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UA19/17/1/1 Baseball Media Guide

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Coach JIM PICKENS



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.



1972

HILLTOPPER

WESTERN KENTUCKY UNIVERSITY

BASEBALL



OHIO VALLEY CONFERENCE CHAMPIONS

2

1953

WESTERN DIVISION CHAMPIONS

969

1972 BASEBALL SCHEDULE

March 18 Wooster College (2) March 21 Wittenburg (2) March 23 Austin Peay (2) March 25 Louisville (2) March 27 Lipscomb (1) March 29 Bellarmine (2) March 30 Tennessee Tech (1) March 31 Capital University (2) Bowling Gr Nashville, T Bowling Gr Bowling Gr Nashville, T Bowling Gr Bowling Gr Bowling Gr	reen, Ky. 1:00 p.m ; Tenn. 1:00 p.m reen, Ky. 1:00 p.m Tenn. 3:00 p.m reen, Ky. 1:00 p.m reen, Ky. 2:00 p.m reen, Ky. 1:00 p.m
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March 31 Capital Chiversity (2) DOWNING GI	Tenn. 3:00 p.m
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	1.00
April 13 Campbellsville (2) Campbellsv	1.00
April 14 Morehead (2) Morehead,	
April 15 Morehead (2) Morehead,	Ky. 1:00 p.m.
April 16 Middle Tennessee (1) Murfreesbo	
April 17 Austin Peay (2) Bowling Gr	reen, Ky. 1:00 p.m.
April 18 Vanderbilt (1) Bowling Gr	reen, Ky. 3:00 p.m.
April 19 Centre College (2) Bowling Gr	reen, Ky. 1:00 p.m.
April 20 Lipscomb (1) Bowling Gr	reen, Ky. 3:00 p.m.
April 22 Morehead (2) Bowling Gr	reen, Ky. 1:00 p.m.
April 24 Middle Tennessee (1) Bowling Gr	
April 26 Eastern Ky.(2) Richmond,	
April 27 Murray (1) Bowling Gr	
April 29 Southern Ill, Univ. (2) Carbondale	
April 30 Southern Ill. Univ. (1) Carbondale	2.00

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

WK	U	OPP.	WK	U	OPP.
3	Vanderbilt University	9	0	Bradley	4
5	Vanderbilt University	9	0	Vanderbilt University	6
3	Louisville	4	1	Vanderbilt University	6
4	Louisville	3	1	Morehead State University	5
0	Akron	2	2	Morehead State University	3
6	Akron	1	5	Morehead State University	6
18	Middle Tennessee	0	5	Morehead State University	4
1	Middle Tennessee	2	8	Centre College	1
3	Austin Peay State University	5	5	Centre College	3
5	Austin Peay State University	4	3	Southern Illinois University	4
5	Eastern Kentucky University	6	1	Southern Illinois University	2
7	Eastern Kentucky University	4	7	Southern Illinois University	6
4	Morehead State University	7	7	Middle Tennessee	5
2	Morehead State University	6	5	Middle Tennessee	4
5	Tennessee Tech	1			

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
Baeeball 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



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 Peckenpaugh	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.

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 Peckenpaugh	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	611/3	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 Peckenpaugh	6	4	311/3	39	18	15	2	17	17	3	2	4.31
David Curtis	5	2	302/3	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