EKU Update, March 25, 2002

Eastern Kentucky University, Public Relations

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Glasser Pledges Passionate Leadership for Excellence

As its 10th president, Joanne Glasser promised Friday, March 8 to help EKU become a university of national distinction.

“This will not be a one-woman show starring Joanne Glasser,” she said at inauguration ceremonies held in Alumni Coliseum. “It will be an ensemble production, where every member of the cast receives equal billing and a chance to participate in shaping this university.

“I don’t intend to issue orders from on high,” Glasser added. “We are all partners in this endeavor. Together we will help create EKU’s future.”

Glasser, formerly executive vice president at Towson University in Maryland, assumed the EKU presidency Oct. 29, 2001. She is the institution’s first female president, but made no reference to that milestone.

“This ceremony,” she said, “is not about Joanne Glasser. Rather, it is a celebration of Eastern Kentucky University, its rich heritage and traditions, its wonderful academic programs,” students, faculty, staff and alumni.

“The essence of EKU is its solid foundation, built over nearly a century, of passionate commitment to educating generations of Kentuckians, especially those who live in the

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Earth Days to Include Kennedy, Backstreet Boy Richardson

The third annual Earth Days in the Cumberlands observance at EKU will conclude with visits from environmentalist Robert F. Kennedy Jr. and Backstreet Boy Kevin Richardson.

Kennedy, who was on the EKU campus for Earth Days two years ago, and Richardson, an Irvine native, will participate in the launch of a Kentucky Riverkeeper Project May 5-6. Kennedy is the founder and president of the Waterkeeper Alliance and chief prosecuting attorney for the Hudson Riverkeeper. The Alliance, an environmental “neighborhood watch” program, is the umbrella organization for 80-plus Waterkeeper programs throughout North and Central America.

The Riverkeeper event caps several weeks of activities – lectures, roundtable discussions, arts events and participatory exercises – designed to heighten awareness about environmental issues facing the Commonwealth and beyond.

Cross-disciplinary participation on campus and contributions from the local community have been instrumental in the success of Earth Days, according to Dr. Alan Banks, director of EKU’s Center for Appalachian Studies.

Several academic programs, offices and centers at EKU have come together to sponsor Earth Days events, including the Center for Appalachian Studies, Women’s Studies, Chautauqua Lecture Series and the Departments of Geography, Leisure Studies, Chemistry and Biology.

All events are free and open to the public unless otherwise noted. Events and dates are subject to change. For more information, call 622-1644 or visit www.appalachianstudies.eku.edu/earthdays.

Friday, March 29

- Bluegrass Choices: Smart Growth for the Bluegrass, 7 p.m., Grand Reading Room, Crabbie Library

Saturday, March 30

- Road Clean-up with Boonesboro Boat Club, 10 a.m., meet at River View Marina, call 622-1644 for more information

Tuesday, April 2

- Public presentation by Appalachian poet Diane Fisher, 7 p.m., Grand Reading Room, Crabbie Library

Wednesday, April 3

- Kentucky Birds of Prey, Kentucky Department of Fish and Wildlife, Salamo Wildlife Education Center, 1 p.m., Riverbend

Saturday, April 6

- Road Clean-up with EKU Gardens, 10 a.m., meet at Lake Reba

Monday, April 8

- “The American Story,” film, 5:30 p.m., Room 128, Crabbie Library

Wednesday, April 10

- “The Ralph Stanley Story,” Appalachia film and discussion featuring filmmaker Herb E. Smith, 7 p.m., Room 108, Crabbie Library

Friday, April 12

- Tour of Solar Homes in Madison County, Bob Fairchild, 2:30-5:30 p.m., depart from Jones Parking Lot at 2:30 p.m. Because of limited space, RSVP requested at 622-1424.

Saturday, April 13

- Days Ferry Road Clean Up Day, 10 a.m., meet at Circle H Parking lot, 9079 Old Richmond Road. Volunteer groups, individuals welcome: Call 622-1644 for more information

Tuesday, April 16

- “There Is A Law: The Clean Water Act and the Appalachian Coalfields,” David Rose, Kentuckians for the Commonwealth, 3:30 p.m., Room 128, Crabbie Library

Thursday, April 18

- “Mountain Melodies: Stories and Songs of Civil Action in the Appalachian Coalfields,” Rob Mercure, brown bag luncheon, 12:30 p.m., Room 201, Crabbie Library

Saturday, April 20

- Earth Days Hike and Picnic with Jim Hays, The Nature Conservancy, Horse Lick Creek, Rockcastle County, 10 a.m., van will leave from Alumni Coliseum at 10 a.m., rain or shine. For more information, call 622-1644

Sunday, April 21

- “Songs of the Earth,” Earth Day recital, vocal division of EKU Department of Music, 3:30 p.m., First Presbyterian Church, Main Street, Richmond, reception follows.

Monday, April 22

- Earth Day Environmental Fair, music, booths, open mike and more, 10 a.m.-4 p.m., outside Powell Building

- Free concert, 7-10 p.m., Riverbend

Tuesday, April 23

- “Coal: The American Story,” film, 3:30 p.m., Room 128, Crabbe Library

Wednesday, April 24

- “Safe Disposal of Chemical Weapons at the Bluegrass Army Depot,” panel discussion including invited representative from Sen. Mitch McConnell, Doug Hindman of Citizens Advisory Committee and representatives from the Chemical Weapons Working Group and the Army, 7 p.m., Perkins Building

Saturday, April 27

- SK Race for the Planet, 10 a.m., begin at Stratton Building. Cost of $12 includes t-shirt, cost is $6 without t-shirt. Pre-register by April 19 in Begley Room 202 for $2 discount. For more information, call 622-1244.

Wednesday, May 1

- “Safe Disposal of Chemical Weapons at the Bluegrass Army Depot,” panel discussion including invited representative from Sen. Mitch McConnell, Doug Hindman of Citizens Advisory Committee and representatives from the Chemical Weapons Working Group and the Army, 7 p.m., Perkins Building

Sunday, May 5

- Kentucky Riverkeeper Fund-Raising Dinner with Robert F. Kennedy Jr., Waterkeeper Alliance, and Kevin Richardson, just within Richland Foundation, 5-10 p.m., Perkins Building. Additional details TBA

Monday, May 6

- Kentucky Riverkeeper Launch with Kennedy, Richardson and others, 10 a.m., Fort Boonesborough State Park. Additional details TBA
**Tuesday, March 26**

**Trailblazing Women**

“Women Athletes Blazing A Trail (1860-2000),” Kitty Baird, professor emeritus, Centre College, Tuesday, 12:30 p.m., Faculty Dining Room. (Bring a lunch or go through cafeteria line.) Sponsored by EKU’s Women’s Studies Program.

**Wednesday, March 27**

**Softball Twinbill**

EKU vs. Dayton, 2 p.m., Gertrude Hood Field.

**Colonels Back Home**

EKU vs. Marshall, baseball, 3 p.m., Turkey Hughes Field.

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**March 25, 2002**

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Send items to the above location, fax or e-mail address by March 28.

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**Forum Focuses on Terrorism, Civil Liberties**

As patriotism surged in the wake of the terrorist acts of Sept. 11, 2001, many Americans have expressed concerns over perceived threats to their civil liberties.

Three panelists at EKU’s annual Law and Justice Forum Tuesday, April 2 will address “Terrorism and Your Civil Liberties.”

**It’s the classic debate about … safety versus freedom of expression and other liberties.”**

— Dr. Jim McCord

Discuss new laws, such as the Patriot Act, and why he believes such legislation is necessary. Jeff Vessels, executive director of the Kentucky American Civil Liberties Union, will address “Threats to Your Civil Liberties as Congress and the President Act to Fight Terrorism.”

After their presentations, the panelists will discuss the issues with each other and then invite questions from the audience.

“It’s the classic debate about … safety versus freedom of expression and other liberties,” said Dr. Jim McCord, professor of government and director of EKU’s Paralegal Program. “Gen. Youngman will lay the foundation for the discussion and the other two panelists will present their perspectives. Our goal is to provide a very balanced forum.”

The Patriot Act, according to McCord, gives additional powers of detention and surveillance to the executive branch of government and reduces the amount of judicial oversight over some of those decisions.

Dr. McCord will discuss new laws, such as the Patriot Act, and why he believes such legislation is necessary.

**Saturday, March 30**

**Softball Doubleheader**

EKU vs. UT-Martin, 1 p.m., Gertrude Hood Field.

**Art Exhibit and Book Signing**

Regional women artists and writers, 6:30-10 p.m., Richmond Area Arts Center, Lancaster Avenue and Water Street. Sponsored by EKU’s Women’s Studies Program.

**Raison D’Etre Performs**

Raison D’Etre vocal trio, performing a mix of medieval, Shaker, pioneer and contemporary folk songs, Saturday, March 23, 7:30 p.m., Richmond Area Arts Center, Lancaster Avenue and Water Street, tickets $5, $4 for students and senior citizens, co-sponsored by Richmond Area Arts Council and Women’s Studies Program.

**Sock Hop**

Weaver Gym, 8-9 p.m., swing (jitterbug) lesson; 9 midnight, general dancing; $3 for students, $8 for others, ’50s dress encouraged. For more information, contact Marianne McAdam at 622-1901 or marianne.mcadam@eku.edu.

**Softball Homestand Continues**

EKU vs. UT-Martin, 1 p.m., Gertrude Hood Field.

**Sunday, March 31**

**Women’s Studies Advisory Committee**

Dr. Louisa DeBolt, 622-1891.

**Retired VP Rowlett Honored**

Unveiling ceremony for framed photo of John Rowlett, retired vice president of academic affairs, 10 a.m., Rowlett Building, reception to follow, University community invited.

**Women’s Studies Recognizes White**

5:30-5:30 p.m., Walnut Hall, Keen Johnson Building, short program at 4:30 p.m. will recognize Isabelle White for her years of service as director of the Women’s Studies Program and founder of Will (Women Involved in Living and Learning), refreshments, sponsored by the Women’s Studies Advisory Committee.

**Thursday, April 4**

**Softball Action**

EKU vs. Morehead State, 2 p.m., Gertrude Hood Field.

**Vocal Jazz Ensemble Performs**

8 p.m., Brock Auditorium, admission $1.

**First Weekend**

All events free to full-time EKU students; for schedule of events, see firstweekend.eku.edu.

**Friday, April 5**

**Motor Fitness Clinic Open House**

Special Motor Fitness Clinic Open House, 6-7 p.m., Telford YMCA, 110 E. Main St., sponsored by EKU’s Department of Exercise and Sport Science and Telford YMCA. The Clinic is a 10-week program for children with disabilities ages 5-11 and allows EKU students a chance to gain experience providing direct physical activity programs to children with special needs. EKU faculty, parents of children currently enrolled in the program and parents interested in enrolling their child in future clinics are invited. Refreshments provided. For more information, contact Dr. Louise DeBolt, 622-1891.

**Saturday, April 6**

**Choral Classic**

7 p.m., Brock Auditorium.

**Sunday, April 7**

**Choral Classic**

5 p.m., Brock Auditorium.

**Monday, April 8**

**Robin Roberts Talk Rescheduled**

ESPN sports broadcaster Robin Roberts, 7:30 p.m., Brock Auditorium, postponed from Jan. 28, part of “Women and Sports” series sponsored by Women’s Studies Program.
**Name: Patrick Nnoromele**

**Current Position at EKU:**
Associate professor of philosophy and religion and the University Chaplain.

**As Chaplain what are your duties?**
I oversee all activities in the chapel. That includes meetings for campus and religious organizations, performing wedding services, counseling students on various religious matters, managing the chapel for different student events and arranging other group activities including memorial services.

**How long have you been in this position?**
I’ve been in both positions for seven years.

**What’s the most rewarding part of your job?**
The fulfillment I feel when I’m teaching.

**If you weren’t doing this job, what would you like to be doing?**
I am people oriented, so I would enjoy any job involving human interaction.

**What did you do before coming to EKU?**
I was a professor at the University of Kentucky in the Honors Program and Philosophy Department. I also taught at Cedarville University in Ohio.

**What are your interests and hobbies?**
I jog, watch news and sports and I read on topics of interest to me.

**Tell me about your family.**
I’m married with four beautiful children. My wife’s name is Salome, my daughters are Nmeli, who is 11; Christa, who is 9, and Hannah, who is 7. My son, Patrick, is about 2.

**What’s your favorite vacation spot?**
It’s a place where I can go and stay undisturbed to read and/or listen to music.

**What is your favorite food?**
Stewed rice, Nigerian style. It has tomatoes, onions, green peppers and meat, served over a bed of rice. I like it best with fresh fish instead of beef.

**What is your favorite vacation spot?**
My idea of a vacation might be perceived by some people as idiosyncratic. I do not consider anything a vacation, if it means returning home more tired than I was before I left. A vacation, for me, is any quiet place devoid of long hours of driving, or traveling where I can go and stay undisturbed to read and/or listen to music.

**What is in your CD or tape player at home right now?**
Yanni’s “Dare to Dream.”

**What book would you recommend to others?**
The Bible! I believe it contains wise precepts to guide one’s everyday actions. It is uniquely refreshing to study it, and I would recommend it to anyone, Christians and non-Christians alike.

**What is your hero?**
My hero is Jesus. Through him I have learned some enduring principles of life.

**What’s the best advice you’ve ever received?**
My mother always told me to love God and to allow God’s guidance to govern my life choices.

**What makes you happy?**
Serving others. Helping students reach their academic goals makes me happy. But I’m happier when those around me are functionally happy. I believe it is healthy and that makes me very happy.

**What do you think is the most important thing in life?**
Can you recall your most embarrassing moment? Yes. It happened during my first year in America, when I told my friend’s mom that she was robust. I was only trying to be complimentary. I came from a culture where being robust was considered an evidence of good living and a happy life. But she gently corrected my culturally misguided comments.

**Can you recall the proudest moment of your life?**
When I passed with distinction and “credits” all the courses I registered for with the West African Examination Council, which qualified me for a degree program at the university level without going through a formal high school education program.

**What person do you admire most?**
My hero is Jesus. Through him I have learned some enduring principles of life.

**What’s the best advice you’ve ever received?**
My mother always told me to love God and to allow God’s guidance to govern my life choices.

**What makes you happy?**
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**One thing nobody ever knew about you until now is.**
I am an open book.

**Who or what has influenced you the most?**
In my position as a teacher, my pedagogical style is highly influenced by Socratic methodology.

**If my secret ambition/fantasy came true, what would you be?**
To be me!
Glasser continued from page 1

Bluegrass and in Appalachia. Our challenge now is to enlarge upon that foundation, to ensure that Eastern remains accessible to all who wish to attend, regardless of their economic circumstance, race, gender, religion, ethnicity or national origin. And that we make that extra effort to give our students the support, guidance and extra instruction they may need to graduate from EKU.

“We will remain a student-centered institution, where the unwavering objective is to open students’ minds to exciting new possibilities in a way that can make a positive difference for themselves and their families,” Fruchtman said. “In my judgment, this inauguration puts formally into place the most exciting university president … in the entire nation.”

While at Towson, Glasser planned and directed a highly-successful $17.5 million capital campaign, the first in the institution’s history. The Daily Record, a statewide business and legal news publication in Maryland, named her one of Maryland’s Top 100 Women in 1997 and again in 2001.

She vowed to share her vision for EKU all across Kentucky and throughout the nation.

“Rest assured, I will not be a stranger … in Richmond, Madison County, or throughout Kentucky,” Glasser said. “I will be visible and accessible. You will see me at the Richmond Mall, at local shops and restaurants. You will see me on the streets chatting with people. You will see me visiting legislators and government leaders in Frankfort. You will see me with business and civic leaders in Lexington and Louisville. This is now my home, my New Kentucky Home. I intend to get to know it, and to make fast friends with the warm and wonderful people of this region.”

Glasser said. “That is why I am so pleased and very excited about this new scholarship fund that has been established here tonight.”

Other speakers at the ceremony included Gov. Paul Patton and representatives of various segments of the University and local community: Student Regent Nick Bertram, who also served as master of ceremonies; Dr. Pamela Schlomann, chair of the Faculty Senate; David Williams, staff regent; Terry Collis, president, EKU National Alumni Association; Richmond Mayor Pro-Tem Bill Strong (speaking on behalf of Mayor Ann Durham) and Madison County Judge-Executive Kent Clark.

Special music was provided by the EKU Department of Music, Model Laboratory School and First Baptist Church, Francis and Collins Streets, Richmond.

That evening, the Joanne K. Glasser Student Scholarship Endowment was announced at a special dinner. The $40,000 endowment was established with proceeds from the dinner and matching funds from the Commonwealth’s Regional University Excellence Trust Fund.

“Students are my priority … my passion,” Glasser said. “That is why I am so pleased and very excited about this new scholarship fund that has been established here tonight.”

“This scholarship will make a difference in the lives of our students. And, after all, that’s what Eastern Kentucky University is all about — touching and changing lives and helping make dreams come true.”