Millage election will help dictate future of University Center

A May 1 election to ask the citizens of Sebastian County to support building a Math/Science/Technology Building which would also provide classrooms for University Center operations and other educational and training facilities has been approved by the Board of Trustees at its March meeting.

"By state law," President Joel Stubblefield says, "the only source of funding we can use to build and equip new facilities is local millage."

Stubblefield unveiled an artist's drawing of the proposed Math/Science/Technology and University Center Building at the meeting. He says the Center's future depends on passing a millage increase of 3.75 mills on real property and 3.15 mills on personal property.

"The increase will cost the average property owner in the county less than the price of one admission to the movies per month, $2.97."

With enrollment growing at the rate of 400 to 700 additional students in each of the last four years, Stubblefield says students had to be turned away last fall, when classrooms reached 100 percent capacity. Students are on waiting lists for admission to certain programs and courses with some lists extending to 1991.

"Without the funds for adding classrooms, labs, and technical training facilities, we will be turning hundreds of students away, and we will have to defer start-up of the University Center programs until additional classrooms can be built to accommodate current demand."

Citizens of Sebastian County have voted a tax on themselves for Westark one time in its 62-year history, and that was in 1965, a generation ago. The amount of that tax was established when enrollment totalled 1,000 students. Westark has more than five times as many credit students now, not counting the 10,000 registered in Continuing Education and Business and Industrial Institute classes.

"Westark is probably, according to Stubblefield, the only educational, city, county, state, or federal government taxing entity that has not had a tax rate increase in 25 years."

The millage increase will provide University Center classrooms, math, science, and technology classrooms and laboratories, a combination classroom-student services building to be built in 1993, and classroom furniture and instructional equipment for these buildings. It will also provide for peripheral property purchases for temporary faculty offices and more parking to accommodate the several hundred new students each year.

In addition, it will pay for renovation and major repairs to three aging buildings and another general purpose classroom building to be built in 1996, which are necessary for the 2,500 additional students to be accommodated by then.

Westark, Stubblefield adds, should not be in the business of turning students away. "Our education and training programs and the University Center are strategically important to the further economic development of Sebastian County and Western Arkansas and absolutely essential to the retraining of the work force of existing businesses and industries."

Westark has provided good stewardship of the taxpayers' dollars, concludes Stubblefield, illustrating Westark operates with one-third the local tax support of the average two-year college in the nation and operates with one-third the space per student of the state's other comprehensive two-year colleges.

The proposed tax is strictly for building, equipment, and facilities and would not be used for salaries, supplies, or other operational costs.

"Without the funds for adding classrooms, labs, and technical training facilities, we will be turning hundreds of students away, and we will have to defer start-up of the University Center programs until additional classrooms can be built to accommodate current demands."

Joel Stubblefield

Here's an artist's drawing of the proposed Science/Math/Engineering Building and University Center, which if the millage passes, may be built near the area of the tennis courts and the Breedlove parking lot.
**Budgeting process underway**

The proposed 1990-91 budget is in planning stages, according to Jim Underwood, Vice President of Finance and Administration.

Hearings were held in early March and division chairs and other department heads presented their financial goals for the next year as well as expected enrollsments, equipment and operation costs for their divisions. The next step is to consolidate the budget requests into a college-wide budget document.

Underwood says the process in developing the budget is important. "The budget in terms of dollars is very closely tied to the plans of the institution. The budget requests are related to the planning document we have."

The estimated needs involve the participation of the entire faculty and staff. There are a number of review processes for priority setting, then the President will present the recommendations to the Finance Committee of the Board of Trustees. The Finance Committee will then make recommendations to the whole Board.

The budget as a whole is still in the early stages while projected revenues are being considered. Expert opinion is being sought to determine the outcome of the economy and how it will effect state appropriations, tuition, and special appropriations. Underwood says state appropriations are two and a half percent below last year. "We are hopeful the state will have a lot of growth because sales tax and income tax are calculated into the distribution of appropriations."

Factors such as increased enrollments can be a strain on several phases of the college and adjustments in the budget will be made. Money originally dispensed for equipment or supplies for a particular division might be used to hire additional personnel to accommodate the number of students enrolled.

The major gifts campaign, resulting in 5.3 million dollars of donations from the community, will provide considerable relief for the general operation, states Underwood. The money was placed in an endowment and the interest will be used to purchase equipment and to provide scholarships. "The interest for this year will provide approximately $70,000-90,000 and in the next five years will increase to $350,000-400,000. This will help the operating budget. It is certainly a blessing to the school."

This year marks the last year of the current biennium and the budget for the 1991-93 biennium is also in the works and will be presented to the State Board of Higher Education in May. Hearings will be held in summer and fall and will be included in the legislative session next spring.

by Angela Barlow

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**Enrollment growth more than triples statewide increase**

A new record was set at Arkansas colleges and universities as 82,823 students enrolled for the 1989 fall semester at the state's public and independent institutions of higher education. There were 5.1 percent more students in 1989 than in the previous years.

Since fall 1985, there has been a 13.5 percent enrollment increase due to the continuing influx of students into Arkansas colleges and universities. New peaks have been reached each year since 1986, according to Department of Higher Education statistics.

All sectors of higher education experienced enrollment growth in 1989. The ten public university enrollments in fall 1989 were 4.7 percent above the previous year. The ten public two-year institutions experienced 8.7 percent growth in the same period, while the 12 independent institutions showed a net gain of 1.9 percent.

The Arkansas college-going rate for 1988-89 high school graduates was 44.8 percent in 1989. This is the seventh consecutive yearly increase.

The college-going rate is a measure of the number of full-time entering freshmen at all Arkansas colleges and universities as a proportion of the previous year's high school graduates. The 1989 figure is the highest level ever recorded for Arkansas. The rate began its steady climb in 1982 and between that time and 1989 the figure is up over six percentage points.

Most of the enrollment growth was caused by an increased number of returning students. The number of new freshmen increased in 1989. Arkansas remains behind the national college participation rate.

Between the 1985 and 1989 fall semesters at Westark, enrollment increased from 3,412 to 5,009 - a 47% increase. Between the 1986 and 1990 spring semesters, enrollment increased from 3,258 to 4,525 - a 39% increase.

This increase is caused by several different reasons, according to Dr. Eric Priest, Vice President for Student Affairs. "People are showing an avid interest in the University Center. Classes have been scheduled for student convenience. Employers value a college education. And most of all, the increase reflects how important people think enrolling in college is."

by Christy Griffin

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**College Enrollment Increase since 1985**

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<th>State of Arkansas</th>
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<td>Westark Community College</td>
<td>47 percent</td>
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New microcomputer programs start with summer sessions

Starting this summer, Westark will offer programs in Microcomputer Applications and Management. Students who successfully complete the specified 34 semester credit hour program will earn a certificate and those who successfully complete the specified 66 semester credit hour program will earn an Associate of Applied Science degree.

The Certificate program prepares graduates to work for microcomputer stores, small businesses, and corporations in support of microcomputer users. Graduate will be capable of writing specifications for the purchase of microcomputer hardware and software, install hardware and packaged software, and provide routine maintenance and end-user support for hardware and packaged software.

In addition to the abilities acquired by the Certificate program graduate, the AAS degree holder will install and manage network systems and write customized software systems.

The addition of the AAS degree program and the Certificate program in Microcomputer Applications and Management complements the Computing and Information System's offerings and increases the options for potential students interested in computer professions.

"I feel the proposed program is a good opportunity for the people of the community, and the training they receive can be used in the surrounding area. It's really great to know we'll have such a program," says NaTrelle Cheeks, computer major.

The Microcomputer Applications and Management Certificate and AAS degree programs will be under the direction of the Division of Computing and Information Systems. All of the general education and related business courses are available and offered in both day and evening sessions. No additional faculty will be needed for the general education or business related courses.

Library use on increase

Library attendance jumped 18.9 percent this year and circulation of library materials has increased by 25.9 percent, according to Max Burns, Director of Library Services.

Burns says he is not sure why students are using the library more. "I think maybe students are being assigned more papers and more library outside work for their classes. Also we have more students now than we have had in the past."

"It is a very good place to study. I used the library last year and I am using it this year. It is quiet and has a lot of useful books and information I needed for studying. I like it very much," says Sang Tran.

Dianne Fagan says she did not use the library last year. "I guess I just didn't think about it. I started coming here so I can make myself study."

The library houses 48,344 books and 41,253 audio visual software items and accommodates several classes daily through three separate classrooms.

The present staff consists of Burns, five professional librarians, two library technical assistants, one part-time cataloger, one part-time library clerk and eight student workers.

Burns would like to see a staff increase to help meet the demands of increased enrollments, but the funding is not available at the present time. "We need at least two full-time librarians."

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by Jennifer Montgomery

by Angela Barlow

"It is a very good place to study."

-Sang Tran
Every hour three thousand acres of tropical rain forest, located in Brazil and other developing countries, are lost to developers. Fifteen to twenty million acres are destroyed outright each year. So what, right? If this is your attitude stay tuned for the magnitude of the destruction and what it can mean for the world.

Half of the species on earth of plants and insects live in the rain forests and half of those species face extinction as their natural habitats are destroyed. The enormous diversity of plant and animal species in those regions is vital for maintaining a robust planet, says John Kennedy, Editor of National Parks Magazine.

The tropical plants grown in the forest are an invaluable pharmaceutical resource. The extracts from those plants are used to treat cancer, leukemia and other serious diseases. Some scientists believe clearing the forests might affect climatic patterns worldwide by altering global air circulation and wind currents, and the burning of the forests may contribute to global warming.

Many programs, such as “debt-for-nature,” (agreements between independent conservation groups to relieve a nation of a portion of its foreign debt in exchange for pledges to protect its tropical forest) have been implemented to help solve the destruction of the tropical rain forests, but unfortunately it hasn’t been enough. What we need to do is raise the consciousness of the people. Some suggest we need to urge Barber Conable, president of the World Bank, and U.S. Treasury Secretary Nicholas Brady to lend money to developing countries only for environmentally sound projects that would not further destroy the rain forests.

To help raise the consciousness of the people every twenty years, an Earth Day occurs. This one, scheduled for April 22 is designed to be the most informative and influential day yet. Let’s see if we can all pull together and help SAVE THE PLANET!
Next Issue: How important is the passage of the millage increase on May 1 to the future of Westark?

Students are getting more involved in environment

If you were to walk around campus and try to pick out the environmentalists, how many do you think you would find? Probably very few, if any. My point being, if more people were interested in and actively involved in the environmental problems that exist today, I believe there would be a great deal less significant, life threatening problems.

I'm not asking you to quit life and totally devote your time to environmental solutions, but what I am suggesting is that you take ten to fifteen minutes out of your week to pick up a magazine and read about the problems, recognize them, and yes, see if you can possibly make a difference. Think of something you can do to make this a better world to live in. Why not? We all have to live in this world anyway, we might as well make a difference, right?

Interestingly enough, students are seemingly taking part more in the environmental problems, but could we do more?

The question posed to the students this week was: What are you doing to help solve the environmental problems that exist and need to be dealt with today?

by Shanteel Jones

"I use recyclable paper and try to cut down on my hairspray." - James White

"I buy biodegradable products." -Jerry Holmes

"I recycle aluminum cans." - Leanne Bennett

"I don't litter and I teach my kids not to litter." - Tammy Richey

"I plant trees and I don't smoke." - Sibley Pennington

"I recycle cans and newspapers." - Doan Minh

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Centerspread
6/7, Lion Pride
April 3, 1990

Miss Westar Contest 1990

Cathy Gramlich
Melissa Lloyd
Jennifer Montgomery

Kebra Baker
Robin Bolton
Jeana Vaughan

Suzanne Bates
Shanteel Jones

Cilia Karl
Penny Standridge
Pam McD
Kelly Rogers
Stacey Dishner
Shawntel Smith
Letha Hodson
Yvonne Morrison
Pam McDade
Stephanie Sellers
Lynn Grimm
Danette McAllister
Robbin Edwards
Lynnette Roberts
Special guests at the Miss Westark Scholarship Pageant, Friday and Saturday, April 6 and 7, will be Miss America 1983 Debra Sue Maffett, Miss Arkansas 1989 Marci Lewallen, and Miss Westark 1989 Stephanie Hester.

Evening gown and swimsuit competitions are scheduled for Friday night with talent competition and coronation on Saturday. The pageant begins at 7:30 p.m. each evening in the Westark Fieldhouse.
Lord of the Flies entertains, enlightens

Lord of the Flies is a moving display of a movie and a testament to the inherent depravity of man without restrictions. The story is of 23 American military students whose plane goes down in the middle of the ocean. They manage to find their way to a deserted tropical island. So, it's up to the boys to survive, get rescued or set up a new society.

Ralph, a responsible, thoughtful mature boy takes over. He founds a system based upon assembly. Whoever has the conch shell in assembly gets to speak. Ralph's program calls for concentrating on getting rescued. He calls for keeping a fire lit at all times so if a plane should pass, it will be able to see the smoke.

But some of the boys, led by Jack, an alleged juvenile delinquent, get bored with this and begin hunting pigs. One day a helicopter does pass by, but the fire is out. Jack, who was supposed to be watching the fire, was out hunting.

Eventually, half the group, convinced they are not going to be rescued, leave to form the hunting tribe. Membership builds more until there is no one left outside the tribe except Ralph and his fat, geeky friend Piggy. The tribe then kills one of its members, thinking he's a monster.

They then steal Piggy's glasses, which are the tool used to start fire, necessary to cook pigs. When Ralph and Piggy go to get the glasses back, they kill Piggy. Now Ralph is the only non-member left. They chase Ralph around the island until they run into the Marines who have come to rescue them. All the boys halt the chase and begin crying helplessly.

There is a lot of easily detectible symbolism (the best kind). The savagization of the society without restrictions represents how democracy and/or anarchy will ultimately fail. The readiness of all the boys to enter a tribal lifestyle represents man's reluctance to think. He'd rather spend his days following an established pattern. The conch represents civilization. It is what the tribe does not have and the rest do. The marines represent re-established authority. The tribe comes back to its senses when order is restored.

There are a few differences between the movie and the book Lord of the Flies by Sir William Golding. They threw in a few extra bits to add some comic relief, as evidenced by one boy's guessing that "Ali" was on at home. A big problem is they left the best part of the book out of the movie. It was when the conch (civilization) breaks. Oh well, it's their movie, not mine.

The directing in Lord of the Flies is very powerful, especially in the music. The atonal dirge sections really help to build suspense and frighten by climaxing in volume. The color of the movie is also very impressive. They were extremely deep and vivid. The green of the jungle puts you right into the atmosphere and orange of the fire and the blue of the water just looked really neat. Also, the director experimented a lot with shadow. Overall, he was able to create a very original look.

Lord of the Flies is another movie you might not want to take a date to. But it is definitely a quality film, and you owe it to yourself to see it.
Lions, Lady Lions savor state crowns despite dismal showing in region.

The basketball Lions' season came to a screeching halt in the Region II championship series against fourth-ranked Connors. 96-80 and 84-73 losses ended the Lions' bid for an eighth trip to the NJCAA national tournament. They won the national championship in 1981. They finished their season with a 26-8 record, 5-5 in conference play, and an Arkansas State Junior College Championship under their belts. They won five state championships in the 1980s.

"It was a pretty good year," says Coach Bobby Vint, whose two-year record is now 51-17. "We got banged around in the tough Bi-State East a little, but we beat Connors on their home floor when they were ranked number two."

"We did a lot of the things we set out to do," points out sophomore James White. "We never got discouraged." Sophomore Andre Brown was pleased with the season. "Out of all the problems we had early we really came together. We could have gone farther, but I think we could have done better."

It was just one of those nights. Nothing the Lady Lions tried worked, everything the 11th-ranked Connors Cowgirls tried worked, and the season was over, just like that, 82-57. But there's no reason to be down. 1989-90 was the most successful season in Lady Lions history. The team won their first Arkansas State Junior College Championship. Their 27-7 mark set the records for most victories and fewest losses in a season. They tied for second place in the conference with a 7-3 record. The 2,722 points the Lady Lions scored this season set a school record. Sophomore Tina Chadwick set every 3-point shooting record in the books. Tina made seven 3-pointers in one game, 63 for the season, and 109 for her career. Freshman Lori Frye set the records for most assists in a game with 13 (twice) and in a season with 181. "That's my job," says Frye. "I think it is just as important to give someone else the ball so they can score as it is for me to score."

Sophomore Lazandra Thomas and freshman Nafeesah Brown both moved into the top ten on the all-time scoring list. Thomas' 673 points put her in eighth place, while Brown moves into tenth with 589 points after only one season. "Overall it was a good season," says Thomas. "We knew we could have a good season, but then we had all the injuries. It was challenging, but we came closer together."

"We set a goal of winning the state championship and we did that," says Assistant Coach Charla Barclay. "It was tough on the kids, though. We were playing with a lot of aches and pains, but we showed a lot of heart and desire. Overall we had a great season."

"I still can't think of anything to say," says Kathy Wilson.

Lori Frye, team leader in assists, defends against an NEO Lady Norseman. (Photo by Spencer Kinsey)
"We're awfully young," explains Lion Baseball Coach Bill Crowder about his team's slow start this season.

The Lions, 15-11 going into spring break, play a lot of freshmen, and according to Crowder, "We make some freshman mistakes. We need to improve our fundamental skills. That's typical of young kids. We've improved our defense and pitching. We teach our kids not to lose confidence, but to keep working and you'll get better. I don't like the word 'can't.'"

Freshman pitcher Scott Czarnetzki naturally thinks pitching is the key. "We'll be all right as long as our pitching holds up." "We're finally coming together. Hopefully we'll be all right by regionals," adds Zack Larman, freshman pitcher-first baseman.

"We started off slow," says freshman outfielder Jay Richardson. "We're starting to work right as a team now. We need to work on discipline at the plate."

The Lions have four road trips this week. This afternoon they travel to Muskogee to take on Bacone. Thursday the Lions travel to Seminole, Saturday to Eastern, and next Tuesday to Carl Albert. The next home game will be Saturday, April 14, against NEO. The game starts at 5 p.m.

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Golfers hope to rebound from last place finish

The Lion golf team got off to a dreadful start in their first spring semester tournament. They finished last in a tournament hosted by Henderson State University in Arkadelphia March 15 & 16. The field also included: Texarkana Community College, Paris, TX, Junior College, and Ouachita Baptist University.

"We played very poorly," says Coach Ron Richard. "We've got a long way to go."

The Lions have a match at NEO Friday. They then host NEO Thursday, April 12, at Ben Geren Regional Park. The Region II tournament will also be held at Ben Geren Thursday and Friday, April 19 & 20.

Since Richard became coach in 1968, the golf team has won four Regional titles, and placed second five times. WCC has represented Region II in the national tournament in 1975, 1983, 1984, 1985, 1987, and 1989.

Members of the team this spring are: Marcus Hall, Brent Lewis, Brian Smith, Jeff Smith, and Barry Tabor.
Art major's charcoal drawing wins state competition

When it came time to send in entries to the Arkansas State Collegiate Art Competition at Russellville in February, Jerome Mazyck rapidly did a charcoal drawing as his entry. That quickly-done entry not only did well; it won first place. The charcoal drawing was sold at the show.

When he graduates, Jerome will be allowed to have a one-man exhibition of his work. This is his prize for taking first honors at the competition.

Jerome sees art work as a form of pure creation. He says drawing is a reflection of a person's moods and feelings. When he is feeling aggression he works it out in the form of a drawing. It may be a drawing he will not allow anyone to see.

It doesn't matter, he says, what the subject matter is that you're drawing. "You don't just look at a horse and draw a horse. It is the act of drawing that is important. That is what matters."

Jerome likes to take advantage of the potential of things. He believes people waste a lot of their potential by not staying where they are and finding it, and by spending their time watching television. "People get greedy. They want things handed to them because they don't want to have to tap into their potential and use a little creativity."

He sees a piece of paper or a canvas as a wide open space that is his to fill. He enjoys taking advantage of the potential of a pencil or a brush and using it in a creative expression.

"It is the act of drawing that is important. That is what matters."

As an art major, Jerome spends much of his time drawing. During the times when he isn't drawing he is riding his skateboard. He says the skateboard is as important to him as art. He can be creative and express himself in the ways he wishes.

Jerome enjoyed the taste of success he had at state competition in Russellville and wouldn't mind repeating that success some time. He says it was a fun experience he did just because he wanted to and had the potential to do.

by Christy Griffin

Jerome Mazyck sketches in one of the art classrooms in the Ballman-Speer Building. (photo by Jason Earl)

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