Kenney sets high goals for new job

Sometimes teachers have to take some important tests themselves.

James Kenney is no exception.

Before joining Western as a photojournalism professor this year, Kenney had quite a successful career going.

But he decided to go back to school and test himself, to see if teaching was really what he wanted to do.

“It just seemed like the right thing to do and teaching won out.”

It was the right decision for him, even though he had to leave a successful career out west to do it.

“Ever since I got out of school, I’ve wanted to go back,” he said. “Teaching has always been in the back of my mind.”

Kenney, a graduate of California State at Fresno, worked for the Reno Gazette Journal, Las Vegas Sun and Las Vegas Review Journal as a photographer and photo editor.

He also spent six months in London, where he shot pictures for UPI.

But his experience in the field isn’t his only strength.

He has experience in the classroom as well.

He has been a teaching assistant at Syracuse University, taught English to international students and taught photography classes at a community college.

Kenney said he will bring a lot to the program and help it maintain its reputation as one of the finest in the country.

“I want students to learn more than just a vision for photography,” he said. “I want them to get a sense for what it takes to make it in this business.”

Kenney said Western’s program is perfect for what he wants to teach and accomplish.

“At some schools, photojournalism gets downplayed,” he said. “This program allows teachers to accomplish more with students in so many areas.”

Kenney said besides teaching, he would like to use his summers here to work on some personal projects and spend time with his wife Nancy and six-month-old son James III.

“To accomplish your goals you have to be rooted somewhere that you feel comfortable settling down in,” he said. “My wife and I feel comfortable in Bowling Green.”

But for now, Kenney has been keeping busy teaching classes and getting adjusted to his first year on the Hill.

Books open to more people

Warren County’s voter-registration books are now open for people who have moved to the county, who have now reached voting age or have changed names, parties or voting precincts.

Registered voters on Nov. 2 will select all nine Warren County officers, including the judge-executive, magistrates (who constitute the fiscal court) and constables; city commissioners for Bowling Green; district judges in divisions 1 and 2, and the circuit clerk.

Students who will be at least 18 on election day may register at the county clerk’s office at the Courthouse by Monday, Oct. 4.

Journalism students may sign the registration forms by seeing Corban Goble in Garrett, Room 120.

Ad club to have meeting

The Advertising Club will hold its weekly meeting at Mazzio’s Pizza at 7 p.m. on Wednesday, September 15. All journalism students are welcome. If interested, contact Michael Arvin, 745-3154, or Chad Day, 745-2721.