashes to ashes:** Liz Embree, a freshman from Old Hickory, Tenn., has a cross of ashes marked on his forehead by Father Darrell Venters at St. Thomas Aquinas Chapel during Ash Wednesday ceremonies. Ash Wednesday marks the beginning of the 40 days of Lent, a time of new life and growth for Catholics, as they prepare and celebrate the Feast of Easter.

## Schedule problem may have easy fix

Missouri college fixes Banner 2000

BY BROOKE COWLES  
Herald reporter

While Western officials are spending their time trying to come up with a way to make the Banner 2000 student information program accommodate alternating Friday classes, Jefferson College in Hillsboro, Mo., has already found a solution.

Several months ago, Western officials discovered that Banner 2000 couldn't handle alternating Fridays. Since then, a committee has been formed to decide if Banner should be reprogrammed or if Western should change to another way of scheduling classes.

SEE SCHEDULE, PAGE 5

## Administrators freeze health service funds

### Western wants money left alone while committee debates privatizing service

BY SHANNON BACK  
Herald reporter

Chief Financial Officer Ann Mead and President Gary Ransdell have frozen the Student Health Service's \$65,000 reserve fund, saying they want to save the money until the university's March 1 privatization decision.

"Until we finish this process we don't know what will happen," said Mead, who is chairwoman of the committee deciding whether to replace the health service with a private urgent care/health clinic for students, faculty and the community.

"What if we need this money to relocate the Student Health Service? There's no reason to put money into something if there is a chance that it may completely change soon."

The money may be needed for negotiations with medical providers, Ransdell said, adding that he doesn't want to dip into the reserve fund unless it is an emergency.

Lucy Ritter, associate director of the Student Health Service, said she was unaware of the freeze until an order for lab equipment was rejected last Friday. The freeze also stopped plans to upgrade the health service's aging computer system.

"Our main server was bought over the summer of 1992," said Ritter, who also serves on the committee. "It's not year 2000 compliant, it locks up, we've had billing problems."

Student Health Service Director Charles Lott said while he understands the need for the freeze, the committee needs to recognize the health service's current needs.

"Our computer is going to crash — it will happen," Lott said. "We will have to go to a ballpoint pen system. We're basically just patching it with Band-Aids."

Ransdell said questions concerning Western's health care surfaced early last semester when he was faced with moving

the Student Health Service office from the Academic Complex, where it has been for more than 30 years.

When the university's planned Journalism and Technology Building is constructed in spring 2000, the space where the Student Health Service offices are will become a bridge between the Academic Complex and the new building.

Ransdell appointed a committee last semester to look into hiring an outside company to replace the Student Health Service.

Many worry if the health service goes private, students without insurance will have to pay more.

At the current Student Health Service, patients do not have to be insured to see a doctor. But if an outside health care provider comes in, they will. Western students pay \$30 per semester for health care. Students receive unlimited office visits with campus doctors and lab and medication discounts.

"I wish there was some way to convey and make (students) believe that we

SEE HEALTH, PAGE 6

### INSIDE

#### Dance company to perform

The Alvin Alley Repertory Ensemble, an internationally-known, award-winning dance company, is launching Western's Premiere Performance Series for 1999. Page 9

#### Lady Tops face FIU tonight

In a fight for the No. 23 seed, the Lady Tops face the Golden Panthers for the second time ever. The Lady Tops are still battling for a Sun Belt Conference position. Page 13



<http://herald.wku.edu>

# Weather forecast

Thursday	Friday	Saturday	Sunday	Monday
26° 47°	30° 34°	31° 33°	22° 32°	21° 40°

R: 25°/44°, cloudy  
F: 30°/33°, snow  
S: 28°/34°, snow  
S: 20°/33°, cloudy  
M: 21°/39°, cloudy

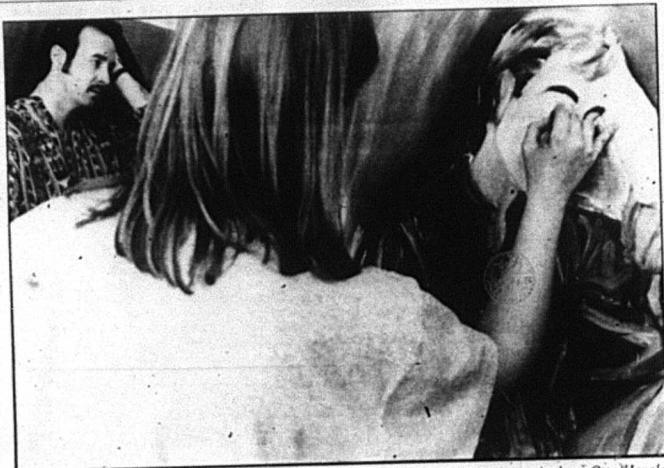
• **Louisville**

• **Lexington**  
R: 25°/43°, cloudy  
F: 29°/32°, snow  
S: 28°/32°, snow  
S: 20°/32°, cloudy  
M: 20°/37°, cloudy

• **Owensboro**  
R: 27°/44°, cloudy  
F: 30°/33°, snow  
S: 29°/34°, snow  
S: 20°/33°, cloudy  
M: 21°/39°, cloudy

• **Paducah**  
R: 27°/46°, cloudy  
F: 31°/34°, snow  
S: 30°/34°, snow  
S: 21°/34°, snow  
M: 22°/41°, cloudy

• **Nashville**  
R: 33°/50°, cloudy  
F: 33°/35°, snow  
S: 33°/35°, snow  
S: 23°/35°, snow  
M: 24°/43°, snow



Andrew Otto/Herald

**Painting:** Greenville senior Ann Wickliffe paints a portrait of Western graduate Shane Bellies yesterday afternoon on the fourth floor of the fine arts center. Bellies volunteered his time to help Wickliffe, a good friend.



## A look back at Western's history

In September of 1861, construction of the Confederate headquarters known as Fort Albert Sidney Johnston began at the area now located behind Gordon Wilson Hall.

## Crime Reports

### Reports

- Zack P. Fisher, Keen Hall, reported Friday his 1994 Jeep broken into while parked in the service and supply lot between Wednesday and Friday.
- Beverly D. Veenker, Gordon Wilson Hall, reported Friday two boom boxes, total value \$160, stolen from the dance studio between Wednesday and Thursday.
- George F. Robinson, Rodes-Harlin Hall, reported Saturday his portable compact disc player, valued at \$85, stolen from his vehicle while parked on the fourth level of

the parking structure between Wednesday and Friday.

- Peter Jellema, West Hall, reported Monday his wallet, credit cards, cash, and driver's license, total value \$61.25, stolen Sunday.
- Wyler A. Dykeman, High Street, reported Monday his pants, wallet, and cash, total value \$111, stolen from Preston Health and Activities Center.

Warren County Regional Jail the next day on a \$50 cash bond.

### Arrests

- Steven Eli Geery, Clarksville, Tenn., was charged Tuesday with criminal trespassing. He was released from the

- Timothy Gene Parson, Memphis Junction Road, was charged Tuesday with criminal trespassing. He was released from the Warren County Regional Jail the next day on a \$50 cash bond.

- Nathan Lee Blatterman, Clarksville, Tenn., was charged Tuesday with criminal trespassing and possession of marijuana and drug paraphernalia. He was released from the Warren County Regional Jail the next day on a \$500 unsecured bond.

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**Campus movie schedule**

in every Tuesday edition of the **College Heights Herald**

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# Coming Home Mardi Gras on the Hill

Western's Finest Men competing for the title of **Coming Home King!** February 20th during Half-Time of the Men's Basketball Game.

Come support your candidate in this year's event.



# Western to host Sigma Chi seminar

Discussions will focus on college issues

By CAROLINE LYNCH  
Herald reporter

Usually when the words fraternity, alcohol and date rape are thrown into the same sentence, people assume there's trouble.

This time they're wrong. On Feb. 20 and 21, Western's Sigma Chi fraternity is hosting the annual Kentucky-Tennessee Conference. Nearly 200 fraternity members from the two states will convene in Grise Hall Auditorium to listen to seminars on recruitment, date rape, alcohol abuse, member training, risk management and scholarship.

"It seems like every time there is a small problem, fra-

**"There is a lot of temptation for college students and we want our guys to be able to handle themselves in tough situations."**

— Sebastian Pantano  
Sigma Chi representative

ternities are under the microscope, but there are a lot of good things that we do," said Sigma Chi President Matt Pfeiffer.

"This conference gives members a chance to open their minds a little bit and get some new ideas that will help to improve not only Sigma Chi at Western, but Sigma Chi everywhere," the Louisville sophomore said.

The seminars will be given by Sigma Chi's from the international headquarters, by a Sigma Chi adviser and Western faculty. Dean of Student Life Howard Bailey is giving the seminar on date rape.

"I want the guys to leave this seminar with a greater awareness of their responsibility, not only to the females that they are with, but to themselves," Bailey said.

Pfeiffer was the one who asked Bailey to speak, because he felt he would relate well with the fraternity.

According to Sebastian Pantano, an undergraduate representative of Sigma Chi for Kentucky and Tennessee, Western's chapter currently has a lot of young members who could really benefit from this conference.

"There is a lot of temptation for college students and we want our guys to be able to handle themselves in tough situations," Pantano said.

But securing the conference didn't happen overnight. Western's chapter put in a bid a few years ago to host the conference. Pfeiffer said. Last year they found out that they would get that honor.

When the seminars are over, there will be an awards ceremony and a luncheon. In addition to the sessions, the fraternity members will get a chance to mix and mingle, Pantano said.

"It's also a good time for all the brothers to get together and get to know each other," Pantano said.

# University releasing disciplinary records of students found guilty of violent crimes

Records show low crime at Western

By MATTIAS KAREN  
Herald reporter

The disciplinary records of some students are now open to the public, and the number of major problems on campus seem surprisingly low.

Ten students have been found guilty of crimes of violence or non-forcible sex offenses on campus in the last five years. Eight of those offenses regarded assault.

Two students were expelled, but none of the ten are still on campus.

"We were surprised by the low number on that list," said Brian Kuster, executive director of Housing and Residence Life.

Billy Rshawn Holcomb was expelled for sexual assault, while John Wayne Taylor was expelled for possession of a weapon. Other sanctions ranged from disciplinary probation to a four-semester suspension.

But even though it seems Western has a safe campus, Kuster said these numbers are a bit misleading. In a vast majority of criminal cases on campus, the alleged perpetrator decides to drop out of school before they are brought before the University Disciplinary Committee. This means the number of crimes committed is a lot higher than the number of actual sanctions.

The University Disciplinary

Committee is made up faculty, staff and students. The most severe cases are brought before the committee after police have talked to everybody involved, and found that a crime may have been committed. Witnesses are then brought before the committee to testify.

The records of students found guilty of crimes of violence or non-forcible sex offenses on campus were made public last October, when Congress passed the Higher Education Reauthorization Act, an amendment to the Federal Educational Rights and Privacy Act.

The act also allows universities to contact students' parents when they are sanctioned.

While many private organizations think the act improves student safety, several university officials around the country seem to disagree. Dean of Student Life Howard Bailey said it may do the exact opposite.

"Our concern is that by making this information in a student's file public, you are basically making irreversible damage," Bailey said.

By making the names of perpetrators public, victims might not be as willing to report crimes, he said. If a female student was raped on a smaller campus, for example, many students would be able to figure out

who she was if they knew who committed the rape.

Women that would normally report such a crime might then be reluctant to do so, he said.

"It makes it very difficult to protect her privacy when that much information of the case will be released," Bailey said.

Several high-profile murders and sex crimes on campuses across the nation prodded Congress into making the legal changes.

Bailey cited one incident when a sexual perpetrator at a smaller school was sanctioned by the university but was allowed to stay on campus. A few months later, he committed another sex crime.

But Bailey said these kinds of incidents can be avoided without releasing the names of perpetrators.

"We think that if a mistake was made, the mistake was letting him stay on campus," he said. "He should have been removed."

But some of the organizations that pushed for the changes think many universities have alternative reasons — like avoiding bad publicity — for not liking the law.

Mike Hiestand, attorney for the Student Press Law Center, a non-profit organization providing legal help to student media,

said he thought universities were more concerned with their own reputations than student safety. By releasing their crime records, they might scare away students that desire to go to a safe school, he said.

"I don't understand why they'd be against these provisions if that wasn't their reason," he said.

Even though Hiestand agreed the act has some down sides to it, he said those were "far outweighed by the positive."

"It's more important that we have some kind of confidence in the system," he said, adding that the new law will help stop rumors of universities sweeping criminal cases under the rug.

Paul McMasters, First Amendment Ombudsman for the Freedom Forum, an international foundation dedicated to free speech and free press, also thought the act is necessary. He said he did not think people at smaller schools would be less likely to report crimes.

"That is always a bit of a risk," he said. "But the fact of the matter is that the smaller the campus is, the more likely it is that everybody is going to know anyway.... and there's going to be a lot of rumors floating around that aren't true."

"I think that's an attempt by university officials to dodge the responsibility of releasing as much information as possible to the campus community."

**"Our concern is that by making this information in a student's file public, you are basically making irreversible damage."**

— Howard Bailey  
Dean of Student Life

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# Opinion

## The Big Red Machine



The Big Red Fund Raising Machine just keeps racing ahead.

On Tuesday, the university announced a \$500,000 gift to fund another endowed professorship at the Gordon Ford College of Business.

Money is often the lure for outstanding faculty. We're confident that Lexington alumna Mary Nixon's gift will make the business college even better, adding another professor to the permanent payroll.

But Western's gravy train hasn't stopped there. Just two months have passed since Gordon Ford, a Louisville alumnus, donated \$10.6 million to the same business college, the largest gift in Western history.

Two weeks ago, we reported a \$500,000 gift to the music department, enough money for a professor who specializes in string music and a new director for the Bowling Green/Western Symphony Orchestra. A Glasgow businessman recently donated \$500,000 for a professor of mechanical and engineering technology.

And don't forget the major donations to our sports programs last year: \$3 million for football and more than \$1 million for basketball.

Smaller gifts too numerous to mention have also picked up during the

last fiscal year.

Several people deserve credit: First, of course, the businessmen and women who decided to share their good fortune with their alma mater.

Second, the state and its matching grant program deserve praise. Frankfort has set aside \$2.3 million in matching grant funds, which means when a private donor gives \$500,000, the state brings the total to \$1 million.

These matching funds have nudged would-be philanthropists just enough for them to donate big money to their alma mater.

The university has nearly exhausted the \$2.3 million of matching funds, when no other regional university in the state has even started using theirs.

Lastly, we credit the fund raisers behind the scenes.

Tom Hiles, vice president of development and alumni relations, was a great find. Since he was hired last year, he's brought in four \$1 million professorships where there were none once.

President Gary Ransdell has also lived up to his promise of improving Western's fund raising, keeping an eye on the process, and will soon complete his goal of doubling the university endowment.

Ransdell, Hiles, the philanthropists and Western students should give themselves a hearty pat on the back.

**The issue:** Western receives another \$500,000 donation.  
**Our view:** It's one of many. Fund-raising officials and donors deserve credit.

### Letters to the Editor

#### Approve schedule change

In regard to the deluge of articles and comments concerning the year 2000 class scheduling issue facing Western, I'm a little miffed at Marion Lucas' comment in the Feb. 4 Herald: "I don't think the students object to alternating Fridays... It works very well for the commuter students, and we're getting an increasing number of non-traditional students."

Who took that poll? I certainly didn't get a chance to vote!

Commuter students object to EVERY day that they have to wage war in the campus parking lots. One less day, one less casualty. And what are non-traditional students? More commuters? Many non-traditional and commuting students live out of town; some I know live near Nashville. Driving to Western, parking, hiking the Hill, buying lunch, etc. gets expen-

sive and time-consuming on a week-by-week basis.

Cropping a day from the week could mean substantial savings to students. I would rather stay in class an extra 15 minutes per meeting and save commuting time for studying.

In the future, before assumptions are made concerning non-traditional and/or commuter students' preferences for class scheduling, a poll should be taken with the affected source — the students.

Kudos to Dr. Luther Hughes and Dr. David Keeling for putting students first by offering to let us vote for which schedule best serves our needs.

Patricia Jagers  
Smiths Grove sophomore

#### Team needs students ...

This past fall, the Hilltopper Athletic Foundation Board

approved a four-step process for Western students to gain additional and better seating in Diddle Arena.

The students have responded and increased attendance. However, attendance must go over 360 per game for more seats to be made available.

The Hilltopper Athletic Foundation wants to encourage student participation in the hopes of validating the agreement to the maximum level.

When students are there, the atmosphere is noticeable better for the fans and the team.

This year's team has worked harder than any in recent history and deserve your support. The HAF will not renege on its commitment to further student participation. See ya on the 20th.

Louisa Berman  
President,  
Hilltopper Athletic Foundation

#### ... now or never for seating

This is the time of year when it seems like everyone wants to talk about basketball. March Madness is closing in and people across the state are wondering how well the 'Cats are going to do in the Big Dance. According to attendance at Western home games, it seems that most students on this campus have forgotten that we have two teams with a chance at attending that same event.

The basketball programs at Western do not get the attention and recognition they deserve from the students as well as the local community. It shouldn't slip our minds that the Sun Belt Conference, the conference in which Western competes, has an automatic NCAA bid for the conference tournament champion.

Can either of Western's teams get that bid? Sure, both teams have

a great shot at winning their respective tournaments.

Students must attend the last men's home game this Saturday and the final two women's games concluding with senior night next Saturday. We need to show the Taps we are behind them and give them momentum going into their Sun Belt tournaments.

Don't just go to the games; make noise and show enthusiasm. Stand up and cheer when the fight song is played. Organizations shouldn't only attend games when persuaded by the chance to win a spirit contest. Tickets are free and there is plenty of seating close to the floor.

If the students at Western won't support their own programs, who will?

Josh Porter  
Bowling Green senior

Wes Allen  
Bowling Green senior

### Who's a better role model: "Teletubbies" or Jerry Falwell?



"Teletubbies. At least they're not hypocritical."

Jennifer Fahling  
Hodgenville sophomore



"Neither. They're both silly."

Paul McCoy  
Burkesville senior



"I would have to say the Teletubbies."

Jon Ridenour  
Florence sophomore



"I'd have to say the Teletubbies because Jerry Falwell sounds kind of ignorant."

Edgar Garris  
freshman from  
Pinkerton, Ohio



"Teletubbies. I don't think they're gay."

Debbie Lynch  
Bowling Green sophomore

## College Heights Herald

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# SCHEDULE: Fridays may remain

CONTINUED FROM FRONT PAGE

Lynnae Diefenbach, Jefferson College's registrar, found another solution.

It's a solution that is very time consuming, but accurate, she said.

"Banner 2000 has a time conflict check built in the system that won't allow the alternating-Friday classes," Diefenbach said. "It was my job to find a way to make it work."

When Jefferson College students register for classes, the computer told that the chosen class meets on either Monday/Wednesday or Tuesday/Thursday. Then each Friday a class meets that semester is entered individually. This creates the alternating-Friday system Western uses, but is more time-consuming for registrars.

The method works well for Jefferson College, which has an enrollment of about 3,900 students, Diefenbach said. But the system might not be quite so productive for Western, which has about 15,000 students.

Other options that Jefferson College officials explored in accommodating Banner 2000 to the scheduling needs of their students were to have Systems & Computer Technology, Banner 2000's creator, write a program for the college

that would accept alternating Fridays or switch to a schedule similar to the schedule used by most universities and colleges nationwide.

Most colleges operate on a schedule where classes meet Monday/Wednesday/Friday for 50 minutes and Tuesday/Thursday for one hour and 15 minutes.

Diefenbach said she feels this is a more reasonable schedule even though Jefferson College uses alternating Fridays.

"I've always been against the alternating-Friday schedule," Diefenbach said. "When the college decided to make the system accept it I tried to change their minds, but I was outnumbered."

Western isn't the only school with big scheduling problems. Eastern Kentucky University is in the same position after purchasing Banner 2000 to escape a Y2K catastrophe.

Jack Culross, dean for undergraduate studies at Eastern, said that like Western, his university is in search of a way to keep the alternating-Friday system.

"Students have shown a concern in keeping the scheduling we are using now," Culross said. "We want to do what is best for our students."

According to Culross, Eastern once used a scheduling system, where students had class

Monday/Wednesday/Friday for 50 minutes and Tuesday/Thursday/Saturday for 50 minutes. The unpopularity of this concept is what prompted Eastern's alternating-Friday system.

Western's committee wants students and faculty to be involved in the decision-making process.

Franklin senior Jo Keith has been attending Western for seven years and has never liked the current scheduling policy.

"I think they need something with more uniformity," Keith said. "They need a system that doesn't change from week to week. They need consistency."

Other students find alternating Fridays to be beneficial. "It's more like a work week for me," said Cadiz freshman Curtis Baker. "I have to get up and go five days a week. It prepares you for the real world."

Nevertheless, with options gathered from colleges and universities across the state, Western has several scheduling options to explore. Jefferson College has proven the possibility is there to keep alternating Fridays; it will just take a little more time and effort.

"Western may not be able to make my method work for them," Diefenbach said. "But it can be done."

# Black History Month Notes

## Giovanni will speak Monday

Neither rain, nor snow, nor dark of night will keep award-winning poet and civil rights activist Nikki Giovanni from this appointment to speak to Western students.

Giovanni was scheduled to speak Feb. 1 as part of Western's celebration of Black History Month, but severe winter weather kept her from getting to campus.

The public is invited to DUC Theatre at 7 p.m. Monday to hear a lecture on race relations by the woman who has written of her hatred of "diet-soda, seat belts, anti-smokers, pro-lifers, and stupid people who think they have any right to tell me how to live."

— Molly Harper

## Government professor to share memories

As a 9-year-old, Sandra Ardrey marched with her civil rights activist father in Raleigh, N.C. She took part in demonstrations. She met Martin Luther King Jr., who stayed in her church on his way to Washington, D.C.

Ardrey, a government associate professor, will be sharing and discussing her experiences from the civil rights movement at 1 p.m. Monday at the Kentucky Building along with philosophy and religion department head Alan Anderson and Russellville resident Charles Neblett.

Ardrey wouldn't elaborate on what she planned to discuss at the session.

"If I did that, what would I say Monday?" she said. "I want the students to get a sense of what it was like to be part of something that became history."

— Molly Harper

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## News Pops

### City hosting Y2K forum

Bowling Green city government will host a public forum tonight to discuss the Y2K computer problem and what individuals can do to prepare for it.

The forum will be held at 5:30 p.m. at Western's south campus on Nashville Road. Admission is free.

— Dan Hieb

### Kentucky Building hosting Black History Month exhibits

The Kentucky Building is currently hosting two black history exhibits: "Jonesville Water Colors" by Ivan Wilson and "Church by the Side of the Road Collection: A Pictorial History of Bowling Green and Warren County Churches with an African-American Heritage" with photographs by James Walker.

The Kentucky Building is also hosting a Civil War exhibit, "A Kind of Nobility: The Kentucky Orphan Brigade," through July 31.

— Dan Hieb

### Astronomy department offers 'Tour of the Solar System'

The astronomy department is offering one in a series of free planetarium lectures at 7:30 tonight in Hardin Planetarium. "Tour of the Solar System," will continue through March 11 at 2:30 p.m. on Sundays and 7:30 p.m. on Tuesdays and Thursdays.

— Dan Hieb

### Students can win photo contest, more

Peers Encouraging Responsible Choices, the Student Health Service, and The BACCHUS and GAMMA Peer Education Network are sponsoring a Safe Spring Break Photo Contest. The winner will receive \$250, and the WKU winner will get a \$50 gift certificate from Shutterbug Photo. For contest rules and more information, call 745-5033.

### Drivers, passengers encouraged to pledge safety

Students signing pledges not to drink and drive during Spring Break, ride with an impaired driver or let their friends drive drunk, but do wear their seat belts, and watch out for their friends will be entered in a drawing for local prizes from various businesses and have a chance to win a BIC Sail Board. Pledges are available in the dorms, on the second floor of the Student Health Service and at SHS displays in DUC March 9-10.

— Misty R. Wilson

## DORMS: Ad overstates living costs

## HEALTH: Funds frozen

CONTINUED FROM FRONT PAGE

Erin McCullough, a sophomore from New Mexico, says her apartment does cost about twice as much as living in a dorm. But the extra cost is worth it.

"You don't have to live in a little box," she said. "You don't have to have a roommate with you in a little box. You get more freedom. You still have a lot of rules when you live in a dorm."

Student Association officers may disagree with complaints about dorm life — four of the five live in dorms. The only one who does not is SGA president Stephanie Cosby. She is currently in the midst of her first year off campus and has fond memories of dorm life.

"I enjoyed living on campus because it was a family atmosphere and I knew what was going on all the time," said Cosby, a senior from Greenville. "The locations of meetings were much more accessible when I lived on campus."

Scott Taylor, director of Student Activities and Organizations, has another perspective on the benefits of living on campus. His daughter is a senior in high school and a soon-to-be college freshman.

"It may be cheaper for her to live off campus in some parts of town, but would I want my freshman daughter living in those areas? No."

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College Heights  
**Herald**

CONTINUED FROM FRONT PAGE

"I wouldn't be doing this if we didn't want to improve the service," Mead said. "I had some students contact me and say they don't think I'm giving them the answers, yet I don't have the answers, yet."

"We just don't need a panic on this campus. I don't want a situation where students overreact."

But Lott says there is reason for students to be concerned.

"There is simply nobody that can offer the services we do for the same price," he said. "Watch out for anything that's going to bring you the mother of cost rates."

Mead said the committee hopes to pass out student surveys next week and make a decision the following week.

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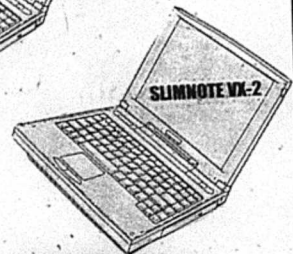
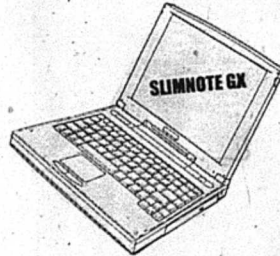
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# Phones needed on south campus, SGA says

By RYAN CLARK  
Herald reporter

Many students on campus know the feeling of insecurity as they tread across a secluded, dimly lit parking lot or sidewalk. There's anxiety, sometimes fear.

On Tuesday, the Student Government Association passed a resolution to ease those fears on Western's south campus, located on Nashville Road.

The resolution recommends that the university install two emergency telephones in the south campus parking lot, one on either side, to alleviate fear for the students and faculty that use the lot throughout the night.

"The original idea came from a teacher that taught classes at the community college last fall," said Matt Bogard, chairman of SGA's Campus Improvements Committee and co-author of the bill. "She stated that several students and faculty had approached her about the issue."

Another reason SGA gave for the resolution involved campus police. During the second reading of the document explaining the resolution's purpose, the organization alleged that the "area is not under constant observation by WKU Police."

Campus police Capt. Mike Wallace disagreed.

"(South campus) is part of our regular patrol area," Wallace said. "We have officers patrolling that area on foot, on bicycles, and in vehicles. To be honest with you, nothing out of the ordinary happens that doesn't happen anywhere else."

But Wallace encouraged SGA's idea.

"I certainly have no problem with the installation of more emergency phones," he said. "But they are not inexpensive."

The cost of the project, which SGA suggests should be paid entirely by the university, could exceed \$10,000.

SGA President Stephanie Cosby said that it is a student's right to feel safe on campus.

"We need something for the people who work and go to class there," Cosby said. "I'd be really happy if we can get this done."

Bogard said the phones are a necessity if students and professors are to feel safe.

"In light of the fact that parking lots are isolated from the rest of campus, and lighting being not all that adequate, I feel that these phones will help to create a safer atmosphere," Bogard said.

Tired of watching channel 12 to find out what movie is playing on channel 10?  
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Campus movie schedule

in every Tuesday edition of the

College Heights Herald

# Admission standards, enrollment increasing

By BRITTANY LONG  
Herald reporter

Sitting in a desk. Nervously tapping your perfectly sharpened No. 2 pencils. Listening to instructions on how to properly fill in an answer bubble and waiting anxiously for permission to flip that test booklet over.

The experience of standardized testing is one of the milestones of adolescence for most college-bound high school students.

The last time most Western students thought about the ACT or SAT was when they completed their applications for admission.

But for Hilltoppers-to-be, ACT scores are an issue. Standardized test scores and their grade-point average are among the most important factors university admissions committees consider when admitting incoming students.

At Western, the ACT is becoming even more of a factor as admission standards are getting tougher, according to Sharon Dyrsen, director of Admissions and Academic Services. For many years, she said, the basic requirements were that incoming freshmen have an ACT score of 17 or a 2.3 GPA. After being set at 18 or a 2.3 GPA for two years, last fall's standards were 19 and a 2.4 GPA. By fall of 2000, students will need to have 20 or a 2.5 GPA. The "or" is very important, Dyrsen said.

This is part of Moving to a New Level, a five-year plan passed by the Board of Regents, she said.

It is the university's goal to raise the average ACT of its students to 23.5 by the year 2003. The current average score at Western is 21.4. It has already increased from last year's average of 21.1.

Luther Hughes, associate vice president for Enrollment Management, has considered the effects of the higher ACT standards on enrollment.

"I'm a little concerned that if we move too quickly it will have a negative impact on enrollment, but by doing it slowly, we believe it will result in more students coming," he said. Dyrsen also pointed out that despite rising admissions standards, high school graduates can still pursue higher education. Western's community college has an open admissions policy, which allows students to take precollege courses as long as they take the ACT, regardless of their score.

"Enrollment will not be hurt because we have these requirements," she said.

The improved standards also correspond with the goals in the university's Strategic Plan, a document intended to list priorities and map how they will be achieved.

"We want to be recognized as an outstanding university academically that accepts most all students but has a reputation for improving quality," Hughes said.

By improving the quality of both students and the university's programs, Western officials hope enrollment rises right along with the higher ACT scores. "Increased enrollment generates more revenue through tuition and enables us to be better," Hughes said.

He said increased enrollment would also allow the university to use its facilities more efficiently.

"We are not at capacity," he said. "I think we could have another 1,000 students, and that is a goal for the next five years."

Western's enrollment, currently around 15,000, increased by 300 from fall 1997 to fall 1998. This increase was the first in three years. Hughes attributed this to several factors, most notably, improved recruiting.

He also said retention is an issue that needs to be focused on. Western's retention rate is about 40 percent, meaning that four of 10 students will graduate in six years. "We want to improve that by 10 percent by 2003," Hughes said.

Once the students decide on Western, Hughes wants them to stay. Most drop-outs occur during the first six weeks of the semester.

"It's easier to keep the students we've already recruited," he said. "Freshman Seminar is a key component; we can hold your hand."

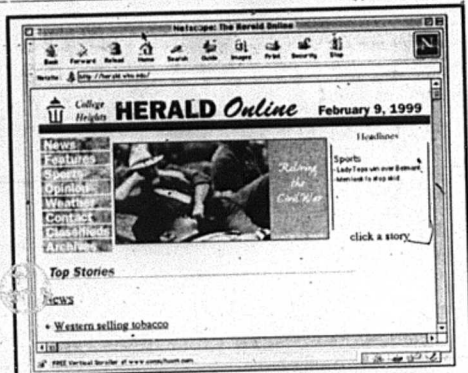
Another plan to improve retention is to improve faculty advising. "Most faculty members get their doctorates in a specific area, not in student relations or student advising," Hughes said.

To remedy this the university plans to provide short workshops to newer faculty members.

But overall, Hughes says Western hopes to keep its enrollment high by improving quality.

"When we are compared to other universities in the Kentucky, we want our quality to be recognized, not just perceived, but to truly be better than other universities," he said.

"We want to be better, and that means we need good students. The better the students, the better the retention."



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# diversions

## Celebration of Dance

The internationally-known, award-winning Alvin Ailey Repertory Ensemble will perform — for free — at 8 tonight at the Capitol Arts Center

By Jennifer Mattox

It's cause for celebration when one of the most renowned dance companies in the world, the Alvin Ailey Repertory Ensemble, comes to Bowling Green.

It's cause for disbelief when the admission is free. But believe it, Western. The internationally-known, award-winning dance company will be performing at 8 tonight at the Capitol Arts Center — and it's not costing a dime to get in. The show will launch the university's Premiere Performance Series for 1999, sponsored by the Cultural Enhancement Committee.

For the last 25 years, the company has shown its worth, winning awards like modern dance's most prestigious prize, the Samuel H. Scripps American Festival Award.

So what kind of reaction is Capitol planning for the upcoming performance?

"We expect probably a pretty good crowd," said Jeff Younglove, Western's director of special events.

Western is providing transportation to the event tonight via Big Red Shuttle, which will leave Diddle Arena lot at 7:30 p.m. and will return after the performance.

This is the second year the Cultural Enhancement Committee has offered a series of Premiere Performances, having three guests this year, as opposed to last year's four. Other guests scheduled are Harvard geology and zoology Professor Stephen Jay Gould and 1995 Pulitzer Prize winner for history, Doris Kearns Goodwin.

"The goal is for it to be an annual series," Younglove said. "Ideally, we'd like to have some (performances) during the fall as well, but scheduling doesn't permit."

Organizers aren't the only people pumped for the show.

"It's not every day that a prestigious company like this shows up on Western's doorstep," said Lea Kohl, a freshman performing arts major from Guntersville, Ala.

That much is certain. The company's success has led it all over the United States. This year's tour will send them through 41 U.S. cities and a trip to Cuba. But the company is still very well known for its involvement with the community, as it performs for free at many schools around the country.

"The idea that we are getting them and the admission is free is just unbelievable," said Beverly Veenker, a theatre and dance associate professor.

Western was very fortunate, Younglove said, to have attracted such a prestigious guest to this year's series. "This is a university, and that is what you want to make available to the students," he said.

Another aspect of the ensemble will be made available to some Western students. It's offering a class for dance majors from 10:30 to 11:30 this morning in Gordon Wilson Hall. The company will only accept a maximum of 35 dance students for this free lesson, which would normally cost about \$45.

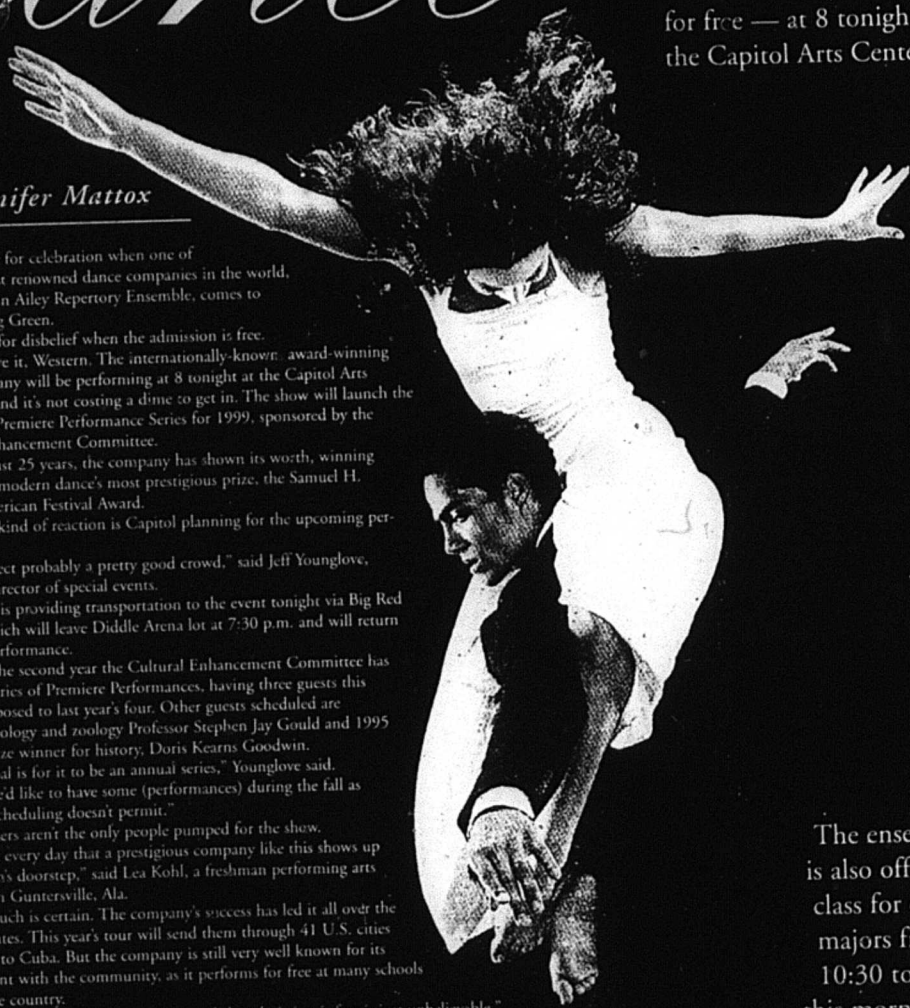
The students will know first-hand how the company works when they help set up for the presentation, Veenker said.

"We are just very excited about having them here, and so are the students," she said. "We are just very grateful to the committee. ... (Students) can't just run down the street to see a show in New York City," she said.

The Cultural Enhancement Series will continue on March 23, with a speech by Stephen Jay Gould. Doris Kearns Goodwin will speak April 12.

But in the meantime, Veenker's certain everyone in the theatre and dance department — and the rest of Western — is on their toes right now, awaiting tonight's show.

"There is a lot of energy around here now," she said.



The ensemble is also offering a class for dance majors from 10:30 to 11:30 this morning in Gordon Wilson Hall. The company will only accept a maximum of 35 dance students for the free lesson, which would normally cost about

Album Review

# BUDS OF THE BUD: CD supports pot organization

Hempilation 2: B

BY HOLLY GODDARD  
Herald reporter

There's nothing like a good cause. Celebrities love them, and in defending them, some interesting things can happen.

And while legalizing pot may not be as noble a stand as say, saving the children, it's all the creative inspiration artists need for the album "Hempilation 2: Freethweed."

A sequel to the "Hempilation: Freedom is NORML" album released in November 1995, "Freethweed" features 20 new tracks from a wide range of artists and genres. It's the kind of album where a Gov't Mule song can come about six tracks after a Willie Nelson song. The unifying factor here? Fighting the good fight to roll up and light up. Album proceeds go to the National Organization for the Reform of Marijuana Laws, a group dedicated to ending marijuana prohibition.

The album's variety will appeal to those with more eclectic taste in music. Country, pop, rock and reggae are represented, but the mood, for the most part, is constant — light, fun and, at times, a little silly.

These people love their weed, and they're open about expressing that. Their devotion — while a little scary — is mostly effective. For all the references to "big fat sacks" and joint rolling, there are actually some pretty good tracks on the compact disc.

Mike Watt's "Sidemousin' the Bong" is a weird little tune featuring some interesting violin accompaniment. Unfortunately, it's also one of those songs that will probably run through your head for a

few days after listening to it.

A better track is Dar Williams' "Play the Greed." The folksy feel is pleasant, and the lyrics go beyond the many joys of smoking dope. And while Williams sounds a lot like the Sheryl Crow/Jewel bunch that's been dominating the female-music world, the piece ends up being one of the better ones on the CD.

Spearhead's remake of the Steve Miller classic "The Joker," while obviously not a rival of the original, is also a highlight. The basic formula of the song isn't tinkered with too badly, although some breathy female background vocals are a confusing addition.

Willie Nelson, a notorious and unapologetic pothead, was also a contributor. Nelson is a living legend among country

music fans, and "Me and Paul" is a good example of why. Not relying on the pop formula so many country stars have used to attract a wider audience, the song still has universal appeal.

"One Toke Over the Line" by The Rainmakers with Brewer and Shipley; "30 Days in the Hole" by Gov't Mule; Wayne Kramer's "If You're a Viper"; and Letters to Cleo's "Let's Get

High" are other strong additions.

If listening to recounts of dope smoking is offensive, "Freethweed" is obviously a don't-buy. Otherwise, it's a fun compilation of wildly different songs, and a testament to how far people will go to do their own thing.

And while it's not exactly a cornucopia of people swaying to the strains of "We are the World," that can be a good thing, can't it?

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Happenings

Chopin Series moves to fine arts center Sunday

Due to recent problems with Van Meter Auditorium, the Chopin Series Program II, featuring Sylvia Kersenbaum with guest Deanna Shipley will be performed in the fine arts center recital hall. The concert will be at 3 p.m. Sunday. Admission is free.

—Scheri Smith

'Object Lesson' to open, feature sculptures

Western's art department will host an exhibition of sculptures by University of Tennessee artists beginning Monday.

"Object Lesson" will feature the work of Tennessee graduate students and Professor Sally Brogden. The exhibit includes everything from pots to figurative sculptures.

The exhibit opens at noon with an artist talk in room 140 of the fine arts center.

For more information, contact Brent Oglesbee at 745-3944.

—Scheri Smith

South campus to host seminar on cloning

Western presents "Cloning: The New Wave" at 9 a.m. Saturday.

The seminar, led by Ken Balak, will be held at south campus in the conference room.

Admission is \$5 per person or 2 cans of non-perishable food items to benefit the Adult Day Care Center of Western.

For more information, call the Continuing Education office at 745-1908.

—Scheri Smith

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## Caffeine and Nicotine

# Big Bird and Beck leave columnist unhinged

I have to make mention of something that happened to me the other night. I dreamed and my subconscious was obviously at work producing some crazy stuff.

In said dream I was walking down the street when all of the sudden, thunderous footfalls were right behind me. To my disbelief, a 50-foot tall Big Bird was after me.

He was peeing into the concrete at my heels when I realized I was dressed like a kernel of corn. What the heck does this mean? I woke up before the Electric Company production got me. But still I'm in shock.

Is my mind trying to relive some guilt from childhood? Am I dreaming an insidious plot created by the Electric Company? Is the ghost of Jim Henson haunting me? Should I only eat free range chicken?

The world may never know. But this dream was better than the one I had of the Incredible Hulk crouched in a bumper car, running over people on the midway at Paramount's Kings Island.

Too bad I can't have dreams of going to Shoney's for French toast cinnamon sticks with a two-dimensional Yosemite Sam. My friend had that dream the other night.

### Galaxy 2000

Speaking of friends and dreams, I went to Galaxy 2000 with some buds last weekend. It was like walking into some

nether-region of reality. The place looks like a Joel Shoemacher movie.

You know: Black lights, bright paint and — as owner, Roy Tallent puts it — "glowing carpet." Of course, Batman and Two-Face aren't there, but there was a little sugar and spice.

The place is a fun and strange mix. People were bumping, grooving and generally having a good time on a huge dance floor

while on the other side of the joint, people were rocking out to a live band.

"It used to be a classic rock venue, with a few tables and chairs for people to sit and listen."

Tallent said of the club that used to be Fort Rock. "It was kind of like putting all your eggs in one basket."

So maybe Two-Face is part of this club. Half of the joint, which opened on Jan. 29, is good live music on Friday and Saturday nights and the other half is some bad bumping DJ-ed bass Wednesday through Saturday, starting at 7 p.m.

It's something definitely worth checking out this weekend, so drive on down Louisville Road and if you plan ahead, Galaxy has a shuttle that'll take you home.

### Beck

OK, we all know who Beck is. He's that crazy pop artist who sings music that, quite frankly, only those in mental institutions

could make sense out of.

I mean, what is a devil's haircut anyway? Maybe he could write a song about my Sesame Street Dream.

But I digress. I still like Beck's strange style. And the reason for this mention is the fact that my roommate came across a 1994 album of his called, "Stereopathic Soulmanure."

It opened a whole new groove of Beck to me. Besides "Mellow Gold," "Odelay" and his newest, "Mutations," there are a whole slew of albums he produced before signing up with Geffen Records.

If you can find them and are any type of Beck fan, you should check them out. "Soulmanure" has some crazy songs with one

song in particular — "Rowboat" — that was covered by Johnny Cash in his 1996 album "Unchained."

Cash covering Beck? Whod'ev

think it? If you have any strange dreams, recommendations for cool bands or just something to do, write me at mainsbm@hotmail.com.



Brian Mains



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# News of the Weird by Chuck Shepherd

## Lead Stories

◆ Joe Firmage, 28, multi-millionaire founder of the high-profile Internet consulting firm USWeb, resigned in January out of fear that the company's reputation was being hurt by his public views that "extraterrestrials are responsible for many high-tech inventions, such as semiconductors and lasers. According to his autobiography (posted on the Internet) Firmage was visited by an extraterrestrial in his bedroom in 1997, an experience that has caused him to re-accept Jesus Christ after a childhood falling-out with the Mormon church.

◆ According to a January Boston Globe feature, Mr. Wai Y. Tye, 82, who retired a while back after 32 years' service with Raytheon Corp., has lived without complaint in the same 200-square-foot room in the downtown Boston YMCA continuously since 1949. "When you're busy working and playing tennis," he told a reporter, "when you come home you don't have much time to take care of an apartment." The bathroom is down the hall to the left, and he said he does not mind the exposed pipes, the linoleum floor and having to use a hot plate.

◆ Faced with many retirements and a precipitous drop in new blood, U.S. Catholic officials have stepped up priest-recruiting to include irreligious advertisements to appeal to generation X men, according to a report, The Providence, R.I. diocese, for example, recently ran an ad campaign on MTV. And in January, a group of British churches, led by the Church of England, began a campaign to draw young parishioners by displaying Jesus Christ as the late Cuban revolutionary Che Guevara. Said one priest associated with the campaign, "We want to get away from the wimpy Nordic figure in a white nightie."

## Leading Economic Indicators

◆ Radio Television Russia was flooded with protest letters and demonstrations in December when it was forced to drop the U.S. soap opera "Santa Barbara," which had built a large following. A batch of 65 episodes had been held up at the border because RTR had no money to pay the import fees. One suggestion for Russia's problems was advanced in the December-released book "ABCs of Sex" by nationalist politician Vladimir Zhirinovskiy, who wrote

## IN THE BLEACHERS

By Steve Moore



"Hey, hey, hey! Not in the house! Go outside if you're going to throw your little brother around."

## WEEKEND SHOWCLOCK

### Greenwood Six

My Favorite Martian — (F) 7:15, 9:25, (S&S) 2, 4:10, 7:15, 9:25  
Office Space — (F) 7:30, 9:30  
Patch Adams — (F) 7:10, 9:40  
Saving Private Ryan — (F) 7:15, (S&S) 1:30, 5, 8:30  
Patch Adams — (F) 7:10, 9:40  
(S&S) 1:45, 4:20, 7:10, 9:40  
Shakespeare in Love — (F) 7:30, 9:30, (S&S) 1:45, 4:30, 7:30  
Message in a Bottle — (F) 7:30, 9:45  
(S&S) 1:30, 4:15, 7:45  
The Other Sister — (Sat) 7:10, special sneak preview in place of Patch Adams.

### Plaza Six

Elizabeth — (F) 3:45, 9:10, (S&S) 1, 3:45, 6:30, 9:10

Hilary and Jackie — (F) 6:45, 9:30, (S&S) 1:15, 4, 6:45, 9:30  
Payback — (F) 7:30, 9:30, (S&S) 1:15, 4:10, 7, 9:20  
She's All That — (F) 6:45, 9, (S&S) 2, 4:15, 6:45, 9  
Blast From the Past — (F) 7:10, 9:35, (S&S) 2, 4:20, 7:10, 9:35  
Varsity Blues — (F) 7:30, 9:30, (S&S) 1:45, 4:30, 7, 9:20

### Martin Twin

Rugrats — (F) 7, 9, (Sat) 1, 3, 5, 7, 9, (Sun) 1, 3, 5, 7  
The Waterboy — (F) 7:15, 9:35, (Sat) 2, 4:25, 7:15, 9:35, (Sun) 2, 4:25, 7:15

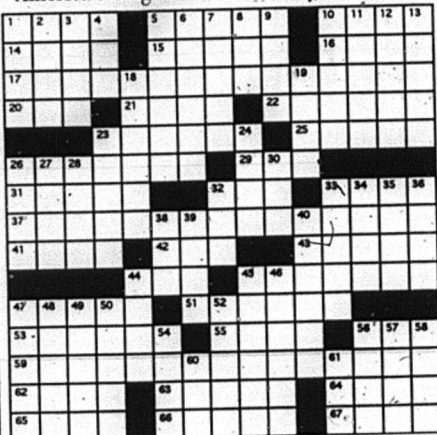
### DUC

Ever After — 7

that exporting virgin Russian women to men in other countries could somehow raise \$750 million a year and that promoting

sex for tourists (for example, having hotel mini-bars stocked with sex toys) would bring in much more.

## America's Original Microbrewery Restaurant



© Puzzle Features Syndicate

### Across

- Rescuer
- Steel bar
- Booby
- Elderly
- Aquarium resident
- Literary pseudonym
- Medium-sized dog
- Draft board: abbr.
- Word with up or backer
- Assert without proof
- Loathe
- See 20 Across
- Corps
- Unser and Capone
- Sprightly
- Hairy creature
- Controversial defense org.
- Asparagus and peas
- Chews and swallows
- Old age security: abbr.
- Rope with a slipknot
- Sound of an impact
- Like a satchel bag
- Russian girl's name
- ... Goes By
- Resist
- Permanent name
- Scallop's home
- Leukocytes
- Germant article
- Unrestrained action
- Borders
- Invasion date
- Four-legged animal
- Locale

- Transportation fees
- Five and six
- ... du Vent
- Valleys
- Music lover's purchase
- Canary's home
- Taj Mahal's site
- Limited intake
- ... From ev'ry mountain-side, ... freedom...
- Muslim title
- Have ... to pick; feel justified in complaining
- Blood problem
- Unser and Capone
- ... majesty
- Not new
- By way of
- Ms. Bombeck
- In need of iron
- Pedestal
- Larry, for one
- Glowing coal
- Planted
- Insect
- ... blifda
- ... toby; sophisticated
- Rock
- Declines
- Undergarment
- Sailor's patron saint
- Watson, to Holmes: abbr.
- On fire
- Words for those who are lost for words

### Down

- Unsanitary ones
- Parts of psyches
- Meth. and Luth.
- Strange
- Light
- Part of a stove
- Items used in a combat sport
- Fitting
- ... Breckinridge; 1970 Mae West flick
- Strips
- Holiday aides
- Feudal subject

Answer to last week's puzzle:



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Oh, Sean, really? But... what ever will I wear?

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# Sports



Rick Scibelli/Herald

Sophomore forward Rachel Byars drives toward the basket during the Lady Toppers' 7 a.m. practice Wednesday. Western faces No. 23 Florida International Thursday at 7 p.m. in Diddle Arena.

## Lady Tops' task tough tonight

### No. 23 Florida International next

BY LEIGH ANN MOORE  
Herald reporter

One number is etched into the mind of ShaRae Mansfield. It has haunted the sophomore all week like a psychotic dream, infiltrating every waking moment.

Twenty-three. That's the number that must fall tonight if Lady Topper basketball is going to be redeemed in the face of the seeding gods.

Beating the team that now wears that number, No. 23 Florida International, could give Western (18-4, 6-2) enough respect to be chosen to enter the Olympus of basketball — the NCAA tournament.

The opportunity to win against Florida International (20-4, 8-2) will come tonight at 7 in Diddle Arena.

"It's just one of those games you want to play so bad," said Mansfield, a competitive fire burning in her eyes.

It's burning deep in each of

the Lady Toppers. They all want to knock over that number. It could give them the respect they've been working for all season.

A win could also give Western a chance at a No. 2 seed in the Sun Belt Conference tournament. Florida International is currently second in conference standings. The Lady Toppers are third.

And one of Western's conference losses was handed down by the Golden Panthers in early January, 79-68. The Lady Toppers were behind by as many as 17 points before they cut the lead to seven.

"We had buried ourselves too deep in the first half to take care of things," assistant coach Mary Taylor-Cowles said.

Western stood at the entry, only glimpsing the brilliance before the gates to the Olympian throne room were slammed shut.

But tonight, the Lady Toppers have another shot at glory.

This time, the Golden

Panthers will be laid out on Western's altar. And that means the Lady Toppers will have a ranting swarm of followers on their side.

"It seems like it's easier to play when you have people supporting you instead of booing you," sophomore forward Rachel Byars said. "They're coming into our place, and we don't want to get beat by them."

Florida International is also a newcomer to the Western lineup. This is only their second meeting ever. That adds another dimension to the Lady Toppers' desire

to win.

"This is big time for our kids," Taylor-Cowles said. "We don't appreciate a new kid coming into our conference and beating us."

Western is hoping the cheers of its fans will entrap the Golden Panthers in a solid wall of sound. And within that wall, the Lady Toppers will strike.

Defense will be the key in holding the Golden Panthers

back. So will controlling the boards. And getting good shots. And working on Florida International's senior forward Zuzana Michalova, who averages 11 rebounds and 16.7 points. Western plans to get her into foul trouble early.

If the Lady Toppers execute that game plan, they should be in the position to win. And the Lady Toppers need to win.

Western will face No. 3 Louisiana Tech Saturday in Ruston, La. If Western wins tonight and loses Saturday, it would tie the Golden Panthers for a No. 2 seed in the conference.

The Sun Belt would then compare the teams' win-loss record against the first-ranked team on down. If the records are the same there will be an old-fashioned coin toss. But if the Lady Toppers beat both teams, they will automatically place second.

If Western falls to Florida International, its fate as the conference's No. 3 team will be sealed, at least until post-season play begins.

But if the Lady Toppers can beat that No. 23 team tonight, the seeding gods may be appeased.

### Lady Tops vs. Florida International

When: 7 tonight  
Where: Diddle Arena  
Radio: The Gator, 107.1 FM  
Records: Western (18-4, 6-2), Florida International (20-4, 8-2)

## Legend calls for support



### OUT OF BOUNDS

Travis Mayo

Diddle Arena needs a strong sea of red tonight for the Lady Topper showdown with Florida International and Saturday for the men's senior night battle with South Alabama.

As you go into the lobby, don't forget to catch a glimpse of the statue on your way to the stands. Ed Diddle's really alive — you just have to look real hard to find the beating heart.

Consider this experience. While I was walking by the statue recently, the legendary coach broke out of his bronze shell (he's the statue) and spoke.

"Hey, boy, I have a message for you, the latest generation of Western students. Take it to your equals.

I'm not going to let something I worked so hard to build be erased in a matter of a few seasons. I will not let that happen. But I need your help — everyone's help.

See those doors? Not too many do see them — and that's the problem. Red and white was my life. I've been watching it die the past few years.

Three losing seasons in a row — something that's never happened. But now there's a glimmer of hope, a ray of optimism. That new coach, he doesn't have a winning record, but he's building a foundation.

Dennis Felton, this is the pouring concrete stage. Stay patient. Don't listen to many of the critics. You have to hear some of them, but not all. Oh, and I like the suits, but nothing can top my Red Towel.

Where are they? I haven't seen them from my perch —

SEE LEGEND, PAGE 14

## Track team to finish indoor season at Sun Belt meet

### Athletes say Western is getting better

BY RYAN CLARK  
Herald reporter

Junior distance runner Aaron Mullins laughed on the other end of the phone.

He said he was looking forward to this weekend's Sun Belt Indoor Track and Field Conference Championships, but not for the normal reasons. He wasn't excited about the thrills of competition or the rush of victory.

"I'm pretty happy about it because we get the day off from school," Mullins said.

This Sunday and Monday, Western will compete in the meet at Arkansas State in Jonesboro, Ark. Coach Curtiss Long explained that it is normal to schedule meets on school days, much to the athletes' delight.

Long also explained Mullins' importance to the team.

"Obviously, Aaron Mullins and (junior distance runner) Valerie Lynch are impact athletes," Long said. "They were both conference champs in cross country."

Mullins felt his cross country running would benefit him, yet the

conference would offer some tough competition, like Florida International, Long agreed.

"I think we, as a team, are probably a little better than we usually are at this time due to the unusually warm weather," Long said. "We've gotten to use our outdoor facilities. It's much easier for Florida International to be sharp at this time of year because they have warm weather every day."

Lynch predicted the team would finish fourth in the championships, and hoped she would win the 3,000 and 5,000-meter races.

"I hope I run as good as Coach thinks I will," Lynch said. "Right now, I'm ahead of where I have

been — there's quite a few people who are a lot better."

Other athletes on the girls' side of the track who are "a lot better," according to Long, are junior middle distance runner, Claire Gibbons and junior sprinter Laura Wesseling. That is, if everyone is healthy.

"I know a lot of people have been sick," Gibbons said. "But I'm feeling very good — knock on wood. This is my last indoor championship — I'll be ready."

The men's team, while featuring strong distance runners, will also showcase a much-improved field squad. Long praised junior sprinter Rod Smart, senior thrower

Shawn Evans, junior jumper Derrick White, senior sprinter Erik Jenkins, and senior thrower Parvin Greene, among others.

"Our team, as a whole, is doing real good," Greene said. "We're in better shape, we're more focused, and we have more leadership than ever before."

Ultimately, Long said the most exciting event could be the sprints. "Sprinting is like an old-fashioned gunfight," Long said. "It doesn't take much of a mistake and then you're dead."

"The tension there will be higher — beyond the optimum stress load. You just see how fast you can run."

# Western has no sense of urgency late in season

By JOHN DARR  
Herald reporter

Tonight won't be an out-of-the-ordinary, super-important game, for Dennis Felton. That's because every game is.

Felton said despite the Sun Belt Conference tournament lurking ahead, there is no sense of urgency.

But the Hilltoppers (10-14, 6-6) will need their offense to kick back in tonight at 7:35 in New Orleans if they want to improve their conference standing two weeks before the conference tournament.

New Orleans (12-15, 3-9) is at the bottom of the Sun Belt and they are dragging opponents' offenses down to their level.

The Privateers are defending the basket better than anyone in the conference, giving up an average of 63.7 points a game. Western is third, allowing 66.7 points.

"We're both teams that rely on

defense," Felton said. "We struggle to score and that's going to be one of their strengths."

New Orleans' strong defensive numbers are overshadowed by their sub-par record. The Privateers have scored only 60.5 points a game and haven't had sophomore forward Tory Walker's 11.1 points a game to help out.

Walker has not played for New Orleans recently. He's been fighting a pulled groin, but is expected to play.

New Orleans coach Joey Stiebing knows that keeping the score low will play to his team's advantage.

"Our most success is when the scores have been in the 50s," he said. "But lately, the scores have been higher and that's why we haven't been winning, because we haven't been defending."

Stiebing considers Western one of the best defensive teams in the conference.

## Toppers vs. New Orleans

When: 7:35 tonight  
Where: New Orleans  
Radio: The Gator, 107.1 FM  
Records: Toppers (10-14, 6-6), New Orleans (12-15, 3-9)

On the offensive side of the court, senior guard Markell Sneed has tried to make the most of the Privateers' possessions. He has no turnovers in his last 133 minutes of play.

Western's senior guard Joe Harney might be able to end Sneed's streak. His two steals against Arkansas-Little Rock last Wednesday placed him eighth all time in steals at Western.

Harney is the only Hilltopper averaging double figures, scoring 10.2 points a game. Top returning scorer, senior center Rylon Farris,

averages 9.5 points and five rebounds.

But a big part of the Hilltopper offense comes from freshmen guards Derek Robinson and Tremain Rowles. The two have teamed up for 30 percent of Western's points to help the team's struggling offense.

Now it's a matter of putting all of the positives together.

"We've got to get back to what got us 10 wins," freshman guard Casey Simpson said. "That's defense and playing together." In the month of February, the Hilltoppers are averaging 53.8 points a game and giving up 65. Their recent offensive production is eight points below their season

average and has produced only one win in their last five games.

With Robinson quickly recovering from a dislocated shoulder, and sophomore guard Rashon Brown feeling a little better — he said he's been feeling under the weather — the Hilltoppers should be able to penetrate the Privateer defense and gain momentum for the season finale against South Alabama this Saturday in Diddle Arena.

"We need these last couple of games to give us a roll into the conference," Brown said.

The Privateers are 8-2 at home.

"They're not going to give it to us," Brown said. "We've got to go out and work for it."

# Topper leaving barbers in cold

By JOHN DARR  
Herald reporter

Kareem Abdul Jabbar stands 6-6, possibly 7-foot if you include his afro.

Well, it's not really an afro — those are more rounded.

Kareem's hairstyle is more likely to be seen on a cartoon than in real life. But it's there.

The last time the senior forward's hair saw the barber was Jan. 5, 1998. He remembers the day exactly. It was right before his hand cast came off.

"Since then I've played some of the best basketball of my life."

• Sophomore guard Rashon Brown is the lightest player on the team and he hears it every once in awhile.

Against Louisiana Tech last Saturday, freshman forward Ben Mauk said an irate Bulldog fan asked Brown a question.

"Is 15 your number or your weight?"

Brown is 6-foot and 150 pounds.

Abdul Jabbar said that a team manager, in middle school, weighs more than Brown.

• No Hilltopper has broken a bone in 24 games this season. Coach Dennis Felton's probably knocking on wood.

But Davidson transfer Brian

Allenspach, who is limited to just practices this season, caught an elbow from senior center Rylon Farris during a drill two weeks ago. The shot sent the 6-10 sophomore to the floor with a broken nose.

"I wasn't mad at him," Allenspach said. "It was just an accident."

He has to wear a plastic mask during practices. Farris apologized soon after the accident.

• Before the season started, Mauk and a few other of the Western players walked past Felton in the middle of a radio show. He said Felton mentioned them to come over and then made them sing their version of My Girl for all the listeners.

Mauk said it wasn't as good as the original.

Felton only laughed when asked to comment.

• Western's pregame locker room is full of personality. Freshman guard Derek Robinson likes to cut up before games.

"I like to have a sense of humor, laugh, smile," he said. "But when we go out for layups, I get focused on the game."

Robinson said he hasn't pulled any pranks on unsuspecting teammates.

• Allenspach said Tremain Rowles wears the same pair of socks during each game.

"Trey always wears these ugly yellow and orange socks underneath his game socks," he said.

Rowles was too tired to comment. The freshman guard naps before Monday practices.

Senior guard Vince Edwards always wears footies.

Brown likes to listen to DMX if got pumped up before the games and sophomore guard Nashon McPherson tries to envision "all the good things that will happen."

• The Hilltoppers don't just have basketball advice to give. They have their restaurants of choice and favorite classes to attend.

Coming from Chicago, forward Lee Lamplify said that there isn't anything to do in Bowling Green. But when he goes out, the 6-6 junior likes to eat at Rafferty's and Toot's.

Allenspach, Mauk and freshman guard Casey Simpson suggest going to Hops for the all-you-can-eat ribs and chicken.

After games, Brown and Farris don't go anywhere in particular. Brown likes to watch the replay of the game and Farris enjoys getting a good massage.

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# LEGEND: Seating is in students' hands now

Continued From Page 13

those red towels, something I started. Every once in a while, I notice older fellas and gals coming through the doors clutching a towel, but that won't cut it.

I ask you, young student, where are the throngs of your kind? You are college basketball. Without the right atmosphere, which you must help create, this isn't fun. The team will do its part — give it time — but you must build a base of your own.

I remember when I used to tell the folks not to let anyone stand outside if they could be packed into the gym. I used to say, "Anybody who comes 100 miles to see us play is our guest and we'll get them into that gym if we have to use a shoehorn."

Those were the good ole days. If you want to live through them again, grab the

chance now.

"And you still have a chance. Saturday. I heard someone say that student attendance has risen this year, but it's not enough. We need 1,100 students to flood through those doors, stroll past me and craze this gym. Not 300. That's not even close."

So leave me. Step away from the red velvet ropes surrounding me, away from the spotlight constantly shining on me, and tell them. Whisper a loud message. They must come.

This basketball at my feet means nothing without the support of the university. This university is nothing without its students.

I didn't become the fourth-winningest coach of all time by staying quiet. I can't be the silent statue any longer.

And remember I'll never leave Western. I will always be here."

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**Herald**  
http://herald.wku.edu  
online

# Women's tennis in full swing

## Lady Toppers open season at EKU

By MALCOLM KNOX  
Herald Reporter

Western's women's tennis team is downright giddy about its upcoming weekend. You would think the prom was coming up rather than two grueling days of competition.

At practice Monday night, junior Jaime O'Brien laughed and danced between volleys. Newcomer Nino Kostava was full of energy and all over the court.

"My girls just have a lot of fun with it," Western coach Laura Hudspeth said.

Expecting success will do wonders for a team's attitude.

Western will need to keep expecting that this weekend. The Lady Toppers play Eastern Kentucky at 1 p.m. Friday in Richmond. Western plays Radford Saturday at 8 a.m. and Toledo at 5 p.m. The matches will be the Lady Toppers' first of the spring season.

In the fall, O'Brien suffered a knee injury and missed most of the season. Without a full lineup, Western started matches with two forfeits — one singles and one doubles.

**"It will be interesting to see what we do now."**

— Therese Johansson  
freshman tennis player

The addition of Kostava gives the Lady Toppers a solid player in the number one position and a full lineup.

Kostava came to Bowling Green only a month ago. Hudspeth said the freshman is an outstanding player.

"It's gonna be a fairly tough schedule," Hudspeth said.

She believes Western has better players, but Eastern's Colonels may have a slight advantage playing on their home court. Eastern's indoor court is unbelievably fast. It's so slick, it shines.

But the Lady Toppers are optimistic — tough schedule, unfamiliar court, new players and all.

"I think everyone is playing better," freshman Therese Johansson said. "It will be interesting to see what we do now."

Kostava will be playing her first team match and didn't have much to say.

"She's ready to go," senior Inese Zverge said.

Zverge has played against the Colonels before and expects a good performance from all her teammates.

Hudspeth and her players know that to be victorious, they all need to buckle down and be strong. They have exactly six players and can't afford to give away points.

"My girls pretty much have to play no matter what," Hudspeth said.

Hudspeth has not set doubles teams yet. She says one of the strengths of the team is its consistency throughout the lineup. She believes she can get solid play from any combination of players.

With their excitement and strong lineup, Hudspeth should expect nothing less.

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## Car on the blitz?

Check out the Car Care Directory in Tuesday's Classified section.

## Policies

The College Heights Herald will be responsible only for the first incorrect insertion of any classified ad. No refunds will be made for partial cancellations. Classifieds will be accepted on a prepaid basis only, except for businesses with established accounts. Ads may be placed in the Herald office or by mail, payment enclosed to the College Heights Herald, 122 Garrett Center, or call 745-2653.



# Baseball putting practice to test

## Tops beat Redbirds 12-5 last year

By Scott Sisco  
Herald reporter

Practice, practice, practice. The time for playing intrasquad games is over. It's time for the real deal.

Western opens its spring season this weekend with a three-game series against Illinois State (0-0) at Deneys Field starting Friday at 2 p.m. The Hilltoppers beat the Redbirds 12-5 last year. Western trails 5-3 in the all-time series.

Both teams are returning the core of last season's teams. Both have been practicing long hours.

The difference may be where those long hours have been spent. The Hilltoppers have been out on the field most of the semester thanks to some unseasonably warm weather.

The Redbirds, on the other hand, haven't.

"I certainly expect our team to have the advantage due to the fact that we've been outside," Western coach Joel Murrice said. "But you still have to play the game. Now we'll see how the players react to

(being outside) against outside competition."

But Illinois State coach Jeff Stewart was glad to get a little time outside before the season starts. This was the first time in his tenure at the school his team has practiced outside and played some intrasquad games before the season started.

Stewart said his players were honing their skills and getting ready to play.

"At this point, you'd like to be able to live up and add play," Stewart said. "We're going to use these games against Western to find out where we are and what we need to work on to get better."

The Redbirds are returning their top run producer from last season. Junior catcher Ryan Duncheon hit .411 last season with 18 home runs and 88 RBIs. He was named to the All-Missouri Valley Conference team and was a college summer league All-American.

"People are going to consider him the type of guy that they don't want to let beat them," Stewart said.

Pitching is another story. The Redbirds' top returning pitcher, senior B.J. Burkhardt, was sixth on the team in ERA last season with 6.19.

Junior pitcher Josh Novotney is the projected starter for

Western tomorrow. He said he has been relaxing this week to get his arm in shape. The possible cool weather, rain and even (gasp) snow this weekend could make it harder for the pitchers to get their arms loose.

"We need to start off winning," Novotney said. "These will be our three toughest games before conference. If we can win these three, we could go into South Alabama undefeated."

Senior outfielder Chris Yeo said the Hilltoppers have been practicing fielding ground balls and turning them into double plays. He said runs should come fairly easily, thanks to the power in the middle of the lineup.

Saturday's game begins at noon and Sunday's game starts at 1 p.m.

### Freeman out with injury

Senior first baseman T.J. Freeman had a bone on his injured right ankle scanned Tuesday. Results showed no fracture, only a strain and his cast was removed.

Murrice said Freeman may see some light physical activity, but will probably be off the diamond for at least another week.

Junior Aaron Foglesong will fill in for Freeman.

## WESTERN SPORTS SCORECARD

Team	W - L	Next
Men's basketball	10-14	Tonight at New Orleans
Women's basketball	18-4	Tonight vs. Florida International
Men's swimming	15-0	Feb. 25 at National Independent
Women's swimming	13-1	Feb. 25 at National Independent
Men's tennis	8-1	Feb. 27 at Tennessee St.
Women's tennis	0-0	Friday at Eastern Kentucky
Baseball	0-0	Friday vs. Illinois State

## Sports News

### Western football adds four more to list of signees

The Hilltopper football team added four new prospects to the 1999 roster Tuesday.

Ronnie Lilly is a 5-9, 180-pound running back/defensive back from Oak Park High School in Detroit. Kinnus Paul is a 6-5, 235-pound defensive end/tight end from Northwest High School in Detroit.

Cris Riviere is a 6-1, 190-pound free safety from Northeast High School in Ft. Lauderdale, Fla. Patrick Third is a 5-10, 180-pound defensive back from East Ridge High School in Chattanooga, Tenn.

The new additions bring the list of Western signees to 13. Western coach Jack Harbaugh said the latest additions helped boost the list. But he would like to be matching up with other Ohio Valley Conference rivals.

"The thing that was disappointing was the fact that going into the OVC (in 1999), I thought we'd be more competitive with Eastern and Murray, and we really weren't," Harbaugh said.

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