Moving forward . . . breaking ground for the new Campus Community Center
Alumni Weekend 2001
April 28

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Class of 1976 - 25th Reunion
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Class Notes

To the left: This historical monument now stands in College Park in Winchester, Ky. Dedication was held on August 26, 2000 to commemorate the heritage that Winchester has in the history of Kentucky Wesleyan College. Thank you Winchester era.
Two-time Pulitzer Prize winner John Updike was the featured speaker at the eighth annual Leadership Symposium at Kentucky Wesleyan.

Best known for his Harry “Rabbit” Angstrom novels, Updike let his fiction and poetry do most of the talking as he read to a varied audience that included college students, senior citizens and preschool children.

Since Leadership Day was held on election day, Updike’s message was “You can love your country and leave it, too.” He said loving America can mean taking in all its bracing reality and that he approaches notions of leadership with a kind of patriotism that might seem alien to a younger generation.

Leadership Day also featured as speakers Graham ’68 and Martha Neal Cooke ’68, owners of Hawley-Cooke Booksellers in Louisville, who received an honorary degree of doctor of laws from the college. The Cookes were honored for their extraordinary accomplishment in bringing the enjoyment of reading and literature to everyone and for their exemplary community service to the Louisville area.

The Leadership Symposium is sponsored in part through the Christian A. Johnson Endeavor Foundation.

Jewish studies enrich campus programming

The KWC Jewish Studies Program, supported by a gift from Raymond Zimmerman, brought two speakers to campus this fall, and co-sponsored a play presented by the Wesleyan Players called “And Then They Came for Me.”

The play, written by James Still and directed by Joy Pace, assistant professor of theatre and speech, followed the lives and experiences of two teenage survivors of the Holocaust. It featured actual narratives of the teenagers now adults through a screen on the stage.

One of the highlighted lecturers was Ernie Marx, a Holocaust survivor who endured two Nazi concentration camps, as well as survived life-threatening ordeals as a member of the French Underground. He was a contributor to the planning and development of the National Holocaust Museum in Washington, D.C.

Steven Jacobs, a rabbi in Huntsville, Ala., also spoke on campus as part of the Jewish Studies Program. The author of more than 50 articles and books about the Holocaust, he explored the conditions that made possible the attempted genocide of Europe’s Jewish population during World War II.

Retiring cashier passes the “buck”

Jean Smith, business office cashier at Kentucky Wesleyan since 1974, retired in October 2000. She had been with the college since 1970 when employed by the construction company that built some of the original buildings on campus. With such history and dedication, Ms. Smith will be missed by all.

Harriett Prince has joined the college staff as the new cashier. She recently moved to Owensboro from Tennessee where she had been a small business owner and a bank teller.
Phonathon 2000 sets donor record

Kentucky Wesleyan’s Phonathon 2000 had an all-time record of 1248 donors, breaking the previous record of 1238 donors set in 1993. Almost $57,500 was raised over a three-week period in October as 18 student callers contacted alumni and friends of the college to ask for pledges to the Wesleyan Fund.

Money from the fund provides student scholarships and enables the college to attract and retain talented faculty. The fund also supports current operations by bridging the gap between tuition and college expenses.

As the students say in the photo - Thanks for your continued support!

College offers new academic major and new BA degree

A new fine arts academic major is now available to KWC students and will provide the opportunity for students to pursue an integrated major in the arts. Fine arts majors will take a core of courses in the fine arts with an emphasis in one of three areas: music, art or theatre.

Professor of Art Bill Kolok said, “The new fine arts major is yet another opportunity to give the college student an integrated and well-rounded liberal arts education. We hope to attract students who have a wide range of interests and want to be involved in the many creative avenues that KWC has to offer.”

The college has also added a new bachelor of arts degree in chemistry, with two major areas of emphasis in biology/biochemistry and environmental science.

The biology/biochemistry emphasis allows students to meet all of the requirements of health-science professional schools and to qualify for teacher education certification in chemistry. With an environmental science emphasis, students can prepare for environmental science graduate study or environmental analysis laboratory positions.

According to Dr. W. L. Magnuson, chair of the department, “While this degree program will remain the most chemistry-intensive program, we think the new multidisciplinary degree program will effectively serve students seeking a broader, chemistry-based undergraduate degree suitable for a variety of career opportunities.”
Schoenbachler named to Who’s Who

Assistant Professor of History Dr. Matthew Schoenbachler was named to Who’s Who Among America’s Teachers for 2000.

Schoenbachler has twice received the Outstanding Teacher of the Year award at Kentucky Wesleyan (1998, 2000) as voted on by the students. He earned his BS from the University of North Alabama and his masters and Ph.D. from the University of Kentucky.

This is an honor reserved for teachers selected by their former students who themselves have been distinguished with selection to Who’s Who Among Students in American Universities and Colleges.

Crago-Britton endowment established


The endowment fund will be used to supply creative writers (dramatists, fictionists and poets) for one-day college creative writing workshops, high school invitational writing workshops and for public readings of the author’s works by the author.

English Department Chair Suzanne Rose said, “The Crago-Britton Endowment is a fitting tribute to two English professors who were committed to teaching and brought encouragement and inspiration to young writers.”

New faculty hired

Three new faculty joined KWC this fall.

Returning to Kentucky Wesleyan as associate professor of physics is Dr. Buxton Johnson. He has his BS, MS and Ph.D. in physics from the University of Kentucky. Johnson spent last year at Vanderbilt University.

Dr. Seth Parker is professor of business and accounting. He graduated from Boston University with an accounting degree and earned a M.B.A. from Indiana University and a doctorate from Michigan State University. Prior to joining KWC, he was associate professor at the University of the Incarnate Word.

Matt Parsons is the new instructor of health and physical education and assistant athletic trainer for the college. Parsons received a bachelor’s degree in sports medicine/athletic training from the University of Charleston and received a masters degree from the California University of Pennsylvania, where he previously worked as a graduate athletic trainer.

KWC welcomes new staff members

Kentucky Wesleyan welcomed several new staff to the campus this fall.

Michelle Hartz Harris '96 joined the Advancement Office as director of advancement services. She received a bachelor’s degree in English and previously worked as programs manager at The Owensboro-Daviess County Chamber of Commerce.

Serving as campus minister, Kent Lewis '98 has a degree in mass communications. He is currently pursuing a masters of divinity degree from Asbury Theological Seminary and previously served as director of youth and young adult ministries at the Frankfort First United Methodist Church.

Jay Parent '95 returns to campus as registrar. He received a masters degree in history from Murray State University and previously served the college as director of the career development and community service center.

Devon Pinkston joins the staff as director of human resources. She comes to Kentucky Wesleyan from Tyson Foods and has a BS degree in human resource management from Western Kentucky University.

The new director of financial aid is Vivian Rinaldo who previously served as Brescia University’s director of financial aid. She has a bachelor’s degree in special education from Brescia.

Amy Risley joins the staff as a new admissions counselor. She has a degree in public relations and political science from Western Kentucky University and previously worked as a citizen service representative for the City of Owensboro.

The new controller is Cindy Ellis Sandefur ’94 who has a bachelor’s degree in accounting and business administration.

Prior to coming to the college, she was a staff accountant at Green River Area Development District.

The 1999-2000 Porphyrian is here

Any 2000 Kentucky Wesleyan graduate who would like a copy of the 1999-2000 yearbook can call the Student Life office, 270-926-3111 (ext. 5151), send a letter to the Student Life office requesting a yearbook, or email ericalhi@kwc.edu.
Around the Cupola

Emeriti status granted to retiring professors

The Kentucky Wesleyan College board of trustees awarded faculty emeritus status to two retiring professors, Dr. Rose Clark and Dr. Bob Darrell. Emeritus status is recognition as an honorary lifetime professor of the college for achievement as an academician.

Dr. Rose Clark retired in August 2000. She chaired the nursing department from 1985 to 1991 and for the past several years has been secretary of the faculty and has served on the Faculty Status Committee. Clark has served on the board of directors and as president of the Owensboro Council for Retarded Citizens. She received her doctorate in nursing from the University of Alabama at Birmingham.

Dr. Bob Darrell began teaching at the college in 1969 and developed the freshman writing workshop program which earned him and Kentucky Wesleyan national recognition. He also created the PLUS Center in the late 70’s with a federal Title III grant. Darrell has also contributed to the Owensboro community by helping to open the Community College and RiverPark Center. He earned his doctorate from Vanderbilt University.

Celebrating in Cincinnati

Forty alumni and staff attended the annual Greater Cincinnati area alumni picnic this summer at the home of Bill ’47 and Mildred Poe Kincaid ’46, highlighted by a catered luncheon, homemade ice cream and a great game of croquet!

Louisville chapter is on the grow

Members of the KWC Louisville alumni chapter gathered at Bristol Bar & Grille on Bardstown Road in October. This is the second fall gathering planned by this new chapter. The future looks bright for chapter growth as more events will continue to be planned. All Louisville area alumni are invited to join this new chapter by contacting Berry Major, alumni director, at 270-926-3111 or email: bmajor@kwc.edu.

Southern California alumni

A group of Kentucky Wesleyan alumni met in Southern California in October, and went to a taping of the CBS television show “Politically Incorrect with Bill Maher.” Following the taping they enjoyed dinner at the Boxer Restaurant in Los Angeles.

Homecoming Court

The Kentucky Wesleyan 2000 Homecoming Court honored the following students at halftime of the Panther-Quincy football game: Kelly Nelson, a senior from Lexington, Ky. was crowned Homecoming Queen and McCray Ashby, a senior from Cox’s Creek, Ky. was named Homecoming King. The Princess and Prince were Sarah Beth Roach, a junior from Cloverport, Ky. and Leland Civils, a junior from Cerulean, Ky.

Kelly Nelson and McCray Ashby

Leland Civils and Sara Beth Roach

Kentucky Wesleyan Today, Winter 2001
Alumni Weekend moves to April

In the early years in Owensboro, KWC celebrated alumni reunion at basketball homecoming. As this annual homecoming event matured, certain class reunions were scheduled and alumni awards began to be presented, usually at halftime of the game.

As football was reintroduced to the athletic program at the college in the early 1980’s, some alumni began to express preference that alumni reunion be held during football homecoming, while others preferred the event to continue at basketball homecoming. Holding two separate “homecomings” divided already limited resources and competed for alumni participation.

Other changes were also taking place. The college had initiated a tradition of presenting medallions during Commencement to each Winchester class that celebrated their 50th anniversary. Since members of that class were coming to campus to receive their medallions, an annual 50-year class reunion evolved. These reunions became so popular that the Winchester Dinner was introduced to provide a “Winchester era” reunion each year. Additionally, to add prestige to the “Outstanding Alumnus” award, its presentation was moved from basketball homecoming to Commencement.

By the mid-1990’s, all other scheduled class reunions and alumni awards were also moved to Commencement, and the college began to refer to Commencement weekend as “Alumni Weekend.” This change relegated the two homecoming events to a secondary role, if not by intent then clearly by limiting resources, and divided, if not lessened, alumni interest and participation. Additionally, scheduling Commencement on Mother’s Day weekend and on a date when many high schools and colleges held their graduation activities created a conflict for alumni who might otherwise attend Alumni Weekend.

This issue was discussed by the Alumni Association board of directors and consensus reached to change the date of Alumni Weekend to the last weekend in April each year. Thus, Alumni Weekend 2001 will be April 28th. This is the first announcement – and your formal invitation! It will be a reunion year for the Classes of 1961 and 1976 and a cluster reunion year for the Classes of 1980, 1981, 1982 and 1995, 1996, 1997.

Important note: The Class of 1951 will also be celebrating their 50th reunion this year. This class will have their reunion at lunch on May 11, the Friday before Commencement. The Winchester Dinner will be that evening, and the 50-year medallions will be presented at Commencement as in the past.

Please mark your calendars and plan to attend Alumni Weekend 2001.

Kentucky Wesleyan College
2000-2001 Alumni Association
Officers and Directors

Executive Committee:
Beth Robinson Ronk ’73, President
Catherine Eblen ’95, President-Elect
Rebecca McClain Paulson ’75, Secretary
Marilyn Jerman ’70, 1998-2001, Class Representative
Emogene Stephenson ’59, 1999-2002, Class Representative

Staff:
Berry Major ’60, Director of Alumni Relations
Ruthie Hutton Hume ’62, Secretary for Alumni Relations

Directors:
Kim Cecil ’88
Joan Gray Capps ’60
Travis Chaney ’92
Stephen Curry ’94
Janna Duncan DeMarsh ’87
Mary Taylor Ecton ’48
Troy Haleman ’93
James Huckleberry ’65
Marilyn Jerman ’70
Arba Kenner ’74
Lairy Nofsinger ’58
Claudia Roberts ’98
Emogene Clark Stephenson ’59
Christie Stumpf ’69
Tracy Williams ’98

Call for alumni nominations

The KWC Alumni Association is inviting you to submit nominations for both alumni awards and alumni board of directors. If you would like to make a nomination, contact the Alumni Office 270-926-3111, x5123 or email bmajor@kwc.edu.

Alumni award nominations are being accepted for the following awards: “Outstanding Alumnus” award, “Alumni Achievement” award, “Alumni Service” award and “Gus Paris Distinguished Service” award (alumni and non-alumni eligible for this award).

Nominations are due no later than the end of January. We want to hear from you!

Start spreading the news…

A New York City trip for alumni is being considered for June, 2001. The Friday to Tuesday weekend will include three shows and tours of Greenwich Village, Chinatown, Little Italy, Ellis Island and the Statue of Liberty. The cost of $800 per person includes four nights at The Hotel Edison (47th and Broadway) plus all tours and shows. Meals and transportation are not included. At least a full day of free time for sightseeing and shopping will be available. If interested in such a trip, contact Dr. Jim Welch (270-926-3111, x5224 or email jimwe@kwc.edu) or the Alumni office (270-926-3111, x5123 or email bmajor@kwc.edu) as soon as possible.
Coming soon:  
New features on alumni web page

The alumni web page has been updated to provide a host of new features and services … including the latest news, weather, sports and stock market information, a career connection link, and on-line shopping. 
An alumni response page is also available. Visit www.kwc.edu and open the alumni page. Click on “Send us your news” to change your address and send news. Click on KW Today to submit story ideas or send a letter to the editor. We’re waiting to hear from you.

Directory update - calling all alumni!

Beginning January 2001, representatives of Bernard C. Harris Publishing Company Inc., will start phoning alumni for the verification of our Kentucky Wesleyan College Alumni Directory project.

Much of the information to be verified on each individual’s listing will be going into the directory; in particular, this includes current name, academic data, residence address and phone number (if applicable). The scope of this information is an indication of the comprehensive quality of the entire volume. The directory will sort this data by name in the alphabetical division, and by class year, and geographical location in separate sections of the book. There will also be a special message from the Alumni Office as well as photos and information about the college.

Soon, locating fellow alumni will be as easy as turning a page with the Kentucky Wesleyan College Alumni Directory. You may reserve your personal copy when your Harris representative phones, but don’t delay because only pre-publication orders received at that time will be guaranteed.

Come home for Alumni Weekend 2001

Mark your calendar and join us for Alumni Weekend on April 28. The day will be full of activities – a campus recovery tour, an update on the construction of the new Campus Community Center and a luncheon in Presidents Hall. In addition, the Classes of 1961 and 1976 will celebrate reunion gatherings. Plus, the Classes of 1980, 1981, 1982 and 1995, 1996, 1997 will have cluster gatherings. Plan today to join us this spring.

Homecoming 2001 is here – February 10

The Owensboro Area alumni invite you to a reception on campus at the Ralph Center (located at the corner of South Griffith and College Drive) at 6:00 p.m. after the Homecoming basketball game against Wisconsin Parkside. Snacks and beverages will be provided.

A GIFT THAT GIVES BACK

How would you like to receive a check each quarter for the rest of your life? A gift to the college in exchange for a charitable gift is a “win-win” gift and a way to give to your alma mater that works for you. In addition to the quarterly checks you can receive for as long as you live, you may also benefit from:

- A better return on your investment
- An immediate charitable tax reduction
- Reduced capital gains liability
- A reduction in estate taxes
- In other words … a “win-win”!

For example, a 65 year old alumnus can

Make a gift to KWC $50,000
Receive income of 7% or more 3,500
Tax free annual income* of 1,512
Ordinary income of 1,988
An immediate charitable income tax reduction 19,916
* through 2019

For More Information, Please Contact:
KWC Planned Giving
3000 Frederica Street
Owensboro, KY 42301
270-926-3111, ext. 5123
James Graham Brown Foundation gives a generous $950,000 gift and continues support

Kentucky Wesleyan President Dr. Wesley H. Poling recently announced with great pleasure a gift of $950,000 from the James Graham Brown Foundation in Louisville to the Changing Lives capital campaign for Kentucky Wesleyan College.

“The $950,000 will be used to increase the endowment of the James Graham Brown Scholarship Fund at the college,” said Poling. “For 25 years, this fund has helped enable the college to recruit and retain many of its very best and brightest students.”

The James Graham Brown Scholars program is the most prestigious endowed scholarship fund at Kentucky Wesleyan. With this gift, the total James Graham Brown Scholarship Endowment Fund stands at $6 million.

“Brown scholars are the cornerstone of the scholarship program,” added Poling. “These students contribute immensely to the overall academic vigor of the college.”

The addition of the $950,000 gift to the college raises the Changing Lives capital campaign tally to $16.5 million of the $20 million goal.

Winchester update

The Winchester era regional campaign is in progress and working towards reaching the $1.5 million goal to name the new student center the Winchester Campus Community Center. Seventy-five volunteers are working diligently to contact former classmates to support this effort. Co-chairs of this regional campaign are: Harold Dorsey ’38, Mary Taylor Ecton ’48, Marcia Smith Lawrence ’47 and Luellen Pyles ’44.

Anonymous gift highlights academics

Kentucky Wesleyan College has received a gift of $600,000 from an anonymous friend of the college for the Changing Lives capital campaign. The gift will be used in three different academic areas: $200,000 will be designated for the new Science Building; $200,000 will be used to create a Faculty Development Endowment Fund; and $200,000 will go to the Business Department Enhancement Fund.

“Kentucky Wesleyan is extremely grateful to our anonymous friend for this extraordinary investment in our future,” said Dr. Wesley H. Poling, president. “Through the generosity of this donor we will move closer to completing the funding for our new science center, fund professional development projects for our faculty, and provide funds to enhance the growth of our business programs. Each of these strengthens the academic life of Kentucky Wesleyan.”

According to Dr. Poling, Changing Lives campaign chair Terry W. Woodward ’64 was very instrumental in the development of this gift. “Terry worked very long and hard to procure this gift. His efforts have been very successful,” said Poling.

Woodward added, “This is a very significant gift and certainly enhances our efforts to achieve our overall campaign goal.”

Changing Lives: The Campaign for Kentucky Wesleyan College is a fund raising effort to secure $20 million by the end of 2001. Support of the campaign will enable the college to continue to change lives by providing more classrooms, labs and student areas, offering more scholarships, renovating facilities and opening new windows to the world’s resources.
The Changing Lives campaign is progressing closer to the $20 million goal. The dollars raised in this capital fund raising effort will be used to enrich and improve the learning environment at Kentucky Wesleyan. A cattle ranch in Texas is helping change lives.

The campaign received a gift of $300,000 from Texas cattle rancher Boyd A. Cecil ’38. The trust gift will be used for the new $3 million Campus Community Center project, which is part of the capital campaign of the college. The student snack bar and grille will be named the “Boyd Cecil Ranch” in honor of his generous gift and love for his ranch.

“I wanted to make this gift because I love Kentucky Wesleyan,” said Cecil. “The college is so important to me because it gave me an education. I saw an opportunity to help Kentucky Wesleyan in this way. I am also pleased this is part of the Winchester era effort to raise funds from alumni of my generation.”

“We are extremely grateful for Boyd’s charitable gift to help us with the cost of the construction of this important new facility,” said Dr. Wesley H. Poling, president. “His gift and naming of the Boyd Cecil Ranch will serve as a reminder for generations to come of the generosity of one graduate and how much Kentucky Wesleyan College meant to him.”

Cecil, 85, graduated from Kentucky Wesleyan when it was located in Winchester. While a student, he was president of his class and played basketball. Following his years at Kentucky Wesleyan, Cecil taught biology, English and history and coached basketball at Crockett High School in eastern Kentucky. In 1941 he joined the U.S. Air Force as a navigator-bombardier during World War II.

After the war, he moved to San Antonio, Tex., where he went to work as a truck driver for Humble Oil (now Exxon) and eventually retired as one of the top regional sales managers, but not before another stint in the Air Force during the Korean War where he was promoted to a major.

While working for Exxon, Cecil worked on developing his 160-acre ranch in Flatonia, Tex., (halfway between San Antonio and Houston) raising world-class Hereford and Golden F-1 Braford cattle and quarter horses.

Cecil enjoys spending time relaxing and recounting days spent at KWC in Winchester.

Cecil enjoys spending time relaxing and recounting days spent at KWC in Winchester.

Campus Community Center groundbreaking photos on pages 12-13

Boyd Cecil: Gentleman rancher and faithful friend
by Roy Pickerill ’75

Round ’em up and move ’em out – a frequent task for Boyd Cecil and his ranch hands, seen here moving cattle from one field to another.
Why I teach

By Dr. Buxton Johnson

Kentucky Wesleyan College has always been a very special place to me. I was brought up in Owensboro. I went to KWC basketball games. I went to school with the sons and daughters of the college faculty. I took my first higher education English course at Kentucky Wesleyan while in high school. I was especially drawn to KWC during my middle twenties. As a new Christian, I was eager to study the life and teachings of John Wesley. Naturally enough, I often came to the KWC library to study works by Wesley, including his original works in the Heritage Room. During my study I discovered that John Wesley was highly educated and yet he was deeply committed to the Savior. Wesley’s life was an inspiration for me to pursue a high level of education as a Christian. From that time until now, I have always associated Kentucky Wesleyan with John Wesley. It was this association that drew me back to this college many years later.

When I first entered graduate school I was anxious about the long program ahead. My wife, knowing my feelings about Kentucky Wesleyan and believing that all things are possible with God, encouraged me that when I finished my Ph.D. I might teach at the college. Incredible enough, after six years, I finally saw a dream come true – I was hired by Kentucky Wesleyan to teach physics and mathematics. I found KWC warm and caring. In fact, several faculty and staff members helped my family and I during a very difficult time when my wife and four children were involved in a five-car collision. I also found the faculty to be highly dedicated and very concerned with student learning. They encouraged me to challenge students, to not be afraid of expecting students to work hard at mastering classroom material, and to help students succeed academically. With the exception of one year spent at the Vanderbilt Medical Center doing cancer related research, I have been here teaching physics, math, and computer science since 1995.

Students are still quite impressionable when they come to Kentucky Wesleyan College. During their years here, students make some very important decisions as to who they are and what they will do with their lives. However, many things about college life distract students from their purpose and cause them to lose interest. The most rewarding thing about teaching is the opportunity to spark the interest of students in a course of study and to encourage them to pursue their dreams. When a student finishes his or her program at KWC and graduates or transfers to engineering school to finish their engineering degree, I share in their accomplishment. It is especially satisfying when students come back several years later and offer a word of thanks to me for teaching and encouraging them.

The academic freedom afforded faculty at Kentucky Wesleyan is very important. For instance, while giving a series of leadership studies lectures on the life of Michael Faraday, I had the freedom to share Faraday’s life both as a brilliant scientist and as a dedicated Christian man. Many students appreciated this.

Times are very exciting, yet anxious at this college as we stand at the crossroads of the new millennium. We have tremendous challenges and obstacles to overcome as we face the future. Nehemiah, a Jewish leader whose story is described in the Old Testament book of the Bible bearing his name, faced similar challenges. He spent time in prayer and then with great courage set out on an incredibly successful building program and economic reform. However, at the heart of his success lay his deep reliance on God. Part of what I like about Kentucky Wesleyan is its Christian heritage. As we rebuild and reorganize for the future, I hope we will also rededicate ourselves to the Savior and thus fulfill our greater mission on this campus to future generations.
I came to the teaching profession indirectly. In graduate school for my masters degree in creative writing, I discovered that teaching not only stimulated my ideas in the classroom, but infused my writing with energy. I decided that writing and teaching were a fruitful combination as I continued my schooling until I completed a Ph.D. in literature.

Over the past 16 years since that first classroom experience, I have taught in a variety of college locations. About five years ago, one of those settings proved to be a rather poor fit for me. I felt tired and stale. I began to wonder whether I was really cut out to be a teacher. I left that job for a temporary position at a large university while I reflected upon my chosen work. There, I found enrichment opportunities for reviving my teaching. I rediscovered the enthusiasm not only for my students’ intellectual and emotional growth but for my own life-long learning process. The passion I had for literature, both reading and writing it, returned along with greater creativity in the classroom. About that time I accepted a permanent position at Kentucky Wesleyan.

Coming to Kentucky Wesleyan a year and a half ago represented a return to a small private college setting with all its challenges and commitments. During my on-campus interview, I had been struck by the collegiality and good humor of the faculty, especially those in my field of English. I was ready for a new environment and hopeful about its possibilities. Right away, I felt at home. My colleagues encouraged my ideas and supported my professional goals. They were engaging people, devoted to their students. The staff at KWC responded to me with warmth, and my students, though somewhat quiet, were generous and spirited. It seemed like a place I could take root and flourish.

This past semester, after a discussion of the Wesleyan Players play, “And Then They Came for Me,” I suggested an assignment for students to go out and change the world, to make it a better, more productive place. I knew they could do it, I told them, because I had witnessed and marveled at their energy and endurance. Naturally, we all laughed, recognizing the daunting task I was assigning them, but we tried to imagine how such a world might look. Class ended, and I returned to my office in the Faculty Office Building. On my office door, awaiting my arrival, was one freshly picked daisy, no note or explanation, just a single daisy. I smiled as I realized, my students were already transforming my world in surprising and wonderful ways.
It was a warm day in late October, the sky was blue, the sun was brilliant and the campus was filled with excitement. This particular day students, faculty, staff, alumni and friends all gathered to celebrate and participate in the ground-breaking of the Campus Community Center and replanting of trees in Hocker-Hall Grove.

The celebration began in the Grove where nearly a dozen trees were planted. Following the ceremony everyone walked across campus to the site of the Campus Community Center to officially break ground on the 22,000 square foot facility that will stand in the center of campus, serving as the heartbeat of student activity. The $3 million facility will open for the fall 2002 semester.

The Campus Community Center will be an addition to Presidents Hall, which houses the library and dining facilities. The addition will extend east from Presidents Hall to the Snyder Faculty Office Building.

“The construction of the new center will ensure a true ‘center of campus’ concept which will serve as the hub of all student activity. We have looked forward to breaking ground and are excited as we continue to move ahead with tangible evidence of our Changing Lives campaign,” said Dr. Wesley H. Poling, president.

Plans call for a courtyard to be created in the area between the Campus Community Center and the Snyder Faculty Office Building. Facilities in the new center will include a multipurpose room, offices, computer lab, conference room, snack bar, bookstore, exercise room, student lounge, reception area, game room and patio.
Students, alumni, city and county representatives and representatives of the Methodist church were on hand to share in this historic occasion.

Luellen Pyles '44, co-chair of the Winchester era regional campaign, proudly breaks ground to help commemorate the day.

Harold Dorsey '38, Winchester era regional campaign co-chair, meets Frank Cox, friend and donor. The conference room in the Campus Community Center will be named the Lucile N. Cox Conference Room in memory of Frank's wife and former KWC employee, Lucile Cox.

Over 300 people gathered to outline the site where the Campus Community Center will stand.

Dr. Wesley H. Poling, president, breaks ground on the first building to be built on campus in 15 years.

SGA President and Student Trustee, Kelly Nelson '02, thanks students for being part of the celebration and encourages them to take full advantage of their new home on campus.
Over the years, alumni contributions to the Wesleyan Fund have changed the lives of many students. Some of these changes are obvious, all are positive.

The Wesleyan Fund is supported with unrestricted operating gifts made to Kentucky Wesleyan College. These donations enable the college to do business on a day-to-day basis.

While daily operations may not be a highly visible benefit of the Wesleyan Fund, it could be considered the most important. The Wesleyan Fund pays for light and heat, cleaning supplies and basic classroom supplies - aspects of education which are sometimes overlooked.

A more visible part of daily operations is the staff of the college. Maintenance, secretaries, grounds-keepers, and administrators are all necessary for smooth operation. The Wesleyan Fund also supports salaries used to attract and retain outstanding faculty.

Kentucky Wesleyan College is not excluded from the rising costs of operating a business. The college relies on this fund day after day, year after year, to pay all of the daily bills.

The most visible benefit provided by the Wesleyan Fund is academic scholarships. For many would-be college students, a scholarship award can make the difference in being able to attend the school of choice. A scholarship from the Wesleyan Fund made the difference for Alex Nally, a senior majoring in business administration.

“I knew that after high school I wanted to attend a small liberal arts college,” said Nally. “The financial package at Kentucky Wesleyan was the deciding factor.”

Nally, a Bardstown, Ky., native, received a Trustee Scholarship from the Wesleyan Fund. He plans to stay in Owensboro after graduation and wants to work in the areas of civic planning and economic development.

“There are a lot of middle class kids going to college now,” he added. “The financial package can figure heavily in the decision to attend a certain school.”

Kentucky Wesleyan administrators agree with Nally. Ron McCracken, vice president for advancement said, “In this day and age, students can’t make a decision on attending a college based solely on tuition. They have to look at the entire package.

“Students today know they can always find a college that is less
expensive, but they are smart enough to know that you get what you pay for,” McCracken added. “They look at the value received on their investment.”

Nally says that being entrusted with a scholarship even became a personal growth opportunity for him. “I really didn’t apply myself like I should have during my freshman year,” he said. “I could have been in danger of losing the scholarship.”

Winning, and holding on to his scholarship helped Nally realize just what he could accomplish. “The scholarship was definitely something I needed because I don’t come from a wealthy family,” he said. “It made me realize the importance of my performance.”

A scholarship from the Wesleyan Fund also made a difference for Michelle Schwab, a senior psychology major. “I didn’t qualify for grants,” said Schwab, a native of Franklin, Ky. “My parents saved money to help me, but I have two younger sisters who will need help too,” she added.

“I was really interested in a private liberal arts college,” said Schwab. “I didn’t want to go to a large university where I would be a number.

“The academic scholarship really played a big part in my decision to attend Kentucky Wesleyan,” Schwab said. “Without it, I wouldn’t have been able to afford KWC.”

After graduation Schwab plans to attend the graduate program in psychology at Western Kentucky University. She hopes to someday work in education evaluating potential special needs students.

“The Wesleyan Fund is critical in our ability to help students attain their educational goals,” stated McCracken. “It helps make education affordable.”

Some students use several avenues to finance their education. Chris Arbogast, a Florence, Ky., junior majoring in computer science, uses many sources of aid to attend Kentucky Wesleyan College.

“I have my scholarship provided through the Wesleyan Fund, but then I also have a grant and some loans,” he said. “Otherwise, I wouldn’t be able to afford college.”

Arbogast plans to pursue a graduate program in computer engineering after graduation. He hopes to work with museum or archive computer systems.

Grateful to the alumni who fund his scholarship, Arbogast said, “Without the scholarship, I wouldn’t be here.” According to McCracken, more than 95% of KWC students receive some form of financial aid, including academic scholarships.

Many friends and alumni of the college respond to the Wesleyan Fund through an annual telephone request from a Kentucky Wesleyan student. Others respond to mail solicitations and individual requests.

Regardless of the amount, each gift to the Wesleyan Fund is a tribute to the idea that an education is forever…that an education changes lives.

Rebecca Schofield Glenn is director of development and public relations at the Big Rivers Chapter of the American Red Cross in Owensboro.

On behalf of the students and faculty who have benefited from the generosity of all who support the Wesleyan Fund…Thank You!

If you would like to help change a life by supporting the Wesleyan Fund, please contact Joyce Ann Evans, assistant director of development, at 270-926-3111, x5122 or email jevans@kwc.edu. Every contribution to the Wesleyan Fund is important and appreciated. At Kentucky Wesleyan College, we’re changing lives.
We’re back...thanks to you!

News of a recent tornado in Alabama struck a familiar chord with Kentucky Wesleyan students, faculty and staff. It was a year ago, January 3 that an F3 tornado touched down on campus, carving a path from the southwest corner to the northeast, leaving the unmistakable signs of destruction behind. A large percentage of trees were toppled and uprooted, windows were blown out, cars were smashed, and numerous roofs were missing, leaving gaping holes to expose the contents below to further damage from the torrential rain.

It is with deep gratitude and appreciation that we say Thank You to many alumni, friends, businesses, churches and other organizations because you saw a need and responded. Out of your love for Kentucky Wesleyan the Tornado Relief Fund grew to over $287,000. Your generosity has helped enable the college to recover, rebuild, replant and move forward.

What’s been done?

When looking around campus you will see signs of improvement and repair all around. First and foremost – the T2K (Tornado 2000 Kitchen) tent folded up and moved out prior to the beginning of the fall semester. Returning students and freshmen alike were greeted with meal service in the remodeled Presidents Hall cafeteria. The “new” dining hall has undergone major renovation, reconstruction and redesign over the summer. Electrical and plumbing work as well as kitchen equipment was installed, updated serving lines were put in and the hall now seats more people. New chandeliers were hung and “cove” lighting accents this room. In addition, the Gold Room has been cleaned up and redecorated and has been used for numerous functions throughout the semester.

The library office area and computer lab now has new carpet, ceilings and fresh paint. Much of the second floor repair work affected the library and its staff. Both the kitchen and library staff have patiently waited on the completion of repairs to Presidents Hall, not to mention the students.

The interior foyer at the north end of Presidents Hall will look slightly different when students return in January. Support beams were added under the landing earlier in the year to reinforce this structure. This permanent reinforcement will be covered to complement the interior appearance of the foyer.
What about the rest of campus?

Sidewalks cracked from flying debris or construction repair equipment have been repaired, the Administration Building handicap ramp has been redesigned and replaced and damaged dorm rooms were restored. New windows have been installed all across campus, the Kendall parking lot has been fixed from damage caused by T2K (the tent), a new concrete apron was poured in front of the Administration Building and roof work was completed.

What’s left?

Replacement of the marquee facing Frederica Street is in its final stages. This KWC community “landmark” was blown over and destroyed by the storm. The old sign has been removed and the remaining evergreens that landscaped this spot will be replanted on campus near Massie Hall.

The President’s home will be rebuilt in its original location. Dr. Poling and Carol live off-campus in a rented home and remain very active and involved in campus life. They have hosted student functions in their temporary home during the fall semester.

What about the trees?

One of the most prized possessions on campus took the brunt of the storm – the trees. Over 50% of the trees on campus were lost. The noticeable difference saddened many and planning began immediately to re-grow campus.

Dr. Rob Kingsolver, associate professor of biology, chairs the Landscaping Committee that has worked diligently and patiently to ensure that the replanting of campus is successful, in Mother Nature’s time. Kingsolver and his committee (Dr. Dan Bradshaw, Don Davenport, Dr. W.L. Magnuson, Dr. Shana Pack, Dr. Suzanne Rose and Paul O’Brien) arranged for approximately 200 trees to be planted this fall. Trees were planted in Hocker-Hall Grove, around the quad, and lining College Drive from Frederica Street to the back of the soccer field. They have followed a general plan (developed by a landscaping architect) incorporating modifications for patchy soil conditions, underground utilities, drainage, pedestrian traffic and nighttime lighting needs.

Other sites that have been replanted include foundation plantings around the Health and Recreation Center, landscaping around the new parking lot (corner of Frederica Street and College Drive), and several shade trees lining Wesleyan Drive. The committee selected quality nursery stock, most of which is substantial in size. According to Kingsolver, “We have chosen a mixture of evergreens and deciduous hardwoods to complement our buildings and existing landscaping in all four seasons.

“The fall planting is our first-stage effort to replace the trees lost a year ago to the storm. We are about halfway through that process. We anticipate moving forward with our plans in the spring to plant more shade trees, specifically in the middle of campus,” he added. The planting process will continue over the next few years, as landscaping of future buildings (the Campus Community Center and the Science Building) is part of this overall plan.

Kingsolver noted that in any large landscaping effort it is essential to follow-up with the appropriate care of the trees. Allocations from the Tornado Relief Fund will help with the upkeep and maintenance of the new landscaping additions. “Several local landscapers have been involved in this project, but we owe special thanks to Don Draper, owner of Yarden Center nursery, for donating a lot of his time and helping to arrange tree planting work on campus,” said Kingsolver.

The future?

Kentucky Wesleyan College has survived for 143 years. During that time the college has encountered many adversities – none too strong to destroy the spirit, the heart, the pride and the potential of the college. Thanks to your help in time of need, and your continued support, Kentucky Wesleyan will move forward in the future, continuing to shape and change lives.
Kentucky Wesleyan set NCAA Division II basketball history with a third consecutive 30-win season and a third consecutive trip to the NCAA championship game last year. The Panthers set a league record of three straight GLVC regular season and tournament titles and hope to continue the streak in 2000-01.

The Panthers were a unanimous No. 2 selection in all the national preseason polls and a No. 1 pick by the Great Lakes Valley Conference coaches in preseason rankings.

In addition to a talented recruiting class, Ray Harper, ’85 2000 National and GLVC Coach of the Year, returns two starters plus five letter winners from last season’s 31-3 squad.

Leading the way for KWC is preseason Division II Player of the Year Lorico Duncan. The 6-2 junior guard led the Panthers in scoring (19.6 ppg), assists (4.0 apg) and steals (1.9 spg). The other starter returning is 5-9 senior point guard Anwar Perry, who averaged 6.2 points and 3.4 assists in 34 starts last season.

The big man in the middle will be 6-8 senior All-American Chris Thomas who led KWC in blocked shots with 1.7 per game, grabbed a third-best 6.1 rebounds and scored a fifth-best 8.3 points coming off the bench for the Panthers last season. Other returnees include 5-11 senior guard Gino Bartolone, who was the fourth leading scorer (11.0 ppg) in a sixth-man’s role; sophomore guard Tanner Turley (1.5 ppg); senior forward Jason Indestad (1.0 ppg, 1.6 rpg); and junior forward Travis Powell (1.0 ppg).

The Panthers signed five impact players to fill the frontline and wing positions. Joining the line-up from the junior college ranks are 6-7 junior Ronald Evans, an honorable mention All-American at Shelby State Community College (16.4 ppg, 9.9 rpg); 6-5 junior Chris Landry from Trinity Valley Community College (16.3 ppg, 3.1 rpg); 6-7 junior Thad Key from Pasco-Hernando Community College (15.2 ppg, 9.3 rpg); and 6-6 junior Marshall Sanders from Brevard Community College (13.6 ppg, 7.3 rpg). From the prep ranks is 6-6 freshman forward Nathan Fortner (12.1 ppg, 6.3 rpg) from Ohio County (Ky.). Also joining the squad from KWC’s football team is 6-4 senior forward Shaun Logsdon (19.1 ppg, 10.3 rpg) from Grayson County (Ky.).

Coach Harper in action

New coach leads Panthers

Tandy Bradford begins her first season as head coach of the women’s basketball team after two years as an assistant. She returns three starters plus four letter winners from last season’s 12-14 squad. Her first recruiting class includes three transfers and two prep standouts.

Leading the way for Kentucky Wesleyan are 6-1 senior center Crystal Martin, who led the Panthers in rebounds (7.0) and was second in scoring (12.9); 5-6 senior guard Stephanie Jarvis (8.8 ppg, 2.3 rpg) and 5-11 junior forward Kelly Waters (5.6 ppg, 4.3 rpg). Other letterwinners returning are 5-11 sophomore forward Kami Vaal, who averaged a third-best 9.5 points and 4.2 rebounds per game coming off the bench in a sixth-man’s role; 5-9 sophomore guard Leslie Warren (9.0 ppg, 2.9 rpg) who led KWC in three-pointers with 46; 5-10 junior center/forward Allison Estes (2.6 ppg, 3.1 rpg); and 5-9 sophomore forward Jeanie Boshart (0.1 ppg, 0.5 rpg).

Also joining the squad after one season as a redshirt is freshman guard Adriane Vincent (10.4 ppg, 3.5 rpg in high school).

New to the Panthers are transfers 5-7 freshman guard Amanda Peters from the University of Louisville (12.7 ppg, 3.6 rpg in high school); 5-7 junior guard Christie Alvey from Ancilla College (14.5 ppg, 6.4 rpg) and 5-8 sophomore forward Teri Beth Jarvis from Southeastern Illinois Community College (5.4 ppg, 1.5 rpg).

The Panthers signed 6-10 freshman guard Lydia Purvis (17.4 ppg, 6.1 rpg) from Oldham County (Ky.) and 5-7 freshman guard Brandy Reynolds (16.2 ppg, 3.8 rpg) from Rockcastle County (Ky.).
Jason Clarke named assistant women’s basketball coach

Jason Clarke, assistant women’s basketball coach at Armstrong Atlantic College as announced by new head coach Tandy Bradford. “Jason had the most Division II experience of any coach I interviewed and he came very highly recommended based on his work ethic and knowledge of the game,” said Bradford. “He has a tremendous amount of experience in working with post players and his expertise will make a big impact on our post play.”

Clarke, 27, served two seasons as the graduate assistant for the Lady Pirates before being elevated to the top assistant’s position in 1998. Prior to joining Armstrong Atlantic, he was a student assistant at Virginia Tech University for two seasons.

While at Virginia Tech, the Hokies posted two 20-win seasons and won a Metro Conference tournament title in 1994 and a Metro Conference regular season title in 1995. Virginia Tech also made back-to-back NCAA appearances in those seasons.

The Yorktown, Va., native will be responsible for the development of the post players, coordinating recruiting efforts, scouting opponents and following academic progress. He will also serve as the Panthers head women’s golf coach.

Clarke earned his bachelor’s degree in physical education from Virginia Tech in 1996 and his master’s degree in health science from Armstrong Atlantic State in 1998.

Listen to all KWC basketball and football games live

Kentucky Wesleyan Panther fans can hear the live radio play-by-play of all their favorite men’s basketball and football games from any telephone in the world on TEAMLINE. Just dial 800-846-4700 and then enter the Kentucky Wesleyan Panthers team code 4230 to access live games. Charge the call to a credit card and listen to every exciting play as it’s broadcast live on WBIO 94.7 FM.

You can listen as long as you like, and pay only for the time you listen. The longer you listen, the less you pay - as low as 15¢ per minute. Have a group of friends over and share the cost by listening on a speakerphone - the games will sound just like FM radio.

If you are going to be a frequent user of TEAMLINE you can save up to 70% by ordering a pre-paid Telephone Season Ticket. For more information, or to order a prepaid ticket, call 800-846-4700 and choose option #5 from the main menu.

Sedrick Robinson signs with Houston Thunderbears

Sedrick Robinson ’96, a two-time first-team All-American wide receiver from 1993 to 1996, has signed to play for the Houston Thunderbears of the Arena Football League this April. He has spent the past two seasons playing professionally for the Peoria Pirates of the Indoor Football League where he led them to a perfect 17-0 record and the IFL Gold Cup Championship in 2000.

Robinson still holds 22 pass receiving records at Kentucky Wesleyan where he was named 1996 National Offensive Player of the Year and first-team All-American. He joins Karl Bates ’00, former KWC All-American defensive tackle and current defensive coordinator for the Panthers in the off-season, and former KWC assistant coach Ron James, who serves as the Thunderbears line coach and director of player personnel.

Football Panthers break 28 records

The Kentucky Wesleyan football Panthers ended the 2000 season by breaking 28 school records as they posted a 4-6 record. “What this team achieved this season was remarkable considering we only had seven starters returning (five offense and two defense) from last season plus the challenge of a very demanding schedule,” said head coach John Johnson. “I am very proud of this team because of their tremendous character and attitude.”

Football Gazette, based on the 1999 team’s 7-4 record and their No. 2 finish in the final poll, picked Kentucky Wesleyan No. 1 in the NCAA Division II non-scholarship preseason poll. The publication also selected senior center Mark Howell, senior defensive end Jason Indestad, senior wide receiver Anthony Melvin, senior tailback Drew Hall and senior tight end Shaun Logsdon to their preseason All-America team.

KWC began the season 0-3 then the Panthers caught fire by winning four of their last seven games where they scored 38 points per game. Senior quarterback Brian Hoffman twice earned Division II national offensive player of the week honors and sophomore defensive end Tony Black was fourth in the nation in sacks.

For their accomplishments both Hoffmann and Black were named at the annual football banquet the Most Valuable Players on offense and defense respectfully.
Kentucky Wesleyan fans can keep up with the 11-Panther sports on a daily basis by visiting our website – www.kwc.edu/athletic. The website contains sports news, statistics, rosters, schedules, player profiles, photos and the fall, winter and spring sports media guides. The website also has links to the Great Lakes Valley Conference, the NCAA and other related Division II sports sites. For all your sports information needs, take a look at our home page at www.kwc.edu/athletic.

**KENTUCKY WESLEYAN SPORTS ON THE INTERNET**

Kentucky Wesleyan third baseman Sandy Nevy and second baseman Alisha Tanner have been named softball All-America Scholar-Athletes by the National Fastpitch Coaches Association and Disney’s Wide World of Sports Complex. Student athletes must have a 3.5 grade point average to qualify for the honor.

Nevy, a senior from Kent, Wash., led the Panthers in the following seven offensive categories as a junior last season: batting average (.375), hits (45), runs batted in (18), doubles (13), home runs (5), slugging percentage (.642) and on base percentage (.421). Nevy is majoring in psychology and has a 3.77 gpa.

Tanner, a junior from Slaughters, Ky., started in seven of 13 games played last season. Tanner is majoring in communication arts and has a 3.69 gpa.

**2001 BASEBALL SCHEDULE**

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**March**

| 5 Mon          | Lindsey Wilson # |
| 9 Fri          | Mid-Continent |
| 10 Sat         | at Oakland City |
| 12 Mon         | at Wingate (NC) # |
| 13 Tue         | at Pfeiffer (NC) # |
| 14 Wed         | at Pfeiffer (NC) # |
| 15 Thu         | at South Carolina Aiken # |
| 16 Fri         | at Presbyterian (SC) # |
| 24 Sat         | at Brescia |
| 25 Sun         | at Southern Indiana + # |
| 26 Wed         | Brescia # |
| 31 Sat         | at Indianapolis + Noon |

**April**

| 1 Sun          | at Northern Kentucky + Noon |
| 4 Wed          | Bellarmine + 3:00 |
| 7 Sat          | Saint Joseph’s + Noon |
| 8 Sun          | IUPU Fort Wayne + Noon |
| 11 Wed         | at Mid-Continent 1:00 |
| 14 Sat         | at Missouri St. Louis + Noon |
| 15 Sun         | at Missouri St. Louis + Noon |
| 18 Wed         | at Bellarmine + # 3:00 |
| 21 Sat         | at Wisconsin Parkside + Noon |
| 22 Sun         | Lewis + Noon |
| 28 Sat         | at Quincy + Noon |
| 29 Sun         | at Quincy + Noon |

**May**

| 1 Tue          | at Mid-Continent 1:00 |
| 5 Sat          | at SIU Edwardsville + Noon |
| 6 Sun          | SIU Edwardsville + Noon |
| 10-13          | at GLVC Championship TBA |

Home games in bold. All times Central. # denotes single games, + denotes GLVC games

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**2001 SOFTBALL SCHEDULE**

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<tr>
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<td>28 Wed</td>
<td>Bellarmine # 4:00</td>
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**March**

| 1 Thu          | Trevecca Nazarene 2:00 |
| 6 Tue          | at Oakland City 3:00 |
| 9 Fri          | at North Alabama Tournament TBA |
| 10 Sat         | at North Alabama Tournament TBA |
| 11 Sun         | at North Alabama Tournament TBA |
| 13 Tue         | at Alabama Huntsville 5:00 |
| 14 Wed         | at Tennessee Wesleyan 3:00 |
| 15 Thu         | at Lincoln Memorial 1:00 |
| 17 Sat         | at Carson Newman 1:00 |
| 20 Tue         | at Southern Indiana + 3:00 |
| 24 Sat         | IUPU Fort Wayne + 1:00 |
| 25 Sun         | Saint Joseph’s + 1:00 |
| 28 Wed         | at Northern Kentucky + 3:00 |
| 31 Sat         | at Wisconsin Parkside + 1:00 |

**April**

| 1 Sun          | at Lewis + 1:00 |
| 7 Sat          | at Indianapolis + 1:00 |
| 8 Sun          | Northern Kentucky + 1:00 |
| 13 Fri         | at Missouri St. Louis + TBA |
| 14 Sat         | at Quincy 1:00 |
| 18 Wed         | Bellarmine + 3:00 |
| 21 Sat         | at Brescia 1:00 |
| 25 Wed         | at Georgetown 4:00 |
| 28 Fri         | at Southern Indiana + 1:00 |
| 29 Sat         | SIU Edwardsville + 1:00 |
| 30 Sun         | at Brescia 1:00 |

**May**

| 4-6           | at GLVC Championship TBA |

Home games in bold. All times Central. # denotes single games, + denotes GLVC games.
Women’s basketball pioneer, Virginia Harris “Shorty” Combs, dies at age 99

Virginia Harris “Shorty” Combs - KWC alumna, teacher, newspaper columnist and women’s basketball pioneer, died July 9, 2000 at the age of 99.

A 1922 graduate of Kentucky Wesleyan, she began her lifelong career in education in the Letcher County School System teaching second grade and then high school English and journalism. At Letcher County High School she coached the girl’s basketball team for many years, started the school newspaper and organized the Beta Club and the Nurse’s Club.

Combs was a forward on Kentucky Wesleyan’s 1921 state championship girl’s basketball team and earned the nickname “Shorty” because of her 4-foot-11-inch frame. The KWC annual Most Outstanding Player Award for women’s basketball was renamed the Virginia “Shorty” Harris Combs Most Outstanding Player Award in her honor. In 1997 she was inducted into Daviess County’s Kentucky High School Athletic Association Hall of Fame as a pioneer in girl’s basketball in Kentucky.

For more than 40 years, her popular weekly column “Family and Friends” appeared in the Whitesburg Mountain Eagle newspaper.

Additional honors for Combs included: the Kentucky Wesleyan Outstanding Alumna Award, induction into the Letcher County Hall of Fame, and being named one of the “Heroes, Saints and Legends” for the Wesley United Methodist Village.

A loyal member of the Whitesburg United Methodist Church, Combs had a remarkable ability to recite from memory many passages from the Bible and other famous gems of literature. Following one of her recitations during a commencement ceremony, she received a standing ovation from the KWC Class of 1994.

She was preceded in death by her husband, Stephen Combs, Jr. and is survived by three daughters: Carol Combs Daugherty ’51 and Connie Combs Kincer of Lexington, and Jan Combs Troser of Paris, Ky.; six grandchildren, and nine great grandchildren.

KWC President Dr. Wesley H. Poling said of Combs, “The Kentucky Wesleyan College community mourns the death of Virginia “Shorty” Combs. Her indomitable spirit and love for the college inspired us all. She was a treasure whose presence will be missed. Yet, we have wonderful memories of basketball stories, aphorisms, and Bible verses that help her live on in the life of Kentucky Wesleyan.”

Virginia “Shorty” Combs smiles with pride remembering her teammates.
He says he is entirely grateful to retired KWC Professor Dr. Bob Darrell for elevating his writing ability.

David Slaughter retired from Kentucky state government after 26 years and works part time as a realtor in Owensboro. He is in charge of the deacons’ evangelism ministry at Bellevue Baptist Church. He and his wife Yvonne have two children, Mark and Tina, and five grandchildren.

Randall Belcher was recognized by the Owensboro Mercy Health System board of directors with a nursing scholarship in his name. He is a former nurse and chairman of the board of directors.

Thomas B. Grieb is minister at St. Paul UMC in Louisville. He and his wife Cheryl Spaulding Grieb ’79 have two sons, John and Brian.

Jerry Weber has opened Weber’s Choice, a meat counter and delicatessen in Owensboro.

★ 20TH CLUSTER REUNION
April 28, 2001; Contact Office of Alumni Relations, 270-926-3111

Patrick O’Neill is head baseball coach at Brownsburg High School in Brownsburg, Ind., and will also be assistant football coach. He is an 8th grade teacher. He and his wife Susan have two daughters, Maureen and Katie.

★ 20TH CLUSTER REUNION
April 28, 2001; Contact Office of Alumni Relations, 270-926-3111

Belinda Abell is sales and marketing coordinator, project manager with Homes by Benny Clark in Owensboro.

Rebecca Rudd Whitehead is with EKW & Associates, LLP, formerly York, Neel & Co.-Owensboro, LLP.

Jay Smith received his doctorate of ministry degree from Wesley Theological Seminary in Washington, D.C. Jay is pastor of the Jeffersontown UMC in Louisville. He and his wife, Marian Helm Smith ’85 have a son, Jericho. Jay still cannot dunk a basketball, but at least he has the name “Dr. Jay” now!

Lori Hall Kramer and her husband Tom have a new daughter, Ruth Lillian Kramer, born on December 31, 1999. Lori is a parole officer for the state of Ohio.

Vicki Murphy graduated this year from KWC for the second time in a decade. Her recent degree, an associates in nursing, is the fourth one she’s earned.

George Wolf is the new vice president of enrollment management at Tusculum College.

Janna Duncan DeMarsh and her husband Michael have a new son, Alexander Matthew, born January 1. He joins big brother Andrew. Janna is vice president of human resources at Area Bancshares Corporation in Owensboro.

Belinda Abell is sales and marketing coordinator, project manager with Homes by Benny Clark in Owensboro.

Susan Robbins Crago and her husband Rick have twin girls, Lexie Margaret and Lisa Marie, born on November 8, 1999. They also have a son, Eric. Susan has started a bookkeeping and secretarial business in her home in Owensboro. Rick is the son of the late William D. Crago, former KWC English professor. Susan would love to hear from her sorority sisters.

David Smith married Leigh Ann Russelburg on April 8. They live in Whitesville, Ky.

Julie Frank Buxton and her husband Steve have a new baby, Ryan Todd, born May 23. They live in Purcell, Ok.

Todd Hall received the A.F. McKenzie Achievement Award for his outstanding sales and service efforts over the past year for Edward Jones.

Jody Head is territory manager for Patterson Dental Supply, Inc. in Louisville. He and his wife Karen have two children, Chandler Matthew and Caroline Elizabeth.

Greg Kuhn is an assistant principal at duPont Manual High School, the youth performing arts school, in Louisville. He and his wife Elizabeth have two children, Jordan and William.

Daphne Smith lives in New York City and recently performed the role of Betty Blake in “Will Rogers’ Folliés” and Grace in “Annie.” She has also toured the country in “Brigadoon” and “Carousel.” When not performing, Daphne works as a concierge at the Crowns Plaza Manhattan.

Heather Payton Boutell and her husband Stephen Boutell ’92 have a new son, Benjamin Marshall, born August 6, 1999, who joins big brother Jonah. Heather is associate director of financial aid at Bellarmine College and Steve is associate pastor at St. Paul United Methodist Church in Louisville.

Karen Elmore Davis earned her masters degree in Montessori education from Xavier University in May. She is a primary Montessori teacher at Coleridge Taylor Elementary in Louisville.

Karen Elmore Davis
Cynthia Taylor Smith Evans had her poem “The Silence After Antietam” published in the anthology, “America at the Millennium, The Best Poems and Poets of the Twentieth Century.” She is a foster/adoption specialist for the Department for Community Based Services in Lewisport, Ky. Her husband, Darrell Evans ’91, is a transmission specialist. They have three children, Sara, Mari, and Alan. 

Kristy Dame Knight married and lives in Frutta, Co. 

Mindy McWilliams Matthews graduated from Indiana Wesleyan with her master of education degree and lives in Evansville, Ind. She is a kindergarten teacher at Christ The King School. She and her husband Jeremy have two children, Cory and Graham. 

Catherine Wiggins Witz married Sean Witz on April 15. They live in Fort Worth, Tx. where Catherine is a unit secretary. 

Jon Boullinghouse is athletic director at Apollo High School in Owensboro. Jon and his wife Amy have a son, Will. 

Sam Chesnut is senior pastor and senior evangelist for Greater Love Ministry. 

Amy GlaserGreen and Scott GlaserGreen ’91 have a new daughter, Indra, born June 4. Amy completed a master of arts degree in transpersonal counseling with a concentration in art therapy at Naropa University and has opened a private counseling practice component at A Art House. Scott is a contractor, planner with Flour Daniels Facilities and Plant Services at IBM. He published an article on art with VISTA. They live in Longmont, Co. 

Pat Hume and his wife Carolyn have twin daughters, Bailey Marie and Jaclyn Elizabeth, born October 17, 1999. Proud grandparents are Bill ’60 and Ruth Hutton Hume ’62. Pat is a teacher at College View Middle School in Owensboro. 

Steven Wilt and his wife Jennifer Boutell Wilt ’94 have a new son, Evan Nicholas, born on August 23. Steve will be joining KWC in January 2001 as assistant professor of biology. He is finishing his Postdoctoral Research Fellowship at Yale University School of Medicine in New Haven, Ct. Jennifer will teach at Owensboro High School. 

Veronica Parker has opened a new business, Parker Gift Baskets, in Louisville. 

Jay Parrent and his wife Jennifer, have a new daughter, Parker Madison, born on August 18. Jay is the registrar at KWC. 

Nichols Warren Sandefur earned a master of divinity degree in missions, evangelism and church growth from The Southern Baptist Theological Seminary in May. 

Steve Divine and his wife Shanno, have a new daughter, Hannah Kate, born May 16. 

Beck Schofield Glenn is director of development and public relations at Big Rivers Chapter of American Red Cross in Owensboro. She is a contributing writer for this issue of Kentucky Wesleyan Today. 

Michelle Hartz Harris is the director for advancement services at KWC. 

Stacey Ferguson Yankey and her husband David have a new son, Caleb Mitchell, born on August 19. 

Laura Jo Kuyper received a master of science degree in forensic science from Marshall University and is working as a DNA analyst for the CODIS Laboratory in Huntington, W.V. 

Skip Merritt is assistant cashier, banking center manager at Fifth Third Bank in Owensboro. 

Paige A. Moore is director of marketing for the Owensboro Symphony Orchestra. 

Paige Cary Ward received a doctor of medicine degree at the University of Louisville School of Medicine, graduating magna cum laude. She is doing her residency in pediatrics at Medical College of Georgia University Hospital in Augusta. 

Rebekah Fitzhugh and Jason Keith Drenon 

Rebekah Fitzhugh married Jason Keith Drenon ’97 on June 17. She is a primary teacher at Cravens Elementary School in Owensboro and Jason is a youth minister at Pellville Baptist Church in Hancock County. 

Heather Cathrin Roth married James Michael Vanover on September 30. She is an assistant manager at Firstar Home Mortgage. 

Emily Bell Daulton married Eric Daulton on June 24 and is attending Southern Illinois University to earn a masters in behavior analysis and therapy. 

Wendy Bancroft Hensley married Rusty Hensley on July 22 and lives in Louisville.
Cheryl Kennedy married Michael Jones on July 22 and they have a daughter, Jacqueline Jones, age 8. Cheryl is a child care provider at Children’s Universe.

Anita Hicks Teague graduated in May with a MS in counseling and student personnel services from Kansas State. She is complex director at Western Kentucky University.

Sara Cox is an on-site program manager for Volt Services Group in Valencia, Calif.

Melissa Hoover married Wayne Morris, Jr. on August 12. She received her Certified Public Accountant license and is employed at Chester Hoover, CPA in Livermore.

Amber Miller married Spencer Taylor on September 16. She is an assistant branch manager with Owensboro National Bank.

Tammy Corley married Todd King on August 5. She is employed at Jewish Hospital in Louisville as a registered nurse in the critical care unit.

Joe Dowell married Anna Beth Traynor on August 5. He is the youth pastor at the Lewisport United Methodist Church.

James Jason Harris is a teacher at Henry County Middle School in New Castle, Ky. and lives in Shelbyville.

Sarah Hibner married Mike Shawhan on October 7 and lives in Louisville.

Angela Nicole Johnson married Kevin W. Duke on July 1. She is enrolled in the graduate program at Morehead State University.

Jeremy Kemplin married April Robbins on July 15. He is a manager’s assistant at Enterprise in Owensboro.

Kari LaGrange and Patrick Critchelow ’00 were married on June 24. She is a teacher at Owensboro High School and he is a foreman at Williams.

Christie Tabor married Eric Fogle on July 15.

Rush Witt married Kathryn Hurt ’02 on July 22. He is area director for the Fellowship of Christian Athletes and is college associate minister at First Baptist Church in Owensboro.

In Memoriam

Nancy Clay Haggard Rickard, on July 15. She was a former teacher in the Owensboro School System and a member of the First United Methodist Church. She was an associate in F.W. Rickard Seeds Inc.

Curtis Banvard Williams, on September 4, 1999, in Maryland. He was a school teacher for over 40 years before retiring in 1990 as a special education teacher. He received his masters degree from the University of Denver, his degree in education specialty from George Peabody College for Teachers, and a certificate of advanced studies in special education from Loyola College. A member of the Calvary United Methodist Church in Annapolis, Md. for over 30 years, he also served in the U.S. Army. He is survived by his wife, Margie of Sykesville; and one daughter, Rebecca Nellis of Sykesville.

Marian Dorrance Chapin, on August 11, in Summit, N.J. She had been the city welfare director for 23 years before her retirement. She is survived by her husband, Charles.

The Alumni Office has learned of the death of Agnes Korb Compton who died at the age of 91 on April 29.

Jack Gaynor, on July 7 in Cannelton, Ind. He was a U.S. Army veteran serving in Korea. In 1988 he retired from Kroger where he was employed for 38 years. He was a member of Windward Heights Country Club in Hawesville. Survivors include his wife of 43 years, Joyce Shore Gaynor ’63; two daughters, Kelly Ubelhor of Newburgh, Ind. and Shana Gaynor Champion ’94 of Owensboro; and one son, Troy Gaynor of Hawesville.

Dale Bartlett, Jr. on September 2, in Owensboro. He was former Commonwealth Attorney and Commonwealth Attorney Elect for Ohio, Edmonson, Butler and Hancock counties and former deputy sheriff. He was a graduate of Chase Law School and a member of the Ohio County, Kentucky, and American Trial Lawyers associations, Kentucky Academy of Trial Attorneys and Hartford Christian Church. Survivors include his wife, Renona; a son, Glenn Everly of Beaver Dam, Ky.; two daughters, Laura Snyder of Louisville and Allysone Bartlett of Owensboro; and his father, C. Dale Bartlett of Hartford, Ky.

Mary Evelyn Clark Richeson, on August 29, in Owensboro. She retired from Daviess County Schools after 28 years of teaching. She was a member of St. Stephen Cathedral. Survivors include her husband of 52 years, Randy Richeson; six sons, Mike of Penn., John of Fla., Jerry of Va. and George, Alan and Jimmy all of Owensboro; four daughters, Patty Adamic and Judy Argo of Owensboro, Linda Kirkpatrick of N.C. and Susie Cain of Paducah, Ky.

Cameron Paxton, on June 18, in Franklin, Tenn. While at Kentucky Wesleyan he was a member of Sigma Nu fraternity and the Panther soccer team.

Faculty

Dr. Thomas Rogers, on November 26, in Owensboro. He was 87 years old. As professor of religion and philosophy, he taught at Kentucky Wesleyan College for 41 years. He came to Kentucky Wesleyan in 1954 and retired from the college in 1979 as distinguished professor of religion and philosophy. He continued to teach part-time as professor emeritus until 1995. The student body voted Dr. Rogers the “Outstanding Teacher” three times in his career. He also was named an “Outstanding Educator in America” three times. Besides his teaching and mentorship, Dr. Rogers will also be remembered for leading the singing of KWC’s alma mater at the conclusion of graduation each May.

The college has established a special memorial fund for contributions. The Spring 2001 issue of Kentucky Wesleyan Today will feature a story on Dr. Rogers and his contributions to the college.

Email us!
You can now send us your news, change of address, comments and thoughts by visiting the alumni page at www.kwc.edu. We’re waiting to hear from you!
Please return this form to: Office of Alumni, Kentucky Wesleyan College, 3000 Frederica Street, Owensboro, KY 42301
Enclose a photograph if possible!
Thanks to your generosity we’re replanting!

Kelly Nelson ’02, SGA President and Student Trustee, helps plant a tree in Hocker-Hall Grove.