Admissions Bus Driver

VFTH

12/22/16

For the past eight years, WKU’s admissions tour bus driver has added his own brand of humor and Hilltopper devotion to prospective students.

Amy Bingham takes us along for the ride in this week’s View from the Hill.

Retired Insurance salesman Steve Estes began driving a Warren County school bus in 2007 and two years later added WKU’s admissions bus to his schedule.

He’s a busy man who adds a unique touch to campus tours.

“Everybody ready to go? Let’s role.”

“Does anyone have an aversion to speed? I’ll get up to about 32 miles per hour.”

Steve Estes is more than a bus driver.

“It just started out me telling a few corny jokes and they’re still corny.”

“You guys are a tough crowd—laughter”

Steve Estes is more than a bus driver.

“I had worked three summers as a tour guide at mammoth cave when I was out of Navy.”

“Kind of had that experience of people coming through looking at something, wanting to learn something, but want to be entertained too.”

“If that’s a deal breaker for anybody I can go ahead and let you off.”

Even asking if students know Big Red’s blood type.

“WKU positive, by the way he is a WKU donor…laughter…aren’t we thankful it’s Friday.”

And relating his own experiences as a student on the hill.

“I went to the last homecoming game at the top of the hill in ’67. I helped as a student worker lay sod at the new field.”

“One of enticements is I have downtime while the tour guide goes through buildings.”

I get to know the kids and the interns”

“This is Clay”

Then its back on the bus and a pop quiz he promised at the beginning.

“You flunk exam you will be required to come back Monday, same tour, same jokes, it’s awful.”

“I think the best part is you work with great people. The kids who do this are top, cream of the crop.”

“It’s just rewarding, I just enjoy it.”

“You guys have been great, thanks.”

“Thank you mr. bus driver, great tour.”

Last year Mr. Estes was one of four WKU employees honored with a Staff Excellence Award.

With this week’s View from the Hill, I’m Amy Bingham.

####