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A Moment...



H. Rick Mach/Herald

Bowling Green freshman Jason Moody heads back to his apartment after class with his two-year-old daughter Cloie. Moody picked up Cloie from his wife, Bowling Green freshman Naomi Lowe, before Lowe's 10:10 a.m. class.

...on the Hill

The Herald profiles an hour of everyday life on campus

It's almost over. Soon the lights will go out in the dorms. The '89 Honda Civics and '92 Ford Tauruses will be packed with television sets and rice cookers. Most students will stow away their books; others will pack paintbrushes, weights and dental instruments.

We're outta here. Some of us for good. Before we go, the Herald features staff wanted to take a look at all the beautiful, ordinary events that make up our day — events we often overlook.

We sent reporters to every end of campus to profile one hour of a day in the life of Western Kentucky University. They covered the hour of 10 to 11 a.m. Monday morning.

This is what they found.

— Matt Batchelor

Cherry Hall

Nobody pays much attention to the empty baby stroller parked in front of the steps at Cherry Hall.

Maybe they get curious when they see it,

but it doesn't matter when they hear the bells signaling that classes will start in a few minutes.

"I'm trying to get to class. I'm late," says Paul Marshall, a senior from Detroit who was dropped off by a friend in front of the stroller.

Being late didn't really bother Marshall or Brooke Crafton, a sophomore from Portland, Tenn. Crafton smokes a cigarette on Cherry's steps.

"I'm late every day, so it doesn't really matter," she says, looking at her watch. "Actually, I still have 10 minutes."

The steps empty as classes fill but the stroller is still there, as out of place as the piano in a tree in a Jim Wayne Miller poem.

Scattered stragglers kill time until the next class, because they don't have time to go back to their dorms.

Greensburg freshman Wayne Tucker says he isn't about to walk to Keen Hall and back before his 11:15 class.

"Plus I got one of those pimp-fly parking spots right in front of my dorm, so I didn't want to move my car," he says.

Just when it looked like the stroller might sit by the crosswalk forever, Bowling

Green freshman Jason Moody approaches it from the sidewalk, carrying his 2-year-old daughter, Cloie.

Naomi Lowe, Moody's wife since last December, leaves the stroller on the sidewalk before meeting Moody on Cherry's steps. Moody takes his child and walks Lowe to her class.

This is the first semester the freshmen from Bowling Green have to juggle their schedules and their child.

"It's kind of bothersome, but it's worth it," Moody says. "Our schedule is hard to work out. One of us has to take night classes. We're gonna have to do it next semester, too."

Under the watchful eye of Henry Hardin Cherry, Moody puts Cloie in the stroller and pushes it toward home.

— Jacob Bennett

Downing University Center

A few students are sprinkled around the lobby, lounging in comfy couches. Upstairs,

SEE MOMENT, PAGE 8

New fees may affect financial aid

Western has to find an extra \$22,000

BY SAM YOUNGMAN
Herald reporter

Financial aid residual checks might not buy as much beer next semester as they used to.

The recent \$80 hike in athletic fees, \$40 for the spring semester, might cut into the funds available for student financial aid, but officials say student assistance programs and scholarships won't be hurt by the increase.

"We're working with the president, the chief financial officer and through the provost's office to find those dollars," said Luther Hughes, vice president for enrollment affairs.

Hughes and Andy Wagoner, assistant director of admissions for academic scholarships, say the university won't lose scholarships, and those entitled will receive the adjusted full amount.

"Any student that receives a scholarship from the university for tuition or more, an adjustment has been made to cover the increase," Wagoner said.

Wagoner estimated nearly 600 Western students will be covered by the adjustments, amounting to about \$22,000 extra in scholarship money for the spring semester.

SEE FEES, PAGE 5

Alumnus founding Irish city

BY MAI HOANG
Herald reporter

A Western alumnus will see a dream start becoming reality Monday, when the first steps to create a "New City" for the otherwise isolated west Ireland will be made.

Until now, most people who lived in western Ireland have had to move to Dublin in order to work. William A. Thomas is changing that.

Thomas, who studied philosophy at Western in the early 1980s, has lived in Ireland since 1992. Now he is the driving force behind an Irish "New City," a futuristic, high-tech concept that would create a trouble-free community and provide for employment and housing for all its residents.

Monday Thomas will help with the first "sod to be turned,"

SEE CITY, PAGE 6

NEWS

Government class to attend presidential inauguration

Government department head Sandra Ardrey will be taking students in her Presidency in Transition class to Washington, D.C., in January. Students will attend the presidential inauguration, watch the parade and meet with congressional delegates. **Page 3**

FEATURES

Almost India: Students from subcontinent becoming more common on the Hill

Venkat Tirumala is just one of many Indians who have come to the Western in the past year. The growing Indian community is a close-knit group whose members enjoy the familiarity of speaking their own language and cooking their native dishes. **Page 7**

SPORTS

Assistant swim coach is one of Western's best-kept secrets

Steve Crocker had never had any competitive swimming experience when he ended up in swim coach Bill Powell's athletic camp during his junior year of high school. Now the former world record holder and near-Olympian spends his time being friend and coach to a younger generation of Western swimmers. **Page 13**

Weather forecast

Thursday	Friday	Saturday	Sunday	Monday
41° 35°	50° 33°	50° 40°	54° 46°	56° 41°
Partly cloudy	Mostly cloudy	Mostly cloudy	Scattered showers	Showers

R: 41°/36°, mostly cloudy
 F: 48°/32°, mostly cloudy
 S: 47°/38°, mostly cloudy
 • Louisville
 M: 54°/39°, showers

• Lexington
 R: 36°/32°, mostly cloudy
 F: 47°/31°, mostly cloudy
 S: 46°/30°, mostly cloudy
 • Owensboro
 R: 43°/37°, mostly cloudy
 F: 49°/32°, partly cloudy
 S: 46°/39°, mostly cloudy
 • Paducah
 R: 50°/36°, partly cloudy
 F: 50°/33°, mostly cloudy
 S: 50°/40°, mostly cloudy
 • Nashville
 R: 45°/30°, partly cloudy
 F: 51°/35°, mostly cloudy
 S: 52°/42°, mostly cloudy
 M: 58°/43°, showers

Weather provided by



Crystal Kinnunen/Herald

Food, friends and fun: Louisville sophomore Derrika Baker and Bowling Green freshman Tiffany Ellis joke about relationships in Downing University Center's food court Monday.

Crime Reports

Reports

◆Emily C. Wells, McCormack Hall, reported Monday three trumpets worth \$4,800 stolen from a locker on the third floor of the fine arts center between 6:30 and 7 p.m. Monday.

◆Jana M. Wright, Poland Hall,

reported reported Nov. 20 \$300 in damage to the hood and driver side quarter panel of her 1999 Chevrolet S-10 parked in the Egypt lot between 5 p.m. Nov. 12 and 10 a.m. Nov. 17.

◆Rebecca N. Scranton, Bates-Runner Hall, reported Monday

\$100 in damage to the right rear window of her 1979 Chevrolet Malibu. An army duffel bag and other items worth a total of \$656 were taken from the vehicle parked on the sixth level of the parking structure between 5:45 and 8:55 p.m. Monday.

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Study Time!

*** THE LIBRARY HOURS WILL BE EXTENDED DURING FINALS WEEK UNTIL 2A.M. EACH NIGHT.**

*** THERE WILL ALSO BE SNACKS IN THE LIBRARY DURING FINALS WEEK.**

THIS IS SPONSORED BY SGA.

Government class will take trip to D.C. for inauguration

BY JENNIFER L. DAWES
Herald reporter

Western's government department has been a hotbed of political activism and theorizing this semester with the current and still unresolved presidential fiasco.

This holds especially true with the Presidency in Transition class for the spring 2001 semester. The course is centered on a four-day trip to Washington D.C. to take part in the inaugural celebration.

Government department head Sandra Ardrey has taught the Presidency in Transition class every four years since George Bush was elected in 1988.

The course meets four of five times before their Jan. 17 departure and is open to all Western students. Students do not have to sign up for the class to go on the trip.

"We want to be inclusive because this is the American process, and we want all students to take part," Ardrey said. "... To actually be there and experience it — it's just ... just incredible. The students come

back energized and enthusiastic that they have seen the government in play."

The inauguration, the parade and a meeting with Kentucky's congressional delegates are some of the events included with the trip. Some students are making plans to attend the inaugural ball.

Without a definite president in waiting, the trip is a historic one.

"I understand that the inaugural tickets are being printed up, and for the first time they will not have a name on them," Ardrey said.

Rineyville sophomore Holly Lewis has been planning to go to the ball for some time. Lewis, an active Republican supporter, believes she knows whose victory she will celebrate.

"I think it is time for Gore to (concede)," Lewis said.

Ardrey can see a difference in how each party celebrates,

she said.

"The Democrats are usually a little bit more rambunctious, but the Republicans are fun because they tend to be more sophisticated," Ardrey said.

London senior Sharyn Magarian plans on going but does not share the same enthusiasm at the thought of celebrating another party's victory. The print journalism and government major made plans to protest if Bush won, then had second thoughts.

"It might be too much with all the Republican supporters around," Magarian said.

There will be an interest meeting for the class and the trip at 2 p.m. Monday in Grise Hall, Room 339. The trip is estimated to cost \$450, including plane tickets. However, Ardrey said some students were forming carpools. To secure a position, a \$50 deposit is needed by Dec. 15.

"The students come back energized that they have seen the government in play."

—Sandra Ardrey
government department head

Caswell resigns from SGA

BY BRANDY WARREN
Herald reporter

The Student Government Association will have to find a new vice president for finance next semester.

Amy Caswell submitted her resignation from the position Tuesday, at the organization's final meeting of the semester.

Caswell made the decision to resign because of academic reasons. She recently changed her minor to government and in order to graduate on time, Caswell will have to take 18 hours each semester until she graduates, including a Tuesday night class in the spring, the same time as congress meetings. That class will not be offered again for another two years.

"I love student government and I hate to leave it," Caswell said. "But I can't risk not graduating on time."

Caswell plans on getting married immediately following graduation, and said she cannot stay at Western an extra semester.

SGA President Cassie Martin said Caswell did a good job during her term and whoever fills that position should have no trouble picking up where Caswell left off.

"I'm sad to see her leave," Martin said. "I don't want her not to graduate just because she is SGA treasurer."

Caswell will continue to serve on the university's Budget Council Committee for the remainder of the year and will work on SGA's Senior Awards Banquet Committee. She will also help out with the VP of finance work until Martin's new appointee becomes comfortable with the job.

Martin said anyone interested in the job should e-mail or call her. Interviews will be held the first week of next semester and will be conducted by members of the executive council. Requirements for the position are one semester's experience in congress, 30 credit hours completed and having at least a C in Accounting 200.

A new VP will be appointed at the first congress meeting next semester.

Someplace to Remember

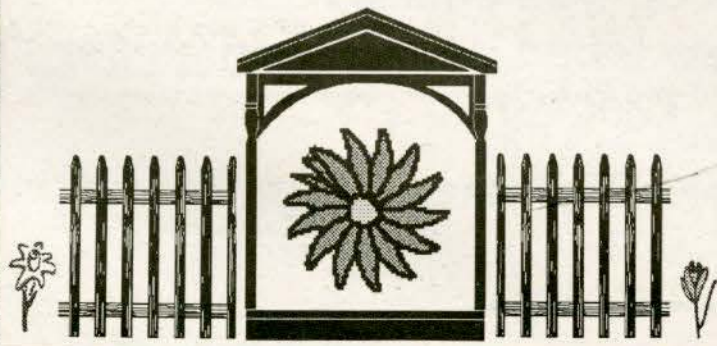
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Opinion

Stocking stuffers for all from the Herald staff

Christmas is fast approaching, and ol' Santa Herald is feeling generous. That's more than we can say for Athletics Director Wood Selig, who makes a more believable Grinch than Jim Carrey.

Seeing Carrey's shtick only costs \$6.50, but Selig's athletics fee hike will cost students \$160 a year in Christmas presents. We can hear him cackling now as he drives down the Hill in his sleigh, pulled by President Gary Ransdell with an antler strapped to his forehead.

But Western has given us so much to write about this year, from chronic insurance snafus to sneak attacks on sports teams, that we continue our annual tradition of giving a few things back.

◆ To all students, we offer a Band-Aid and a couple of aspirin. Use them instead of going to the campus health service — you'll pay full-service prices there for the same medicine, since Western didn't bother to enforce Collegiate Health Care's legal agreement to build a new and better clinic.

Also for students, we've got a surprise to match this fall's "voluntary" insurance plan: how about a soft waiver on Spring tuition? Not that it will matter, even if you ask not to be charged, we're pretty sure you'll get a bill anyway.

◆ To former Glasgow campus students Jessica Allen, Tammy Collins and Janet Faye Short, with whom Western settled for \$290,000 for ignoring and mishandling their sexual harassment complaints, we offer something they've never gotten from Western — an apology.

◆ For the few Student Government Association members who show up, we'll alleviate the boredom accumulated in your semester of thumb-twiddling. Have a big stack of board games; now you have something to play with at meetings besides your \$94,800 budget.

◆ For campus police, we have something they've wanted all year: a suspect.

◆ And for their arch-enemies, the intrepid Big Red Bandits, we've got a consolation prize since you didn't keep your fuzzy 60-pound buddy: a stuffed cop. Or a live one. See if you can tell the difference.

◆ For the Campus Activities Board, which used to be the University Center Board, we suggest an \$30 fee increase. This semester they attracted Blessid Union of Souls and Dr. Drew Pinsky from "Loveline," and we're anxious to see what they'll bring us next semester. We're pretty sure that, unlike Selig, they can spend more money without having to cut programs.

◆ We'd like to give football coach Jack Harbaugh an envelope full of cash so he can buy his Ohio Valley Conference-winning team some championship rings. Coach, we promise that it'll be credited to your account — just like the rest of your budget.

◆ To the basketball players caught with a bagful of shirts swiped from Dillard's, we present a \$294 mall gift certificate. Now they can get the same merchandise without hassle. Oh, yeah, we swiped the gift certificate — but don't worry, it's \$6 short of a felony.

◆ If Western won't provide the real thing, we'll provide the next best to plop in front of the athletics department's new television cameras. We offer 2,000 life-size cardboard cutouts of sports fans with various expressions of near-enthusiasm.

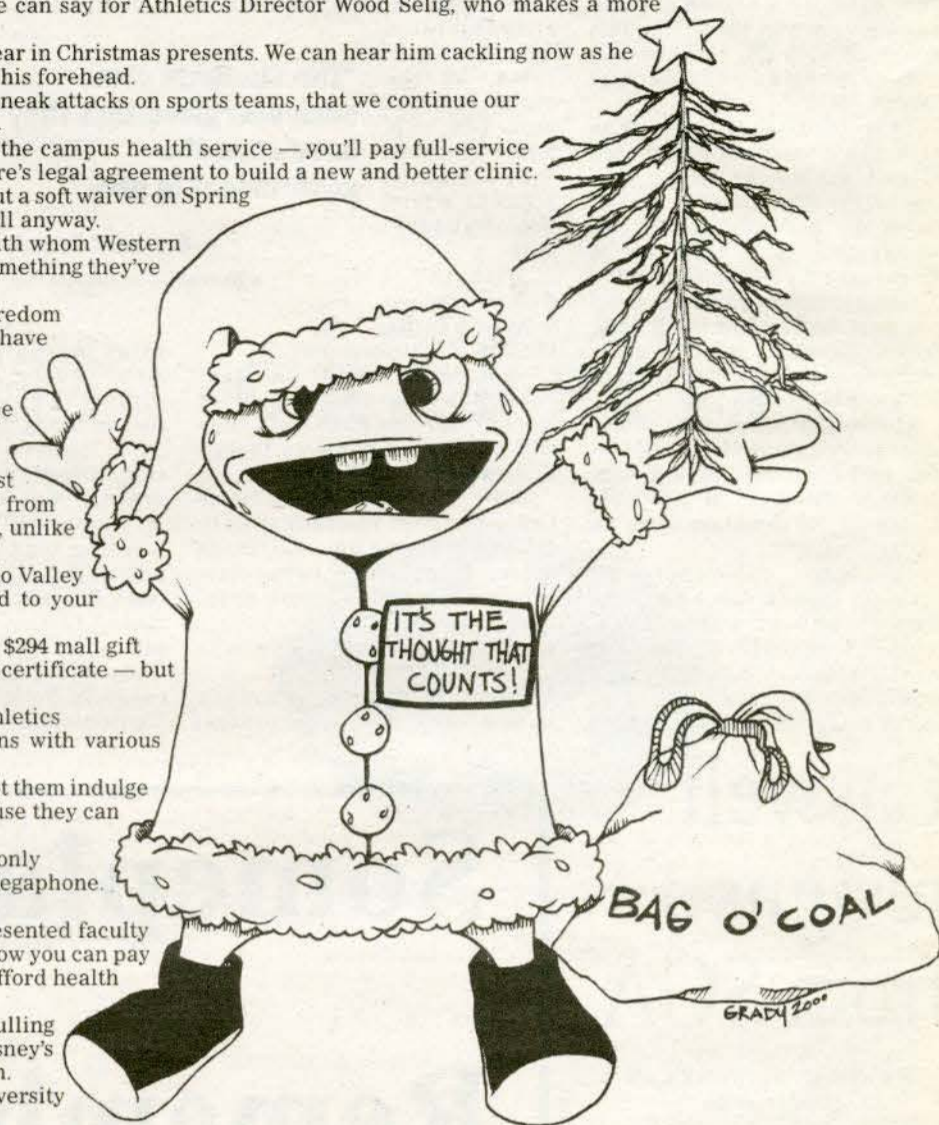
◆ The regents have developed a taste for naming buildings that don't belong to them, so we'll let them indulge themselves without asking the Student Life Foundation for permission. We've got a used doghouse they can hang a plaque on. We suggest "Earl Fischer Hall."

◆ To Faculty Regent Mary Ellen Miller we give two things: a round of applause for being the only effective voice for faculty and student concerns on the Board of Regents, and a bow-bedecked megaphone. You're doing several regents' jobs; keep up the good work.

◆ We want to be especially generous with Human Resources Director Tony Glisson, who presented faculty and staff with planned insurance rate hikes as high as 468 percent. We're giving you \$6 an hour. Now you can pay your rent, utility and car payments, feed and clothe your family, save for retirement ... and still afford health insurance, just like Facilities Management workers!

◆ To John Osborne, Campus Services and Facilities associate vice president, — he's the man pulling the strings on Cherry Hall's "EZ Hits of the '70s" bell outbursts — we present a copy of Disney's "Hunchback of Notre Dame" with the volume cranked up. We'll be over to play it for you at 2 a.m.

◆ And to longtime Western booster the Grim Reaper, we give an "A" for effort on University Boulevard.



Letters to the Editor

Pictures need to be seen

(Shawna) Cawthorn says in her letter that she is "terribly offended by the animal euthanization photos (which) ran in the Nov. 30 issue of the Herald."

She continues to say that "It is a sad fact that so many animals, many of them someone's pet, have to be put to sleep each and every day."

To an extent, I agree with what Cawthorn says. However, the important distinction is that I am offended that animals are euthanized, not that the Herald printed pictures of euthanized animals.

Cawthorn makes the comparison of animals to children. Because of this, Cawthorn can not bear to look at the pictures of euthanized animals.

During World War II and Vietnam, as well contemporary wars, media have existed and exist in war zones. During war, violence erupts and journalists describe, in words and pictures, the violence they witness. A similar atmosphere exists in the case of euthanized animals. Both people and animals are creatures who are acted upon by other violent people and animals.

If journalists did not make (a) record of

violence, many times the general population would not know of it. Printing pictures of euthanized animals is not really that much different than printing pictures of dead, or dying, people (on this point I agree with Cawthorn). However, one's interpretation of pictures and stories is sometimes as important as the pictures and stories themselves.

If the Herald and similar media did not make such information available to the public, many would never know what prevalence violence has when we dare not look ourselves.

Sam Stinson
Bowling Green junior

"Shocking" pictures worthwhile

Jaclyn McCabe's sensitive portrayal of the plight of unwanted animals and the necessity for euthanasia was excellent, both in text and photography (I hope you or she will submit it for an award somewhere).

I, like writer Shawna Cawthorn in your Dec. 5 edition, was shocked at the picture of the kitten being put to death. I thought about the article and picture for days, and on the weekend gathered as many Heralds

with McCabe's story as I could find. Why? I plan to show them to people who think neutering their pets is unnecessary and (those who think) that litter after litter is "cute" and "nature's way."

When you think about it, that picture of the kitten and the needle is much less violent and bloody than the covers of videos placed at child's-eye height in stores, yet it is much more chilling because it is reality.

Thank you for running McCabe's piece and for focusing our eyes on something we'd rather not see. Perhaps it will catalyze a few of the recipients of puppies and kittens this holiday season to have them neutered before they, too, produce unwanted offspring.

Patty Randolph
psychology instructor

Pet owners need reminder

I am writing in regard to the letter by Shawna Cawthorn in the Dec. 5 issue of the Herald. Cawthorn was offended by the photograph of the cat being euthanized at the Bowling Green-Warren County Humane Society. As a volunteer at the shelter, I understand (that) euthanasia is a very hard

thing to see. This was not a shock photograph, but a reminder that animals — healthy animals — are put to death in shelters across the country every day simply because people do not take the responsibility of having their dogs and cats spayed and neutered. Sometimes it takes a photograph, or the experience of witnessing euthanasia, to understand the extreme importance of spaying and neutering.

I understand Cawthorn's anger and emotion — my cats and dogs are my family members, too. I also understand the need to educate the public of the terrible pet overpopulation problem we face in Kentucky.

Shelters and county pounds are overburdened with the responsibility of euthanizing unwanted animals. This is hard, emotional work, especially for people who love animals.

People who care about animals should look at the photograph in the Herald and use it to educate everyone they know who has a dog, cat, kitten or puppy that is not spayed or neutered.

Spaying and neutering is the only way to stop the killing.

Vicki Sharer
accounts payable associate

Quotes & Notes

On Tuesday we invited the campus community to tell us what they'd like to see in this space on the Opinion page, which is as much of a forum for our readers as it is a soapbox for the Herald editors.

We asked if you liked **Quotes & Notes**, wanted to see **People Poll** back or had a new idea. But we got no responses, so we'll refer the choice to the Herald's new editorial board, which takes over in the spring. Look for it on Jan. 9.

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CITY: Project will provide new jobs in west Ireland

CONTINUED FROM FRONT PAGE

turned," although actual construction of the city will begin next year.

Thomas said western Ireland needs a new city because of the growing population and prosperity of the country. The 500-year-old cities have been gridlocked with traffic, he said.

"Where are you going to put these people?" Thomas said.

In his speech on the New City's Web site, www.newcityforthewest.com, Thomas says the project will provide opportunities in technology, education and employment for the people who live there.

The project is slated to take 7-10 years and cost about \$100 billion. It has raised money through private and government funding and contributions. \$20 million has been raised through private donations so far.

According to the Irish Independent, there are many investors for the project, including Microsoft chairman Bill Gates and British entrepreneur Richard Branson.

Thomas has received letters from government officials, including Irish President Mary Patricia McAleese, in support of the project.

Gerard McGarry, a spokesman for Enterprise Connacht/Ulster, which is involved in the project, told the Roscommon Herald that "the support of our elected representatives is essential to the success of the new city."

The idea is also popular with the Irish people. Thomas is receiving three to four bags of fan mail a day.

"They want me to set up a

party and run for election," he said.

The new city will provide a counter-balance to the cities in the east, Thomas said. Today, 40 percent of Ireland's jobs are in Dublin. Twenty thousand young adults commute from the west to work there. Once the new city is built, Thomas projects it can provide full employment for 50 years. These jobs will be provided in all areas, including hotel and industry and new technological companies. Most

of all, young adults will finally have the opportunity to stay at home.

There will also be a university in the city that will specialize in science, mathematics and research. Currently, there are no universities in western Ireland.

Technology will be a major part of the city. Besides new technology companies building up, houses will also have many new innovations, including the ability to program appliances

through computer devices.

Transportation will also be improved. Most Irish cities have narrow roads causing constant gridlocking traffic. The New City will have wider boulevards as well as better public transportation, including computerized trains.

There is also a political benefit for the west Irish citizens. Because of its sparse population, representation is basically non-existent. With the design of the new city, there is hope that

there will be a re-immigration of the population.

The city is also taking an international theme by having different countries design different parts of the city. The international themes will be shown through the different architecture styles. The city, however, will remain distinctly Irish.

The concept of a new city is not new. There are new cities in several countries, including one in Reston, Va.

FRIDAY

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diversions



Saumitra Saravana, left, and Vinay Chiguluri enjoyed Indian food and conversation during a Wednesday night class in Science and Technology Hall. Most of the students in this class are from India. **Below:** Kavitha Aari visits with fellow students.

photos by Steven King

School's out forever



SCHOOLHOUSE ROCK
Matt Batchelder

Well, this is it. It's the last thing I'll ever write for the College Heights Herald.

You probably think I'm gonna get all gushy and sentimental, and I'm going to give you guys a lot of lame advice about how to get along with your roommate, teach the world to sing and all that jazz.

Well, that's where you're wrong, my friends. I'm not going to give you advice about love, talk about how my first love dumped me and all that high school poetry so I can get all the girls to say, "Ah, that Matt guy's so sensitive, I'd just love to marry him!"

Not going there.

The fact is, folks, I don't know if you know it yet, but this whole world is going to hell in a hand-basket. The end is upon us!

Here's the truth that the liberal media doesn't want you to hear: the world was just a much better place when I came here way back in 1996.

First of all, the Big Mac value meal was only \$2.99. Can you believe it? Now it's something like \$3.29 or something!

When I got here, I used to have to walk a mile in the snow just to get up the Hill. We didn't know any better. There wasn't any little pansy shuttle to take us up Mt. Western in heated comfort.

No, sir-ee-bob!

People were people back in '96. We actually knew how to elect a president. The Internet, just a few years earlier invented by Vice President Al Gore, had just come into our lives and all this www.com.org nonsense hadn't taken control of us. We didn't have all this Instant Messenger and Napster crap.

People listened to *real* bands like Hootie and the Blowfish, not this corn and biscuit music. All this music is just making the kids today violent.

Could that be any less apparent? Kids are shooting up the schools everywhere and they're tearing the Ten Commandments off the walls of our classrooms.

If you ask me, the television has a lot to do with that, too. Back in 1996, we enjoyed good family shows like "Step by Step" and "Family Matters." Who could forget that Urkel guy?

But now the kids are watching kids have babies on the WB and watching old guys eat rats on the TV!

All this sex and violence is just killing our world, and those fat cat politicians in Washington are just raising our taxes. They think that some big bureaucratic program can solve all our problems, but they won't even let us pray in our schools.

All these gay people and feminists and everybody are just dumbing down our kids' education. You just can't trust anybody these days, it seems. Can you believe that they actually expect us to believe that we all came from monkeys?

Whatever happened to the nation our founding fathers intended? That's not the way it was back in 1996. Gas cost 95 cents a gallon. Can you believe that? It only took a smooth \$20 bill to fill up your SUV then.

Almost India

Popularity of computer science program builds community

BY ANDREA UHDE
Herald reporter

Right now, the 5.2 million people in Venkat Tirumala's hometown are fast asleep. While Tirumala, a health administration graduate student, makes his way to Ogden College of Science and Technology, his family are tucking themselves into bed. By the time his dinner is ready at 10 p.m., his parents have just begun a new day.

Tirumala is from Hyderabad in southern India, which has a 12-hour time difference from Bowling Green. He is the first person in his family to come to what he calls "the land of opportunity."

He is not a lone traveler from India, though. In his apartment building on College Street, 17 of his neighbors are Indians, and each is either a computer science or public health major. And more are expected to move into the building next semester.

Tirumala's neighbors are part of an almost overnight influx of Indian students. Just last year, about 10 Indians in the graduate program were on campus. Next spring, 161 Indians are expected to join the graduate school.



By next spring, this Indian family will be about 20 times the size of the Brady Bunch.

"We don't know whether it is just for now or if it is the start of a trend," said Elmer Gray, dean of graduate studies.

The Indians compare themselves to a family. By next spring, this family will be about 20 times the size of the Brady Bunch.

The number of Indians in the computer science graduate program is expected to at least triple from the present 18 students by spring, and the Indian enrollment in public health is increasing just as dramatically.

Usually, 50 to 60 international students apply for the spring, said Heather Dearing, an office associate of International

Programs. This year, almost 300 applications arrived.

"It's like a snowball effect," said Venkata Chilakapati, a public health graduate. "I tell 10 people, and they tell 10 people." He sent 10 applications to his Indian friends last semester and is in contact with 20 others. He doesn't know who will be arriving in the spring.

Regardless of whether they're friends when they come here, each Indian takes care of one other.

"Then these students will help the students who came for the next semester," Chilakapati said. "This tradition will continue with helping the students."

At the beginning of the semester, Chilakapati invited the arriving Indians over for dinner, and some stayed at his apartment while they looked for their own homes. Chilakapati said that on many nights two or three of them would sleep in the hall of his two-bedroom apartment, where four Indians already lived.

Tripura Swarnapuri, a computer science graduate, is one of Chilakapati's neighbors. She calls their community in the building a

SEE INDIA, PAGE 11

Yoga provides relief for the stressed-out

Students, faculty say relaxation a must

BY TONYA COOK
Herald reporter

Life is stressful, no doubt about it.

You've got that midterm paper due early tomorrow morning, and you're wishing it's tomorrow night so you can go out with the girls.

Or maybe you're in a pickle. The score is tied, the crowd is cheering and you're at the free throw line. You're having trouble concen-

trating on that shot, and you feel your body tense up because you're contemplating what will happen if you miss.

Sound familiar? College student or not, it should. According to Ernie Owen, a professor of educational psychology at Western, anxiety is something everyone experiences, consciously or unconsciously.

"Anxiety is the gap between here and now, and there and then," Owen said. "We don't ever feel anxious unless we are trying to be somewhere or somebody that we're not."

Frankfort sophomore Rosemary Swain understands that kind of anxiety. She's a resident assistant in McCormack Hall.

"Being an RA, you not only have to study, but you have to be responsible for making sure

others study and don't get too stressed out," she said.

Taking these ideas into consideration, Owen decided to explore the possibility of reducing stress in his own life. His curiosities and his research brought him to a new way of thinking, a way of thinking he feels showed him a healthier, more positive lifestyle.

Now he's bringing the message to his students.

Owen spends one night a week teaching a yoga class in Tate Page Hall, a class open to students and friends. He welcomes all shapes, sizes and majors.

Yoga is an activity that has had a dramatic

SEE YOGA, PAGE 12

SEE ROCK, PAGE 12

A Moment on the Hill

CONTINUED FROM FRONT PAGE

some students browse through the racks of Western gear, and in the food court students grab some brain food before heading up the Hill.

Even at 10 a.m., Downing University Center is filled with activity.

Bowling Green freshmen Timmy Oliver and Zach Powers sit on the couches in the lobby, catching up on the latest gossip.

"We meet here every Monday, Wednesday and Friday to chat and catch up," Powers says.

Powers and Oliver are just two of the regulars in DUC at this time. They say they usually see the same

employee at the Career Services Center, is working on a research paper dealing with issues of non-traditional students. Stress for her is different than that of traditional students.

"You have responsibilities on your job and responsibilities at home," McKinley says. "There is also the stress of whether I can fit time to do projects."

Tom Specht, a senior from Santa Rosa, Calif., spends his Monday morning reading a book for his history class, one of eight he had to read this semester. He's graduating this semester, but it is the last thought on his mind.

"I won't think about it until the actual day," Specht says. "I'm just going to take it one step at a time."

— Mai Hoang

Smith Stadium

Smith Stadium is a desolate place on a Monday morning in December. Western fans have left the stands for the last time this year, as the football season ended two days earlier. The green turf (the stuff they put on the tracks during games to protect the running tracks) has still not been removed from the tracks.

It's too cold for the runners, anyway. In half an hour, only two students passed by.

Wagner Oliveira, a senior from Brazil, is working his way up the ramps on his way to fix a computer in one of the offices in the Stadium. He is working for Network Computing and Communications, solving faculty computer problems.

"Seems like there is a virus breaking out," he says. "I've been running all over campus lately."

This break will be extra special for Oliveira. He gets to see his family, a rare event for many international students.

"Can't wait to go home," he says. "I haven't been there for two years."

Making her way out of Smith Stadium is Cadiz freshman Jessica Hess. She's an athletic trainer for the football team and is just finishing up her first semester at Western.

"It will be so good to sleep in my own bed again," she says.

She says her first semester in college has been nice, but she looks forward to going home.

"Finals week will be hard, but I have tests to get over with even before that," she says before crossing the street and walking toward South Lawn.

— Harvard Haarstad

Academic Complex

There are three heads on the back wall of the dental lab in the Academic Complex. The heads are fake. Students practice on the artificial heads in Room 222 with hopes of eventually working on the real ones in Room 223.

Next door in Room 223, Graves County senior Amy Wilson and Bowling Green junior Daniel Simon are waiting for patients in the dental clinic. The clinic has been on campus since 1970. Both Wilson and Simon have been working at the clinic for two years.

"We learn about it," Simon says. "Then we come here and do it."

At 10:35, Wilson's appointment arrives. Eighty-year-old Bowling Green resident Dulcie Clark crosses her legs as her chair is reclined. She isn't nervous.

Clark has been coming to the clinic since it opened, when her husband, H. B. Clark, former director of buildings and grounds, still worked at Western. Although he has since retired, Clark still comes to the Hill for her teeth cleanings.

After some swishing and spitting and sucking and scraping, Wilson is finished with Clark within the hour. Associate professor Becky Tabor comes over and checks out Wilson's work.

"I'm Becky Tabor," she says to Clark. "I've checked you a bunch of times."

Clark smiles and replies, "If these teeth last, you'll be checking me more."

— Taylor Loyall

Fine arts center

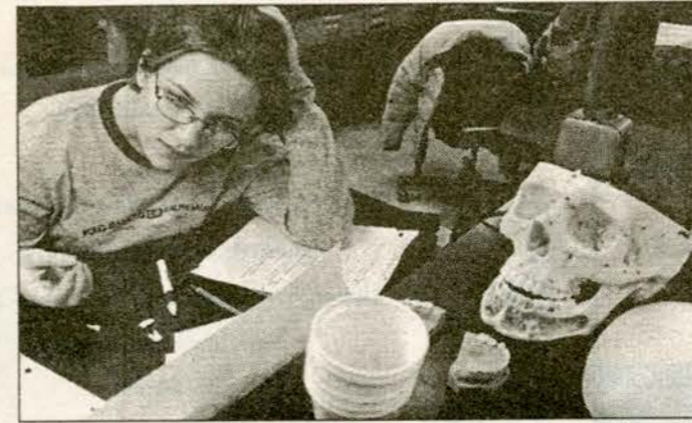
At 10 a.m., when most students are straggling into class, the seven artists in fine arts center, Room 460 have already been hard at work for an hour. A man with a Tweety Bird sweatshirt has been here since 4:10 this morning.

To the oldies soundtrack coming from the paint-splattered radio, they hunch over their work — to



Krystal Kinnunen/Herald

Left: WKU Bookstore employees Mike Centers, Robert Wright and Shawn Wathan take their 15-minute break outside Downing University Center Monday morning at 10:30.



Jeremy Lyverse/Herald

Left: Elisabethtown sophomore Elissa Beasley checks up on her teeth chart before her Oral Anatomy lab final in the Academic Complex. The first-year dental students were required to identify all the different human teeth.

Below: Western workers Harold Graham, Mike Cowels and Dave Pedigo work together to funnel leaves off Western's campus streets and sidewalks near Snell Hall.



David Albers/Herald

John Tako, dairy manager at the Agricultural Exposition Center, returns to the barn after putting the dairy cows out to pasture. A newborn calf, a dairy cow suffering from a twisted stomach and an incorrect delivery of feed kept Tako busy.

people each day.

"Sometimes we get a few stragglers, but mostly it's the same group," Powers says.

Upstairs in the WKU Bookstore, Louisville freshman Kate Keiffner stands behind the counter, waiting for the next customer.

Keiffner usually works mornings at the bookstore and says that business usually varies at that time.

"It goes off and on usually," she says. "Sometimes there's a big rush and then it will slow down."

Downstairs, in between bites of breakfast, Scottsville senior Kathy Rookstool works on some math problems for her next class.

"I have an hour break between classes," she says. "I usually get something to eat and finish my homework."

Many students have the same idea. Almost every student sitting at the tables has a textbook or notes resting in front of them. Others head down to the computer lab to finish studying or check e-mail after they finish eating.

Meanwhile, Powers and Oliver are still deep in conversation on the couches, Oliver now munching on a cookie. They say the opportunity to eat and catch up is one of the reasons they come, especially when it's too cold to be outside.

"We come to DUC because it's warm," Powers says. "And there are always different things to do."

— Erica Walsh

Helm-Cravens Library

Somerset sophomore Danielle Scott has an unusual problem. Her Theater Appreciation professor's father died, so he canceled the last week of classes. The professor wanted the class to read over the chapters that he would've covered.

That is a problem for Scott, since she didn't buy the book.

"I figure I could wing it, because he said he would cover all the material in the book," Scott says.

Instead, she's busily taking down notes from a borrowed copy at the Helm-Cravens Library.

Scott is among a horde of students in the library, trying to cram in last-minute studying and work. But she's not too worried.

"It's not as bad as it could be. My other teachers have prepared me (for exams)," Scott says. "This is the only problem right now."

Down in the research section at Helm, Tess McKinley, a non-traditional graduate student and



Cassandra Shie/Herald

portray three famous people who have inspired them — due Friday.

There are renditions of the Rat Pack in colored pencil, Drew Barrymore, Jewel and Sarah McLachlan in watercolors, and pointillism versions of Van Gogh, Princess Diana and Johnny Cash, the latter giving the finger.

The group seems like a family, teasing each other and cajoling an assignment extension out of their teacher, whom they call by his first name.

Two students take a cigarette break, another leaves for breakfast. Others pace around the room, examining the specimen from every angle.

Even in this relaxed atmosphere, the pressure of grades lurks. The students needle the teacher about the semester's absences, disputing each late arrival and early departure.

Many of the seniors in this 400-level class see an art major as a way to enter the field of graphic design. Some have jobs lined up, while others can't think past finals week.

As "Sweet Child O' Mine" blares from the radio, Evansville senior Jonas Davenport skims his pen across the a sheet of paper to form Eric Clapton's face.

"I like being able to create something out of nothing," he says, then sighs. He looks at all the white space he has left to cover.

"I'm not going to get any sleep until after Friday."

— Kate Corcoran



Kathleen Flynn/Herald



Andrew Otto/Herald

Above: Nashville freshman Anthony Iweorah rides the shuttle from the Hill to South Campus.

Left: Morgantown senior Shain Fike and music professor Wayne Pope release their neck muscles to warm up during a voice lesson in Pope's office.

2000 Fall Semester Final Exam Schedule

Time	Monday, Dec. 11	Tuesday, Dec. 12	Wednesday, Dec. 13	Thursday, Dec. 14	Friday, Dec. 15
Day Classes					
8:00 a.m. to 10:00 a.m.	Classes meeting first at 8:00 Monday	Classes meeting first at 9:05 Monday	Reserved For Study	Classes meeting first at 8:00 Tuesday	Classes meeting first at 11:00 Tuesday
10:30 a.m. to 12:30 p.m.	Classes meeting first at 9:30 Tuesday	Classes meeting first at 12:30 Tuesday		Classes meeting first at 10:10 Monday	Classes meeting first at 11:15 Monday
1:00 p.m. to 3:00 p.m.	Classes meeting first at 2:30 Monday	Classes meeting first at 12:20 Monday	Multiple Sections of ACCT 200, 201; CHEM 222, and FIN 330	Classes meeting first at 1:25 Monday	Classes meeting first at 2:00 Tuesday
Late Afternoon and Night Classes					
3:45 p.m. to 5:45 p.m.	Classes meeting at 4:00 Monday only; 4:00 Mon./Wed.	Classes meeting at 3:30 Tuesday only; 3:30 Tues./Thurs.	Classes meeting at 4:00 Wed. only; 5:30 Mon./Wed.	Classes meeting at 3:30 Thursday only; 5:00 Tues./Thurs.	
6:00 p.m. to 8:00 p.m.	Classes meeting at 5:30 Monday only; 7:00 Mon./Wed.	Classes meeting at 5:00 Tuesday only; 6:30 Tues./Thurs.	Classes meeting at 5:30 Wednesday only; 7:00 Wednesday only	Classes meeting at 5:00 Thursday only; 6:30 Thursday only	
Note:	1. All examinations must be administered according to this schedule. 2. Class times not included in the above schedule will have a final examination time selected by the instructor and approved by the department head. 3. Final grade reports are due in the Office of the Registrar by 12:00 noon Tuesday, December 19				

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(Handwritten signatures and names including: Ryan, Jason, Abby Brown, John, Chad, Matt, Jamie, etc.)

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INDIA: Students bond in program

CONTINUED FROM PAGE 7

small India. "It's almost like we are still in India," she said. "We like to stay close and meet every day and speak our own language."

When Swarnapuri first came to Western, she never expected to see such a large community of Indians.

The group quickly became friends. Eighteen of them live together at Carriage Hill Apartments on College Street because they said it is more economical than dorm living and easier to cook their spicy Indian food without getting complaints of the smell.

"We'll go to anyone's house at any time and make food and eat," Balafubramanian Fwaminatham, a public health graduate, said.

Many of the friends have dinner lists which give specific nights to each person to cook. "There is a different flavor each day," Tirumala said. "Each person has a different way of cooking."

In Tirumala's apartment, if anyone is coming home late, everyone else will wait for them so that they can all eat together.

Each month, the group travels to an Indian grocery store in Nashville to stock up on food for the month.

The Indians also keep their culture alive by celebrating festivals like Diwali, the Festival of Lights, at the Faculty House. Most of the Indians are Hindu, and many travel to a temple in Nashville to worship.

He said there are several reasons why Western is attractive to Indian students.

"Economically, the cost of living is less," he said. "I like the program, and everyone is very nice."

When Chilakapati arrived last spring, he said only five Indians were graduates in computer science along with one in health care administration.

These two programs are popular for several reasons. This year, the tuition for out-of-state graduate students was lowered so that all graduate students pay the \$1,400 in-state graduate fee, making their stay in America significantly cheaper.

Also, Fwaminatham said the Indians like the direct relationship between a student and a professor, which doesn't happen in India.

"They treat us like we are their children," Chilakapati said.

Grad program enrollment growing

BY ANDREA UHDE
Herald reporter

Some graduate program leaders, especially those in computer science, are taking special steps to accommodate the growing number of students in the graduate program. Most are from India.

Eighty Indian computer science graduates have enrolled for the spring semester. The next largest international group to join the department is Chinese, and only eight are expected for computer science next semester.

The increase in enrollment has left the department scrambling to find new faculty. It is doing a nationwide search for two positions in the graduate program. The department is also seeking extra funding for software for next semester and scheduling three graduate courses for the summer to absorb the boost in students.

The public health graduate program is also experiencing growing pains because of the increased enrollment, with 75 Indians expected in the spring.

David Dunn, head of the public health department, said the graduate public health applicants, about 95 percent of whom are Indians, are still being admitted.

"If the enrollment continues at this level, we will have to cut back on admitting and get more teachers," he said.

Public health will also offer more graduate classes in the summer, Dunn said.

It all started this fall when the university dropped the \$3,700 out-of-state tuition rate for graduate students so that all students pay the in-state fee of about \$1,400, Gray said. This has become a link to the growing enrollment.

"These are excellent students and we are very delighted to have

them," said Elmer Gray, dean of graduate studies.

But in response to the number of applications, the admissions for the computer science graduate program have become more selective. There are not enough resources for many more students, said Arthur Shindhelm, head of the computer science department.

As a result of the increase, a university committee is considering boosting the out-of-state graduate tuition again. Gray said that he doesn't expect it to be raised to the previous level, but it may go up slightly. The committee meets in January to recommend changes to Provost Barbara Burch. Any changes will go in place in fall 2001 at the earliest.

Students with a 3.8 grade point average or a GAP score of at least 7,000 will be still be admitted. GAP is the product of the GRE times the undergraduate GPA.

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YOGA: 'It makes you very aware of the whole body'

CONTINUED FROM PAGE 7

impact on Owen's life, as he first took an interest in the exercise almost nine years ago.

Practicing relaxation techniques almost all of his adult life, Owen credits activities like yoga for helping him to become aware of his body, mind and spirit.

"I feel 10 years younger today than I felt 10 years ago," Owen said.

Joan Martin, the assistant director of the Center for Math, Science and Environmental Education, is another person who has learned the benefits of yoga.

Martin attended a six-week yoga class at The Yoga Center through the community education center.

"I had heard about the value of it, and its benefits," she said.

Martin said her class emphasized relaxation techniques.

"I think as it went along, I can see how it helped to lower stress," she said. "But in the beginning, it was stressful not being able to do the positions."

Owen said relaxation techniques, be they in the form of yoga, prayer, progressive relaxation or meditation, increase people's awareness of their bodies. This

awareness, according to Owen, is something many people are lacking.

Martin said that participating in yoga helped her fill that void.

"It makes you very aware of the whole body," she said.

Swain agreed. Her aunt got her into yoga, and she continues to use it to help her relax not just her body, but her mind as well.

"The reason I do it is because it's your mind and body working together," she explained. "It's a spiritual thing."

Owen said people condition themselves to believe that a very high level of stress is necessary in order for them to perform well and accomplish tasks.

This, he claims, is where anxiety gets the best of most people. "The key is to achieve just the right amount of stress in the right

place at the right time."

Owen said relaxation activities should be a part of everyone's routine, since most people are not aware of how stressed they are.

"It's like the straw that breaks the camel's back," Owen said. "You accumulate stress from an early age, and it eventually breaks your body down."

Swain said for herself, stress relief is one of the main benefits of yoga.

"Stress intensifies your muscles, and your mind kind of goes all crazy," she said. "Yoga just releases all that."

The research is out there, that's for sure. Herbert Bensen, a physician at Harvard University, completed a study on participants of yoga, meditation and other such activities. What he found was that factors of blood pressure and

heart rate are drastically reduced during and around the time of the activity.

Furthermore, his studies showed that in 15 or 20 minutes of relaxation therapy, one's body uses less oxygen than in 20 minutes of the deepest sleep.

"Imagine spending a waking moment more relaxed than you are when you are in your deepest sleep," Owen said. "That's pretty amazing."

Some students might argue that intensive exercise is a good substitute for relaxation techniques, and that running or aerobics is an effective stress reliever.

Owen disagrees.

"Exercise focuses outward instead of inward," he said. "The key is to find an activity for yourself that focuses inward, that is not competitive with yourself or with

others."

So what does all of this relaxation nonsense actually do for a person? Owen said activities such as yoga put participants in touch with that right amount of stress. Yoga, in its essence, creates awareness of the tension a person actually needs.

Advocates of these activities insist that relaxation not only combats irritability and anxiety, it also allows the mind to be more creative, making it easier to deal with problems.

This is why Owen presents relaxation techniques to his students, especially those on the track to becoming teachers.

"Teachers easily slip into tunnel vision," and relaxation will help clear their minds, Owen said.

"All you need is 15 to 20 minutes a day."

Rock: See theater or cool bands

CONTINUED FROM PAGE 7

Well, I could go on, but I have to graduate.

SuperPicks

◆ My pick for the next couple weekends is "Steel Magnolias," playing through Dec. 17 at the Public Theatre of Kentucky. It plays Thursday through Saturday night at 8 p.m. and Sundays at 3 p.m. Tickets are \$10 for adults and \$8 for students.

◆ Several of you bands are playing: Altar of Peace, NYMB and Shiro? Akuma at 8 tonight at the Java House, \$5; and Northside 777 at 11 tonight at Niteclass, for free.

◆ Grounded Coffeehouse presents "A Very Richard Marx Christmas," tomorrow at 11 p.m. at the student center across from East Hall.

Playwright Tim Jones writes it's "hands down, the best Christmas musical about R. Marx out there for your dollar."

Word is that Happy Gas is behind this. Hmm ...

◆ Speaking of Happy Gas, the-improv group is having its last show of the semester at 8 p.m. Friday at Niteclass.

The final goodbye

OK, now that only my real fans are reading, I wanted to wish you guys a warm goodbye. Seriously. I really appreciate your support, your letters, your friendship.

Thanks to Jeff Noble, Gene Birk, Flora Templeton Stuart, the members of 4real, Alpha Sigma Sigma and Big Red and so many others for inspiration.

Starting after Christmas, you can find me in the pages of The Courier-Journal. I'll be working as a reporter on its metro desk.

Just remember: The Spirit Makes the Master, and when you have life ... gosh ... you just get more life.

Goodbye, friends.

It's your last chance to e-mail Matt and tell him what you really think about his column! Reach him at batchme@wku.edu

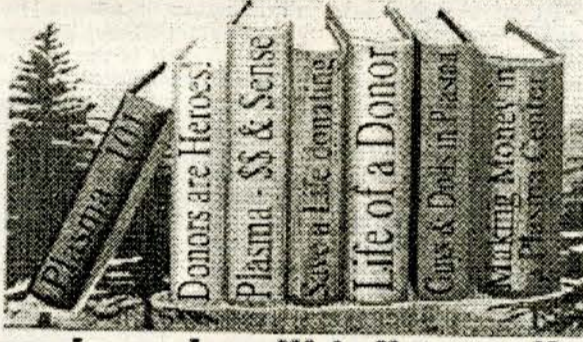
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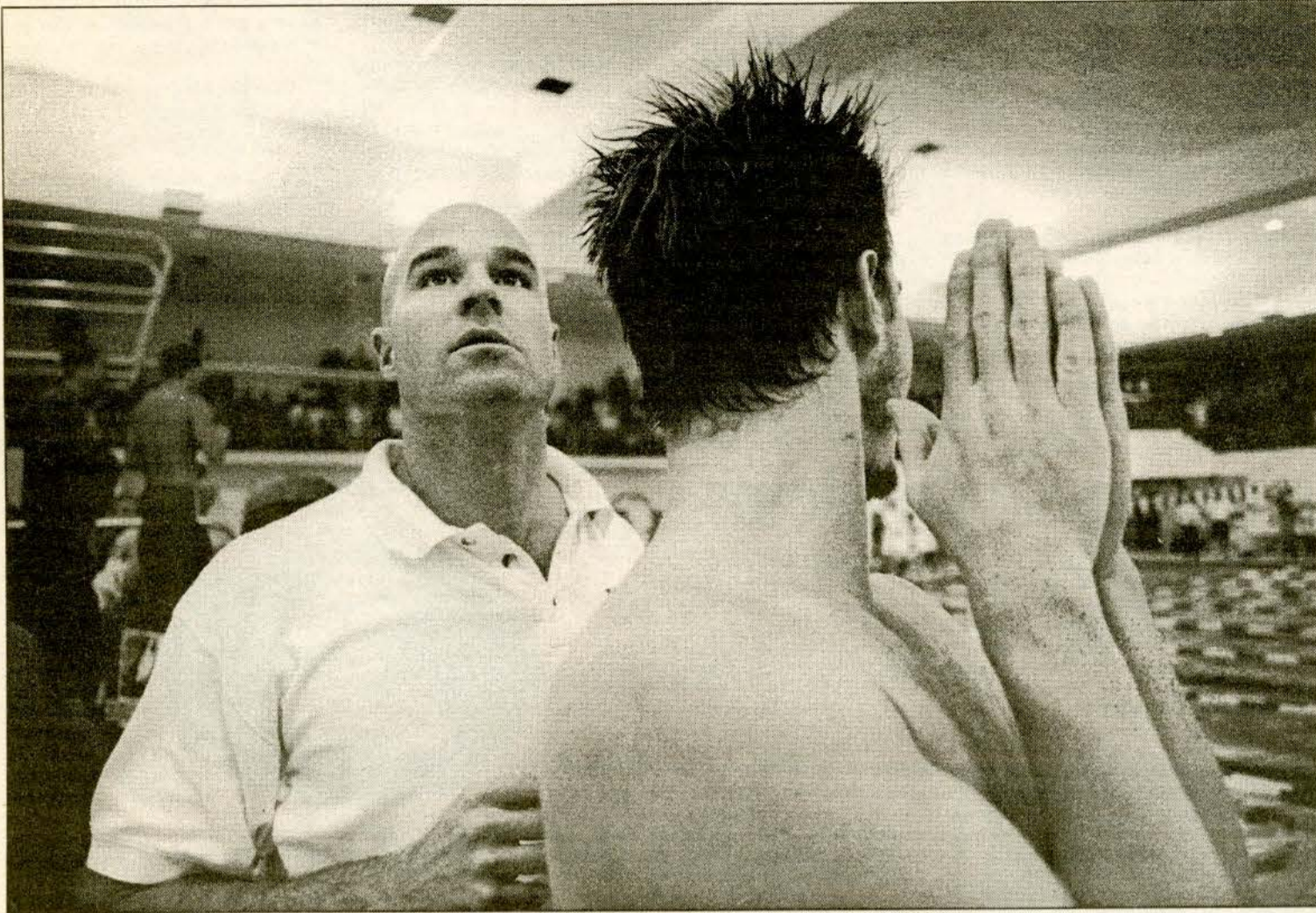
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Sports



Andrew Otto/Herald

Western assistant swim coach Steve Crocker checks results after a race during a January meet against Southern Illinois and Western Illinois at Preston Center pool. Crocker swam for Western from 1981 to 1985 and once held the world record in the 50-meter freestyle.

Western falls 83-81 at Murray

BY TRAVIS WILLIAMS
Herald reporter

MURRAY — "Loosey goosey." Loosey goosey? That's how Murray State junior guard Justin Burdine described his performance in the Racers' 83-81 victory against the Hilltoppers (3-3) Tuesday night. Burdine's career high had been 13 points before Tuesday. He had 17 in the first half and finished the game with 21 points. Before the game, Western coach Dennis Felton had shown concern over the Racers' Isaac Spencer who is the preseason COVC Player of the Year. But Felton used a trio of players to hold Spencer to eight points in the first half. Senior guard Nashon McPherson scored the game's first bucket on a three-pointer to give Western its first and only lead. The Racers then scored on their next four possessions and Western found itself once again getting deeper into another first half hole.

"I think we came out flat again the first half," junior guard Derek Robinson said. "Give them credit, they came out more aggressive than we did and tougher than we did. We dug ourselves a big hole, and it was hard to get back in the game."

SEE FALLS, PAGE 16

Swimmers may lose Diddle pool

BY BRANDY WARREN
Herald reporter

The swim team started competing in the Diddle Arena pool in 1963. They did so for 30 years, until the Preston Center opened in 1992. The team holds its meets there and some practices, but still uses the Diddle pool 40 hours a week for practice.

If Western goes through with the scenario presented in the recently released feasibility study, no one will ever swim in Diddle again.

The proposed plan calls for removing the pool in phase two or three of the \$28 million renovation. The pool would be turned into a 6,000 square ft. meeting room.

Head swim coach Bill Powell said no one ever said anything to him about the possibility of removing the pool. He learned about the plan while reading a newspaper over the weekend, several days after the plans were released.

"I think it would be a huge mistake to do away with this pool," Powell said. "It's too valuable of a facility to do away with."

Athletics Director Wood Selig said right now it is too early know if those plans will actually go through.

"Right now, they're not even etched in sand," Selig said. He said the plan is more in conceptual discussion than in the planning stage.

SEE POOL, PAGE 14

Assistant swim coach Steve Crocker, a former world-record holder, is one of Western's ...

BEST KEPT SECRETS

BY BRANDY WARREN
Herald reporter

The tall man walks from one end of the Diddle Arena pool to the other. He holds a stop watch, nodding as the swimmer he watches approaches the end of the pool.

Assistant swim coach Steve Crocker leans over the edge of the water to talk to the swimmer, smiling and making stroke-like motions in the air. The swimmer nods and gets back in the water.

Crocker looks over the pool, watching the 20 or so swimmers practicing laps.

Before he was a national swimming champion, a near Olympian or a world-record holder, he swam in this pool.

Now he's here again, in a different role — coach.

Crocker walked into the Diddle Arena pool for the first time the summer before his junior year in high school. Head swim coach Bill Powell said Crocker started as a tennis

major at the athletic camp, but changed to swimming because it was too hot to play tennis outside.

Where Crocker walked into the pool area in gym shorts, the trained swimmers wore Speedos.

"I thought 'Oh Lord, what am I going to do with this non-swimmer when I have all of these competitive swimmers here thirsting for knowledge?'" Powell said.

"He'd never had a lick of competitive swimming."

But Crocker grew up across the street from a public pool where he played all day. He raced the neighborhood boys and by the time he reached Powell's camp, he was one of the fastest swimmers in Franklin.

Powell noticed how fast Crocker learned new strokes and the potential he had to become a better swimmer. Powell tried convincing him to transfer to Bowling Green High School to compete as a sprinter.

Crocker's mother called Powell after the

camp and asked him why he wanted her son to transfer schools.

Powell said he made the understatement of the century.

"There's no telling how fast this kid can swim," he said.

Crocker never transferred, but he did start practicing with the BGHS swim team every day after school. He couldn't compete with the team, but he swam in the open lanes during meets for practice.

As a junior, he competed as the only swimmer from Franklin-Simpson and placed fifth in the 50-meter freestyle in the Kentucky High School Athletic Association State High School Meet.

He won the next year and broke a 16-year-old state record in that event.

"Coach Powell knew my background and offered me a scholarship based on my potential," Crocker said.

SEE BEST, PAGE 14

Bulk of Western football team returns next season

BY BRIAN MOORE
Herald reporter

Bobby Sippio stepped away from the intended receiver and eyed his 11th interception of the season.

Nothing but 80 yards of green grass stood between him and Western's end zone in the first half of last Saturday's season-ending loss to Appalachian State.

Perhaps a little too anxious to put Western's first points on the board, Sippio dropped the pass before he could get a handle on it. He was disappointed, but have

no sorrow, Topper fans. The record-setting cornerback has two seasons left in red and white.

And he won't be the only familiar face a year from now.

All three of his teammates in the secondary will return for next season's inaugural appearance in the Gateway Conference, as will most of the starters for this year's 11-2 team.

"That's the best thing about it: making it this far with such a young team this year," Sippio said. "The people that we did lose, it hurts that we lost them because they were big factors to

our success. But with this experience this year, it's just going to give us something to strive for next year. We're going to want to make it further and we're going to work a little harder."

Western will return all three of its quarterbacks. Junior Jason Johnson started every game this season, rushing for an average of 58 yards a game. He did not throw an interception through 110 attempts this season.

The Hilltoppers will have big shoes to fill with the loss of All-American linebacker Melvin Wisham, who led the Ohio Valley

Conference with 168 tackles. They'll also lose their leading rusher, DeWayne Gallishaw, who averaged 80 yards on the ground a game.

But for what was perhaps the nation's best all-around defense, next season will certainly come with high expectations. Western picked off 29 passes, forced 21 fumbles and tallied 33 sacks in 13 games.

With a coaching staff that included first-year offensive coordinator Bill Mottola, top dog

SEE BULK, PAGE 16

BEST: Crocker returned to Western as coach in 1997

CONTINUED FROM PAGE 13

He never lost the 50-meter freestyle in four regular seasons at Western between 1981 and 1985. The first time he lost the event was during the NCAA finals his senior year.

Crocker transferred to the University of Kentucky the next year and worked as assistant coach for their swim team.

"I realized being a coach is a really good thing for a swimmer to do," Crocker said. "When you teach something you have to learn it even better."

After graduating with a mechanical engineering degree, he put his career off for eight months so he could devote time to training.

At the 1988 U.S. Olympic Trials, he finished third. Those three times were the best in the world. But Crocker never got to

go to the Olympics because the U.S. could only send two athletes.

At the Olympics, a Russian swimmer earned the bronze medal behind the two Americans with a time much slower than Crocker's.

"It was a little hard to watch," Crocker said.

Matt Biandi, the American gold medalist, announced his retirement after those Olympics, and Crocker saw that as an opportunity to make the next Olympic team.

He moved to St. Louis and worked as a mechanical design engineer in the defense industry. By day, he designed weapon systems, and in his free time, he trained with the Rockford U.S.S. swim club.

In four years of training before the next Olympic Trials, he was a two-time U.S. National

Champion, a World Cup winner and a U.S. Open winner.

But in 1992 he was shut out of the Olympics again when he finished third in the trials. Biandi had decided not to retire and finished first.

He swam in a meet two weeks later against Biandi with different results. On March 21, 1992, Crocker set the world record in the 50-meter freestyle short-course. He swam the event in 21.64 seconds.

"I got a lot of satisfaction in that win," Crocker said with a huge smile.

That win marked the end of his competitive career.

"I was pretty impressed," Powell said. "I wasn't surprised. I knew he had it in him."

In 1997, Crocker returned to the Diddle Arena pool. Western was starting a women's program and Powell needed an assistant

coach.

"There was no question in my mind who I wanted," Powell said.

Crocker and his family moved to Kentucky and he started work as Western's assistant swim coach.

"I was amazed my freshman year about the amount of information he could give to his swimmers," senior Kristy Kostelnik said. "He's also kind of like your dad away from home."

Former Western swimmer Kicker Vencill, who ran out of eligibility last year, said Crocker still helps him train.

"He's definitely one of my best friends," Vencill said. "We have a good friendship as well as a good coach-athlete relationship."

Crocker said he wants to be a head coach eventually, maybe as Powell's successor at Western.

"He better," Powell said. "He's one of the best young coaches in America today."

POOL: Closing may pose problems

CONTINUED FROM PAGE 13

Selig said the companies in charge of the study looked at Diddle and other on-campus facilities to see how Western could make the most of its facilities. Based on those findings, a scenario was created to remove the pool and replace it with a convention center. Before any of this can happen or even be discussed, phase one of the renovation must be completed.

"It's really almost premature to think of life with or without that pool," Selig said.

Powell said there are only three indoor pools in Bowling Green. He said the Diddle Arena pool and the pool at Bowling Green High School are "used to the max." The third pool, Preston Center pool, is reserved only for Western students and staff.

The Diddle pool is also used as practice facility for the Stingrays, a feeder program for the swim team. Diddle also houses the swim coaches' offices, equipment and locker rooms.

Several swimmers are concerned about the future of the pool and what will happen to their program.

"If they're going to take away the pool at Diddle there has to be some consensus there between the athletic department and the people who run Preston Center," senior Kristy Kostelnik said.

Assistant swim coach Steve Crocker said the pool is too valuable to let go.

"It will definitely pose a problem for us to run the same quality program we run now," Crocker said. "People have been swimming at this pool for over thirty years. It's been a workhorse."

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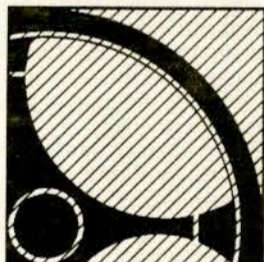
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Andrew Otto/Herald

Sophomore forward Nate Williams, left, and Murray State sophomore forward Antione Whelchel wrestle for the ball in the second half of play Tuesday night at Murray State. Western lost 81-83.

FALLS: Robinson scores 17 in game

CONTINUED FROM PAGE 13

That hole got to be 19 points deep on a Burdine three-pointer to make the score 36-17. The Hilltoppers had found themselves in the same position during their previous loss. Against New Mexico, Western started slow and fell behind 14 points in the first half before making a second half surge.

In the Murray game, Western cut the lead to 14 on sophomore guard Filip Videnov's jumper and went into halftime trailing 34-46.

Robinson, who finished the game with a team-high 17 points, said the team's recent first half problems are due to a lack of intensity and said they plan to become more aggressive to stop the problem.

"It hasn't really started until the last couple of games," Robinson said. "We came out our first three games real intense, ready to play real aggressive ... we just need to keep on our mind to come out more aggressive than the other team."

The two teams traded baskets to start the second half before Western went on an 8-2 run to cut

the lead to six on junior Chris Marcus' dunk with 10:53 remaining. That basket was Marcus' first field goal of the game.

With 50 seconds left in the game, Marcus connected with a short hook to cut the lead to four at 78-74. The Racers' 7-0 center Andi Hornig slammed the ball to the floor in disgust after Marcus' basket and drew a technical foul. Robinson hit the technical free throw to cut the lead to three.

On Murray's next possession, Spencer found himself at the top of the key with no dribbles and sophomore guard Mike Wells in his face. As Spencer nervously looked for a teammate to pass to, he barreled right over Wells. The referee blew his whistle and called a blocking foul on Wells. Felton kicked the scorer's table in frustration as Wells sat on the court in disbelief.

Western still had time for another chance, and after its final timeout, sophomore forward David Boyden hit a three-pointer with 15 seconds left. Western fouled and Spencer hit two free throws to extend the lead back to four. Videnov, who finished the game with 10 points, then hit another

three-pointer with .02 seconds remaining.

After the shot, one referee immediately blew his whistle and called a technical foul on the Western bench.

"I've never heard of an official making that call," Felton said. "Our coaches are talking to me all game long. Obviously, yelling was going on in the intensity of the moment. And he yelled at me about timeout. I knew we didn't have one. I believe our assistant had his back to the official when he yelled it. So I was telling (the official) that my coach was talking to me, not calling a timeout. I was asking him how in the world he knew who (associate head coach Pete Herrmann) was talking to."

The free throws after the technical ended Western's last flicker of hope and ended the game. The loss was Western's third in a row. Western will go into Freedom Hall Saturday to face the Louisville Cardinals. Felton and his staff plan to "raise the bar" to increase their team's intensity.

"This hasn't been a total shock," Felton said. "I've been concerned about our toughness the whole season."

BULK: Team prepares for Gateway

CONTINUED FROM PAGE 13

Jack Harbaugh said he's landed a staff that works well together and one that will keep things moving in the right direction.

"This is by far the best group of coaches that we've had since I've been here," Harbaugh said. "What they bring is tremendous maturity. They're all excellent family guys, hard-working guys. They work well as mentors and teachers."

And those are the tools, he said, the team will need to take its game to a new level as it enters play in the Gateway Conference, arguably the toughest I-AA football league. Although the Gateway's two teams in the playoffs this season — Western Illinois and Youngstown State — both lost in the first round, it did show dominance through the 1990s.

Youngstown State has been in the I-AA championship game six of the last 10 years.

"It's not going to be the same," Harbaugh said. "We're moving into one of the very toughest leagues and if we don't step up, we're not going to put together the same kind of season that we

put together this year." No worries.

Sippio said the troops have already begun preparations.

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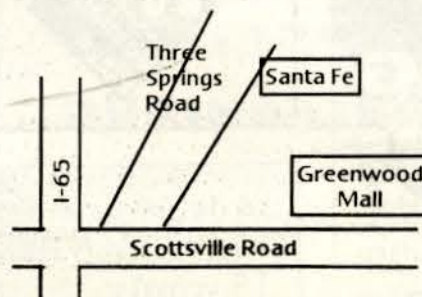
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