TAKING THE FIELD Title IX

Inside Investing in the Spirit
Dear Colleagues,

In my inaugural address, I stated that two things were eminently important at this moment in time in the life of Western Kentucky University: knowing where we have been as a University Family and knowing in what direction we must travel. To those ends, we launched the *Challenging the Spirit* strategic plan in 1998. This plan is designed to guide Western in fulfilling its mission to be “the best comprehensive public institution in Kentucky and among the best in the nation.”

However, as our aspirations grow, so does our need for private support. Therefore, we now announce *Investing in the Spirit: The Campaign for Western Kentucky University*. This effort will focus on obtaining private support for those people, places, and programs which define our quality. An emphasis will be placed on endowed support for faculty positions and student scholarships.

In addition, we will focus our efforts on obtaining increased private support for those premier programs that enhance our quest for national prominence. I believe we can make no greater investment in our collective future than to support the *Investing in the Spirit* Campaign. With the support of the Western Family, I’m convinced we can achieve our shared vision and indeed earn the distinction in Kentucky as the university of choice for the best faculty, the most skilled staff, and the best students.

I invite you to become an important part of this historic campaign.

Gary A. Ransdell, President, WKU
BA'73, MFA '74
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Cover: Sandro Botticelli's Birth of Venus clearly was originally planned to be a picture of a softball game. Line interpretation by Tom Meacham.

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During the second annual President's Circle Gala April 27, 2000, Western officially launched Investing in the Spirit: The Campaign for Western Kentucky University. This historic, five-year, comprehensive effort will focus on obtaining private support for the people, places and programs that exemplify the Western Spirit.

According to WKU President Gary Ransdell, the campaign will be the means through which Western's Challenging the Spirit strategic plan for 1998-2003 will be implemented. Challenging the Spirit is a blueprint that defines a number of strategic goals, which are consistent with the University’s mission to be nationally competitive in its educational programs and to provide optimum service to the citizens of Kentucky. These goals will guide the University toward its vision to “be the best comprehensive public institution in Kentucky and among the best in the nation.”

Key elements of Western’s strategy include the presentation of a challenging curriculum and a holistic learning experience, which promotes global awareness and lifelong learning. These initiatives will result in proficient graduates who can function competitively in their respective disciplines. One important goal of the strategic plan relates to the addition of 25 new endowed scholarships to attract academically talented students.

“We intend to reprioritize our budget, to shape state appropriations, and to seek private support to create the necessary resources to implement our Challenging the Spirit plan,” Ransdell said. “Thus, the name of our campaign: Investing in the Spirit. The Western Spirit has been built by each generation. Now it is up to us to meet the challenge to keep it alive.”

The strategic plan also outlines Western’s commitment to providing support for endowed faculty positions.

“Support for nationally prominent faculty is essential in preparing competent graduates and future leaders in Kentucky and the nation,” Ransdell said. “Private philanthropy is critical as we seek to attract and retain such outstanding scholars in a variety of disciplines.”

In fact, Challenging the Spirit details a performance indicator of the addition of 25 new endowed faculty positions by 2003. As of March 31, 2000, Western has established 12 endowed professorships since July 1, 1998.

“A large portion of our campaign will increase Western’s total endowment in support of faculty and students,” Ransdell said. “These endowments offer a stable, dependable source of income for student scholarships, special teaching and research materials, library acquisitions, salary supplements and travel assistance.”
Tom Hiles, vice president for Development and Alumni Relations, reports that to date Western has raised more than $42 million toward the $78 million goal.

“Our campaign is divided into three major areas: people, places and programs,” Hiles said. “The largest portion of the goal is related to support for people—the faculty and students who make Western unique and successful.”

Western is one of the first universities in the Commonwealth of Kentucky to step forward and publicly announce a comprehensive fund-raising effort, Hiles said, thus enhancing the historic nature of Western’s announcement.

“Participation at any level from all of our 70,000 alumni and friends is necessary for a successful campaign,” Hiles said.

Some individuals will be able to step forward and provide leadership support with six-figure gifts and beyond. But, just as important, others can provide smaller gifts, host an alumni function, identify others who can help, attend Western events and encourage prospective students to consider Western.

“The Campaign for Western is a defining moment in the life of the University,” Ransdell said. “Nineteen ninety-eight to 2003 is our time to emerge. We are on the verge of greatness at Western, but that vision can only be achieved by investing in the Spirit.”

Carol Cummings is a 1992 graduate of Western and is a senior development writer/researcher in Development and Alumni Relations.

### Campaign Priorities

**People**
- Student scholarships, fellowships and awards
- International education endowment for students
- Endowed faculty positions
- Visiting scholars endowments
- Faculty excellence endowments

**Places**
- Main campus facilities
- Extended campus facilities
- Campus beautification

**Programs**
- Academic program endowments
- Athletics
- Cultural enhancement
- Gifted Studies
- Instructional technology
- Kentucky Museum
- Public Broadcasting
- Student Life
- University Libraries

### Campaign Leadership

#### Campaign Cabinet
- Mary Nixon, Co-Chair ’77 Louisville, KY
- Don Vitale, Co-Chair Bowling Green, KY
- Jerry Baker, BU ’51 Bowling Green, KY
- Gordon Ford BU ’34 Louisville, KY
- John Grider, BU ’61 Bowling Green, KY
- Rick Guillaume ’65 Louisville, KY
- Lowell Guthrie Bowling Green, KY
- Rick Holton ’69 Nashville, TN

#### National Leadership Committee
- James Kenneth Bale Horse Cave, KY
- Eddy Barber Bowling Green, KY
- Louis Berman ’75 Bowling Green, KY
- Kenneth Bragg ’61, ’64 Fruitland Park, FL
- Gary Broady ’77, ’84 Franklin, KY
- David Dickerson ’90 Franklin, KY
- Howard Gray ’72 Lexington, KY
- Kenneth Hall ’52 St. Petersburg, FL
- Robert B. Hensley, ’56, ’58 Bowling Green, KY
- Mary E. Heltsley ’60, ’62 Roseville, MN
- Belle Hunt ’73, ’77 Bowling Green, KY
- Tommy Gumm ’72 Glasgows, KY
- Bruce Merrick Bowling Green, KY
- Michael Jarvis, MD, ’64 Owensboro, KY
- Gary Koon ’64 Glasgows, KY
- Mitchell Leichhardt ’70 Bowling Green, KY
- Barry McIntosh ’85 Bowling Green, KY
- Dan Pelino ’79, ’80 Danville, CA
- Lester Reeves ’47 Panama City, FL
- John Ridley ’74, ’75 Bowling Green, KY
- Larry Shelton, BU ’56 Bonita Springs, FL
- Charles Shuffield, ’66 Orlando, FL
- Jim Smith Bowling Green, KY
- Zuheir Sofia ’69 Columbus, OH
- John Stewart ’71 Wadsworth, IL
- Ferris Van Meter ’69 Bowling Green, KY
- Thomas Lee Wallace Pasadena, CA
- Catherine Ward Bowling Green, KY
- Johnny Webb ’69 Bowling Green, KY

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Western Kentucky University
TITLE IX AND NCAA GUIDELINES:  
Implications for Higher Education  

BY JULIE RIEMANN & AARON W. HUGHEY

| Is gender discrimination a problem at Western? Are female student athletes provided with the same access to housing and dining facilities as their male counterparts? Is everyone, regardless of gender, provided with an equal opportunity to develop to one’s fullest potential? These are obviously important questions. And the answers we provide can have serious repercussions for you, me, our departments and the institution as a whole. |

Title IX

Higher education professionals are often faced with huge challenges when dealing with issues related to compliance with Title IX of the Education Amendments of 1972. In essence, the legislation prohibits gender discrimination at any educational institution which receives federal financial assistance in any form. Title IX has had a profound impact on the collegiate experience; its implications are an integral part of modern college administration.

All colleges and universities that receive federal financial assistance are required to comply with Title IX. While all programs and activities of the institution are subject to Title IX mandates, intercollegiate athletics are specifically covered. Failure to comply with Title IX could result in the Office of Civil Rights suspending or terminating federal financial assistance to the entire institution. A lawsuit based on Title IX could also result in the institution’s being required to pay both compensatory and punitive damages.

Three areas related to intercollegiate athletics are addressed by Title IX: (1) participation opportunities; i.e., athletic programs provided for men and women student athletes, (2) availability of athletic scholarships, and (3) athletic program components. Participation opportunities are defined as the number of male and female athletes on each team in each sport sponsored by the institution individually as well as collectively. Compliance with Title IX is established by meeting one of three tests: proportionality, history, and no additional interest. Proportionality implies that the athletic participation rates of men and women students should equal the full-time undergraduate enrollment rates of men and women students. History involves the continuing practice of equitable program expansion, whereas no additional interest is determined by proving that the current sports offerings for women fully meet their interests.

As we discuss these issues, please keep in mind that there is a common misconception among those associated with collegiate athletics that the general public ‘naturally’ considers men’s sports to be more important (relevant/marketable/revenue-enhancing) than women’s sports. This is simply not the case. At many colleges and universities, for example, it is the women’s athletic programs that draw the largest crowds.

Housing and dining facilities are viewed as critical components of Title IX compliance. As indicated in the guidelines, "...equivalence is measured by such factors as quality, availability and exclusivity of use." As such, any college or university that does not provide equal availability of
housing for both male and female student athletes is technically in violation of Title IX. This, in turn, could lead to fines, lawsuits and suspension of financial assistance to other institutional programs.

At a majority of colleges and universities, student athletes are provided housing on campus, whether through scholarships or other financial aid. A key element in Title IX compliance is whether or not athletic scholarships have been awarded in substantial proportion to the participation rates (using a head count) of men and women student athletes; i.e., if 50% of student athletes are female, then roughly 50% of the total athletic financial assistance available should be awarded to females.

With specific reference to the provision of university housing facilities, Title IX mandates gender equity in housing and dining benefits that are available during the regular academic year as well as when classes are not in session. Pre/post game meals are also included in the requirement. Moreover, institutions must make sure that room and board and men's/women's basketball vacation stipends are equitable. The amount budgeted for pre-season housing and pregame meals for sports traditionally associated with women (such as volleyball) must be comparable to that budgeted for sports traditionally associated with men (such as football).

Institutions must establish policies that clearly state that they have an equitable policy for all sports for pre/post season stipends, meal allocations, and semester housing. Furthermore, if any team has not completed its regular season by the end of classes in the spring, the student athletes who constitute the team must be provided with residence hall accommodations and access to dining facilities (or their financial equivalent).

The goal of any effort to comply with Title IX should be the ability to demonstrate conclusively that the provision of housing and dining services is equivalent for both men and women—in practice as well as in policy. The Office of Civil Rights is increasingly intolerant of institutional 'game-playing' with this issue.

**NCAA Guidelines**

In 1991, the National Collegiate Athletic Association implemented regulations prohibiting athletics residence halls in Division I institutions. The guidelines forbid blocks of rooms consisting of more than 49% student athletes. The idea was that athletes need to be treated the same as other students on campus.

Prior to implementation of the new guidelines, most Division I colleges and universities had residence halls devoted exclusively to student athletes, while many others had athletes-only wings or floors. Most schools assigned student athletes together as roommates and often prohibited them from rooming with non-student athletes. Such accommodations obviously helped to build team unity and made it easier to arrange study halls and enforce curfews. On the other hand, there were questions about the potential disadvantages of this approach. A major concern was that housing student athletes together was not developmentally defensible and tended to precipitate feelings of isolation.

In the late 60s and early 70s, many institutions built residence halls which were intended solely for student athletes. Many of these were fairly extravagant by traditional standards, with larger than normal rooms and semi-private bath facilities. In an effort to neutralize the recruiting advantages associated with these accommodations, in 1983 the NCAA stipulated that athletic residence halls had to be analogous to the on-campus housing that was available to the general student population.

Housing 'regular' students in residence halls that have been traditionally reserved for student athletes also created logistical problems related to compliance. Some housing professionals have experienced difficulty keeping the proportion of non-student athletes in their residence halls above 49%. Others have found it challenging to find students who are willing to share residence hall rooms and floors with student athletes.

In addition, by placing student athletes in environments less conducive to the special needs of their schedules and routines, housing officials are in fact putting them at a higher risk for failure. Compliance with NCAA regulations, even when it is acknowledged that the original intent of those regulations was to encourage student athletes to make academics more of a priority, should never be allowed to preempt the developmental considerations innate to the Student Affairs profession. It is imperative that the spirit of the guidelines be continually reaffirmed—even when the details of how those guidelines are implemented are subject to debate.

**Conclusion**

Although vitally important from an administrative standpoint, the legal and ethical consequences associated with failure to comply fully with either Title IX or NCAA regulations should not be the primary impetus for pursuing compliance. As higher education professionals, our first priority should always be the perpetual enhancement of the collegiate experience for all students. When institutions do not attempt to adhere to Title IX or NCAA guidelines as judiciously as they should, everyone loses. And the message that is often sent to student athletes is that their academic and social success is not as important as it is for their counterparts across campus.

**Note:** Julie C. Riemann is a graduate student working toward her master's degree in Student Affairs at Western. Dr. Aaron W. Hughey is an Associate Professor in the Department of Educational Leadership. This article is excerpted/adapted from "Title IX and NCAA Guidelines: Implications for Housing Professionals" by Riemann and Dr. Hughey, which appears in the March 2000 issue of the ACUHO-I Talking Stick, the official newsmagazine of the Association of College and University Housing Officers-International. Used with permission.
The first Saturday in May is a day when the eyes and minds of people all around the world rest on Kentucky—for at least three minutes. Men in dapper seersucker suits and women, ladies, in broad-brimmed hats delicately sipping mint juleps descend on Louisville, and would create quite a spectacle, except that there are more beautiful, more majestic creatures to capture our attention and imaginations. It is befitting that during this holiest of holy months in Kentucky, we turn our attention to those beautiful, captivating creatures—the horses, and in doing so show our admiration for those who ride them.

Throughout the entire year, the members of Western Kentucky University's equestrian team exhibit the same admiration and respect for horses that the rest of the world offers on Derby day. Dr. Charles Anderson, Professor of Animal Science and coach of the equestrian team, says he started the equestrian team in 1978 in response to an increasing number of requests from his students. He says some of the students involved in the equestrian team have been around and cared for horses all their lives, while others have never even been on a horse. He says he is glad that the team gives those students an opportunity that they might otherwise never have.

"It is a horse show team in a nutshell," Anderson says. "What the students are involved in is equitation, which is horsemanship. They are judged on their ability to communicate with the horse."

Anderson says most of his students are entirely devoted to their chosen sport. When travelling to competitions, Anderson says he often sees former students who were members of the equestrian team. Team members are responsible for every facet of horse show preparation. They are required to spend time at the WKU farm caring for the horses, primarily quarter horses but some thoroughbreds are used. They provide their own equipment and show clothes, and are responsible for all expenses—transportation, hotel, food and supplies.

"We practice at home on our horses, then we go to Truman State University, for example," Anderson says. "Each student reaches into a box or a hat and pulls out the name of a horse; that horse then is his or her mount for that class. The rider most likely will not have ridden that horse before, and is allowed only to get on and adjust the
stirrups before competition begins."

Judges from the American Quarter Horse Association and the American Horse Show Association assign points based on equitation and form.

"Depending on the class, the horse might be jumping fences, performing rapid athletic moves or doing rail work—where the horse walks, trots or canters," Anderson says.

"Each coach selects one rider from each division to compete for team trophies. At the same time that all the students are competing as individuals, some of the students will also be competing for the team trophy. I don’t tell the team who those people are. There combined points at the end of the show that day will be totalled. One team will win the team trophy for the day."

The WKU equestrian team is under the auspices of the Intercollegiate Horse Show Association. Approximately 300 schools are involved in equestrian sport nationwide. Students compete by earning points in various competition events. Each competition is divided into two divisions: the stock seat, known as the western saddle and the hunt seat or English saddle.

Riders must accumulate at least 35 points throughout the year in order to advance to the regional competition. Other schools in the regional competition include: Vanderbilt, Middle Tennessee State University, Murray, Southern Illinois, Southwest Missouri and Truman College which used to be called Northeast Missouri State University.

On March 6, WKU won the regional competition. Riders placing first or second in the regional competition will advance to the zone competition which will be held this year on April 8-9 at Middle Tennessee State University. Zone five, which includes Western, is the Southeastern area of the country.

Anderson says there is a movement among universities with equestrian teams to enter NCAA competitions. He said that though many schools have already declared their intent to participate in the NCAA equestrian sport event, there are currently no plans for Western to do so.

"There must be 40 universities that offer equestrian as a varsity sport as opposed to a club sport before the NCAA will offer a championship in that event," says Pam Herriford, Associate Director of WKU Athletics.

Dr. Anderson says unless scholarships and more funding accompany entrance into the NCAA equestrian sport, he is not interested.

"There’s not much value to me or my students if there is no financial support, because the amount of paperwork and requirements that have to be met for those types of activities are tremendous. I was amazed to see the list of rules and regulations. It looked to me like two copies of the Bible stapled together."

Anderson says he believes the talk of entering NCAA competition stems from a need to comply with Title IX guidelines. He says having a women’s equestrian team would help the university meet those Title IX requirements. Currently, men and women compete against each other and on the same team. Entrance into the NCAA equestrian sport would most likely divide teams between men and women. Anderson says he usually has 20 to 30 women actively compet-

"What the students are involved in is equitation, which is horsemanship. They are judged on their ability to communicate with the horse."

ing on the equestrian team.

"Right now, entering NCAA competition is still in the discussion phase. We would certainly want to wait until equestrian sport is a championship event, because that’s really what it’s all about—competing for the national championship," Herriford said. "At that point, we as an institution will have more discussions about it. We have a very strong club team."

The WKU equestrian team has gone to the finals of the Intercollegiate Horse Show Competition nine of the last ten years.
WOMEN'S SOFTBALL COMES TO WKU

Leveling the Playing Field

BY KIMBERLY SHAIN PARSLEY

Anyone who has ever coached a sports team, be it Little League or professional, knows the pressures involved in such a venture. Bonding with players, discovering strengths and weaknesses and spending long, hot hours in practice are all crucial elements of success. Add to that the task of finding and recruiting team members—all the team members—and the task becomes all the more daunting. That is just what Coach Leslie Phelan was asked to do when she accepted the position as Head Coach of the first WKU Lady Toppers fast pitch softball team, now in its inaugural season. Fans of WKU spring sports can now root, root, root for another home team.

"When I was hired I didn't have an office yet," Phelan said. "My first priority was to find the players and also to put together a schedule."

Phelan said that when she first began her new job at WKU, she got to spend very little time in her new Bowling Green home. She said from Nov. 1998 to Aug. 1999 she traveled all over Kentucky watching high school softball tournaments, and different parts of the country to recruit players. By the end of her quest, she had visited 14 states in search of talented female athletes.

"Since I started in November and people weren't playing around here, I had to go to states that were playing year round."

Phelan said that most of the players came from out of state. Only three players are from Kentucky. Other states represented on the team include California, Michigan, Wisconsin and Tennessee.

The Lady Toppers currently are not affiliated with a regional conference. They will compete in the Sunbelt Conference Tournament at the end of the season, but are playing only non-conference teams during the regular season. The team will enter the Sunbelt Conference next year.

Since this is the first year of fast pitch softball at Western, the team is given eight full scholarships rather than the normal 12 it will receive next year. Phelan said that these full scholarships have been divided into more, smaller scholarships.

The addition of the softball team is part of a Title IX plan that the university has adopted to increase the number of women's sports offered by Western. At the time of the plan's adoption, WKU offered seven sports for women and ten for men.

"In 1994, the Institution was going through an NCAA certification process and part of that process was a gender equity plan," said Pam Herriford, Associate Director of WKU Athletics. "At that point, we started looking at the number of participation opportunities that we were providing for female athletes. A group on campus looked at various sports that we thought would be possibilities for addition, and decided that women's swimming, women's fast pitch softball and women's soccer would be the most compatible with the student body population that we have here on campus, plus the population of prospective students from areas where we recruit."
Herriford said that 92 percent of WKU students come from Kentucky, Tennessee and Indiana. She said by adding swimming, softball and soccer to the existing athletic programs for women, WKU would be offering every sport in which those three states hold high school championships, with the exception of gymnastics, which is offered in some Indiana schools.

Herriford said she and her colleagues in Athletics chose to implement the women’s swimming team first because unlike softball and soccer, it did not require a new facility. She said hiring new staff and constructing new facilities are the major challenges in adding a new sports program. The softball field, located at Creason Drive and University Blvd., is nearly completed, with lighting slated for installation by next season. Herriford said the soccer program is on schedule to begin in 2001. "We’re off to a good start, and building a program from ground zero takes a while," she said. "Once we finish adding the soccer program, we feel like we will be meeting the Title IX guidelines."

One of the first assignments Coach Phelan gave her new team was to establish a team contract. She said she wanted the players to discuss and agree on their goals and commitments as a team.

The contract includes the following goals:

- To never give up
- To always play as a team
- To do everything with class
- To have a winning season
- To maintain a team GPA of 3.0

“We have a very good group of athletes, who have varying amounts of experience, but who have all played at a very high competitive level," Phelan said.

She said that though the team is in its infancy, the players already exhibit a winning attitude. She said the team is extremely talented physically, and that they always show respect for one another on the playing field. She said she feels that the team’s only weakness is a lack of Division I experience, but she added, "We’ve made a point of not letting the players or the coaching staff use being a first year program as an excuse. Our opponents can go ahead and say, ‘Okay they’re a first-year team,’ but we’re not going to look at it that way. All of these players have played this game for a long time, so in that sense we’re very experienced.”
WOMEN'S TURN AT BAT

On Deck

BY KIMBERLY SHAIN PARSLEY

The ladder of progression in athletics is typically high school to college to a professional league or association. Each year a new class of men climbs this ladder, and each year a new class of men stands atop it, having reached the uppermost rung—being paid, and paid well, for their skills and talents. But what of women with the same aspirations? Are women even allowed by practicality and reason to set such goals for themselves? If not, why?

"Women are altogether out of place on the diamonds or in the dugouts of professional ball," reported The Sporting News in the July 2, 1952 issue.

"The reasons should be readily apparent," the article read. "Opposing players would be reluctant to slide into a base guarded by a girl infielder, pitchers would hesitate to throw close to a feminine batter, tagging would be a problem; baseball could not afford to take a chance of injury to a woman in a game played for keeps by men. Dugout language is too sulfuric for the ears of ladylike performers, special dressing rooms would have to be provided, and there always would be the risk of insulting remarks hurled by smart-aleck fans."

These familiar arguments for the exclusion of women from baseball, indeed all professional sports, are thrown about at the mere mention of a woman entering the ranks of the major leaguers or pro ballers. And why not hide behind these, some would say valid, points? They've worked so far. It is shameful, but true. These arguments about the frailty and daintiness of women, their sensitivities to the remarks of others and the financial hardship their involvement would place on teams continue to be successful in keeping women out of some professional sports and keeping them down in others.

That the women are out of place in baseball quotation was published in 1952 is not shocking. That it continues to be the prevailing opinion, is. The Sporting News story was written in response to a publicity stunt by the owners of the Harrisburg Interstate League baseball team, which would have placed 24-year-old Eleanor Engle at short stop. Manager Clarence Etchison refused to allow Engle to play, a decision which was upheld by National Organization President, George Trautman, who announced that any baseball club who signed or attempted to sign a female player would be heavily fined.

The publication then editorialized: "The Sporting News hopes this is the last time that it will ever find it necessary, as a matter of news coverage, to print the picture of a woman ball player on a men's team. Woman's place may not be altogether

Young Ladies Base Ball Club #1, c. 1809. This was probably a touring team which played throughout the country. Photo courtesy of the National Baseball Hall of Fame Library.
often a lack of sufficient pay and opportunity keeps women from pursuing their dreams of a career in athletics as much as do policies and stereotypes. Western’s Lady Toppers just completed a remarkable winning season. It is not a stretch of the imagination to think that one of these women might have the desire and the talent to go pro.

in the home, and feminine athletes have won distinction in many sports in which they can compete against others of their sex. But as far as organized baseball is concerned, woman’s place always will be in the grandstand.”

The editorial writer may not have intended his words as a prediction, but he would have been correct in doing so. Forty-two years after Eleanor Engle was banned from baseball, there still are no women on Major League diamonds.

“I think baseball is making a big mistake,” Engle said. “I love the game. More women should be playing. I’m sure that I would have been able to remain as a player with the Senators. Why, women are good at a lot of things, like golf, politics, track and other sports. Why not baseball?”

Good question, Mrs. Engle.

Often a lack of sufficient pay and opportunity keeps women from pursuing their dreams of a career in athletics as much as do policies and stereotypes. Western’s Lady Toppers just completed a remarkable winning season. It is not a stretch of the imagination to think that one of these women might have the desire and the talent to go pro.

Let’s examine her options.

In 1999 the minimum salary for a rookie in the Women’s National Basketball Association was $25,000. Compare that with the $275,000 that National Basketball Association rookies earned in 1999. Not only is the WNBA player’s salary lower than her NBA counterpart’s, it is also probably lower than she would make by getting employment based on the skills she learned in the classroom, as opposed to those she learned on the court.

Lillie Mason Stockton, famed Lady Topper basketball player of the 1980s, was forced to travel outside the U.S. to pursue her dream of a career in professional basketball. She was drafted by a team in the American Basketball League, which folded before Stockton even reported to practice. Afterwards, she played in the Women’s Italian League. She said she would not trade that experience for anything, but that she thought the female basketball players in the U.S. were better, and more mature athletes.

Stockton said she ended her professional basketball career after only one year, in order to be nearer to home and family. She is currently an assistant coach for Warren Central’s Women’s basketball teams.

Women’s professional sports leagues are not uncommon. Professional basketball associations and fast pitch softball and baseball leagues come on the scene with surprising frequency. Many of these leagues operate in only one part of the country; others are nationwide. Despite their existence, they do not afford women a great deal of opportunity for a long-term career. Most of them collapse under financial pressures after only a few years.

To understand why this happens, one has to accept the notion that professional sports are driven by the dollar. Team owners and executives contend that women’s sports do not generate enough revenue. Women’s sports bring in far less money from ticket sales, broadcast licenses and advertising than men’s sports. Many fans of the NBA will tell you that they don’t watch the WNBA because it isn’t as exciting as men’s basketball.

Libby Greaney, Director of the Western Kentucky University Health Center isn’t surprised.

“It’s the entertainment factor,” she said. “I’ve heard
people dismissively say that females can’t dunk the ball. The women are a foot shorter than the men, yet the basket is the same height. They put women at a disadvantage, and then say women can’t do the same things as men. My feeling is, make it relative to their body height and you’ll see plenty of dunking.”

In 1997, Greaney competed in the Ironman World Triathlon Championship held annually in Hawaii. The race begins with a 2.4 mile swim. All participants, men and women, begin at the same time. After the swim is completed, participants then bike 112 miles. The race’s final challenge, as if this weren’t enough, is a full 26.2 mile marathon. Greaney placed twelfth in her division of 48. She completed the race in 11 hours and 43 minutes.

Ironman competitors are divided into two classes: professional and nonprofessional. They are then placed in divisions according to age. To qualify for the Ironman, each athlete competes in one of eight sanctioned triathlons. Competitors must complete at least half of each of the three components that make up the race. The requirements to qualify are the same for men and women, yet three male competitors and only one female competitor from each division move on to the Ironman World Triathlon Championship in Hawaii.

“The rationale for admitting more men is that the number of men who enter the race is higher, so they decide relative to the number of entries,” Greaney said. “My issue with that is, ‘So what if the actual number of male entries is larger? That’s because men have been encouraged throughout history to participate in sports.’ There were all these world class female athletes competing for one slot; that meant I had to be number one in order to go to the Ironman World Triathlon Championship.”

Greaney said that not only are women given less encouragement than men to become athletes, but the accomplishments of women are valued less than the accomplishments of men. She cited NCAA tournament coverage as an example, pointing out that the men’s tournament was given primetime coverage, while the Women’s games were aired during the day on a weekend. She said high school male athletes are likely to get more media attention just for participating in a game than females will get for excelling. This, she said, can be damaging to a young woman’s confidence and determination, since during high school she is struggling with her self-image of being both athletic and feminine.

“It’s the entertainment factor. I’ve heard people say that females can’t dunk the ball. The women are a foot shorter than the men, yet the basket is the same height. They put women at a disadvantage, and then say women can’t do the same things as men. My feeling is, make it relative to their body height and you’ll see plenty of dunking.”

Clemette Haskins, former Lady Topper, knows how to play hard ball as well as anyone.

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“Let’s say a woman wins a local road race for the females,” she illustrated. “The man who wins for the males will always get the headline, and the woman will just be mentioned in the body of the text. What that tells people is that her victory is less valuable. They’re saying her accomplishments are secondary. This makes women have less of an interest in sports because they are not rewarded or validated for their accomplishments.”

Some sports such as golf and tennis have a long history of female participation and excellence. The Ladies’ Professional Golfer’s Association, for example, is a well-established organization of active and highly competitive women golfers, who are every bit as accomplished and
athletic as men on the Professional Golfer's Association tour, according to Dr. Charles Eison, Head Coach of the WKU women's golf team. The only difference, he said, is that the tee is closer for the women.

"If one of my daughters had the athletic ability to be in a professional sport, golf or tennis would be the sports I would choose for her, because the opportunities are there. The women on the LPGA make very reasonable money—not nearly what the men on the PGA make, but very good money," he said.

Often, golf and tennis players are not as respected as athletes involved in other sports because there is a perception of golf and tennis as "country club sports." Eison said that though that label might once have been appropriate, it is no longer accurate. He said the increase in public links golf courses has brought golf to a younger and more diverse population. He said public links tournaments are held across the country, including a national annual public links tournament much like the U.S. Open, in that there are qualifying regional tournaments. Eison said the widespread availability of golf courses has helped to increase the number and quality of female golfers.

He said the entertainment factor of golf involves club head speed, which translates into distance. "When you watch a strong male hit a golf ball, you're watching the optimum club head speed," he said. "A male pro will have a club head speed of somewhere in the neighborhood of 120 to 135 miles per hour. A female pro is going to get 100 to 110; of course there are notable exceptions to that."

The most recognized and dominant golfer of today, most would say, is Tiger Woods. The name Karrie Webb, a golfer on the LPGA tour, is little known, but Webb has won or placed in about the same number of tournaments as Woods, and is equally dominant on her tour; however, her earnings for 1999 were $745,614, compared to Woods' $6.6 million.

Both Greaney and Eison agreed that the abilities and accomplishments of women are overwhelmingly overlooked in the world of professional sports, and that the opportunities and earnings of female athletes should equal those of men. Greaney said the accomplishments of women should be deemed just as significant as those of men, especially when one considers the physiological differences between men and women.

"Men are physically bigger," she explained. "They have testosterone which contains a strength component. They have more hemoglobin, which is an oxygen-carrying element, and they have larger hearts."

Why are women judged against the performances of Michael Jordan, Mark McGwire and Tiger Woods, when most of their colleagues aren't held to such stringent standards? Many women play basketball, softball, golf, and any number of sports better than many of the men who play these sports. The majority of men who play baseball, for example, are not, by Major League standards, exceptional players. I should know. I'm a fan of the Chicago Cubs. If ever there were a team who could midseason turn into average players, it's the Cubs. Why should we expect any woman who wanted to play for the Cubs to perform as well as Sammy Sosa, when less than a handful of the men on the Chicago Cubs play as well as Sammy Sosa?

Women may not be as strong as men, but there is strength in numbers. As in times past, women must band together in support of each other and in pursuit of a dream.

Women were once told they had to be protected, and therefore must work only within the home.

Women were once told that their minds could not comprehend the complexities of politics and were thereby denied the right to vote.

Women were once told that their femininity and sensibilities would be corrupted by active involvement in government; therefore, they were denied the privilege of holding public office.

No, we may not be as strong as men, but we've broken down doors and charged through barriers before — and we will do it again.

Kimberly Shain Parsley is Assistant Editor of On Campus, and an avid baseball fan who becomes manic in Spring, particularly when it comes time for a Cubs game. You can clearly recognize her among the Public Affairs staff: she's the one wearing the Cubs jacket.
Allied Health

Dr. William Howard has contributed two chapters to the textbook, *Clinical Aspects of Dental Materials*, published by Lippincott, Williams & Wilkins, 2000.

The Program of Dental Hygiene recently participated in a mini KICS project (Kentucky Interdisciplinary Community Screening) which targeted the Hispanic community. South Central AHEC coordinated the event. Screenings and numerous services were offered at no cost. Dental Hygiene Students and two faculty members, Dr. Doug Schutte and Ms. Lynn Austin, provided preventive services which included examination for dental caries and periodontal disease, radiographs (x-rays), cleaning and polishing of the teeth, fluoride treatment, and sealants. Eleven adults and 14 children received dental treatment. For further information about the mini KICS, please contact Lucy Juett.

Consumer and Family Sciences

Dr. Linda Gardner, Dr. Joyce Rasdall and Sheila Duncan presented juried research/creativity presentations at the Annual Meeting of the Kentucky Association of Family and Consumer Sciences at Kentucky Dam Village State Park. Dr. Gardner presented "Image Perception and Shopping Behavior," Dr. Rasdall presented "Stimulating Design Proposals for a Children's Science Museum," and Duncan presented "Black and White Female Athletes' Assessment of their Bodies and Satisfaction with Garment Fit." Dr. Martha Jenkins served as Chair of an Annual Meeting concurrent session and Dr. Doris Sikora coordinated student representatives from Western Kentucky University.

English

Dr. Loretta Martin Murrey will have an entry on Mary Lee Settles in the upcoming *Companion to Southern Literature: Themes, Genres, Places, People, Movements and Motifs*. She spoke to the South Central Kentucky Historical and Genealogical Society about *Broomsedge Chronicles*, and participated in Rainstick poetry readings at the Glasgow Muscical's Easter Breakfast and Mammoth Cave's Wildflower Weekend.

Government

Dr. J.D. Droddy presented a paper, "Issue Opinions of Incoming Law Students," at the annual meeting of the Kentucky Political Science Association on March 3-4, 2000, held at Centre College. He also received the David Hughes Award for the best paper presented at the 1999 annual meeting, *Originalist Justification and Methodology of Unenumerated Rights*.

Dr. Ed Yager will be attending a public administration ethics conference in May at Portland State University. He will deliver a paper on "Privatization and Ethical Enlightenment in Indianapolis."

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Mary Barr Humphrey and Wanda Weidemann presented two workshops at the Kentucky Teaching and Learning Conference (formerly the Kentucky Technology Conference), The workshops were entitled "MicroWorlds for Beginners: An Introduction to Logo for Primary and Intermediate Teachers and Discovering Geometric Relationships with Geometer's Sketchpad."


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...And we wish you Godspeed

Sunday, May 7, Western celebrated its 147th commencement. As we went to press, the total number of graduates was not yet available, but more than 1,100 candidates participated in the ceremony, according to the Office of the University Registrar.

Wendell Berry, Kentucky author and farmer, received an honorary doctorate during the ceremony. He is the sixth person to be given the honor by Western. Berry is a Henry County native and urges a return to strong community bonds.

In honor of those who earned their degrees this year, and those who love and support them, On-Campus presents some notable quotations from commencement speeches throughout the years.

I do not grant you this diploma because of its intrinsic value, for it is worth but little measured by dollars and cents. But what it represents to you in moral and intellectual culture is a priceless treasure that cannot be measured by a gold or silver standard.

...The school makes no attempt to toy with formalities, ceremonies, or rules... It has and it will continue to advise against the organization of football teams and recommends instead frequent nature excursions into the hills, woods, and on the rivers, that the soul may commune with God through nature.

The school does not organize or permit the organization of any club, sect or party that would divide the students into separate grades of society.

You cannot forget your duty for a moment, because there might come a time when that weak spot in you should affect you in the midst of a great engagement, and then the whole history of the world might be changed by what you did not do or did wrong.

President Woodrow Wilson,
United States Naval Academy, 1916.

You are at last officially full-grown men and women—what you were biologically by age 15 or so. I am sorry as I can be that it took so long and cost so much for you to at last receive licenses as grown-ups.

Kurt Vonnegut, Rice University,
May 9, 1998.

Never give in, never give in, never, never, never, never—in nothing, great or small, large or petty—never give in except to convictions of honor and good sense.

Winston Churchill, Harrow School,
October 29, 1941.

First and foremost, it is important that at work we like what we do or that we do what we like. While the enjoyment of work is important in itself, we are more likely to excel if we do what we like.

Raj Aggarwal, Mellen Chair and Professor of Finance,
John Carroll University,
September 1, 1995.

Think about it. If more people were to learn to say may be you're right the marriage counselors would be out of business and, with a little luck, the gun shops.

Martha Saunders
Assistant Professor of Public Relations,
University of West Florida,

People will frighten you about a graduation... because they use words you don't hear often... And we wish you Godspeed. It is a warning, Godspeed. It means you are no longer welcome here at these prices.

Bill Cosby
Southern Methodist University, 1995.
Western Kentucky University owns and operates a Lucent G2.2 PBX (Private Branch Exchange). The term PBX is synonymous with private telephone system. Currently, Western's telephone system supports more than 5000 active lines. This system is administered by the Telecommunications Department located in Van Meter Hall, rooms 114-116.

All telephone systems provide features. Features are commonly defined as ‘System Features’ or ‘Set Features.’ System features are programmed at the system level and set features are associated with a specific ‘class of service’ for individual telephones. The following list describes the most commonly used features on Western’s telephones and instructions for using them:

**SET FEATURES ON YOUR TELEPHONE**

Note: From here on, the phrase “pick up the phone” in feature instructions means “pick up the phone and wait for a dial tone”.

**1 - Priority Calling**

When used, this feature causes your call to ring in three short bursts instead of the normal ring. By using this feature, you can notify the party you’re calling that your call is urgent.

To use this feature, dial *1 before dialing the phone number.

This feature works one phone call at a time, which means you have to press *1 before every call you want to ring in three short bursts.

**2 - Call Forward (All Calls)**

This feature temporarily sends all your calls to another number.

To use this feature, pick up the phone and press *2. Wait for a dial tone, and dial the number to where you want your calls forwarded. After you enter the number, you’ll hear a confirmation tone (three short beeps). After you hear the confirmation tone, you can hang up the phone.

To undo this feature, pick up the phone and press #2. After you hear the confirmation tone, you can hang up the phone.

**3 - Call Forward (Busy/No Answer)**

This feature works like *2; it sends all your calls to another number when your phone is busy or is not answered. It is activated and cancelled exactly as *2, except to activate THIS feature you press *3 and to deactivate you press #3.

Note: The *2 and *3 features both override assigned cover groups.

**4 - Music On Hold**

This feature lets you play music for anyone you have on hold (the other party must be on hold with the "Flash" button or the switchhook for this feature to work). To put someone on hold without a “Hold” or “Flash” button, simply press the switchhook all the way down and quickly release; do not hang up the receiver (the switchhook refers to the button(s) that the handset presses down when the phone is hung up). To take someone off hold, just press down the switchhook and release.

To play music for someone once you have someone on hold, press *4.
**#4 – Last Number Dialed**

This feature is essentially a redial feature.
To call the last number you dialed, pick up the phone and press #4

**#5 – Automatic Callback**

When you’re dialing an on-campus number that’s busy, you can use Automatic Callback rather than continuously redialing the number. When activated, this feature will give your phone a three-burst ring when the party you are trying to call is no longer busy (and your line is not busy). When you pick up your phone, it will automatically call whomever it is you were trying to call.

To activate Automatic Callback, pick up the phone and press *5. Wait for a dial tone, and dial the busy number. After you hear a confirmation tone, you can hang up.

To cancel this feature (if their phone is still busy but you no longer need to call them), pick up the phone and press #5. After you hear the confirmation tone, you may hang up.

**#6 – Send All Calls**

This feature sends all of your calls straight to your voice mail. If you don’t have voice mail, this feature will not work.

To activate this feature, pick up the phone and press *6. Wait for the confirmation tone and hang up.

To cancel this feature, pick up the phone and press #6. After you hear the confirmation tone, hang up.

**#7 – Call Pick Up**

This feature lets you pick up a ringing phone (other than your own phone) within your Call Pick-up Group.

To pick up the other call, pick up your phone and press *7. If you are already on the phone and you wish to pick up another call, put the other party on hold and press *7.

---

**SYSTEM FEATURES**

The following features are options that the Telecommunications Department can assign to your phones. To find out more about these features, call us at 6370.

**Call Pick-up Groups (CPGs)**

Lines that are in a CPG can use the *7 feature to pick up a call coming in on any of the phones in that CPG. For instance, if the numbers 2222 and 3333 are in a CPG, a call coming in on 3333 can be picked up from 2222 by using *7.

**Cover Groups**

This kind of group can have up to three different phones in it. This is how a cover group works: When an extension is dialed and it is busy or rings 2-6 times (depending on setting), the call will go to the first cover point; if that phone is busy or is not answered in 2-6 rings (again, depending on setting), the call will go to the next cover point, and so on. The cover group is linear, that is, if the last point in the cover group is busy or has no answer, the call will go nowhere else.

**Hunting**

Hunting works in a way similar to the cover groups. Hunting allows a call to be sent to another phone if the first phone is busy only. For example: Let’s say that x1111 hunts to 2222, 2222 hunts to 3333, and 3333 hunts to 4444. If a person calls 1111 and it’s busy, it will then go to 2222. If 2222 is busy, then the call goes to 3333. If that phone is busy, it will then go to 4444. Whether 4444 is busy or not, the call will go nowhere else. Unlike cover groups, however, hunting can be linear or circular. This means that it would be possible to have 4444 hunt back to any one of the previous numbers in the hunting route.

Using telephone system and set features appropriately will help departments become more effective in the day-to-day business of the University.

Susan Sanborn is Director of Telecommunications, and Stephen Bradley Earle is a senior in engineering technology.
Read All About It
COLLEGE HEIGHTS HERALD STAFF TAKE NATIONAL AWARDS

Gold Crown and Pacemaker

WKU’s student newspaper, the College Heights Herald has won the country’s two major awards for the second consecutive year.

The Herald won the Columbia Scholastic Press Association’s coveted Gold Crown Award and the national Pacemaker Award from Associated Collegiate Press and the Newspaper Association of America Foundation.

Only three Gold Crowns were awarded this year. The other winners from the 361 entrants were the Indiana Daily Student at Indiana University and The Daily News at Ball State University.

Silver Crowns, the runners-up award, were presented to newspapers from Kansas State University, the University of Oregon, Southern Methodist University, Northwest Missouri State University and Michigan State University.

The Herald’s winning entry represented papers published during the fall of 1998 under the editorship of Jason Hall, now a reporter at the Sarasota Herald Tribune.

Heather Rogers, who works at Cohn & Wolfe Healthcare in New York City, was advertising manager. The Herald staff won first place in overall design of a tabloid newspaper. Dan Hieb, a designer at the Messenger-Inquirer in Owensboro, was the managing editor in charge of design.

The Kentucky Intercollegiate Press Association

The Herald won nine first-place awards and nine seconds in this spring’s annual newspaper contest sponsored by the Kentucky Intercollegiate Press Association.

A Herald staffer also won the deadline editing competition during the spring convention at Western.

Jerry Brewer, a senior from Paducah and co-editor of the Herald, was Western’s only double first-place winner. He won first in sports feature story and sports column and also finished third in sports news. Co-editor Shannon Back, a Mount Sterling senior, placed first in the personality profile category.

Scott Sisco, a Kevil senior, won the deadline editing competition.
BIVIN FORENSIC SOCIETY CONQUERS THE WORLD AGAIN

The William E. Bivin Forensic Society this spring successfully defended its International Forensic Association title in Paris, France and three Western students also won world championships in individual events.

Western won the overall sweepstakes by 27 points over the second-place team.

The international competition attracted schools from the United States and Europe. To advance into the semifinals, competitors needed perfect scores in the preliminaries.

Western's individual world champions are:

- **Kerri Richardson**, a Shelbyville senior, Lincoln Douglas Debate. Richardson also placed sixth in after-dinner speaking.
- **Shadana Dickerson**, an Adairville sophomore, poetry.
- **Jace Lux**, a senior from Evansville, Ind., persuasive speaking and a semifinalist in prose.
- **Keith Blaser**, a junior from Evansville, Ind., second in duo interpretation.
- **Andrew Chamberlain**, a junior from Evansville, Ind., third in after-dinner speaking and semifinalist in impromptu speaking.
- **Alisa Ponananta**, a Florence sophomore, third in persuasive speaking.

Over the past decade, Western's forensics program has developed into a state and national power in debate and individual speaking events.

STUDYING PAYS

More than 1,700 students at Western Kentucky University have received $813,000 in a new scholarship program that rewards high school academic achievement.

The Kentucky Educational Excellence Scholarship program has benefited more than 15,000 students statewide, including about 9,100 at four-year public universities. Western ranks second in the number of recipients and in the amount of money awarded.

"The purpose of this scholarship as defined by legislature was to provide the dollars to keep Kentucky students in Kentucky universities," said Luther Hughes, associate vice president of Academic Affairs for Enrollment Management. "It appears that goal is being reached."

The KEES provides money for Kentucky students to attend Kentucky colleges or universities based on their high school grade-point average and ACT scores. The program, which took effect for high school students in the fall of 1998, awarded its first scholarships in the fall 1999 semester.

The scholarship is available to all high school students in Kentucky who want to continue their postsecondary education in Kentucky. Dr. Hughes called KEES "a wonderful opportunity and the best one I've ever known in Kentucky for strongly encouraging all students to go to college."

This year, Western awarded $44 million in financial aid through scholarships, grants and work-study. The KEES scholarship, administered by the Kentucky Higher Education Assistance Authority, is a substantial addition to other aid awarded at Western.

"The amount students receive is totally dependent on their performance in high school," Dr. Hughes said.

Awardees must have 2.5 GPA or better for the scholarship and score a 15 or better on the ACT for a bonus award. A student with a 3.0 GPA would earn a $250 scholarship for each year of postsecondary study. A 4.0 GPA doubles that amount to $500. A 15 ACT score would add $36, a 21 ACT $250 and a 28 or above $500.

That means a 1998-99 high school freshman could receive up to $2,500 a year for each year of college ($10,000 total) by maintaining a 4.0 GPA and scoring 28 or above on the ACT.

A student who has a 3.0 GPA and a 21 ACT score would receive $1,250 a year through the KEES scholarship, and the financial incentive should motivate all high school students to do well academically. Once students begin their postsecondary education, they must maintain a 2.5 GPA to keep the maximum award.

Western's Office of Student Financial Aid has been working to promote the KEES program by offering workshops for high school counselors and teachers. Students or parents interested in learning more about the KEES program can contact Western's financial aid office at (270) 745-2755.
WORTH A THOUSAND WORDS

Western Kentucky University’s award-winning photo-journalism program added more honors in the 57th Pictures of the Year competition sponsored by the National Press Photographers Association and the University of Missouri School of Journalism.

PICTURES OF THE YEAR COMPETITION

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<th>Division</th>
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<th>Award of Excellence</th>
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<td>Newspaper Division</td>
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<td>Issue Reporting Picture Story</td>
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<td>Newspaper Editing Division</td>
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<td>Special Section</td>
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<td>Single Page News Story</td>
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<td>Multiple-Page Feature Story</td>
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<td>Special Section</td>
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<td>New Media</td>
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"Barrio Triste" — Second Place Magazine Issue Reporting

Genifer Arteago Gil has been addicted to glue since birth. She cannot go anywhere without her bottle. When she turned 15, a neighborhood father figure who had also been a childhood addict and has since become clean, threw Genifer a party for her Quincinera. He paid for the party, her dress, and an identical red dress for her bottle of glue. In this photo she has been placed in the chair of honor, surrounded by her neighbors, but is still sniffing her glue. She lives in Barrio Triste (Sad Neighborhood), in the inner city of Medellin, Colombia.

Susie Post, professional-in-residence at WKU, received four awards in the contest’s magazine division for her photography in National Geographic.

Post won first place in pictorial for “The Shoals” and an award of excellence in pictorial for “Lago de Atitlan.” Post received second place in issues reporting for “Barrio Triste” and an award of excellence in feature picture for “La Boca.”

Jonathan Kirshner, a WKU senior from Santa Cruz, Calif., received an award of excellence in the newspaper division’s portrait/personality category.

"La Boca" — Award of Excellence in Magazine Feature

Tango is almost an Argentine trademark. In La Boca, a neighborhood in Buenos Aires, Saturday mornings are the time for Leonardo Fandango and Nélida Astorga to tango while their friends Ernesto Anastasia (left) and Santos Tula provide the music. They have been playing and dancing for ten years together.

11 STRAIGHT HEARST VICTORIES

WKU photojournalists have won the photojournalism competition of the William Randolph Hearst Foundation’s Journalism Awards Program for the 11th straight year, bringing home a championship trophy and a $10,000 prize.

Chris Hamilton, a December 1999 graduate from Leawood, Kan., won the picture story/series contest and a $2,000 award. Jonathan Kirshner, a senior from Santa Cruz, Calif., placed second and received $1,500. Western’s School of Journalism and Broadcasting receives matching amounts.

The Hearst competition is considered the college equivalent of the Pulitzer Prize.

Matt Batcheldor, a senior from Bardstown, is a finalist in the writing competition. Aimee Reed, a senior from Columbia, and Julie Goodwin, a junior from Louisville, are semifinalists in the broadcasting competition.
TV'S TOPS, TOO

Western Kentucky University's student television newscast has won first place in the Society of Professional Journalists' regional competition.

WKU NewsChannel 12 took top honors in the non-daily television category in the Region 5 contest that includes Kentucky, Indiana and Illinois schools. Western broadcasters collected eight other awards and finished second overall behind Southern Illinois University-Carbondale.

Individual award winners were:

Kathryn Leech, a Louisville senior, first place, television in-depth story; second place, television feature.

Robert Crivello, a senior from Brown Deer, Wis., second place, television general news reporting.

Chris Freeman, a junior from Newburgh, Ind., second place, television sports reporting.

Kerri Richardson, a senior from Shelbyville, second place, television feature photography.

Lisa Hughes, a sophomore from Scottsville, second place, radio feature reporting.

Heath Myrick, a senior from Carthage, N.C., third place, television feature.

Wesley Shirley, a senior from Hodgenville, third place, television in-depth.

AN AFFORDABLE ALTERNATIVE

A new tuition program has made Western Kentucky University an affordable alternative for students in 16 counties in Tennessee and 11 counties in Indiana.

The Tuition Incentive Program, which takes effect in the fall, will allow qualified students in specific Tennessee and Indiana counties to attend Western at the Kentucky tuition rate plus $300 per semester. That is a $2,000 reduction in tuition and fees, said Dr. Luther Hughes, Associate Vice President for Academic Affairs and Enrollment Management.

The program is open to Tennessee students from Clay, Cheatham, Davidson, Dickson, Houston, Humphreys, Jackson, Maury, Montgomery, Rutherford, Shelby, Smith, Stewart, Trousdale, Williamson and Wilson counties and Indiana students from Clark, Crawford, Floyd, Gibson, Harrison, Perry, Posey, Scott, Spencer, Vanderburgh and Warrick counties.

Western also is offering Tuition Incentive Program Scholarships to superior students in those counties. Incoming freshmen who have at least a 3.3 grade-point average and a 23 ACT score or a 1,050 SAT would receive a $300 scholarship and would pay in-state tuition.

WOMEN'S SWIM TEAM HAS 8TH BEST GPA IN THE NATION

Not only has WKU's women's swim team finished their third season of competition with a perfect 13-0 record (their first), but they have the eighth best women's swim team grade point average in the nation.

The College Swimming Coaches Association of America named the Lady Toppers swim team Academic All America for the fall 1999 semester. The team grade point average had to be at least 2.8 on a 4.0 scale.

Western's women had a 3.317 GPA as a team, coming in eighth out of 181 honorees including Purdue (3.31), University of Tennessee (3.3), Brown University (3.26), Dartmouth College (3.26), University of Louisville (3.242), and University of California at Berkeley (3.16).

Western was one of only two Sun Belt schools to receive the honor. Denver was fifth on the list with a 3.369 GPA.

"We're really pleased with the way our women's program is going, both in the pool and in the classroom," coach Bill Powell said. "It was great to finish the season undefeated and then to knock out some of the best teams on the academic side."
JOURNALISM WINS HEARST OVERALL INTERCOLLEGIATE TITLE

For the first time, Western Kentucky University’s School of Journalism and Broadcasting has won the overall intercollegiate title in the William Randolph Hearst Foundation’s Journalism Awards Program.

Western finished with 673 points in the 40th annual competition that includes print journalism, photojournalism and broadcasting. The University of Florida was second with 666 points and the University of Missouri was third with 650.

“This is a credit to our teachers and our students,” said Jo-Ann Albers, director of the School of Journalism and Broadcasting. “We’ve always known they’re Number One...our students are super and this proves it.”

President Gary Ransdell agreed that the program’s success is a result of talented faculty and students.

“Western’s emerging image is further shaped by such national recognition,” he said.

Western’s photojournalism program recently won its 11th consecutive Hearst competition, sometimes called the college equivalent of the Pulitzer Prize. In six writing competitions, Western finished fourth overall. Western broadcasting students, in their first Hearst competitions, finished fourth overall.

Albers and seniors Matt Batchelor of Bardstown and Aimee Reed of Columbia will travel to San Francisco on May 19 for Hearst finals and awards presentation. Batchelor is a finalist for national writing honors, while Reed is a finalist for national radio broadcasting honors.

Two photojournalism students, Chris Hamilton, a December 1999 graduate from Leawood, Kan., and Jonathan Kirshner, a senior from Santa Cruz, Calif., are among 12 national semifinalists. The six finalists will be selected in mid-May.

Western finished third overall last year in the Hearst competition and has finished fourth several times, but benefited by the addition of broadcasting entries this year, Albers said.

Last year Western finished behind Florida and Missouri, which had broadcasting entries. "I think it has been a great first year of competing in the national Hearst competition," said Terry Likes, assistant professor of broadcasting. Reed and Julie Goodwin were semifinalists in radio competition.

T.S. ELIOT SCHOLAR WINS WARREN-BROOKS AWARD

An English professor at Emory University in Atlanta has been named the 1999 recipient of the Robert Penn Warren-Cleanth Brooks Award, presented by the Center for Robert Penn Warren Studies at Western Kentucky University.

Ronald Schuchard, the Goodrich C. White Professor of English at Emory, received the honor for Eliot’s Dark Angel: Intersections of Life and Art, published by Oxford University Press.

The award recognizes Schuchard’s close study of text, his ability to make connections across the entire T.S. Eliot canon, and his astute tracing of various influences (including Eliot’s neglected interest in popular culture) on the poet’s intellectual, emotional and spiritual development, said Mary Ellen Miller, professor of English at Western and coordinator of the Robert Penn Warren Center.

Schuchard’s exploration of the way these influences are reflected in Eliot’s work fully lives up to the promise of his subtitle, Miller said, adding the book also breaks ground in treating important unpublished material and in exposing the need for more reliable texts of Eliot’s criticism.

The Warren-Brooks award was established six years ago by the Advisory Group of the Center for Robert Penn Warren Studies at Western. It is presented annually for an outstanding work of literary criticism that exemplifies the spirit, scope and integrity of the innovative critical studies produced by Warren and his frequent collaborator Cleanth Brooks.

This year’s award, consisting of a $1,000 check and certificate of recognition, was presented at the 12th annual Robert Penn Warren Symposium in April at WKU. Previous winners include John Hollander, Denis Donoghue, Mark Royden Winchell and Lewis P. Simpson.
CONNECTING WITH THE COMMUNITY

Volunteerism isn't new to Western, but a Student Volunteer Bureau is.

To enhance the University's leadership and volunteer opportunities, the Student Activities office has implemented the Student Volunteer Bureau to connect campus groups with community agencies.

The program "has worked very successfully," said Heather Strode, Leadership and Volunteerism coordinator.

Many campus groups, including Greek organizations, academic departments, service organizations and honor societies, have been involved in volunteer activities with 3,500 to 4,000 students participating, she said. The Student Volunteer Bureau gives organizations a central contact point on campus, Strode said.

Student Volunteer Bureau has already provided support for more than 20 community agencies and donated more than 1,300 hours of service. Before the holidays last year, 45 WKU students participated in a foster care program's Christmas party.

"Through volunteering, students get involved in the community," Strode said. The Student Volunteer Bureau isn't limited to groups or organizations. Individuals who want to volunteer are encouraged to participate, she said. In January and February, 76 students seeking volunteer opportunities contacted the bureau's office in Downing University Center.

Western students volunteer for nonprofit organizations, school systems, small business, community events and others.

The Student Volunteer Bureau also provides students and faculty with opportunities for service learning, which combines volunteerism with academic curriculum. For example, 23 public health students volunteered 16 hours each at a local agency and wrote papers on their experiences.

Service learning isn't a new concept for Western students, Strode said. Many of the volunteers have been freshmen who've been participating in volunteer work or service learning projects since elementary school, she said.
Don't Argue with Western

BY CARLA JO SLAVEY

How many people can honestly say they are good at public speaking? How many can stand in front of a crowd of strangers in an unfamiliar environment and deliver a dazzling performance? What if it were a persuasive speech? What if there were only a few minutes to prepare a speech on a certain topic? What if, on top of all that, there was the added pressure of being the best in the world, with competitors watching every detail, to learn how to make themselves better, or to look for a sign of weakness?

Meet Western's forensics team. The William E. Bivin Forensic Society won the International Forensics Association title in Paris, France, in March for the second straight year. If that weren't enough, a week later they went to Lubbock, Texas, to win the Delta Sigma Rho National Championship, again. That's on top of being state champions for 13 straight years.

This string of successes has made the forensic team one of the most successful and most recognized teams, on campus and throughout the nation. What makes Western's forensics team so successful? We wanted to know their secret, so we asked them.

Success comes from the students who work hard, practice, and commit themselves to the team, said Forensics Director Judy Woodring. "You have to get kids who are committed to the team," she said. The students must have a "passion for forensics."

Just like sports teams in the off-season, "you're still training," she said. "You have to be dedicated."

Success also comes from the support of Western's administration. Woodring said that support was essential to the team. "We would not be anywhere if it weren't for (Provost) Barbara Burch," she said. Dr. Burch was responsible for finding funding for the team.

The team's success has brought recognition to the university. "Students are starting to come to Western just to be on the team," Woodring said.

The success of the forensics team also gives the members skills to use in other areas of their lives, Woodring said. Forensics training gave her the ability to organize and prioritize, she said.

It is hard to believe that with all this success, the forensics team was nonexistent throughout most of the 1980s. The program was cut in the early 80s because of the lack of financial support. The program was revived in 1988 and named the William E. Bivin Forensic Society after the late University Attorney.

Bivin himself was a member of Western's debate team. He served as President of the Congress Debating Club and won the Ogden Oratorical Speech contest before graduating from Western in 1953.

Even after the program returned in 1988, financial difficulties held the team back. There was a time when the team could only compete locally because the money to go to distant competitions wasn't there, Woodring said.

Now, not only is the team travelling around the world, it's one of the best in the world. Western is beating teams that are larger and have more money invested in their programs.

The students compete in events such as after dinner speaking, Lincoln Douglas Debate, impromptu speaking and poetry interpretation.

Clearly, the forensic team is living up to its motto: Don't argue with Western.

PHOTO BY SHERYL A. HAGAN

The William E. Bivin Forensic Society world champions
May

1–5
Final Examinations

6
Nurses Pinning Ceremony
Van Meter Hall Auditorium
Alison Wells, (270) 793-0039

6–7
KQHA Mini-Circuit
L.D. Brown Agricultural Exposition Center,
(270) 843-3542

7–10
RV Conference Life on Wheels
Institute for Economic Development South Campus
Brenda Dickson,
(270) 745-1900

7
WKU Commencement
1:30 p.m.
L.T. Smith Stadium
Freida Eggleton, (270) 745-3351

8
May Term Classes Begin
Sharon Drysen,
(270) 745-4242

12–13
College Heights Foundation Golf Classic
7 p.m. Dinner–Friday Night, 7 a.m. Golf Classic–Saturday
Bowling Green Country Club
Carol Barksdale, (270) 745-5316

13
West Ky. Flat Shod Horse Sale
L.D. Brown Agricultural Exposition Center, (270) 843-3542

June

3–4
Foundation Quarter Horse Show
L.D. Brown Agricultural Exposition Center,
(270) 843-3542

18
Hot Topics in Sponsored Programs Workshop
10 a.m.–2 p.m.
Cravens Library RM 216
Office of Sponsored Programs,
(270) 745-4652

19
OAR Beginning Freshmen
Greg Purpus, (270) 745-4242

20, 22–29
SCATS
8:30 a.m.–4:15 p.m.
Garrett Conference Center
Rooms 100, 101, 201, 204, 205
Julia Roberts, (270) 745-6323

21
OAR Beginning Freshmen
Greg Purpus, (270) 745-4242

22
Travel
7–9 p.m.
South Campus
University Libraries,
(270) 745-6115

25
West Ky Horse Sale
L.D. Brown Agricultural Exposition Center,
(270) 843-3542

25–30
AP Institute
Julia Roberts, (270) 745-6323

28
Advanced Placement Dinner for Teachers
6 p.m.
Garrett Ballroom
Julia Roberts, (270) 745-6323

29
SCAT Dinner/Dance
6–11 p.m.
Garrett Ballroom
Julia Roberts, (270) 745-6323

30
OAR Transfers
Greg Purpus, (270) 745-4242

30
1st Summer Term Final Examinations

The calendar is provided by the Office of Special Events in the Division of Public Affairs. Additions or corrections to the calendar can be made by contacting Special Events at (502) 745-2497.