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A Life or Death Simulation

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Email comments to the editor at: kimberly.parsley@wku.edu
A Life or Death Simulation
by Tommy Newton

A new face at Bowling Green Community College classrooms this fall is enhancing the nursing program’s real-world training.

He’s not a new administrator, faculty member or student. He’s SimMan, a computerized patient simulator that gives students a realistic learning experience - whether it’s the correct way to check a pulse or how to handle a heart attack or stroke.

“SimMan will provide many simulated learning opportunities that we previously could not reproduce within the clinical setting,” said Martha Houchin, chair of the Health Sciences Division and director of the Associate Degree of Nursing program at the Community College. “Opportunities that possibly one student might have been exposed to will be available for all students.”

Western Kentucky University’s Bowling Green Community College received Carl D. Perkins Vocational and Technical Education Title I grants to purchase SimMan and equipment from Laerdal, a leading supplier of emergency medicine products.

Bowling Green Community College is one of three schools in the state utilizing SimMan. The others are the University of Kentucky and the Glasgow Regional Center. U.S. armed forces used more than 100 patient simulators to train medics for war.

“I think the most exciting educational tool that SimMan provides is the opportunity to put the student in a position where they have to make a thorough assessment of the patient situation based on real-time parameters programmed into SimMan, and then based upon this assessment the student will have to use critical thinking skills to formulate a plan of care for SimMan,” Houchin said.

SimMan provides valuable training for about 190 nursing students at the community college, nursing instructor Nancy English said.

“Students are our number one priority and they ought to have cutting-edge technology,” English said. “Our goal is to produce top-of-the-line nurses so we must provide them with top-of-the-line training. I want our students to be able to go straight into a hospital position with a better feel for what’s going on.”
The training opportunities don’t stop at BGCC’s nursing courses, English said. SimMan (he’ll be named after a contest this fall) has the potential to serve area hospitals, health professionals, emergency personnel or disaster agencies. “I can foresee a world of uses for it,” she said.

Other scenarios that can be programmed into SimMan include advanced life support, biohazard poisoning and smallpox infection. In each scenario, SimMan responds to the treatment provided by students. SimMan’s equipment includes several injured or diseased body parts that can be changed depending on the scenario. In the most extreme circumstances, SimMan’s internal organs could begin to shut down and he could die.

“With this tool, we are able to present the abnormal and take students through the scenarios of what you’re supposed to do with those abnormal situations,” English said.

SimMan is housed in a nursing classroom at WKU’s South Campus. Ward Moran, microcomputing consultant, provided his technical expertise in setting up SimMan and his equipment.

SimMan’s computer equipment prints out scenario logs to track assessments and treatment, while video equipment allows students to review their assessments.

“You get to work on him like a live patient. This will help more for when we get into the workplace,” said Amy Kiefer, of LaFayette, Tenn., as she checks SimMan’s pulse during a nursing class.

“We’re training our students for the profession of nursing,” English said. “Nurses are using more and more technology in their jobs.”

Email comments to the editor at: kimberly.parsley@wku.edu
Susan Jones, associate professor in Western Kentucky University's Department of Nursing, is from a small town in Macon County, Tennessee. From her years as a critical care nurse, she remembers that many of the injuries she helped treat were farm related. As a member of Western Kentucky University's nursing faculty, Jones has devoted countless hours to providing health and safety information to rural communities like the one she grew up in.

"I feel like that's where I belong, serving these people," Jones said. "My best days are out in the community."

In recognition of her hard work, Jones received the University Award for Excellence in Public Service.

Jones was active in the formation of the Kentucky Partnership for Farm Family Health and Safety, a non-profit organization that works to improve the health of rural farming communities by offering education and training on health and safety topics. "The agricultural occupation vacillates with mining and construction as being one of the most dangerous occupations," Jones said.

The Kentucky Partnership for Farm Family Health and Safety, funded by a grant from the Kellogg Foundation, initially focused on outreach to farm family women. "We used our resources to help them carry on programs within their communities," Jones said.

The Partnership has expanded to include activities and programs aimed at various members of a farming community. The farm rescue training program trains fire, rescue and emergency medical personnel on how to rescue people from tractor turnover and other farming accidents. Each year in June, the Partnership holds the Progressive Farmer Safety Day Camp to teach farm safety to children six to 13 years of age. The topics covered at past camps include bicycle safety, tractor safety, animal safety, electrical safety and skincare safety. Jones said that a man recently told her that his daughter won't let him mow the yard anymore without wearing earplugs because of what she had learned at the day camp. "We try to reach the parents through the children," Jones said.

She said that encouraging family discussions about health and safety issues is an important goal of the camps.

Jones was involved in a project through the Partnership to identify and visit country stores in rural communities in Warren County to meet farmers and discuss any health needs or concerns they had. Jones returned to the stores, accompanied by students from her nursing classes, to provide information about many health issues and
Jones's desire to ensure that residents of rural communities have access to proper health information has even led her to begin a health education program in a Mennonite community in Allen County.

Lucy Juett, director of the South Central Area Health Education Center, wrote in a letter of recommendation, "Ms. Jones' long standing involvement with an Old Order Mennonite community in Allen County led to the development of a project to teach the importance of cross cultural communication in health care. This interdisciplinary project includes nursing students from WKU and family practice residents from U of L. One day each month this team visits the Mennonite community to provide an educational program and health screenings and services. The students learn the relationship between one's culture and health care beliefs and practices. They also learn the importance of public service from this experience."

Jones said that it is important to teach healthcare providers, be they physicians or nurses, to deliver care within the context of the patient's culture. She said that working with the Mennonite community has helped to emphasize the need for cultural sensitivity to her students.

"I have tremendous respect and admiration for Susan Jones. She exemplifies the true meaning of public service by giving of her time, expertise, and personal resources to promote the integration of academic excellence and community service. She is a wonderful role model for her students and colleagues and she is the best ambassador for WKU and the College of Health and Human Services," Juett said.
More Than Dollars
by Bob Edwards

Western Kentucky University recently unveiled the total dollars contributed through its five-year capital campaign, Investing in the Spirit. Over $100 million was raised. It was $102,164,282 to be exact. A very impressive feat for an institution that had previously never held a fund raising campaign in its nearly 100-year history.

For many of us, it is difficult to comprehend exactly just how much money that is. Fortunately, the real story is not how much money was raised, but rather its significance.

“The Investing in the Spirit Campaign has been about more than just dollars raised,” Western President Gary Ransdell said. “Thanks to the hard work of our volunteers, the campaign will have a lasting legacy on our campus.”

The legacy of this milestone event will be felt in the people, places, and programs of Western for years to come.

The people most directly impacted by the campaign are the students who are the benefactors of over $30 million donated for 81 new scholarship endowments, as well as fellowships and awards. This tremendous amount of financial aid means more students are now apt to enroll at Western who otherwise might not have been financially able. It also means Western can offer academic scholarships to strong or gifted students across the world.

Faculty will also prosper from the over $20 million donated for endowed positions, and endowments and funds for visiting scholars and faculty. The campaign is responsible for funding 27 new endowed professorships in a number of important academic disciplines, ranging from music, to business, to engineering. This allows Western to recruit and retain faculty of the highest quality.

The success of the campaign also means over $25 million will be invested in various academic programs, Gifted Studies, University Libraries, the Kentucky Museum, public broadcasting, Student Life, cultural enhancement programs, enhanced instructional technology and athletics.

Dr. Ransdell said he is pleased by the strides Western has made. “In 1998, a journey started to transform Western through the Investing in the Spirit Campaign to be the best comprehensive public institution in Kentucky and among the best in the nation.” Thousands of individuals responded generously. Each gift has strengthened the
Western experience and Western's pursuit of national prominence. Each donor has made a lasting impact on current and future generations of Western students.

To each person who has invested in the spirit and helped create the legacy, we say thank you.

*Bob Edwards is the assistant vice president of University Relations.*

Email comments to the editor at: kimberly.parsley@wku.edu
At Home on the Hill
by Pat Jordan

When I was in the second grade, my father took a job working for Boeing. He was one of the people who installed the "secret" missile sites that were all over the Western part of the U.S. Over the course of several years, we traveled a great deal, but always returned home to Kentucky.

As the wife of a soldier, I continued to travel. My husband, Lee and I moved to Bowling Green in 1991. In 1997 we both broke personal records. Six years was the longest either of us had lived anywhere in our lives and so Bowling Green is our home.

Our family is blended and we have two sons and two daughters. Our children range in age from 31-24. Our daughters have blessed us with grandsons who have us completely wrapped around their fingers! Our oldest grandson is eight and attends school in Bowling Green. His mom is a recent graduate of WKU's Interior Design Program. Our youngest grandson is six and just started first grade in Chattanooga, Tenn. His mom graduated from WKU’s Respiratory Therapy Program and works in the Neonatal Intensive Care Unit at a Chattanooga hospital. Our youngest son just completed a five-and-a-half-year Marine Corps enlistment and is now back in Bowling Green. I'm proud to say that he served in the Persian Gulf just before he came home. Our oldest son is a computer whiz who lives in Philadelphia, Pa.

I began working at Western the year I moved to Bowling Green and have been here ever since. I started in the College of Education and Behavioral Sciences and worked there for two years. When I moved to the College of Business to serve as the office associate for the Marketing Department, I discovered that I love working with students. The College underwent some changes and I was asked to establish and manage a support office for Gordon Ford College of Business faculty and staff. The Instructional Research and Support Office (IRSO) was very successful and is still in operation today. I found that I missed working with students, so when the position of academic adviser came open, I applied for the job and was selected. I have been in my current position for almost three years and I love what I do.

Since being elected staff regent, I also have been accepted into the WKU-U of L cooperative doctoral program, so I've been extremely busy. My role as staff regent is something I take very seriously, and I want to represent staff interests as well as I can. Howard Bailey served as the prior staff regent and has graciously agreed to help me speed up the learning curve by being available for questions.

I have established a contact list of other staff members who are willing to listen to issues and provide me with feedback so that I can present the staff point of view on the issues that come before the Board of Regents. I appreciate all of those people very much, and welcome anyone else who would like to join. Anyone interested can contact me at pat.jordan@wku.edu, or call me at 55464 and I'll gladly add their name to my list.
Recognizing Staff Excellence

Each year, Western Kentucky University recognizes four staff employees for outstanding and meritorious service. These individuals were presented Staff Excellence Awards on Oct. 2 in recognition of their accomplishments.

Honorees were rewarded for their service above and beyond the call of duty; innovation and creativity; positive contributions to the work environment; safety and heroism; enthusiasm, cooperation, courtesy and fairness to others; and exhibition of the “Western Spirit.”

Administrative Support Category
Marsha Skipworth has been the office associate in the History Department for nine years. Marsha is said to always have a smile on her face and is always willing to help anyone. “Throughout my 27 years at Western, I have never met anyone on campus who comes close to Marsha in handling whatever is asked of someone in such a positive manner. She makes everyone else’s job easier and more enjoyable,” said Dr. Richard Weigel, head of the History Department. Congratulations Marsha!

Building Services Attendant Category
Judy Zibart, building services attendant, has been at Western for over 20 years and has been a member of the Potter Hall staff for the last 10 years. Judy not only goes above and beyond in her job but she also takes time to inquire about families and to ask people how they are doing. “Regardless of the demands and hassles of the day, we know when Judy rolls her cart into the office we will have some help to ‘stop and smell the roses,’” said the staff of the Counseling and Testing Center. Congratulations Judy!

Professional Non-Faculty Category
Marleen Murphy, associate registrar, has been at Western for 29 years. Marleen is involved in OAR, commencement, and the daily operations of the Registrar’s Office. The faculty and staff in the Communication Disorders Department wrote that Marleen is “truly committed to improving the quality of life for those whom she encounters. Everyone needs a ‘Marleen’ in their lives.” Congratulations Marleen!

Skilled/Technical/Paraprofessional Category
Clay Diamond, assistant Lock Shop supervisor, has been at Western for 16 years. Clay inspires his employees with his hard work and determination. Robert Cobb wrote that, “This outstanding employee brings credit to the Lock Shop, our Facilities Management Division, and the University as a whole. Mr. Diamond’s work ethic and positive attitude epitomizes the true meaning of the ‘Western Spirit.’”
Congratulations Clay!

Photos by Sheryl Hagan-Booth

Email comments to the editor at: kimberly.parsley@wku.edu
Problems with the Graduate Record Examination
by Aaron W. Hughey

Many graduate schools, including those at the eight public universities in Kentucky, use the Graduate Record Examination (GRE) as a component in their admission processes.

In recent years, many colleges and universities have begun to re evaluate their academic programs in terms of accountability and overall quality. One of the strategies frequently employed in an effort to enhance perceived "quality" in graduate programs has been to raise admissions standards; i.e., raising the minimum undergraduate GPA and/or the minimum combined GRE score required to gain admission to a particular program.

In the 15 years that I have been teaching graduate level courses, however, I have found very little connection between the quality of work exhibited by students and their GRE scores. Many students with relatively low GRE scores have been quite successful in both the classroom and their subsequent careers, while some with exceptionally high scores have not been able to complete basic course requirements.

Establishing higher cut off scores on the GRE for admission to graduate programs is simply not an effective way to enhance the quality of those programs. Such a practice indicates an alarming lack of understanding of both the nature of quality and the personal characteristics needed for success in graduate level work.

The problem is that the GRE, by many criteria, is simply not a good test. In a number of disciplines, there is a relatively weak statistical correlation between an individual's scores on the GRE and their subsequent ability to complete graduate level work. As Howard Gardner and Robert Sternberg (two leading critics of standardized testing) have argued persuasively, the knowledge and skills needed to be a successful graduate student are not necessarily the same ones measured by the GRE.

Factors such as perseverance and motivation have been conclusively demonstrated to be far more critical determinants of success or failure at graduate level work than abstract reasoning ability. But these considerations are not measured or even taken into account by standardized tests such as the GRE.

Even the Educational Testing Service (ETS), the company that publishes and administers the GRE program, strongly recommends against use of the GRE as a primary criterion in graduate school admissions processes. ETS also discourages combining the three scores (verbal, quantitative and analytical) into a composite score. Finally, ETS recommends that making decisions based on small score differences is entirely inappropriate.

Many institutions, however, do not seem very interested in following these recommendations.
Furthermore, the standard error of measurement (SEM) on each of the two objective sections of the GRE is substantial. Specifically, SEMs can be as high as 60-70 points for some individual scores. This means that if GRE scores are taken at face value, there is a high probability that some students will be denied admission based not on their ability or potential, but simply due to the psychometric deficiencies of the test itself. This reality indicates that GRE scores should always be interpreted in a fairly liberal manner. Unfortunately, the interpretation is often very restrictive.

There is also substantial evidence that the GRE has a detrimental impact on students from diverse ethnic and cultural backgrounds. Minorities (especially African Americans) tend to score below the white means on all three sections of the GRE. ETS reports the current difference at around one standard deviation, which translates to a difference of about a hundred points or so on average.

Moreover, the GRE has virtually no predictive ability when used with nontraditional students it constitutes an especially significant barrier to graduate school admission for older women.

And although the ETS and other psychometricians may argue that technically the GRE is culturally fair and free from gender bias, the bottom line is that when used as a primary admissions criterion for graduate admissions, the net result is that it disproportionately affects minorities and women.

So should we do away with the GRE?

No. But the GRE should be utilized for the purpose it was originally intended; i.e., as one of many factors in a larger decision making process. As currently employed by many schools, the GRE simply carries too much weight in graduate admissions decisions.

Other avenues for securing admissions to graduate programs could include:

a. Providing initial admission on a probationary basis. Under this option, graduate coursework designated by the department would be taken during the student's first semester of enrollment. At the end of the term, the department would evaluate the student's performance and make a decision regarding their admission to the requested program. It could also be designated that one or more of these courses must be taken outside the department so a potentially more objective determination of the student's potential for success can be made.

b. Responding to two essay questions developed specifically for the particular student. These questions should be constructed so as to reveal not only basic understanding of written communication, but also the ability to analyze issues drawing from a personal knowledge base and then synthesize an appropriate response key skills in graduate level work.

Such modifications would allow for greater responsiveness to the individual needs of students who can do the work but have not had a positive experience with the GRE. It is well documented that students are not good at objective tests even though they may actually possess superior intellectual skills. These criteria take this reality into account while still requiring a student to demonstrate an acceptable level of academic potential.

The truth is that the GRE tends to restrict access from individuals who are capable of doing graduate level work, completing their degree programs, and then going on to make significant contributions to both their profession and to society in general.

As a profession and a society, we have simply got to get away from our over reliance on standardized
tests such as the GRE.

*Dr. Aaron Hughey is a professor and interim department head of Counseling and Student Affairs.*
Professional Activities

Submissions for entry in the Professional Activities section should be sent to Rebecca Miles, rebecca.miles@wku.edu. All submissions must be sent electronically. Please include name, department, title, current position, name of presented or published work and name of publication or conference. No acronyms or abbreviations please.

Allied Health

Dr. Douglas Schutte has developed and presented continuing education courses this past summer for registered dental hygienists to be certified in the administration of local anesthesia and nitrous oxide sedation. Also, he and six dental hygiene students participated in Healthy Smiles 2010/Sealants for Kentucky's Children at the State Fair in August. In partnership with the Kentucky Dental Association, Kentucky Dental Hygienists' Association, and dental schools and dental hygiene programs, volunteers screened and placed sealants on children's teeth via the WKU Health and Wellness Mobile Unit.

Counseling and Student Affairs


Music

Mark Berry, Dr. John Cipolla, John Martin, Dr. Wayne Pope and Dr. Marshall Scott have formed a Faculty Jazz Quintet.

Dr. Heidi Pintner gave a recital for flute and piano with Dr. Robert Bowman (California State University, Chico) in Incline Village, Nev., in July. The duo will play a recital at Western in October. Pintner also reviewed a first edition music theory book for Wadsworth/Schirmer Publishing entitled Mastering Music Fundamentals. In June, she participated in a recording session in Nashville, Tenn., for a compact disc of sacred music that will be released later this year. In August, she performed as principal flutist in the Owensboro Symphony.

Dr. Wayne Pope was appointed Governor of Phi Mu Alpha Sinfonia's Province 15 (Western Kentucky and Western Tennessee). In July, he represented Province 15 at the Phi Mu Alpha National Convention in Washington, D.C. The convention included legislative sessions, concerts and the traditional "Step Sing" at the Capital Building where Pope was a soloist with the Sinfonian Chorale.

Dr. Mary Wolinski read a paper, "Drinking Motets in Medieval Artois and Flanders," at the 38th International Congress on Medieval Studies, Kalamazoo, Mich. A thirteenth-century motet that she had edited, "Mout sont valliant cil de Gant," was performed, possibly for the first time in 750 years, by the early music ensemble Pandora2 at the Town Hall in Ghent, Belgium, on June 20.

Philosophy and Religion

Dr. Jan Garrett presented, “The Objects of Human Rights: A Capabilities Approach,” to the Kentucky Philosophical Association at the University of Louisville, in Louisville, Ky., on April 12. Garrett also

**Political Science**

Dr. John Kang was a manuscript reviewer for *Courts, Judges & Politics: An Introduction to Judicial Process*, published by Walter F. Murphy, professor emeritus, Princeton University.

**University Libraries**

Dr. Michael Binder presented a paper, "Research Guides at Western Kentucky University: Empowering our Users through eLiteracy," at eLit2003, the Second International Conference on Information and IT Literacy, held in June in Glasgow, Scotland. Haiwang Yuan and Bryan Carson were co-authors.

Ellen Micheletti achieved a milestone this month writing her 400th review for the All About Romance web site which each month draws more than 125,000 visitors. Micheletti is so well known among the authors that books are dedicated to her and she has even appeared recently as a character in a novel.

**Women's Studies**

Dr. Elizabeth Oakes and Dr. Jane Olmsted received the 2003 Sallie Bingham Award from the Kentucky Foundation for Women for their work on the Kentucky Feminist Writers Series. The Sallie Bingham Award is presented to a woman artist or activist who has done the most to promote feminist arts in Kentucky. This is the first time the award has been presented to a team.
Kentucky Library and Museum Activities

War Letters in the Kentucky Library

To observe Archives Week in Kentucky, Oct. 5-11, the Kentucky Library will be hosting a series of programs titled “War Letters in the Kentucky Library.”

The first program on Monday, Oct. 6, will be about Civil War letters; the next, Wednesday, the 8th, will be about WWII; and the final program on Monday, the 13th, will be about Korea, Vietnam and Desert Storm. Program facilitators are Nancy Baird, Laura Harper Lee and Sue Lynn Stone, respectively.

Although scheduled to showcase the Library’s collections of letters, people in the community are invited to become a part of this event, and encouraged to use it as a time to share with others their own collection of wartime correspondence.

All programs are at 7 p.m. at the Kentucky Building and are free and open to the public. For more information, contact Earlene Chelf (270) 745-5263 or earlene.chelf@wku.edu.

Kentucky Library and Museum Sponsors Walking Tours

The Kentucky Library and Museum is sponsoring two historic walking tours in October. The first, scheduled for 2-4 p.m., Saturday, Oct. 4., will be of the historic architecture at Western Kentucky University.

Western’s campus boasts an unusual collection of architectural gems, and Jonathan Jeffrey will lead an on-campus tour and discuss the various architectural styles, ornaments and settings of significant landmarks. He will also highlight the important relationship between Western’s first president, Henry Hardin Cherry, and Louisville architect, Brinton B. Davis, who designed most of the campus buildings from 1909 to 1937.

The second walking tour, also led by Jonathan Jeffrey, is of St. Joseph’s Cemetery, scheduled for 10 a.m., Saturday, Oct. 25. St. Joseph’s Cemetery was established in 1869 as the burial grounds for Catholics in the Bowling Green area. As the group walks through the cemetery, discussion will be about its historical development, the iconography and symbolism used on the tombstones, and the wonderful stories about people buried there.

Participants for the WKU architecture tour are to meet at the Kentucky Building; participants in the St. Joseph’s Cemetery tour should meet at the Cemetery. All participants are encouraged to wear
comfortable shoes.

These tours are scheduled as part of “Kentucky Collaborations,” a Community Artist-in-Residence program sponsored by the Kentucky Library and Museum, the Kentucky Arts Council and the Landmark Association.

For more information, contact Jonathan Jeffrey (270) 745-5625 or jonathan.jeffrey@wku.edu.

2003 ART AT THE KENTUCKY LIBRARY AND MUSEUM

The Kentucky Library and Museum is sponsoring the first of the 2003 Art at the Kentucky Library and Museum Workshops on Saturday, Oct. 11, from 10 a.m.-12 p.m. Participants of all ages will tour an exhibit, then complete an art project, which could be a choice of painting, printmaking or drawing with oil pastels. Space is limited to 20 participants. Cost is $10 per person.

Additional art workshops scheduled for this year will be Saturday, Nov. 8, and Saturday, Dec. 13.

For more information or to register, contact Lynne Ferguson, artist-in-residence, (270) 745-2594, or Laura Harper Lee, education curator, (270) 745-6082.

Kentucky Tour of Folk Music Outdoor Concert

The sixth annual Kentucky Tour of Folk Music Outdoor Concert will be 2-5 p.m., Saturday, Oct. 18, on the front lawn of the Kentucky Building. Groups performing this year are the Arthur Hatfield and Buck Creek, Dennis Holt and the Bluegrass Gamblers, and the Hays Brothers.

Lynwood Montell will tell ghost stories in the Felts Log House from 4-5 p.m. There will also be craft demonstrations and an art activity for children. The Kentucky Museum galleries and Museum Store will be open for visitors and barbecue and soft drinks will be available.

As a part of this event, there will be an opening of a small exhibit titled, “Carving Sound: A Tour of Regional Luthiers.” WKU Folk Studies students Paul McCoy and Stuart Burrill curated this exhibit of handmade musical instruments. The exhibit will be in the Kentucky Museum’s Gallery L until mid-December.

The Kentucky Tour of Folk Music is sponsored, in part, by a grant from the Kentucky Arts Council, with additional support from WKYU/PBS and Western’s Public Radio.

All activities scheduled as part of this event are free and open to the public, except food and beverage, which must be purchased.

For more information, contact Laura Harper Lee (270) 745-6082 or laura.harper.lee@wku.edu.
Thursday, Oct. 23, at 6 p.m., in the Felts Log House, located on the grounds of the Kentucky Building.

The book to be discussed is *Rafting Rise*, by Dr. Joe Survant, Poet Laureate of Kentucky and professor in WKU’s English Department.

This program is free and open to the public. For more information, contact Jonathan Jeffrey (270) 745-5265 or jonathan.jeffrey@wku.edu.

**University Libraries Activities**

The Kentucky Live! presentation of “The Moonlite Bar-B-Q-Inn” by Pat Bosley, special project coordinator for Moonlite, will take place on October 9 from 7-8:30 p.m. at Barnes & Noble Booksellers, 1680 Campbell Lane. This Trace Die Cast sponsored series is free and open to the public. For more information, contact Brian Coutts (270) 745-6121 or brian.coutts@wku.edu.

The Far Away Places series presentation on “New Zealand,” by Judith Hoover, Communications Department, will take place on Oct. 16 from 7–8:30 p.m. at Barnes & Noble Booksellers, 1680 Campbell Lane. For more information, contact Brian Coutts, (270) 745-6121 or brian.coutts@wku.edu.

**Java City Performances**

All performances/activities are free and open to the public, except coffee and all the wonderful edibles available at Java City.

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<tr>
<th>Date</th>
<th>Event Description</th>
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<tr>
<td>Monday, Oct. 6</td>
<td>The WKU Saxophone Quartet will perform.</td>
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<td>12:20-1:10 p.m.</td>
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<tr>
<td>Wednesday, Oct. 8</td>
<td>The WKU Clarinet Choir will perform.</td>
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For more information about Java City events/activities, contact Jack Montgomery (270) 745-6156 or jack.montgomery@wku.edu.

Email comments to the editor at: kimberly.parsley@wku.edu
After a six-year absence, Western Kentucky University’s yearbook has returned.

The 2003 edition of The Talisman has been sent to students, parents and others who ordered the book last year. And students, parents, faculty and staff can order the 2004 edition now.

“About Face” is the theme of the 2003 Talisman, which includes 176 full-color pages providing a photo-documentary chronological look at the 2002-03 academic year. Stephanie Gladney was the 2003 editor.

“The Talisman staff plans to regain WKU’s stature as a national leader in yearbook quality,” said Jackie Bretz, Talisman assistant adviser.

Taylor Publishing Co. spearheaded the effort to revive the yearbook at Western and other universities.

The 2004 edition, which will be the 75th Talisman, will have 248 full-color pages and will include photographs of all students. (The 2003 edition included senior portraits in the book with underclassmen photos on an accompanying CD.)

To order the 2004 Talisman, contact the Office of Student Publications, 122 Garrett Conference Center. The price is $75 plus shipping and handling.

If you have story ideas about interesting students or other campus activities, call Talisman Editor J. Michael Moore at 745-3459 or email talisman@wku.edu.
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