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Hail to the Chief

Robert Deane has taken a long road to get here — and another challenge lies ahead



photos by Andrew Otto/Herald

Top right: Police chief Robert Deane walks past the police annex on his way back to his office after being issued keys for the police department. Above: Deane watches while Bowling Green Police Department public information officer Barry Pruitt cuts out one of Deane's mug shots for his ID.

BY JASON RAGAN
Herald reporter

For 30 years Robert Deane protected and served the millions of citizens in Detroit — now he is serving the more than 15,000 people on the Hill.

Deane, Western's new police chief, worked his first official day Monday, and spent much of the week getting acquainted with the campus and the people he's working with.

The desk in his office in the parking structure is still almost empty, but that will soon change. Deane wants the best police department possible, but realizes it is not an overnight proposition and will require a lot of work.

"I hope the people are patient with me and give me an opportunity to learn the

campus and learn the problems and the issues," Deane said. "I am going to deal with them in an orderly fashion."

And the issues facing Deane are many. Among the biggest is a lack of money. The department's operating budget is \$34,000 — not even half that of any of its benchmark institutions. The department is also short three of the necessary 26 officers and two short of the necessary six cruisers.

"Those are issues I will be addressing," Deane said. "However, I have not been here long enough to know exactly what is going on and therefore I can't tell you I want a, b, c and d."

Deane also said university policing is

about much more than just upholding the law.

"You are trying to be in an advisory position to kids out on their own for the first time, trying to head them into the direction of getting a good education," Deane said. "... We try to be as helpful as we can despite the fact we still have to enforce the law from time to time."

"Police tend to tell people what they can't do. ... We don't want to be looked at as an enemy."

— Robert Deane
Western police chief

"You can't do this, if you do this we are going to do this to you." It is important to balance that with good deeds, with positive things, so you're not always looked at as an enemy. We don't

SEE CHIEF, PAGE 8

VP gets extended authority

Human Resources, ADA now under Student VP

BY REX HALL JR.
Herald reporter

President Gary Ransdell announced Tuesday a new administrative structure, which includes keeping the vice president of Student Affairs position.

Under the new structure, the future vice president will assess more responsibility than before, taking charge of three more departments.

"I wanted to create a very senior executive position that would place top priority on student-related matters," Ransdell said. "I want a position that will be senior in nature and that will put Student Affairs in a position of being a part of a more prominent position in the administration of the university."

As a result of the structure released by Ransdell, the new vice president will not only be responsible for Student Affairs, but also Administrative Affairs. Under the future vice president, Human Resources, Equal Opportunity/ADA Compliance and Student Disability Services as well as Environmental Health and Safety will report directly to the position as part of the new structure. Currently, Tony Glisson's Human Resource department and Huda Melky's ADA office report to General Counsel Deborah Wilkins.

Current Vice President of Student Affairs Jerry Wilder said he first saw the new administrative structure Monday morning. He said he wanted to commend Ransdell for the "wisdom he exhibited in reversing his earlier

SEE VP, PAGE 8

INSIDE

Backhoe burglars?

Columnist Mattias Karén says we all should be aware of a legion of construction robbers. Is someone you know in it? Page 5

Beating the winter blues

The short days and bad weather of winter can make anyone feel blue. There are several easy ways — including exercise and sunlight — to treat that "blah" feeling. Diversions, Page 15

Britt's grit

Lady Topper senior forward Jamie Britt is making the most of her final season on the Hill.

Britt, who averages 14.9 points and 7.7 rebounds, is among the most versatile players on the team. Sports, Page 13



<http://herald.wku.edu>

Western students aid county's transpark plan

Marketing class survey reveals 69 percent are in support

BY JIM GAINES
Herald reporter

The Kentucky TriModal Transpark and Western grow ever closer.

Western students work in the transpark office. Western classes do transpark surveys and the transpark wants Western to teach transpark employees technical skills.

The transpark, a planned juncture of road,

rail and air transport in the center of an industrial park, is being pushed and planned for by the Inter-Modal Transportation Authority, an agency of Warren County government.

It's estimated to cost anywhere from \$60 to \$100 million over the next five years; supporters say it will attract investment and create jobs while opponents predict congestion, tax increases and environmental pollution.

As part of a campaign to "sell itself to Warren County, the ITA wanted a survey to determine current opinions of the venture. So last fall, ITA President Dan Cherry called Western.

He got the Marketing 421 class taught by

Felicia Lask, an economics and marketing assistant professor, to survey residents within 25 miles of the site, calling 400 people during one week last November. They turned in their results Jan. 3.

Their study found 69 percent in favor of the transpark, 14 percent opposed. Seventeen percent either hadn't heard of the plan or didn't have an opinion, Cherry said.

"That strongly favorable result is 'surprising,'" sociology professor John Faine said, considering the strong local opposition to airport expansion in the past.

A press release about the survey claimed

SEE TRANSPARK, PAGE 7

Weather forecast

Thursday	Friday	Saturday	Sunday	Monday
46° 29°	44° 26°	46° 25°	47° 31°	53° 35°
Partly cloudy	Partly cloudy	Partly cloudy	Partly cloudy	Partly cloudy

R: 41° 26° cloudy
 F: 41° 25° cloudy
 S: 44° 34° cloudy
 S: 49° 31° cloudy
 M: 52° 32° cloudy
 • Louisville
 • Lexington
 R: 38° 24° cloudy
 F: 39° 23° cloudy
 S: 42° 22° cloudy
 S: 44° 23° cloudy
 M: 50° 22° cloudy
 • Owensboro
 R: 45° 23° cloudy
 F: 45° 20° cloudy
 S: 48° 24° cloudy
 S: 47° 23° cloudy
 M: 53° 30° cloudy
 • Paducah
 R: 48° 20° cloudy
 F: 47° 20° cloudy
 S: 48° 20° cloudy
 S: 48° 20° cloudy
 M: 53° 30° cloudy
 • Nashville
 R: 52° 34° cloudy
 F: 49° 25° cloudy
 S: 47° 24° cloudy
 S: 47° 24° cloudy
 M: 53° 30° cloudy



Photo by Michael Bunch

Fanfare

An estimated 60,000 spectators lined Broadway and Second Ave. North for the Tennessee Titan's homecoming parade in Nashville on Tuesday. The parade followed a route to Adelphi Stadium where a ceremony was conducted to honor the Titans.

Crime reports have been temporarily moved to page 6 due to space constraints. Sorry for any inconvenience.

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UCB to revise constitution

BY BRANDY WARREN
Herald reporter

Students on the University Center Board are trying to revise the organization's constitution to increase student voice and power.

Dwight Campbell, vice chair of UCB, said the current constitution prohibits the organization, which is in charge of bringing speakers, concerts and other events to campus, from being completely run by students.

"The biggest problem is that too much power is vested in the hands of the advisor," Campbell said, adding the changes he feels are most important in the new constitution are the creation of a treasurer and executive action reform.

Campbell, a Lexington senior, said Bennie Beach, the UCB advisor, has too much power in the budget, allowing him to spend UCB money without consulting the students despite the fact that he is a non-voting member.

Over the summer, half of the organization's concert budget was used on booking concerts for tailgating concerts. Campbell said members of UCB claim they were never contacted by Beach when the concert planning occurred.

Beach said an attempt to contact members of the UCB was made during the scheduling of

"The biggest problem is that too much power is vested in the hands of the advisor."

— Dwight Campbell

vice chair of UCB

the concerts. He said problems arose because the football schedule was not ready for release until after the end of the spring semester.

"Decisions had to be made," Beach said, adding that the expenditures to book the bands were passed by both Dean of Student Life Howard Bailey and Scott Taylor, the director of Student Activities. If those decisions had not been made, there would have been no entertainment for football games.

Campbell said another problem concerning the budget is that four weeks into the semester no committee chairs have an exact balance on their budget.

He said this problem could partly be resolved by creating a treasurer position. The new constitution may create the position and detail the specific responsibilities of the treasurer.

Another problem with the current constitution is the lack of a public relations director. The UCB used to have a public

relations committee, but when the constitution was rewritten several years ago, the committee was cut. Beach said the public relations committee was focused on public relations and marketing. The committee was cut because no one ever applied. Since that time, Beach has been in charge of the P.R. work for the group.

Campbell said a Public Relations Director needs to be established.

"No one knows what UCB is," he said.

Although a new constitution has not yet been established, UCB is currently hiring for the position. The Public Relations Director would be expected to work closely with campus media and with public relations committees from organizations like SGA.

Another position the new constitution would create is a secretary. UCB has already decided to select a temporary secretary, and when the new constitution is finished, the exact power and responsibilities of this position will be defined.

A new draft of the constitution will be made and presented to UCB at the March 6 meeting.

It must be passed by a majority of UCB and Bailey in order to become effective.

"It's quick, but I think we can do it," Campbell said.

SGA proposal to aide in student course selection

Class information posted online

BY REX HALL JR.
Herald reporter

Student Government Association is discussing posting all teachers' syllabi on its web page in order to make finding the right instructor easier for students.

"Students would be able to find out how many tests (teachers give), how many projects were due in the course, how many papers had to be written for the course, and if attendance is mandatory," SGA Vice President Cassie Martin said. "That type of thing could be identified through that."

SGA is currently trying to gain approval from all the department heads to get copies of every instructor's syllabus to post on the Internet.

"I want the cooperation of all the department heads to go through with this," Martin said.

Faculty Regent Mary Ellen Miller had positive feedback to SGA's proposal.

"I can't imagine anyone not wanting to have their syllabus posted," Miller said. "I don't have any problem with it. I

would gladly post my syllabus for students to view.

Accounting and Finance professor Ed Wolfe voiced the same opinion.

"I believe people need good information to make good decisions," the Faculty Senate chairman said. "I don't see why anyone would have a problem posting their syllabi if they give it to the students in their classes already."

In January, SGA announced they were in the process of mapping out their own teacher evaluations to be filled out by students. The evaluations would then be made available on SGA's website so students could find the instructor that best fits their needs.

With the syllabi being posted on their website as well those evaluations would still be made, but without student involvement. Instead, Martin said, SGA is looking into making out surveys that the teachers would fill out for every course they teach, to complement the syllabi.

One question that remains for SGA is whether the syllabi will answer all of the questions they feel could be beneficial to students.

"We have looked into some student input as far as creating our own survey," Martin said. "That is going to be part two, this is part one."

RESIDENTIAL COUNSELOR FOR SUMMER PROGRAMS FOR GIFTED STUDENTS

Job Description and Qualifications:

Western Kentucky University's Center for Gifted Studies will employ 14-16 individuals to serve as residential counselors for the two-week Summer Camp for Academically Talented Middle School Students (June 18-June 30) and the three-week Summer Program for Verbally and Mathematically Precocious Youth (July 2-July 22). Each counselor will have direct responsibility for supervising the conduct and activities of 12-16 residential students when these students are not in class. In addition, the counselor staff will be responsible for planning, implementing, and supervising individual and group recreational activities for camp and program students in the evenings and on weekends. The residential counselor staff will work under the direct supervision of Dr. Julia Roberts, Director of The Center for Gifted Studies, and Mrs. Carolyn Hagaman, Coordinator of Summer Programming.

Because the Residential counselors must work closely with gifted young people and are expected to serve as positive adult role models for these students, individuals selected for these positions must:

1. Have completed at least one year of college.
2. Have demonstrated a high level of academic performance.
3. Be of high moral character.
4. Have had successful experience working with young people.
5. Have recreational interests/skills which can be shared with young people.

Residential Counselors will live in the residence hall with the camp/program students and will work seven days a week. The salary is \$250 per week plus room and meals.

To apply, please send resume and cover letter to Dr. Julia Roberts at the Center for Gifted Studies or to the Human Resources Department at Western Kentucky University.

APPLICATION DEADLINE: February 15, 2000

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News of the Weird



by Chuck Shepherd

in every Thursday edition of the
College Heights Herald

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Opinion

Land quarrel turning into one big mess

Welcome to another edition of Western's Celebrity Deathmatch, where the fight's not over until someone's career lies in shambles.

Former Faculty Regent Ray Mendel is attacking General Counsel Deborah Wilkins with facts, but his agenda is questionable.

Mendel feels he was forced off the board by Wilkins and has since been quick to point out every questionable move she made during his tenure.

And Wilkins, still bound by her position as an attorney, is having problems defending herself.

Mendel's accusations appear to be true.

In 1997, then-President Thomas Meredith and Wilkins misled and lied to the Board of Regents into thinking a piece of land, already purchased illegally, would increase in value.

When the Herald asked to see Wilkins' formal reprimand on the issue, we were told no such document exists.

Why not?

Wilkins violated the trust of her superiors and should have been taken to task.

But if Mendel knew of the illegal purchase, why didn't he say something?

It shouldn't take a disgruntled regent for the public to learn of an illegal purchase. A sitting regent owes it to the university to inform the public of illegal actions.

Mendel isn't wrong for bringing Wilkins' mistakes into the public eye. But now that he's gone from the board, his motives are questionable.

Wilkins has made mistakes. We're waiting for her admission of wrongdoing and hope she's learned to come clean on everything from now on.

Mendel should also have come clean while he was still on the board and in a position to make a difference.

Nothing will bring back Mendel to the board and nothing will restore the trust Wilkins has broken — so why all the fighting?

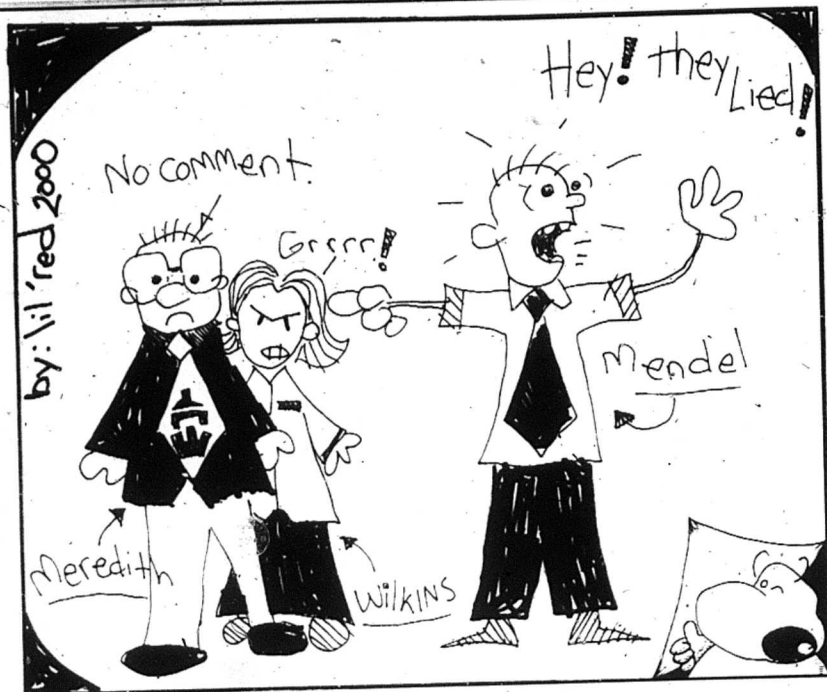
There's no room for mudslinging and personal attacks in a university community, and we only hope that Wilkins and Mendel can work out their differences.

The issue:

The legality of a land purchase by Wilkins and then-President Thomas Meredith.

Our View:

Wilkins misled the board, but revenge is becoming the issue.



Letters to the Editor

Herald missed the point

The Herald's front page story entitled "Mendel Land bought illegally" to a significant degree missed the essential issue.

The Herald story focuses upon the legality of the purchase in light of the fact that the university paid for the property weeks before the Board of Regents was asked to consider its purchase. To be sure, that is improper, if not outright illegal. But more important is the fact that the Board was deliberately misled by the General Counsel (Deborah Wilkins). The Board was led to make an important decision based on what it reasonably assumed were complete and truthful representations by the administration. Specifically the General Counsel told the Board that 1.) the price of property was well below its value, 2.) that we must act quickly or the property would be sold to others, and 3.) that the property had substantial commercial value. Based on these supportive representations, the Board narrowly voted (six to five) to purchase the property.

On all three issues, the General

Counsel withheld important information in her possession which directly rebutted her own explicit representations to the Board. First, as to the imminent sale of the property if the Board failed to act immediately, the truth is the university had secretly already purchased the property; the check had been cashed by the seller, and the signed deed was in the university's possession. Thus the property was in absolutely no jeopardy of being sold to anyone else. The Board was deceived.

Secondly, again unknown to the Board, the university had paid for a professional real estate appraisal of the property. That appraisal indicated the property was NOT worth more than the asking price as we had been told. Again the Board was deceived.

Thirdly, (former President Thomas) Meredith and the General Counsel's repeated assertions to the Board that the property had great commercial value was directly contradicted by the formal real estate appraisal they had in their possession. In fact that appraisal explicitly stated that the property, because of both the existing zoning and its small size, did NOT have

commercial value. On this critical issue, extremely relevant, but completely contradictory data was suppressed by our General Counsel in order to ensure the Board would ratify a decision that had already been secretly made. Here too, the Board was deceived.

In almost all instances the Board must rely on the administration to provide complete and accurate information. The Board can only be effective if it makes informed decisions. At Western all too often this information turns out to be incomplete, inaccurate and/or misleading — one need only look at the recent self-insurance fiasco to substantiate this claim. We all operate on the premise that the bad information we receive is not deliberate, but attributable to other causes. However, when the Board learns that it has been deliberately deceived by the General Counsel on whom it must rely for so many important decisions, the public has a right to ask why it failed to take strong action. That is the story that I believe the Herald has missed.

Ray Mendel,
psychology professor and former regent

What black leader do you most admire and why?



"Martin Luther King Jr., because of the dedication he put into freeing blacks and whites."
Aaron Haeblerin
LaGrange sophomore



"Malcolm X. Read his book and it will come to you."
Shallen Bhatt
sophomore from Stratford, Ontario



"Langston Hughes, because he can write the blues."
John Keabler
Elizabethtown senior



"Martin Luther King Jr., because he was a peacemaker."
Allaha Pasley
Louisville junior



"Martin Luther King Jr., because he opened a pathway for black Americans."
Nicole Simpson
Louisville freshman

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Backhoe League on prowl

It seems there might be a mafia in town.

Conspiracy theory? No, people, I'm just stating the facts.

But we're not talking about drug trafficking, restaurant protection or drive-by shootings here. We're not talking about broad-shouldered Italians with coal accents either. We're talking construction. We're probably talking morons.

All you good, responsible citizens staying in tune with Crimestoppers' "Crimes of the Week" already know that a band of happy thieves have been ravaging construction sites in the area stealing things like lumber, hand tools, construction equipment and, for some weird reason, a "Mity Mixer" (pronounced "Mighty" cement mixer).

That's mity clever. Someone please explain to me why anyone would need a cement mixer badly enough to steal it (other than giving someone a standing burial ground at the bottom of a lake — again, signs of a mob).

And any of my loyal-readers will remember the story about the alleged idiocy of Mohawk "Willie" Waters who was arrested for stealing a backhoe from a Western construction site. Well, it turns out he had an accomplice. Michael Riggsbee has also been charged for involvement in the theft.

What the hell is going on here? Smells like a league to me — a league that by now could probably put up more bricks than the Herald's intramural basketball team.

A Backhoe League. I bet if police would check it out, they'd find people down at



News & Notes
Mattias Karén

Fountain Square dealing planks by the yard out of their pickups.

Or perhaps there are special, after-hours gatherings at Beech Bend where, after the drag racing events are over, the underground races begin: backhoes against tractors (my money would be on the tractor) and steamrollers against lawn mowers (strap on a jet-engine, and these babies can fly).

But seriously, I'm not sure a bunch of ordinary citizens would be clever enough to pull off a grand scheme like this. No, as I see it, there are two possible suspects.

◆ The people behind the proposed TriModal Transpark. A lot of people in the county are worried about the costs involved in this project. What better way to cut those costs than by using stolen equipment? Many different groups and organizations have an interest in seeing this thing built, and together they do have the manpower to pull this off. Sure, you might be laughing at my suggestion now, but just wait until that runaway turns out to be made of concrete. Then who'll laugh?

◆ The whole thing would be

more interesting, of course, if Western was involved somehow. Which is why I ask that we turn our attention to our School of Journalism and Broadcasting. Groundbreaking for the new Journalism and Technology Building is scheduled for April. The whole project is already proving to be more costly than expected, so I urge all construction companies to send people here that day to make sure the shovels used by President Gary Ransdell and Journalism Department Head Jo-Ann Albers don't actually belong to them.

As we all can see, this crime wave needs to stop before it gets out of control. After all, a steamroller in the wrong hands could do some serious damage. Which is why I, taking my duty as a servant of the community seriously, am offering some tips for how you can tell whether someone you know or love is involved in the Backhoe League.

◆ The engine of your friend's car is suddenly replaced by one belonging to a certain John Deere.

◆ While trying to find a whiteboard eraser in her purse, your teacher accidentally pulls out a brick.

◆ You wake up one morning to find a construction helmet under your cover.

◆ You come back to campus after the weekend, and your roommate has a backhoe in your room.

Mattias Karén is a junior print journalism major from Uppsala, Sweden. If you know anything about the Backhoe League, contact him at 745-6011 or via e-mail at



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CHIEF: Wilder, Ransdell support choice of Deane

CONTINUED FROM FRONT PAGE

want to be looked at as an enemy.

Vice President of Student Affairs Jerry Wilder, Deane's immediate superior, is confident Deane is the person for the job. Wilder said he possesses a good blend of both municipal and higher education law enforcement.

"I am very, very optimistic about his credentials and leadership skills. I think he will do a fine job," Wilder said. "It's a good fit for Western and a good fit for Bob."

President Gary Ransdell echoed Wilder's opinion.

"I am very pleased with his appointment," he said.

Before coming to Western, Deane served as the director of university police and public safety at the University of Wisconsin-South Bend. Before that, he spent

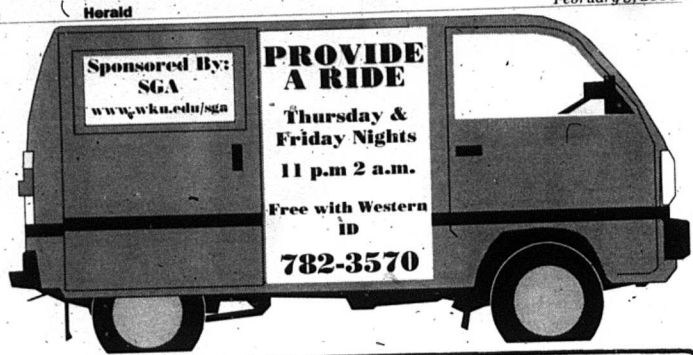
30 years in the Detroit police department. He has also been in the Army reserves for 20 years.

Deane welcomes the change the position at Western has given him.

"It was a great professional opportunity for me to move to a larger department," he said. "... I have been going to school pretty much most of my life. I enjoy school and university policing. It combines for me the two things I love the most, policing and education."

Deane is completing work on his doctorate in administration and higher education from Wayne State University. All he has left is to write his dissertation, although that has been put to a halt for now.

"Right now I'm going to have to lay off for a while, because I've got to learn my job first," he said.



Crime Reports

Arrests

◆ Stephen Edward Hazlett was arrested in Cherry Hall Friday when a warrant was served for failure to appear in court. He was released from the Warren County Regional Jail that same day on an \$80 30 bond.

◆ Patrick Altman Wilson was arrested Saturday for driving on expired plates and DUI. He was released that same day from the Warren County Regional Jail on a \$502.50 bond.

◆ Eddie Lee Ray, West 12th Street, was arrested Saturday for operating a motor vehicle with a blood alcohol level of 10 and

operating on a suspended or revoked license. He was released the same day from the Warren County Regional Jail on a \$1,000 unsecured cash bond.

◆ Carl Bakanowski was taken into custody Sunday for alcohol intoxication in a public place and released that same day from the Warren County Regional Jail.

Reports


◆ Jerry Lee Johnson, Rockcreek Apartments, reported a Sony VCR, valued at \$300, stolen at the Preston Center loading dock.

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POSITION ANNOUNCEMENT

The University Center Board is currently seeking a Public Relations Director. Any student with at least a 2.0 GPA can apply! Preferred experience in Advertising/Marketing or related field! This position will receive a semester stipend!

For more info, contact Thomas Grinter at 745-6622 or E-mail: *Grintt@wku.edu*..!

Pick up an application in Student Activities Office, D.U.C. 326! Application Deadline is Fri., Feb. 4, 2000!

TRANSPARK: Marketing students conduct survey

CONTINUED FROM FRONT PAGE

a five-percent margin of error, but the survey was done using numbers picked out of the local BellSouth phone book.

Numbers were chosen at regular intervals from the white pages section, Lask said.

That method immediately omits the five or six percent of people who don't have phones or have unlisted numbers, Faine said.

A more accurate method is calling randomly generated numbers, which the sociology department uses in the community surveys it frequently does, Faine said; using the phone book is "marginally adequate" for producing accurate results.

Another strong influence on survey accuracy is how questions are asked and for what purpose. The ITA wanted to "establish a benchmark of awareness and opinion" with the survey, Cherry said.

"One of the things that we recognize fully is that we've got to get the citizens in and around Warren County the basic facts," he said.

Cherry and ITA Vice-President Melinda Hill gave the Marketing 421 students a brief presentation on what they wanted, Cherry said.

Then the students developed a

list of about 25 questions based on other marketing studies, said Brian McSwain, one of the students who did the survey.

Most of the students also made their calls from the ITA office, McSwain said, although he made some of the calls from home.

Cherry said he told Lask that the class could use the ITA office phones as long as they didn't make any long-distance calls.

Although the calling list was assembled from the BellSouth phone book, Lask said no one kept a copy of the numbers surveyed.

That's unheard of, Faine said, if only to verify later that students actually called everyone. Faine and the sociology department still have phone lists from surveys they did years ago, he said.

And Western is involved with ITA in more ways than just survey work; half of its staff are Western students.

Four people work in the ITA office, Cherry said: Hill, himself and two interns from Western.

In the future, Cherry expects more interns and projects for the transpark to come from the College of Business Administration and the School of Journalism and Broadcasting, he said.

"We anticipate doing a lot more work with Western students in many different areas," he said.

University Center Board Presents For Black History Month



Joe Clark

Principal, Educator, Writer, Portrayed in the film "Lean on Me"

**Monday,
February 7
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*Must be available to work 4 shifts; this includes 1 morning shift

Family ties between transpark, WKU

By JIM GAINES
Herald reporter

Western had a connection to the Kentucky TriModal Transpark before the university got actively involved. Dan Cherry, president of the Inter-Modal Transportation Authority, is Western founder Henry Hardin Cherry's grandson. "Back when I was 10 years old, my mother married Henry Hardin Cherry Jr. and I was adopted," Cherry said. "And that's how I received the Cherry name." Both sides of his family were originally from Bowling Green.

Henry Hardin Cherry Jr. and his mother were "high school sweethearts" during World War II. They reunited in Ft. Lauderdale, Fla., and married in 1949.

When he retired from the Air Force as a brigadier general after 29 years, Cherry moved back to Bowling Green to consider how to spend the rest of his life.

That was 10 years ago. For a few years, he served as secretary of the Kentucky Justice Cabinet before being appointed-ITA head and returning to his roots.

"We've always had family and friends here," he said. "I consider

Bowling Green my home." Cherry reports to Warren County Judge-Executive Mike Buchanan; the ITA is a county government agency.

Its office holds four people: Cherry, Vice President Melinda Hill and two interns from Western.

Last fall, a Marketing 421 class focussed the ITA office, conducting a survey on local opinions of the transpark.

With all these connections, the transpark may be as much of a Western project as one sponsored by Warren County.

VP: New authority, responsibility

CONTINUED FROM FRONT PAGE

stance" on the position. Wilder also said he believes Ransdell has made the "correct" decision. "I'm just hopeful that the student personnel functions will continue to be prioritized by the new vice president," Wilder said.

The Dean of Student Life will also have more responsibility. Career Services and Counseling Services will report directly to the dean in the future.

Dean of Student Life Howard Bailey said he is pleased with having the two new departments under him.

"I think they fit in well with Student Life," Bailey said.

Student Government Association president Amanda Coates said she is mostly pleased with the new structure.

"I feel it is a good structure for the students and for the university as a whole," Coates said.

"There are going to be a lot more responsibilities for the person in the VP position."

Coates added that she would like to see the new vice president position split into two separate positions in the future, one for Student Affairs and another for Administrative Affairs. She said that model is used at most universities.

Ransdell announced last semester that he planned to scrap the Student Affairs position, but then changed his mind after negative feedback from SGA.

"I've listened to SGA and students and taken their input seriously as we have created this position," Ransdell said.

Wilder will return to full-time teaching after he leaves his post June 30. Ransdell said a national search for a new vice president will begin sometime this month and a decision on who will replace Wilder should be made no later than July 1.



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diversions



During the winter months it's easy to let the "winter blues" get the best of you. For some, just getting out of bed is the hardest part of the day. Combat the doldrums by getting out of the house for exercise and fresh air.

STORY BY MOLLY HARPER

PHOTO ILLUSTRATIONS BY DANIEL WALLACE



Beat Blues

As we trudge past winter's halfway mark, it's getting harder for Western students to convince themselves to walk up the Hill. "It's like you just want to sleep all day," Bowling Green sophomore Jessica McClure said. "I can't get out of bed."

McClure said she just feels better when it's sunny and warm outside. During the winter her eating habits change, and boredom leads to hours of uninterrupted TV watching. The shorter days, bad weather and

being cooped up indoors can lead to a case of the "winter blues." In extreme cases, bad weather can lead to more than just feeling "blah."

Seasonal Affective Disorder, or SAD, is a condition in which people's moods are affected by the weather. It affects almost 10 million people every year.

According to Pam Warner, Outreach Coordinator for Western Counseling and Testing Center, this means depression for many during the winter months.

"People are just in a better mood when it's nice outside," Warner said.

Winter's shorter days make sunlight scarce, resulting in a lack of a mood-controlling chemical called serotonin in the brain, which can lead to depression.

Warner said people who feel down during the winter months aren't necessarily going to fall into clinical depression, but they may experience fatigue, lack of motivation or feelings

of loneliness.

For Lewisburg sophomore Rachel Goodman, winter blues boil down to the monotony of being stuck inside day after day.

"It's depressing because you can't get outside," she said. "It's the same every day: reading, TV and sleep. I once read 'The Secret Garden' in two days."

Sometimes it's the calendar that wears on us. Warner said January and February are sort of set up for a let-down.

"You're coming off the excitement of Christmas and New Year's to nothing happening," she said. "Then you have Valentine's Day coming; it's a good recipe for some lonely hearts."

Warner suggests getting outside every day. Take walks to get some fresh air and what sunshine there is so your serotonin levels will be high. Walking and other exercise can help relieve

SEE STRESS, PAGE 10

De-stress your life with one small baggie

Today I am announcing my resignation from the College Heights Herald.

I think I might have found the perfect job. I want to become an anti-stress specialist.

Who wouldn't? Don't we have enough stress in our lives... from that seven-page term paper on recombinant genetics to that upcoming comprehensive exam on some 400 years of world history?

Wouldn't you rather be fighting

stress? How stressful can that be?

Well, that's what David Graf does for a living. Graf heads the Center for Advancement of Teaching and Learning at Valdosta State University. (I'll give you a minute to catch your breath).

In the latest issue of "Teaching Spirit," the Center for Teaching and Learning's newsletter, he's put together a sure-fire way to knock out stress in one "small Ziploc baggie."

Let the healing begin!

The first thing you'll pull out of that baggie is a rubber band, "to remind you to stretch your new ideas and your mind to new limits so you will continue to grow and reach your potential."

You'll also find a penny in that bag, "to remind you of the value of your thoughts — big ones and little ones! Share them with others."

Gosh, my thoughts are only worth a penny?

Stuff a couple of Ben Franklins in there and watch my stress melt away.

But this one has to be my favorite. It's the toothpick "to remind you to 'pick out' the good qualities in others and yourself."

Residence Life, are you listening? Sounds like a program to me!

Mailbag

So whaddya think? What would you put in that stress relief kit? Help me get on that



SCHOOLHOUSE ROCK

Matt Batchelder

gravy train! If you haven't figured it out already, I'm kidding. Maybe you have some legit stress relief tips you could share with me. Drop me a line.

SEE SCHOOLHOUSE, PAGE 12

Pageantry instills confidence

Three Western women win crowns

By ERICA WALSH
Herald reporter

Western sorority women are dominating the pageant circuit this year.

With one state title, one national title, and an alumna who is competing in the Miss USA pageant Friday, these ladies are proving that they definitely deserve to be treated like queens.

Scottsville freshman Lori Mitchell, a member of Chi Omega sorority, is one of the women who took home a crown. Mitchell is the 2000 Miss Kentucky County Fair.

"I was very excited and surprised," Mitchell said. "It was such a distinguished honor."

This was the third year Mitchell was involved in the Miss Kentucky County Fair pageant. Last year, she was the first runner-up.

"Since I had been, in the pageant before, I was a lot calmer," Mitchell said of her feelings during this year's competition.

Mitchell has been involved in pageants since she was 14. Ironically, she never liked pageants before. It took a payoff from her older sister to get her involved in the beauty queen scene.

"Actually, my older sister bribed me with a new dress," Mitchell said. "She bought this really great dress and told me if I just entered one pageant, I could wear it. So I entered my

first pageant and I won."

From then on, she was hooked.

Now that Mitchell has been involved in pageants for four years, she said she has realized the opportunities that they offer, especially through scholarships. The pageants have also helped her become more confident.

Mitchell is majoring in broadcasting and wants to become a news anchor. She said the pageant has helped her with becoming more comfortable in front of others.

"I think it is so important to get experience in front of people, especially for what I want to go into," she said. "Being in pageants has helped me become more confident."

Her confidence was also boosted by the 20 or so family members and friends sitting in front row seats to cheer her on.

"I had a lot of support," she said. "It was nice."

Mitchell competed against 81 other girls for the title of Miss Kentucky County Fair, so winning the pageant was what she called a life-enriching experience.

She got to share that experience with two fellow Hilltoppers: Tompkinsville senior Cameron Rich, an Alpha Omicron Pi sorority member, and Upton sophomore Joy Jones, a member of the Alpha Delta Pi sorority were also attempting to become Miss Kentucky County Fair. Rich placed in the top 10.

"I was excited," Rich said.

"It was a big accomplishment since there were 82 girls in the pageant."

Although all three girls were far apart in their identifying numbers and didn't get to see much of each other during the actual pageant, Rich was thrilled to see Mitchell win.

"I've been in pageants with Lori for a few years now, I was excited for her," Rich said. "Actually, I assumed when she got into the top 10 that she would win. She did excellent."

Excellence on the pageant scene seems to be an emerging trend at Western this year. Brandenburg junior Katie Staples, a member of the Kappa

Delta sorority, was recently crowned the 2000-2001 National Polled-Hereford Queen.

Since the Miss Kentucky County Fair pageant doesn't advance to a national level, Mitchell and Rich

will have to look for other pageants to compete in.

Rich said she is still thinking about whether to compete in other pageants including the Miss Kentucky USA preliminaries. Mitchell is also looking toward those preliminaries, hoping to follow in the footsteps of the current Miss Kentucky USA, Jolene Youngster, an alumna of the Kappa Delta sorority.

"Jolene was in the Miss Kentucky County Fair pageant a few years ago, and she won," Mitchell said. "Then she went on to win Miss Kentucky USA, so who knows, maybe it's just a coincidence."

Then again, maybe not.

"I think it is so important to get experience in front of people."

— Lori Mitchell
Scottsville freshman

STRESS: Unclutter your room, your mind

CONTINUED FROM PAGE 9

stress and produce a sense of well-being through brain chemistry.

"Exercise kicks off those feel good chemicals, endorphins," Warner said. "You just feel better."

Environment

If your environment is what's getting you down, change it.

Interior design professor Joyce Rasdall said a person's environment can affect how productive they are and how they work with other people.

"Add some color to your surroundings," she said. "Something to brighten up the room and stimulate your vision."

Rasdall said to pick one or two colors that will blend with your furnishings. Add accents like throw pillows.

Brightly colored posters can also be useful, especially when they depict a favorite animal or place.

And, finally, your mom was right. Cleaning your room is good for you.

"Cleaning can be an investment for peace of mind," said Rasdall. "It makes things more

sanitary, and it gets rid of the dirt and clutter that's frustrating you."

Starting from within

Sometimes curing winter blues starts from within.

Kim Crowe of Body Serenity Therapeutic Massage recommends aromatherapy to get out of a funk.

Herbatic and peppermint can stimulate the brain and get rid of that blah feeling.

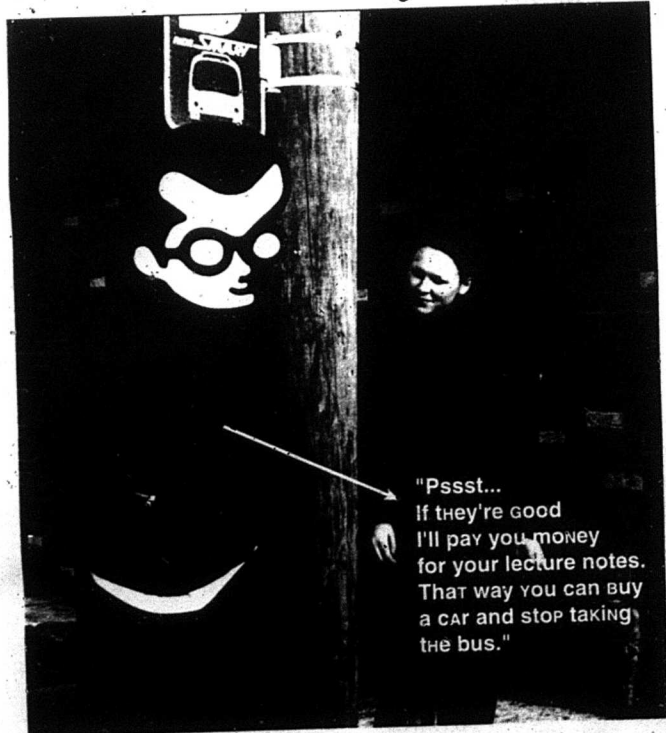
The easiest way to use aromatherapy is through candles and diffusers. But Crowe said to be careful when purchasing aromatherapy products.

"Make sure you're buying pure essences," she said. "It's a little more expensive, but the cheaper products have solvents in them and that's bad for you."

Crowe suggested growing the plants in your room. The dried leaves can be sprinkled on your pillow or in the tub.

No matter how you shed winter doldrums, if the symptoms continue, talk to someone about it.

"It's better to come in before it's gone on for a month or two," Warner said. "It's going to get worse before it gets better."



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News of the Weird *by Chuck Shepherd*

Everybody wants to fake credit

Just before the 1998 hurricane season, religious broadcaster Pat Robertson told the "700 Club" TV audience that the city of Orlando shouldn't have supported that year's "Gay Days" festival because touting homosexuality would anger God and incur his wrath through hurricanes and tornadoes.

Ironically, 1998's first hurricane hit Robertson's headquarters in Virginia Beach, Va. Continuing the theme, in November, 1999, the supreme Islamic leader of Afghanistan said that if Americans did not "cease hostility against the Taliban," the country would suffer earthquakes and storms. The same leader later took credit for Hurricane Floyd.

A new wing in Betty Ford

Daisy Hales pled guilty in Haymarket, South Yorkshire, England in September to stealing books to feed her habit of eating paper. Canada's National Post reported in October on polydipsia, which is self-induced water intoxication, that causes addicts to guzzle water to the point of getting high, at which

point it becomes life-threatening, including some people who furtively drink from toilets.

Irony as a crimefighter

In October, a 20-year-old man, picked up on a bad check charge, was rearrested for swiping a squad car doorhandle as a souvenir.

And when a one-year-old Winniepeg Manitoba girl was idly punching numbers on a telephone keypad, she accidentally dialed 911, bringing police to her home where her father was hiding out on a parole violation.

In unrelated incidents, Jesus Gutierrez, 17, was arrested in Springfield, Ore., in October, and Lawrence Eaddy was arrested in Charlotte, N.C., in July, both charged with carjackings that were rendered unsuccessful because the perpetrators realized too late that they couldn't drive cars with stick shifts.

Umm ... yes, you are

A fall 1999 British documentary, "Hidden Love: Animal Passions," reported on practitioners in Missouri's "zoophile" community (i.e. humans romantically involved with animals), including an interview with an uncloseted zoophile gushing

over his "wife" Pixel, a horse. Said one activist, "We are not sick at all. Zoosexuality is merely an alternative lifestyle."

Mommy Dearest

The Appleton, Wis., police were called to an unnamed woman's house in December to remove her children because of reports that she had given her 11-year-old daughter a swirlie.

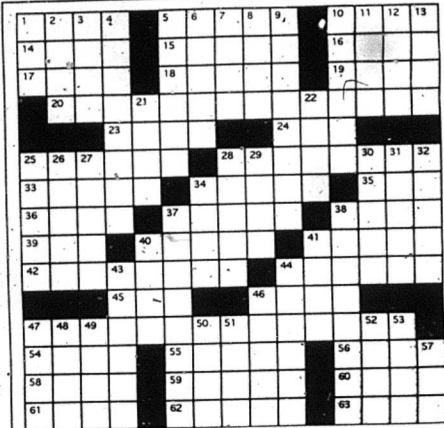
(Yes, the high school bully's reason for living — sticking the victim's head in a swirling toilet bowl.)

When police informed the mother that they were taking her children, she responded, "I haven't had a vacation in 13 years. Go ahead and take them."

Their ways are not our ways

A Canadian judge denied a work permit to an "unqualified" immigrant stripper, saying she had worked only topless in Romania while the Canadian job required full nudity.

Last month, Britain's nuclear agency said a kid's Christmas display built by Dounreay nuclear power employees was safe despite the fact it consisted of containers that once held radioactive waste.



Across

1. Reptiles
5. British titles
10. Jellylike lump
14. Scheme
15. Group founded by Jakob Armann
16. Nero's home
17. President of a nation, who died in 1980
18. Coarse blanket
19. Famous victim
20. Site of Grand Canyon University
23. Part of a hammer
24. Author of The Purloined Letter
25. Be determined by something else
28. Small appliances
33. Painter Milton (1853-1965)
34. Coeur d'Alene, Idaho
35. Swimmer's distance
36. Pimples
37. Blue-black fruits
38. Horse's feature
39. Summer at the Sorbonne
40. Stage figure
41. Dog's problem
42. Developing location
44. Alt
45. Suffix for cloud or chill
46. Eve's boy
47. Site of the Sooners' school
54. Medley
55. Types of swords
56. Classrooms for science majors
58. Martin
59. Girl's name
60. Magazine titles
61. Unacted; Wigtown residents; One-dish meal

© Puzzle Features Syndicate

Answer to last week's puzzle:

L A T T I E W O K E D I A M P
 A R T I S T A B E L O B I E
 M I T T E N S L O N E W A N E
 B I A R N I A C I L E C R A T E R
 L A P I D E S O T A G I E T A I S
 U A P I E D P A I S T I E
 O N E D I A M O N E R O S I E
 T I N I R I T A I T A S V I E N
 S O U N D S C A L P A R I T
 I D E A T I T H T I L L E T I E D
 S C I R I B S Y S T A I L E
 P R I E S T O D E R O G I A T E
 A U N T A M O R T A T E R
 N E E T A R I N G E T I O N S
 S T I C K Y O U S I E D E W I S E

SHOWCLOCK

- Greenwood 6**
 Soram 3 - (F) 7:30, 9:30, 10 (S&S) 1, 2, 3:30, 4:30, 7, 7:30, 9:30, Eye of the Beholder - (F) 7, 9:15 (S&S) 1:15, 4:30, 7, 9:15
 The Hurricane - (F) 7:10, 10:10 (S&S) 1, 4, 7:10, 10:10
 Any Given Sunday - (F) 6:50, 9:40 (S&S) 1, 4, 6:50, 9:40
 Galaxy Quest - (F) 7:10, 9:20 (S&S) 1:30, 3:45, 7:10, 9:20
- Plaza 6**
 Down To You - (F) 7:15, 9:15 (S&S) 1:15, 3:15, 5:15, 7:15, 9:15
 Girl, Interrupted - (F) 6:50, 9:30 (S&S) 1:20, 4, 6:50, 9:30
 Toy Story 2 - (F) 7 (S&S) 1:30, 3:45, 7 The Green Mile - (F) 8 (S&S) 1, 4:30, 8
 Stuart Little - (F) 7:15, 9:15 (S&S) 1:15, 3:15, 5:15, 7:15, 9:15
 The Talented Mr. Ripley - (F) 6:50, 9:30 (S&S) 1, 4, 6:50, 9:30
 Play it to the Bone - (F, S&S) 9:20

New Rock 92 COLLEGE TOP TEN

1. Orgy — Stitches
2. Conehead Buddha — Bobby Brooks
3. 311 — Flowing
4. G. Love & Special Sauce — Rodeo Clowns
5. Filter — Take a Picture
6. Korn — Falling Away From Me
7. Soul Coughing — Circles
8. Nine Inch Nails — We're In This Together
9. Prozzak — Sucks To Be You
10. Beastie Boys — Alive

These are the top ten requested songs on **New Rock 92** for the week of January 23-29.

Herald— New Rock 92 Blind Date of the Millennium Contest

Name _____
 Age _____
 Gender _____
 Phone # _____

Send entries to:
 Millennium Contest
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Drawing will be held LIVE on **New Rock 92** between 8-10 p.m. on Feb. 10

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Double Steakburger Platter
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MADAME MOONBEAM'S PREDICTIONS

ARIES (Mar 21 - Apr. 20)
 Finally, a week virtually free of worry. Life has decided to take a break from slapping you around long enough to let you relax. Take advantage of it. You can take it easy as long as you are doing your job and not goofing off.

TAURUS (Apr. 21 - May 21)
 Your love life is blissfully stress-free at the moment. Use the lull to improve existing relationships as opposed to trying to create new ones.

GEMINI (May 22 - June 21)
 Look at it this way, you won't be bored this week. Lots of stuff will be going on in your home and at the workplace. It won't be all that bad, or good for that matter, just hectic. You can deal with it in two ways: Go with the flow, or resist and suffer the consequences.

CANCER (June 22 - July 22)
 Pay attention because a great idea is on your horizon. Be aware of strangers, conversations when out in public. Which isn't to say you should eavesdrop, but overheard conversation is a great way to pick up some insight.

LEO (July 23 - Aug. 22)
 You may have a tendency to get a little melancholy this time of year, but resist the urge to mope. Invite friends over to watch movies. Buy that CD you've been wanting for a while. It doesn't matter as long as you treat yourself.

VIRGO (Aug. 23 - Sept. 23)
 Your energy level is off the scale this week, almost too high for your own good. You can be really productive if you channel that energy. Or you can stew in your own hyperactivity and get frustrated.

LIBRA (Sept. 24 - Oct. 23)
 If you were standing on shaky moral ground to begin with, this is not going to be the week for you. Temptation is waiting to jump on you with both feet. Beware of what sounds too good to be true. It usually is.

SCORPIO (Oct. 24 - Nov. 22)
 Someone could be trying to analyze your personality. While it's probably annoying, this person is just trying to get to know you better. So tolerate it. Unless, of course, they start dressing like you and mimicking your speech. Then it's just weird.

SAGITTARIUS (Nov. 23 - Dec. 21)
 You aren't the type to take advice... from anybody. But the opinion of a friend on an upcoming dilemma will turn out to really be the best advice after all. You should take it.

CAPRICORN (Dec. 22 - Jan. 20)
 A pleasant surprise will be coming your way this week. Could be a winning lotto ticket. Could be an all-gotten free candy bar from the vending machine. It doesn't matter as long as you appreciate whatever gift fate decides to drop in your lap.

AQUARIUS (Jan. 21 - Feb. 19)
 Things are going your way this week. But even that can have drawbacks. Be careful that those around you don't start to grow resentful or jealous. The downside to being the "successful guy" is that everybody hates him.

PISCES (Feb. 20 - Mar. 20)
 Time to focus on your honey. Make them dinner, write them a love letter, whatever, as long as it's heartfelt. Yes, Valentine's Day is two weeks away, but do it anyway. Otherwise, they may not be around on Feb. 14.

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SCHOOLHOUSE:

Rockin' out Nashvegas

CONTINUED FROM PAGE 9

In today's other news, Who wants to be a Bachelorette? Slots are still available for the New Rock 92/Herald Blind Date of the Millennium contest. In case you missed out, we're setting six guys up with six girls for an absolutely free blind date at O'Charley's.

The winners will be announced LIVE sometime between 8 and 10 p.m. Feb. 10 on New Rock 92, 91.7 FM.

There's still time to enter. The entry form is on page 13.

SuperPicks

The Pick of the Weekend has Bowling Green written all over it, but it's not in Bowling Green.

It's in Nashville, baby. Nashville's 105.9 FM is holding a free concert Friday featuring BG's own Government Cheese. For those new to the Cheese, they're what I'd call a country-fried rock band.

Doors open at 5 p.m., but the station recommends getting there early. The first 1,800 in the door get to see the show.

The Cheese takes the stage at 7:30, and the nightcap is psychedelic rockers Blue Oyster Cult. Very Dazed and Confused.

If you haven't started celebrating Black History Month, shame on you. Black history is a fascinating thing. Who do you think gave us all rock 'n' roll?

This week's pick sounds pretty cool, too. Minority Student Services is holding a Gospel Song Fest at 6 p.m. Saturday in Van Meter Auditorium.

There's more theater to talk about this weekend. "Sand Mountain" opens Thursday at the Phoenix Theatre.

The production, which stars several Western theater students, plays nightly at 7 p.m. and 3 p.m. on Sunday. Cost is \$10 for adults, \$8 for students.

Phoenix Theatre is located at 545 Morris Alley, behind National City Bank, downtown. For reservations, call 781-6233.

If this Schoolhouse is a rockin', please come a knockin'. Letters and/or e-mails are welcome here. Do so at batchme@wku.edu or 122 Garrett Center, Bowling Green, Ky. 42101.

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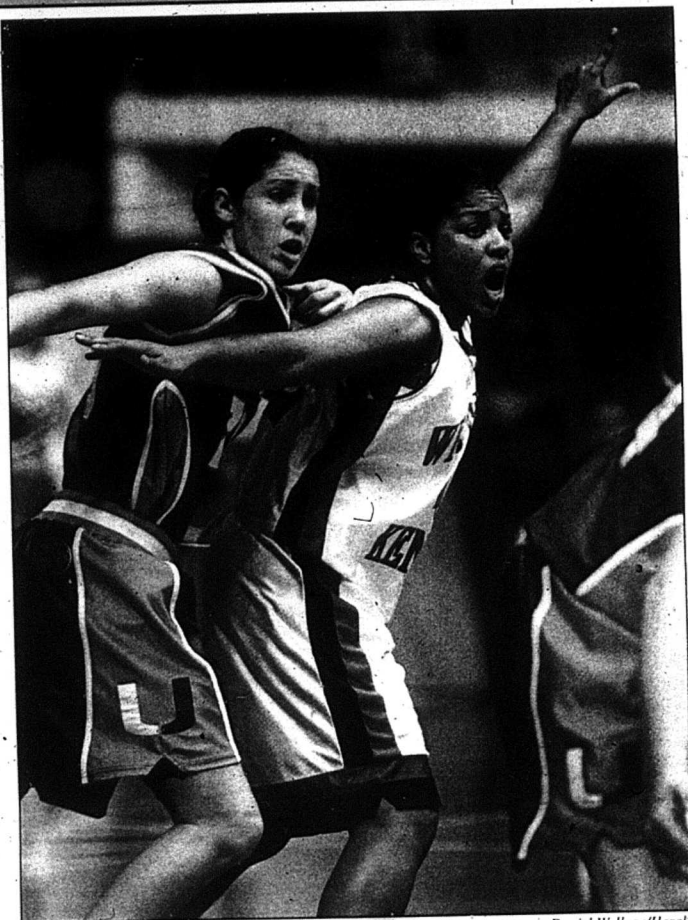
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Sports



Daniel Wallace/Herald

Senior forward Jamie Britt has developed into one of the most versatile Lady Toppers this season. She is averaging 14.9 points and 7.7 rebounds a game.

true BRITT

Senior continues spectacular season

By LYNDAY SUTTON
Herald reporter

If your basketball team dreams at night of playing inside the paint and blazing to the basket with nearly perfect results every time — you want Jamie Britt on your team.

Or, if your team dreams at night of playing on the outside, faking out opponents and then swiftly draining three-pointer after three-pointer — you want Jamie Britt on your team.

If your team dreams at night of shooting three-pointers into the heavens or grabbing rebounds from the skies or gliding past the stars for a layup — then Jamie Britt is your dream turned reality.

Senior forward/guard/put-me-anywhere-on-the-court-and-I'll-make-something-happen Jamie Britt has proven that she can and will do just about anything this season for the Lady Toppers (12-7, 6-2 Sun Belt Conference).

At 5-9, she's been Western's most versatile player on the court, able to run with the quickest of guards and posting up with the strongest of forwards. Britt takes players out of their comfort zones at will, but Britt herself is seldom, if ever, removed from her comfort zone. Sitting on the bench is about the only uncomfortable place in a gymnasium for the multi-purpose player.

"Jamie Britt causes a lot of problems for a lot of other teams because even though she's only about 5-9, she's incredibly strong," associate head coach Mary Taylor Cowles said. "She can hit the outside three-pointer, or she can play inside the low block, which is where she spent her whole high school career. So she's a really hard mismatch for a lot of people because even if they put somebody 6-2, 6-3 (guarding her), we've got the ability offensively, just to put her on the perimeter, and she can shoot all day."

Once upon a time, though, the Bowling Green native considered playing softball in college but knew that would probably take her far from home. Besides, Western was one of the top five teams in the nation at that time.

"If you can go to a school that's a top four or five program in the nation, right at home, 10 minutes from your house, why go cross country?" Britt said.

Britt, who had been a post player at Warrén East High School, was moved to the point guard position her freshman year by former Coach Paul Sanderford.

SEE BRITT, PAGE 14

Baseball should heed tips over 16-day break

They traveled through a winter storm, buzzed down south on a barreling bus. All the talk was put to the test. No more predictions. Play ball.

And so the Hilltopper baseball boys got swept. It was No. 6 Florida State. It was at Tallahassee. It was January. To the slide of 8-1, 2-1 and 6-1. Western opened its diamond season 0-3, now back in the dugout to refine the game plan.

The Hilltoppers will have plenty of time to do it. Try more than two weeks before they pick up a bat, swing and bunt, dive and launch when it counts. More than two weeks of practice. More than two weeks of trying to drag themselves to the field in the bitter wind. Fourteen days of feeling the shock of a bat hitting a baseball under Jack Frost's spell. Damn, that hurts.

So here are a few tips for killing the time before welcoming St. Louis on Feb. 19. This coming from a guy who hasn't played organized baseball since little league. But I was pretty good at wiffle ball. Does that



OUT OF BOUNDS
Travis Mayo

count?

◆ Rent "Major League" and "Major League II." Ignore the third, because it was as lousy as having a trip to Florida rained out.

And you all know just how bad that is — a hated rain holdup last Friday halted your start.

Oh, and try to get past an entirely different person playing Willie Mays Hayes. Did the sequel's producers really think we were so stupid that we wouldn't question that move?

SEE BOUNDS, PAGE 14

Toppers face Georgia Tech tomorrow

By BRETT CORBIN
Herald reporter

A winning streak of two-plus years is on the line as the men's swim team faces Georgia Tech tomorrow with pressure a plenty.

According to coaches, a victory may rest on any of the events as they face one of their toughest opponents of the year.

The men, who won last Saturday against Evansville, are rested and ready for tomorrow afternoon. The undefeated women controlled the meet against Evansville in an easy 155-137 win, demonstrating exceptional speed.

In keeping with the team performance, sophomore Megan Zerhusen won every event she entered. She took first in the 200-yard freestyle, 50-yard freestyle and 200-yard backstroke.

"It's just a matter of getting in and having fun and competing," Zerhusen said.

Sophomore Brandi Beckwith also performed well in her events, winning the 100-yard backstroke, the 100-yard butterfly, and set a new school record in the 400-yard individual medley. She now has eight of the pos-



Andrew Otto/Herald

Sophomore Shannon Jones executes an inward 2 1/2 for a 2nd place finish in the three-meter board competition against Evansville last Saturday at Preston Center.

sible 14 school records and seven of the 14 pool records.

"The girls swam awesome," Beckwith said. "It surprised us all at how well we were doing."

The men failed to sweep Evansville but won going away 158-129.

The Toppers came out winning the first event easily taking first and second in the 200-yard medley relay.

Junior Andrew Priest put up good times winning the 200-yard

breaststroke and setting a new pool record in the 100-yard breaststroke.

"We didn't slouch off any since last weekend," Priest said. "Hopefully we can do the same Friday night against Georgia Tech. Coach is kind of worried about them."

The men will meet a very tough opponent when Georgia Tech comes to town tonight to

SEE TECH, PAGE 16

BRITT: Senior 'more aggressive'

CONTINUED FROM PAGE 13

"That whole year I was learning how to perform facing the basket instead of with my back to the basket. And as the years progress, I learn more and more every year," Britt said.

Britt has finally uncovered the perfect role for herself on this overachieving yet under-manned team. She doesn't just dream of juggling the best of both worlds, playing inside and outside, she does it.

The reality is way better than any dream she could ever imagine. She's set and reset her career-scoring high three times already this season, the peak coming against conference foe Arkansas State. Western won the game by 27, 90-63. Britt herself scored a team-high 31 points.

"Well, Jamie Britt was just a player that at one point was

just a role player, and you look at everything that's happened to this Western Kentucky team, and she's certainly stepped up to more than a role player," Arkansas State coach Brian Boyer said. "She's turned into an all-conference type performer. It didn't seem to matter who we had on her, she was going to get her points tonight and you know, she was definitely more aggressive than we were tonight."

More aggressive. More active. More versatile.

More everything. "It means a lot for the team because we need somebody besides (junior forward) ShaKae (Mansfield) to step up, and Jamie has the ability to do that," said junior guard LaVonda Johnson. Britt's second cousin.

And she's been a surprise. She averages almost 10 minutes more a game this year than last

and has doubled her scoring average. She was named the Sun Belt Conference Player of the Week for the first time in her career this season. Britt will lead the Lady Toppers in action again tonight at 7 in Diddle Arena against Arkansas-Little Rock (4-12, 1-5).

"Jamie Britt has done a great job, and if there's one kid I'm as proud of, it is probably Jamie because she saw an opportunity this year as a senior. She took a hold of it, she's been a great leader for this basketball team if nothing else by example on the floor," Cowles said. "What she's doing basketball-wise has been a great example for the rest of the kids. Jamie's a great person, and she's a great asset to our staff."

"And I'm really tickled just to see her have such a great senior year because I think she's really enjoying herself."

Tops practicing harder

By TRAVIS MAYO
Herald reporter

If they're not in the gym, the Hilltoppers are on the road. If they're not scrapping around in practice gear, the Hilltoppers are either at a game-day shootaround or aboard a charter bus headed in some Sun Belt direction.

The men's basketball team is trying to bring new meaning to the cliché "practice makes perfect." Two-a-days during long breaks in games, practices the day after a game and the day of a road trip and practices hours removed from the bus. And that time spent in an empty Diddle Arena can seem as long as a Thursday night class.

"I probably can go through my high school practices and not break a sweat now," sophomore center Chris Marcus said.

Some might worry that all the energy used in practice could hinder Western in actual games. But the Hilltoppers aren't complaining about all the off-time spent working. In fact, they actually often wish they were practicing when they aren't. If the rules allowed more time on the floor, they'd probably use it all. Must be that seven-newcomers-to-Division I statistic.

"We haven't practiced much this year," Western coach Dennis Felton said. "We've had shorter practices than I've ever had. But then again, we've got so many young guys. It takes time to develop a work ethic, and we're so young."

Felton hopes all the practice serves its purpose: getting his team tougher and hungrier. Marcus seems to think the results are showing. Regardless of wins or losses, he said that in the past few games, Western has looked more together, seamed as a team.

"Now, you see it paying off," Marcus said. Plus, any time with a basketball in hand is a good time for passionate ballers. Proof?

Picture senior forward Lee Lampley bumping down low with guys like the 7-1 Marcus and 6-11 sophomore Brian Allenspach.

"We have so many guys that just love to play the game," junior guard Nashon McPherson said. The hope is that love will soon reel off wins.

Marcus dominating

At halftime of Monday night's brawl at New Orleans, Marcus had 11 rebounds. The Privateers had nine — altogether. He finished with 18 points on 7 of 11 shooting, with an increasingly softer touch from beyond the block. He also had 17 boards and three blocks. He now has a streak of four consecutive double-doubles.

But it was his first domination away from the Hill. Somewhere in the middle of the Hilltoppers' four-game home stand last week, Felton pulled his giant aside and asked him what was making him soar. The answer was home, and Felton told his pupil, in just his ninth month of organized ball, to stir the same intensity everywhere. Nothing else was said. And Marcus had a time in New Orleans.

Giving it away

Despite a win Monday, Western was troubled by its 29 turnovers, the most forced by New Orleans all season. The Hilltoppers are averaging about 19 per game, something Felton attributes to youthful (yes, it's still there) and anxious players.

"I think for us — 29 turnovers — that is the last thing for us to conquer," he said.

Sun Belt watch

In case anyone's keeping a close eye on the conference, Western is tied for fifth with the Privateers. Louisiana-Lafayette is still undefeated in Sun Belt play at 7-0, 16-5 overall. South Alabama (11-8, 6-2), a team Western beat in double overtime two Saturdays ago, is in second.

BOUNDS: Toppers could use tips

CONTINUED FROM PAGE 13

- ◆ To defy winter, try to talk Coach Joel Murrice into handing out prizes for blasting in practice. For every hammer over the wall in batting practice, a free super-size cup of hot chocolate. For every dive on the icy turf, 10 minutes under a heated blanket. For every fielding doozy, a half-hour's worth of jumping into a beach scene on a virtual reality machine.

- ◆ Eat all the sunflower seeds imaginable. Clean out the grocery and convenience stores. If you indulge in sunflower seeds like Kurt Warner indulged in stardom, you'll think that baseball season is in full swing these 16 days outside the baselines.

And if that doesn't work, just tear into a case of Cracker Jacks.

- ◆ Play "Take Me Out to the Ballgame" all the time. It might annoy everybody else on your floor or in your apartment block, but who cares? It's the most popular song in baseball history. Just try not to sing in harmony. That could be ugly.

- ◆ Two words: thick gloves.
- ◆ If you're in the dorms, lay down a few copies of the Herald in the lobby. Use them as bases in the lobby. Use them as bases not to trample anyone trying to come in and out. Sultan swats wouldn't be too likely, so mark off a spot that counts as a home run. Don't forget to clarify foul territory. And make sure you invite the coaches so it counts as

practice. Hoax a couple of professors into being amps.

- ◆ Two more words: space heaters.

- ◆ To keep up the humor, pitch an egg in the middle of practice. If anyone fumes, just tell them some nutty sports writer put you up to it. I can run a few routes around the bases. I need the exercise.

Okay, okay I fibbed a bit. I wasn't a superstar on the wiffle ball field (any open backyard). I once went 0 for 3 against a pitcher with pitgalls.

But I know the basics of the game. Hits are good, solid pitching is key and the New York Yankees are kinda good. It doesn't take 16 days to figure that out.



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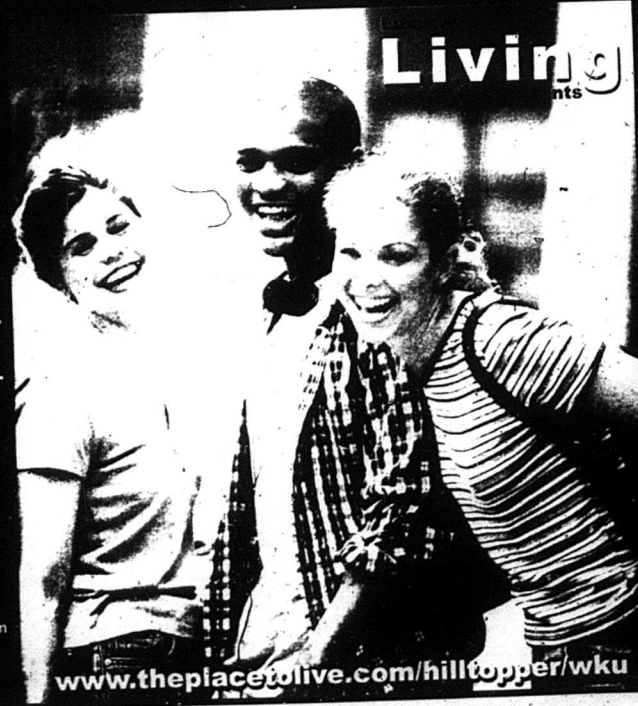
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College Heights Herald

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Roots gives reasons to love nature on Valentine's Day

A girl I dated once said that winter was a time for boyfriends and hot chocolate. I think she was right. Winter is the time of year when wool sweaters and cold evenings spent under blankets burn life's greatest memories.

Winter is a time for watching falling snow drift under silent oaks and pines with the ones we love. Better yet, winter is a time to take that special someone out in the white stuff and roll and slide like we did in our youth.

Maybe, just maybe, that's why winter also hosts Valentine's Day, that special day when love fills the air. Even for those who don't have a special someone, they also get caught in the spirit of Valentines and heart candy. It's that time of year when the warm colors of pink and flushed cheeks fill us.

I ask you though, how many Valentines run together in a blur of a dozen roses and a red heart-shaped candy box? For most, I would say they melt into the memory of just another holiday.

Well, I encourage you this year to step back and use your imagination to discover another aspect of Valentine's Day — winter. That's right, take advantage of the season, share the special day with that special someone in nature.



GRASS ROOTS
Jed Conklin

There are many things you can do that force warm hugs and words of thanks.

You can do the easiest and possibly most fun thing: take them for a hike. There are many places that offer great trails close to Bowling Green. The most popular is Mammoth Cave. Most people think more about the cave than the vast trail system and river that run through the park. I recommend the Sal Hollow trail. Another short and really pretty trail starts at the Nolin River dam. The trail is not marked, but if you cross the dam there is a parking place to the right heading towards Mammoth Cave. You will park right next to the road, then cross the road, and a trail is visible as soon as you cross the guardrail.

Go play in the snow. If there is snow on the ground, get a garbage can lid and take 'em sledding. Don't tell them about it though. After dinner on the special day have clothes in the trunk and surprise them at the top of Hospital Hill for an evening of sledding.

I can't think of a better one than this: go camping. What better time of year to sleep under the stars? You will need a warm bag and lots of body heat! Use your imagination on a place to pop a tent. Mammoth Cave offers camping and so does Barren River Lake. Although the campgrounds on the lake are closed during the winter, there is no problem camping around the lake. Take precautions for cold weather and be safe.

So Western, this year make Valentine's Day stand out from the ones in the past. Take the extra time to plan an outdoor Valentine's, and I promise you will earn brownie points and have a great time in the process. However, I still recommend the usual dinner, flowers and a little gift to keep everyone happy.

Jed Conklin can be reached at Jed4UN99@aol.com

Ideas? Complaints? Call the **Herald** at 745-6011.

WESTERN SPORTS SCORECARD

Team	W—L	Next
Men's basketball	6-13	Feb. 9 at South Alabama
Women's basketball	12-7	Today vs. Arkansas-Little Rock
Men's swimming	10-0	Tomorrow vs. Georgia Tech
Women's swimming	12-0	Sat. vs. Illinois-Chicago
Track	*	Sat. at Indiana
Baseball	0-3	Feb. 19 vs. St. Louis

* Track does not keep win-loss records.

Sports Briefs

Marcus ranks in NCAA in rebounds and blocked shots

Sophomore center Chris Marcus is ranked 14th in rebounding, averaging 9.7 rebounds a game. His 2.5 blocked shots average has him ranked 29th.

The Hilltopper has tabbed four straight double-digit rebounding games, the latest coming as a career-high of 17 in a 62-60 overtime game against New Orleans.

Marcus leads the Sun Belt Conference in rebounding, blocked shots and field goal percentage.

He and Western (6-13, 4-4) return to action Feb. 9 in a conference match-up at South Alabama.

TECH: Meet Friday

CONTINUED FROM PAGE 13

practice for the meet tomorrow. This should be a close meet since the teams have opposite strengths and weaknesses. The Yellow Jackets are strong in distance but weak in speed, and the Toppers are strong in sprints and weaker in the longer races.

"There's a few events where it's gonna be tough for us to compete, and there's gonna be a few events where it's tough for them to compete with us," assistant coach Steve Crocker said. "I think we're gonna have to swim a lot better than we did against

SIU to win... but I think we can."

Also a factor is that Georgia Tech had last week off and has an easy meet Saturday against a weak Louisville team.

The next day the men must get in the pool — hopefully still undefeated — to face an easier opponent in Illinois-Chicago.

The Lady Toppers will support their male counterparts from the stands Friday because Georgia Tech has no women's swim team. But on Saturday they hope to again swim well and notch another victory against the Illinois-Chicago.



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