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WKU Student Affairs

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# Expensive furniture still in storage

## No plans for disabled students' lab

BY JIM GAINES  
Herald reporter

Huda Melky's third \$1,677.52 desk still sits in cardboard boxes at the Supply Services Building, five months after she bought it.

In three purchases since June

1998, Melky, the Equal Opportunity/ADA Compliance Coordinator, spent \$18,619 on furniture for her two-room office. That included three walnut executive desks. One went in Melky's office and her assistant, James McCaslin, uses the second.

At the end of September, Public Affairs Officer Fred Hensley said Melky told him the third desk was soon to be used in a computer lab for disabled students. But Melky's subordinate Michael Southern, in charge of Disabled Student Services, said he knew of no plans for a lab.

Two months later, he still doesn't. "If there's a lab, I really don't know about it," Southern said. "I really wish there was."

Yesterday Melky said she heard "through the president's office" that a committee is studying space for a lab in Wetherby Administration Building or Potter Hall, but she didn't know the committee's function or members. She refused to comment on how a \$1,677.52 executive desk would be used in a student computer lab.

President Gary Ransdell said

there is a committee studying office rearrangement in Wetherby and Potter, but its purpose is not to find space for a disabled students' computer lab.

"Do not correlate this ad hoc committee that's considering space allocation with this," Ransdell said. "Absolutely no correlation exists."

"This committee was put together back in June, long before Huda felt the need to purchase that furniture."



Huda Melky  
Equal Opportunity/  
ADA Coordinator

SEE FURNITURE, PAGE 8



Jeremy Lyverse/Herald

**Dancing angels:** Dancers perform "Guardian Angels" Sunday night in Gordon Wilson Theatre. It was one of 12 student-choreographed productions for Millennium Curtain Call, and was arranged by Andrea Phillips.

## Former regent leaving legacy

### Preston gives million to intramural field

BY ABBEY BROWN  
Herald reporter

A seven-figure gift is expected to be announced today for Western's outdoor intramural complex. This gift comes from Raymond and Hattie Preston, the same couple who were the main contributors to the Raymond B. Preston Center.

"We have been involved with the Preston Center since the very beginning," Raymond Preston said. "It is a natural adjunct to the Raymond B. Preston Center. It completes the picture: an indoor and outdoor facility."



Raymond Preston

The Prestons, both Western alumni, gave an undisclosed financial contribution in 1991 to the health and activities center. Raymond and Hattie, who now live in Henderson, met in a psychology class at Western.

Raymond Preston graduated in 1940 with a bachelor's degree in chemistry, and he went on to

SEE PRESTON, PAGE 8

#### OTHER NEWS

### Final exam schedule wrong in schedule bulletin

The finals schedule printed in the Fall Schedule Bulletin was incorrect. Classes meeting first at 1 p.m. Monday will take their final at 1 p.m. Friday. To make sure you don't miss a big test, check the corrected version of the exam schedule on Page 6.

<http://herald.wku.edu>

## Alleged harasser nabbed

BY BRIAN MOORE  
Herald reporter

It may be too early to celebrate, but women on campus who have received harassing phone calls may be able to breathe easier after a New York man was arrested on Nov. 22 on federal harassing communications charges.

Sean Francis, 21, was arraigned in Middletown, N.Y. He is a former Eastern Kentucky University student who allegedly made more than 400 harassing phone calls between Sept. 21 and Oct. 4, ECU police said yesterday.

"We received information about calls from David Braggs of the Bowling Green Police Department, which he had gotten from three weeks of telephone records from victims," said Wynn Walker, assistant director for police at ECU. "We were able to link five of those harassing calls to our campus."

Braggs confirmed he had subpoenaed phone records from an undisclosed number of victims in the Bowling Green area. He would not release the name of the victim whose records they obtained, and it is not yet determined if Francis had any connection with Western.

The arrest was a collaboration of work from various departments including

Bowling Green, the FBI, and the New York towns of Goshen, Middleton and Newburg.

"The arrest will open up a great deal more of information," Braggs said. "The women who reported harassing calls at Western have been contacted" in an effort to learn more information that could be linked to Francis.

But Western police Capt. Mike Wallace isn't certain Francis was the person responsible for a series of harassing phone calls reported in early October from women living on campus. Western's phone system does not have the capability to track incoming calls.

Eight women on campus filed police reports for harassing and sometimes terroristic threatening phone calls between Oct. 4 and Oct. 13. The reports mainly consisted of rape threats.

"He asked me if I was in someplace private," a resident of Central Hall told the Herald about a call she received. "I walked out in the hallway and he said not to interrupt him. He said he was going to come down the hall and rape me and my roommate."

Calls such as this were very similar to those received by students at Eastern, Walker said. The investigation continues.

### First of a two-part series

## Cherry tops century list

Western leaders, alumni among notable Kentuckians

BY JACOB BENNETT  
Herald reporter

Lots of parents claim to have done it, but Henry Hardin Cherry actually did.

Cherry walked nine miles in the snow to get to school in 1886. When he got to Southern Normal School, he had \$72 to his name. By the time he died, he had transformed education and helped the school grow into what would become Western Kentucky University.

Cherry, along with four other people with ties to Western, was named to Kentucky Monthly Magazine's Kentuckians of the Century list in the magazine's September, October and November issues. The others are former President Kelly Thompson; writers Jim Wayne Miller and Sue

SEE CENTURY, PAGE 3

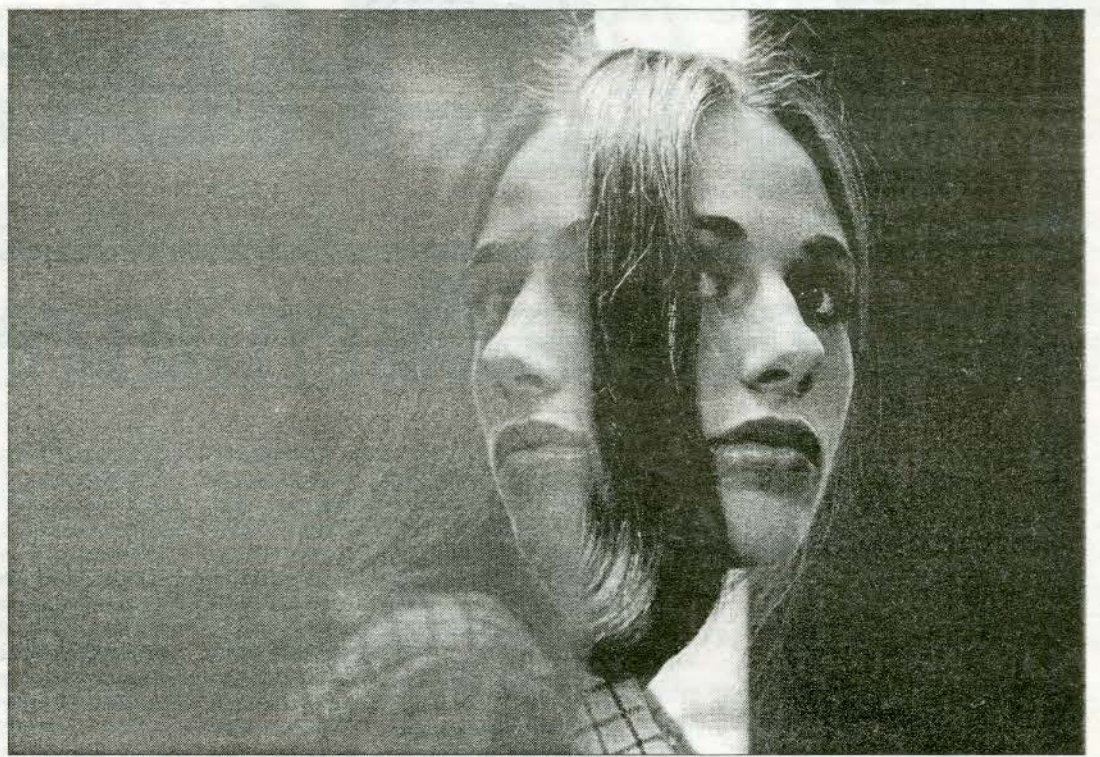


# Weather forecast

Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
48° 31°	55° 38°	57° 43°	53° 33°	55° 32°
Sunny	Partly sunny	Cloudy with showers	Cloudy with rain	Clearing, may rain



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



Jeremy Lyverse/Herald

**Two faced:** Megan Jackson, a senior at Warren East High School, waits to be called to auditions for "Small Town," an independent student film co-written by Western seniors R. D. Jeffrey and Derek Durbin, both from Bowling Green. "I heard about it from my grandfather," Jackson said. Her grandfather, Carlton Jackson, and father, Daniel Jackson, are both professors at Western.

## Crime Reports

### Arrests

- ◆ Zavala Santos Diaz, Scott Street, was charged Saturday with DUI, driving without an operator's license and disregarding a traffic control device. She was released from the Warren County Regional Jail the same day on a \$500 unsecured bond.
- ◆ Arguelles Gomes Tomas, Morgantown, was charged Sunday with alcohol intoxication. He was released from the Warren County Regional Jail the same day with time served.
- ◆ Roberto Carlos Aguila, Hartford, was charged Sunday with DUI. He was released

from the Warren County Regional Jail the same day on a \$467.50 cash bond.

### Reports

- ◆ Melvin Lawrence Abernathy, West Hall, reported Wednesday \$21 stolen from his wallet in a Preston Center locker the same day.
- ◆ Kimberly L. Sowders, Downing University Center, reported \$553 in cash stolen from a safe in DUC between Wednesday and Friday.
- ◆ Campus police responded to a fire alarm sounding in Pearce-Ford Tower Friday at 12:42 a.m. Someone had falsely sounded the alarm at a pull

station on the 25th floor.

- ◆ Anna S. Post, Chestnut Street, reported Friday her purse and its contents, value \$125, stolen from Garrett Food Court or her office, Garrett room 206, on Thursday.
- ◆ Susan Sanborn, Telephone Communications, reported Friday damage to the Van Meter Hall sign, damage value \$75, between Thursday and Friday.
- ◆ Brandon L. Fisher, North Hall, reported Saturday dents made to his 1995 Jeep Cherokee, damage value \$200, parked in Grise Hall lot on Saturday.

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# It was time well spent, but now it's time to go

Don't hate me because I'm beautiful. No danger in that, of course. At least not the beauty part.

I have noticed, though, that despite of all the columns and opinion pieces I've written for the Herald during my long tenure here, I have yet to receive any hate mail. For most people that would be a good thing, but for me it just means I couldn't stir up enough emotion in people to get them to write an angry letter to the editor.

Though I've occasionally gotten some positive feedback from folks over some columns — and even a few emails — I apparently haven't stepped on too many toes. The only truly negative response was a Young Democrat who once told me I was "too far out on the extreme right wing fringe."

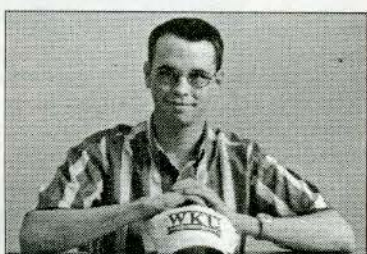
But no angry letter. Maybe I'm just not controversial enough. I suppose what I write could be the majority student opinion. And my political views don't draw fire because nobody cares about politics. Or maybe my opinions are just so persuasive, no one could possibly disagree.

I reflect on this only because this is the last thing I will ever write for the Herald, and lack of hate mail is one thing that jumps immediately to mind as I ponder on my time spent here. Though there is a lot more.

While at Western and the Herald, I've learned and grown a lot, and ... (WARNING: I could make this a really sappy farewell column, but I'll try my best not to.)

I've been here long enough to see the administration do a lot of stupid things. The latest of which is letting a computer tell them how the university schedule should be next year. One reason I'm glad I won't be here next year.

I was here to see a changing of the guard from Thomas Meredith



News & notes  
Fred Lucas

to Gary Ransdell. I've met and talked with (even been lied to by) politicians campaigning on campus. I've seen some really sad and a few good performances from Hilltopper teams.

I took great pleasure coining the term "Creden Zagate" to describe ADA/Equal Opportunity Head Huda Melky's furniture fiasco (though most have probably forgotten the word by now).

I've even been one of University Boulevard's greatest hits.

I'll miss the Hill, even though I'm happy as heck to get away from this place. I came to Western as sort of a shy guy and am leaving with a better appreciation of life and people.

Through the good and bad, I've learned a lot here. Friends are important. People are important. I learned to know myself better, and respect others more. That's the real education we get from college.

That's taking nothing away from classes here. I can honestly say I've had far more teachers that I've liked than I disliked.

Gosh. Saying all those nice things, it's no wonder I'm struggling to find hate mail. But for someone who doesn't like lengthy goodbyes, this column has gone on too long. So long, Western. For the most part, it's been fun.

*Time is running out. Any last ditch frustrated and angry hate mail can be sent to Fred Lucas at lucasfu@wku.edu.*

# Date rape drug scare an email hoax

BY BRANDY WARREN  
Herald reporter

Women on college campuses across the nation have been receiving alarming emails warning them about a new drug that date rapists are using. The rapist uses the new drug, Progesterex, to simultaneously sterilize and knock out women so that they may be raped and not become pregnant.

The email is a hoax.

"It's an urban myth," said Theresa Edmundson, assistant Health Educator at Student Health Services.

Comments and second-hand testimonials have been sent through email to women across the country. The emails claim that a horse sterilization pill called Progesterex has been used to rape women on college campuses across the nation. It says the drug is administered by mixing it with alcohol or soda. It sterilizes women so that the woman cannot become pregnant, according to the email.

The U.S. Food and Drug Administration and the American Veterinary Medical Association say the drug does not exist. Experts say the only

drug that is similar to the stated purpose of Progesterex is a drug called Estrus, which is used to temporarily prevent mares from coming into heat.

The fake emails also say that Progesterex usage has been reported at fraternity parties at Columbia University.

Spokespeople for Columbia University confirmed there has been no reported use of such a drug at the university. Columbia University spokespeople also checked with other universities and drug education organizations. None of the groups had heard of Progesterex or its alleged use.

"It sounded real," said Evansville freshman Laura Ressler. Ressler received the email from a friend and forwarded it to other female friends. "It made me worry about my friends who go to parties all of the time."

Although Progesterex is not a real drug, there are several other drugs that are often used in date rapes. One of those drugs

is called Rohypnol. Rohypnol's medical purpose is as an anesthetic or sleeping pill. It has recently become known as "the date rape drug."

It is used by rapists to sedate their victims. Roofies, as they are commonly called, are dropped into drinks at bars and parties. The drug leaves the victim weak and causes them to lose memories of what happens after the drug is taken.

Detection of Rohypnol, now illegal, may become easier. The manufacturers of the drug recently reformulated the drug. In light colored drinks, the drink will turn bright blue. In a dark drink, the liquid will appear cloudy.

Another rape drug is called Gamma Hydroxybutyrate, commonly called GHB. When taken at high dosages, it gives a sedating effect.

While college students should be aware of the effects of drugs such as Rohypnol and GHB, they should not worry about Progesterex.

**"It made me worry about my friends who go to parties all of the time."**

— Laura Ressler  
Evansville freshman

## Campus News

### ABC cites Good Tymes, Pepe's, Norma Jean's

Three local restaurants have been penalized by the Bowling Green Alcoholic Beverage Control administrator for charges of failure to pay various fees, according to a press release from the ABC office yesterday.

Good Tymes, Pepe's Mexican Restaurant and Norma Jean's have violated Bowling Green Code of Ordinances Chapters 4-5.02.

◆ Good Tymes failed to file and pay its 1998 Net Profit License Fee to the city. It filed and paid the fee on Nov. 15, in addition to a \$100 fine to avoid a two-day suspension of its license to sell alcoholic beverages.

◆ Norma Jean's failed to file and pay Net Profit License Fees for both 1997 and 1998 and to file and pay Employee Withholding Fees for the quarters ending Dec. 31, 1998, March 31, 1999 and June 30, 1999. Norma Jean's license to sell liquor and its malt beverage license will be suspended indefinitely as of Jan. 1, 2000. Once the fees are filed and paid, an additional five-day suspension will be assessed.

◆ Pepe's Mexican Restaurant failed to file and pay Net Profit License Fees for 1996 and 1997 and Employee Withholding


Fees for the quarter ended March 31, 1999. The fees were paid on Nov. 15, in addition to a \$100 fine to avoid a two-day suspension of their license to sell alcoholic beverages.

—Brian Moore

### Cash Flow Problem?

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# Opinion

## Privatizing eliminates campus input

Student Health Service employees have reason to be concerned. So does the rest of the campus community.

Despite Collegiate Health Services' promise to keep the present staff after taking over on Dec. 31, the company is picking off the strongest of the herd to set an example: Don't step out of line.

After months of protesting the privatization, Charles Lott was fired from his position as health services director by Collegiate's incoming management.

Well, there's a shocker.

Lott waged war against the idea of handing Student Health Services over to a private company.

In an effort to protect his job and those of the other employees, he became a monkey wrench in the privatization process.

He called the Board of Regents' actions into question at every turn and insisted the deck was stacked against the university keeping control.

It's no surprise that Collegiate decided not to keep him around.

Obviously, Collegiate can't be trusted to stand by empty promises they made to get the contract.

Lott can't even talk about the specifics of his leaving due to a privacy agreement with Collegiate. This is what happens when you bring private companies on campus. Though they operate on campus and handle campus business, students have no legal way to find out how they run things or how their money is being spent.

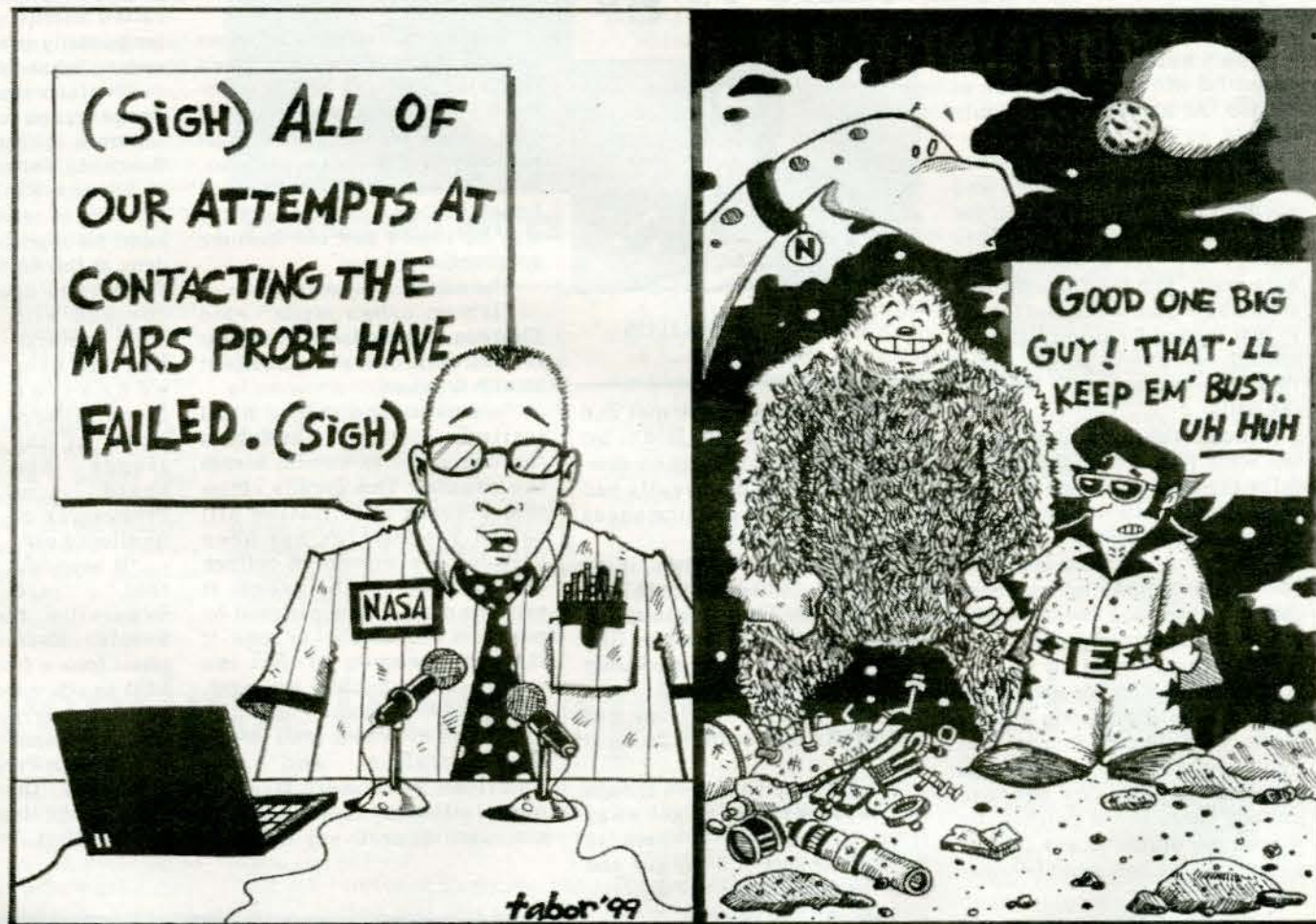
If this is a precedent being set, students should keep a careful eye on the other organizations being privatized. Student Life Foundation, a private entity, is buying every dorm on campus to pay for improvements.

Students won't be able to access information about the buildings they live in because they're no longer university property.

Privatization can be good for making services more efficient and offering a better product. However, as Western continues to sell off its independence, students, faculty and staff are losing input on their university. Take notice. It's time to make your voice heard now before the opportunity is silenced by another corporation.

**The issue:** Western is slowly becoming more privatized, shutting students and faculty out of university dealings.

**Our view:** Students, faculty and staff should voice their opinions now, while they can still be heard.



## Running into high school foes intimidating

The perils of Christmas break can sneak up on the unsuspecting freshman.

First of all, you have to adjust to living with your family again. No more letting your food containers accumulate in shoulder-high, color-coded piles.

Christmas break is also typically the first time many of you will be home long enough to see people you went to high school with. Suddenly, every time you leave the house you run into someone who knew you during that unfortunate, awkward period.

This can be a good thing. But with the good friends from third period gym, there's also the possibility of running into the people who made high school a living hell.

An example: My freshman year, I was cruising the frozen food section for my mom when I ran right into "Little Miss Everything."

You remember her. Every high school had one. She was valedictorian of your class, head cheerleader, first chair clarinet in the orchestra, captain of the track team, and she still found time to organize the school blood drive every year. Colleges were knocking her door down just for the privilege of offering her a full scholarship. She got so many awards during Class Awards Night, they put her chair on the stage just to save her some walking.

I, on the other hand, only showed up to receive recognition as "Class Wiseass." Imagine.

I froze in my tracks. Eye contact had been made. Conversation was inevitable. After deciding that stuffing myself into the freezer with Ben and Jerry was ill-advised,

I gave her a weak smile and said "Hi."

"Molly," she said as she grinned widely. She had always been too nice to despise completely. "How are you? What have you been up to?"

A laundry list of my accomplishments from the past semester flew through my head. I had escaped the legacy of my abysmal high school grade-point average to pull a 3.8 my first semester. I had done really well in my journalism classes and thought I had stumbled onto a career. I had even managed to thwart the dreaded freshman 15.

But all I could remember was her beating me for the lead in the school play — three times. So I shrugged and said, "Not much. How about you?"

DOH! As soon as the words escaped my mouth, I knew I had made a mistake. I prepared myself for something along the lines of "Well, after two weeks of classes, the president of the university said I was wasting my time taking classes and asked me to teach."

But to my shock and surprise, Little Miss Everything wasn't home for the holidays, she was home for good. She had gone to one of those big prestigious schools and had completely freaked out her third week there. All of a sudden she wasn't a stand-out in the crowd, and she couldn't handle

the anonymity. She was going to the local community college and hoped to get back sometime soon.

Though I was tempted, I didn't do the "happy dance" inwardly. It was sad, really. I had been so intimidated by this person in high school. I had wasted time and energy being jealous of her awards and prestige, and in the end, it had meant nothing.

High school plaques and awards mean nothing here. The professors don't know your history and they really don't care how many merit certificates you have. They only care about whether you can pass their class. Popularity is impossible in a crowd of 15,000 students. You're past all of that.

Remember that when you return home to face your former classmates. You've probably grown a lot during your first semester at college. You're probably not the same person you were in high school. Reintroduce yourself to them.

If they ask what you've been up to, list your accomplishments proudly and don't be afraid that their efforts will outshine yours. It doesn't matter.

But most of all, remember what you're really home for — spending time with those you love. Make an effort to have a conversation with your dad that doesn't revolve around changing the oil in your car. Ask your Mom if she needs help with the three-day Yuletide cooking binge.

Have fun. Get home safe. Have happy holidays.

Molly Harper is a senior print journalism major from Paducah.



**Molly Harper**  
commentary

### ► What final exam are you dreading the most?



"English 100."  
**Kathi Davidson**  
freshman from  
Hermitage, Tenn.



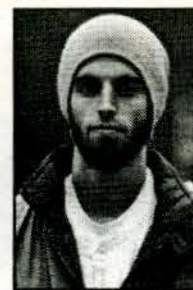
"Developmental psychology. There's just much to cover"  
**Sylvania Thompson**  
Louisville  
sophomore



"Astronomy. It's comprehensive, and on top of that, it's only the second test of the year."  
**Michelle Byrum**  
Greenville  
sophomore



"Accounting 300."  
**Crystal Henshaw**  
junior from  
Whitehouse, Tenn.



"Physiological psychology."  
**John Agee**  
senior from  
Saratoga Springs,  
NY

## College Heights Herald

<http://herald.wku.edu>

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Daniel Wallace/Herald

"It's the perfect job," said Jane Olmsted, director of the Women's Studies Program. Olmsted believes today's women are questioning the rules.

## ► Professor Profile

# English professor lands 'perfect job'

### Olmsted heads Women's Studies

BY BRANDY WARREN  
Herald Reporter

Jane Olmsted didn't even want to take her first Women's Studies class in 1972. She took it with a friend so that her friend wouldn't be mad at her. Most people would not expect that from Olmsted, especially since she is now the director of the Women's Studies program here at Western.

Olmsted was born in Minneapolis, Minn. Her parents separated when she was 18 months old and she was raised as an only child by her mother. She then moved to Ohio with her mother and would remain there for the rest of her childhood.

Olmsted has attended several colleges. She spent one year at a community college in Ohio before transferring to Bowling Green State University in Ohio. There, she earned a degree in creative writing and English. On a lark, she applied for a scholarship at the University of Louisville. After receiving the scholarship, Olmsted spent five years there and earned her master's degree.

After earning the degree, Olmsted realized there was no money for a person with a master's degree in English. With a lot of confidence, she decided to enter the business field.

Her first job was as a technical writer at an insurance company in Louisville. Olmsted said after only two years, the job had become "the most miserable experience" of her life. She said she was not suited to that world: "It was like a round peg being forced into a square hole."

Olmsted next accepted a position at St. Catherine College outside of Springfield. There, she taught speech communications. She spent two years at St. Catherine before moving on to Berea College. She received a job there teaching writing and speech communications.

After five years at Berea, Olmsted decided to get her doctorate. This step was a difficult one for her to take. She often resisted the idea of being a graduate student; however, she loved teaching at the college level.

Olmsted was accepted at the

University of Minnesota, where she earned her doctorate in English with a graduate minor in feminist thought.

After graduate school, Olmsted found a job that combined her three loves: English, women's studies and Kentucky. Olmsted applied, and was soon hired, for a position at Western Kentucky University working in English and women's studies.

"It was the perfect job," Olmsted said. "It has remained that way for me ever since." Since coming to Western, Olmsted has worked her way up to Director of the Women's

**"My life's path has really been a series of accidents."**

— Jane Olmsted

director of the Women's Studies Program

Studies Program and helped to get a graduate certificate approved in the program.

"My life's path has really been a series of accidents,"

Olmsted said. She said each job she took eventually led her to her next position. Without her job as a technical writer, she would not have received her job as a speech communications teacher at St. Catherine College. Each job led her a step closer to Western.

Olmsted currently lives in Bowling Green with her second husband, three sons, two dogs and two cats. She enjoys reading, going to the movies, and has recently taken to working crossword puzzles.

She said her husband is also a feminist, probably more so through knowing her. She also said that her sons, ages 16, 15 and 10, are feminist-minded and conscious of discrimination.

"The hand that rocks the cradle should also rock the boat." This quote appears at the top of Olmsted's webpage. Olmsted said women have traditionally been defined in their role as mother and many people have the idea that if you're not a mother, you're not a real woman. Olmsted disagrees with that idea. She says women today are rocking the boat, questioning the rules. She feels the quote is also a good catch-phrase for the Women's Studies program.

Olmsted's path of accidents has led her in a direction that at first she may not have envisioned. A woman who never aspired to becoming a graduate student now has a doctorate. A college student who never wanted to take a women's studies class is now the director of the Women's Studies program. Jane Olmsted's "accidents" have led her to her perfect job.

# CENTURY: Presidents make list

CONTINUED FROM FRONT PAGE

Grafton; and basketball coach E.A. Diddle. Just in time for the millenium, the Herald takes a look back at the faces that were shaped by the Hill.

### Henry Hardin Cherry

Cherry and his brother T.C. bought the school in 1892, three years after he graduated. He bought out T.C.'s share in 1899.

When the Cherrys took over, the school had 28 students. To increase enrollment, Cherry traveled by buggy to surrounding towns, selling the positives of his school. Cherry traveled as far as Louisiana to recruit students. By 1900 it had 700 students.

Lowell Harrison, author of "Western Kentucky University," a history of the school, said Cherry's promotional skills were his biggest recruiting tools. "He would take pictures of all the students in one room, then to make the school look bigger he would move them into the next room and take another picture," Harrison said.

Of those students enrolled in the school, only four had high school diplomas. Cherry realized that education needed improvement, so he lobbied for funds to turn Southern Normal School into the first state normal school.

Several cities lobbied for the privilege of having the first state normal school, most prominently Bowling Green and Richmond.

The state legislature compromised and established normal schools for both cities in what would eventually become Western and Eastern Kentucky universities.

"The rivalry between Eastern

and Western goes back to the day the two schools were created," said Harrison.

Cherry's success in establishing a state-funded normal school greatly improved Kentucky education in the years to come. Students coming to the schools already had more education coming to the colleges than they had before, allowing them to concentrate on more advanced areas of study while in college.

Cherry was also a good motivator that convinced students and faculty to value his beliefs, Harrison said. He used a daily school meeting to rally support and preach to the students.

"I always wonder if Cherry would have the same impact on kids today that he did with the students back then," Harrison said. "And I believe that he would."



Henry Hardin Cherry

### Kelly Thompson

Kelly Thompson moved up the ranks of the Western hierarchy, beginning as a student and eventually becoming one of the most popular presidents in university history. His service lasted more than 50 years, more than half of the school's history.



Kelly Thompson

Thompson trained under Cherry and filled in for Paul Garrett before he was named president in 1955. He also trained his successor, Dero Downing, which ensured a presidential link to Cherry until 1979, when Downing retired.

"He had many of the same qualities that Dr. Cherry was respected and admired for," Downing said. "He was a great speaker, and he was greatly respected in the political arena."

Thompson worked alternating semesters for President Cherry until he graduated in 1935.

Cherry hired him as director of public relations that year, and Thompson increased national recognition for Coach Diddle's basketball teams. He left for the Navy in 1944, and returned to Western in 1946 as assistant to President Paul Garrett, a position the Board of Regents created for him.

As Garrett grew ill, Thompson's responsibilities grew. It didn't take long for Thompson to be named the new president when Garrett died in 1955.

"Thompson was in charge for probably the biggest increase in enrollment in Western's history," Kentucky Monthly Magazine Editor and Publisher Steve Vest said. "He was also responsible for desegregating the school."

Under Thompson, Western's enrollment topped 10,000 for the first time, and the school was elevated to university status in 1966.

Several new buildings opened on campus, including Grise Hall and Hardin Planetarium, named for Thompson's late son, who had been named for President Cherry. The Kelly Thompson Complex for science classes bears his name.

Thompson retired as president in 1969, saying he did not feel healthy enough to serve the school full-time.

He stayed around and helped with long-range projects, and helped the university in several capacities until he died of cancer in 1993 with a red towel on his pillow.

Downing said Thompson was never intrusive or critical after retirement.

"He gave me encouragement even back at the time I was a student at Western," he said. "He was a mentor and a genuine friend. He meant more to Western than anyone will ever know."

Some information for this story was found in University Archives and Lowell Harrison's book, "Western Kentucky University."

In Thursday's issue, E.A. Diddle, Jim Wayne Miller and Sue Grafton will be profiled.



# Risks, costs led to death of flip-Friday schedule

BY ABBEY BROWN  
Herald reporter

From the technological point of view, maintaining the current flip-Friday schedule would cost more than \$100,000 and cause potential damage to the student information system.

"If we are going to do it, let's do it right and spend the money," said Richard Kirchmeyer, vice president for Information Technology. "At least you are dealing with minimal risk."

Kirchmeyer said even the current computer system isn't able to handle the flip-Friday schedule. "The current student system is between 30 and 40 percent modified."

He said the concept of tricking, while convenient in the short term, adds up cumulatively over time to come back and "bite you."

Some "tricks" that could be used to maintain the current schedule would be to refer to one of the alternating Fridays as Saturday or Sunday, Kirchmeyer said. This may seem like a feasible option, but the system is coded in such a way that it isn't possible, Kirchmeyer said.

These "tricks" are dangerous, Kirchmeyer said, because each time the company makes changes to the baseline system - about 12 to 15 a year - those changes may affect the "tricks" the university made to the system.

Scheduling committee chairman Luther Hughes said the committee relied heavily on the advice of many people with expertise in the area of technology.

The committee made the decision to change the schedule after hearing from many computer experts who told them it was not possible to keep the flip-Friday schedule.

"I regret that we were unable to convince the faculty that all the experts said we could not modify the system to accommodate flip-Fridays," Hughes said, "because all that advice was, and is, the basis on which a new scheduling system was selected."

The committee had four choices when looking at the new scheduling software, Kirchmeyer said.

One choice was to have SCT, the company that makes Banner 2000, do the initial changes, cost-

ing between \$100,000 and \$150,000, and then maintain those changes, costing between \$25,000 and \$50,000 a year.

"This method is very expensive, but there is minimal risk. The company is the one who is responsible to maintain those changes," Kirchmeyer said.

Another choice was for the university to "trick" the system so it would do what the university wanted it to do. The initial cost for the "tricking" would be \$50,000 and to maintain it would be between \$10,000 and \$15,000 a

year, with SCT's assistance.

"Tricking the system is what got us into this mess to begin with," Kirchmeyer said. "There is a big controversy over whether you should change software to accommodate processes or change processes to accommodate the software."

Kirchmeyer said the tricks build up to a point where all you are doing is maintaining the tricks you are trying to play.

Another option the committee had was to print flip-Fridays in the schedule and just change it

with notes.

"On the surface this is an easy solution, but then you are dealing with two sets of information, what is printed in the schedule and what is actually in the system," Kirchmeyer said. "To make those match logically again you have to use tricks."

The final option - the one the committee decided to go with - was to change the schedule.

"I think it is time we make a change and move forward," Kirchmeyer said. "Let's start focusing on how we can use this system in a positive way."

## Fall 1999 Final Exam Schedule

	Mon.	Tues.	Wed.	Thurs.	Fri.
8 to 10 a.m.	Classes meeting first at 8 a.m. Tuesday	Classes meeting first at 10:30 a.m. Tuesday		Classes meeting first at 8 a.m. Monday	Classes meeting first at 9:15 a.m. Monday
10:30 a.m. to 12:30 p.m.	Classes meeting first at 10:30 a.m. Monday	Classes meeting first at 11:45 a.m. Monday		Classes meeting first at 9:15 a.m. Tuesday	Classes meeting first at 11:45 a.m. Tuesday
1 to 3 p.m.	Classes meeting first at 2:15 p.m. Monday	Classes meeting first at 1 p.m. Tuesday	Multiple sections of ACCT 200, 201; CHEM 222, and FIN 330	Classes meeting first at 2:15 p.m. Tuesday	Classes meeting first at 1 p.m. Monday
Late afternoon and night classes					
3:45 to 5:45 p.m.	Classes meeting at 3:45 Monday only; 3:45 Mon./Wed.	Classes meeting at 3:45 Tuesday only; 3:45 Tue./Thurs.	Classes meeting at 3:45 p.m. Wed.; 5:15 p.m. Mon./Wed.	3:45 Thursday only; 5:15 Tues./Thurs.	
6 to 8 p.m.	Classes meeting at 5:15 Mon. only; 6:45 Mon. only; 6:45 Mon./Wed.	Classes meeting at 5:15 Tuesday only; 6:45 Tuesday only; 6:45 Tue./Thurs.	Classes meeting at 5:15 Wed. only; 6:45 Wed. only	Classes meeting first at 5:15 Thursday only; 6:45 Thursday only	

Coming Thursday  
The final  
College Heights  
Herald  
of the Millennium

# Take a break from stress

## And get a mini massage



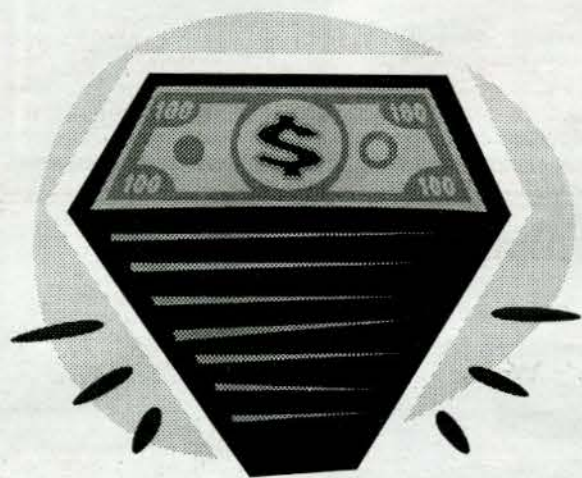
On December 8, there will be free mini massages available in two locations. In the morning hours the massages will be in Garrett Lobby. In the afternoon hours the massages will be held in DUC lobby. First come first serve.

**If you are unable to get a massage, here are some other tips on how to cut your stress during this testing time.**

1. **Get Organized.** Put things back in their place so you're not hunting for them later
2. **Laugh.** If you can find humor in a problem, the problem is half-solved.
3. **Let others do their own thing.** You are not the general manager of the world, so relax.
4. **Give people a break.** Other people have bad days, too.
5. **Treat yourself right.** Eat right, get sufficient sleep, and exercise.



# IMPORTANT NOTICE: CASH FOR TEXTBOOKS



Hilltopper College Book Depot will be paying Finals Week prices starting Tuesday, December 7th. Hilltopper College Book Depot is right by campus for your convenience.

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Saturday, Dec. 18  
10 a.m. - 4:30 p.m.

**Hilltopper College Book Depot  
111 Old Morgantown Road  
Across the tracks from the parking structure**



## FURNITURE: Administrators have no plans for new lab

CONTINUED FROM FRONT PAGE

Ransdell said such a lab could be created, but knew of no plans or space for one.

On June 16, Ransdell sent a memo to General Counsel Deborah Wilkins, Chief Financial Officer Ann Mead, Dean of Student Life Howard Bailey and Campus Services and John Osborne, Facilities assistant vice president, asking them to form a committee to rearrange Wetherby and Potter offices. The only allocation mentioned in the memo is moving the Public Affairs office into the Regents Room in Wetherby.

The committee has only met twice, Osborne said, and has not discussed a disabled students' computer lab.

"I don't recall us getting into that," Osborne said. "I don't recall us getting into that much detail."

Bailey said the committee mentioned a possible computer lab as "one of probably 10 agenda items," but there are no plans or available funds.

Disabled students need a central computer lab, Southern said. About 115 students now use Disabled Student Services, but

more than 300 could use some kind of assistance. About six specially modified computers would do for a lab, which would ideally contain a lounge and student help center with space to study and take tests, he said.

Modifications would include adding speech synthesizers and software to enlarge text, a Braille printer and trackball mice.

Some of these already exist in the student computer labs in Helm Library and Grise Hall. In addition to wheelchair-accessible desks, each lab has one computer with an attached voice synthesizer. They are password-protected so only disabled students with authorization can use them.

Melky's office plans to install text-enlarging software on a computer in Helm lab sometime soon, lab manager Joe Powers said.

Despite their small number, the modified computers are not overbooked; the computer with a voice synthesizer in Grise has not been used for almost two years, lab manager James Kennedy said.

Melky said there is additional equipment in Potter Hall base-

ment for a disabled students' lab.

There is one scanner and one computer with obsolete software in storage, Southern said.

Bailey said there are also computer desks and study carrels in Potter Hall basement. They were put there when Melky, then Disabled Student Services coordinator, took over the newly-formed EOE/ADA Compliance office in Potter Hall, Room 445. The furniture and single computer were originally set up in 442, but when Southern became Disabled Student Services coordinator he needed that space for an office. He boxed and stored the computer himself two years ago. That office is still wired for computer terminals, Bailey said.

"The lab can be reestablished as soon as space is made available for Mike Southern to have another office," he said.

Meanwhile, there's been no request or plan to move Melky's desk from storage, said Johnalma Barnett, shipping and receiving area manager.

"Of course, whenever I get the space I'll be able to set it up," Melky said.

## PRESTON: Gift amount will be announced at cookout today

CONTINUED FROM FRONT PAGE

found PB&S Chemical Company.

Preston served as a regent for five years. He has also served on many different advisory boards at Western. Now semi-retired, he is the chairman of Ohio Valley National Bank, and he runs Preston Farms, raising popcorn, cattle and hogs.

The announcement about the donation will be made today at a student, faculty and staff cookout beginning at 1:30 p.m. at the complex located at Industrial Drive and Campbell Lane. There will be a luncheon for faculty, staff and invited student leaders at noon today. Following the cookout a flag football game will take place.

The university would disclose the exact amount of the gift, but the money will go to lighting, scoreboards, hydroponic irrigation, field levelers, completing fencing on the softball field and other improvements, Preston said.

Emily Butler, a senior from Portland, Tenn., said she thinks Western students are lucky to have a complex like this one.

"I think (the donation) will only help to make the complex better," the employee at Preston Center said.

She said the addition of lights will make it easier for students to play sports at night, accommodating many people's schedules.

Development and Alumni Relations Vice President Tom Hiles said the Prestons are leadership donors that are role models for all of the university's alumni base and friends.

"This commitment will reflect that, and it is a legacy gift," Hiles said.

The new complex is being named after Hattie, the major contributor, her husband said.

President Gary Ransdell said he is "enthusiastically appreciative" to the Prestons for what they are doing.

"They are tremendous benefactors and this gift is about students," Ransdell said. "I can't think of a gift that will affect students more directly than this one."

Ransdell said this gift is a great benefit for Western. He said

this donation will allow Western to have one of the nation's premiere intramural facilities on a university campus.

"With such a significant gift, you could not blame me for being pleased," Ransdell said.

This donation comes only one month after another million-plus donation was given toward the construction of a belltower on the south end of campus.

This is the 11th gift of more than \$1 million the university has received in the past year, Hiles said.

He said the recent increase in private donations, up 89 percent since 1997, is in large part a result of the university's strategic plan that gives donors specific interests on which to focus their giving. Hiles also said the increase has been helped by the university being more proactive in their collection of funds.

The Prestons are pleased what their donation will make possible for Western students.

"Absolutely, I am excited about this project," Raymond Preston said.

HAPPY  
BIRTHDAY  
MATILDA,  
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YOU!

Mom, Dad, Whitney  
&  
Friends



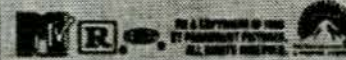
## WKU Hilltopper Astronomy Club

First Meeting on Tues., Dec. 7  
5:30 p.m. in Room 129  
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## WOMEN'S ALLIANCE

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Filing Date:  
January 14, 2000

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Community College Information Window

Women's Studies Center

[www.wku.edu/Dept/Org/Faculty/WKUWA/Home.html](http://www.wku.edu/Dept/Org/Faculty/WKUWA/Home.html)



# Features



**Jesse and his brother** John Krzton-Presson, 12, sit on the porch of their Utica home. "To really ride a wheelie you have to go forward and backward," said Jesse as his brother played with a manual chair, a chair that Jesse hopes to operate one day. The \$18,000 electric chair he uses now was paid for with insurance money.

## New Challenges

After a devastating accident last July, Jesse Krzton-Presson has accepted his injuries. Now he is setting new goals.

His graceful arch of a dive ended with a plopping splash, bringing disaster on a sweltering summer Saturday this past July. The thud and snap of bones were drowned out by the three-foot blanket of lake water at Camp Roy C. Manchester's sailing dock in Benton, Ky. As Jesse Krzton-Presson floated face down, unconscious and not breathing, he had no idea his life was changed forever.

Four months later, the ends of his enduring smile draw upward to his dark hair. A broad grin and a kind gesture are the norm for the Owensboro sophomore.

Jesse is an Eagle Scout, a lifeguard, a camp counselor and, as his friends say, a great human being.

A slow, limp hand slaps for the oversized buttons on a timer strapped to his chest. Another labored move reclines the electric wheelchair. Once, the beep of an alarm clock meant a new hour or time to get up. Now it means it's time to recline or straighten.

The numb feeling most people get in their rear end after watching football too long could mean trouble for Jesse. The beep reminds him to keep the blood moving to his extremities.

For a quadriplegic, everything must be monitored.

It's been four months since Jesse severed his spinal cord on that misjudged dive. He is out of the rehabilitation center and is living with his family in Utica.

His father says Jesse was mischievous and intelligent in high school. "His freshman year, he had no advanced classes," said David Presson, a Utica postman. "So instead of not taking them, he changed the counselor's marks and got in. He did well in those classes."

### The accident

On July 10, Jesse, a computer science major and philosophy minor, walked with other staff members to the camp sailing dock where he worked as a lifeguard during the week.

"I saw Jesse on the sailing dock rail and he waved his arms like he was about to fall,"

said staff member Cayce Nichols, 15, of Paducah. "Then he dove in and stayed face down for about three minutes. We all thought he was joking around."

Nichols said Venessa Boaz, 16, told her he could hold his breath for a long time because he was a good lifeguard, "plus he was always joking around."

Jesse recalls the events of that day, while at his home in Utica: "I remember diving off the dock like I always did. Then I remember hitting something. I was face down in the water and I tried to roll over, but I couldn't. Then I just blacked out."

Staff members never anticipated what was about to take place on Kentucky Lake's pebbled beachfront that afternoon. The long wooden dock led to bobbing white sailboats Jesse loved to take out. The wash of waves on smooth stones rocked Jesse's body.

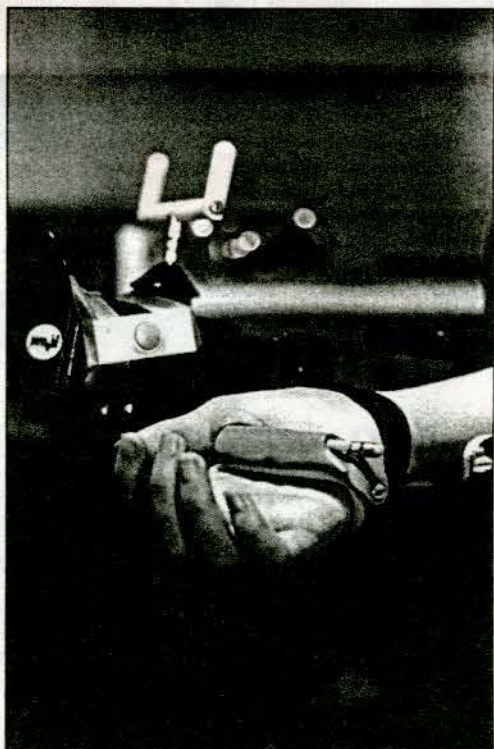
Brent Lewis, 14, then jumped in beside him, just playing around. Nichols said Lewis rolled Jesse over and started yelling "He's blue! He's blue!"

Nichols and Mike Kirn, 15, took him to the edge of the water. "We cleared his throat and I gave him three breaths and he started breathing," Nichols said. "I said, 'Jesse, if you can hear me, squeeze my hand,' but he didn't. I then said, 'If you can hear me, blink once,' and he did. After that I told him to blink if he had hurt his neck and he blinked."

Her cries for help attracted camp Emergency Medical Technician Tim Pascal, who was nearby even though he was off-duty on weekends. "He did CPR on Jesse for a few more seconds," Nichols said.

"We were all just praying for him to be better. Every time we prayed something good happened," Nichols continued. "We prayed that he would breathe and open his eyes and he did. Then we prayed he could communicate with the EMTs and later we found out he did. It's something I don't ever want to go through again."

Tim Pascal recalls getting Jesse in the ambulance and trying to get him conscious. When he was successful, he asked Jesse if he knew that he was in an accident.



**When the brace is removed,** Jesse will move his fingers with wrist movement to operate his chair and computer.

"Yeah, I'm making you work on your day off," Jesse answered.

Pascal said he then told Jesse that he had his wallet. Pascal remembered Jesse saying, "There's \$3 in there and it better be there when I get it back." After that, Pascal could not hold back his tears for Jesse.

Jesse's lungs were about 70 percent full with water when Pascal arrived on the scene. Pascal said at 80 percent water capacity, a victim usually does not recover. Jesse was then rushed to Western Baptist Hospital in Paducah. He was hooked to a respirator on arrival.

Tests were performed on Jesse, which showed he had suffered a C-5, C-6 vertebrae fracture located just above the shoulder blades. The break had severed the spinal

SEE JESSE, PAGE 11

STORY AND PHOTOS BY JED CONKLIN

## ► Campus Life

### SEX: Fast, uncensored, irreparable

I have captured your attention using the oldest trick in the media: Sex.

Don't feel bad. It was as inevitable as a typo in the Daily News. But since I have your attention, I'd like to ask a few questions.

Sex. It feels goods and it makes babies. Big deal. Why do we let it run our lives? Why do we let it ruin our lives?

Why do men go to Hooters to eat bad food at high prices?

Why do women buy Cosmopolitan and Glamour

magazines to take the latest "Test Your Sexual IQ" quizzes?

Why do women who can look pretty and walk down runways get rich while teachers and artists struggle to make ends meet?

It's outrageous. It's appalling. But more importantly, it's irreparable.

Sex has been around ... well, since the second generation of humans were conceived. We're almost immune to it. We don't see it right in front of our faces. It's right there in every advertisement, every book, every TV show and movie and on and on.

Don't get me wrong. I have no problem with the act of sex. I have no problem with the sexual impulse, because without it there would be no you or me or anyone else. What I have a problem with is the lack of sense that we use when confronted with anything Sex.

America has let sex take over everything. Ironically, it's probably because sexuality was so repressed 500 years ago.

As British colonists and Puritans evolved into baseball-playing Americans, the discussion and display of anything sexual was considered immoral. Of course, everybody thought about it, but no one did anything openly about it.

Centuries later, a sexual revolution took place and now we have a strange set of values. As corporations and right-wing conservatives bicker about what should or shouldn't be shown on TV or written in magazines, Hollywood and Wall Street are brainstorming the next advertisements, which will undoubtedly be saturated with sexual imagery.

We're hypocrites. We try to keep children from seeing or hearing about sex. We avoid conversations about it at all costs. We let them get their sexual education based on what they hear on the school bus, simply because we find it awkward to talk to them about it. All this, and still we spend \$5 million on adult videos every year.

Sex plays a factor in almost every decision made by every person everyday. It's the most talked about subject on earth, and we're still fascinated by it as if it's some big mystery.

My mother said it best: "Sex is something everyone..." ...wait, was it "Don't let sex..." Forget it - I wasn't really paying attention. She should have known better than to try to talk to me during "90210."

R. Justin Shepherd is a freshman print journalism major from Shepherdsville.



**R. Justin Shepherd**  
commentary



# LEMOX is buying back books at Dynamite Prices.

Lemox will be paying finals week prices starting Dec. 07

## Lemox Regular Store Hours

Monday - Thursday  
8:00 a.m. - 5:30 p.m.  
Friday  
8:00 a.m. - 4:30 p.m.

## Lemox Extended Store Hours

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Sell your books at Lemox and you'll receive **cash** for the Christmas Break.



► Around Town

# JESSE: Accident victim smiles through pain

### Students showcase

Need to relax? Check out Western student art on display now at the fine arts center gallery. The exhibit features Western students' artwork and will be on display through Dec. 14. The gallery is open from 8:30 a.m. to 3:30 p.m. Call 745-3944 for more information.

### Light-seeing

Come see the Houchens Market's Winter Lights in the Park. The drive-through holiday light show will be open from 5:30 to 10 p.m. weekly until Dec. 31 at Basil Griffin Park. The cost is \$4 per person or \$10 for vehicles of at least 15. Coupons can be picked up at local Houchens, Sav-A-Lots, Jr. Food Stores, Mariah's and the Greenwood Mall Service Stop. Call 782-366 for more information.

### Trees of Christmas

The Trees of Christmas will be held at the Houchens Center from 10 a.m. to 4 p.m. every day until Dec. 21st. The Houchens Center is located on the corner of 11th and Adams Streets. Admission is \$1 for adults and 50 cents for children. This is the event's 21st year, and consists of 24 trees decorated by several organizations.

### Christmas caroling

The holidays are here. Bells are ringing and voices are singing. Carols at the Square will be held at 7 p.m. in Fountain Square Park. The event is sponsored by the First Baptist Church.

cord. Jesse was paralyzed from the underarm down. Tests also revealed feeling in the arms and fingers, but Jesse could barely move them.

A black halo was screwed into his skull for stability, giving him the look of a fallen angel. Beneath wires and tubes, taped instruments and heavy machinery lay Jesse. His voice could not form under tubes forced down his throat, but a smile always crept from the crusted corners of his lips.

His friends and family all think Jesse will pull through and become independent again. Nobody thinks he will give up.

"He's got a better spirit than that, plus I won't let him," said Richmond junior Terry Ackerman.

### The Shepherd Center

After Jesse was stabilized at Western Baptist, he was transported to the Shepherd Center in Atlanta. Shepherd is a hospital specializing in paralysis, neurology and Multiple Sclerosis victims. The apartment that Shepherd provided after Jesse completed rehabilitation was suited for Jesse's lifestyle and enabled him to be acquainted with the equipment he would use after returning home.

"He's an ideal patient," said Vanessa Curtis, a part-time nurse at Shepherd. "He's going to come a long way. And he's almost taught me to water ski."

"It makes your day when you are having a bad day and you walk in and he's smiling. It's sweet."

Jesse was a water skiing instructor at Camp Manchester. When he wasn't busy with rehab, or trying to fight the pain, he would talk to Curtis about water skiing and give her hints on how to improve.

"Jesse is on an experimental drug called Sygen," Curtis said. The drug has been around for 10 years and has been proven to regenerate nerves in lab rats, however has not been proven to help people. All the other drugs Jesse is on are just over-the-counter pain killers.

**"I'm kind of taking one day at a time. Each day is different."**

— Jesse Krzton-Presson  
former Western student

Jesse, sitting straight up in his chair, looked out the glass wall over the handicap access pool one floor below this past September.

To the left, a gymnasium filled with laughter and voices floated down the hall. Patients and nurses would start a story. A tambourine would be passed around with the receiver picking up where the story left off.

Jesse was all smiles. Friends from Western had driven to Shepherd to see him. For Jesse, the visit is priceless. A constant grin stays on his face as old stories are shared and funny moments reenacted. The twinkle in Jesse's eye was not of a wounded soldier, but of a brave man lost in a handicap he must conquer.

His once stocky figure is now skinny. The features in his face are more defined and hollow. The white collar he must wear all the time forces his chin to be held up.

"At my level (quadriplegic), my fingers aren't expected to come back. My left hand has wrist movement but my right doesn't," Jesse said. "In the morning, my physical therapy teaches me how to get in and out of my chair. After lunch, I have occupational therapy where they work on your arms. They put weights on my arms and put my arms in different machine things."

"I'm kind of taking one day at a time. Each day is different."

One of his many surgeries involved taking the bone from a cadaver leg and putting it in place of the broken vertebra. This would eventually allow Jesse to hold up his head.

"It's easy to make friends here," Jesse said. "Most people are newly injured. For entertainment, we went to the Bass Pro Shop one day. We just went on a camping trip last weekend to a tree farm. Other than that, we have television, VCR, pool table, ping-pong, swimming pool and a garden to go in."

### Life now

Today, like every day since the accident, Jesse meets new challenges and new adventures. A flight of stairs presents a problem most never think about, one he's not used to.

Constant pain, less now than it was, greets Jesse every morning and stays with him all day. The white collar that choked and forced uncomfortable straightness has been removed. The new bones from the cadaver leg are strong enough to hold up Jesse's head.

"It was nice to get it off, but my neck was real heavy afterwards," Jesse said jokingly.

The Daviess County afternoon sun bathes Jesse's face through the front window of the small yellow country house he calls home once more. His wheelchair slips through the front door and his brother and sister follow closely. His brother sits in a manual wheelchair and tries to do wheelies. Jesse shouts hints to help his brother complete the task. For Jesse's brother, the wheelchair is fun. For Jesse, it's life.

The flat, green fields of the surrounding farms, and the woods they back up to, once provided Jesse with adventure. Today and other days, he stares into the horizon and thinks about the past and present obstacles.

Donations and government assistance have covered all but \$4,000 of Jesse's recovery and renovations to the house. Additions to the house include a ramp to the door, a new bathroom, a runway from the front to the back of the house, an extra bedroom and wider doors.

"I think accepting my injuries is harder than when it first happened, because once you accept it you can't ignore them anymore," Jesse said.

The one thing Jesse wants is "life back the way I had." He is well on his way to achieving that goal the best he can. Jesse is now working with a voice-activated computer system. He can make the computer type or bring up Internet access or anything else a computer can do by just using his voice. He's

**"I think accepting my injuries is harder than when it first happened, because once you accept it you can't ignore them anymore."**

— Jesse Krzton-Presson  
former Western student

taking a few classes in the spring at Owensboro Community College and plans to return to Western full-time next fall.

The front door again swings open and Jesse motors his way into the house. The buzz of construction is heard in the kitchen. The Ironman triathlon blares on the television. A man competing in a wheelchair disappears into a sunset after finishing the race.

Jesse smiles.  
To contact Jesse, email him at [jkp@hotmail.com](mailto:jkp@hotmail.com).

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# New choreographers showcase their work

By RACHAEL SLOAN  
Herald reporter

From hip hop to classical ballet to African tribal dance, this isn't your mama's dance recital.

The Millennium Curtain Call, a collaboration of 12 student choreographers from Western's theater and dance department, performed last weekend to sold-out crowds. The recital returns for a second year after a long absence.

Tickets to the performances were \$1 each. The money raised from the shows will go into a theater and dance fund, which will be used for upcoming productions and bringing in guest artists.

The 12 pieces performed to almost 450 audience members, each with their own reasons for coming.

"Some came to give support to someone they knew performing. Others like arts of all kinds and there are not too many places where you can find art like this," said Joan Walton, a visiting theater and dance assistant professor.

Each selection varies and portrays the choreographer's views and what they hope to portray to the audience.

Florence senior Damia Wells has been dancing for 16 years. This was her first time to choreograph.

"I decided to choreograph because this is my last year, and it is important to put your vision on someone else and see how it turns out," Wells said. Wells chose a piece by Tori Amos entitled "Cruel."

"I wanted something different," she said. "I wanted to show how females can be catty towards each other and at the same time, there is a certain aspect of lust."

While some of the pieces are prolific and challenge the audience members to think, others

are pure entertainment.

Choreographer Eric Beason was looking for something to fit that description. The Bowling Green junior said his piece is inspired by Michael Jackson's "Smooth Criminal" video, which was inspired by the choreography of Tina Landon and Janet Jackson. It is a military march incorporated with hip hop.

"It's not a deep number. The music inspires people to dance," Beason said. "The dance moves perpetuate that; it's very rhythmic."

The choreographers also took on the responsibility of selecting dancers to perform their pieces.

Wells chose her dancers on the basis of appearance and dance ability.

"I chose three totally different looks and body types, each different, but when they dance they are all alike," Wells said.

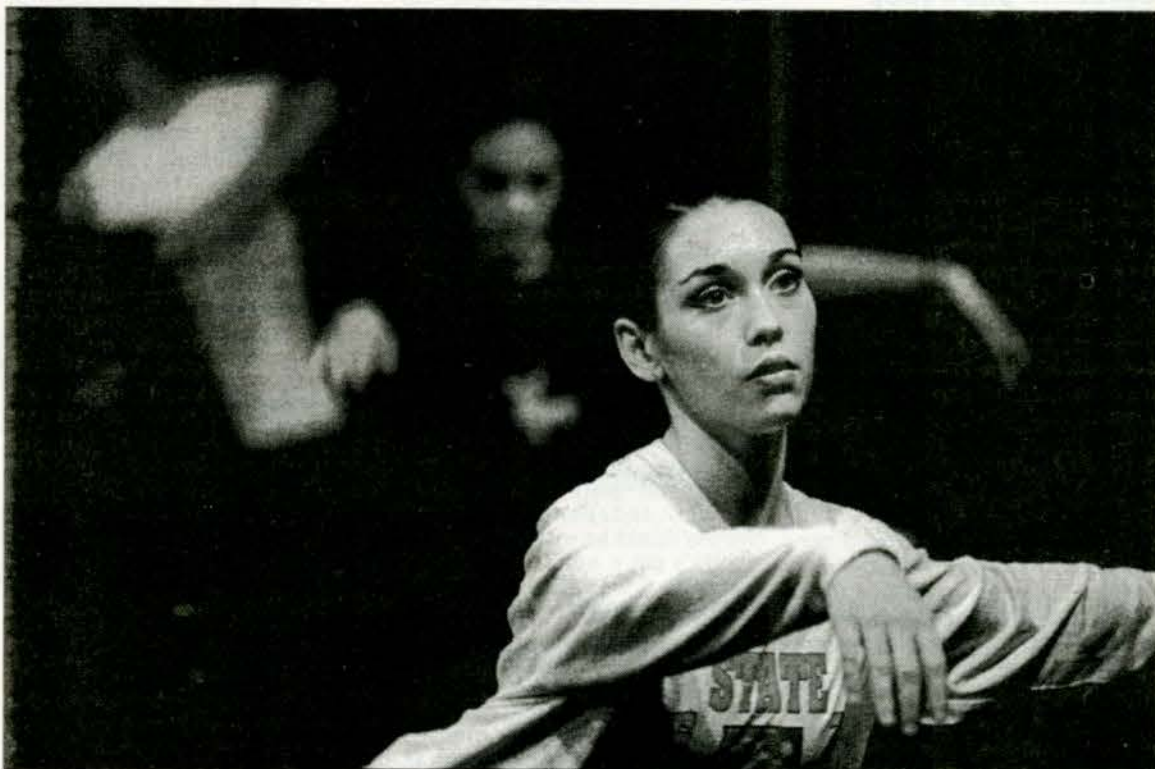
It all started with three-week intensive choreography class, Beason said. After three weeks, students were given the option to choreograph for the performance.

Walton, who taught the class, tried to avoid pressuring the students to take a stab at choreography. "Wanting to choreograph comes from within a person, we wanted them to gravitate towards it," Walton said.

The 12 who decided to give it a try then began the process of selecting dancers. Some hand-picked their dancers while others simply asked for volunteers. The choreographers started around the beginning of October choreographing their pieces.

The months of work paid off for both the choreographers and their dancers.

"I thought the dancers did an excellent job," Sebree freshman Stephanie Laughary said. "It was the first time I had been to a dance recital. It kept me captivated. It was wonderful."



Jeremy Lyverse/Herald

Lea Kohl, a sophomore from Guntersville, Ala., rehearses for "Millennium Curtain Call" Saturday night in Gordon Wilson Hall. The student collaboration of choreography ended Sunday.

## Campus movie schedule

### Wednesday

9 a.m. With Honors; 11 a.m. Rush; 1:15 p.m. Cool Runnings; 3 p.m. And The Band Played On; 5:30 The Out Of Towners; 7:15 Big Bully

### Thursday

9 a.m. Ed Wood; 11:15 a.m. The Rage; Carrie 2; 1:15 p.m. Beverly Hills Cop III; 3:15 p.m. Interview With A Vampire; 5:30 p.m. Idle Hands; 7:15 p.m. In Dreams

### Weekend

9 a.m. The Matrix; 11:30 a.m. From Dusk Till Dawn; 1:30 p.m. The Blair Witch Project; 3 p.m. Clean and Sober; 5:15 p.m. Mixed Nuts; 7 p.m. Forces of Nature

### Monday

9 a.m. The Cutting Edge; 11 a.m. E.T.; 1 p.m. Know What You Did Last Summer; 3 p.m. Forrest Gump; 5:30 p.m. Big Daddy; 7:15 p.m. Black Sheep

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# Sports

## ANOTHER SURPRISE: Hutcherson returns to Lady Toppers

BY JERRY BREWER  
Herald reporter

The Lady Toppers announced late yesterday the return of Shatika Hutcherson, who was once flooded with academic woes, in another surprising occurrence during this young season filled with more twists than a pretzel.

Hutcherson, a rangy 6-1 sophomore forward, averaged 5.3 points and 2.8 rebounds as a freshman last season. She played the first 19 games and missed the final nine after suffering an anterior cruciate ligament tear in her knee on Feb. 7.

Because of bad grades, Hutcherson did not enroll at Western this semester.

She spent part of the semester in Nashville, her hometown, and moved back to Bowling Green in October. She has worked, conditioned and rehabilitated her knee during the time off.

Hutcherson recently was readmitted to the university and has registered for classes next semester.

Hutcherson will be eligible to rejoin the team on Dec. 18, the day after the fall semester is complete. The Western women's basketball team does not play again until Dec.

20 against Murray State.

"I'm really excited," Hutcherson said. "I am really ready to come back. I didn't know I could play so soon. I'm pretty much in shape. I'm an available body."

Western coach Steve Small said Hutcherson is eligible to play next semester because she has the necessary hours. Hutcherson has 27 hours, which is three more than the requirement for sophomores.

But to stay eligible, Hutcherson needs to complete 21 hours by next fall — "I'll be going to summer school again this summer," she said — and raise her grade-point average. "It's always a tough load

to hold, but it's very possible when you dedicate yourself," Small said. "School is not as hard as people let on if you just apply yourself."

Hutcherson's return is the product of her refocusing and Small's care. Many times, a player will leave school for academic reasons and never return.

Often, that's because the coach forgets them.

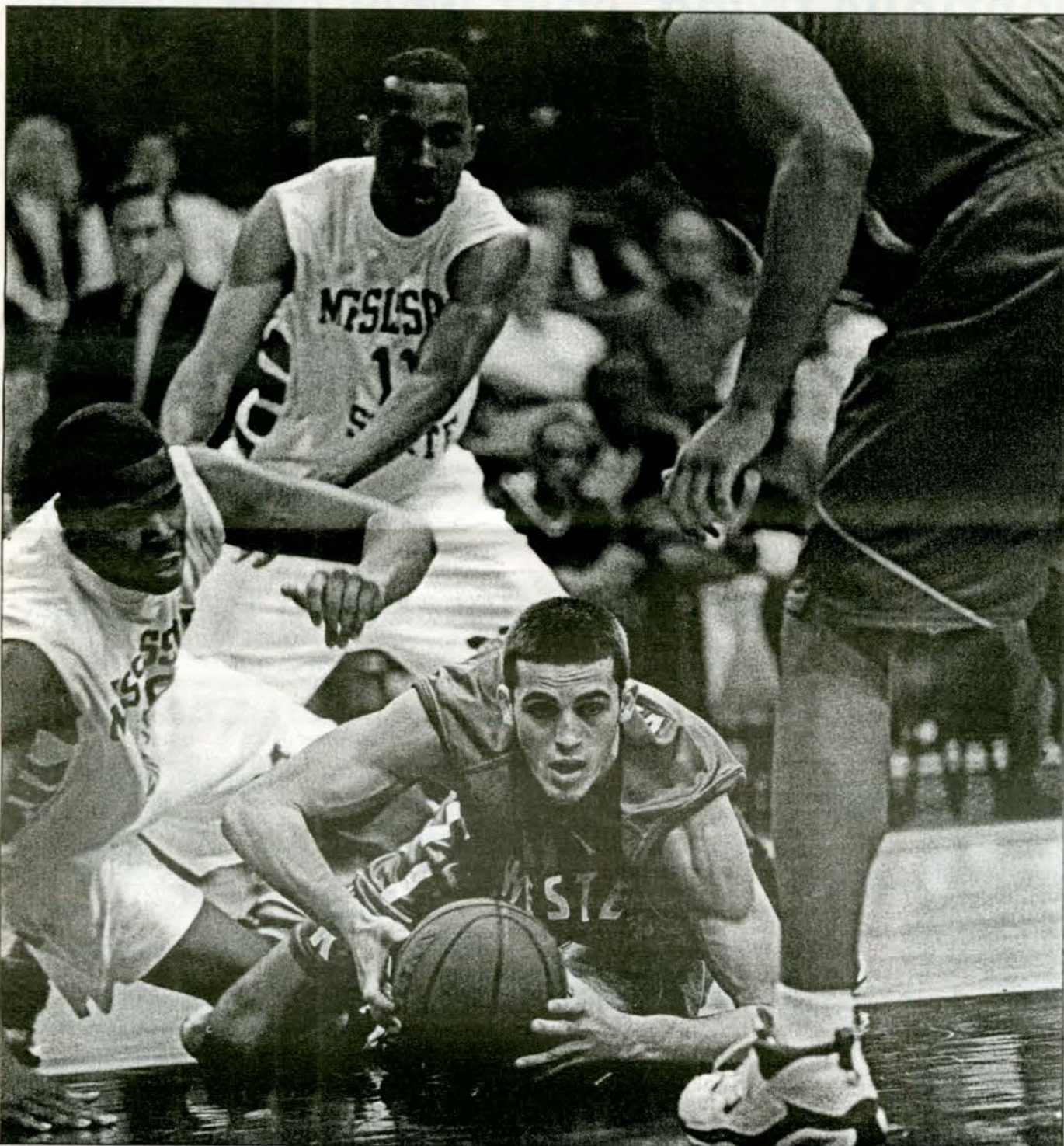
Small has had a tough-love approach with Hutcherson since she left school. He would help, he told her, but it was up to her. Hutcherson, even while in Nashville, kept in touch with Small.

"We've talked, and she has come and seen me and cried," Small said. "This is what I have prayed for. For Shatika. I want her to make it for a lot of reasons, and basketball is the last of it. I don't want to use her for basketball. I want her to use basketball for an education."

Hutcherson, who admits she is not in basketball shape yet, said she has learned from the experience.

"Put school first and just work hard at everything I do," Hutcherson said. "I was really disappointed in my grades. But I'm not ready to hang up my shoes yet."

## Fifth time not a charm, but Tops getting closer



Daniel Wallace/Herald

Freshman guard Filip Videnov tangles with Mississippi State center Robert Jackson for the rebound during first period play at Humphrey Coliseum in Mississippi Saturday.

## Bulldogs nudge by Hilltoppers

BY TRAVIS MAYO  
Herald reporter

STARKVILLE, Miss. — Time dwindling to nothing, a tough loss that could have been a win inevitable, Western coach Dennis Felton looked down and focused on a single point on the floor Saturday.

He wasn't scanning the wood texture, but his team's opponent's texture.

For a brief span of seconds, Felton couldn't take his eye off the Southeastern Conference logo painted on the court in front of the Hilltopper bench. Against a Mississippi State pound, his Hilltoppers had come to within inches of getting over the hump, in a place called The Hump.

When Felton zoomed in and seemed to stop the game for that moment, the Bulldogs (5-2)

SEE NUDGE, PAGE 14

## Murray brings tradition, talent

BY TRAVIS MAYO  
Herald reporter

If ever there were a classic, a series that screams Rocky-type battles and whispers Diddle-style tradition, tonight is it. If ever there were a matchup that stands out on the schedule like red shoes with a black suit — and has for more than 60 years — tonight at 7 is it.

The numbers prove the Western-Murray State rivalry. Series history: Western 92, Murray State 46. The first ever contest was on January 25, 1932, when the other program in Western Kentucky downed the Hilltoppers 26-24. When legendary Western coach E.A. Diddle roamed the sidelines, he made sure each of his warriors knew that if one game counted more than others, it was Murray.

"It was apparent that he viewed them as a rival, that in order to build the kind of program he wanted, he felt he had to dominate the state scene," said Dero Downing, former Western hoopster and president. "It was always a hard-fought game because those teams played all out."

SEE MURRAY, PAGE 16

## Swimmer breaks records; team finishes second at invitational

### Vencil bests record by over one second

BY LYNDSAY SUTTON  
Herald reporter

Somewhere in the lanes of Notre Dame's Rolf Aquatic Center pool, Kicker Vencil missed his first cue. It wasn't a

major setback, nothing worthy of stopping the show, but Vencil knew his encore performance in the 100-yard freestyle championships later in the evening needed to be much improved if the end award was to mean anything.

Vencil entered the Notre Dame Invitational fully expected by his coaches to beat Western assistant coach Steve Crocker's school record in the 100-yard freestyle. Crocker set the original record in 1985 in 44.90 seconds.

Vencil's best time unshaved, thus far was :45.3, but he shaved for this meet.

So Vencil read the script, memorized it, and tried to recreate the original performance, yet fine-tuning it to his own liking. Any other swimmer would have been pleased with a time of :44.84, Vencil's time in the preliminaries, but Vencil was disappointed with his performance. If he was going to beat the school record, which he did that morn-

ing, there had to be a more impressive way to do it.

"I told Steve, 'You can still have the record as far as I'm concerned,'" the senior captain said.

Crocker, now playing the part of director, shared a couple of cups of coffee with his budding star before the finals that night, hoping to pump Vencil up for the race.

Making the disappointment part of the backdrop, Vencil raced to a school, pool, and meet

record time of :43.78 in the finals, good enough for first place, good enough for an eventual second place finish for the Hilltoppers (5-0), and good enough for Vencil.

But he didn't know at first what he had done. When he first finished the race, his goggles were foggy, making him think the scoreboard said :44.78 instead of :43.78. But he heard all the screaming and cheering and

SEE RECORDS, PAGE 16



# Athletes team up for some holiday charity

When you're an athlete, everybody wants to hem you into a selfish category, a category made by and for athletes, a category void of outside interference, a certain type of single-minded zone that you are encouraged to venture into often.

But 'tis the season, man, 'tis the season. 'Tis the season to forget about *your* season and worry about how to help someone else.

Athletes are in a unique position because they are recognizable figures. Some would say it is their responsibility to contribute to society because of this, but so few do in these times.

Many of Western's athletes crashed that stigma last weekend. The Student Athletic Advisory Committee, a delegation of athletes representing their respective sports on the Hill, raised money and participated in the Salvation Army's Little Angels program. The pro-

gram provides Christmas gifts for various under-privileged children in the city.

The committee asked each athlete on every team to give \$3. The men's and women's basketball, Big Red, athletic training, football, volleyball, men's and women's cross country and dance teams all contributed what they were asked to do. There are notable omissions, but let's not get into that.

The committee raised \$445, and the Western athletes bought gifts for eight children. They met at the home of Jenni Miller, a senior volleyball player and the committee president, and wrapped the gifts Sunday. Fisher Price and Leggo toys, cargo pants, children's books and spiffy little alligator slippers were among the gifts purchased.

"These are cute," senior Topperette dance team member Janet Thompson said, holding up the alligator slippers.



## PLAYGROUND NOTES

Jerry Brewer

"That's my favorite kid," junior volleyball player Melissa Starck said while gazing at several presents to be given to a little girl. "She got all the cute clothes."

This scene was beautiful on two levels. First, you have people enjoying giving. Second, all these different representatives of sports were together, working as one team instead of a bunch of little teams.

"We get their locker room,"

several Topperettes said of the volleyball team. "Thanks for sharing."

Miller enjoyed the togetherness.

"I think that's the main goal, and if you look at that goal, yeah, everybody's in it together," she said.

## Around the playground

Here are a couple of noteworthy items as we close the fall semester:

◆ ShaRae Mansfield is good. Let's just get that out of the way.

◆ Let me offer my short list of people who should be considered for Western's Male and Female Athletes of the Year.

First, the short list of women: Mansfield, who is extraordinary on and off the court and a true, positive representative of this university; Miller, who showed incredible will while playing with a torn anterior cruciate ligament this volleyball season; and

junior cross country runner Valerie Lynch, who is the most accomplished athlete on the Hill who you don't hear enough about.

And now for the men: Senior football player Patrick Goodman, whose athletic and academic achievements are unparalleled; and two swimmers - senior Kicker Vencill and sophomore Gord Veldman - who are definitely keeping that team's winning tradition alive.

◆ If it wasn't their fifth straight loss, the Hilltoppers' performance against Mississippi State would've been some kind of accomplishment.

Instead, we're still searching for that win that'll get this season rolling.

◆ Who does Western play tonight? Is it a big game?

Jerry Brewer's column appears Tuesdays and occasionally Thursdays. Call him at 745-6291, or e-mail him at brewdown@aol.com.

# Lady Toppers continue trend, split weekend games

## Western finished second in tournament

BY JERRY BREWER  
Herald reporter

Back home, far away from where her teammates were playing a dicey basketball game Saturday night, Kristina Covington turned a dorm room bed into a 400-mile extension of the Lady Topper bench.

"Dang!" she exclaimed, hopping off the bed to look at the radio.

Surely, Covington could see something different. Surely, her imagination and knowledge of basketball, knowledge of the intricacies of Lady Topper bas-

ketball, were causing her mind to paint Picasso-like scenes of what was going on miles away.

She was, after all, listening to Western, that thin basketball team on which she is a sophomore forward.

Covington learned her destiny for this season on Nov. 19 when she tore the anterior cruciate ligament in her left knee - a season-ending injury - while playing defense during the first half of a game against Indiana. She had already posted eight points, four rebounds and three assists in 11 minutes.

She is one of three Lady Toppers - freshman guard Jennifer Slaughter (stress fractures) and freshman guard/forward Elisha Ford (torn ACL) are the others - who cannot play because of injuries. Covington would've hung out with those two this past week-

end, but they went home.

Covington said she knew she had done something serious when she fell.

It felt "like that tingly feeling you get when you fall on your knee, but worse," Covington said.

And last weekend, she was sitting in a dimly lit dorm room listening to her team play.

"I know that I'm not going to be able to play, but I don't think I'm over the injury," Covington said. "I try to move on, but deep down inside it hurts. I don't have to walk around and cry for people to know that it hurts."

She wanted to listen to radio coverage of Western's 49-46 come-from-behind win against Evansville (3-1) on Friday, but the radio wouldn't pick it up.

She struggled through an 86-76 loss to Missouri (5-1) on Saturday. The split earned Western a

second-place finish at the Unilever Lady Tiger Classic in Columbia, Mo.

That is the way the Lady Topper season has gone so far. Split. Split. Split.

Three wins, three losses.

Coach Steve Small said he has been proud of his team, which now has only eight available players, to this point. The Lady Toppers have a 16-day layoff until their next game, which is Dec. 20 at home against Murray State.

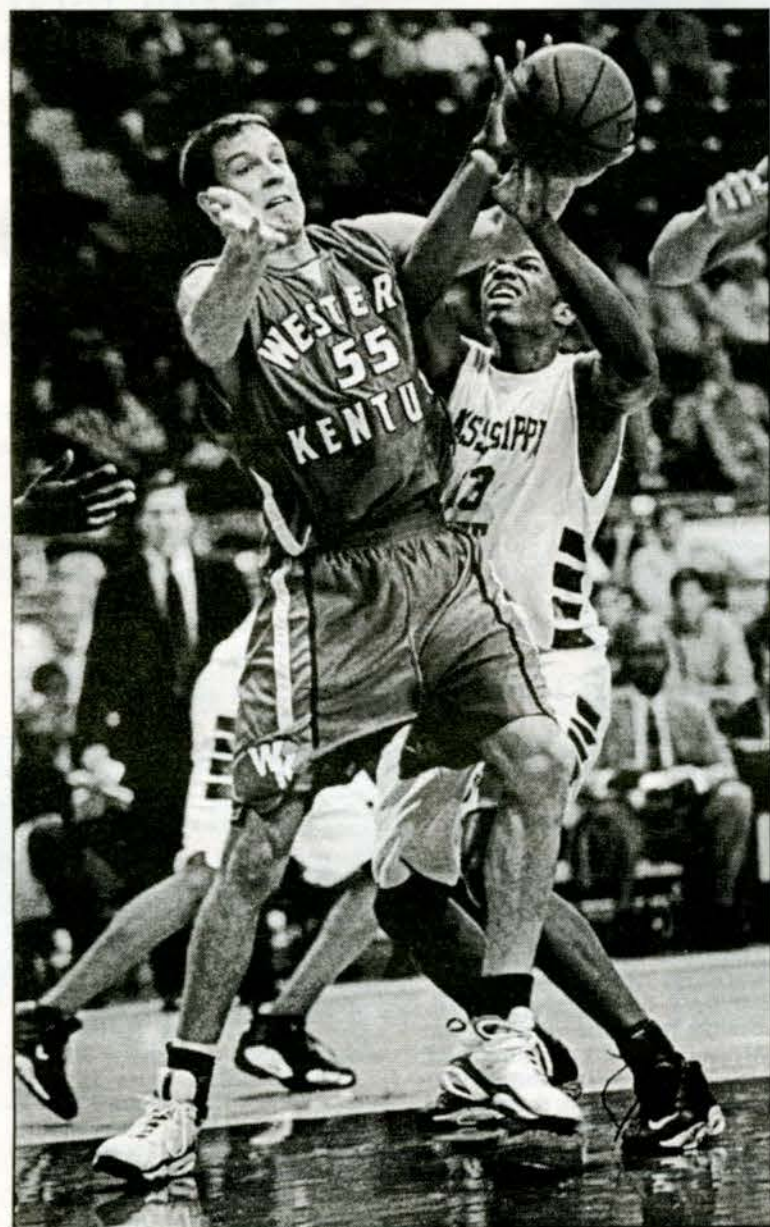
"We're going to change our offense a little bit (during the break)," said Small, who won his 50th game against Evansville. "We ran some four-out, one in against Missouri, and we liked how that looked. We hope to get Jamie Britt in the post some more, and ShaRae away from the basket so we can use her quickness."

Britt, a senior forward, had 20 points and 12 rebounds against Missouri. Senior guard Jamie Walz added 15 points and 11 boards, while junior forward ShaRae Mansfield scored 13 points and grabbed six boards.

Covington collected 15 chants of "c'mon, y'all" during the game. She added eight "dangs" and one resounding clap "we're coming back!" when the Lady Toppers made a run midway through the second half.

Western faltered late in the game, but Small found many positives, including more balanced scoring and improved play from sophomore centers Kenosha Chastang (six points, eight boards) and Katie Wulf (six points).

But it still ended in a loss. "I think I'm going to go home and go to bed," Covington said.



Daniel Wallace/Herald

Sophomore center Brian Allenspach and Mississippi State's Quentin Smith fight for the rebound Saturday. The Hilltoppers were ahead at-halftime, but lost 81-69.

# NUDGE: Game closer than final score

CONTINUED FROM PAGE 13

were less than a minute away from nudging by Western, 81-69. Another loss that could've been a win, against another formidable foe.

But don't let the 12-point spread fool you, because the matinee matchup was close. So close that the Hilltoppers (0-5) led at halftime for the second time this season, 34-33. So close that Western was edging the Bulldogs 61-60 with 6:17 remaining.

"We performed like a team expecting to win for 35 minutes," Felton said. "It was just the very last five minutes that we lost that composure."

When freshman guard Derrick Zimmerman rocked the rim after a Western turnover with about 33 seconds left, his second jam in about three minutes, the ink in the win-loss column began to set.

Late fouls and stabs at threes pushed the score up.

For so long, it was so close that Mississippi State coach Rick Stansbury had more to say about the visiting team than the host.

"That's a very, very good team," the Meade County native said. "People don't understand. You look at their record, where they've been to - at Southern Illinois, not many people win there; at St. Joe, not many folks win there; and at Akron.

"So forget their record when you write about their team. It's a very, very good team. That's a team I think will challenge for the championship of the Sun Belt Conference - I think they're that good."

The first half was full of spurts, as the Bulldogs growled to a 17-9 lead, as Western's offense looked out of sync.

But then the Hilltoppers took their first turn around the traditional campus.

As if wanting to send a message to the fraternity houses that make nearly all Bowling Green homes look like doll houses, Western stormed back to 23-21 when sophomore center Chris Marcus jammed it home and freshman guard Filip Videnov hit a wild shot under a defender.

For Western's run, Mississippi State had another. The Bulldogs rallied back to a 10-point, 31-21 notch.

Then came a string of dropped shots for Western. Senior forward Lee Lampley faked and nailed a trey, then sophomore center Brian Allenspach hit a baseline jumper. And with sophomore guard Derek Robinson's three, the Hilltoppers were back to within two.

They headed to the locker room on a 13-2 run.

Western's zone defense had clamped down Mississippi State several trips down the floor, and a four-out, one-in offensive setup created points. And unlike the first four contests of the year, the Hilltoppers didn't see a thin intermission margin explode into a bogging hole in the first five minutes of the second half.

It stayed close. And Western came one stop closer to turning that corner.

"Most definitely," Marcus said. "We're 0-5, but on a positive side, we're starting to get better."

Marcus started his first game Saturday, and finished with 15 points, nine rebounds and three blocks - just one board away from his third double-double. He, like pretty much everyone else who played, got more time on the floor, as the rotation was tightened.

The extra time converted into

comfortable play. It helped the confidence level.

"I would be more confident if we were winning," said Marcus, smiling.

Lampley snagged a career-high tying 19 points, on 8 of 16 shooting, to top the Hilltoppers.

Western hit nearly 48 percent of its shots altogether. Four Bulldogs scored double digits, led by sophomore forward Marckell Patterson's 20.

Second chance points helped Mississippi State get the win, as it hit 40 percent of its second shots.

And then there was the rebounding. Western was beaten on the boards again, 42 to 34, aggravating many slipping out of the visiting locker room.

"That's really a big problem," Lampley said. "That's something coach has been preaching, that we've got to get tough on the boards. Until we do that, we're gonna keep on taking some close losses."

But, the lone senior and veteran Lampley exited the road gym different than he had before.

Everyone donning black nylon jumpsuits strolled more than staggered this time.

"Every game, we're gonna continue to take a step forward," Lampley said. "We're gonna keep improving. I think we have a pretty tough non-conference schedule, and these games are going to help us down the road. I'm sure people are starting to give up on us, but we know as a team that we're looking for things down the road. We just have to keep gelling."

Then, that Hump would be left behind - a particle in the youthful Hilltopper hour glass, sliding into the bottom half with much sand left to shake.



College Heights Herald

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Part-time aides needed for daycare. Call 781-6761 for interview.

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### Help Wanted

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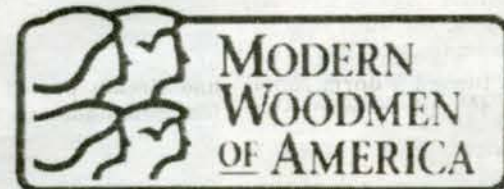
#### Swimming Pool Manager

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There will be an information session held Tuesday, December 8 at 6:00 p.m. in the Downing University Center, Room 226. Interviews will be held Wednesday, December 8, 1999. Contact Tess McKinley at The Career Services Center, 745-2691 or for more information, contact Bo Keltner at Modern Woodmen of America Agency Office, 842-0692.

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# RECORDS: Lady Tops fourth

CONTINUED FROM PAGE 13

looked at the board again. "It was like the whole place was going nuts," Vencill said. "It was the best meet of my life. It was the most exciting meet of my career."

"I'm still smiling about it." So's the original production mogul, Western coach Bill Powell.

"Everybody was just in awe of Kicker," Powell said. "If you break a record by one-tenth of a second, you feel pretty good. He broke it by one second and a tenth."

And Vencill had even been considering another role in another show, the U.S. Open in San Antonio, Texas. It's an internationally-known meet that would've given Vencill an opportunity to see what he'll be up against in August at the Olympic Trials. But he decided it was more important for him to compete and support the team this weekend, and breaking the school record made his decision worth it.

"It felt so good to do that in front of them (the team)," Vencill said.

Vencill's performance helped his supporting cast members deliver eight first-place wins, five of which were meet, pool, and school records. Sophomore Gord Veldman broke his own meet and pool records set last year in the 100-yard backstroke by one-tenth of a second.

"I actually didn't go as fast as I wanted to," Veldman said.

Vencill, Veldman, and several of the Hilltopper relay teams made NCAA B-cut qualifying times, but Powell is confident Vencill will go for sure in the 100 free. Vencill's time of :43.78 missed the A-cut, :43.6, but last year, a time of 44 seconds flat made it into the NCAA's.

Powell is pleased with Western's showing this weekend, but he doesn't want them to get complacent.

"I hope they aren't satisfied with what they did," Powell said.

## Women finish 4th

Western's leading ladies improved from last year's eighth-place finish to fourth place in the invitational last season. The Lady Toppers (7-0) broke seven school records and won three of

the events.

But Western was without two of its stars, freshman Beverly Robertson and junior Char Janes. Robertson was told to sit out for a week after entering the hospital over Thanksgiving with a kidney infection. Janes entered the hospital after the first evening of competition at this weekend's meet with back problems. Powell said she may undergo a bone scan.

"That just totally shut us out of the relays," Powell said. "Our relays were depleted without our best breaststroker (Robertson) and butterfly (Janes)."

Sophomore Brandi Beckwith added her name to Western's growing list of Olympic Trial qualifiers while meeting the NCAA B-cut time requirements in the 200-yard individual medley and the 200-yard freestyle.

Powell was particularly impressed with sophomore transfer Megan Zerhusen, who had personal best times in both the 100-yard freestyle and the 100-yard butterfly.

"Everybody's just really excited," Zerhusen said. "I think we're opening quite a few people's eyes."

## Sports Shorts

### Goodman named academic all-district

Western senior Patrick Goodman was named first-team GTE/CoSIDA Academic All-District IV for the third year in a row. Goodman, who has a 3.71 grade point average and majors in engineering technology, is now eligible for the Academic All-American team that will be announced today.

He was named a Burger King Division I-AA College Football

Scholar Athlete earlier this season, as well as first-team all-Ohio Valley Conference. He has been an All-American selection by both the Associated Press and The Sports Network each of the past two seasons.

— Jason Ragan

### Oldham jersey to be retired Saturday

Former Hilltopper coach and All-American John Oldham's No. 42 jersey will be retired in Diddle Arena, the first of six

such honorary nods this season.

Under coach E.A. Diddle, Oldham was an All-American in 1949, and was part of a 102-13 record during his four years on the Hill. Oldham scored 1,006 career points. He came back to Western as a coach at Western's College High School. He took the Hilltopper helm in 1964 and his seven teams went 146-42, winning four Ohio Valley Conference crowns and reaching the 1961 Final Four.

— Travis Mayo

## WESTERN SPORTS SCORECARD

Team	W—L	Next
Men's basketball	0-5	Today vs. Murray State
Women's basketball	3-3	Dec. 20 vs. Murray State
Men's swimming	5-0	Jan. 7 vs. College of Charleston
Women's swimming	7-0	Jan. 7 vs. College of Charleston

# MURRAY: Rivals up next

CONTINUED FROM PAGE 13

He hasn't forgotten that peculiar feeling of staring across the court at someone he shared a locker room with in high school, but is now an opponent. Just like most who have been around the Red Towel block, Downing will likely never forget how much Diddle wanted to win this one.

Historically, Western-Murray State is war.

Western coach Dennis Felton and most of the Hilltoppers are outsiders to this Kentucky duel.

He's a second-year coach with only one Murray game on his clock, and his team is full of freshmen and sophomores — youth yet to go at it with the Racers (5-1).

But the Hilltoppers (0-5) know this is the perfect opportunity to finally turn that corner and notch their first victory.

"They're another team that will test our toughness," Felton said. "It's the kind of game that if we beat 'em, it can make quite a statement to ourselves and anybody else who sees the result."

That's because this is quite a slew of Racers. Murray State boasts three double-figure scorers — a phenomenal point man in senior Aubrey Reese, who's nailing down 18.7 points and 5.7 assists per game; and senior forward Isaac Spencer, leading the Racers with 23.8 points and 9.7 rebounds an outing.

This Murray team is held as

high as a Top 30 squad by many, one that has won outright or tied for the Ohio Valley Conference title 11 out of the last 12 years. And a team that returns virtually everyone from last year's version, which was knocked out of the first round of the NCAA Tournament by Ohio State, the Buckeyes who later landed into the Final Four.

In its 69-57 win last season, Murray State forced 20 Western turnovers.

That's a category with which the Hilltoppers are struggling, averaging about 18 per game. Western is still looking to erase its rebounding woes. The Hilltoppers are pulling down 37 boards per game, but getting outdone, something they feel should never happen.

They realize it's going to take poise and execution on both ends of the floor to make it Western, 93 Murray, 46. The same kind of play they showed in 35 minutes of Saturday's Mississippi State loss.

"It's going to take a team effort, and us playing our best game for 40 minutes," freshman forward David Boyden said. "We're anxious for that first win."

But Western can't expect another leap up the improvement ladder to come by itself. Especially not when it's at war.

And in war, only going forward silences the fire.



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