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City considering gay rights

Members of Lambda Society leading fight

BY CAROLINE LYNCH
Herald reporter

Due in part to the Lambda Society, Western's gay and lesbian activist group, Bowling Green's city commission may soon vote on a gay rights ordinance.

If passed, the ordinance would ban some forms of dis-

crimination that have previously been legal in Bowling Green. It would become illegal to refuse housing, employment, or service to a person because of their sexual preference.

Bowling Green's Human Rights Commission heard one side of the debate Tuesday. Matthew Leffer, vice president of the Lambda Society, and Maria Price, organizer of the Kentucky Fairness Alliance, met with the 15-member volunteer group responsible for dealing with discrimination complaints to ask for their support

in passing the ordinance.

Though sexual preference discrimination was banned on campus in the spring of 1997, the city has not yet approached the issue. Several other Kentucky cities have.

"In '99 there has been a wave of fairness legislation," said Leffer, a Louisville junior.

Louisville passed a similar ordinance in January. Price pointed out; and Lexington followed in July. Henderson approved one yesterday, and another is coming up for a vote with Jefferson County's fiscal

court in two weeks.

An ordinance will come up for a statewide vote in January. But according to Price, there was a lot of hard work behind getting those ordinances passed.

"In Louisville, it's been about a 10-year effort," she said. "It was voted on and voted down three times since 1991, but it passed this year on Jan. 26."

While Louisville's ordinance was the first one passed, it bans only employment discrimination. All of the other ordinances

SEE GAY, PAGE 6

Virtual school setting records

256 students taking online classes

BY MATTIAS KAREN
Herald reporter

After opening its virtual doors this fall, the Kentucky Commonwealth Virtual University is already setting records.

As of Sept. 15, 256 students were registered for classes with KCVU — a higher first semester number than any other virtual university in the nation. The enrollment is even higher than the current figure for Western Governor's University, the first among virtual universities in the United States.

"I'm blown away," said KCVU Chief Executive Officer Mary Beth Susman about the high enrollment. "I expected to have about 50 students."

The KCVU, while being an independent institution funded by the state, is a cooperation between every state university.

SEE VIRTUAL, PAGE 8

Furniture purchase brings new rules

BY JIM GAINES
Herald reporter

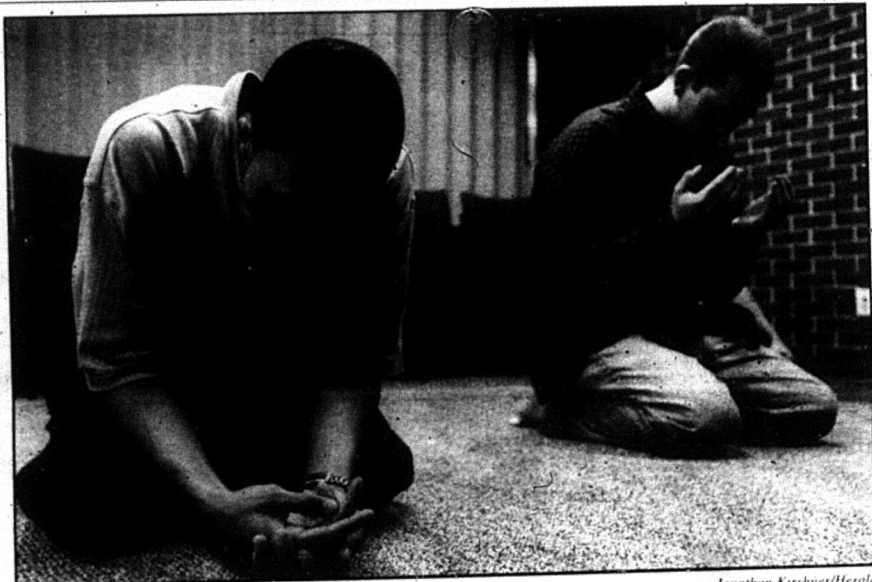
Reacting to the controversy over Huda Melky's furniture purchases, President Gary Ransdell sent a new departmental spending policy to the Administrative Council by email yesterday afternoon.

Melky, head of the Equal Opportunity/ADA Compliance office, made four furniture purchases for her two-room office totaling \$18,619 over the last 15 months.

Until next June 30, the end of fiscal 2000, any departmental purchase of \$5,000 or more will require the signature of an Administrative Council member. After that,

More Inside
♦ Melky's desk buys were fewer, but more costly than reported; and one sits unused, months after purchase.
Page 3

SEE RULES, PAGE 3



Jonathan Kirshner/Herald

Owensboro juniors Calvin Brooks, left, and Taylor Loyal kneel during the Friday prayer meeting at Downing University Center.

Variety of piety

Here in the heart of the Bible Belt, a plethora of religions are practiced

BY JIM GAINES
Herald reporter

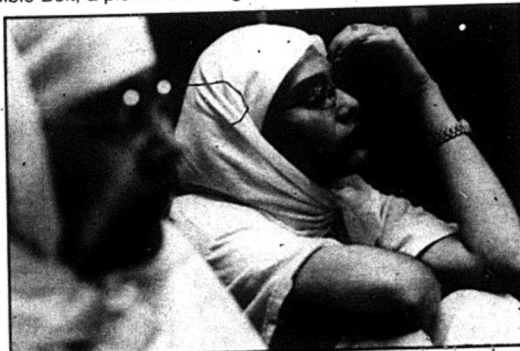
There are about 200 churches in Bowling Green, but only one Downing University Center room 310-C. On Fridays at 1 p.m., 20 to 25 pairs of shoes line up outside the door, while from within come Arabic prayers and sermons from the Koran.

About 80 percent of the Muslims at Friday prayers are Western students and faculty, said Nabil Loutfi, a graduate student from Morocco.

Among non-Christian groups and international students on campus, the Muslim community is the largest and best-organized, but hardly the only one. Devotees of myriad religions, sects and denominations in Bowling Green share a few things in common: makeshift facilities, impromptu services and scanty fellowship.

Despite the frequent disputes making news in other parts of the world, harmony reigns among the small religious communities around Western's campus, International Student Organization advisor Joan Lindsey said. She has never known of religious conflict in Western's international community.

That may be due to Western's international center and the International Student Organization, which help international students — and anyone else who wants to join — make friends, learn each



Jonathan Kirshner/Herald

Azra Mahmood, a graduate student from Chicago, Ill., listens to the reading of the Koran.

SEE RELIGION, PAGE 6

Weather forecast

Thursday	Friday	Saturday	Sunday	Monday
69° 46°	78° 45°	79° 49°	78° 57°	79° 53°
Sunny and cool	Sunshine	Continued sunshine	Cloudy and cool	Cloudy and cool

R: 711/601, sunny
F: 639/457, sunny
S: 809/539, cloudy
S: 779/587, storms
M: 705/629, cloudy

• **Louisville**
R: 609/479, sunny
F: 729/589, sunny
S: 779/539, sunny
S: 779/539, sunny
M: 705/589, sunny

• **Owensboro**
R: 709/539, sunny
F: 809/589, sunny
S: 839/639, cloudy
S: 779/589, storms
M: 809/589, cloudy

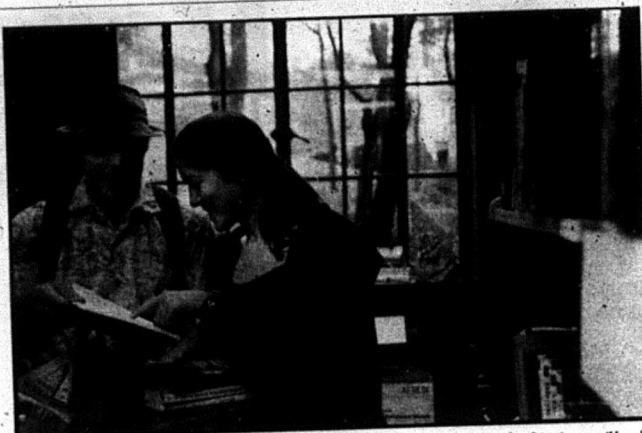
• **Paducah**

R: 639/429, sunny
F: 729/539, sunny
S: 729/539, sunny
S: 729/539, sunny
M: 729/539, sunny

• **Nashville**
R: 729/539, sunny
F: 729/539, sunny
S: 729/539, sunny
S: 729/539, sunny
M: 729/539, sunny

Weather information provided by StormCenter 12, where you can get an updated forecast at 6 tonight.

STORM 12
CENTER



Cara VanLeuven/Herald

Books: Bardstown seniors Holly Cecil and Jack Kindlesparker share a laugh during the English Club's book sale yesterday in Cherry Hall. More than 1,200 books were donated, mostly by English faculty.

Crime Reports

Reports

♦ Troy D. Mimms, 13th Street, reported Tuesday he left his backpack in the Garrett Center Cafeteria at 10:30 a.m., Friday. When he returned for it, it was missing.

♦ Allison M. Hawes, Banyon Drive, reported Tuesday several compact discs, valued at \$300, stolen from her Ford Escort parked in the Campbell Lane lot on Tuesday.

Clearing the Air

♦ A story in Sept. 28 issue of the Herald about herpes contained several factual errors. Contrary to the story, herpes and genital warts are two different diseases. Symptoms of herpes include painful sores on the genitals, while genital warts are cauliflower-like growths on the genitals. A new test for herpes referred to in the story is not readily available at Student Health Services, although it could be ordered if necessary. Andrew Donelson, the doctor at

Student Health Services, said the clinic recommends a more traditional culture test, which provides results in three to four days. Contrary to the story, herpes does not cause birth defects. Rather, newborns can contract genital herpes from infected mothers. The American Social Health Association was misidentified.

♦ Carol Dweck, an internationally-acclaimed professor of psychology, will speak at 7 tonight in Van Meter Auditorium.

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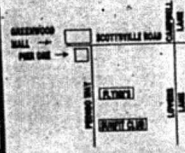
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SGA proposes amendments

Policy changes face re-vote

By CAROLINE LYNCH
Herald reporter

In an attempt to avoid the confusion that surrounded last year's elections, a Student Government Association committee has presented two new amendments to the SGA constitution.

The members heard the first reading of those amendments at Tuesday's meeting. If they pass, more people will be eligible to run for some executive council offices in the 2001 elections.

Legislative Research Committee chairman Dwight Campbell said that currently a member is required to serve on SGA for two semesters before running for an executive office.

One amendment would make it possible for a member to run for the lesser executive offices —

vice president of finance, administration or public relations — with only one semester under their belt. Campbell, a Lexington senior, said the other amendment would change SGA's constitution to allow students with only 15 hours of credit to run. This change would allow freshmen to run for their sophomore year.

"This takes the guesswork out," Campbell said, "but it also opens it up so more students can run for office."

These changes were voted down last semester, but he thinks they have a better chance of passing this time around.

"It was defeated only by a few people last year, and those people aren't here this year," he said.

But the changes to the constitution will not only have to be approved by SGA, but by the entire student body, said SGA president Amanda Coates.

Coates agreed with the proposed changes in officer qualifications and said she suspected

they would produce a larger pool of candidates.

"I don't see it as lowering the standards," she said. "I think of it as opening up the field a little more."

One of the amendments included refusing exemptions for candidates. Exemptions were an especially sticky topic last year, because two of the candidates running were allowed exemptions that some people disagreed with.

"The restrictions will be lessened so there won't be a need for them anymore," Campbell said.

Other business

• SGA passed a proposal to establish a Senior Awards Banquet every May for graduating seniors.

• There will be a student poll table in Downing University Center Thursday for students wishing to vote on what kind of programs they want at Western, including concerts and speakers. Voters will receive a free soft drink coupon from Ayamark.

RULES: All furniture now located

CONTINUED FROM FRONT PAGE

Ransdell said "we will evaluate this policy ... to determine whether or not it is to be institutionalized on a permanent basis."

That reverses Ransdell's statement in an email to the Herald on Monday.

"One ill-advised purchase of an amount described in this situation does not, by itself, cause an organization with 1,500 employees and a \$150 million budget to change its budgeting process," he wrote on Monday.

Ransdell has the authority to set office policy without Board of Regents approval. Chief Public Affairs Officer Fred Hensley said.

Each division head will be responsible for monitoring purchases within his or her department.

"You may designate signature authority, but that will not relinquish your accountability," Ransdell's said in his email to the Administrative Council.

For example, from now on General Counsel Deborah Wilkins will be held responsible for her subordinate Melky's purchases.

Melky bought the furniture with tuition and tax money out of her office budget. That budget, \$14,572 for fiscal 1999, may have been augmented by lapsed salary money, Chief Financial Officer Ann Mead said.

Lapsed salary money is left in the budget when an office job, for which a salary is provided, goes unfilled. It also accrues when a replacement is paid less than a former employee.

Using lapsed salary money for purchases is done routinely by many offices, Mead said. No uni-

versity policy prohibits it.

The original 1999 EOE/ADA office budget was increased by \$567 to \$15,139. More was probably added to cover bills carried over from the previous fiscal year, Mead said. Melky's first furniture purchase, for \$5,561.40, came on June 16, 1998, just two weeks before the end of the 1998 fiscal year.

Between that first purchase and her most recent one on June 21, 1999, Melky bought three desks, three keyboard trays, three storage credenzas, two four-drawer filing cabinets, two two-drawer filing cabinets, 11 chairs, a conference table, an end table and a bookcase.

"We have gathered accurate information and have determined that all of the furniture described in recent newspaper stories is accounted for and being used," Ransdell's email to the Administrative Council said.

"This issue, based on all known information, has been brought to a conclusion," the memo ended. "Let's move on."

But according to Hensley, not all of the furniture is in use.

Melky and her assistant James McCaslin use two of the desks, in Melky's office in Potter Hall room 445. The Herald could not learn the whereabouts of the third desk, which cost \$1,677.52, until Wednesday afternoon. Inventory Control Manager Ron Slavic confirmed that none of Melky's desks were in Legal Services or general furniture storage.

On Wednesday, Hensley said he spoke with Purchasing Buyer David Holcomb, who said the third desk was in a holding area for soon-to-be-used furniture in the Supply Services Building. Holcomb handled the actual purchase of the furniture, but had no control over the type or amount.

Melky told Hensley by phone on Wednesday morning that the

The bucks stop here

These are the division heads on the Administrative Council that are responsible for departmental purchases of \$5,000 or more:

President Gary Ransdell; General Counsel Deborah Wilkins; Head of Legal Services; Fred Hensley, Chief Public Affairs Officer; Provost Barbara Burch, vice president for Academic Affairs; Jerry Wilder, vice president for Student Affairs; Ann Mead, Chief Financial Officer; Tom Hiles, vice president for Development and Alumni Relations; John Osborne, associate vice president for Student Services; Richard Kirchmeyer, vice president for Information Technology; and Wood Selig, Athletics Director.

unused executive desk will go into a computer lab for disabled students.

But Michael Southern, Melky's immediate subordinate in charge of Student Disability Services, reacted to this news with surprise.

"No one has ever, ever explained to me that a desk was being purchased for the use of a lab," Southern said. "If it is something that's been talked about among others, they haven't expressed that to me."

There was a disabled students' computer lab several years ago where his office is now, Southern said but it was dissolved. Melky's office is also designated as lab space, he said. If Melky or Wilkins are planning a new lab, they haven't told him, and he knows of no space allocated for it.

"If there was going to be a lab I would know that. Hensley did not know any details of the lab, which would be under Southern's supervision. I only know what Huda told me," Hensley said. "I don't know why he hasn't heard about it."

Hensley and Wilkins failed to respond to numerous requests for information, by phone, e-mail and office visit.

In fact, Melky bought only three desks, but they cost more than originally reported. The original story described three desks costing \$947.96 each and three for \$729.56 each. A ques-

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Melky's desks cost more for less

By JIM GAINES
Herald reporter

The Herald reported on Tuesday that Melky bought six desks, of which two were in her office and four were unaccounted for. The Herald misunderstood information from university purchase orders, since both

Melky and Wilkins failed to respond to numerous requests for information, by phone, e-mail and office visit.

In fact, Melky bought only three desks, but they cost more than originally reported. The original story described three desks costing \$947.96 each and three for \$729.56 each. A ques-

tion to furniture buyer David Holcomb indicated these were separate desks, but the purchase orders were misunderstood.

The base of each desk cost \$947.96, while Melky paid \$729.56 for each desk top. The total cost for each desk was \$1,677.52, adding up to \$5,032.56 for all three.

Opinion

Dining service prices favor meal plan holders

In high school, we expected bad cafeteria food.

We were prepared for the ravioli to be stuffed with a mysterious paste-like material. We never questioned the origin of the mystery meat in the sloppy joes. When the pizza was ice-cold and tasted of cardboard, we simply accepted it as part of the educational experience.

But in high school, lunch cost us a dollar or two. At Western's food courts, you can expect to pay \$4 or \$5 for often unappetizing food in minuscule portions.

The situation is especially frustrating for students who haven't bought Aramark's meal plan. Those that pay with cash pay twice as much in some cases as those who have meal plans — for the same food.

Why cater to cafeteria-line elitism? If Dining Services can offer the food at the low meal plan price and still make a profit, why not offer that price to all students?

Students recognize this is meant to promote the meal plan, but there's a difference between promotion and price gouging.

Dining Services director Nathan Farmer has promised to remedy the situation by fall break and we hope he lives up to that. Otherwise, students may look for their meals elsewhere.

But there are other problems with Western's food service that need to be addressed.

The already limited hours have been reduced during weekends. Believe it or not, there are students who stay on campus over the weekend and it is getting harder and harder for them to get meals.

On weekdays, the Garrett Food Court closes around 2 p.m., leaving those of us who remain at the top of the Hill for most of the day limited to Subway for dinner. That Subway closes at 7 p.m., an hour before hungry students who've been in class on top of the Hill since 5 p.m. get out. That leaves them to scramble down the Hill before the DUC Food Court closes.

Students shouldn't have to juggle their schedules to get food. By closing early, Dining Services is chasing its own business away.

Keep in mind that while Aramark has cornered Western's market on food service, students are still customers. The food courts should be catering to our needs instead of the other way around. Stay open later. Keep Garrett Food Court open during dinner hours. Charge the lowest price possible and offer it to everyone.

Between the high prices and the struggle to get to an open eatery, students may start avoiding Western's food services altogether.

Ramen noodles can provide a surprisingly satisfying diet.

The issue: Dining services has promised to lower food prices before fall break.

Our view: It should follow through on that promise and its operating hours.



Letters to the Editor

Melky should give something back to Western

While I was waiting for my Thursday lunchtime ramen meal to finish boiling, I took a look at the newspaper. That's when I lost my appetite, thus losing a whole quarter's meal.

It seems while I have spent years scraping together my savings and taking any available jobs to supply my food habit, Huda Melky has taken the liberty of swiping my tuition — which has increased nearly every year since my starting here in 1995 — to satisfy her Martha Stewart tendencies.

What is worse, it seems the Board of Regents has approved another hike in tuition. What could possibly justify this hike in the wake of such news? Does Ms. Melky want a DVD player and a recliner in her office as well?

It would seem to me Ms. Melky should give a little something back to the Western students from whom she has so negligently taken. While pondering how I could make one box of spaghetti last until my residual check arrives, I came up with a few ideas as to how Western's own Leona Helmsley could make amends.

◆ Have a yard sale outside Potter Hall. Instead of a tuition hike, Melky could simply hock her new furniture and give the profits to the university. Maybe it should go into a scholarship fund for students who show outstanding flair and panache.

◆ Offer guided tours of Melky's office to Western students and parents. Who wouldn't give a few dollars to see this tribute to her keen eye for interior design? Give tours in groups of five, the approximate number of students who could have had one tuition-free semester at Western with the money she spent on her office.

◆ Allow Melky the opportunity to live the college student experience. A day of scavenging for an available parking spot for only sixty dollars and a forty-five minute wait, pasta lunch, a minimum wage part-time job to help pay for tuition, pasta dinner if there's any pasta left, and then back home for a good four hours of sleep may remind her that there are worse things than settling for passe office furniture.

Since the plasma-center is only open for another two hours or so, I conclude this letter hoping that Ms. Melky has had a sudden burst of price-savvy and scraps her luxurious settings for a truly collegiate work environment. Trade in those lobby chairs for bean bags and an inflatable sofa. Forget Cardinal Office Systems, shop for furniture at Big Lot's. This may promote more disciplined spending, an idea that all college students should follow — and an idea that the director of a college department should have learned already.

Andy Washburn
Campbellburg senior

What's the most disgusting food item served on campus?



"Undercooked Chick-Fil-A nuggets."

Amy Merrick
Somerset freshman



"The barbecue sandwiches in Garrett Food Court."

Jenny Padgett
Danville junior



"The Chinese stuff at the Topper Cafe — who knows what's in it?"

Kim Loeffler
Louisville junior



"Salisbury steak. I think that's what it was."

Megan Zaidis
Junior from Heidelberg, Germany



"There's nothing wrong with the food, but there needs to be more variety."

Myron Armor
Bowling Green senior

College Heights Herald

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10K Classic to celebrate 20 years

Race's main event starts at 9 a.m.

BY JERRY BREWER
Herald reporter

The Bowling Green 10K Classic is not a teenager anymore. It's the big two-oh. Next year, it'll be of drinking age.

To see it now is to see an event that has blossomed into a force in the running world and the Bowling Green community. When the Classic's main event begins at about 9 a.m. Saturday, it will signal both the race's maturation and the closing of an era.

Rick Kelley, the Classic's race coordinator for the last 12 years, is retiring from that job. Kelley, who has always credited the numerous other organizers and volunteers for his success, will leave a legacy behind.

He's the man who helped keep this event going after Wendy's stopped sponsoring it in 1987. It wasn't easy at first, Kelley said. He wondered if the event could survive.

This weekend, the Classic — which finishes on Big Red Way near Smith Stadium — will bring an estimated \$500,000 into the city. About 4,000 runners will compete in the 10-kilometer race. Many of the past champions will return for a 20th Anniversary Luncheon at 11:30 tomorrow morning.

When was the last time your birthday got this much attention?

"It gets pretty crazy around this time," Kelley said. "We're dealing with 3,500 people coming in and fielding questions. It gets exciting."

Bart White, a communication and broadcasting professor, has been involved with the race for 20 years. He said people don't realize just how special the Classic is. It's one of the nation's top 25 road races.

"This is really cool," White said. "You're watching Olympians run through the streets of Bowling Green. This is like bringing in the NFL to play at Smith Stadium."

Runners can still register for the race. There will be race-day registration from 6:30 to 8:30 a.m. Saturday. The 10K is the centerpiece of a day that includes several other races that are mostly for fun and fitness: the 5K competitive run, which begins at 8 a.m.; the 1.5-mile fun walk (8:20); Nat's 10K rollerblade (9:50) and the 5K competitive race walk (10).

Elders touts universal health plan

BY MALCOLM KNOX
Herald reporter

If anyone came expecting to be coddled, to be talked down to or to hear something politically correct, they picked the wrong event.

Instead, Joycelyn Elders spoke to a full house at Van Meter Auditorium yesterday and was in umpire mode as usual. She called it like she saw it.

The former surgeon general has never been known for holding her tongue.

"There's nothing better than having a big pulpit," she said of her old job. "I miss that. I wanted to get everybody upset."

Elders resigned from the position in December 1994 amid controversy over her comments about teaching masturbation in school as part of sex education.

"We're expecting an inspiring lecture," said Jane Olmsted, director of Western's women's studies program. "I think Joycelyn Elders' work is characterized by honesty and frankness. She says things that need to be said. Not everybody wants to hear it."

The Women's Studies program brought Elders to campus as their 1999 fall lecture series speaker along with seven other departments, programs and organizations.

Elders walked onto the stage last night smiling confidently after her introduction.

"It's always a pleasure for me to talk to the bright young people who are going to be the leaders of the 21st century," she said.

Elders' program was called "Women and the Politics of Health Care." She discussed several issues concerning women and health care and how they affected our society.

According to her, the three main problems build on each other.

"If you talk about women's health, that's a problem," Elders said. "If you talk about health care, that's a problem; if you talk about the politics of health care, that's a problem. We know that we've got to deal with all of those issues."

She repeatedly stressed the importance of a universal health plan for Americans.

"Every criminal has the constitutional right to a lawyer," she said. "Why don't we feel that every sick person has the right to a doctor?"

Education was another high point of Elders' speech. She talked about high school graduates who couldn't read their diplomas.



H. Rick Mach/Herald

Former U.S. Surgeon General Joycelyn Elders spoke about "Women and the Politics of Health Care" last night at Van Meter Auditorium. The event was part of the Women's Studies 1999 Fall Lecture Series.

"That's a real problem," she said. "They have shoes that light up when they walk and brains that go dead when they talk."

And she talked about masturbation.

"Ninety percent of men and seventy to eighty percent of women masturbate," she said. "And the rest lie."

"Masturbation has never gotten anyone pregnant. Masturbation has never given anyone an STD and you know you're having

sex with somebody you love."

Olmsted said after the program that it was as good as or better than she expected.

"I can see how she really shook up Washington," said Krista Berley, a sophomore from Bowling Green. Zhela Harris-Layne, a junior from Radcliff, said Elders was very encouraging.

"All my life, I've wanted to be a doctor," she said. "She was a great role model. You can only strive to be like her or better."

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RELIGION: Diversity thrives on campus

Continued From Front Page

others' languages and talk about their lives.

There were 197 international students at Western last year, and about 50 more arrived this fall, Lindsey said. Among them are several Muslims, Hindus and Buddhists.

If new arrivals are Christians, some local organizations are ready to receive them.

"Quite a few of the campus ministries do reach out to the international community," said Rick McCartney, president of the Campus Ministry Association and advisor to Chi Alpha. Students from Kenya, China, Thailand and India come to Chi Alpha meetings, he said.

But not every church is so welcoming to outsiders. Elizabeth Nyaga, a freshman from Kenya, said that most local churches are friendly, but some international students who had been regular churchgoers at home went to local churches once, then never went back.

"You just don't feel comfortable," she said. "It's just a feeling of hostility in God's house."

But exclusivity is not likely at the Muslim prayer meeting. The group already includes people from Morocco, Pakistan, India, Palestine, some American-born Muslims and converts from Christianity and Judaism, said Azra Mahmood, a graduate student from Chicago.

Quite a few non-Muslims come to hear about Islam and correct popular misconceptions, Loufi said.

"As long as you pray and practice, you're a Muslim," Mahmood said.

Western's Muslim Student Organization "dwindled away," but the prayer group has been meeting Fridays at 1:00 for about two years, Mahmood said.

Local services are hard to find for the fewer than half-dozen Jewish students on campus, said Mike Carini, Jewish Student Organization advisor. That's not enough to make up a minyan, the ten men needed for a formal service.

Even though Bowling Green now has a Reform congregation that meets twice a month, students usually go home to Nashville or Louisville for services, Carini said. Both cities have Orthodox, Conservative and Reform congregations.

Buddhism and Hinduism, the largest Asian religions, have several adherents at Western and more in Bowling Green, but neither has an organized community.

Despite the widespread American interest in Buddhism, there are so many sects — Mahayana, Theravada, Zen, Pure Land, Lamaism — that no local group has formed, said Tehanee Ratwatte, a graduate student from Sri Lanka. The closest Buddhist temple of any kind is in Philadelphia, so local Buddhists practice individually.

"I've got a little Buddha in my dorm," Ratwatte said.

There are about 100 Hindus in Bowling Green, said Trupti Patil, a graduate student from India, but she doesn't know how many practice. The nearest Hindu temple is in Nashville, but sometimes the local community comes together in private homes for special celebrations, she said.

Hindus with widely varying beliefs can come together in one temple, despite individual differences in belief.

"If I want to worship Christ, I can worship Christ," Patil said. "You can worship Allah. I can go in any temple and worship, as long as I believe that God exists."

GAY: Commission hopes to hold public forum

Continued From Front Page

passed since then have included housing, employment and public accommodations. The proposal for Bowling Green includes all three forms of discrimination.

But some Western students think the proposal shouldn't be a voting issue at all. "I don't feel that we need to legislate for personal decisions," Russell Springs junior Ryan Morrison said.

And the ordinance hasn't been legislated — it hasn't gone before the city commission. The human rights commission can only recommend a solution, and it works independent from the government.

In most cities where the ordinance was passed, activists took the proposal to their respective human rights commissions before they presented it to their city commission for a vote. The human rights recommendations helped to push for a ruling that wasn't always favored by the majority.

"Our philosophy on civil rights is that it shouldn't be a popularity contest," Price said.

In response to the request for support, the commission hopes to hold a public forum on the issue, chairman Lee Huddleston said.

"These folks came to the human rights commission and asked us to look at the proposals

and make a recommendation," he said. "And we decided that indeed, looking into this was part of our mandate."

Huddleston hopes to have a recommendation for the city commission by mid-November. At that point one of the city council members would have to sponsor the proposal, and then the commissioners would vote on it.

So far there are no sponsors, but Huddleston thinks support from his commission will be taken seriously by the city commissioners — especially because the proposal not only protects homosexuals, but heterosexuals, too.

"It is a protection of all sexual orientation," Huddleston said. He also pointed out that heterosexuals would be protected from being fired by gay employers.

But he added, the proposal doesn't protect all forms of discrimination. "If a man goes to work in a dress, and the manager has a dress code and fires him, that will still be OK," he said.

Over the years, the commission has received a handful of complaints based on sexual orientation discrimination. But Huddleston said those numbers may have been higher if the people being discriminated against could do something about it.

Though the human rights commission in Bowling Green

wouldn't have the power or money to enforce the ordinance if it were passed, they would send complaints to the Kentucky Human Rights Commission, who could punish offenders.

"The state commission can grab a large employer and shake them pretty hard" for discrimination, Huddleston said.

Michael Glover, president of the Lambda Society, hopes the message sent will be one of unity and acceptance.

"Hopefully the gay ordinance will build awareness and break down the wall between the homosexual and heterosexual communities," he said.

Glover, a Louisville freshman, officially became president on Tuesday when Leffler stepped down. He said even in his short stint here, he has already been attacked by students who yell slurs at him as he walks across campus. Glover suspects he was the subject of a hate crime recent

ly when his car was broken into. Leffler is confident the public hearings will reflect that the ordinance is needed, and he predicts the human rights commission will vote to support it.

"It's not very hard to prove that gay and lesbian people are discriminated against," he said. "And I think it would be a very sad thing if a group that is charged with pro-

tecting people from discrimination says, 'Yes, we see discrimination but no, we aren't going to do anything about it.'"

Western students are split on the issue.

Owensboro junior Terri Carrico said if gay people didn't share their preference, there wouldn't be any problems.

"I feel that you should not be discriminated against based on your sexual orientation," Carrico said. "However, regardless of your sexual orientation, you shouldn't be advertising. Keep your mouth shut and you won't have a problem."

But several others including Jillian Simmons, a freshman from Herndon, Va., were in favor of passing the bill.

"I think it should be passed because I don't think you should discriminate against people for decisions they make," she said. "I don't necessarily agree with being gay, but I don't judge people for what they do."

Even if the commission doesn't support the proposal, Leffler and Glover plan to keep working toward their goal. Leffler thinks that eventually society will be ready for them.

"My whole theory on civil rights issues is that it doesn't happen today, it will happen tomorrow."

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Incentive grants no longer require on-campus living for out-of-state juniors

Housing policy one of several changes

By BRIAN MOORE
Herald reporter

Western students from 16 Tennessee counties and 11 Indiana counties who have received incentive grants no longer have to live on campus all four years.

In the past, incentive grant recipients have been required to live on campus throughout their stay at Western. Under new policies approved by Academic Affairs, students may move off campus if they have 60 or more credit hours. According to Andy Wagoner, assistant director of admissions, the housing changes take effect immediately.

"Some students are actually already living off-campus," Wagoner said. "We informed them before the semester began and their housing fees were waived."

Nashville senior Tasha Fry, an incentive grant recipient, hadn't heard of the changes.

"I really like the idea," Fry said. "I'll definitely be considering (moving off campus)."

Evansville freshman Chris Duerr plans on moving after completing 60 hours.

"They told me over the summer I could move after my sophomore year," Duerr said.

Provost Barbara Burch and Enrollment Management Vice President Luther Hughes passed the new policies, but could not be reached for comment.

The housing policy is one of several changes made with incentive grants, now called the Tuition Incentive Program.

Currently, undergraduate students in the designated Tennessee and Indiana counties can receive the grant if they enroll with a 2.5 grade-point average and 20 score on the ACT. They must maintain a 2.2 cumulative GPA at Western.

Students can have their tuition discounted to the in-state tuition rate, plus \$400 with the grant. If they enroll with a 3.2 high school grade point average and a 23 ACT score, they receive an incentive grant scholarship which waives the \$400 fee.

Under TIP, beginning next fall, students from the designated counties will not have to apply. They will automatically receive the grant when admitted to the university.

They will have to pay \$300 plus in-state tuition. That \$300 will be waived if a student enrolls with a 3.3 GPA and an ACT score of 23.

Nation

Gore moves headquarters to Nashville

WASHINGTON — Vice President Al Gore announced on Wednesday he is moving his campaign headquarters to Tennessee and challenging former senator Bill Bradley to a series of debates on specific issues.

Acknowledging the "changing dynamic" of his fight for the Democratic nomination, Gore said he was challenging Bradley to a "series of debates on specific issues — a lot of them."

"I just told my staff to move the whole campaign — lock, stock and barrel — to Nashville so we can get close to the American people," he said in a conference at his downtown headquarters. The plan is to "move out of the Beltway and into the Heartland."

Since spring, the vice president has struggled to find the right team, message and style to woo the voters. Gore's aides said part of the rationale for leaving Washington was to cut costs and shed some of the many consultants now connected to his expensive campaign.

"We anticipate the group in Nashville will be leaner and hopefully tougher," said campaign chairman Tony Coelho.

The vice president will not move from his government-owned mansion on Massachusetts Avenue, but many of his chief campaign staff will.

Gore denied the move was a gimmick, saying "Watch what we do, not what we say."

—The Washington Post

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Wed., Oct. 6	2:30-4 p.m.	Rosemary Meszaros & Brian Coultis
Tues., Oct. 19	5:30-7 p.m.	Darla Bressler & Haiwang Yuan
Thurs., Oct. 28	5:30-7 p.m.	Ruth Kennersley & Marv Leavy
Thurs., Nov. 4	2:30-4 p.m.	Charles Smith & Penny Papangelis

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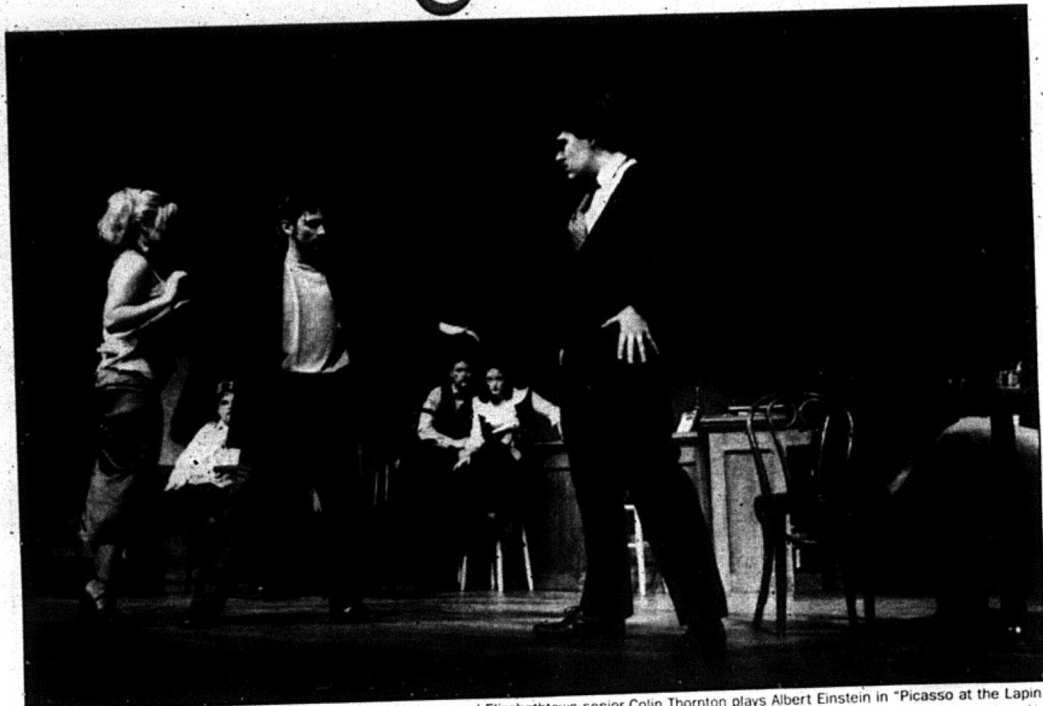
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diversions

"Picasso at the Lapin Agile" is Western's first theater production this year

Meeting of minds



Bowling Green senior Derek Wilson plays the part of Picasso, and Elizabethtown senior Colin Thornton plays Albert Einstein in "Picasso at the Lapin Agile." The play was written by comedian Steve Martin.

Picture it: Paris, 1904. Freddy, the bartender at Lapin Agile, cheerfully sings along with a customer, Gaston. In walks Albert Einstein. Out walks Albert Einstein. In walks Freddy's girlfriend Germaine, and then Einstein again. In time, Pablo Picasso will enter and the imaginary meeting of two geniuses will begin.

"Picasso at the Lapin Agile," directed by theater and dance professor Jackson Kesler, is Western's first theater production this year. This award-winning comedy, written by comedian Steve Martin, explores the impact of science and art in the 20th century. The show started Tuesday and will be performed at 8 p.m. until Oct. 2 and at 3 p.m. on Oct. 3 in the Russell H. Miller Theatre in the fine arts center.

With its bizarre sarcasm and intellectual undertones, more than a few audience chuckles are in order. The show is full of adult humor including language, a flash of nudity and snippets of kissing — but none of it is offensive, according to Kesler.

Complete with a mystery guest to help tie together the message, surprises and eyebrow-raising humor keeps the audience and cast focused for the entire hour and 15 minutes. Kesler hopes that the audience will not only find the show comical, but also insightful.

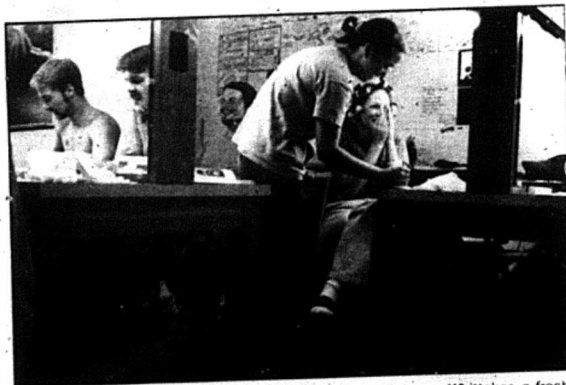
"(The play) reminds you of what has been accomplished this century," said Bowling Green junior Derek Wilson, who plays Picasso.

The show offers a chance for students to "play pretend," according to Elizabethtown senior Colin Thornton. He appears as Albert Einstein on stage.

"What if Picasso met Einstein? How would that play out?" he asked. The 11 person cast includes students from all classes. For some members, this will be their first time on stage at Western. For others, their last. "It has been gratifying to see them develop over the years," Kesler said of some of the actors he has worked with before.

If you go

What: "Picasso at the Lapin Agile"
When: Today, Friday and Saturday at 8 p.m.; Sunday at 3 p.m.
Where: Russell H. Miller Theatre, in the fine arts center
Admission: \$5 for students and senior citizens, \$7 for adults. Call 745-5845 for reservations.



Calhoun sophomore Rebecca Wright puts makeup on Rebecca Whittaker, a freshman from Clarksville, Tenn., before the rehearsal of "Picasso at the Lapin Agile."

Story by Stephanie Gladney ♦ Photos by Krystal Kinnunen

Movie earns high marks for suspense, emotion

'Double Jeopardy'

Grade: A-

BY JENNIFER
WALDRIDGE
Herald reporter

A mother will do almost anything to get back to her child — including nearly drowning, breaking into a school, and being chased by the police.

This is only a sample of the things that Ashley Judd's character goes through in search of her son in the film "Double Jeopardy" from Paramount

Pictures.

Judd plays Libby Parsons, the wife of Nick, a wealthy businessman played by Bruce Greenwood. Judd is framed for the murder of her husband. All she can remember is waking up on a sailboat and finding herself covered in blood.

She quickly seals her own fate as she picks up the bloody knife lying on the deck, just as the coast guard approaches (of course), responding to the call of the dying man.

While in prison, she learns of the concept of double jeopardy, which states a person can't be tried for the same crime twice. This sends her on a wild, per-

ilous mission to find her creep husband, whom she now knows is not dead, and rescue her child.

Judd portrays a woman with great confidence and determination. Some may argue that she didn't show enough emotion — especially when she is told that her husband has been declared dead, and she's charged with his murder. But sometimes the most profound show of emotion is none at all.

She shows no fear, and that's the best part of the character; a mother trying to get back to her son, regardless of the consequences.

Tommy Lee Jones plays

Judd's parole officer, a hardened character typical of the actor. But he softens a bit when he realizes she really isn't a murderer, and he too goes to great lengths to get justice for her.

This movie seems predictable, especially from the previews. But don't let it fool you. This film is packed with "how's-she-going-to-get-out-of-that?" scenarios and keeps you wondering what will happen next.

My only problem with the film was its super-fast takeoff. Ten minutes into the movie, Judd was being tried for murder. A bigger buildup would

have been great. Overall, the movie kept my attention very well.

Judd, Jones and Greenwood all gave great performances in this film. Most of the credit, though, has to go to the Kentucky gal. Judd shows tremendous talent, and she shows she can play rough and dirty. No Barbie-doll types here. This weekend, check out the No. 1 movie in the country, and see how far you would go to get to a loved one.

"Double Jeopardy" is playing at Greenwood Six — Friday at 7:15 and 9:40; Saturday and Sunday at 2:15, 4:30, 7:15 and 9:40.

Columnist pleads to Bill Gates; rave comes to town tomorrow

Dear Bill Gates,

Hi. My name's Chris Hutchins. You don't know me... and in this age of streaming media, I'm sure we'll never meet face-to-face. But I'll be honest with you. I'm writing this letter to appeal to your philanthropic nature.

You're a rich man. Very rich. Incomprehensibly rich. You're I could buy the entire planet and sell it to the Galactic Empire rich. Me? I'm poor. Hot dogs for dinner again poor. When I die, my headstone will probably read, "Here lies the body of dear old Chris... he couldn't afford a pot in which to piss."

Now, I know a man of your wealth — how many billions are you up to now? Fifty? sixty? — can literally burn \$10 million and not worry. That said, all I'm asking for is a few thousand bucks.

That's it. Chump change. I understand if you need a detailed explanation of need, so here are the three most pressing matters in my life right now.

• I'm homeless. Although a Bowling Green family has taken pity on me and let me stay at their home, I have no apartment — or luxuries that come with one, like a bed, couch, etc. — to speak of. My life is packed in the trunk of my car, and a corner of the Herald office.

I'm so broke it's pathetic. Right now, I'm staying with a woman I used to date and her mother. I think the mom wants us to get together, but there's a problem: the girl doesn't date "breeders." If you know what I mean.

Before you ask, yes, I was the last guy she dated. And that was four years ago.

I can hear you laughing. Stop that.

Bill, I just need a roof over my head that I can call my own — for preferably \$250 a month. But that means money. Since I'm still waiting on my student loan check, this won't be for a while.

• And then there's the love of my life. She needs help. I met Goldie two years ago, here in Bowling Green. I'd never met anyone who could put up with



Chris Hutchins

Weekend SuperPicks

my eccentricities until I met her. But now Goldie's sick. They say it's not the years that catch up with you, but the mileage. I believe that.

• Never before have I seen someone with so many ailments: a slipping transmission, a weak fuel injector, a faulty brake light system and an exhaust manifold that's been shot to hell and back. She needs a realignment, a tune-up, a muffler and a CV joint. Both of her driver's side doors won't open, and her tires are bald. Her side view mirrors are gone. She's a dented mess, too.

Worst of all, there's a short in the radio that makes the digital clock read, "I AM stereo."

That's a cry for help if I ever heard one.

• My final reason is a simple one. I work on campus. That means two things on pay day: Jack and sh.

It was nice writing you, Bill. If anything, it provided an opportunity to vent my financial woes. Thank you for your time and attention, and I hope to hear from you soon.

That poor fool.

— Chris Hutchins

Pick of the Weekend

rave, v. To wander in mind or intellect, to be wild, furious or raging, to utter wildly and excitedly. rave, n. The biggest, funkier party this side of sanity... and it's happening here tomorrow night.

You heard right. A bona-fide rave, here in Bowling Green. We're talking about house music, Techno. Whirlwinds of lights and

sights. DJs who got their start in Chicago. Expect an all-night gig at the Jay-Cee Agricultural Center (behind Lampkin Park). It's \$6 to get in; \$5 if you bring a can of food.

I talked to the organizer of the rave, Bill Legge. He said DJs from Nashville, Louisville and Lexington will be spinning records. There will be some good times going down. But Bill had a message for those who want to come:

"I remember the first rave I went to. I was wearing big skate pants, a skanky T-shirt and I had blue hair," he said. "But no one cared. Everyone was nice and sweet. That is what this party's about. We just want to give people something better to do than get trashed. We just want to have a good time."

That said, go out and have fun. Things start at 8 p.m. Tell me how it goes... I'll be knocking back a few at a "Revenge of the Nerds" party. For directions to the rave, visit www.supatightourfamily.com, or call the infoline at 846-0374.

Not 'To Be Continued...'

No one wrote in to continue the saga of Barry, Gina, Veronica and Clyde last week, so that means one thing. "To Be Continued..." is officially dead. Oh well. I'll go to my grave saying it was a good idea.

Columnist Chris Hutchins will go to his grave saying a lot of things. Highlights will include: "Legos are the coolest toys ever," "Thundercats' rule" and "Babe" should NEVER have been nominated for a Best Picture Oscar. Contact Chris at 745-6291 or via e-mail at jchutchins@hotmail.com.

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in every Tuesday edition of the

College Heights Herald

Big Time, Big Top

PHOTOS AND STORY BY DANIEL WALLACE

The emcee of the Clyde Betty-Cole Bros. Circus put it best Tuesday night. "Don't blink. You'll miss it."

Leigh Ketchum's right. In the blink of an eye, Bowling Green had every kid's dream: a circus all to its own. Tigers, elephants and trapeze artists impressed hundreds on Monday and Tuesday.

After the last performance, it was all gone in almost three hours. Before everyone was out of the big top Tuesday night, crew members were taking down

the back of the tent.

To most circus workers, this is much more than a job. "It's my life," says face painter Serger Voevodov, who attended circus school in Moscow. To others, this life is all they have known. It isn't uncommon for generations of families to travel with the portable city, living from one show to the next.

"It's not like a normal life," Ketchum says.

Perhaps. But it's a fast-paced one.



Three-year-old Clay Hendrick checks out his new face courtesy of Serger Voevodov, a clown from Russia.

Voevodov loves traveling with the circus. "Not too many people can do this," he said. After attending circus school in Moscow, he came to America. something he says he wouldn't have been able to do without the training.



Eli Valentino twirls around during the "Space Ballet" portion of the circus Monday night. Valentino also performs the show's grand finale, being shot from a cannon mounted on a semi truck.



Cesar Leal, left, and Enrique Macias tighten support straps for the big top tent Monday morning. The circus performs in a different town every two or three days, so the setup requires serious manpower.



Gina Jewell, 30, practices balancing on one of the elephants backstage before Tuesday night's show.

News of the Weird by Chuck Shepherd

Knoxville 'prophet'

An August Knoxville News-Sentinel story profiled the self-described "prophet (that) God spoke of," Richard Settle, 44, who began spreading the gospel three years ago by vandalizing buildings in several states. Sometimes, he warns people of the impending New World Order merely by painting religious symbols on the buildings; in other instances, he spreads the Lord's word by urinating on the walls. He has been charged with crimes in 10 incidents and convicted so far in three. Settle's mother said his behavior stems from a fractured skull 21 years ago when he was hit by a car.

Nude students, nude teacher

In May, officials at Langara College in Vancouver, British Columbia, canceled a course on shamanism after learning that instructor Lennart Austrup had convinced his 23 students to take off their clothes in class so they could better identify their bodies' energy patterns.

Rediscovered skills

In April, Forrest Silva Tucker, 78, who was so brilliant that he once escaped from California's San Quentin Prison on a river float, was arrested and charged with robbing a Republic Security Bank in Jupiter, Fla. His car crashed into a tree after a brief chase.

Police vs. adult bookstore clients

In July, four men won \$7,500 each from the city of Livermore, Calif., to settle a lawsuit over alleged police misconduct during a sting operation at the Not Too Naughty adult bookstore. According to the men's lawyer, Bruce Nickerson, police violated the privacy of his clients by spying on them while they were masturbating inside a booth in a video arcade.

Italy's twisted vacationers

According to a Chicago Tribune dispatch from Rome, it is a well-known August ritual that animal shelters are flooded with abandoned dogs and cats, exactly coinciding with the peak time for Italian vacation departures. What's worse, wrote the Tribune, citing press reports in Rome, is the uptick in the number of disabled parents who are dropped off at hospital emergency rooms by the same departing vacationers.

CONTINUED FROM PAGE 9

The cast has had an intense, but short, rehearsal schedule. Practices have been six to seven nights a week for the past three weeks. But the tight schedule hasn't been the biggest obstacle of the production, the show is very technically demanding, Kesler said. As a result, the audience is in for some dazzling special effects.

The proceeds of the show will cover costs of costumes, sets and other supplies. The department receives no profit.

"We look at it as an educational experience," Kesler said.

The costumes were provided by Beth Wallace, costume shop supervisor. Brown, theater and

dance professor, is in charge of lights, and Somerset sophomore Jason Stogsdil is in charge of sound.

Tom Tutino, theater and dance associate professor, created the sets. The Lapin Agile is an actual bar in Paris, so Tutino was able to research the place and incorporate some elements of the design into the set. Certain aspects of the set could not be revealed because they are meant to be surprises, Tutino said.

There is a little bit of history that might be beneficial for an audience member to know, according to Kesler. In 1905, one year after this imaginary meeting is set, Einstein published his Special Theory of Relativity. In 1907, Picasso created his famous painting of five women.

Les Demoiselles d'Avignon.

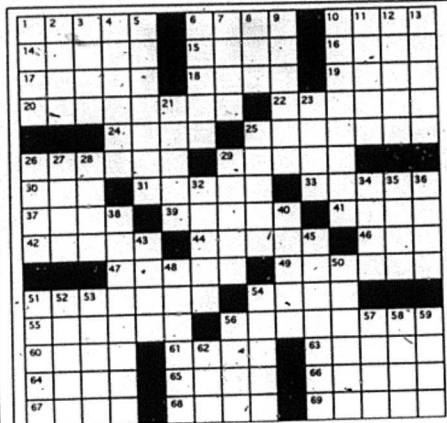
The writer

It's no surprise that "Picasso at the Lapin Agile" is an award-winning comedy, considering who wrote it. Martin seems to have been related to King Midas. From an Emmy to a Lifetime Achievement Award, Martin has that golden touch.

Picasso at the Lapin Agile is Martin's first original play and has proven to be very successful.

"You don't get much of a chance to see (Steve Martin's work) on stage," Thornton said.

But Kesler hated the play after his first read of it. The more he read it, though, he saw that there was more to it than Martin's "zany brand of comedy."



Across

1. Appears
6. Exchange
10. Caesar's second declaration
14. ... way with; be able to persuade
15. Maine's state tree
16. Space flight agcy.
17. Links items
18. Uzbek, once: abbr.
19. Roll up tightly
20. Enjoyment
22. Fished with a net
24. Coin
25. Weather forecast
26. Declare
29. Veranda
30. Distance around a racetrack
31. Airlight towers
33. Horned animals
37. Parched
39. Inventories
41. Famous canal
42. Nueve, neuf and neun
44. Runs into
46. Christmas
47. Indy 500 entry
49. Entertained
51. Acts properly
54. Men's org.
55. Commenced
56. Trick
60. Island
61. Bird: Lat.
63. Dear
64. Pimples
65. Vex
66. German city
67. Freshwater fish
68. Recites
69. Old

5. Smart-alecky kids
6. Brief burst of energy
7. Word with other or length
8. Reply: abbr.
9. Human
10. Endless
11. Resort offering
12. ... as a beg
13. Word on Emerson's birth certificate
21. To the point that
23. Times
25. Sample
26. Greenspan or King
27. Traditional garment
28. Short auto ride
29. One who seems doomed to failure
32. Cocktail garnishes
34. Greek deity
35. Show generosity
36. Origin
38. Crazy
40. Take off
43. Put aside for later
45. Breaks
48. Lebanon plants
50. Extreme degree
51. Cattleman's cords
52. Period of time
53. Reddish brown
54. Blends
56. Slippery
57. Handle
58. Dance
59. Actress Daly
62. By way of

Answer to last week's puzzle:



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- Sat., Oct. 2 at 4 p.m.
- Sat., Oct. 23 at 1 p.m.

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Sports

Killer with a smile

Furry, the nice girl, is demon on court

By JERRY BREWER
Herald reporter

Nice as can be? Off the volleyball court, sophomore right side hitter Natalie "can make you feel like the funniest person in the world," says senior middle hitter Kim Carpenter. She's always giggling. And her boyfriend, sophomore tennis player J.J. Ball, reports that earlier this semester his fish, Nino, died. Before the end of the day, Furry had bought him a new one, a tropical fish. They named him Tyrone.

Or is she a meanie? Opponents don't see Furry as being nice. Furry's star is on the ascent in volleyball. She is, statistically, the best right side in the Sun Belt Conference. She's stealthy, and at the least opportune times for opponents, Furry will smash a kill. Sometimes, Furry will hit the ball so hard that it caroms off an opponent's shoulder. Or worse, the face.

So, would the real Natalie Nicole Furry please stand? Probably not.

She's shy.

"Talk to her, and you wouldn't think she has a competitive bone in her body," Western coach Travis Hudson said. "She's deceiving that way."

While the Lady Toppers have been away on their nine-match road trip, Furry has continued to blossom. Tonight, for the first time in 23 days, you can watch Furry and her teammates play at Diddle Arena. The Lady Toppers (8-6, 1-1 in Sun Belt) meet Florida International (2-8, 0-2) at 7 tonight.

Then they head to Denver for a 2 p.m. match Sunday against the Pioneers (6-7, 1-1), the conference newcomers.

Furry is hitting .292 this season. She is second on the team with 131 kills, behind only Carpenter. She also ranks second in total blocks with 27. After hitting .222 last season as a freshman, she is primed to live up to the preseason All-Sun Belt billing she was given



H. Rick Mach/Herald

Sophomore right hitter Natalie Furry chats with senior middle hitter Kim Carpenter during practice yesterday at Diddle Arena.

"On the court, I want to become a leader," Furry said. "It's going to take some work. I like being loud on the court. Off the court, I like being quiet."

Furry's teammates are always trying to get her to do something goofy. They are constantly messing with her. Carpenter knows Furry is hard on herself, so to relax Furry during practice, Carpenter will yell, in a bad Irish accent, "Come on, Natty!" "She just sits there and laughs," Carpenter said. "What I like about her now is that during matches she'll let out a good scream or yell. It's just like a totally different person comes out."

The transformation of Furry began about this time last season. She was struggling, with her hitting percentage around 150 or so, and Hudson had a talk with her. She told her that he saw her as being a future star and that she should work toward that.

Furry finished that season with a late flurry that culminated with an incredible Sun Belt

tournament. She hit .398 and averaged 41 kills per game while leading Western to the championship match.

Her numbers were comparable to those of Carpenter, regarded by many as the best player in the Sun Belt. Since then, Furry has been determined to be a great player. During spring workouts, from last February to mid-April, Furry came in for individual workouts with the coaching staff every day. It impressed Hudson because he was working the team pretty hard when it had to be there.

"To a coach, it's not magic how the good players become great," Hudson said.

Now Furry is a leader, a person so dependable even the most cynical man would marry her without a prenuptial agreement. The last time she was told to something "must've been in high school because she hasn't done it here," Hudson said.

"I've improved, but I think I still need to keep working," Furry said. "Travis is going to

take me to a level I never thought I could play at."

Furry is a sophomore and is already an All-Sun Belt performer. What's next? Player of the Year?

If that happened, then the best player in the Sun Belt would be a 5-10 woman prone to breaking out with severe cases of the worries. She's a woman who, if she has a bad match, beats up herself inside about it until the next match.

Furry cries about missing her family because going home to Normal, Ill., about six hours away, is "pretty much pointless sometimes because I get there at 9 p.m. Friday and have to leave at 10 a.m. Sunday."

But minutes earlier, she was talking about how she likes to boss her 15-year-old brother, Kyle, and how he "makes me mad" when they do the dishes.

See, she is mean. Sometimes.

"She has a little mystery to her," Ball said.

A mystery that opponents are having trouble solving.

Baseball whispering way to excellence



OUT OF BOUNDS

Travis Mayo

Maybe Charlie Chaplin should be the spokesman for Western's diamond runners.

The long, horizontal scoreboard with a slender scrolling message screen peering over the Denes Field wall could be replaced with a jumbo screen. And there Charlie would be going through his antics for the passers by to see — awkward mustache and all, skipping across the baseball field, throwing a ball here and driving one out of the park there — all without a peep.

Charlie would be a silent messenger with a loud message. This team has quite a bit of potential (maybe he could tower over center field, standing atop the wall, bat in hand, to convey the message without words).

"We had a silent good season last year," junior infielder-pitcher Brian Houdyk said. "It was a rocky ride at first and then a lot of people just gave up on us. A lot of people just didn't have hope and confidence in us, and we proved them wrong by having a good year."

Try going from 15-16 to 38-24 and nearly winning the Sun Belt Conference tournament. Remember (silently), the Hilltoppers barely missed the postseason in 1998.

And then after losing five straight contests last season, Western stormed through its next 25 regular season games, winning 19 of them. Only a 3-2 loss to Florida International in the conference championship stopped Western from sneaking into the

SEE WHISPERING, PAGE 16



Mark Weber/Herald

Senior offensive lineman Patrick Goodman (left) goes through blocking schemes during preseason practice at Smith Stadium.

Murray State is next for Hilltoppers

Red Belt is at stake in Saturday's game

By RYAN CLARK
Herald reporter

After Western's 21-10 victory over winless Southeast Missouri last Saturday, Coach Jack Harbaugh gathered his team at midfield for a testimonial.

"Guys, this game is over with," Harbaugh said. "Now we'll get ready for the teams that knocked us out of the playoffs last year."

Those teams would be Murray State and Eastern Kentucky, who both crushed Western's hopes for a second-straight playoff appearance last season. Now the

Hilltoppers want revenge.

And Murray is first in line. "Murray beat us last year," Harbaugh said. "So we're going to have to be ready."

Western (3-1, 2-0 OVC) will have some offensive help, as the team welcomes back starting sophomore quarterback Donte Pimpton. Pimpton has missed all or part of the team's first four games due to a knee injury.

"I can't wait to get back," Pimpton said. "I've been playing football for 15 years, and I've never been hurt or missed a game. Now I've missed three of them — and it's been hard. But I've been dealing with it."

"I'm ready to go. We owe Murray from last year. They beat us, but they come on our field this time, and we'll be ready for them," Pimpton said.

Countdown to Kickoff

Hilltoppers vs Murray State

When: 7 p.m., Saturday
Where: Smith Stadium
Records: Western (3-1, 2-0 OVC)

The Racers (1-2, 1-0 OVC) began the season with national title hopes, but those dreams are fading after major losses to Southern Illinois (58-51) and

SEE NEXT, PAGE 14

Soccer defense staying stingy with best friend

Hilltoppers sporting seven straight wins

By LINDSAY SUTTON
Herald reporter

For most of Western's opponents, it's not worth the effort to forge a friendship with the soccer ball. They've all tried, most with unfavorable results; the soccer ball just doesn't like them.

Not so with Western's soccer team. The magnetic force that exists between the Hilltoppers and the soccer ball has rarely been broken in nine games. It's connected with the Hilltoppers on 20 goals in those nine games.

The unique relationship between the two began developing last season, ending with the Hilltoppers' first Missouri Valley Conference playoff appearance and a 12-8-1 record.

"After last season's accom-

plishments, we knew we had high standards," sophomore defender Kyle Wuchterl said.

And now opponents are starting to take notice of the special friendship that Western (8-1) has cultivated with the soccer ball, as they carefully cut off each opponent in the meantime. It's obvious Western's friendship isn't about sharing.

Nevada-Las Vegas coach Barry Barto marches his Rebels (5-4) to Bowling Green on Sunday to take on a Western team that has given up two goals at home and just five goals all season.

"Western's obviously having a great season," Barto said.

Team members say the defense is the primary reason for their success.

"Defense is the main part of our game," Wuchterl said. "And if we let down, we let the whole team down."

Western coach David Holmes said there's no weak spot in the backfield. The Hilltoppers' usual defensive lineup includes one

senior, two juniors and two sophomores.

"We have competitive athletes at every spot in the back," Holmes said.

Sophomore goalkeeper Ryan Lossie has five shut-outs so far. Holmes said the return of senior defender and co-captain Bryan Robbins, a redshirt last year, is what the Hilltoppers were missing last season.

"His leadership is what we lacked," Wuchterl said.

Last year, the defense was experimenting, junior forward Steve Brown said. Western spent much of the season finding the perfect lineup, giving up 44 goals along the way.

But now each defender has a year behind him. The Hilltoppers have used the same starting lineup in each game this year.

So what is it about those five guys that keeps the other team from getting very close to the soccer ball very often in the course of the game?

Brown said Western's defenders are quick and strong in the air. Wuchterl said a team would be wise to play the ball on the ground if it hopes to at least create scoring opportunities.

"Most teams know we're good in the air," Wuchterl said. "They should play it on the ground instead of trying to take it over us. That kind of doesn't work."

Several defenders have even gotten into the offensive action this season. Wuchterl and sophomore defender Conrad Davies each scored a goal in Western's 4-2 victory over Georgia State on Sunday.

Brown said the only reason Western even gave up those two goals on Sunday was due to mental lapses, where the Panthers had time to build up against the Hilltoppers.

"The best chances that teams are having is our mistakes," Brown said.

Barto is counting on his team making good use of those mistakes to steal Western's best

friend and the game at 2 Sunday afternoon. "You better put those chances away that you get," he said.

Holmes is confident in his team's relationship with the soccer ball, though, as yet another opponent visits Smith Stadium.

"I'm confident that this team is going to come out and play their best," Holmes said. "And that's all I, as a coach, can ask for."

Western ranked seventh in Great Lakes Region

The Hilltoppers are ranked seventh in the Great Lakes Region for the first time this season. The region includes schools from Wisconsin, Michigan, Ohio, Indiana and Kentucky.

"We are pleased to be regionally-ranked," Holmes said.

Western also moved into second place in the Missouri Valley Conference this week, jumping ahead of nationally-ranked Creighton (4-1).

NEXT: 'Western is plenty dangerous'

CONTINUED FROM PAGE 13

Division I-A Wisconsin (49-10). But the trek to Smith Stadium Saturday comes off a bye week when the team worked on erasing some of its defensive flaws.

"We're not a juggernaut," Murray coach Denver Johnson said. "And Western is plenty dangerous, no matter who's in at quarterback. We just have to approach this game like we always approach Western — be ready for a battle."

"We haven't played really good defense this season," Johnson continued. "And we really haven't lived up to our expectations yet. I don't really know what we're going to do."

Harbaugh said he felt his team was exactly the opposite.

"Our defense is where we want it to be at this point in the season, but our offense isn't," he said. "But this is OK. We can get the offense straightened out. I think we're going to be all right."

Like all great rivalries, Western/Murray has its own unique trophy: the Red Belt, given to the winner of the football game

since 1978. As the legend goes, football trainer Bill Edwards loaned the belt to Murray trainer Tom Simmons at a medical convention, and when Edwards asked for it back, Simmons said he could have it the next time Western won the football game.

The belt is now residing in the Murray State training room after Murray's 36-31 win last year.

Team tidbits

• Saturday's victory over Southeast Missouri pushed Harbaugh to the 500 mark for his 16-year coaching career. Harbaugh is now 82-82-3 as a head coach, including 57-55 at Western.

• Western has outscored its opponents by an average of 17 points per game (29-12) this season — without its starting quarterback. On the other hand, Murray has been outscored by its opponents on an average of 5.4 points per game (41.7-36.3).

• The much-heralded Topper rushing attack has proven it can withstand the test of time, as Western ranks eighth in the nation. And first in the Ohio

Valley Conference, in rushing (259 yards per game). Last Saturday marked the 101st game in a row where the team has rushed for at least 100 yards.

• Senior defensive end Ben Wittman has tallied 6 1/2 sacks through Western's first four games, which leads the OVC. The total is already Wittman's career high.

• Freshman safety Bobby Sippio has scored four touchdowns this season — on two punt and two interception returns — giving him the highest scoring average on the team at six points per game.

But how would Sippio feel playing Murray State for the first time?

"That ain't no thing," Sippio said. "I've been having my first game against all of these teams and I just play the same. Even though a lot of people doubt me because I'm a freshman, I just show them how it is."

"I love this. When the lights turn on, that's what it's all about. It's a different story when those lights are on. I'll be here every game, every night."

Tennis team heading to tourney in Evansville

By ANNA COATS
Herald reporter

The women's tennis team will be competing in the third annual Aces Fall Classic in Evansville, Ind., tomorrow, Saturday and Sunday.

With the season's first tournament under its belt, Western is ready to do some damage.

"Last year we won every event that we were in, with the exception of one doubles and we came in a close second with that," Coach Laura Hudspeth said. "We pretty much wiped up last year and hope to do the same this year."

The double elimination classic consists of four flights of singles and two doubles flights, with each team entering up to two players per flight. Providing the competition in the tournament are Morehead, Valparaiso, Belmont and host Evansville.

"This year's field may be a little stronger than last year's,

which is OK with us," Hudspeth said.

Sweden native sophomore Therese Johansson fills the No. 1 singles slot. Sophomore Nino Kostava and freshman Liene Rozentale hold the second and third seeds, senior Jamie O'Brien is seeded fourth, and Townsend and freshman Jennifer Granger are fifth and sixth, respectively.

"We are good down the line in the team," Johansson said. "We are all pretty strong."

In doubles action, Johansson and O'Brien are the No. 1 duo. "Therese and Jamie do a good job," Townsend said. "They control a lot of points."

Kostava and Rozentale fill the No. 2 slot and Townsend and Granger team up for the third seed.

"We (Townsend and Granger) played pretty well last week, we just need to work on strategy," Townsend said. "It's just a matter of closing it out."

College Heights Herald

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College Heights Herald

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WHISPERING: Baseball team hopes to scream about its success on diamond

CONTINUED FROM PAGE 13

NCAA tournament:

But Charlie got his job, and the gear crown was lost to a silent and empty campus.

"If we'd have made it to the World Series, I still don't think they would understand the magnitude of doing something like we did last year," junior pitcher Ryan Hutchison said. "But the world's starting to get out a little more this year."

If you trudge by Denes Field in the afternoon, you can hear the faint sound of aluminum bats ringing over the booming traffic. If you stroll through the field's gate, you can see a group of guys clad in red, diving to catch line drives and brushing the infield dirt with their gloves to halt a grounder.

If you press your face against the foul ball net, you can hear the commotion of a pitching machine. Thump. Weird sound, but a sound, much to Charlie's dismay.

These guys — some young and some veterans to the game on the Hill — have a bitter-sweet taste in their mouths. They'd like to get it out next May by vying for the Sun Belt

title and maybe more. And now, for about four weeks this fall, they're trying to polish the diamond.

"There's no doubt — no doubt in my mind," Western coach Joel Murrie said. "Though every year you want to win a championship, this club has the

"There's no doubt — no doubt in my mind. Though every year you want to win a championship, this club has the ability to win a championship, if they want to."

— Joel Murrie

Western baseball coach

ability to win a championship, if they want to. If we've got a bunch of doubting Thomases, then I guess that there's no way we can coach them into champions, if they don't believe in themselves. But they've got the ability, they've got the experience, they got a taste of it last year.

Sure, the conference player of the year, former first baseman T.J. Freeman, is gone. So are a host of others (like Chris Yeo, Matt Idlett, Tony Saporito and Nathan Isenberg).

But Western has what it hopes will be one of the nation's best pitching staffs coming back, led by senior Josh Novotney. It has some rookies that might look like pine-vacationers at first, but later resemble full-time field dwellers.

Western opens the 2000 season (that is, if a Y2K disaster doesn't interfere) on the road, against likely No. 1 Florida State. But there's no fear of a tomahawk chop here.

"We're pumped, we can't wait to play them," Houdek said. "We've got nothing to lose, except to go out there and just do as well as we can. And when we win, we're going to open a lot of eyes, I think."

Saunter into the shadows of the dugout, Charlie These Hilltoppers are shouting. They're hoping to have to choose how to celebrate on the way back from Omaha, Neb., and the College World Series next spring. And if that confidence rolls into a baseball of facts?

Silence shunned.

To find out who won the Red Belt and who ran to the 10K Classic titles, check out Tuesday's **College Heights Herald**

WESTERN SPORTS SCORECARD

Team	W-L	Next
Football	3-1	Saturday vs. Murray State
Volleyball	8-6	Today vs. Florida International
Soccer	8-1	Sunday vs. Nevada-Las Vegas
Women's golf	4-12	Oct. 11 at Arkansas State
Men's golf	41-1	Oct. 4-5 at Legends of Indiana
Cross country	*	Oct. 9 at Furman Invitational

* Cross country does not keep a win-loss record.

Western takes another step by finishing fifth

Men's golf gearing for next competition

BY TRAVIS WILLIAMS
Herald reporter

The women's golf team continued its gradual improvement Tuesday, finishing fifth in the Lady Racer Classic. The young Topper team finished the first round in fourth place, but fell two strokes behind Austin Peay in the second round.

Although coach Leslie Lawrence saw improvement from the first tournament, she still believes the team could have played better.

"Once we put a couple of good scores together and they see what it's like, we will play a lot better," Lawrence said. "We got off to a good start, but the front nine was real difficult for us."

Junior Jamie Hagedorn's sea-

son-low round of 78 led the Toppers. Hagedorn bettered her first round score by four strokes Tuesday. Western's three freshmen — Crystal Angles, Jennifer McGill and Marilyn Bungo — all turned in impressive scores.

"This was a good boost for our confidence," Bungo said. "We just needed to get that first tournament out of the way, now I think we will be more comfortable."

Lawrence has been impressed with the freshmen.

"They have all been wonderful," Lawrence said. "It (college golf) can be very intimidating. Right now, we're just setting goals for ourselves."

The team will play again on Oct. 11 when it competes in the Arkansas State Lady Indian Intercollegiate.

Men's Golf

Western's men's golf team will take its 41-1 record to the Legends of Indiana Intercollegiate on Monday in Franklin, Ind.



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