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Spring 2009

WKU<sup>®</sup>

# SPIRIT

*Magazine for alumni & friends of Western Kentucky University*



**Go Red**

*We*

# GREEN

**WKU Sustainability**



# The Charitable Gift Annuity

may be the gift for you!

A Charitable Gift Annuity (CGA) is a contract for a benefactor to exchange a gift of cash or marketable securities (stocks, bonds, mutual funds) to WKU for a fixed income payment for life. The payment does not fluctuate with the economy, so the benefactor knows exactly how much income they will receive.

Age of Benefactor	Annuity Rate	Sample Gift Amount	Annual Annuity	Immediate Charitable Donation
60	5.0%	\$10,000	\$500	\$2,151
70	5.7%	\$10,000	\$570	\$3,543
80	7.1%	\$10,000	\$710	\$4,818
90+	9.5%	\$10,000	\$950	\$6,081

## CGA Benefits:

- Income payments for your life and others
- Current income tax deduction
- Reduction of capital gains tax

# The Society of 1906

Recognition society for those who include WKU in their gift planning

Charles and Ruth Ruter made a charitable gift annuity to WKU to supplement the Ruth and Charles Ruter Scholarship Fund for Track and Field.

"This is a wonderful tool for retirement purposes, and the CGA also provides aid to WKU."

- Charles Ruter



Ruth '47, '53 & Charles Ruter '46, '47

To receive your illustration, contact John Paul Blair or Alex Downing in our planned giving office toll free 888-958-2586 (888-WKU-ALUM).

# WKU SPIRIT

Magazine for Alumni & Friends of Western Kentucky University

**WKU SPIRIT** Editor  
Tracy Morrison ('85)

Vice President for Institutional Advancement  
Tom Hiles

Executive Director  
Donald Smith ('94)

Publication Design  
Digital Design Advertising, LLC

University Photographer  
Clinton Lewis ('04)

## Office of Alumni Relations and Annual Giving

Amy Hardin ('02) William Skaggs ('95)  
Tori Hardin ('06) Destiny Smith ('05, '08)  
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Editorial policy: Letters to **WKU SPIRIT** are welcomed and encouraged. Submission does not guarantee publication, and those letters that are published may be edited for style and length. Please include the writer's signature, the year of graduation if an alumnus, a daytime phone number and a return address. Letters may be sent by fax to 270-745-5017, e-mail to [alumni@wku.edu](mailto:alumni@wku.edu) or mail to WKU Alumni Association, Tracy Morrison, **WKU SPIRIT** Editor, 1906 College Heights Blvd. #31016, Bowling Green, KY 42101-1016.

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### WKU Sustainability

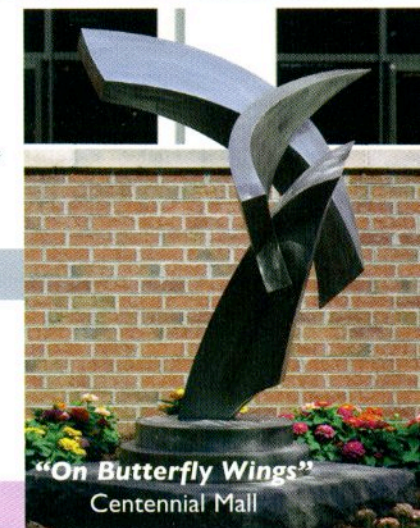
Creating a culture of sustainability at WKU is an exciting endeavor that we are embracing with the spirit exemplified by Hilltoppers.



## CAMPUS Art

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What is it, what does it mean – good questions that are perhaps being asked by WKU's students, staff, faculty and visitors since an initiative began placing outdoor sculptures on the main campus.



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## SISTERHOOD OF Philanthropy

As women increased their visibility in their community and the workplace, they also increase their opportunity to make a difference.

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Fellow Alumni and Friends:

In 1998, the year following my appointment as President of WKU, the Commonwealth of Kentucky embarked on an extensive journey to reform public higher education in our state. This effort paralleled our strategic planning process at WKU which has focused on a transformation of our university.

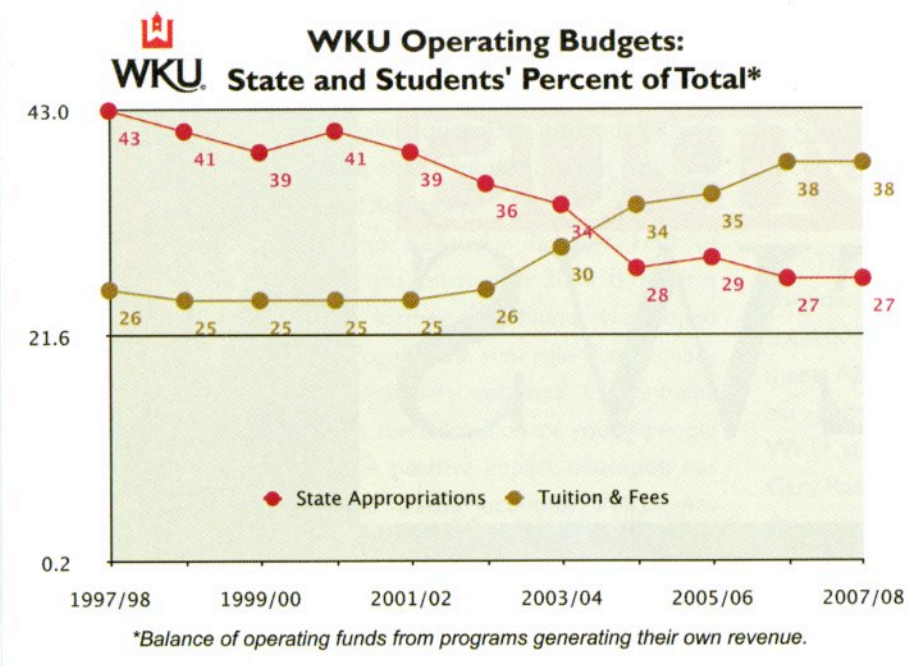
We have made significant progress over the ten-year period from 1998 to 2008, and we believe the data speaks for itself in documenting that WKU leads the way in the reform of higher education in the Commonwealth (see chart). No university has grown more in raw numbers or percentage in several categories, including enrollment.

Our greatest challenge has been funding that progress in the absence of stable funding from the Commonwealth. Although state support for higher education has grown significantly, universities have experienced reductions in state funding in

**WKU** Ten Years of Higher Education Reform in Kentucky: WKU Highlights: 1998-2008

	1998	2008	10-Year Change
University Enrollment	14,882	19,761	4,879 (33%)
Kentuckians Enrolled	10,833	13,799	2,966 (27%)
Regional Campus Enrollment (Glasgow, Elizabethtown/Radcliff/Ft. Knox, Owensboro)	2,509	4,244	1,735 (69%)
Honors College Enrollment*	N/A	824	824
Average ACT Score of Honors College Students*	N/A	27.9	N/A
STEM Enrollments (Science, Technology, Engineering & Math)	2,827	4,159	1,332 (47%)
STEM Degrees Awarded	507	673	166 (33%)
Engineering Enrollments	N/A	435	435
Gatton Academy of Math & Science Enrollments	N/A	120	120
Online Enrollments	149	19,109	18,960 (12,725%)
Academic Programs Available Completely Online	1	21	20 (2000%)
Average ACT Score of Entering Freshmen	20.8	21.4	0.6 (3%)
Graduation Rate	39.1%	47.3%	(21%)
Baccalaureate Degrees Awarded	1,716	2,391	675 (39%)
African American Students	971	1,887	916 (94%)
Number of Students Living on Campus	3,134	5,001	1,867 (60%)
Private Gift Deposits per Year	\$4.2 M	\$17.7 M	\$13.5 M (321%)
Endowed Chairs and Professorships	4	29	25 (625%)
Endowment	\$24.9 M	\$104.5 M	\$79.6 M (320%)
Endowed Scholarships	87	219	132 (152%)
Patent Applications Filed (Cumulative)	1	11	10 (1,000%)
Formal Patents Issued (Cumulative)	0	5	5
License Option Agreements (Cumulative)	0	11	11
Total Sponsored Research	\$15.0 M	\$22.1 M	\$7.1 M (47%)
Research Expenditures	\$2.9 M	\$12.7 M	\$9.8 M (338%)

\*Established Summer 2007.



six of these ten years. At WKU we are much more dependent today on tuition to support our educational responsibilities than before higher education reform began in 1998, and tuition is now a greater percentage of our operating budget than state appropriations (see graph).

We at WKU have also become much more dependent on private gift support from our alumni and friends.

We are at a crossroads. The good news is that the quality of teaching and applied research and the quality of our campus physical plant are both higher than at any time in our 103-year history. The bad news is that state funding and tuition dollars will not, in the near future, allow us to serve our students, pay our faculty and staff and cover the increasing cost of utilities and technology in a manner that is needed if we are to sustain the leadership position we have earned.

We are making tough decisions. Like all of corporate America, we are reducing non-essential costs and programs. We are setting priorities for funding. We are refining our ambitious strategic plan to focus on very few initiatives over the next several years. We are accountable, and we are making good use of the dollars we receive from the state, from our students and from you.

Tangible financial support from our alumni and friends is more important now than ever. It is the only way we can achieve our vision to be 'A Leading American University with International Reach.' We must rely on those closest to WKU to provide the annual and capital gifts that allow good—and deserving—students and highly competitive faculty, to grace our WKU campuses.

These are tough times for everyone. But families come together in tough times. The WKU

Family is the one group that fully understands the value of a WKU degree and knows what is at stake for WKU.

This is not about lofty goals or state politics. It is about our University and the pride we show for WKU. It is about controlling our own destiny as a university. It is about us. I hope you will help make a future for WKU that is worthy of the progress that we, together, have made in recent years.

Your annual gifts, your estate plans, and your gifts of property or other assets are critical to WKU.

To make your gift today, or for further information please call 888-WKU-ALUM(958-2586), or visit [www.wku.edu/makeagift](http://www.wku.edu/makeagift).

Your tax deductible support is important and necessary.

Thank you.



# CAMPUS NEWS



Gov. Steve Beshear and President Gray Ransdell at the announcement of WKU's comprehensive Energy Policy.



## WKU's Comprehensive Energy Policy

Kentucky Gov. Steve Beshear and WKU President Gary Ransdell announced in March the implementation of a comprehensive Energy Policy for WKU that outlines individual and University responsibility for energy management. The policy was developed by the WKU Sustainability Committee's Energy Conservation Task Force.

"This policy is the result of collaboration across the campus community," Dr. Ransdell said. "It is comprehensive in scope and is intended to guide the university in responsible use of energy through personal conservation, responsible purchasing, efficiency in building design and management, transportation and education and awareness. Personal responsibility is emphasized throughout."

Gov. Beshear said WKU's new policy compliments two state-wide initiatives announced in February. The first requires new and renovated public facilities to be designed according to nationally recognized energy efficiency

standards. The second requires certain existing state-owned facilities to reduce energy consumption by setting back their use of lighting, heating, ventilation and air conditioning during down periods. The policy can be found at <http://www.wku.edu/Dept/Support/FacMgt/Energyhome.htm>.

## WKU Honored for Work at Upper Green River Biological Preserve

WKU has been recognized for its work at the Upper Green River Biological Preserve with the inaugural Heritage Land Stewardship Award from the Kentucky Heritage Land Conservation Fund Board.

The award was presented in Frankfort to WKU biology faculty mem-

bers Albert Meier, Ouida Meier and Scott Grubbs, who are co-directors of the 800-acre preserve in Hart County near Mammoth Cave National Park.

Being selected for outstanding stewardship management statewide "is a pretty wonderful honor because we aren't full-time managers," Albert Meier said.

The mission of the WKU Upper Green River Biological Preserve (<http://greenriver.wku.edu/>) is to foster knowledge and protection of this diverse region and its natural heritage through research, education and conservation.

The Kentucky Heritage Land Conservation Fund (<http://www.dnr.ky.gov/heritageland/>) provides funding for preserving and conserving natural areas that possess unique features. The KHLCF provided the funding to acquire the Upper Green River Biological Preserve in 2004 and has funded several other land acquisitions for WKU.

Revenue for the fund comes from the Nature License Plates, the state portion of the unmined minerals tax and environmental fines.



Upper Green River Biological Preserve Western Kentucky University

This special symbol of the Preserve, using the shapes of mussel shells as landforms on either side of the Green River, was created and donated by Mina Doerner.

## Five Inducted into Kentucky Teacher Hall of Fame

Five outstanding educators were inducted in February as the second class of the Gov. Louie B. Nunn Kentucky Teacher Hall of Fame.

The five inducted at the Capitol Rotunda in Frankfort are Theresa Cowherd ('72, '74) of Bowling Green, Dale Faughn of Fredonia, Jessie Pearl Comer Jackson ('30, '56) of Gamaliel, Hilda Willis Jenkins ('61) of Bowling Green and Rosemary Weddington of Frankfort.



The 2nd annual Louie B. Nunn Kentucky Teacher Hall of Fame induction ceremony was held on February 10, 2009 in the Kentucky Capitol Rotunda in Frankfort. Pictured (L to R) Dale Faughn, Sen. David Givens, Hilda Willis Jenkins, '61, Theresa Cowherd, '72, '74, President Gary Ransdell, Jessie Pearl Comer Jackson, '30, '56, Rosemary Weddington, and Dean Sam Evans.

This year's class of inductees, chosen by a statewide selection committee, possesses a total of 217.5 years teaching children and adolescents in the Commonwealth of Kentucky and spans the years from the Depression to the current year.

"It is fitting that we conduct this ceremony in the Rotunda of our state's Capitol as our elected officials meet to chart the course for our future," WKU President Gary Ransdell said. "Clearly, Gov. Beshear and the members of the

Kentucky General Assembly place a high value on education, and I firmly believe that education is the key to a better Kentucky."

The Kentucky Teacher Hall of Fame was created in 2000 through a gift by former Gov. Nunn, who hoped to recognize the vital role that primary and secondary teachers in Kentucky play in the education of young people and the positive impact education has on the state's economy. WKU was selected as the home of the Kentucky Teacher Hall of Fame because of its 100-year history in teacher education.

## Regents Change Minimum Number of Hours Needed for Baccalaureate, Associate Degrees

WKU students may be able to graduate a little quicker thanks to a change approved by the Board of Regents.

The Board in January approved changing the minimum number of hours needed for a baccalaureate degree from 128 to 120.

"We can make this change without negative impact on academic quality and possibly be a significant benefit to students," Provost and Academic Affairs Vice President Barbara Burch said.

While individual degree programs may have different requirements, Dr. Burch said the change will make it easier for some students to graduate in four years and decrease the total cost of their education. It also puts WKU in line with a national trend and with most Kentucky colleges and universities. The change is effective for students completing baccalaureate degrees in the 2009 fall semester.

The Board also approved reducing the minimum number of hours for an associate degree to 60 from 64.

## Students Likely to See Smaller Tuition Increase; Campus Budget to be Reduced

The WKU Board of Regents will consider a 4 percent tuition increase for the 2009-2010 academic year when it meets April 24. "This would be the lowest percentage tuition increase for WKU students since 1989," President Gary Ransdell said. "We are sensitive to the economic realities that families are facing but have an obligation to ensure academic quality at WKU. This increase represents the five-year average inflationary increase for higher education nationally and will at least allow us to cover the majority of our fixed cost increases for the coming fiscal year."

As the Commonwealth of Kentucky seeks to balance the state budget for 2009, WKU's state appropriation will be reduced by 2 percent, or \$1.6 million. In addition, WKU officials decided to cut budgets across the campus by an additional 2 percent and will recommend a plan to the Board of Regents to reallocate those funds to provide one-time bonuses to faculty and staff. "I have committed to the campus that faculty and staff salaries will be my top priority," said Ransdell. "While I am disappointed that we cannot do more in this regard, reallocating funds in our existing budget for this purpose is the right thing to do." Under this plan bonuses would be set at a minimum of \$500 and a maximum of \$1,000 for all employees.



More WKU News  
<http://wkunews.wordpress.com>



## WKU Engineering Students Demonstrate Submersible Device

WKU's Department of Engineering has displayed another example of real-world, project-based learning.

Representatives of the engineering program and the Warren County Rescue Department were on hand at the Preston Health and Activities Center pool to watch WKU seniors Jack Wallace and Kory Liszt demonstrate their remotely operated submersible (R.O.S.).

Wallace and Liszt refurbished and altered the submersible's body as well as designed and built all electrical and mechanical systems including the power, control and video systems that operate the underwater device. The device operates on a 12-volt automobile battery.

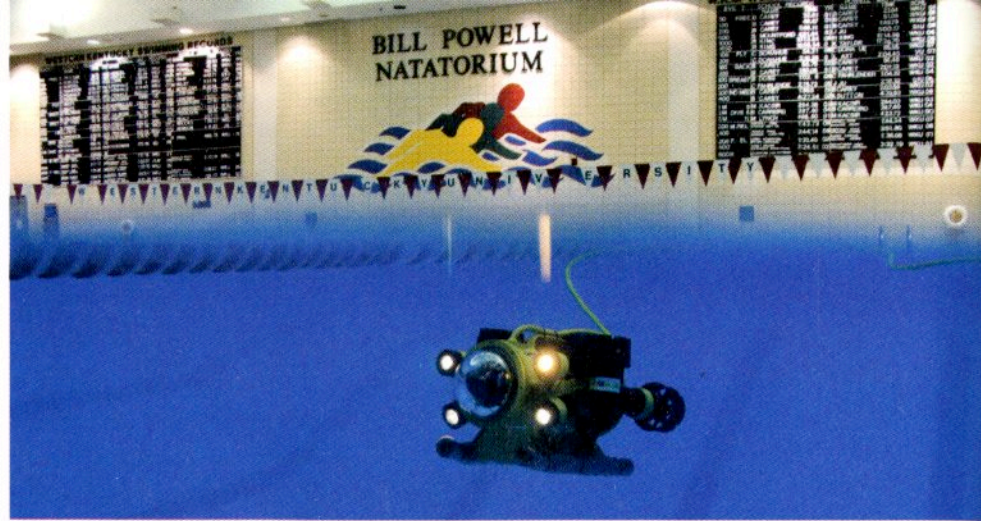
The rescue department will use the device to aid in water rescue and recovery operations and will begin training its members soon, said Andy Tucker, department chief. "This equipment will be used not only in Warren County but in all of Kentucky," he said.

The electrical engineering students' device is the only known fully portable and independently powered remotely operated vehicle among others of similar size and capability, according to staff engineer Ron Rizzo. Similar devices of this class and capability cost \$10,000 to \$75,000; the students and support staff developed this device for \$4,000.

"It's good to see the results of our work finally sitting in the water," said Liszt of Pleasanton, Calif.

As the device maneuvered in the water, Wallace noted that the project had plenty of other ups and downs in the past year as they solved the engineering problems.

"On paper, it would look really



WKU Engineering students demonstrate their submersible device at Bill Powell Natatorium.

good, but when we'd put it together we'd have a problem," said Wallace of Springfield, Tenn. "But we finally got them solved."

"Going from paper to real life is a different experience," Liszt said.

## WKU's Center for Gifted Studies Awarded \$2 Million Grant for Project GEMS, will Partner with Warren County Schools

Dr. Julia Roberts, director of The Center for Gifted Studies at WKU, will lead a five-year, \$2 million grant to address the need for a steady supply of science, technology, engineering and math (STEM) students in Kentucky and the United States.

The grant from the U.S. Department of Education is one of seven in the country awarded under the Javits Gifted and Talented Students Education Act. Project GEMS (Gifted Education in Math and Science) will focus on creating opportunities to generate interest and develop talent in disciplines related to science and math and encourage careers in STEM disciplines, Dr. Roberts said.

Project GEMS will be a partnership between The Center and Warren County Schools in Bowling Green. It will target upper elementary children from low-income backgrounds and minorities

who are underrepresented in STEM disciplines by providing services for children gifted in math and science at four elementary schools with more than half their children qualifying for free or reduced meals: Cumberland Trace, Lost River, North Warren and Bristow.

The Academic/Aquatic Center under construction at the Warren County Board of Education Central Office will have science classrooms and will house a magnet program for these students who will receive problem-based learning instruction in math and science there one day a week.

Warren County Superintendent Dale Brown said the grant will be a wonderful opportunity for young people in the county. "We believe this is the first step in addressing underrepresented students in the areas of science, technology, engineering and math," Brown said.

Another project component is professional development. Dr. Roberts said 70 teachers will be targeted to receive professional development in problem-based learning and gifted education.

Project GEMS research results will be used to design services and programs that are based on developing curriculum for identifying advanced abilities among elementary students and developing talent in children who are advanced in STEM disciplines, with the ultimate goal

to replicate the successful program in the district, state and beyond, she said.

The Center for Gifted Studies will also partner with local businesses, such as Trace Die Cast Inc. and Bowling Green Metalforming, to foster an understanding of technological and scientific application in the work force. Lowell Guthrie, CEO of Trace Die Cast, said, "I look forward to our involvement with these young people to help create an interest in science and math fields."

## WKU One of Two Public Universities Recognized for Excellence in Teacher Education

WKU and Towson University (Md.) have been named the 2008 recipients of the Christa McAuliffe Award for Excellence in Teacher Education by the American Association of State Colleges and Universities (AASCU).

The purpose of the award is two fold: To recognize excellence in teacher education programs and to advance the field of teacher education by identifying promising practices and critical issues related to measuring the impact of programs on teacher candidate knowledge and the impact of these teachers on pupil learning.

In announcing the awards, AASCU President Constantine W. (Deno) Curriss said, "Many of our teacher education programs are doing outstanding jobs. We want to recognize the best among those programs."

WKU was recognized for its Teacher Education Preparation Programs and its groundbreaking work developing and utilizing Teacher Work Sample data. Their unique program utilizes the Kentucky Core Content standards and reports P-12 student progress based on assessment aligned to

those standards.

"We are thrilled to be recognized nationally for our education preparation programs, which are at the very core of our institutional beginning as a teacher's college," says WKU President Gary Ransdell. "At WKU, we strive to graduate leaders in education. These leaders, whether in the classroom, school office or the central office, are responsible for one of the most important economic development tools available—the education of our children. Having our programs associated with such a prestigious national honor is a further testament to the exceptional experience our faculty and staff all across WKU provide for our students."

## Gatton Academy, The Center for Gifted Studies Among Partners for Commonwealth Institute for Parent Leadership

A grant from the J. Graham Brown Foundation to the Prichard Committee will fund a special Commonwealth Institute for Parent Leadership (CIPL) focused on science, technology, engineering and mathematics. This institute will be implemented in partnership with the Carol Martin Gatton Academy of Mathematics and Science in

Kentucky and The Center for Gifted Studies at WKU.

The institute will be conducted Sept. 17-18, Oct. 22-23 and Nov. 19-20 in Louisville to provide leadership training and support to parents who advocate for improved science and math education in their schools.

The Commonwealth Institute's curriculum focuses on training parents to better understand Kentucky's standards-based educational system, accountability system, leadership skills as well as planning and strategic development of a project to implement as a partner with their schools to improve student achievement.

The cost of the program – instruction, supplies, meals and lodging – is covered by the J. Graham Brown Foundation grant. Applications are being accepted from across the state of Kentucky; class size is limited to 30 parents. To apply or receive more information, visit [www.cipl.org](http://www.cipl.org) or call Lou Ann Cavenee-Ramos at (859) 233-9849, ext. 231.

CIPL, entering its 12th year of nationally acclaimed parent training, is an arm of The Prichard Committee for Academic Excellence.



Dr. Julia Roberts, director of The Center for Gifted Studies at WKU, has been nationally recognized for her lifetime devotion to advocacy for gifted children.





# CAPITOL SPOTLIGHT

Senator David Givens



David Givens '89, '97  
Kentucky State Senator

When former state Senator Richie Sanders announced he would not seek re-election in 2008, David Givens never dreamed that he would be the person to follow in his footsteps. Now a newly elected state Senator, Givens says he is proud to represent the people of the 9th Senate District, which includes Allen, Barren, Edmonson, Green, Metcalfe and Simpson counties.

Givens credits Dr. Gordon Jones, an agriculture professor at WKU, for prompting him to run for elected office. "I never thought of running for office until Dr. Jones approached me and encouraged me to give back and serve my community and my state," Givens said. "It is truly a humbling experience to have so many people put their trust and faith in me. I hope to do the best job I can and make my constituents proud."

Although rare for a freshman legislator to chair a committee, Givens was tapped by Senate President David Williams to chair the Senate Agriculture Committee.



"Senator Givens is one of the most prepared freshman legislators who has enthusiastically taken up the challenge of crafting solutions to his district's needs," Williams said. Givens also serves on the Education and Transportation committees.

Education issues topped the agenda in the 2009 General Assembly, including budget initiatives that spared critical education funding from further state reductions. Givens believes that better preparation of high school students is among the best ways to provide relief for universities. "So many resources are devoted to developmental courses for underprepared students," he said. "I believe if our high school students enter college better prepared then we will achieve significant savings across the state at our universities." Givens would like to see resources currently spent on remedial education devoted to other things, such as entrepreneurship programs that give students the tools to create business and opportunities in our communities.

Givens earned both his bachelor's degree in Science and his master's degree in Communication from WKU. "My true passion is agriculture, but through the communication program I was able to meet people in all walks of life, and that really helped mold me into the person I am today," he said.

Givens and his family own and operate a large farm supply store in Greensburg, Ky. He is married to Lynne Klingeman Givens, also a graduate of WKU, and they have three children: Hannah, 11; Matthew, 8; and Michael, 6.



# Letters to the EDITOR

WKU SPIRIT welcomes readers' comments. Letters should include the writer's full name, address, school(s), degree(s) and year(s) of graduation for alumni. Letters may be edited for length and clarity. Correspondence should be sent by e-mail to [alumni@wku.edu](mailto:alumni@wku.edu) or by mail to the WKU SPIRIT Editor, 1906 College Heights Blvd. #31016, Bowling Green, KY 42101-1016.

**Dear Editor,**

As someone who has recently entered the "real world," I want to commend the WKU Alumni Association for offering Big Red Space. I had always known that it was not what you know, but who you know. However, it wasn't until I started using Big Red Space to network with other WKU alumni that I realized how close the Hilltopper bond really is! It's so personal and familial to WKU; yet, you can broaden your reach by linking your Facebook and MySpace to it! I love having the events all in one place, too!

**Go Tops!!**

**Jenna R. Smith '06, '08**

**Dear Editor,**

As a WKU international alum, I am excited about WKU's endeavor to be *A Leading American University with International Reach*. I believe in this era of knowledge; WKU has an extraordinary opportunity to lead by spreading expertise and facilitating learning across the globe. As a consensus building practitioner, I am confident that by enhancing our working-together capacities we can leverage the power of differences to excel, learn from experience abroad, and contribute to the development of societies while turning challenges into opportunities and making our world a better place.

**Luis Ore '04**

CEO, ORASI Consulting Group, Inc.

**Dear Editor,**

I would like to commend you and your staff for always keeping alumni informed. I was very pleased with the issue that focused on diversity at the University. As a former student and now a staff member, I feel it's very important that everyone is aware of the great international ties our WKU community has. The plethora of cultures we get to experience by interacting with one another makes the campus experience more rewarding.

The milestones WKU has achieved and continues to strive for makes me ecstatic to be a member of this family. Keep up the good work!

**Sincerely,**

**Tanja N. Bibbs '05, '07**

**Dear Editor,**

I was once again excited to see the curriculum for Alumni College '09. I thoroughly enjoyed attending Alumni College '08 and I want to spread the word to other alumni about this wonderful opportunity to return to campus for a long weekend of activities, games, and classes with NO tests! If you haven't been back to campus lately, or if you need a good dose of WKU spirit, Alumni College is perfect. I urge you to attend this year.

**Paul Calico '76**



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# A New Century of Spirit

The Campaign for Western Kentucky University

## MID - CAMPAIGN REPORT

### New Century of Spirit Mid-Campaign Report

#### New Endowed Professorships:

- BB&T Professorship in Economics for the Study of Capitalism
- Greulich Endowed Chair in Robotics and Automation Engineering
- Jarve Endowed Professorship in Honors
- Leichhardt Endowed Professorship in Horticulture
- Hays Watkins Endowed Professorship in Corporate Leadership

**A Total of 182 New Endowed Scholarships**

**A Total of \$17.7 million in Cash Gifts Annually**

#### Capital Project Updates:

##### Football Stadium

\$8.4 million raised toward \$10.8 million goal: \$2.4 million still needed

##### Baseball Clubhouse

\$665,225 raised toward \$800,000 goal: \$134,775 still needed

##### Chandler Memorial Chapel

\$1,514,446 raised toward \$1.7 million goal: \$185,554 still needed

##### Clinical Education Complex

\$2.7 million raised for facility and infrastructure toward \$3.2 million goal  
\$1.3 million raised for endowment toward \$7 million goal

##### Student Publications Building

\$753,898 raised: Project fully funded

### A New Century of Spirit

The Campaign for Western Kentucky University

(as of 3/31/09)



PROGRAM	CURRENT TOTAL	2012 GOAL
<b>PEOPLE</b> <i>Highly credentialed faculty and exceptional students</i>	\$39.7M	\$75M
<b>PLACES</b> <i>Campus capital enhancements</i>	\$27.4M	\$25M
<b>PROGRAMS</b> <i>Academic and programmatic excellence funds</i>	\$69.9M	\$100M
<b>TOTALS</b> <i>(as of 3/31/09)</i>	\$137M	\$200M



Mitchell Leichhardt '70

### Professorship Honors Life and Career of Local Horticulturist

A new professorship at Western Kentucky University will honor the career of Mitchell Leichhardt, a lifelong landscape architect, horticulturist, and businessman, whose dedication to the business has spanned nearly seven decades.

The \$1 million Leichhardt Endowed Professorship in Horticulture will be established through a \$500,000 private gift, which will be matched, dollar-for-dollar by the Commonwealth of Kentucky's Regional University Excellence Trust Fund.

Leichhardt hopes that this pro-

fessorship will support and encourage future generations of horticulturists. "It is my hope that WKU will be able to attract and keep talented instructors who will inspire, equip, and attract students interested in horticulture, so that this vocation, which has given me so much fulfillment, will continue to thrive and flourish for future generations."

Dr. Blaine Ferrell, dean of WKU's Ogden College of Science and Engineering, said that Horticulture is a growth area in the Department of Agriculture. "The Leichhardt Professorship in Horticulture has allowed us to

retain an excellent horticulturist, Martin Stone, who is educating the next generation of horticulturists and engaging our students in excellent research," he said. "This professorship is a very fitting tribute to Mitchell Leichhardt, who is himself an innovative horticulturist. The Ogden College of Science and Engineering is very appreciative of this gift. It sends a message of strong outside support for what we are doing and provides us with resources necessary for providing a unique and excellent education for our students."



## Former Campus Leader Makes Gift to WKU

Former administrator Dr. Charles Anderson and his wife, Faye—both of whom are alumni of WKU—recently made a \$100,000 gift to create the Charles M. Anderson Public Broadcasting Fellowship. This endowment, when fully funded, will provide for up to three fellowships per year to allow students in the WKU School of Journalism & Broadcasting to work at WKYU-PBS and WKU Public Radio.



Dr. Charles '65 and Faye Anderson '71

The funds will provide the tuition costs for these students to enroll in the School of Journalism & Broadcasting internship program, pay them an hourly wage, and provide a cash stipend for their efforts. This program will benefit students in the School of Journalism & Broadcasting at

WKU by providing them with an in-depth exposure to the professional environment of WKU Public Broadcasting, working side-by-side with some of the best broadcasting professionals in the nation. At the same time, the fellowship program will benefit the operations of WKU Public

Broadcasting by providing the valuable human resources of additional staffing in the areas of radio news and video production.

Charles Anderson is a broadcasting entrepreneur and consultant. He retired from WKU in 1999 after 31 years of service.

## The Matching Game

Double, or even triple, your gift to WKU by having your employer match your contribution. For example, your gift of \$100 could be a \$300 gift to WKU if your company has a 2 to 1 match.

Matching gifts are a valuable source of funds for the University. More than 9,000 companies (including parent companies and their subsidiaries) in the United States provide support to higher education through employee matching gift programs.

Mary Nixon, vice president, Internal Audit, for Yum! Brands Foundation and a member of the New Century of Spirit Campaign Cabinet, has utilized the Yum! Brands matching gifts program to enhance her leadership commitments to WKU. "One of the most powerful ways to support organizations you are passionate about is to

leverage your corporate matching gift program," she said. "I would encourage all companies to have them as a way to support the outreach of their employees. I would also encourage employees of companies that already have them to make sure the company executives know how much it is appreciated."

Contact your company's personnel or human resources office or visit [www.matchinggifts.com/wku/](http://www.matchinggifts.com/wku/) to see if your company has a matching gift program. If it does, then ask for your company's form and return it to:

**WKU Development Office**  
1906 College Heights Blvd.  
Bowling Green, KY 42101-1000

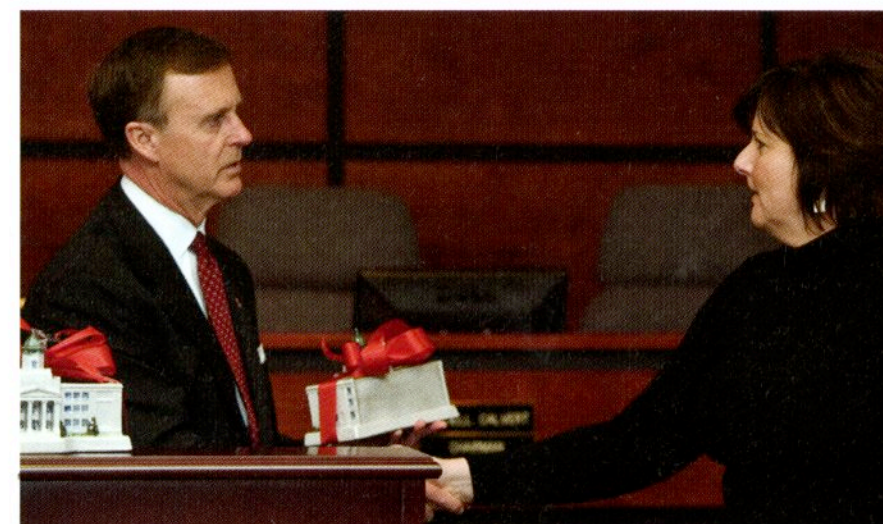
Further questions? Contact us toll free at 888-WKU-ALUM (958-2568) or via e-mail at [alumni@wku.edu](mailto:alumni@wku.edu).

## Allen County School District and WKU Announce Two New Scholarships; Lead Gift from Laura Goad Turner Charitable Foundation Key to the Partnership

A \$1.475 million gift from the Laura Goad Turner Charitable Foundation will launch an important partnership among Western Kentucky University, the Allen County School District, and Allen County health and human service organizations.

The Laura G. Turner Service First Scholarship Fund at WKU will be created through \$1.125 million of the gift, while \$350,000 will be used to create the Laura Goad Turner Charitable Foundation SKyTeach Fund. A total of \$250,000 of the gift for the SKyTeach Program will be matched by the National Math and Science Initiative, providing \$600,000 for the SKyTeach Fund. This will offer a total impact of \$1.725 million for WKU and the Allen County School District.

The Laura G. Turner Service First Scholarship Fund will provide \$5,000 scholarships to WKU students who are graduates of Allen County-Scottsville High School and who are willing to be employed during the summer in a non-profit organization that provides direct service in Allen County. As part of the scholarship, the Laura Goad Turner Charitable Foundation will fund the summer salary. The scholarship program will begin with two incoming freshmen, and will add subsequent recipients each year.



Dr. Gary Ransdell presents Katherine Sikora, Laura Goad Turner Charitable Foundation Board representative, with a token of appreciation.

Gift Details	
Laura G. Turner Service First Scholarship Fund	\$1,125,000
<i>\$1 million for scholarship endowment, \$125,000 to immediately provide scholarships</i>	
Laura Goad Turner Charitable Foundation SKyTeach Fund	\$ 350,000
SKyTeach Match	\$ 250,000
<b>Total Impact</b>	<b>\$1,725,000</b>

The scholarships will be eligible for renewal for up to three additional years, provided the recipients meet the academic requirements and complete a six-week, 40-hour-per week, employment program at a non-profit providing direct service in Allen County. The non-profits will be selected by the United Way of Southern Kentucky, and the service requirement must be met during the summers after the recipients' freshman and sophomore years in order for the scholarship to be renewed for the following year.

The SKyTeach portion of the generous gift will provide scholar-

ships for Allen County students who are interested in becoming science or mathematics teachers.

WKU President Gary Ransdell said that, through the years, the Laura Goad Turner Charitable Foundation has funded scholarship programs which have an empowering effect on the students who have benefited from this support. "Many of these students were the first in their families to go to college," he said. "Education has become a fundamental tenet of the Foundation's mission. The Laura G. Turner Service First Scholarship will encapsulate the Foundation's strong commitment to education, as well as emphasize a commitment to help others through a work/study component with area-based non-profit organizations."





For years, Mary Hutto lived on the fringes of Western Kentucky University's campus. She quietly managed a boarding house owned by her parents and spent her spare time dabbling in the stock market. She lived a simple life and her frugality was legendary among the generations of students who lived there. Mary took an active interest in the lives of her student tenants, often discussing their classes with them and encouraging good study habits. Upon her death in April 2001, Mary's interest in education and Western Kentucky University was immortalized with her legacy gift of \$3.5 million to create scholarships for Western Kentucky University students. At the time, her gift was the second-largest in WKU's history and the second-largest gift designated for scholarships at a Kentucky public university.

# SISTERHOOD

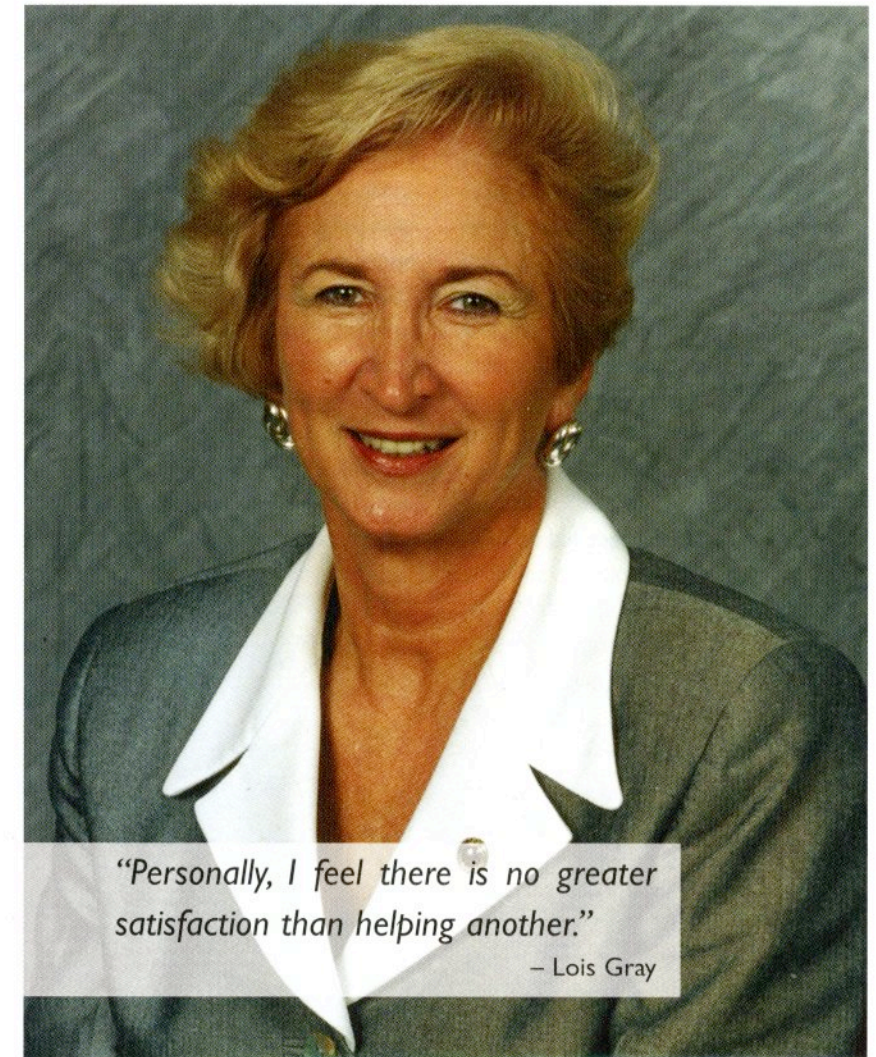
OF

# Philanthropy

by Amanda Coates Lich '00

While Mary Hutto's story is unique in the amount of her gift, the value of her generosity has been matched by many women who have walked the Hill as students, friends, faculty or staff. Their legacy to WKU may not always be measured in dollars, but rather in their commitment to this university and their desire to provide inspiration and opportunities to the women who follow in their footsteps. Like Mary, many of the alumnae—and friends—of WKU quietly go about their philanthropic work both within and beyond the walls of their homes. They attend the PTO meetings of their children, volunteer in their community and give back in many other meaningful ways. Their contributions to society are not always heralded in the headlines, but the impact of their leadership and commitment is felt by all.

The traditional philanthropic role of women has been more supportive and service-oriented by nature, often connected to their responsibilities as wives or mothers. More recently, their role has expanded to also include that of



*"Personally, I feel there is no greater satisfaction than helping another."*

— Lois Gray



organizational leader, policy maker and donor. Lois Gray, Chair of the WKU Board of Regents, links this expanded philanthropic role of women to an increased number of women in leadership roles who have their own wealth. "Many women now have leadership roles and are able to contribute resources to individuals and groups," she said. "We now have our own money and statistics show women outlive men, which may be a contributing factor in allowing women the sole decision on distribution of wealth."

As women increased their visibility in their community and the workplace, they also increase their opportunity to make a difference. In 2008, WKU received a grant from the NCAA to author a children's book called *Dream Big!* which focuses on Lady Topper Head Coach Mary Taylor Cowles' encouragement and support of a young girl's dream to be a Lady Topper. The program included an essay and art contest entitled *How Can WKU Help Make My Dreams Come True?* and copies of the book were distributed to area elementary schools. Because of her professional role and interest

in pursuing this philanthropic project, Coach Cowles will positively influence countless young girls to aim high in their personal and professional lives to work hard to achieve their goals. This interpretation of philanthropy recognizes the value of leadership, coaching and role models to young girls who will someday serve as leaders and philanthropists themselves.

Much of the literature available regarding women and philanthropy is anecdotal in nature and many questions remain regarding the intersection of the two topics. Must

women be more emotionally involved in an organization before financially supporting it? Are men and women motivated in different ways to support an organization? Is one gender more critical than the other in evaluating the use of their support? While many of the articles available on the topic share observations that identify differences between the genders and their approach to philanthropy, one author, Naomi Levine, seems to identify the most important lesson. "What is important is not to argue whether women will bring a new

perspective to fundraising, but rather to recognize their wealth, include them as major participants in campaigns, educate them when necessary on tax laws and other laws governing philanthropy, and recognize their ability to make major gifts," she said.

For many women of WKU, their attitudes and opinions about philanthropy and community involvement were influenced early on by other women in their lives—educators, Girl Scout leaders, women in their church, mosque or synagogue, and their own mothers or grandmothers helped to shape their sense of community and their place in it.

Dr. Elizabeth McWhorter Harden recalls her mother leading by example through her volunteer work in her church and community. "My greatest single influence was my mother who unselfishly provided a crucial example for her children through her sacrifices of time, material comforts, and worldly possessions so that her children could be competitive in the world of educa-

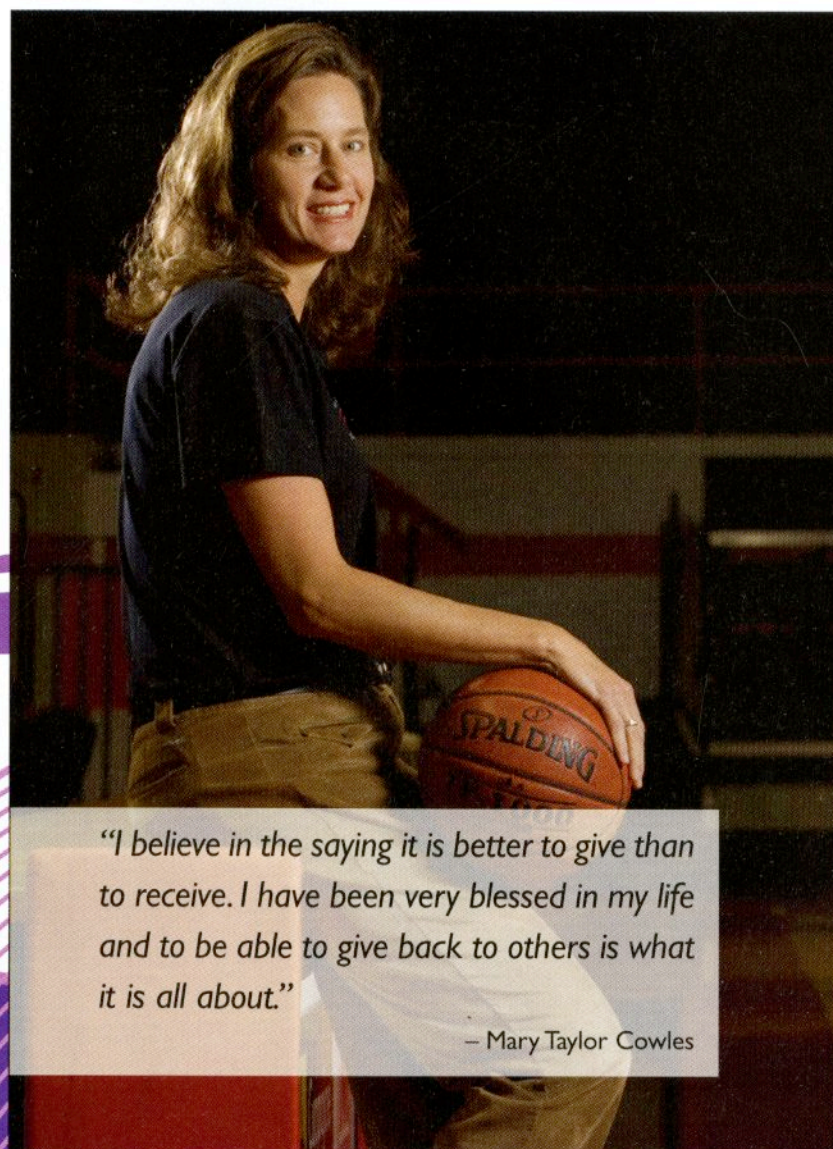
tion," said Dr. Harden. Because of the generous example set by her mother, Dr. Harden has given back to numerous and varied organizations, including her alma mater.

Equipped with a higher education and emboldened by the pathway paved by generations of women before them, the women of WKU have ample opportunity to lead industry, conduct groundbreaking research and bring about societal change in a whole new way.

As a student at WKU, Dr. Sharron Francis was one of a few female chemistry students in the

Class of '65; immediately enrolling at Vanderbilt after graduation from WKU, she was the first woman to obtain a doctoral degree in the Department of Physiology. "At the time, I did not think of it as 'groundbreaking'—I knew that I was in alien territory, but I was daring," she said.

Dr. Francis went on to become a leading researcher in studies of processes that control blood flow throughout the body; however that role was secondary to her primary responsibilities as a devoted wife and a mother to her children, Jason and Heather. Dr. Francis immersed



*"I believe in the saying it is better to give than to receive. I have been very blessed in my life and to be able to give back to others is what it is all about."*

— Mary Taylor Cowles



*"In general, philanthropy suggests placing the welfare of others before one's own interests."*

— Dr. Elizabeth McWhorter Harden



herself in the lives of her children through her involvement in their Girl Scout/Boy Scout activities, car pools, and fundraisers for their schools and scout troops. "For all the many hours that I volunteered in these activities, I did not receive, nor expect, accolades," she explained. The reward was in my soul because I knew the importance of the donation of my time and talents."

Inspiration for philanthropic involvement may take many forms, but a common thread seems to be that inspiration is necessary to motivate individuals to action.

"I am largely inspired by the talented leaders of the organization I support who often have the ability to make far more money with a for profit organization, yet have made the financial sacrifice to dedicate themselves to a cause," said Mary Nixon, Vice President of Yum! Brands, Inc.

Suzanne Vitale, community volunteer, echoes the importance of establishing a "faith and trust" in any group working together toward a common goal, "The goals of the organization must provide a 'fit' with each individual's interests and skills

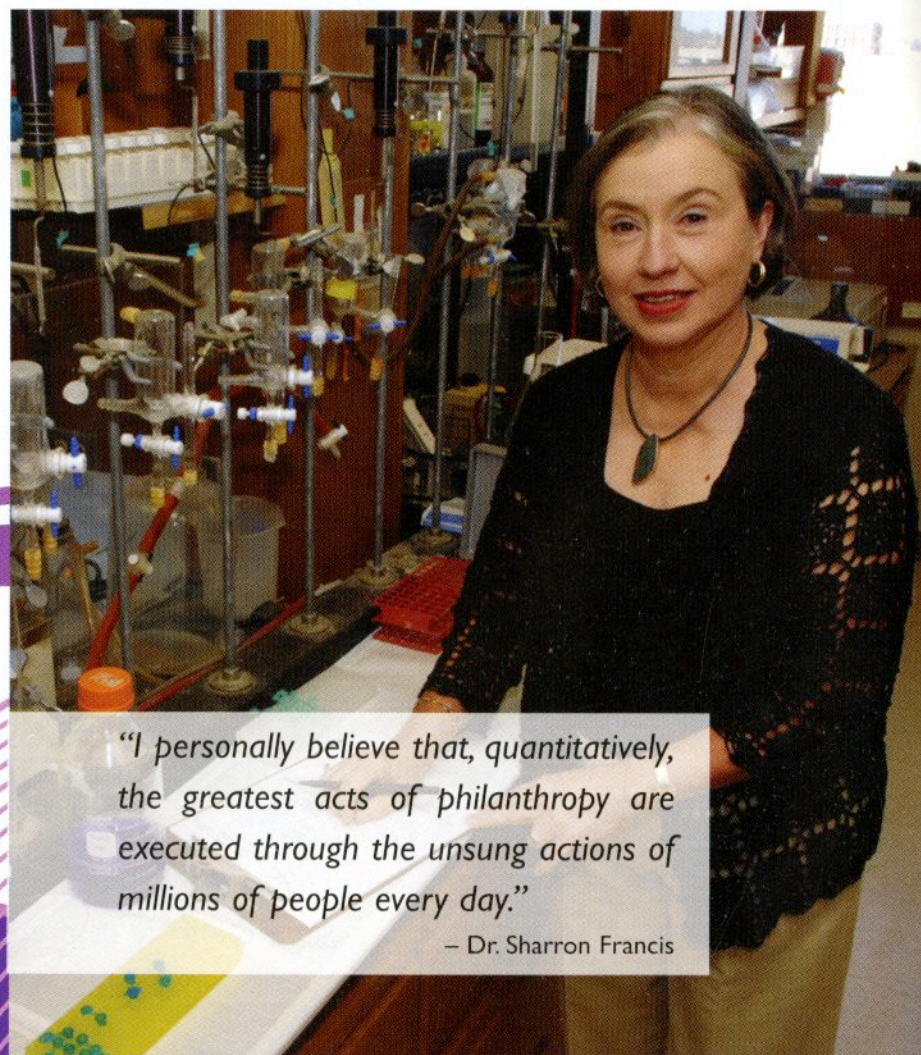
and usually revolves around the framework of other volunteers who become a mini community," she said.

As WKU continues in its quest to become *A Leading American University with International Reach*, we launch a new and promising era in our second century of service and learning. What an opportune moment to recognize and celebrate the myriad ways in which women have supported, enhanced and inspired this university and the variety of philanthropic roles they have held. The female philanthropists affiliated with WKU continue to give freely of their time, talent and treasure to lead us into *A New Century of*

*Spirit*. For their commitment, support and leadership, we are forever grateful.

**THE WKU SISTERHOOD**

In an effort to involve women in philanthropic activities at WKU to a greater degree, we are pleased to invite your participation in The WKU Sisterhood—the first organization of its kind at WKU. This giving initiative allows female alumni, friends, faculty and staff of Western Kentucky University to combine their annual financial gift with that of other women who wish to advance university priorities through philanthropic engagement and a collective voice.



*"I personally believe that, quantitatively, the greatest acts of philanthropy are executed through the unsung actions of millions of people every day."*

– Dr. Sharron Francis



*"Once you experience the joy of helping others its impossible to stop."*

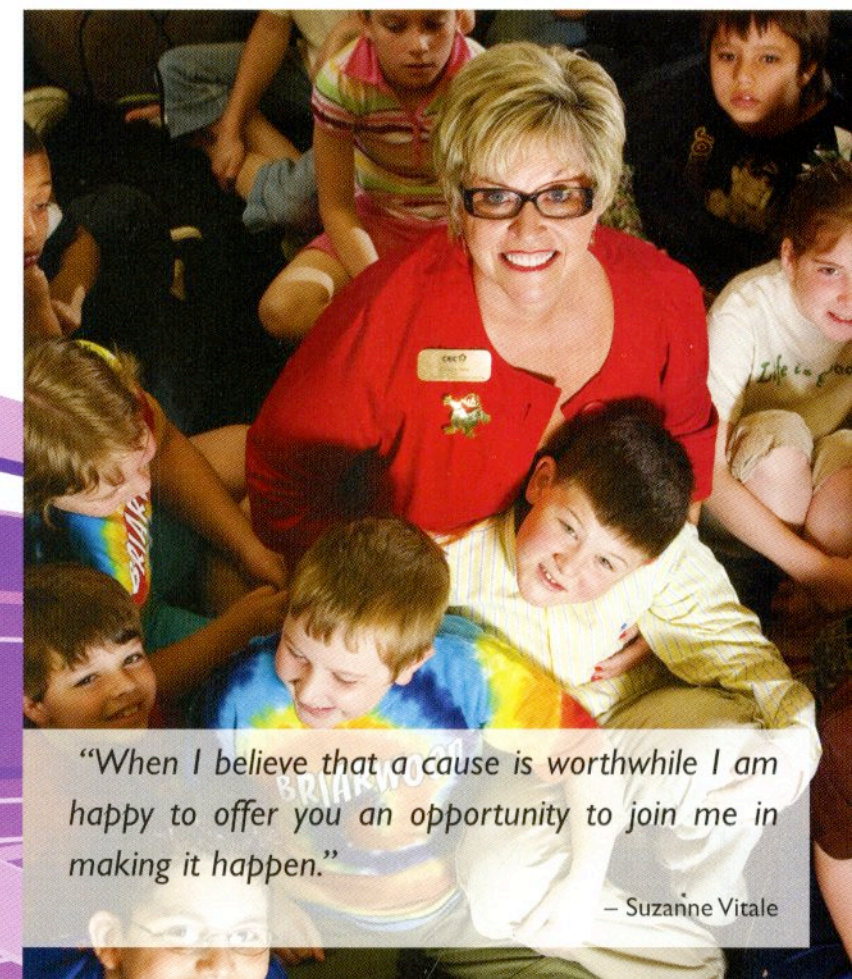
– Mary Nixon

To learn more about The WKU Sisterhood, provide feedback or join, please contact:  
 Amanda Coates Lich  
 WKU Director of Development  
 1906 College Heights Blvd., #11005  
 Bowling Green, KY 42101-1005  
 P: 270.745.2340  
 E: amanda.lich@wku.edu

The WKU Sisterhood is modeled after successful programs at peer institutions of higher learning and other non-profit organizations. Membership in The WKU Sisterhood will be composed of any alumna or friend of WKU who commits a minimum of \$1,000 annually to a designation to be determined by the full vote of the group. Founding membership in The WKU Sisterhood will be offered until December 31, 2009. However, gifts made in support of this initiative may be spread over a full year.

Grant proposals will be solicited from the campus community for programs or

initiatives that would benefit from private support. Each member of The WKU Sisterhood will have one vote to cast for the program or initiative of their choice at an annual meeting of the group. The grant recipient(s) will be determined by majority vote of the membership and the award(s) will be made at an annual event. One hundred percent of the funds raised through The WKU Sisterhood will immediately benefit a program or initiative of WKU. The membership goal of this important group is 100 members by June 30, 2010.



*"When I believe that a cause is worthwhile I am happy to offer you an opportunity to join me in making it happen."*

– Suzanne Vitale





WKU goes

by Christian Ryan-Downing  
WKU Sustainability Coordinator

# GREEN

*Students, administrators, faculty, and staff are driving the sustainability movement at Western Kentucky University. Changes can be observed in the way we clean buildings using eco-friendly cleaning methods and products, care for our gardens and lawns using native and drought-tolerant species and limiting use of synthetic fertilizers and pesticides, operate buildings with efficient heating and cooling and increasing conservation efforts, and teach sustainability in subjects from English to Engineering. Campus sustainability initiatives provide unparalleled opportunities for collaboration and innovation in teaching, research, and learning, producing graduates prepared to meet the challenges facing the global society today.*





**Sustainability**

The term sustainability has roots in early movements for environmental resource preservation. It has broadened with increasing awareness that conventional means of interacting with the environment and use of natural resources have consequences that threaten our quality of life and the well-being of future generations, and that ecosystem services — those natural systems which clean the air and the water, provide flood control and enrich soils, offer wild food sources and pollination — are invaluable and irreplaceable. Sustainability describes a new way of living, learning, working, playing and doing business that embodies a spirit of environmental stewardship, concern for all living species, and improved quality of life for everyone in the present and the future.

**Definitions of sustainability:**

*“Sustainable development is development that meets the needs of the present without compromising the ability of future generations to meet their own needs.”*

—World Commission on Environment & Development, Brundtland Report, 1987

*“...Then I say the earth belongs to each...generation during its course, fully and in its own right. The second generation receives it clear of the debts and encumbrances, the third of the second, and so on. For if the first could charge it with a debt, then the earth would belong to the dead and not to the living generation. Then, no generation can contract debts greater than may be paid during the course of its own existence.”*

—Thomas Jefferson, Sept. 6, 1789

**WKU Quick Fact**

WKU used 244,376,503 gallons of water in the 2007 - 2008 fiscal year.



Photo by: Mandy McConaha

Introduction to Archeology student “garbologists” perform a dumpster inventory to determine how much of campus waste is recyclable.

Creating a culture of sustainability at WKU is an exciting endeavor that we are embracing with the spirit exemplified by Hilltoppers. In one short year much progress has been made, beginning last spring with the appointment a Sustainability Coordinator to advance and promote sustainability efforts across campus. To help integrate principals of sustainability into University academics, operations and services, President Ransdell appointed a

Sustainability Committee in fall of 2008. The committee, comprised of faculty, staff, and students, has already made remarkable accomplishments including the creation of an Energy Policy and the WKU Green Fund. In January, Nancy Givens began a new position as the Sustainability Programs Development Coordinator, working with the Office of Research and Economic Development and Center for Math, Science and Environmental Education to provide



**WKU Quick Fact**

WKU recycled approximately 145,000 pounds of cardboard and 127,000 pounds of paper in 2008 (yet only 9 percent of total waste was recycled!).

leadership and promote sustainability in curriculum and community partnerships. Greening Big Red is an effort in which everyone can play a role. Examples of how WKU community members are doing their part abound.

**Campus Operations & Services**

The daily operations and services of a university that serves nearly 20,000 students and more than 3,000 employees requires significant use of resources and generates an enormous volume of waste. WKU is working to minimize resource use and waste through conservation, reuse, recycling and thoughtful purchasing. Initiatives include the Fresh Food Company’s “trayless” initiative that reduces food waste and saves water, and Parking & Transportation Services “Car-Free, Care-Free” campaign, which encourages use of bikes, public transportation, or carpooling with the new rideshare service available on their website.

The WKU Department of Facilities Management Energy Team, led by Dale Dyer, has been able to reduce campus electricity use, (a remarkable accomplishment considering growth in campus size and population), through smart energy management methods, such as building temperature setbacks during unoccupied hours. To further this effort, the WKU Sustainability Committee recently formed an Energy Conservation Task Force. As their first priority, the Task Force created an Energy Policy that will

guide WKU to use energy responsibly. The Energy Policy is a model of collaboration, with input from faculty, staff, students, departments, and divisions across campus. The Policy was adopted by the Administrative Council in March and celebrated with a visit from Governor Beshear.

Energy efficiency is a challenge on a campus that features historic buildings. WKU has awarded Johnson Controls an Energy Savings Performance Contract (ESPC). The ESPC will allow for capital improvements, funded by guaranteed savings through building efficiencies such as improved HVAC systems, better building envelopes, improved metering and operating systems, and applications of renewable energy.

To improve management of waste, the Department of Facilities Management has hired a full-time Recycling Coordinator, alumna Cristin Lanham. The campus recycling program achieved a recycling rate of 9 percent of total waste in 2008. Dumpster audits performed by student “Garbologists” from the Political Science Senior Seminar class and from the Introduction to Archeology class (and their adventurous teachers, Dr. Ardrey and Dr. Applegate) indicate that 40% of our waste is recyclable. The WKU Recycling program is expanding to strive for this goal, and has partnered with other campus departments and groups such as the Student Government Association and Housing and Residence Life to improve infrastructure and education.

**The Holiday Shutdown**

The extended Holiday Break in 2008 allowed an opportunity for energy conservation by executing a “hard shutdown” during which the WKU community was asked to unplug and turn off all appliances and electronics, and DFM staff unplugged drinking fountains and vending machines and turned off water heaters. Departments and divisions across campus participated, generating specific plans for conserving energy such as WKU Restaurant and Catering consolidating food into one freezer and Parking and Transportation reducing parking lot lighting to minimal safety levels and closing unneeded lots. Individual participation was essential, and campus community members pitched in to turn off computers, copy machines and other appliances, and anxiously watched the energy website use meter to see if we would make our goal. The experiment yielded better-than-expected results, in savings of over 1 million kilowatt hours, 1112 metric tons of greenhouse gases, and 128,000 dollars.



Photo by: Mandy McConaha



WKU recently broke ground on the new College of Education, our first Leadership in Energy and Environmental Design (LEED) Certified building. Green buildings incorporate efficient energy and water use, materials made locally or from renewable or recycled resources, occupant control over HVAC systems, natural daylighting, water efficient landscaping, recycling systems, and other features that not only consider the environment, but also the health and productivity of building occupants. Research studies are revealing that in schools and buildings where green technologies and techniques are used, test scores are higher, productivity is higher, and absenteeism is lower.

**Academics**

All of these operations and services initiatives toward sustainability offer opportunities for student involvement. The new College of Education building will have an educational component, including workshops and seminars for building occupants to learn about the special features of their building so they can act as smart users and ambassadors for visitors. The ESPC conducted by Johnson Controls will engage student interns, and campus energy conservation efforts include student "Green Teams" that will help educate the campus community on

what they can do in their offices, classrooms, and at home to reduce their use.

WKU Provost Barbara Burch is an advocate for sustainability, strongly supporting GreenToppers and student and faculty projects for awareness and education. In January 2009, the Provost announced the new Provost's Initiatives for Excellence - Energy Conservation and Efficiency grants. In collaboration with the Office of Sustainability and the Department of Facilities

ing oil to create biofuel. Architecture students are learning green building techniques. The Center for Math, Science and Environmental Education, directed by Dr. Terry Wilson, will change in focus and name to become the new Center for Environmental Education and Sustainability. These are only a few examples of how the curriculum is evolving to include sustainability. Increasingly, students are seeking research projects in the field, with rising awareness of the growing "green collar" job sector.



**WKU Quick Fact**  
WKU used 78,802,538 kilowatt hours of electricity in the 2007 - 2008 fiscal year.

Management, the Provost offers funding opportunities for projects that demonstrate energy efficiency and savings.

Sustainability is being incorporated into the curriculum across many fields of study. The Department of Geography and Geology offers an undergraduate sustainability minor (beginning in the Fall 2009) and an Environment and Sustainable Development undergraduate Program of Study beginning this spring. Engineering students are using used campus cook-

**Student Life**

The formation of GreenToppers Students for Campus Sustainability two years ago helped lead the movement toward a more sustainable WKU. GreenToppers are responsible for the annual Earth Day Festival, Big Red's Bikes and multiple other projects. GreenToppers ended 2008 by winning the JP Morgan Chase "Go Green!" contest led by senior Seth Cude. The \$40,000 prize has been matched by "Bucks for Brains", and the endowment will be used to fund mini-



grants and contests for sustainability projects.

Four student groups focused on sustainability. GreenToppers is joined by the HRL Student Sustainability Committee, the Student Government Association Sustainability Committee, and Americans for an Informed Democracy (AID) - the group that led last year's ONE campaign, earning WKU recognition as the winning campus in mobilizing the fight against poverty. In 2009, these groups plan to align to work on some very exciting projects.

**A Greener Big Red**

We have just started our journey to a greener Big Red. Ultimately, a sustainable WKU will look much different. We will move closer to

carbon neutrality, using renewable energies and innovative designs and solutions invented by our own students. We will serve food grown locally, some by our own students and some by local farmers, supporting our local economy. All buildings will be green and healthy and our recycling volume will be higher than our waste volume. We will use little paper and recycle what paper we do use. We will see fewer parking lots and more bike racks. WKU will be "walking the walk": living, learning, working, playing, and doing business in a way that embodies a spirit of environmental stewardship, concern for all living species, and improved quality of life for everyone in the present and in the future.



**The Green Fund**

The Green Fund was established by the WKU Sustainability Committee for people who want to support WKU's sustainability efforts. Contributions to the Green Fund may be allocated to a single project or general appropriation. They may be made as individual donations or through faculty/staff payroll deduction or on WKU's Online Giving Form; click on "Make a gift" on WKU's home page.

Contributors to the newly created Fund may support projects in three principle areas:

**Green campus initiatives,**  
e.g., lighting efficiency, energy retrofits, renewable energy, recycling, purchasing, and transportation, designed to reduce the ecological footprint on campus.

**Curriculum redesign**  
initiatives that support teaching sustainability 'across the curriculum' and establish new Centers and facilities to teach sustainable methods and technologies.

**Community engagement and research**  
initiatives that provide students, faculty, staff and community partners opportunities to apply sustainable methods and technologies in real life settings.

To learn more about the Green Fund contact Christian Ryan-Downing, WKU Sustainability Coordinator and Chairperson of the WKU Sustainability Committee, at 745-2508, or email [sustainability@wku.edu](mailto:sustainability@wku.edu).

For more information on the faculty/staff payroll deduction option, contact Amy Hardin, Assistant Director of Annual Giving, at 888.WKU.ALUM or [amy.hardin@wku.edu](mailto:amy.hardin@wku.edu).



# CAMPUS

By Brent Oglesbee  
Photos by Clinton Lewis

# Art

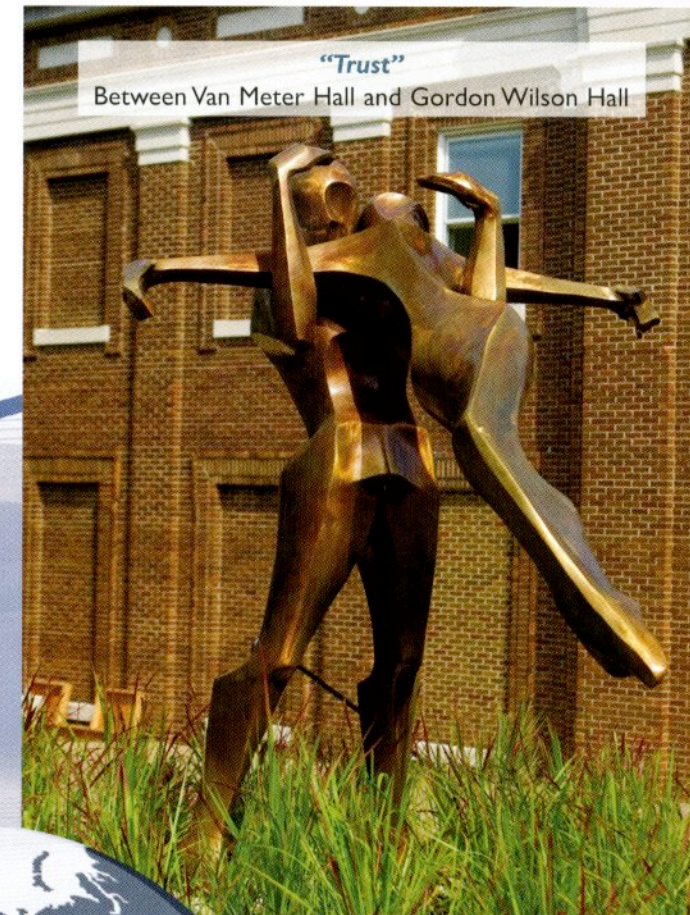
What is it, what does it mean – good questions that are perhaps being asked by WKU's students, staff, faculty and visitors since an initiative began placing outdoor sculptures on the main campus. In the past two years alone, more than a baker's dozen large-scale works of art have been installed on "The Hill." Not all, but most, are highly stylized or abstract forms that surely have led to some head scratching. Abstraction can be a tough sell for a campus accustomed to realistic figurative works.



*"Chauncey Too"*  
Garrett Conference Center



*"Tango"*  
Between the Health Services and Raymond B. Preston Health and Activities Center



*"Trust"*  
Between Van Meter Hall and Gordon Wilson Hall





*"With International Reach"*  
Between Southwest and Northeast Halls



For the university community and visitors alike, these sculptures offer a variety of media and aesthetic perspectives. One type of artistic expression can be found in the work of WKU art alumnus, Russ Faxon, a sculptor working in Bell Buckle, Tenn. His sculpture is naturalistic and presents a very dutiful replication of

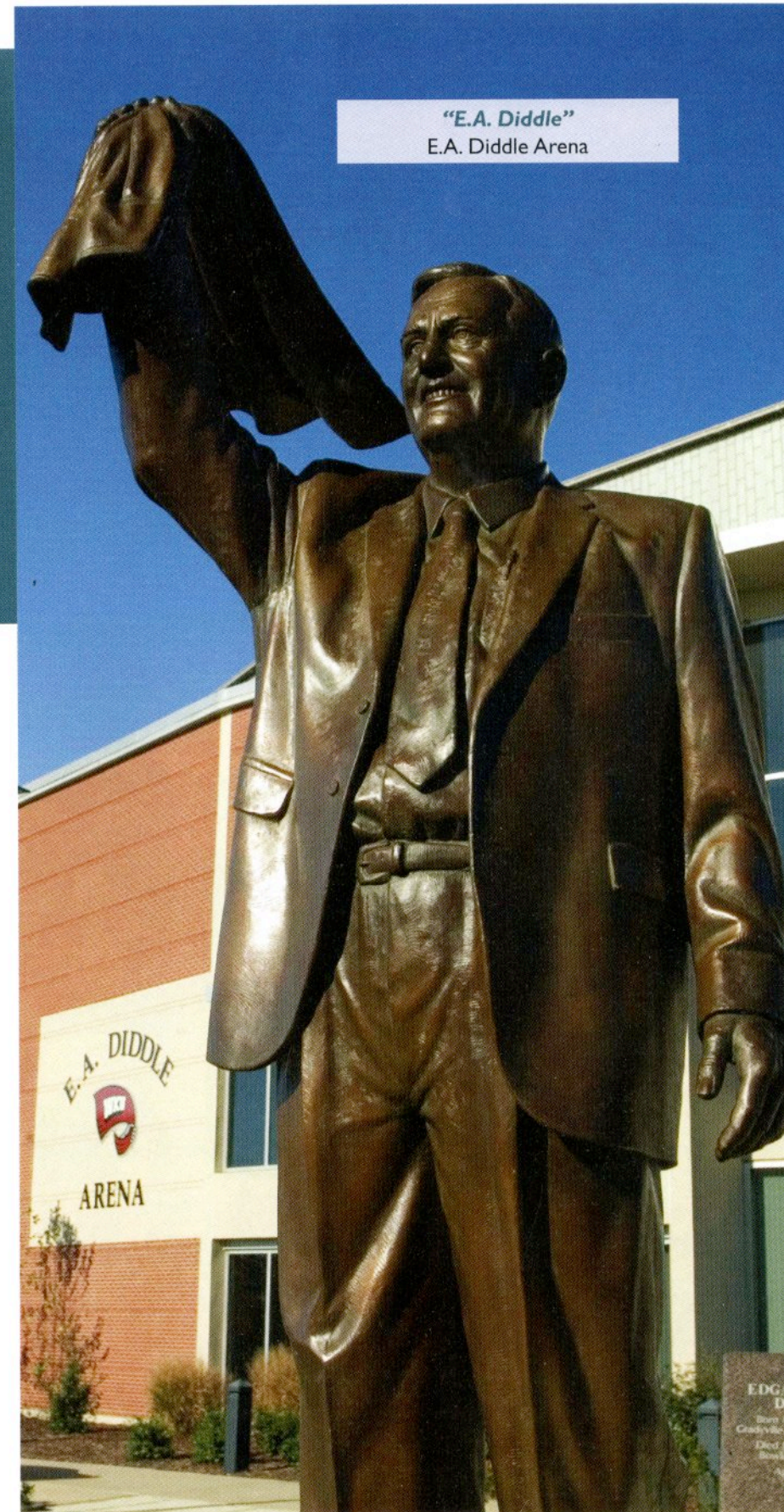
legendary basketball coach, E. A. Diddle, red towel in hand, waving his team on to victory. Further along the spectrum of art's expressive range is sculptor Jim Budish of Highland Park, Ill. His work offers a more stylized version of reality that quietly suggests rather than trumpets his intent. His "Chauncey Too," is a

human-scaled bronze bunny whose perked-up ears rise some seven feet in the air. Sitting upright with his forepaws akimbo, Chauncey's simplified and stylized body has an understated but undeniable "can-do" attitude about him.

*"The Four Seasons"*  
Van Meter Hall



WKUSPIRIT



*"E.A. Diddle"*  
E.A. Diddle Arena

Many of the newest additions to WKU's outdoor collection are far more abstract – or non-objective sculptures. These works are clearly not intended to duplicate the visual experience, but do allow viewers to enjoy the formal compositional elements (shapes, shadows, colors) for their own aesthetic appeal. The artists who created these pieces did not intend to specify a conclusive meaning; however, that should not reduce the viewer's enjoyment. After all, one may enjoy a tree for its own beauty. Its appeal to the eye does not require an intent or overt narrative--why not allow a sculpture the same frame of mind?

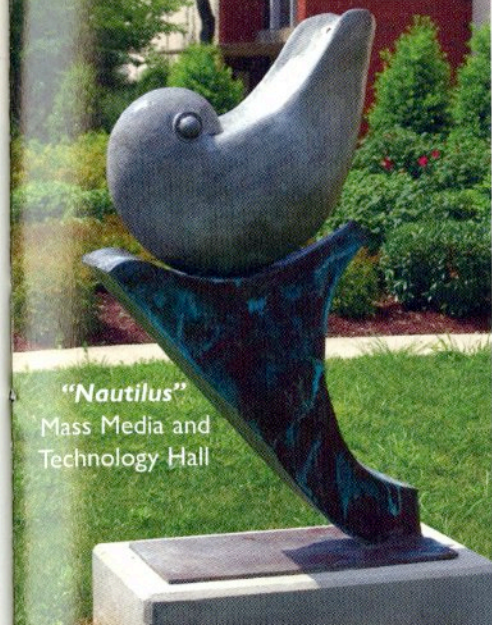
Such considerations and discussions about art occur daily on campus, taking place in informal chats and in the formal settings of Art Appreciation and studio art courses. In this way, the works of art found across WKU's campus present more

SPRING 2009

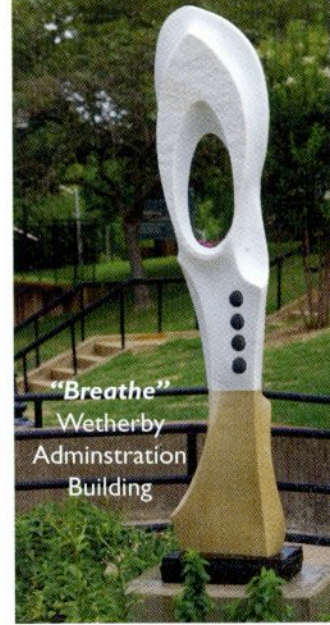




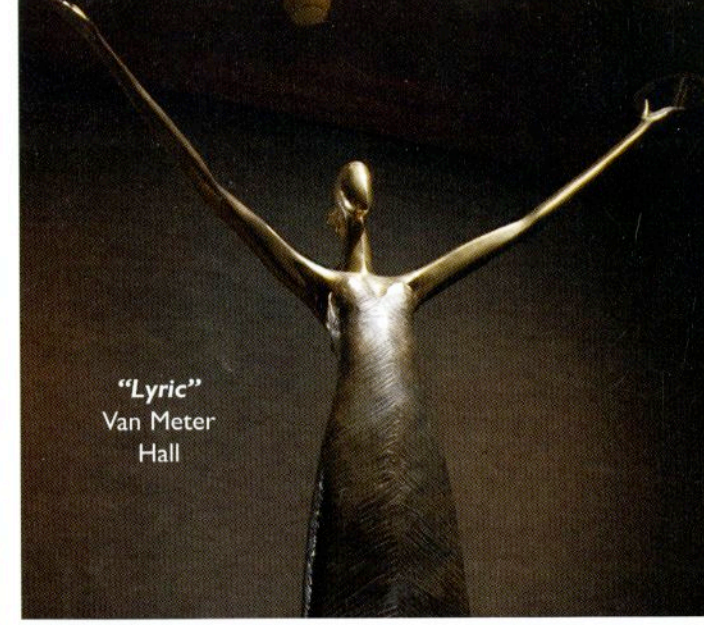
**"Sergeant First Class Robert H. Guthrie"**  
Guthrie Tower



**"Nautilus"**  
Mass Media and  
Technology Hall



**"Breathe"**  
Wetherby  
Administration  
Building



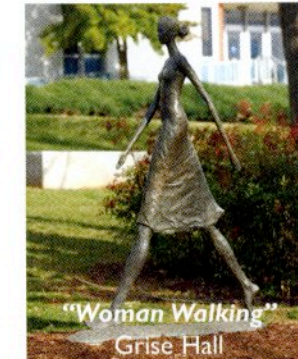
**"Lyric"**  
Van Meter  
Hall



**"Crane Unfolding"**  
Gatton Academy of  
Mathematics and Science



**"Books For Father"**  
Gordon Wilson Hall



**"Woman Walking"**  
Grise Hall



**"Opening of  
My Soul"**  
Academic  
Complex



**"Origin"**  
Garrett Conference Center



**"Beams"**  
Environmental Sciences and Technology Building

than a brief respite for visitors or students moving between classes. They offer the "Western family" an occasion to challenge familiar ways of thinking, prompting viewers toward new conclusions about art and its ability to reflect back surprising facets of the visual world we too often take for granted.

Interested visitors can hike a good portion of campus, locating all the works that have been installed to date with the aid of a self-directed sculpture-tour guidebook. The contents of the guidebook offer directions to each site, a brief description of the sculpture's materials and processes, as well as an acknowledgment of the artist who created the work. You can pick up a copy of the sculpture-tour guidebook at the Kentucky Museum, or view the guidebook online at [alumni.wku.edu/campusart](http://alumni.wku.edu/campusart).





# Racing Fans

Start Your Engines!

Cheer on the WKU #05 car in the  
NASCAR Nationwide Series  
Federated Auto Parts 300

Nashville Superspeedway  
Lebanon, Tenn.

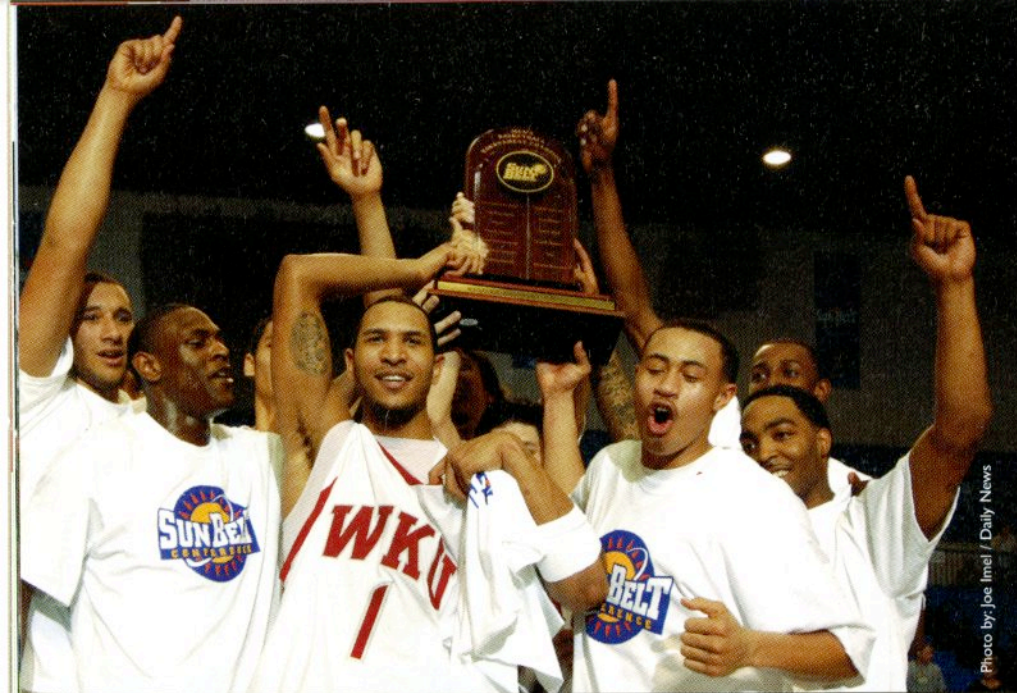
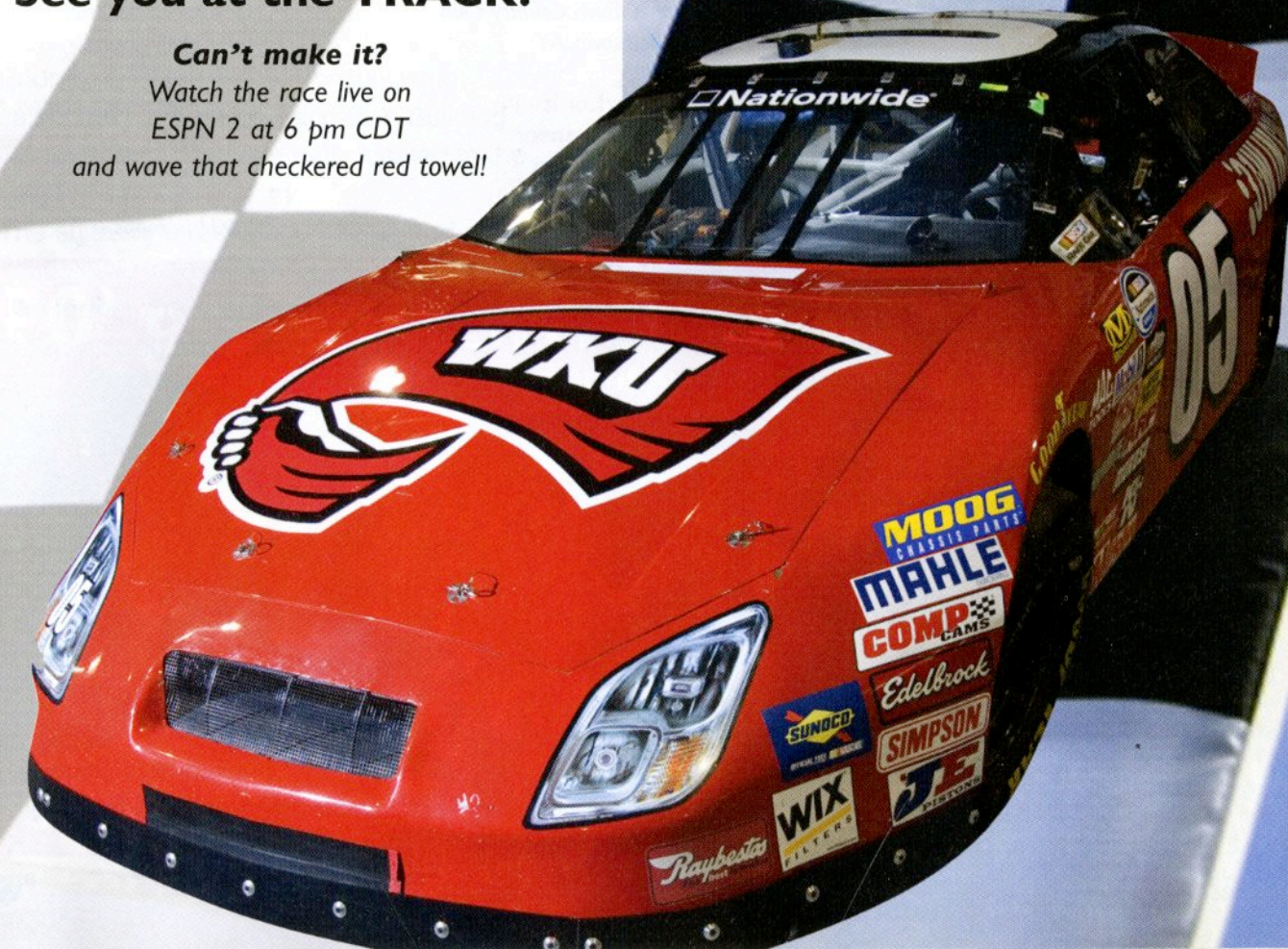
June 6, 2009

For Tickets go to  
[www.nashvillesuperspeedway.com](http://www.nashvillesuperspeedway.com)  
or call toll free 866-RACE-TIX.

See you at the **TRACK!**

*Can't make it?*

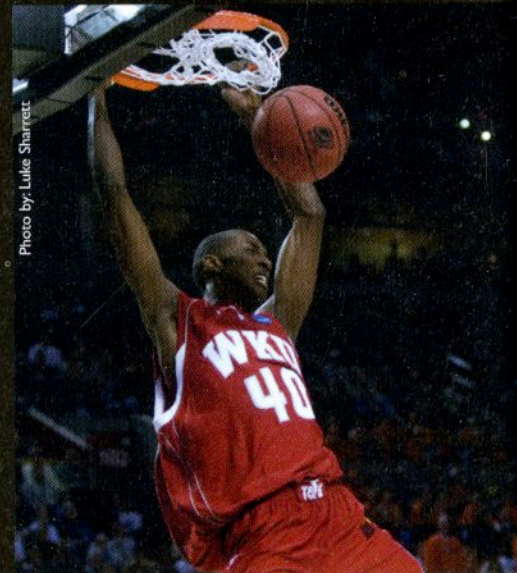
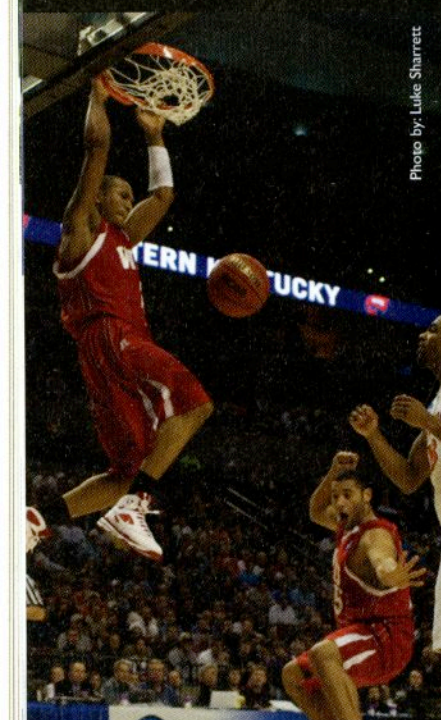
Watch the race live on  
ESPN 2 at 6 pm CDT  
and wave that checkered red towel!



## Championship Effort

In a season that began with minimal expectations from the outside world, first-year head coach Ken McDonald and the 2008-09 WKU Hilltoppers truly gave Big Red Nation one for the ages. En route to the program's fifth-straight 20-win season, the most in Sun Belt Conference history and the longest such streak in 65 years for WKU, the Hilltoppers won the Sun Belt East Division and Tournament Championships after finishing the regular season with a 15-3 mark. Along the way, WKU became just the 14th Division I program to amass 1,600 wins. Highlighting the 25 wins was the Nov. 30 upset of No. 3 Louisville 68-54 in Nashville, Tenn.

Led by Sun Belt Player of the Year Orlando Mendez-Valdez, WKU earned the program's 21st NCAA Tournament appearance, knocked off fifth-seeded Illinois in the first round, and fell at the buzzer to fourth-seeded and 10th-ranked Gonzaga 83-81, just missing the program's second-straight Sweet 16 appearance—what would have been a first in the illustrious history of WKU Basketball.





## Alumni Chapter Kentucky Derby Parties

May 2, 2009

**Dallas Alumni Chapter**  
2:30 p.m. to 5:30 p.m.  
Lonestar Park, Dallas, TX

**Denver Alumni Chapter**  
Doors open at 8 a.m. Derby post time  
approximately 4:04 MST.  
Red and Jerry's Sports Bar  
Reserved seats are \$10 in advance  
1840 W. Oxford Ave., Sheridan, Co.

**Music City Alumni Chapter**  
2:30 p.m. to 5:30 p.m.  
At the home of J and Sandra Moseley  
137 Sontag Drive, Franklin, TN

**Atlanta Alumni Chapter**  
3:00 p.m. post time 6:00 p.m.  
\$15 per person  
At the home of  
Gerald Fudge and Mary Lea Woods  
510 Valley Lane Northeast  
Atlanta, Ga

### May

**17-18 Golden Anniversary  
Club Reunion**  
Honoring the class of 1959  
WKU Campus

**23 Greater Louisville  
Alumni Chapter**  
Spring Day at the Races  
Gates open at 11:00 a.m.  
Churchill Downs, Louisville, KY

### June

**4-7 7th Annual Alumni College**  
WKU Campus

**6 NASCAR  
Nationwide Series Race**  
www.nashvillesuperspeedway.com  
6:00 p.m.  
Nashville SuperSpeedway  
Lebanon, Tenn.

# 2009 | save the date

These are just a sampling of WKU events. For a complete listing of events in your area, please visit  
www.alumni.wku.edu or contact the WKU Alumni Association at 888.WKU.ALUM or alumni@wku.edu.

### June

**12 Warren County  
Alumni Chapter**  
Night at the Hot Rods  
7:05 p.m.  
Hot Rods vs. Lexington Legends  
Bowling Green, KY

**15 Greater Louisville  
Alumni Chapter**  
Lee Robertson / Gary  
Sundmacker Golf Scramble  
12:30 p.m.  
Polo Fields Golf Club, Louisville, KY

### July

**21 Heartland Alumni Chapter**  
Jared Salvia Scholarship Golf  
Scramble and Picnic  
Registration 12:00 p.m.  
Elizabethtown Country Club  
Elizabethtown, KY

**21 Greater Louisville  
Alumni Chapter**  
Night at the Bats  
Louisville, KY

### July

**30 Music City Alumni Chapter**  
Welcome WKU Picnic  
6:00 p.m.  
Nashville, TN

### August

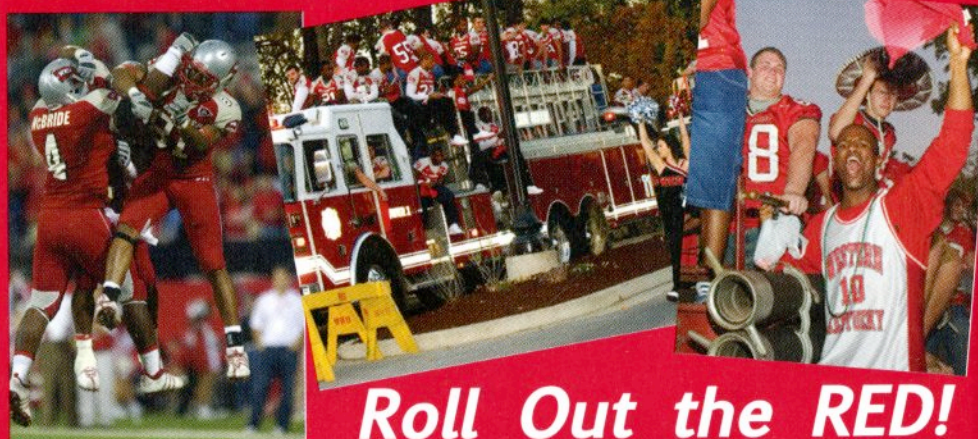
**1 Society of African American  
Alumni - Louisville Branch**  
Summer Picnic  
Come out and enjoy food, friends,  
and entertainment from WKU  
alumni.  
4:00 p.m. - 10:00 p.m.  
Camp Taylor Park, Louisville, KY

**1 Paducah Area Chapter**  
Welcome to Western Picnic  
This picnic is for prospective,  
current, and past Hilltoppers!  
Come out and fellowship during  
this family friendly event.  
4:00 p.m.  
Mike Miller Park, Benton, KY

### September

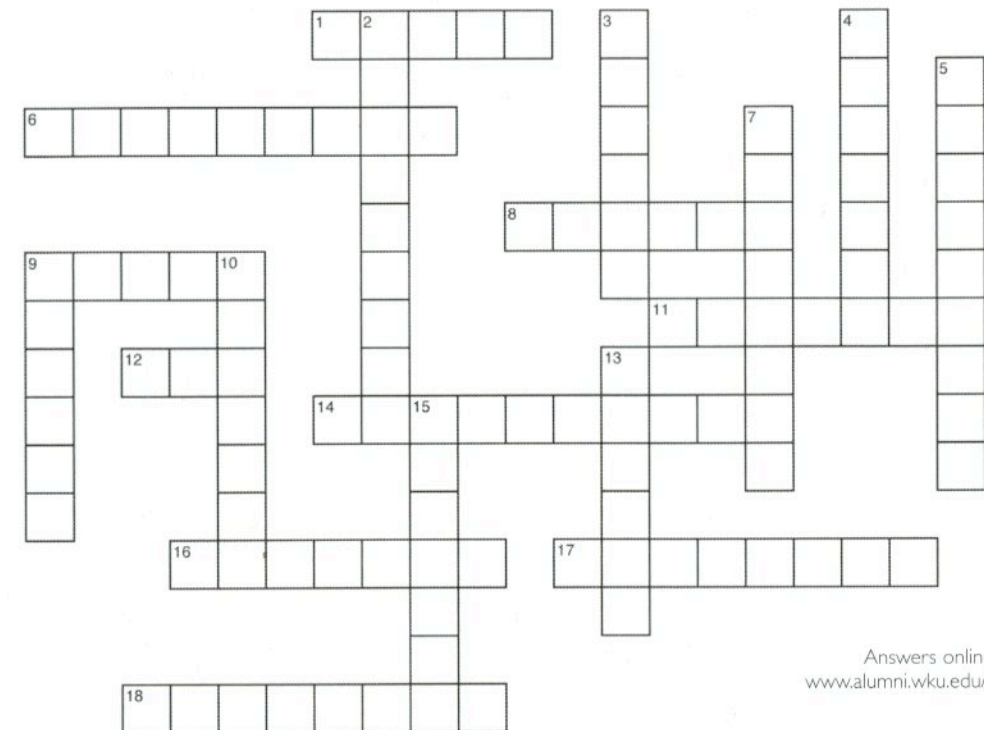
**19 Parent and Family Weekend**  
WKU Campus

## Homecoming '09 November 7, 2009



## Roll Out the RED!

## Campus Landmarks



Answers online at  
www.alumni.wku.edu/crossword

www.CrosswordWeaver.com

### ACROSS

- 1 Prior to its name today, this hall was called the Commerce-Education Building.
- 6 One of three residence halls located in the valley.
- 8 The suite style residence hall named after a long time WKU employee.
- 9 The former President's home, this house today is open to all WKU alumni.
- 11 The name of WKU's state of the art health and activities center.
- 12 Tallest campus landmark with 26 floors.
- 14 Today known as the Faculty House, you may know it by this name, since students, faculty, and staff made this building out of logs.
- 16 The sports themed restaurant located in the university center.
- 17 The administration building President Ransdell visits daily.
- 18 The round building once called CEB.

### DOWN

- 2 This building was a dorm in the 1950s but is the Anthropology Lab today.
- 3 Arena named for a legendary WKU coach.
- 4 This bridge was once a battle ground. You may remember it better as where you had your first kiss.
- 5 Known as this today but once was the former football stadium.
- 7 The location of the first chapel speech.
- 9 The building named for WKU Founder and first President.
- 10 This tower, built in 2002, is a tribute to our veterans.
- 13 The hall or building that houses WKU's student services. Some claim it's haunted by a ghost.
- 15 The student center known to many as DUC, is named after WKU's fourth president.



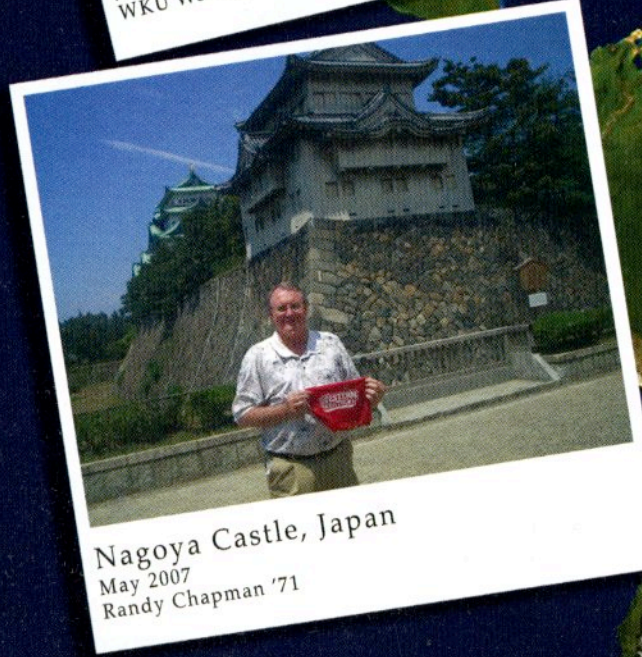
# Adventures of the



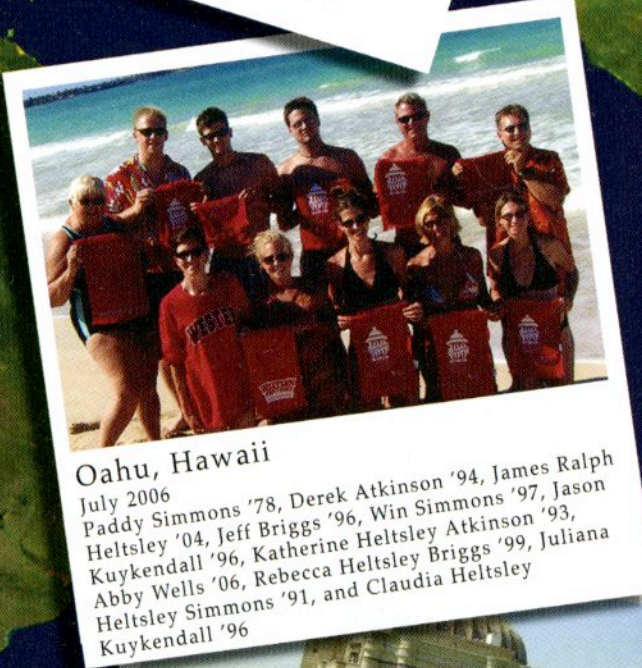
Rio de Janeiro, Brazil  
January 2008  
WKU Women's Soccer Team



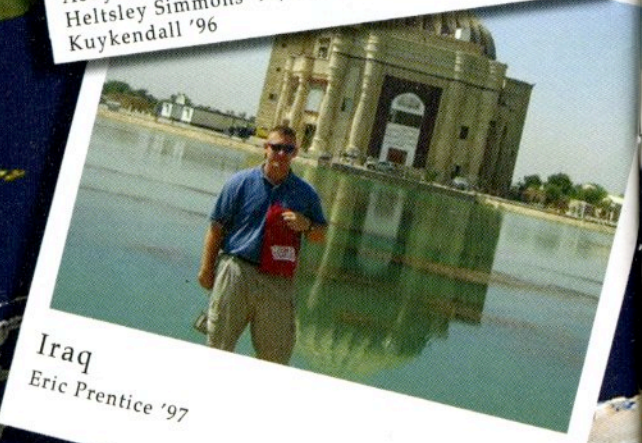
Paris, France  
December 2006  
Leslie Anderson '05 and Jamie Zeller '01, '03



Nagoya Castle, Japan  
May 2007  
Randy Chapman '71

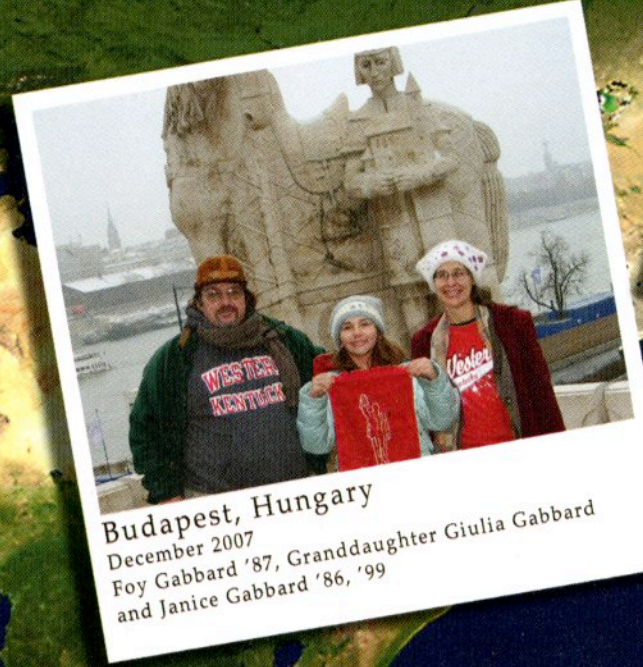


Oahu, Hawaii  
July 2006  
Paddy Simmons '78, Derek Atkinson '94, James Ralph Heltsley '04, Jeff Briggs '96, Win Simmons '97, Jason Kuykendall '96, Katherine Heltsley Atkinson '93, Abby Wells '06, Rebecca Heltsley Briggs '99, Juliana Heltsley Simmons '91, and Claudia Heltsley Kuykendall '96

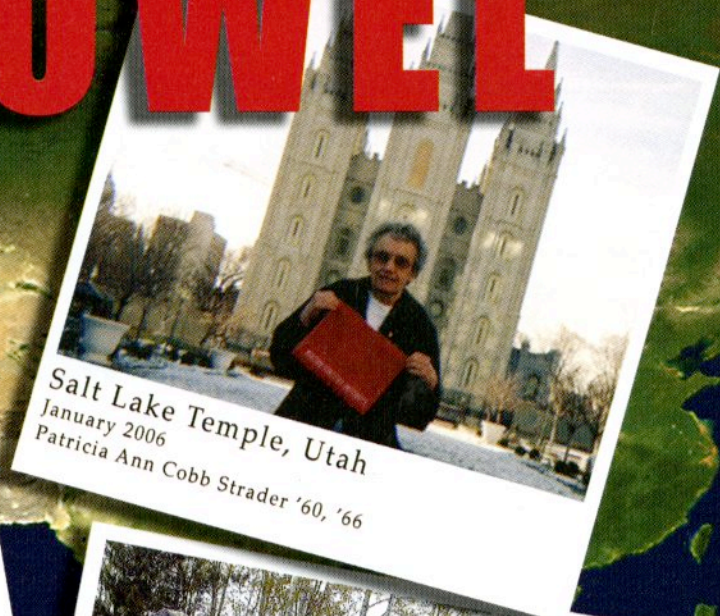


Iraq  
Eric Prentice '97

# RED TOWEL



Budapest, Hungary  
December 2007  
Foy Gabbard '87, Granddaughter Giulia Gabbard and Janice Gabbard '86, '99



Salt Lake Temple, Utah  
January 2006  
Patricia Ann Cobb Strader '60, '66



Thunder Bay, Canada  
June 2008  
Derron '93 and Bobby Steenbergen '69, '73, '80



Rome, Italy  
October 2008  
Morgan Cox '06 and Holly Gilpin Davis '05



14,500 feet above Elroy, Arizona  
April 2007  
Stephen '99 and Natasha Clark Smith '96

## DON'T LEAVE HOME WITHOUT IT!

Please list names of each person in picture and their graduation year. Please include date and location of picture. Send pictures to: WKU Alumni Association, Attention: WKU SPIRIT Red Towel Travels 1906 College Heights Blvd. #31016 Bowling Green, KY 42101-1016 or email to alumni@wku.edu Pictures will not be returned.



# Need Help with Big Red Space?

**WKU Alumni Association**

First Time Login  
Username: \_\_\_\_\_  
Password: \_\_\_\_\_  
 Remember my login on this computer  
[Forgot your username?](#)  
[Reset Password](#)

**big red space**

Community Feature ▾

**Events Calendar**

- Warren County Alumni Chapter supports Habitat for Humanity 4/4/2009
- Hopkinsville Planning Team Meeting 5/14/2009 6:00 PM to 7:00 PM
- Alumni College 2009 6/4/2009 to 6/7/2009
- Warren County Alumni Chapter Night 6/12/2009 7:05 PM
- Jared Salvia Memorial Scholarship Golf Scramble and Picnic 7/21/2009 12:00 PM
- Vietnam Veterans - The

**Online Community FAQ's**

Big Red Space Basics  
[How do I register?](#)  
[What is my Alumni ID number?](#)  
[I don't have a piece of mail from WKU, how do I get my ID?](#)  
[What if I forget my username or password?](#)  
[What if I forgot both my username AND password?](#)  
[What if I don't have a username or password?](#)  
[Why is my mailing address incorrect?](#)  
[Does the WKU alumni office receive my updated information?](#)  
[Can I remove my information from the online community?](#)  
[Do you have questions not listed here?](#)

**How do I register?**

- Click the First Time Login link on our homepage
- Find your name in the alumni directory.
- Confirm your identity with your ID number (see next answer).
- Create your unique username and password.

To start, [click here](#).

**What is my Alumni ID number?**

This is the number found at the top of your magazine mailing label. This will be a 10-digit number.  
ID#0000012345

**WKU Make a gift**

Are you having trouble registering and building your unique Big Red Space profile? Visit the Online Community "Frequently Asked Questions" page on Big Red Space.

You can find these helpful tips and information about the website in the Resources drop down menu. You will also see a choice under the Online Community FAQ's for help building your Big Red Space profile.

Login today to update your information and create your profile, share photos, register, view events, and much more!

Staying in touch with your college friends is just a click away with



alumni.wku.edu

Big Red Space is available to all WKU graduates who register with their alumni ID number.

First time user? Simply click "First Time Log In" and follow the instructions! You can find your alumni ID on the back cover of your WKU SPIRIT magazine.

# Classnotes

Class Notes is a feature which allows WKU Alumni Association members to update fellow classmates on significant accomplishments that have happened in their lives. Memberships are \$25 for an annual membership and \$500 for a lifetime membership. If you wish to join the Alumni Association or publish announcements in Class Notes, please submit them to WKU Alumni Association, 1906 College Heights Blvd. #31016, Bowling Green, KY 42101-1016 or via email at alumni@wku.edu.

## 1950s



### Save The Date

Golden Anniversary  
Club Reunion

Honoring the Class of 1959

May 17 & 18, 2009

For more information please contact your Alumni Association at 888.WKU.ALUM or tracy.morrison@wku.edu.



**Rose Davis ('74)** of Bowling Green, Ky., recently won the Outstanding Academic Librarian Award.

**Dr. John L. McIntosh ('74)** of Mishawaka, Ind., was recently appointed Associate Vice Chancellor for Academic Affairs at Indiana University.



**Marti Spinks Nunn ('74)** of Epworth, Ga., recently celebrated the opening of Second Wind

Retreat for cancer patients and survivors. The new non-profit public charity provides a free mountain retreat where cancer patients and survivors can get away for a few days, relax in a natural environment, and gain new strength, energy and momentum. Marti, a 15-year cancer survivor, and her husband, Mike, will operate Second Wind Retreat. (www.secondwind.org.)



**Rena Belle Whitlow Duncan ('75)** and her husband, Jimmy Duncan, of Edmonton, Ky., celebrated their

50th wedding anniversary Jan. 1, 2009. She majored in social studies and middle grades education and taught in the Metcalfe County School System. They have three children and seven grandchildren. Two of their children, **Terri Duncan Albany ('81)** and **Todd Duncan ('91, '94)** and one grandchild **Austin Albany, ('08)**, graduated from WKU and two grandchildren are attending WKU now.



**Terry Wilcutt ('75, '00)** of Houston, Texas, was inducted into the Kentucky Aviation Hall of Fame on Nov. 1 in Lexington, Ky.



**Paul B. Calico ('76)** of Cincinnati, Ohio, has been selected as one of "The Best Lawyers in America" based on a peer-review

survey of attorneys throughout the country. Calico is the Chair of the Management Committee of Strauss & Troy, where he is a member of the Litigation and Dispute Resolution Department.

## 1970s



**Paul F. Spencer ('66, '73)** of Norcross, Ga., retired after more than 26 years of Federal service and 20 years as a Civil Rights (EEO)

Investigator for the U.S. Department of Defense. Paul is pictured with his wife.

**Dr. Joseph C. Petrocelli ('71)** of Leitchfield, Ky., was recognized when Twin Lakes Regional Medical Center announced the opening of the "Joseph C. Petrocelli Center For Critical Care Medicine."

### We want to include you!

Do you have a child or grandchild at WKU? Parent and Family Weekend is coming up and we'd like to make sure that you are included! Please send an e-mail to amy.miller@wku.edu and include your name, years attended WKU, name of your student and your student's class year.



**Irene Keys Bates ('71)** of Brunswick, Ga, has accepted the position of Director of Marketing for Ariel Preferred Retail Group. Bates will also continue in her role as Center Manager.

**1980s**



**Susan Mabry Ahart ('81, '85)** of Hopkinsville, Ky., was named DoDEA (Department of Defense Education Activity) 2008

Principal of the Year for Elementary and Middle Schools. She was also selected as a 2008 NAESP National Distinguished Principal, recently receiving her award in Washington, D.C. She is currently the principal of Jackson Elementary in Ft. Campbell, Ky.



**Steve Allgeier ('80)** of Los Angeles, Calif., has published his first Childrens book "Christmas with NORKY the Adventure Begins..." NORKY is the "Goodwill Ambassador" and "Official Mailbird" from the North Pole.



**Darrell W. Fleming ('80, '90)** of Gallatin, Tenn., (on the left) received a promotion to Fire Marshal with his 25-year Plaque at

a badge ceremony for the Hendersonville, Tenn. Fire Department. Pictured on the right is **Tony Janco ('83, '90)** of Hendersonville, Tenn., who also received a promotion to Captain at the ceremony.

**Jeff Feix, PhD. ('82, '84)** of Nashville, Tenn., attended a conference in Washington, D.C., sponsored by the National Association of State Mental Health Program Directors for recipients of Transformation Transfer Initiative Grants, a Federal program designed to help states transfer and improve their mental health services. Dr. Feix is the Director of Forensic Mental Health Services for the State of Tennessee.

**Dr. Ann Beth Presley ('84)** of Auburn, Ala., received the Educator of the Year award from the International Textile and Apparel Association.



**WKU**  
Make a gift  
[www.wku.edu/makeagift](http://www.wku.edu/makeagift)

**WKU DISTANCE LEARNING**  
**Online Master of Arts in Math**

This new Masters program is designed for busy teachers and can be completed entirely online in 2 years.

This program is intended for secondary mathematics teachers. A major or minor in mathematics is required.

**FOR MORE INFORMATION CONTACT:**  
The Department of Mathematics & Computer Science at 270-745-3651 or [emath@wku.edu](mailto:emath@wku.edu)

[www.wku.edu/emath](http://www.wku.edu/emath)

The Office of Distance Learning is a unit of the Division of Extended Learning & Outreach

**Pi Kappa Alpha Alumni Golf Scramble**

The fifth annual Pi Kappa Alpha ZE Alumni Golf Scramble will be held June 20, 2009 at Quail Chase Golf Course in Louisville, KY. We will tee off at 1:00 pm EST. The cost is \$75.00 per person (includes golf, prizes, beer tickets and some cool Pike stuff). A group dinner will be held in Louisville immediately following the outing.



**WKU Hosts First Ever International Graduation Reception**

The Office of International Programs and the Office of Alumni Relations and Annual Giving joined together to host the first ever International Graduation Reception for Fall 2008 graduates. The event honors students from around the world who chose to make WKU their

home for education, and congratulates them for graduating. Several students, along with their family, friends and other special guests participated in the program. Each student had the opportunity to purchase a graduation sash with the Alumni Association logo embroidered on one side and the flag of their home country embroidered on the other. President Ransdell, Provost Dr. Barbara Burch, and Chief International Officer Dr. Cornell Menking provided opening remarks. The program also included speeches from the past and current presidents of the International Club, from WKU International Alum Raza Tiwana, and from graduate Srisakul Thunwuthikul. Because of its success, the International Graduation Reception will continue to happen each semester.



**Jennifer Richardson Hughes ('88)** of Shelbyville, Ky., has been chosen President-Elect for the CPA firm of Deming Malone Livesay & Ostroff (DMLO). She will assume the office of President on

October 1, 2009. Hughes has been with DMLO 17 years, will be the youngest President of DMLO and also the first woman President.



**Recently Married?**

Share your news at [alumni@wku.edu](mailto:alumni@wku.edu)



*Lifetime Members*

Welcome New WKU Alumni Association Lifetime Members. Our newest members from October 20, 2008 to March 31, 2009. The WKU Alumni Association sincerely thanks its Lifetime Members for their loyalty and dedication to WKU. E-communications are becoming more important, as we strive to reduce, recycle and reuse. Help support WKU's Green Initiative by keeping your e-mail address updated. Show your "Spirit" by becoming the newest Lifetime Member of the WKU Alumni Association! Call 888.WKU.ALUM (958.2586) or [alumni.wku.edu/joinnow](http://alumni.wku.edu/joinnow).



- Mr. Richard Ronald Alexander, II
- Ms. Rebecca A. Bailey
- Mrs. Sandra Kay Baker
- Ltc. Marvin Barker
- Mrs. Donna Perry Bayless
- Mr. and Mrs. Ronald Ray Bevars
- Ms. Utona Williams Bieber
- Mr. Larry T. Biggerstaff
- Ms. Georgena Ann Brackett
- Col. Barbara Goodwin Brand
- Mr. and Mrs. Ulysses Sonny Branham
- Mr. James Don Brent
- Mrs. Mary Elizabeth Broach
- Mr. and Mrs. Frederick Steven Brown
- Mr. Paul Brent Calico
- Mr. Drew Lawrence Caskey
- Mr. Larry Lee Cave
- Dr. Brian W. Chaney
- Mr. and Mrs. Ronald W. Clark
- Mrs. Talia McKinney Collins
- Mrs. Dana Michelle Cone
- Mr. Thomas C. Cox
- Mr. and Mrs. Larry S. Craig
- Mr. William Charles Cunningham
- Mr. David Daido
- Mr. and Mrs. David Todd Davis
- Mrs. Judy Faye H. Decker
- Mrs. Ashley Walker Dick
- Mr. Kenneth Roy Duvall
- Mrs. Freda Clark Embry
- Dr. and Mrs. John Wilson Eubank
- Mr. and Mrs. Jerry Flippin, Jr.
- Mr. and Mrs. Timothy Dwayne Fowler
- Mrs. Kathy E. Goff
- Ms. Ellen C. Hagan
- Mr. and Mrs. Gerald Dennis Hagan

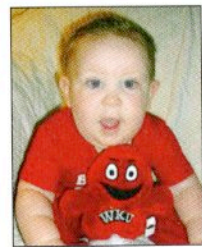
- Mrs. Kelly Neill Haile
- Ms. Amy Hardy
- Ms. Evelyn D. Harkins
- Mr. Ross A. Haynes
- Mr. and Mrs. Scott T. Higdon
- Mrs. Marla Kay Highbaugh
- Mr. and Mrs. Adam Neal Hoffman
- Mr. and Mrs. Bryan K Howard
- Mr. Michael C. Jenkins
- Mr. and Mrs. Adam Ryan Johnson
- Mr. and Mrs. Lonnie Johnson
- Ms. Candice W. Johnson
- Mr. Lonnie Johnson
- Mr. and Mrs. Adam Ryan Johnson
- Ms. Sarah Nadler Johnson
- Mr. and Mrs. Steven R Johnson
- Mrs. Malinda Jones
- Ms. Ann Toni Kereiakes
- Mr. James Owen Lee
- Mr. Lentis Ferrel Lee
- Mrs. Elizabeth Brown Leftwich
- Mr. and Mrs. Thomas W. Lennon
- Mrs. Teresa B. Lewis
- Mr. and Mrs. Stephen E. Litchfield
- Mr. and Mrs. Matthew C. Loafman
- Dr. and Mrs. Timothy Richard Long
- Ms. Jacquelyn Lyles
- Mr. and Mrs. Thomas K. Lyons
- Ms. Rachel R. Martin
- Dr. Roger Dale McAlpin
- Mr. James Ronald McDaniels
- Mr. Charles W. McGlocklin
- Mr. and Mrs. Kreis McGuire
- Ms. Elizabeth Jones McKinney
- Ms. Pamela McKinney
- Mr. and Mrs. Burns E. Mercer

- Mr. and Mrs. Ryan K. Meredith
- Mr. Michael Miros
- Mrs. Nadine Ford Nicks
- Mr. Wayne A. Orscheln
- Mr. and Mrs. Bobby Gene Owsley
- Mrs. Margaret Jane Pennington
- Mr. Jerome Perry
- Mr. and Mrs. Jeremy N. Phillips
- Mrs. Leigh C. Pierce
- Ms. Jeanice E. Prather
- Mr. Thomas Madison Quisenberry
- Ms. Natalie A. Radford
- Mr. and Mrs. Jeffrey B. Richardson
- Mrs. Mitzi Lynn Richardson
- Mr. Michael Lee Roland
- Brandon T. and Stephanie M. Rucker
- Mr. Charles T Scott
- Mr. and Mrs. Delane Simpson
- Mr. Thomas Allen Smith
- Mr. and Mrs. Steve Snellen
- Mr. and Mrs. Darrell G. Sparks
- Mr. Christopher B. Stahl
- Mr. and Mrs. Buddy Stewart
- Mr. and Mrs. Joel Brasel Stoner
- Mr. John Wesley Swain
- Mr. and Mrs. Richard Wayne Thomas
- Mr. Eugene B. Wade
- Mr. and Mrs. Joseph Lee Walters
- Mr. James W. Wedding
- Mrs. Ann Michelle Wells
- Mrs. Marilyn C. White
- Mr. and Mrs. Jerry Wayne Williamson
- Dr. Solitaire Shacklette Wix
- Dr. Cristopher A. Young
- Dr. and Mrs. Rodney Earl Young
- Mr. and Mrs. Thomas Addison Yunt



1990s

**Laura Moon Berry ('90, '91)** of Henderson, Ky., was recently elected President-Elect of the Great Lakes Association of College and University Housing Officers (GLACUHO) where she will serve a three year term. Laura is currently the Director of Housing and Residence Life at the University of Southern Indiana.



**Kelli Kinkade Cauley ('95)** and husband John of Lewisburg, Ky., are proud to announce the birth of their son, Benjamin Keith, on

Feb. 13, 2008. He weighed 8 pounds 6 ounces and was 21 1/2 inches long.

**Jeremy J. Nelson ('96)** of Louisville, Ky., joined the Louisville law firm of Sampson & Slechter, PLLC. The firm practices Plaintiff's personal injury and worker's compensation law, with a focus on nursing home neglect.



**Michael ('97, '00) and Peggy Haas Crowe ('98, '01)** of Bowling Green, Ky., were married in Nashville, Tenn., on Sept. 29, 2007.

Michael is the Director of Judicial Affairs and Peggy is the Assistant Director for Housing and Residence Life at WKU.

**Rebecca McCaulley Hutchison ('97)** and her husband, Stacy, and big brother, Reed, of Roanoke, Va. are proud to announce the birth of their son and brother, Gray Patrick, on April 16, 2008. He weighed 9 pounds and 4 ounces.



**Race Stork ('97, '08)** of Smiths Grove, Ky., was commissioned as a 2nd Lt into the U.S. Army by Col. Mike Kenney and will be working as a registered nurse at Tripler Army Medical Center in Honolulu, Hi.



**Chris ('98) and Laura Hawkins Houchens ('98, '01)** of Smiths Grove, Ky., are proud to announce the birth of their

daughter, Alana Brooke Houchens. Alana was born on July 9, 2008. She was welcomed home by her brother Jackson.



**Greg ('98) and Lana Riney Kunkel ('99 and '01)** of Bowling Green, Ky., are proud to announce the birth of their first child, Caroline Marie Kunkel. Caroline was born on Sept. 16, 2008.

**Koneta Westerfield Smith ('98)** of Russellville, Ky., completed the required courses of Seminary Extension, Southern Baptist Convention, for the Diploma in Educational Ministries in October 2008. As a children's missions/ministry leader, she has written several Bible studies for Logan Todd Baptist Association children's events.



**Edric V. Thompson ('98, '00)** of Fort Monmouth, N.J., received the 2008 Thomas Jefferson Award for excel-

lence in print and broadcast journalism among military and civilian employees across the Department of Defense.

**Pavel Begun ('99)** of Toronto, Canada, was recently featured in the *Globe and Mail*, Canada's largest newspaper. Discussing investment opportunities amid the current economic turmoil.

**Ebony Lincoln ('99)** of St. Louis, Mo., was recently promoted to Assistant Public Affairs Manager and Zone Communication Strategist for State Farm Insurance.



**Phillip ('99) and Susan Sullivan Sexton ('98)** would like to announce the birth of their daughter Lauren

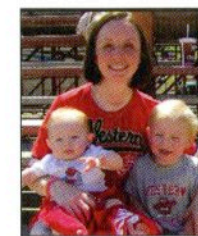
Elizabeth Sexton born January 17, 2008. She was welcomed by her big brother, Evan.

2000s



**Aaron Davis ('00)** of Jackson Hole, Wyo., is an award-winning Americana singer-songwriter and multi-instrumentalist performing

over 180 shows a year. He recently released his third full-length album, "Rear View Mirror," on his own Yella Dog Records. [www.aarondavismusic.com](http://www.aarondavismusic.com).



**Shannon Wellock Gardner ('00)** and her husband, Scott Gardner, of Nashville, Tenn., are proud to

announce the birth of their second son, Aiden Michael Gardner, born on March 14, 2008 in Franklin, Tenn. Aiden joins big brother Calvin Donald Gardner, born April 24, 2006.



**Jason Lindsey ('00)** of Cape Girardeau, Mo., helped set a Guinness World Record for the "Most Balloons

Blown up in an Hour." The group blew up 852 balloons in an hour breaking the previous record of 600 balloons at the third annual Science Day event. Jason is an Outreach Science Educator with Hooked on Science.

**Steven Travis Mayo ('00)** and Tabatha Boekhout of Newport, Ky., were married on October 31, 2008, in Cincinnati, Ohio. Travis is as a lawyer and Tabatha is completing her Master's Degree in forensic anthropology.



**Ms. Jennifer Liz Pruett ('00)** of Louisville, Ky., recently won a 200-word essay contest with *The Courier-Journal*.

The article was published in the Jan. 25 CareerBuilder section of the paper.

**Joe Dan Beavers ('01, '08)** of Louisville, Ky., was recently appointed to the position of Finance Director at LifeSkills in Bowling Green.



**Ben Littlepage ('02, '04)** and Jennifer Lear Littlepage, of Jackson, Tenn., were married on May 10, 2008 in

Hanson, Ky. Ben is currently employed at the American Cancer Society as a development officer.

The Provost and Vice President for Academic Affairs Invites Nominations for Recipients of Honorary Degrees

WKU awards honorary degrees to individuals who have made exemplary contributions to the University, the state, the nation or the world. Honorary degrees may be awarded to outstanding citizens of the Commonwealth, outstanding alumni or individuals of national or international prominence whose contributions have enhanced society as a whole.

Nominations should be directed, in letter form, to Alecea Davis in the Office of the Provost and Vice President for Academic Affairs, 1906 College Heights Blvd #11008, Bowling Green, KY 42101-1008.

For any questions, contact Alecea at [alecea.davis@wku.edu](mailto:alecea.davis@wku.edu) or 270-745-6237.



GOLDEN ANNIVERSARY CLUB REUNION

May 17-18, 2009 Honoring the Class of 1959

Do you ever think back to 1959 and your days on "the Hill?" Do you wonder how your college roommate is doing? Do you remember cheering on Coach Diddle and the Hilltoppers or dancing at the Talisman Ball? Does this bring back some great memories? If so, mark your calendars, call your friends and make plans to attend the Golden Anniversary Club Reunion on May 17-18, 2009. WKU will be honoring the Class of 1959. If you would like more information, please contact your WKU Alumni Association at 888.WKU.ALUM or [alumni@wku.edu](mailto:alumni@wku.edu).





7th Annual

# Alumni College

June 4-7, 2009

The 7th annual Alumni College is a lifelong learning program for WKU alumni and friends. The program gives participants an opportunity to stay on campus while taking fun, educational classes. If you're looking to retake Chemistry 100, then Alumni College isn't for you! Participants enjoy a variety of classes from cooking to football to wine tasting and photography.



## Haven't seen your college friends in several years?

Call them up and plan your Alumni College adventure together! For more information on the Alumni College program or to receive the program brochure, call the WKU Alumni Association at 888-WKU-ALUM or e-mail [ginny.hensley@wku.edu](mailto:ginny.hensley@wku.edu). Alumni College registration and collee agenda are online now at [www.alumi.wku.edu](http://www.alumi.wku.edu).

**Chad ('02) and Heather Kelley Ross ('02)** of Gallatin, Tenn., are proud to announce the birth of their first child Keeley Marie Ross. Keeley was born on Sept. 30, 2008. Chad is an associate attorney with the firm of King-Solomon in Nashville and Heather is a National Account Coordinator for ServPro Industries in Gallatin.



**Daniel ('03) and Amy Sittler Pike ('01)** of Bowling Green, Ky., are proud to announce the birth of their daughter, Anne Rhoades, on

Aug. 29, 2008. She weighed 6 pounds, 13 ounces, and was 20 1/2 inches long.

**Ross Pruitt ('03)** of Baton Rouge, La., completed his Ph.D. in agricultural economics at Oklahoma State University in July. He is now employed by LSU as an assistant professor for extension livestock marketing in the Department of Agricultural Economics and Agribusiness.



**Nathaniel Crenshaw ('04)** of Munfordville, Ky., joined the law firm of Hensley & Ross in Horse Cave, Ky., in November 2008.



**Jason ('04) and Nicole Case Shores ('02)** of Owensboro, Ky., would like to announce the

birth of their second son, Cameron Ray Shores. He was born on Oct. 26, 2008 and was 7 pounds 14 ounces and 20 inches long. He was welcomed by his big brother, Michael.



**Lucas Davidson ('05)** of Bowling Green, Ky., and **Kelly Brown Davidson ('05)** of Franklin, Ky., were married on June 28, 2008 in Franklin, Ky. The

couple resides in Louisville, Ky.

**Davy ('05) and Amanda Kirby Rupsch ('02)** of Bowling Green, Ky., were married on Oct. 4, 2008 at the Rich Pond Baptist Church.



**Katherine E. Goforth ('06)** of Chattanooga, Tenn., graduated with the degree Master of Music in Music Therapy from Florida State

University on Dec. 13, 2008, in Tallahassee, Fla. In completion of her degree, Katherine conducted research for her master's thesis titled "Collaborating Goals and Interventions to Affectively Promote the Psychosocial Development of Pediatric Patients during Hospitalization: A Survey of Music Therapist and Child Life Specialists." Katherine is a music therapist – board certified (MT-BC) working with children from birth to 21 years of age.

**Reyes Quintero ('06)** of Stafford, Va., recently received his commission as an officer in the Marine Corps after completing Officer Candidate School (OCS) in Quantico, Virginia.

**Matthew ('07) and Brittany Green Norris ('07)** of Savannah, Ga., were married on June 2, 2007.

**Phillip ('07)** of Bowling Green and **Amanda Moore Walden ('07)** of Smiths Grove Ky., and were married on

June 14, 2008. Amanda is attending the University of Kentucky College of Pharmacy, and Phillip is attending the University of Kentucky College of Dentistry.



**Jodi Hazel-Adamson ('08)** and husband David of Bowling Green, Ky., are proud to announce the birth of their son,

Dylan Walker Adamson, on Sept. 5, 2008. He weighed 7 pounds 10 ounces and was 20 inches long.

**Drew Caskey ('08)** of Houston, Texas, accepted the position of Assistant Ticket Manager at Rice University in October 2008.



**Rachel Fields ('08)** of Bowling Green, Ky., has joined ISTT, Inc. as a Technical Support Coordinator.

**Nicholas Tucker ('08)** of Utica, Ky., recently completed U.S. Navy basic training at Recruit Training Command, Great Lakes, Ill.



## WKU Grad Leads All-Adult Marching Band to Inaugural Parade

On Jan. 20, the Get a Life Marching Band of Portland, Oregon joined approximately 100 other units from around the country in the Presidential Inaugural Parade in Washington, DC. The band launched its 15th season by marching down Pennsylvania Avenue. **Dr. Steve Tolopka**, and his wife **Janet Tolopka** are 1975 graduates of WKU. Steve is the Music Director for the Get A Life Band.

The band hails from all around the Portland and Southwest Washington metro area and ranges in age from 20s to 60s. Part of the band's appeal to the Committee may be that it reaches well beyond the Northwest. Members traveled from the states of Washington, Arizona, Ohio, Florida, Nevada, and South Dakota to join the merrymaking. This combination of local identity and national reach fueled the band's choice of music for the presidential reviewing stand – a medley of "We're An American Band" and the Northwest anthem "Louie Louie."

"Our members have three things in common," notes GAL Founder and Executive Director Bob Pulido. "We were all in high school or college marching bands; we still haven't gotten over it; and we'd rather miss a note than a meal!" For more information on the Get a Life Marching Band go to [www.getalifemb.org](http://www.getalifemb.org).

## TopperTalk would like to say goodbye to our Seniors!

Between them, Colleen (Louisville, Ky., 4 years experience), Dustin (Uniontown, Ky., 2 years experience), Lindsay (Columbia, Tenn., 4 years experience) and Tyler (Monticello, Ky., 4 years experience) contacted close to 7,500 alumni and friends and raised close to \$150,000.00!



From L to R: Dustin Clendence, Lindsey Peters, Colleen Mathews, and Tyler Hart.

TopperTalk wishes them well as they are welcomed into the alumni world pursuing their dreams of becoming doctors, newscasters, and teachers. Their combined experience and attitudes will be missed! If you didn't receive your Tooper Talk call this year, but wish to make a gift, call us at 888.958.2586



## In Memoriam

We pay tribute to all members of the WKU family who have passed away.

- |                                     |                                     |  |
|-------------------------------------|-------------------------------------|--|
| Mr. Neilam D. Adams, '71            | Mrs. Jerre N. Fitts                 | Mr. Jack M. Mayes, '34                 |
| Mrs. Ruth K. Allender               | Ms. Marie Flora                     | Mr. Dennis Ray McAtee, '62             |
| Hon. William E. Allender            | Col. William Ford, '52              | Ms. Josephine Isbell Miller, '05       |
| Mr. John T. Anderson, Jr., '67      | Mr. David C. Frank, '68             | Ms. Cleo S. Milwain, '35               |
| Mr. Curtis J. Barnes                | Ms. Sibyl E. Fulton, '62            | Ms. Mary Kathryn Minyard, '99          |
| Mrs. Mary F. Bates                  | Mrs. Theresa W. Gerard, '36         | Mr. James Preston Moore, Jr., '67      |
| Mr. Wright A. Beasey, '43           | Mr. David Anthony Glaspie, '81, '83 | Mr. Thomas C. Morgan, '52 BU           |
| Mr. John L. Becker                  | Mr. Hal Gomer, '60                  | Mr. Bryan R. Muffett, '56              |
| Dr. Jim Bennett, Retired Faculty    | Mr. Ron Grabruck                    | Dennis Louis Nagle, '80                |
| Ms. Dolores Bensing                 | Mrs. Bettie Grise, '62              | Dr. David Nelson, '39                  |
| Mrs. Sue B. Bledsoe, '36            | Dr. Clyde Hackler                   | Mrs. Josephine E. Oakley, '38          |
| Bette A. Bloss, '54                 | Mr. Lance P. Hakanson, '78          | Mrs. Heidi L. Orlaske, '80             |
| Mr. Harold G. Booker                | Mrs. Ethel Mae Hardcastle           | Mr. Ohn W. Pauli, Retired Faculty      |
| Ms. Lucinda Ruth Boone, '99, '07    | Marquerite S. Hardison, BU          | Mr. Arthur Porter                      |
| Mr. Barry M. Brown, '65             | Ms. Mary Jane Harman, '43 BU        | Mr. Guy Lucian Priode, Jr., '66        |
| Mrs. Kathy R. Brown, '81            | Mrs. Norma L. Harryman              | Mrs. Evelyn Rector, '37                |
| Mrs. Carolyn Cook Bryant, '73       | Ms. Brenda McCullough Haven, '89    | Mr. Richard L. Rhea, '70               |
| Mr. Dennis W. Bryant, '70           | Ms. Jane Covington Henry, '38       | Mrs. Doris Roberts                     |
| Mr. P. H. Bufkin, '40               | Mr. Jerry L. Hensley, '67           | Mr. Gene Thomas Saunders, '78          |
| Dr. Robert N. Burress, '48          | Dr. Ben T. Hieronymus, '36          | Mr. Richard Lewis Schiess, '97         |
| Ms. Becky Phillips Carter, '93, '94 | Mr. William Edward Hiner, Sr., '64  | Ms. Deborah Kay Sharpe, '75, '85       |
| Mrs. Cathy C. Cheak, '84            | Mr. John Oscar Holbrook, '49        | Mrs. Marilyn L. Shelby, '74            |
| Mrs. Dorothy N. Clark               | Mr. Vernon Holder, CH               | Mrs. Patricia Ann Shrewsbury, '77, '80 |
| Mr. James W. Clark                  | Dr. Robert S. Holdsworth, '44       | Mrs. Sallie G. Shrewsbury, '72, '78    |
| Mr. Weld Robert Conley, '70         | Mr. Charles Allen Hood, '78         | Mrs. Margaret E. Simmons, '70          |
| Mrs. Eva P. Conner, '55, '66, '90   | Mrs. Pauline H. Howard, '48         | Mr. George W. Sisk                     |
| Raymond B. Cooke, CH                | Mrs. Mary Barr Humphrey, '68        | Mr. Charles Samuel Smith, Jr., '42     |
| Lt. Col. James W. Cooper, '54       | Mr. Herb King, '76                  | Mr. Jerry Garnett Smith                |
| Mr. Robert L. Cooper, '48           | Dr. Louis Johnson, '32 BU           | Ms. Sherry Ann Smith, '05              |
| Mr. Jeff Crisp                      | Mr. Clarence E. Johnson, '49 BU     | Mrs. Piatt C. Sullivan, '54            |
| Mrs. E. Kathleen Davenport          | Mrs. Mary Burns Johnson, '43, '54   | Mrs. Sarah Sutherland                  |
| Mr. Robert Wayne Dennison, '70      | Mrs. Virginia Johnson, '73          | Mrs. Betty J. Tuttle, '52              |
| Ms. Mary Jane Dillihay, '90         | Mrs. Elizabeth S. Keown, '36        | Mr. Ralph G. Utley                     |
| Mr. C. Philip Dingus, '40           | Mrs. Jewell Keown                   | Mrs. Virginia Wade, '36                |
| Mr. Steven Henry Dinwiddie, '90     | Mr. John Taylor King, Jr., '59      | Mr. Michael J. Walden, '96             |
| Mr. Frank Kelly Duncan              | Mr. Emil Kent Kluever, '77          | Mr. Richard D. Walden                  |
| Ms. Nancy D. Duncan, '37            | Mr. John Ray Knight, '90            | Ms. Monica Lynne Walker, '01           |
| Ms. Dierdre Eitel                   | Mr. Jack Roger Koehl, '84           | Mrs. Lucille F. Wallace, '42           |
| Dr. Curtis Lee Englebright          | Mr. Dwight A. Ladd                  | Mrs. Loretta S. Whitaker, '78          |
| Dr. Eugene E. Evans                 | Ms. Alisa Kay Lancaster, '82        | Mr. Stanley L. White, '48              |
| Dr. Robert J. Fanning, '39          | Dr. William G. Lloyd                | Prof. Vernon White                     |
| Mr. Mark Tandy Faxon                | Ms. Elaine J. Logan, '63            | Mr. James Paul Wiley, '66              |
| Dr. Kela Lyons Fee                  | Mr. Marshall Love, Sr., '47 CH      | Ms. Lucie B. Williams, '42             |
| Mrs. Virginia Opal Fields, '36      | Mr. Howard Joseph Lowrey            | Dr. Margaret C. Willoughby, '38        |
| Charles W. Fisher, '48              | Dr. Justin MacCarthy                | Mr. Thomas F. Worthington, '63         |
| Mrs. Minnie Fitch                   | Mr. James D. Maddox, '48            | Dr. Frank L. Yarbrough, '40, '49       |

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|---|--|--|---|

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- Please automatically renew my membership each year with the credit card listed and send me a receipt.
- I wish to enroll my child(ren) in the Growing Up Red Legacy Program. Please contact me for more information.





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