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EKUpdate

A Newsletter for the Eastern Kentucky University Faculty and Staff. Volume 4 • Number 4

October 1 Disabilities Awareness Day at EKU!

September 23, 2002

LITTLE FIREMAN – At the Sept. 11 service marking the one-year anniversary of the terrorist attacks, four-year-old Matthew Wade straps on a firefighter helmet under the watchful eyes of his mother, Laura Wade, left; his aunt, Mary Carole Thomas; and Richmond Fire Chief Steve Tipton. Matthew is the son of Laura and Richmond Firefighter Nathan Wade. (For more photos, see page 3.)

Deaf Professor Achieves Milestone

When Nina Coyer was an undergraduate student at EKU two decades ago, she felt "very isolated" as the

only deaf person on campus.

Now, believed to be the first "culturally Deaf" professor in the Commonwealth to earn tenure, Coyer is a role model for deaf and hearing students alike at her alma mater. And, as part of a growing deaf community at EKU, she's far from alone.

Coyer, an assistant professor in EKU's acclaimed Interpreter Training Program, didn't realize the significance of the achievement when she earned tenure earlier this year.

"When I became full-time (in 1997), I understood that I would have to work hard toward tenure," Coyer said, " but I didn't realize I would be the first. It's an incredible honor, but I was too busy just trying to do it."

Any individual who uses American Sign Language and interpreters and moves within and identifies with the deaf community is defined as "culturally Deaf."

Deaf since birth, Coyer grew up in California, where she was educated in public schools. While in school, she took extensive speech training and communicated by reading lips and speaking to the best of her ability. It wasn't until she was 19 that she learned American Sign Language. She now uses ASL almost exclusively "because I'm more comfortable with that."

After receiving a baccalaureate degree in deaf education K-12 and elementary education,

Coyer returned to Eastern, where she became the first Deaf person to earn a master's degree in deaf education in 1985. She taught full-time at the Kentucky School for the Deaf for 12 years and part-time at EKU for nine years.

"It's always a challenge for me, teaching new students who have no knowledge of sign language, deafness or deaf people," Coyer said. "My goal is for them to be able to communicate with other deaf people. I enjoy that a lot."

As a Deaf professor at a University that has about 40 students with varying degrees of deafness, Coyer relishes her "role model" status. "I'm sure several deaf students

here look up to me," she said. "I try to encourage them to be successful."

Coyer brings "perspective and experiences that hearing people do not have," said Dr. Laurence Hayes,

director of EKU's four-year Interpreter Training Program. "She can share things with students that I have never been through. She can educate students, faculty and staff because, coming from her as a Deaf professional, it has a different meaning and impact. Nina is a real asset to our program."

Interpreting services also are available to Coyer whenever she attends departmental, College of Education and University functions.

"The College of Education is trying very



TRAIL BLAZER – Nina Coyer of EKU is believed to be the first "culturally Deaf" professor in the Common-wealth to earn tenure.

hard to work with me and my deafness," she said. "I don't feel I have to stay in the Interpreter Training Program. I can go outside the Department, be more assertive and expose people more to deafness."

Coyer is thankful that she's considered an "equal partner" in the Department of Special Education. "Faculty and staff are respectful, and there are a lot of other places not like this. A lot of people tell me, 'Nina, you are so lucky.' That's why I love my job."

Judge Combs First Center Series Speaker

Kentucky Court of Appeals Judge Sara Combs will kick off the 2002-03 public lecture series sponsored by EKU's Center for Kentucky History and Politics.

Combs will discuss "Decisions Judges Make and Their Impact on Kentuckians" on Wednesday, Sept. 25, at 7:30 p.m. in Room 212 of the Perkins Building.

In 1993, Combs became the first woman ever to serve on the Kentucky Supreme Court. A year later, she was elected to the Court of Appeals, First Division of the 7th Judicial District. "The Court of



Combs

Appeals may be the least understood court in

Kentucky," said Dr. Paul Blanchard, director of the Center, "but it is very often the court that makes a final decision, because few cases go on to the Supreme Court.

A native of Louisville, Combs resides at the Fern Hill farm in Powell County where she and her late husband, former Gov. Bert T. Combs, made their home.

Before she speaks, Combs will present the Center's Bert Combs Award to former Kentucky Supreme Court Chief Justice John Palmore, who served on the Commonwealth's highest court for 23 years. His son, Jack, is a former University attorney at EKU.

Other Center programs this fall are:

Wednesday, Oct. 16, "It's Time to Stop Playing Partisan Politics in Kentucky," former Gov. Brereton Jones, 7:30 p.m., Kennamer Room, Powell Building.

Wednesday, Nov. 13, "Fighting Terrorism in the Modern World (and in Kentucky): Can Another 9/11 Be Prevented?," Tom Preston, CEO of Preston Global and a recognized expert on terrorism, 7:30 p.m., Kennamer Room, Powell Building.

Thursday, Nov. 21, "The History of Eastern Kentucky University: EKU after World War II," Dr. Bill Ellis, EKU Historian, 7:30 p.m., Room 212, Perkins Building.

Wednesday, Dec. 4, "Writing History As A Collaborative Enterprise: An Editor's Perspective," Dr. Nelson Dawson, noted Kentucky historian, 7:30 p.m., Room 212, Perkins Building. (Dawson will receive the Center's Thomas D. Clark Award for Outstanding Contributions to Kentucky History.)

In addition, the Center will host a day-long conference on Wednesday, Dec. 11 on the origins and impact of KET and co-sponsor several forums on local elections.

More public lectures are planned for the Spring Semester.

Sunday, Sept. 22

Frisbee Golf for Charity

Eighteen-hole Frisbee Golf Scramble, hosted by Sigma Nu fraternity, 1 p.m., Shilito Park, Lexington. Proceeds to Easter Seals of Lexington. Registration \$40 per four-person team; hole sponsorship, \$100. First prize, \$100; second prize, \$40. To enter a team, sponsor a hole or donate, contact Nate McGee, 622-5347 or e-mail ekusigmanu@hotmail.com.

Thursday, Sept. 26

Faculty Trumpet Recital

Dr. Jonathan Martin, 8 p.m., Brock Auditorium.

'Love' Series Looks at Courtship

"The Economics of Love: From Courtship to the Courts," Dr. Fred Ruppel, EKU Department of Economics, 7:30 p.m., Student Services Building

EKUpdate

September 23, 2002

EKUpdate is published every other Monday during the academic year by the Office of University Advancement. Comments or questions should be directed to:

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To submit items for next issue: Send items to the above location, fax or e-mail address by Sept. 26.

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Auditorium, part of year-long Chautauqua series on the subject of love.

Friday, Sept. 27

Health Sciences Career Day

College of Health Sciences Fall Career Day, 9:30 a.m.-12:30 p.m., Keen Johnson Ballroom, visit www.ced.eku.edu for list of participating professions

Volleyball Action

EKU vs. Austin Peay, 7 p.m., McBrayer Arena.

Saturday, Sept. 28

Volleyball Homestand Continues

EKU vs. Tennessee Tech, 2 p.m., McBrayer Arena.

Colonels at Home

EKU vs. Glenville State, football, 6 p.m., Roy Kidd Stadium

Sunday, Sept. 29

Faculty Bassoon Recital Dan Duncan, 3 p.m., First Presbyterian Church, Richmond.

Monday, Sept. 30-Saturday, Oct. 26

Art Exhibit Opens

Cristin Millet, sculpture, and Apo Torosyan, mixed media, Giles Gallery, Campbell Building, opening reception 7-9 p.m. Sept. 30, call 622-8135 for Gallery hours.

Wednesday, Oct. 2-Saturday, Oct. 5

'Antigone' Presented

8 p.m. nightly, Gifford Theatre, Campbell Building, presented by EKU Theatre, \$4 for students and senior citizens, \$5 for other adults, call 622-1323 weekdays between noon and 4 p.m. for tickets.

Thursday, Oct. 3-Sunday, Oct. 6

First Weekend

For details, visit www.firstweekend.eku.edu.

Saturday, Oct. 5

Colonels' Homestand Continues

EKU vs. UT-Martin, football, 6 p.m., Roy Kidd Stadium.

Off-Campus Library Access Improved

In an effort to better meet the research needs of students, faculty and staff, EKU Libraries has improved access to library resources for offcampus users.

Students and faculty now can access nearly all electronic resources from off campus via a simple log-in process. An EKU mail username and password will gain access to Blackboard, campus computer labs, and library databases and e-journals.

Dean of Libraries Lee VanOrsdel called the improved access "a hugely important step for the EKU community."

To access electronic resources from off campus, go to the Libraries Web site at www.library.eku.edu, click on "Find Articles," choose a resource and log in.

For more information, visit www.library.eku.edu/offcampus, call the

reference desk at 622-6594 or e-mail reference.library@eku.edu.

Fall Career Day Is Sept. 25

More than 40 employers and graduate and professional schools are expected to participate in EKU's annual Career Day and Graduate and Professional School Day on Wednesday, Sept. 25.

The event, from 11 a.m. to 3 p.m. in the Keen Johnson Ballroom, is designed to help students and alumni from EKU and surrounding universities and colleges explore a range of fulltime jobs, part-time opportunities, co-op positions and internships, as well as provide information on graduate and professional school programs.

"Fall Career Day is an excellent opportunity for students and alumni to explore career options available to them and enhance their career prospects by meeting and networking with potential employers from a wide range of industries," said Amanda Tudor, associate

director of EKU's Division of Career Services. "Graduate school representatives also will be available to discuss professional degrees and educational opportunities. It is a well-rounded event that offers job seekers great exposure to professional contacts and provides employers with an opportunity to promote their job openings to qualified candidates."

A continually updated list of recruiters planning to attend the event is available at the EKU Career Services Web site, www.career.eku.edu.

Parking will be available in the Stateland parking lot, located across the By-Pass from Roy Kidd Stadium. A shuttle service will provide transportation to and from the Keen Johnson Building.

Career Day sponsors are the divisions of Career Services, Cooperative Education and Alumni Relations, The Graduate School, the offices of Diversity and Services for Students with Disabilities, and The Eastern Progress.

Challenge Course Hosts Community Day

EKU's year-old Challenge

Course will host a Community Day Sunday, Oct. 6.

The event, from 2 to 5 p.m., will include tours, a cookout and, of course, opportunities for visitors to try the various elements of the course, which is located off Lancaster Avenue behind the Stratton and Funderburk buildings.

The state-of-the-art experiential learning facility includes both low (10 feet or less off the ground) and high elements (up to 45 feet high) that help individuals and groups explore a variety of skills.

"It's great for improving communication, productivity, leadership and problem solving, and it's fun," said Jason Burton, the

Announcements

Kickoff Time Changed

The kickoff time for the EKU-Tennessee Tech football game in Cookeville, Tenn., Oct. 26 has been changed to accommodate a live regional telecast by WSMV-TV in Nashville. The game now will begin at noon CDT instead of 2 p.m.

ROTC Honors Davis

Dr. Rita Davis, acting vice president for student affairs, received the Department of the Army's Commander's Award for Public Service at the recent EKU Army ROTC picnic.

The award recognizes Davis' "genuine endorsement of the ROTC mission" and said that "her active support of the Colonel's Battalion Corps of Cadets contributed greatly to mission accomplishment."

Team Begins 'Colonels' Walk'

A new football tradition has begun at EKU. Two hours and 15 minutes before every home game, the Eastern football team, along with coaching staff and cheerleaders, will begin the "Colonels' Walk" in front of Alumni Coliseum and proceed as one unit through a designated area down the middle of the tailgating area in the lower Alumni Coliseum parking lot en route to the stadium.

course's new coordinator.

The course is proving popular with University, civic, corporate, athletic, community, youth and social organizations, according to Burton. Typical group sessions are usually four hours, and weekdays and weekends are available for scheduling.

"We specially design programs to fit their needs," Burton said. "We can make them as easy or as hard as a group needs."

The course is adaptable to a wide range of ages (down to age 6) and physical abilities.

Course users are requested to wear sturdy, athletic-style shoes, loose pants and no dangling jewelry.

For more information, call Burton at 622-1217 or visit www.cwe.eku.edu/ challengecourse.

"This is a good way for our fans to interact with the team and show their support," said Interim Athletics Director Jack Lengyel.

The Colonels host Glenville State Saturday, Sept. 28, and UT-Martin Saturday, Oct. 5. Both games begin at 6 p.m.

Fort Haunting Scheduled

The annual Haunting of Fort Boonesborough, co-sponsored by the EKU Department of Recreation and Park Administration, will be held Oct. 25, 26 and 31 from 7 to 11 p.m. nightly.

The cost is \$6 for adults and \$4 for children under 10. Proceeds go toward educational and professional development of students in the Department.

For group rates, call Dr. Jon McChesney, 622-1835.

International Sweater Days

The International Office is requesting donations of sweaters, sweatshirts, coats, gloves, scarves and blankets to be given away to international students who are unprepared for cold weather. Items should be clean and in styles that would appeal to college students. They may be delivered to Case Annex 181 on or before Oct. 7. Call Beth Blanchard, 622-1478, for more information.

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Remembering Sacrifices









The campus remembered the tragedies and sacrifices of Sept. 11, 2001 with several events, including a student-centered service in the Ravine that paid tribute to campus and local police, firefighters and servicemen and all those who lost their lives in the terrorist attacks. Other related events included a tree-planting in front of the Roark Building, a public forum that looked at the event from a variety of perspectives, and a presentation by Sixth District Congressman Ernie Fletcher.





News

-EKUpdate







LEADERS VISIT CAMPUS – Gov. Paul Patton and Sixth District Congressman Ernie Fletcher were on campus recently, meeting students and community leaders, including President Glasser. Patton spoke at a Richmond Chamber of Commerce luncheon at the Perkins Building, and Fletcher addressed a group of students about how they can serve their country in the wake of the terrorism of Sept. 11, 2001.



Publications & Presentations

Blythe, Hal and **Sweet, Charlie**. "Moody's Blues," Ellery Queen Mystery Magazine, November 2002, pgs. 22-40.

Blythe, Hal and **Sweet, Charlie**. "The Superhero Formula," Storytelling, 2.1 (Spring 2002), pgs. 45-59.

Costello, Patricia S. and **Kay, Lisa W.** "Where Do All of the Undergraduate Statistics Majors Go?" Stats, No. 34 (Spring 2002), pgs. 10-13.

Dailey, David W. "Computer-to-plate: High End, High Dollar to Classroom Affordable," International Graphic Arts Education Association Conference, July 31, 2002.

Kim, Euisuk. "El Hombre Frente al Espejo: Identidad y Militancia en 'En Este Lugar Sagrado," Romance Notes, Vol. XLII, No. 2 (2002), pgs. 197-204.

Klatte, Mary Ellen. "[Discussion of] *Kentucky Woman: The Life of Viebie Catron Cantrell*," Education Pays Institute Meeting, May 31, 2002.

Myers, Marshall. "My Lady," Poetic

Realm, No. 11, pg. 72.

Myers, Marshall. "Ohiopiomingo: The Great Meade County City That Never Was," Back Home in Kentucky, July 2002, pgs. 22-26.

Myers, Marshall. "[Review of] *Analyzing Everyday Texts: Discourse, Rhetoric, and Social Perspectives* by Glenn Stillar," Composition Studies, Vol. 30, No. 1 (Spring 2002), pgs. 145-151.

Myers, Marshall. "[Review of] *Appalachian Love Stories* edited by James Gifford and Edwina Pendarvis," Wind, No. 87, pgs. 85-86.

Myers, Marshall. "[Review of] *The Circumstance of Death* by Barbara Smith," Appalachian Heritage, Vol. 30, No. 2 (Spring 2002), pgs. 92-93.

Pierce, Marcia and Dickerson, Christopher (graduate student). "The Ability of Naturally Occurring Biofilms Isolated from Spinach to Act as a Vector for *E. coli* O157:H7," poster presentation, American Society for Microbiology's 102nd general meeting, Salt Lake City, Utah, May 2002.

Application Process Now Electronic

Human Resources, in conjunction with the University's Web design team headed by Ron Yoder, is

pleased to introduce a new electronic application process.

With the new electronic application an individual can work from any computer, at home or work, to complete an on-line application. The

advantages of the new electronic system are many. The applicant can easily change or make corrections to an application. The application can be saved by the applicant, updated and resubmitted for other vacancies without having to complete an entirely new application.

The system will provide Human Resources with a database history of all posting and applicants for each position. An automatic response is also sent to the applicant indicating that Human Resources has received the



by Gary Barksdale, director of Human Resources

application. New posting templates bring consistency in appearance while saving considerable time in getting the job announcement on line.

Human Resources will continue to print the applications and distribute to hiring officials, but soon these applications will be transmitted directly to the hiring official without having to produce a paper document.

"The new process looks sharp and will certainly improve efficiency and service to our customers," said Sheila King, employment coordinator.

Progress Finalist For Pacemaker

The Eastern Progress, EKU's awardwinning student newspaper, has been selected as a finalist for a Pacemaker, the nation's top student journalism

award from the Associated College Press. The winner will be announced at the ACP's annual convention, Oct. 31-Nov. 2, in Orlando,

Fla. Newspaper issues are judged for writing quality, editorial leadership, photography, evidence of in-depth reporting, and graphics.

Student editors in 2001-02 were Dena Tackett, Pikeville, and Jennifer Rogers, Lancaster. The faculty adviser was Dr. Libby Fraas.

The Progress has won numerous national awards, including a Pacemaker Award in 1996.



PHOTO BY CHRIS RADCLIFFE, UNIVERSITY RELATIONS

ANOTHER ACHIEVEMENT BANNER – EKU student-athletes are joined by President Glasser in celebration of the University's record eighth Ohio Valley Conference Academic Achievement Banner. The banner is given annually to the school whose student-athletes achieve the highest gradepoint average compared to the average for their school's student body. EKU's student-athletes had a combined GPA of 2.80.