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WKU Student Affairs

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Leave of absence

With this issue, the Herald Magazine goes into hibernation for the rest of the semester, and it won't emerge until next fall.

We would like to thank the students who have submitted material to the Magazine, but because of consistent lack of space, we were unable to use as much as we wished.

Thanks for reading the Magazine this semester, and we hope you enjoy this issue.

See you in the fall.

April 1979

Magazine

This month, the Magazine presents its first Marsupial Awards, honoring some of the more mediocre achievements of the past year.

The last installment of "In search of......" gives advice on how graduates can save money by planning their budgets before leaving college.

Seven black students pledging Omega Psi Phi this semester may have found that it wasn't an easy task, but they all seemed determined to complete it.

The Magazine takes a look at Herald editorial cartoonist Roland Gibbons, who just may be as funny as some of his cartoons.

The past year was marked by the resignations, protests, trials, and controversial basketball games. "A Year in Review" examines words and pictures some events that have characterized 1978-79 at Western.

Spring?
You'll find it waiting for you at J.C. Penney's.

Fountain Square Mall - Downtown
The Marsupial Awards

Since the beginning of time—well, at least since sound came to movies—awards have been given to the best, the hardest working, the most professional people in the world. This trend toward elitism has taken all the fun out of being mediocre, or, even worse, being a university employee.

The Herald Magazine Marsupial Awards are designed to recognize some of the more obscure occurrences recorded in the last year or so.

"The Three Blind Mice Award" goes to referees Ralph Stout and Burrell Crowell and timekeeper Roger Williams for their sudden short-sightedness at the end of Western's Ohio Valley Conference final with Eastern. While we're at it, why not toss in a "See No Evil, Hear No Evil Award" for former OVC Commissioner Bob Vanatta.

"The Joni Mitchell Memorial Award" goes to Associated Student Government for its attempt to construct a parking lane on the yard behind McCormack Hall. Steve Pullar, an ASG member who co-wrote the resolution, said: "As far as beauty, I see a pasture or something (behind McCormack). We thought the (parking lane) would add to the beauty of it."

Sure.

"The Phil A. Blass Award" goes to Tom Jones, Faculty Senate chairman, who said in a senate meeting last fall: "The chair, on his own initiative, has taken it upon himself to..."

With the help of a computer, we condensed those 12 words to simply, "..."

"The Gift Horse Award" goes to several of Western's Iranian students who said such things as: "We love the American people, but we hate their government," and "We are not enemies of the Americans, (but) we wish they would leave Iran quickly."

"The I'd Ya Tol Ya Award" goes to the former Shah of Iran, who was last seen playing follow the leader with ex-dictator Idi Amin.

"The White Cat's Away Award" goes to Lt. Gov. Thelma Stovall, who was so eager so often to fill Gov. Julian Carroll's shoes. What happens when they both leave town?

To former President Dero Downing we present the "Could You Be a Little More Vague? Award" for a statement he made about his resignation.

"It's something that I have for an extended period of time recognized—that the time was near at hand when there would not be the compelling reasons that may have existed in the past for me to continue."

The College Heights Herald gets an award for a rather distasteful mistake in the Sept. 12 "For the record..." The story said that four men came to a Poland Hall room and urinated on the door, and "He (the resident) said that one of the four hit him in the mouth."

Maybe this should be called "The Bad Taste in Journalism Award."

"The Hell Hath Frozen Award" goes to Rhea Lazarus, assistant to the president, for a comment he made in a Herald story about parking spaces for the handicapped.

Lazarus said, "It's a cold day in hell before we give a drug addict or alcoholic a handicapped sticker, as far as I'm concerned."

"The Gone With the Wind Award" goes to Aileen Atkinson, Gilbert Hall director, who said she'd pull the fire alarm if she wanted to warn residents of an approaching tornado. Let's hope the fire department has the foresight to bring the 100-foot ladder truck.

Maybe some students would be lucky enough to grab hold of a tall tree before heading for Oz.

"The Black and Blue Award" is given to pledge classes of two greek organizations, which will remain unidentified, for making it through a semester of greek torture. So that's what they mean by "paying dues."

"The Terry McBrayer Memorial Award" goes to George Atkins, Democratic gubernatorial candidate, who said at a fall political forum: "If elected governor, I plan to do some things."

He should have gone out on a limb and said "a whole lot of" or "bunches" of things, anyway...
In search of...

Graduates should remember all the little things

Last year, newly graduated Gwenda Willingham found herself puzzled. Paycheck after paycheck from her Louisville accounting job was suddenly hers and she had more money to spend than she had planned for.

But Willingham quickly learned to be stingy with her income. "Start out slowly," she said recently as she ironically paused in the midst of a bill-paying chore. "You'll have more bills than ever if you make them."

The time to start planning a post-college budget is in college, Willingham said. "Have a clean (credit) record when you get out of school. They do check references."

Take the time and cash to build a wardrobe with more than jeans so new clothes won't be an immediate expense, the Owensboro native said. "Jeans don't last forever. When I got my job, my mother had to buy me dresses." These same clothes will be handy for job interviews, she said.

Furniture is an immediate temptation, too, Willingham said. "But make do with as little as you can. My apartment has had bean bags for a long time." Saving money for furniture purchases is wiser than charging them, she said. But saving takes time and patience and shouldn't be drained entirely for a sofa or bedroom suite. "You just can't get out of school and live in house like your mother's."

Pay bills on time and join a credit union so your savings will be automatic, Willingham said. "And if you need a car, there is no need for a long Cadillac that drinks gasoline. Make do if you can for a year with the car you have."

Several years after her graduation from college, Sandra Dunn, a home economist for the Warren County extension office, said budgets needn't scare anyone. "People try to resist them," she said. "They think they're going to tie their hands and be their enemy, but a budget or spending plan is a guide. It's not iron-clad. A person is not bound to it other than by his own direction."

Defining your values, standards, needs and resources is essential to planning the routes your money will take, Mrs. Dunn said. "Your values direct what you spend, and your standards guide how much you're going to spend on clothing, housing and food. Your goals (short and long term) are determined by your values and standards."

A wide gap hangs between wants and needs, Mrs. Dunn said as she talked in her College Street basement office. "It's so important to know the difference because no matter your income, you can get into financial difficulty when you confuse your needs with your wants."

Graduates with little budgeting experience or those with little self-discipline should initially be conservative spenders, Mrs. Dunn said. "They should try to never buy anything they can justify its need."

To outline a budget, divide it into weeks or months and then a year. Estimate your income and the hard part—estimate your expenses, Mrs. Dunn said. If you have receipts or check stubs for the previous year's expenses, use those in planning.

Fixed expenses that must be satisfied first are food, housing and transportation. Mrs. Dunn advises new graduates to list an allowance in the housing column for furnishings, or linens, dishes and pots and pans—things needed almost immediately.

Repaying a college loan also might be a fixed expense, the home economist said. Depending on where you relocate, city, county or property taxes might need to be included in your budget.

Lastly, savings should be a fixed priority, Mrs. Dunn said. "You should think of savings as fixed, not what's left over after you meet your other obligations." This might be linked with an emergency fund and a replacement fund to manage when an appliance or car dies.

The variables in the budget need to be calculated next. They include clothing, entertainment, vacations, charity, gifts, furnishings and the general wants of life.

Finally, subtract the fixed expense total from your income. Compare that figure with your estimated variables total.

—Connie Holman
Pledges' allegiance

Photos and Text
by Steve Benson

You may have seen them clad in Army fatigue jackets, blue jeans and t-shirt. You may have heard them humming or singing in unison: "Zoom, Zoom, Zoom, Que Phi Phi." You may have spoken to them in passing, only to be greeted by silence, and you probably thought those were all silly antics by some black fraternity pledges.

But to the seven students who joined Omega Psi Phi in the spring, their pledgeship is far more than amusement. Some of them are joining to achieve reassurance, while others seek a challenge, and some just want to belong. "If I could make Omega, I knew I could make anything," Robert Bruce, freshman Omega pledge, said.

"I wanted to see how I could perform under pressure," Darryl VanLeer, freshman pledge, said.

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Older Omega brothers will often visit and talk with the pledges while they are in the library. Omega big brother Monty Young, standing, conducts a discussion on Dick Gregory's lecture.

As do all Omega Psi Phi pledges Darryl VanLeer wears the dog collar that signifies the last stage of pledgeship.
Pledges' allegiance

—Continued from Page 5—

"I was looking for someone I could talk to, someone to trust," David Suggs, freshman, said.

So along with the above three, David Weaver, Patrick Carter, and Marc Johnson and Exum Somerville began their journey through pledging.

The fraternity's pledging usually lasts eight weeks and has three stages.

The first stage is called "The Puppy State," and it provides a chance for the pledges to become acquainted with each other, as well as giving them some idea of the type of commitment they are about to make.

The second stage of the pledging is called "The Lamp Stage," and pledges wear wooden lamp necklaces to symbolize it.

During this stage, the pledges develop attitudes about the organization and receive supervision from their pledge deans.

Symbolized by wearing dog collars, "The Dog Stage" is the final and most intense. It involves physical, mental, and emotional treatment—and sometimes mistreatment.

During the last two stages, the pledges are at the mercy of their big brothers. Pledge David Suggs said, "You never really knew what was going to happen. I didn't know if I'd make it." Always in line and in step, which pledges say symbolizes their unity, the pledges may walk several miles a day—visiting big brothers and running errands for them. They are also constantly running back and forth to their dorm rooms, completing fraternity projects, like the construction of displays for Omega Week.

A typical day may begin at 6 a.m. with requested visits by big brothers and classes. They are also required to have a signature from each big brother. After classes, there's time for a quick snack, then they hurry to the library for three hours of study. And then there's step practice.

Of his experience as pledge-line president, Carter said, "It took me back to the slave days. Maybe that's the difference between white and black pledging—persevering together. Because no matter how bad and low down you felt about your situation and what you were doing, you knew there was a brother right beside you doing the same thing and sticking with it. And that inspires you."}

A few hours after they were initiated into the Omega Psi Phi fraternity, the pledge-line members joked with older brother Marion Wingo as they watched their big brothers step outside the university center.
Not every moment of pledging was regimented for the Omega pledges. A meal and a little laughter was shared with friends such as sophomore Priscilla George. George and sophomore Vickie Bolnes prepared the food the pledges had bought.

A civic project to Fairview Healthcare Center, Oma Harmon thanks Omega pledges David Weaver, Marc Johnson, David Suggs and Darryl VanLeer. The pledges were visiting the center to sing gospel songs and offer fruit to the elderly.

Pushins - for great sport and casual wear.

PUSHINS

Fountain Square  Bowling Green Mall

Given the Dog No. one status, David Weaver stands at the front of the pledge line, as the group practices its steppin' routine in Diddle Arena. Step practice usually ended their 19-hour days.
Roland Gibbons has yet to use Casper the Friendly Ghost in a Herald editorial cartoon, but when he first grasped a battered pencil at age 3, his favorite subject was the good-natured spectre.

"I drew a lot of Casper. I was into ghoulish stuff...skeletons," he said, chuckling. "Sort of demented." Casually balanced on the back legs of his chair, Gibbons looked remarkably like his cartoon characters—waving his arms and making odd faces when he spoke and using different voices to stress certain words.

"My first interest was meteorology," he said. "I was going to be a meteorologist, of all things.

"I took an art class in high school, and I discovered that I had an aptitude. I wasn't too hot on math...you know, anything but math.

"I didn't figure I was really good enough (at cartooning)...so I decided 'He, I like it better than meteorology.'"

Gibbons described his first efforts at high school editorial cartooning as "awful."

"I've got some at home, carefully stashed away," he said. "Soon they will be burned.

"This weekend I compared them (his college cartoons) with what I did in..."
"I'll have some good ones and then a series of bad ones and lead up to a good one. I think it has something to do with biorhythms."

high school, and I almost threw up.

"I feel I'm getting better. When I first started, I used to clutter it up with all sorts of crap...a chair here, a table there. I just found it was better when it was very simple."

Many people in Flaherty, Gibbons' hometown, believe that art is not a man's vocation. They believe a man should work with the earth or get a job at a factory, he said.

"At the very moment they breathe their first breath, they want to farm," he said seriously.

But Gibbons...said his family is excited about his career.

"I've got a typical family: two kids, two parents—well, not two parents, a mother and father—a dog and a scrapbook," he said. "They enjoy it; I enjoy it: everybody's happy."

His dorm room vibrated slightly as music sent bass sounds blaring through the walls.

"The floor is usually just one big thump," he said, laughing at his remark. "Someone down the hall has the largest Pionner (stereo) you can have. Speakers as big as the closet."

But the sophomore fine arts major enjoys living in the dorm, despite the noise. His room decorations display his content for the residence.

A yellow and orange Leonardo Da Vinci self-portrait splattered with artificial age, hang on the wall at the end of the bed. Hanging along with it is a poster of the poem "Desiderata," which Gibbons calls "my philosophy on life."

"That's my philosophy on life, too," he said, pointing to a Playboy pinup. Gibbons does much of his drawing in his room, listening to quiet music through his headphones.

"I like to plug in...and just drift away," he said. "I just don't know what to think of anything; I sit and listen to the music."

Getting an idea for an editorial cartoon is difficult, but once he gets the idea, illustrating it is easy, he said.

"I find it hard to...take what I see in my head and put it down, because what you always see in your head is a lot better than what you see on the page."

"I usually don't try to use the first idea and rarely the second," he said. He keeps the first idea to fall back on, in case he can't think of a better one, but "it usually takes three ideas."

"Once I start drawing on the good paper and the ink is down, that's it...it's printed. It may be bad, but I gotta have something. I try not to hand in a (half-way) thing."

"I feel that each one of them could have been a lot better," he said.

"After it gets printed, I look..."Well, you did that you fool, you idiot. You should have done that...ah, look at that line—that's gross."

"I don't believe I've ever really thought...Boy, that's good! I always feel like it should be better. Every time I'm disappointed."

"I don't think I've had any earth-shattering cartoons. I'm waiting for it—some big issue—and hit with a big one," he said, smacking his palm with his fist. "Fame and fortune."

Gibbons got his share of fame and fortune earlier this month when he was named best college editorial cartoonist by the Kentucky Inter-collegiate Press Association.

Alan Judd, Herald managing editor, talked about the award: "When John Filatreau, columnist for the Courier-Journal, was critiquing Kentucky college newspapers, he said: This guy (Gibbons) is really terrific. Most college editorial cartoonists are really awful."

"He was right," Judd said. "Rollo (Gibbons) always draws something that perfectly matches the editorial or column, even when we give him a vague description."

But Gibbons said even though he wins awards, he still goes into slumps. "I'll have some good ones and then a series of bad ones and lead up to a good one. I think it has something to do with biorhythms."

When he can't get ideas or is having trouble drawing the cartoon, he sometimes looks through art books to see how other people draw elbows, hands or whatever.

"I love hands...little pinkies," he said, wiggling a finger. "I like the fingers to be expressive. I like the details."

"I like to stand there making faces, trying to find the right expression," he said, swishing his features in horrible positions. "A smirk is hard."

His characters' heads and hands are usually out of proportion because of his obsession with details, and his characters usually have pudgy bodies with slim, intricate legs and shoes.

"The students are usually slim and meek looking. Usually the students are getting shafted, anyway."

Gibbons said another problem with drawing cartoons about the university is finding a symbol to represent it.

He didn't feel right using former President Dero Downing to represent the university because it made everything seem to be Downing's fault, he said.

Professional editorial cartoonists.

Continued to Page 16—

The above cartoon is one of Gibbons' favorites, and it's also received the most student reaction.

Story by
Tim Fish
Illustrations by
Roland Gibbons

The cartoon below is one of his most popular.
A presidential resignation, a student protest and a political debate were some of the highlights of the past year’s news at Western.

The headlines reflected the turmoil that the campus hadn’t seen since the early seventies.

Dero Downing, Western’s fifth president, surprised the university when he announced his resignation in September. The selection of a successor has been filled with controversy.

Several of Western’s Iranian students marched in downtown Bowling Green shouting, “Down with the shah” in protest of their leader’s regime. The demonstration had little impact since most students were on Christmas vacations.

National attention was focused on Bowling Green last fall when a former Western student was charged with performing her own abortion. Marla Pitchford was acquitted in the three-day trial, which was the first of its kind.

Tempers flared in March when a last-second foul gave Eastern the Ohio Valley Conference basketball crown. As a result, the basketball team, along with coach Gene Keady, were forced to watch the National Collegiate Athletic Association finals on television.

Several Kentucky gubernatorial candidates came to town to make speeches, attend political forums, and avoid the issues.

Former president Dero Downing applauds as Harry Largen (right), business affairs vice president, congratulates Dr. John Minton as he takes over as interim president.
Hunting for something different? Find it at the Brass A.

Timigin will be appearing Tuesday and Wednesday - High Wind on Thursday through Saturday nights.

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Monday - Free football night
Tuesday - 25¢ night
Wednesday - College Night - Bring your ID and driver's license and get your favorite beverages for 75c
Thursday - Ladies' night
Drawing attention

...Continued from Page 5...

such as Hugh Haynie of The Courier-Journal, have an easy symbol for America—Uncle Sam.

"What are you going to do for Western—draw a towel?" he said.

"He (Haynie) has a lot to work from; he's got the world. I've got Western—there's a difference. Every once in a while there's something, but usually there's nothing...really drastic happening—something Haynie can pick up on: scandals and war and peace and war.

"Me...I've got Western.

To represent Western, he usually draws "a fat guy with a pin-stripe suit..." and he usually has a button—WKU," he said, poking his chest.

But he said the best part of his work is students' reactions.

"I get a thrill seeing people smile over them. That's better than the ones that come up and say 'Hey, that was good.' But I like that too—don't get me wrong.

"My ultimate goal is to get someone to double-over and laugh...which is hard."

But he said not everyone likes his cartoons. "There's been a couple of times I've seen some people who didn't care much for them.

He often gets his roommate's reaction to cartoons before he turns them in. "I'll take his opinion, when he gives it," he said. "I usually ask him 'What do ya think?' and he'll say, 'Looks fine to me.' I usually don't get a lot out of him."

Students and teachers in the art department give him "constructive criticism," he said.

"They say, 'I like so and so. I like that one you did.' They never say 'God! that was terrible.'

"They sometimes come up to me and ask, 'What did you mean?' and I usually say I don't know."

But other artists don't always approve of Gibbons's work.

"I've had people tell me that what I was doing was not...well, they looked down upon it, you know—cartooning. 'You're prostituting your talent,' " he whispered, mocking the criticism.

"Some people think you should just do fine art, which is silly. I like fine art, but I'm realistic.

"In fine art, I would starve," he said. "Because it just doesn't come as natural...yeah, I would starve."

Gibbons isn't restricted to drawing Herald cartoons; he is also assistant media services artist.

"It's pretty free," he said about the other job. He has designed posters for WKU music specials and pamphlets for other campus organizations, in addition to other artwork for media services.

Gibbons worked full time with the Herald before taking the job at media services, but now he works free-lance for the newspaper.

"I would like to be a graphic artist...a successful graphic artist. But I wouldn't mind being an editorial cartoonist for a pretty large paper and working on national issues.

"It's a very select field, editorial cartooning. I think there's maybe 150 in the nation, and I just don't see myself as one of the 150."

But his plans vary. This summer he wants to make a lot of money, and "It won't be in cartooning." But he did say he is going to send some cartoons to Playboy magazine.

"I want to get as best as I feel that I can, which will probably be never. I always feel anything I do could have been better. And I could have been.

"I guess I'll have to keep working on it."

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