Behind the Scenes – Hurricane Preparations

On Wednesday, Sept. 16, with the heavy rain and high winds of Hurricane Ivan bearing down on Western North Carolina, Chancellor John Bardo sent students home. Two days later, with the county in a state of emergency, he shut down the university entirely. But long before those rare events, university officials were making preparations to protect lives and property at Western.

In pre-storm planning meetings coordinated by the university Police Department, various offices agreed on a wide range of precautions. Workers from Facilities

Carter Named First Provost

The board of trustees has approved Kyle R. Carter, provost and vice president for academic affairs at Central Missouri State University, as Western’s chief academic officer, a position that also will carry the title of provost for the first time in the university’s history.

Carter, a member of the administration at Central Missouri State since 1998, will serve as chief academic officer at Western and will be the senior vice chancellor authorized to act on behalf of Chancellor John W. Bardo in the chancellor’s absence. The appointment is effective Nov. 1.

“We have been searching for an individual who can help guide Western through a period of growth and development that is just now in the early stages,” Bardo said in announcing the appointment. “With the input of faculty, students and staff, the university has charted a path for the future, and is in need of a proven higher education administrator to help us get there. We have found just that person with Kyle Carter.”

Carter will fill a vacancy created by the departure of Richard J. Collings, vice chancellor for academic affairs at Western.

Relief Fund Established

Western has established a hurricane relief fund to provide financial assistance for employees and students who suffered property loss or damages from the two recent storms that struck the region.

At this point, contributors have given more than $3,600 to the fund, including $1,500 collected by the Staff Forum on Employee Appreciation Day, Sept. 14.

If you’d like to make a donation to the fund, send cash or a check (made out to the Hurricane Relief Fund) to Lila Buchanan in the Development Office, Room 401, H.F. Robinson Building. Contributions are tax deductible, and you will receive a receipt.

People who need assistance can apply for the funds through Human Resources. Forms are available at www.wcu.edu/pubinfo/news/hurricanefundapp0904.htm

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Provost Appointed

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since 1996, who left the university in May to become president of Wayne State College in Wayne, Neb. The appointment of Carter follows a nationwide search conducted by a campuswide committee and assisted by a national consulting firm.

“Western Carolina University provides a unique challenge for me and a set of opportunities that I couldn’t resist,” said Carter, who also is a professor of psychology. “I am impressed with the executive management team, the faculty and staff at Western Carolina. They are hard-working, ambitious and collegial. I couldn’t ask for a better environment.”

At Central Missouri State, Carter is responsible for administering the academic programs of the university, including many academic support services.

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— Kyle Carter

He was chair of the committee that produced the university’s strategic plan, revised promotion and tenure criteria and processes, redesigned summer school schedules and offerings, and revised faculty compensation policies and procedures. Carter helped guide CMSU through a period of financial belt-tightening amidst record-high state cutbacks in higher education funding, and helped establish the university’s Honors College.

“The committee conducted an extensive search until we found someone who had the broad range of experience that is required for this new leadership position at Western,” said Noelle Kehrberg, dean of the College of Applied Sciences and chair of the search committee. “With his experience as provost at Central Missouri, Kyle Carter has the experience, vision and enthusiasm we were seeking.”

Prior to joining the administration at CMSU, Carter served as associate vice president for research and graduate studies and dean of the Graduate School at the University of Northern Colorado. He also served as president of the University of Northern Colorado Research Corp.; associate dean of the College of Education; and director of the division of research, evaluation and development.

Newsfile

Patch Adams To Speak at Western

Patch Adams, the doctor famous for using laughter as part of healing, will be at Western on Thursday, Oct. 7, as part of a two-day swing through Western North Carolina.

Adams, probably best known for the movie in which he was portrayed by Robin Williams, will speak on the topic “What is Your Love Strategy?” at 7 p.m. in the Ramsey Regional Activity Center at Western. There is no charge for admission. The presentation is sponsored by Western’s Health Services Center and the 2004-05 Lectures, Concerts and Exhibitions Series. For more information, call (828) 227-7677.

A medical doctor and social activist, Adams founded the Gesundheit Institute in 1972 as a creative response to the health care crisis in a nation facing spiraling medical costs, dispirited care givers and alienated patients. It is Adams’ philosophy that “healing should be a loving, human interchange, not a business transaction.” His presentation at Western is the first stop on his WNC tour.

Hurricane Preparation

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Management filled up campus water supplies to assure a three- to four-day supply in case the pumps lost power; checked emergency lights and topped off fuel for emergency generators; and delivered a generator and portable lighting to Dodson Cafeteria so that meals could be served in the event of a power failure.

Workers at the Ramsey Center, designated an evacuation shelter, cleared the facility’s calendar and got ready to feed and house evacuees and emergency crews. Campus police, in close communication with emergency management officials, Duke Power, and the Red Cross, monitored the path of the storm and sent warnings to the campus community by e-mail; put extra life vests, flares and throwing ropes in each patrol car; prepared barricades to block flooded bridges and roads; put all officers on standby; and scheduled student Campus Rangers to assist officers. Information Technology Services staff arranged for an off-campus Web site to provide information updates. And those are just a few of the highlights of all that was done.

Although the storm was not as powerful as predicted, it struck with devastating force, leaving death and destruction in its wake. While Western escaped major damage, officials are confident the time and effort spent on preparing for the worst was not wasted. “The work of a lot of people prevented a great deal of additional damage and possible loss of life,” said Gene McAbee, director of university police. And that work was good practice for next time.
September

**Monday, Sept. 27**
**Concert**—Don Ross, one of today’s true innovators of guitar composition and technique. Admission: $10 general; $8 staff, non-Western students; free for Western students. 7:30 p.m. Recital Hall, Coulter Building. (Lectures, Concerts, and Exhibitions series) (227-7206)

**Tuesday, Sept. 28**
**Faculty recital**—Eldred Spell, flute, and Lillian Buss Pearson, piano and harpsichord. 8 p.m. Recital Hall, Coulter Building. Catamount Concert Series event. (227-7242)

**Wednesday—Sunday**
### Sept. 29, 30, & Oct. 1, 2, 3
**Theatre**—The University Players present *Dancing at Lughnasa* by Brian Friel. Tickets: $12.50 adults; $10 seniors, Western faculty and staff; $6 students. 7:30 p.m. Wednesday-Saturday, 2 p.m. Saturday-Sunday. Hoey Auditorium. (227-7491) or (theatre.wcu.edu)

**Thursday, Sept. 30**
**Concert**—The Western Carolina University Wind Ensemble. The “pops” concert will feature a program of music from the movies. Admission: $5 general; $3 students, senior citizens. 8 p.m. Recital Hall, Coulter Building. (227-7242)

**October**

**Friday, Oct. 1**
**Lady Catamount soccer**—vs. Elon. Southern Conference game. 4 p.m. Schrader Field. (227-7335)

**Lady Catamount volleyball**—vs. Elon. Southern Conference match. 7 p.m. Ramsey Regional Activity Center. (227-7335)

**Saturday, Oct. 2**
**Lady Catamount volleyball**—vs. UNC—Greensboro. 2 p.m. Ramsey Regional Activity Center. (227-7335)

**Sunday, Oct. 3**
**Arti-Facts!**—series designed for children ages six through 12 to explore the region’s natural and cultural heritage, presents “Orienteering.” Free, but reservations required. 2:30–3:30 p.m. Mountain Heritage Center. (227-7129)

**Monday, Oct. 4**
**Presentation**—Harriet McBryde Johnson, disability activist. Admission: $5 general; $3 staff, non-Western students; free for Western students. 7:30 p.m. Recital Hall, Coulter Building. (Lectures, Concerts, and Exhibitions series) (227-7206)

**Wednesday, Oct. 6**
**Appalachian Cultural Luncheon**
**series**—“Traditional Mountain Dance Styles.” Noon–1 p.m. Auditorium, Mountain Heritage Center. (227-7129)

**Thursday, Oct. 7**
**Lecture and DVD presentation**—Patch Adams, the doctor famous for using laughter as part of healing and portrayed by Robin Williams in a popular movie, will speak on the topic “What is Your Love Strategy?” Free. 7 p.m. Ramsey Regional Activity Center. (Lectures, Concerts, and Exhibitions series) (227-7677)

**Friday, Oct. 8**
**Recital**—Music student recital. 2 p.m. Recital Hall, Coulter Building. (227-7242)

**Lady Catamount soccer**—vs. Wofford. Southern Conference game. 4 p.m. Schrader Field. (227-7335)

**Saturday, Oct. 9**
**Catamount football**—vs. Georgia Southern. Southern Conference game. Western Athletics Hall of Fame Inductions and Family Weekend. 4 p.m. Whitmire Stadium/Waters Field. (227-7338)

**Sunday, Oct. 10**
**Lady Catamount volleyball**—vs. The Citadel. Southern Conference match. 2 p.m. Ramsey Regional Activity Center. (227-7335)

**REEL Diversity Film series**—filmmaker Nina Davenport’s *Parallel Lives*, an American road-trip movie with a twist that presents a portal into inner lives of Americans. 7 p.m. Theater, A.K. Hinds University Center. (227-7206)

**Submissions:**
Send news items and calendar notices to WCU Calendar, 1601 Ramsey Center, Western Carolina University, Cullowhee, North Carolina 28723 or e-mail to: Reporter@email.wcu.edu.
Submit items for the university’s online calendar at least one week prior to the event.

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**EXHIBITS**

**Mountain Heritage Center**

**September SLIDESHOW**

**SPOTLIGHT:** “Islands in the Clouds” tells the story of the Blue Ridge Parkway from its Depression-era origin to its current popularity as a tourist highway.

**Gallery A**
Migration of the Scotch-Irish People—Permanent

**Gallery B**

**Gallery C**
“All Things Iron: Practical and Decorative Ironware,” through December 17, 2004. More than 200 iron items dating from the 1600s to the 1900s including implements, blacksmith and farrier tools, and lighting devices.

**Lobby**
“People of the Land: Cherokee Heritage Sites in the Cullowhee Valley.” The latest reports on the finding of summer archaeological digs in the Cullowhee Valley.

“The Dulcimer: An Appalachian Folk Tradition,” through June 2005. Traces the development of the dulcimer from its origins to today’s traditional folk instrument.
Theatre Season Opens Sept. 29

Dancing at Lughnasa

The University Players of Western Carolina University present the multiple Tony Award-winning play Dancing at Lughnasa by Brian Friel as the 2004-05 theatre season opens Wednesday, Sept. 29. The play runs through Sunday, Oct. 3, in Hoey Auditorium.

“This play is about a family, a bit ragged around the edges, a bit beaten down by life but not defeated,” said the play’s director, Stephen Michael Ayers, associate professor of communication, theatre arts and dance at Western. “This is the last precious glimpse of the Mundy family together before they are torn apart by time, war and their need to pursue individual interests.” The drama is set in Ireland in 1936. Time magazine called Dancing at Lughnasa the most elegant and rueful memory play since The Glass Menagerie.

Show times for all evening performances are 7:30 p.m. Wednesday, Sept. 29, through Saturday, Oct. 2, and 2 p.m. for matinees Saturday, Oct. 2, and Sunday, Oct. 3. Tickets are $12.50 for adults, $10 for senior citizens and WCU faculty and staff, and $6 for students. Season tickets are still available.

For more information or to order tickets, contact the department of communication, theatre and dance at (828) 227-7491 or visit theatre.wcu.edu

Young Michael Mundy (center, played by Michael Wannagot), a boy being raised by five unmarried sisters in 1930s-era Ireland, helps family members (played by Sara Dodson, left, and Miranda Pritchard, right) gather fruit in a scene from Western’s production of “Lughnasa.”