

WKU SPIRIT

Magazine for Alumni & Friends of Western Kentucky University

Mount Everest

WKU Professor Stands on Top of the World

Homecoming 2010

Young Guns

WKU Alumni Under 40



WESTERN KENTUCKY
UNIVERSITY™



YOUNG GUNS

WKU Alumni Under 40



The truest measures of the value of a WKU education can be found in the accomplishments of its alumni – their professional successes, the way in which they give back to their communities and how they are distinguishing themselves in their chosen fields.

In this issue of *WKU SPIRIT* Magazine, we feature several so-called “Young Guns.” These are talented, extraordinary alumni—

all under the age of 40—who are truly making a difference in their world.

Be sure to check out additional Young Guns in our online exclusive. Do you know someone who qualifies as a Young Gun? Share your ideas with us at alumni@wku.edu.



Read more online
www.alumni.wku.edu/wkuspirit



Mallory Mead '08

Indianapolis, Ind.

relocating to Los Angeles, Calif., at the end of the year

Degree:

Bachelor of Science in Design,
Merchandising and Textiles

Hometown:

Plymouth, Ind.

Title and Employer:

Construction Program Assistant/Development
Assistant, AmeriCorps Public Allies-
Habitat for Humanity of Greater Indianapolis

Favorite WKU Memory:

Sunbelt Conference Championships
my sophomore year.

Favorite Book:

*Young Woman and the Sea: How Trudy Ederle Conquered
the English Channel and Inspired the World*
by Glenn Stout

I'm doing an unprecedented series of swims around the world and raising awareness and money for some of my favorite charities while doing so. I have a fundraising goal of \$35,000 over the next couple of years. On July 26, 2008, I became the 777th person to swim the English Channel from England to France under the Channel Swimming Association. For my efforts I was awarded the Robert Lyle trophy for Fastest American of the Year, as well as the Sotiraki Trophy for Fastest Female of the Year. Since my channel swim I have embarked on a journey to begin competing in professional ultra-marathon swims around the world. In addition to the pro races, I am looking to become the first to complete the Ocean's Seven of Marathon Swimming, which includes the English Channel, the Catalina Channel in California, the Molokai Channel in Hawaii, the Straits of Gibraltar from Spain to Morocco, the Tsugaru Channel in Japan, the Cook Strait in New Zealand, and the Irish Channel.

Editors note:



On August 10, 2010, Mallory Mead became the 39th person in the world to complete the triple crown of open water swimming, when she swam the 21-mile Catalina Channel off the coast of Los Angeles. The other two events in the triple crown are the 21-mile English Channel and the 29.5 Manhattan Island Marathon. The Catalina Channel and the English Channel also count for two of the seven swims in Mead's next goal, completing in the Ocean's Seven.