

1-1-1972

## UA19/17/1/1 Baseball Media Guide

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Coach JIM PICKENS



1972

# HILLTOPPER

WESTERN KENTUCKY UNIVERSITY

# BASEBALL



Jim Pickens is in his seventh season as head coach of the Hilltoppers. Both his background and experience fit him ably for the assignment.

The Princeton, Kentucky, native was a star pitcher, as well as an outstanding football quarterback, for Western Kentucky in his collegiate playing days. He later pitched professionally as a member of the Detroit Tigers' organization.

Pickens came to Western in the fall of 1965 after a sparkling coaching career in the high school ranks, where he fashioned championship teams in both baseball and football. In six seasons at Bowling Green High School, his baseball teams won 118 games while losing only 20, a percentage of .855. He climaxed his coaching stint there by guiding the Purples to the State Championship in 1965.

Before coaching at Bowling Green, Pickens held similar positions at Danville and Elizabethtown High Schools. Over a 15-year span, his high school teams won 221 victories against just 59 losses, a .789 percentage.

After suffering through three rather lean seasons in rebuilding Western's baseball fortunes, Pickens' last four Hilltopper clubs have been among the most respected in the OVC. His 1969 team won the Western Division championship.

Pickens' overall record, going into the current campaign, shows 83 wins, 82 losses and three ties.

In addition to his coaching duties, Pickens is Director of University Centers. He received the B.S. and M.A. degrees from Western in 1951 and 1962, respectively.

Pickens is assisted by Buck Sydnor, who received his B.S. and M.A. degrees from Western in 1948 and 1949, respectively.

OHIO VALLEY CONFERENCE CHAMPIONS

1952 1953  
WESTERN DIVISION CHAMPIONS  
1969

## 1972 BASEBALL SCHEDULE

Date	Opponent	Site	Time
March 18	Wooster College (2)	Bowling Green, Ky.	1:00 p.m.
March 21	Wittenburg (2)	Bowling Green, Ky.	1:00 p.m.
March 23	Austin Peay (2)	Clarksville, Tenn.	1:00 p.m.
March 25	Louisville (2)	Bowling Green, Ky.	1:00 p.m.
March 27	Lipscomb (1)	Nashville, Tenn.	3:00 p.m.
March 29	Bellarmino (2)	Bowling Green, Ky.	1:00 p.m.
March 30	Tennessee Tech (1)	Bowling Green, Ky.	2:00 p.m.
March 31	Capital University (2)	Bowling Green, Ky.	1:00 p.m.
April 4	Vanderbilt (1)	Nashville, Tenn.	3:00 p.m.
April 5	Campbellsville (2)	Bowling Green, Ky.	1:00 p.m.
April 8	Bellarmino (2)	Louisville, Ky.	1:00 p.m.
April 11	Tennessee Tech (1)	Cookeville, Tenn.	2:00 p.m.
April 13	Campbellsville (2)	Campbellsville, Ky.	1:00 p.m.
April 14	Morehead (2)	Morehead, Ky.	1:00 p.m.
April 15	Morehead (2)	Morehead, Ky.	1:00 p.m.
April 16	Middle Tennessee (1)	Murfreesboro, Tenn.	2:30 p.m.
April 17	Austin Peay (2)	Bowling Green, Ky.	1:00 p.m.
April 18	Vanderbilt (1)	Bowling Green, Ky.	3:00 p.m.
April 19	Centre College (2)	Bowling Green, Ky.	1:00 p.m.
April 20	Lipscomb (1)	Bowling Green, Ky.	3:00 p.m.
April 22	Morehead (2)	Bowling Green, Ky.	1:00 p.m.
April 24	Middle Tennessee (1)	Bowling Green, Ky.	2:00 p.m.
April 26	Eastern Ky. (2)	Richmond, Ky.	1:00 p.m.
April 27	Murray (1)	Bowling Green, Ky.	2:00 p.m.
April 29	Southern Ill. Univ. (2)	Carbondale, Ill.	1:00 p.m.
April 30	Southern Ill. Univ. (1)	Carbondale, Ill.	2:00 p.m.

## 1972 OUTLOOK

Coach Jim Pickens talks very optimistically about his team's chances for a fine season in 1972.

A large part of his optimism is because of returnees Mike Grubb's having hit .319, Jack Glasser .313, Fred Jones .285, and Bill Strong .258 last season. "Hitting will be better this year, a lot more consistent and possibly the biggest asset of the club," Pickens explains.

Pickens, a former pitcher in the Detroit Tigers chain, believes pitching is the largest part of the game. "The big question mark in my mind is the mound staff," says Pickens. "Most of the men are young, but I think they can carry the load," he continues.

Phil VanMeter is the lone senior pitcher. He allowed only 16 earned runs in 61 1/3 innings pitched last spring, an earned run average of 2.35. Pickens will also rely on freshman Jeff Ralph, a standout pitcher from 1971 state high school champion Daviess County, to fill one of the pitching positions.

Others rounding out the pitching staff are junior Leo Peckenpaugh with an ERA of 4.31 and sophomore Mike Grubb with an ERA of 2.33, both ERA's based on last year's statistics.

The Hilltoppers will also have the services of infielder Steve Long, a transfer from the University of Tennessee.

Pickens believes this season could be the best Western has had in the past few years.

## 1971 RESULTS

WKU	OPP.	WKU	OPP.
3	Vanderbilt University	9	0
5	Vanderbilt University	9	0
3	Louisville	4	1
4	Louisville	3	1
0	Akron	2	2
6	Akron	1	5
18	Middle Tennessee	0	5
1	Middle Tennessee	2	8
3	Austin Peay State University	5	5
5	Austin Peay State University	4	3
5	Eastern Kentucky University	6	1
7	Eastern Kentucky University	4	7
4	Morehead State University	7	7
2	Morehead State University	6	5
5	Tennessee Tech	1	5
			4

## UNIVERSITY INFORMATION

Location: Bowling Green, Kentucky  
 Conference: Ohio Valley, NCAA  
 Nickname: Hilltoppers Colors: Red and White  
 President: Dr. Dero G. Downing Enrollment: 11,345  
 Chairman, Faculty Athletic Committee: Dr. John Minton  
 Athletic Director: John Oldham  
 Baseball Coach: Jim Pickens  
 Athletic Office Phone: (502) 745-3542 or 745-3348

-FOR INFORMATION ON ALL SPORTS-  
 Assistant Public Relations Director: Ed Given  
 Phone: 745-4295

## 1972 HILLTOPPERS



## BASEBALL ROSTER

Number	Name	Position	HGT.	WGT.	B-T	Class	Hometown
18	Rodney Berry	P	6-0	165	R-R	Fr.	Owensboro, Ky.
24	Dave Conter	P-OF	5-10	175	L-L	Jr.	Vandalia, Ohio
28	Bill Embry	C	6-0	205	R-R	So.	Leitchfield, Ky.
6	Jerry Eubank	Inf	5-10	170	L-R	Fr.	Glasgow, Ky.
11	Rick Goff	Inf	5-10	160	R-R	Fr.	Louisville, Ky.
14	Jack Glasser	C	5-10	170	R-R	Jr.	Bowling Green, Ky.
20	Mike Grubb	P-OF	6-1	195	L-L	So.	S. Lebanon, Ohio
17	John Hreben	P-OF	6-0	170	R-R	Jr.	Rossford, Ohio
1	Fred Jones	OF	5-11	170	R-R	Sr.	Greensburg, Ky.
8	Jim Jacobs	Inf	5-10	170	R-R	Fr.	Dayton, Ohio
25	Steve Long	Inf	5-11	180	R-R	Jr.	Bowling Green, Ky.
7	Paul Merrill	OF	5-11	170	R-R	So.	Louisville, Ky.
15	Neal Mills	Inf	6-0	165	R-R	So.	Greensburg, Ky.
26	Rob Parrent	P	6-0	175	R-L	So.	Bowling Green, Ky.
27	Rick Parrent	P	6-0	175	R-R	So.	Bowling Green, Ky.
21	Jim Pentaudi	Inf	6-0	180	R-R	Fr.	Tipp City, Ohio
30	Leo Peckenpough	P-OF	6-1	185	R-R	Jr.	Henderson, Ky.
12	Jeff Ralph	P	6-0	170	R-R	Fr.	Owensboro, Ky.
13	Greg Shelton	P	5-10	150	L-L	Fr.	Lewisburg, Ky.
10	Bill Strong	Inf	5-11	175	R-R	Jr.	Owensboro, Ky.
4	Greg Stahl	P	5-11	175	R-R	So.	Leitchfield, Ky.
3	Steve Tate	Inf	5-10	170	R-R	So.	Bowling Green, Ky.
5	Larry Taylor	C	5-11	165	R-R	Jr.	Lexington, Ky.
9	Phil VanMeter	P	5-11	165	R-L	Sr.	Bowling Green, Ky.
19	Ed Vincent	C	5-11	175	R-R	Jr.	Louisville, Ky.
16	Tom Whitehouse	OF	5-11	170	L-L	Jr.	Lebanon, Ky.

## 1971 STATISTICS

### BATTING

(Returnees in Bold Face)

Name	AB	H	R	1B	2B	3B	HR	TB	RBI	SO	BB	AVG.
Jim Zwiesler	130	42	24	30	5	6	1	62	9	6	17	.323
Mike Grubb	94	30	17	16	8	3	3	53	20	24	3	.319
Jack Glasser	96	30	16	24	4	1	1	39	16	4	14	.313
Monte Ward	43	13	6	12	0	1	0	15	2	5	6	.302
Fred Jones	63	18	12	13	2	0	3	29	6	18	3	.285
Bill Strong	58	15	4	10	4	1	0	21	5	18	3	.258
Leonard Mullins	42	9	9	8	1	0	0	10	2	4	3	.214
Ron Brosnon	48	10	3	9	1	0	0	11	1	6	5	.208
Paul Merrill	44	9	4	8	1	0	0	10	3	14	7	.204
Steve Tate	89	18	8	17	0	1	0	20	4	16	13	.202
Ed Vincent	21	4	3	4	0	0	0	4	1	4	4	.190
Gary Young	37	7	3	7	0	0	0	7	0	5	3	.189
Barrett Bernard	29	5	4	5	0	0	0	5	1	6	7	.172
Leo Peckenpough	42	6	5	2	4	0	0	10	6	12	14	.142
Tony Burkeen	29	3	1	3	0	0	0	3	5	5	2	.103
Mark Johnson	10	1	1	1	0	0	0	1	0	0	0	.100

### PITCHING

(Returnees in Bold Face)

NAME	GS	CG	IP	H	R	ER	HP	SO	BB	W	L	ERA
Mike Grubb	5	2	27	17	9	7	3	17	21	2	2	2.33
Phil VanMeter	9	8	61 1/3	51	20	16	0	44	25	5	3	2.35
Leonard Mullins	11	2	51	42	20	17	0	29	11	2	2	3.00
Mark Stahl	6	1	28	20	12	12	0	20	19	0	2	3.85
Leo Peckenpough	6	4	31 1/3	39	18	15	2	17	17	3	2	4.31
David Curtis	5	2	30 2/3	18	15	15	0	17	18	0	2	4.40
Ron Brosnon	5	1	29	27	17	16	1	15	12	0	3	4.97
Robert Emmons	3	0	8	8	6	6	0	7	4	1	1	6.75
Bob Elliott	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	2	0	0	0.00