

1980

UA19/17/1/1 Baseball Media Guide

WKU Athletic Media Relations

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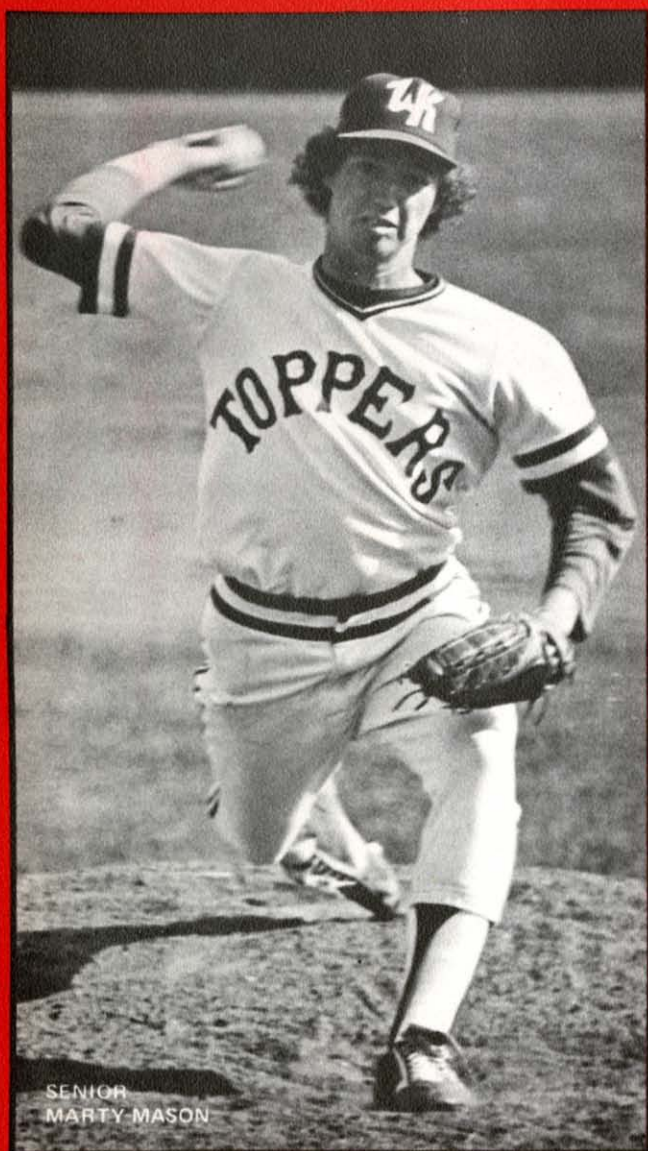
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1980 Hilltopper Baseball

Western Kentucky University



SENIOR
MARTY MASON

1980 Roster

No.	Player	Pos	B-T	Ht	Wt	Cl.	Hometown
45	Rick Alfonso*	C	R-R	5-9	170	Jr.	Tampa, Fla.
9	Randy Anderson	1B	L-L	6-1	170	Jr.	Hamilton, Ohio
19	Ralph Antone	C	R-R	6-2	200	Fr.	McMurray, Pa.
52	Rick Becker*	P	R-R	6-4	205	Sr.	Cincinnati, Ohio
42	Gary Brown	P	R-R	6-2	170	Jr.	Owensboro, Ky.
40	Rick Despaux*	OF-P	R-R	6-1	180	Sr.	Crestview, Fla.
8	Kenny Fox*	3B	R-R	6-1	175	Sr.	Nassau, Bahamas
41	Larry Glasscock*	P	L-L	6-2	215	Sr.	Louisville, Ky.
1	Brent Harris	OF	L-R	5-9	160	Jr.	Bowling Green, Ky.
34	Pete Hiryak	P	R-L	5-10	170	So.	Barto, Pa.
17	Brian Hunt*	OF	S-R	5-10	170	Jr.	Mahopac, N.Y.
27	Ben Jones*	P	L-L	6-0	175	Sr.	Mobile, Ala.
20	Marty Mason*	P	R-R	6-1	175	Sr.	Montgomery, Ala.
49	Craig Martin		R-R	6-3	210	Fr.	Bowling Green, Ky.
12	Walt McThenny*	1B	R-R	5-11	190	Sr.	Melbourne, Fla.
11	Mike Murray***	SS	R-R	6-0	175	Sr.	Fort Mitchell, Ky.
10	Robert Pickett*	1B	L-R	5-11	165	Jr.	Campbellsville, Ky.
7	Greg Raymer	P	R-R	6-1	165	Fr.	Bowling Green, Ky.
37	Phil Rine	P	L-L	6-1	190	Jr.	Lakeland, Fla.
39	Ron Rocco**	Inf	R-R	6-0	185	Sr.	Braddock Hills, Pa.
2	Darryl Sanders	P	L-L	6-2	170	Fr.	Shelbyville, Ky.
5	Ron Stewart*	OF	R-R	6-0	175	Sr.	Tampa, Fla.
14	Donnie Thomas*	OF-1B	L-L	6-2	175	So.	Elizabethtown, Ky.
25	Marty Varnadoe*	P	R-R	5-11	175	Sr.	Griffin, Ga.
54	Mark Williams*	P	R-R	6-1	180	Sr.	Tampa, Fla.
16	Mike Williams**	P-1B	R-R	6-1	200	Jr.	Shelbyville, Ky.
30	Rene Zarate**	C	R-R	5-11	165	Jr.	Tampa, Fla.

* Denotes letters won.

Numerical Roster

1 — Brent Harris, OF	20 — Marty Mason, P
2 — Darryl Sanders, P	25 — Marty Varnadoe, P
5 — Ron Stewart, OF	27 — Ben Jones, P
7 — Greg Raymer, P	30 — Rene Zarate, C
8 — Kenny Fox, 3B	34 — Pete Hiryak, P
9 — Randy Anderson, 1B	37 — Phil Rine, P
10 — Robert Pickett, 1B	39 — Ron Rocco, Inf.
11 — Mike Murray, SS	40 — Rick Despaux, OF-P
12 — Walt McThenny, 1B	41 — Larry Glasscock, P
14 — Donnie Thomas, OF-1B	42 — Gary Brown, P
16 — Mike Williams, 1B-P	45 — Rick Alfonso, C
17 — Brian Hunt, OF	49 — Craig Martin, P
19 — Ralph Antone, C	52 — Rick Becker, P
	54 — Mark Williams, P

1980 Hilltopper Baseball

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University Information

Location: Bowling Green, Kentucky 42101

Conference: Ohio Valley, NCAA

Nickname: Hilltoppers

Colors: Red and White

President: Dr. Donald W. Zacharias

Enrollment: 13,441

Chairman, University Athletic Committee: Dr. John D. Minton

Athletic Director: John Oldham

Baseball Coach: Joel Murrie

Assistant: David Stanton

Baseball Office Phone: (502) 745-3347

For information on all Hilltopper sports contact:

Paul Just

Sports Information Director

Office of Public Affairs

Western Kentucky University

Bowling Green, Kentucky 42101

Phone: Office — (502) 745-4295

Home — (502) 781-1777

Jim Pickens, Jr.

Baseball Assistant



Joel Murrie
Head Coach

Youthful Joel Murrie begins his first season as head coach of the Western Kentucky baseball program this spring, after serving the past two seasons as a assistant coach under former Hilltopper mentor Barry Shollenberger, now at Alabama.

Though Murrie is only 27, he has had outstanding experience as both a baseball player and coach.

He started out his collegiate career as a player at Chipola (Fla.) Junior College, which was ranked fifth nationally when Murrie was a sophomore. He concluded his playing career at the University of Florida, where he was a two-year starter and leadoff hitter for the powerful Gators.

His coaching career began at Crestview (Fla.) High School, where he spent two years (1976-77) and compiled an impressive 37-12 record.

As a Hilltopper graduate assistant, Murrie was instrumental in recruiting some of the club's top players.

Murrie, one of the nation's youngest collegiate head coaches, credits some of the past coaches he has played for, and worked under, as being the reason for the quick ascent to the head job at Western.

"I have been fortunate to have been associated with some of the top baseball coaches in America. People like Coach Shollenberger, Jay Bergman (Florida) and Ellis Dungan (Chipola, Fla., JuCo) have had a great affect on my coaching strategy and philosophy."

The Russell, Ill., native received his M.A. Degree at Western and recently received the Specialist Degree in Education at WKU.



David Stanton
Graduate Assistant Coach

David Stanton comes to Western Kentucky after five successful seasons at Fort Walton Beach (Fla.) High schools.

Last year's Choctawhatchee High club (28-6) made it to the final four of the state class AAAA Florida prep championships, losing in the semi-finals to the eventual state champion.

Stanton has placed several of his high school players in the college ranks, and last year had a player signed by the World Champion Pittsburgh Pirates.

A student of the game of baseball, Stanton is happy with his new surroundings.

"I'm very happy to be here at Western Kentucky. I am excited and enthusiastic about the 1980 Hilltopper baseball season."

The 28-year-old native of Century, Fla., received his M.A. and B.S. degrees from the University of Florida, and is currently working toward the Specialist Degree in Education at WKU.

1980 Prospectus

Despite winning 31 games to set a school record in 1979, Western Kentucky baseball coaches, players and fans alike considered the season somewhat of a disappointment. The Hilltoppers also lost 22 games and finished with a mediocre 10-10 league worksheet to place fifth in the Ohio Valley Conference.

This season, however, optimism is the watchword for the Hilltoppers, who return a bevy of experienced, talented players. Very few lineup changes are expected, and, in fact, the biggest change of all will be at the head coaching position where youthful Joel Murrie will take over the reigns of Barry Shollenberger, who departed to take the head job at the University of Alabama.

One of the key reasons for the positive outlook is the fact that Western returns six .300 hitters.

Heading the list is first baseman Mike Williams, who, as a sophomore a year ago, hit a resounding .382 with eight homers and a school record 50 runs batted in. All in all, Williams led the club in batting average, RBI's, hits (63, also a school record), and total bases (103).

Other infield cogs in the 'Topper offensive wheel are former All-OVC shortstop Mike Murray, a senior, who batted .318 with 25 RBI's and a school record 27 stolen bases; senior third baseman Kenny Fox, who ripped at a .355 clip last season, with three home runs, 26 RBI's and a team-leading five triples; and second baseman Ron Rocco, another former All-OVC performer, who batted a healthy .342 while seeing action at every infield position.

Adding depth to the infield will be junior first baseman Randy Anderson and junior second sacker Robert Pickett.

Returning outfielders include senior Ron Stewart, who came on strong at the end of last season and finished at .364; senior Rick Despaux, a .304 hitter while seeing action as both an outfielder and relief pitcher; junior Donnie Thomas, .275 in 8 games; and senior Walt McThenny, who started off hot but leveled to an even .200, with five homers and 11 RBI's at seasons' end.

Junior speedster Brent Harris, a transfer from Gadsden State Junior College, is expected to see plenty of action as a flychaser this year. Also adding depth in the outfield will be another junior, Brian Hunt.

One of Western's main concerns may lie behind the plate. Vying for the starting catching job will be junior Rene Zarate, junior Rick Alfonso and freshman Ralph Antone.

Zarate hit a dissapointing .157 in '79 and will have to improve that to hold a starting job. Alfonso had a brilliant high school career in Tampa, Fla., and sat out last year with a knee injury. Antone, a quarterback on the WKU football team, joins the baseballers with outstanding credentials and is expected to play a lot in his first year with the squad.

The key to Western's success may be on the pitchers mound. The Hilltoppers had a shaky team earned run average of 3.96 a year ago, and two of the staff's hurlers have graduated.

Nevertheless, the 'Toppers return senior Marty Mason, who was 6-4, with a 3.55 ERA in '79. He should be the club's stopper and will most likely be joined by fellow seniors Rick Becker (3-2, 4.06), Marty Varnadoe (3-1, 3.30) and Larry Glasscock (2-5, 5.50) in the starting rotation.

The bullpen will be shored up by the versatile Despaux (0-0, 3.27), and seniors Mark Williams (2-4, 5.95) and Ben Jones (0-1, 6.27).

Seven pitchers will be seeing their first action for the 'Toppers this spring. They include juniors Gary Brown and Phil Rine; sophomore Pete Hiryak; and freshmen Greg Raymer, Craig Martin and Darryl Sanders.

Overall, the Hilltoppers should be a competitive club, possessing both power and speed as offensive weapons. Defensively, Western should be one of the best in the OVC, led by shortstop Murray and first baseman Williams. The only real question remains with the pitching staff. If it comes through, Western should again be in the thick of the OVC title chase.

Coach Murrie Takes A Look At 1980

Question: What will be your philosophy as head baseball coach at Western Kentucky?

Murrie: I believe in the total team concept where every individual on the ballclub is expected to contribute his part to overall team success. In order for the team to succeed, every member must push himself and dedicate himself for the best interests of the team, thus eliminating the atmosphere of individualism. I consider myself a motivator and I hope that rubs off on the players. Like our (Western's) basketball coach (Gene Keady) has stressed, we will "play hard" at all times.

Question: What is your view of the 1980 Hilltopper baseball team?

Murrie: We've got the potential to be an outstanding ballclub. We have experience at the key positions, along with great enthusiasm. We have ballplayers who have shown me that burning desire to be winners, and if they continue to work like they have so far I think they will be.

Question: How do you see Western's chances in the 1980 Ohio Valley Conference baseball race?

Murrie: I don't know if we're the best team in the league, but we are potentially as good as any other team. If we can get mentally tough down the stretch and prepare ourselves for the big game, we could have a great season. If we fail to do this, we could have a poor one. We must improve on our "mental toughness" in order to have a shot at the league championship.

Question: How does the rest of the OVC shape up for 1980?

Murrie: Past records have indicated that Morehead, Murray and Middle Tennessee will be the teams to beat. This year, however, I think the league will be more balanced than in the past. All the OVC schools have upgraded their programs and are putting more and more emphasis on baseball. In the past couple of seasons, the OVC has gained a lot of respect in the South because of its competitiveness from top to bottom.

Question: Can Hilltopper baseball fans look for anything new in 1980?

Murrie: Yes. I think it will be an exciting year for players, coaches and fans alike. Our style of play will be somewhat different than it has been the last couple of years at Western. We'll be aggressive at all times and put the pressure on our opponents, I think it will take a very disciplined ballclub to beat us if we play up to our potential. I'm enthusiastic about the season, and so are our players. That's really all you can ask for at this point.



Mike Murray steals second against Kentucky.

Photo courtesy of The Daily News, Ron Haskins.



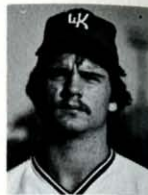
DESPAUX



FOX



GLASSCOCK



HARRIS

Rick Despaux Senior, OF-P Crestview, Fla.

Was one of the most valuable members of the team last season, performing well at two positions — pitcher and outfielder. . .at the plate Despaux hit a solid .304 and on the mound he posted a fine 3.27 ERA in nine relief appearances. . .probably possesses strongest throwing arm on team. . .Toppers plan to use him as short reliever in '80. . .played summer ball in Hamiota, Canada, with teammate Marty Mason, and they helped lead their club to the Canadian National Championship in the College Summer League. . .will probably continue to see additional duty as one of the team's top pinch-hitters. . .played high school ball under Coach Murrie at Crestview.

	IP	H	R-ER	BB	SO	ERA	W-L
1979	9	4	7-4	12	11	3.27	0-0

	AB	R	H	2B	3B	HR	RBI	Avg
1979	56	16	17	4	1	0	4	.304

Kenny Fox Senior, 3B Nassau, Bahamas

All-OVC third baseman. . .lived up to every one's high expectations with tremendous season in '79. . .hit a robust .355 with 26 RBI's and a team-leading five triples. . .called the "Ice Man" by his teammates because of his ability to stay cool under pressure. . .had 12 errors at third last year, and is shooting to cut that in half in '80. . .in addition to his big bat, Fox possesses good hands, a strong throwing arm and the ability to come up with the key defensive play. . .during the 1978 Fall exhibition season he hit a blistering .520. . .arrived at Western that fall after two outstanding years at Chipola (Fla.) Junior College. . .passed up opportunity to sign with the Montreal Expos last spring so he could return for his senior year.

	AB	R	H	2B	3B	HR	RBI	Avg
1979	155	39	55	8	5	3	26	.355

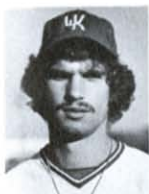
Larry Glasscock Senior, P Louisville, Ky.

Hard-throwing lefthander had dissappointing season in '79, going 2-5 with a 5.50 ERA. . .because of his outstanding ability, however, Glasscock is once again expected to be in the starting rotation. . .one of the key members of the Hilltopper mound staff, he must come through if Western is to improve. . .despite off year, he did have an outstanding game against Florida, striking out 11 in a heatbreaking 3-2 loss. . .Murrie feels "Larry has all the tools to be one of the league's best pitchers."

	IP	H	R-ER	BB	SO	ERA	W-L
1979	36	35	31-22	30	36	5.50	2-5

Brent Harris Junior, OF Bowling Green, Ky.

Comes to Western after two outstanding seasons at Gadsden State (Ala.) where he hit over .400 each year. . .should see plenty of action in the outfield because of his tremendous speed, which should also make him one of the Hilltoppers' top base stealing threats. . .a local product, Harris had a fine career at Warren Central High where he twice captured All-District honors as a second baseman. . .is readily available for infield duty at any position if called upon.



HIRYAK



HUNT



JONES



MASON

Pete Hiryak **Sophomore, P** **Barto, Pa.**
 Little lefty expected to bolster "Topper mound corps this spring in his first season on "the Hill". . .crafty hurler with good breaking ball and sneaky-quick fastball. . .should be used mainly in relief this year but is also ready for starting duty if called upon. . .gained college scouts' recognition after outstanding prep career at Boyertown (Pa.) High School.

Brian Hunt **Junior, OF** **Mahopac, N.Y.**
 Junior outfielder sat out last season as a red shirt. . .a steady performer, Hunt is scheduled for reserve duty this season. . .came to Western after two years at Westchester Community College in Valhalla, N.Y. . . .hit .434 as a senior at Mahopac (N.Y.) High School and earned all-conference honors. . .batted .380 as a sophomore at Westchester. . .despite these fine batting marks, his biggest strength is his defensive play.

Ben Jones **Senior, P** **Mobile, Ala.**
 Had dissappointing year in 1979, going 0-1 with a 6.27 ERA in 18 2/3 innings. . .bounced back, however, in the fall to regain the form he showed at Lurleen B. Wallace (Ala.) Junior College in '77-78. . .hard-throwing lefty who figures to compete for starting spot in 'Toppers' mound rotation this spring. . .hopes to team with Larry Glasscock to establish top-notch southpaw pitching duo in '80.

Marty Mason **Senior, P** **Montgomery, Ala.**
 Returns for his final season as the "stopper" of the Hilltopper mound staff. . .had fine season in '79 posting 6-4 mark with a 3.55 ERA and a team-leading 55 strikeouts. . .last year's efforts earned him second-team All-OVC honors. . .should be a candidate for first-team consideration in '80. . .transferred to "the Hill" from Lurleen B. Wallace Junior College after posting a fine 8-2 mark there as a sophomore.

	IP	H	R-ER	BB	SO	ERA	W-L
1979	58 1/3	42	30-23	40	58	3.55	6-4



MARTIN



McTHENNY



MURRAY



PICKETT

Craig Martin **Freshman, P** **Bowling Green, Ky.**
 Big fireballing righthander starts his first season at Western this spring. . .had outstanding prep career at Bowling Green High and an outstanding three-year stint with Bowling Green's Post 23 American

Legion club. . . "Has the desire and mental attitude to be a fine pitcher," according to Murrie. A hard worker, Martin could be the "sleeper" on this year's pitching staff.

Walt McThenny Senior, 1B Melbourne, Fla.

Started out like gangbusters last season, but ran out of gas by mid-season. . . finished the 1979 campaign with five homers, 11 RBI's and a .200 batting average. . . will most likely be in the 'Topper starting outfield this season, and will also get some trips to the plate as the designated hitter against lefthanded pitchers. . . slugged seven HR's at Brevard (Fla.) JuCo in 1978 to rank fourth in the Florida junior college ranks.

	AB	R	H	2B	3B	HR	RBI	Avg
1979	85	18	17	6	1	5	11	.200

Mike Murray Senior, SS Ft. Mitchell, Ky.

One of the true stars in the Ohio Valley Conference, Murray concludes his brilliant four-year career on "the Hill" this spring. . . hit .318 last year with a homer and 25 RBI's. . . more important, however, were his league-leading 27 stolen bases (30 att.) that broke his own school record. . . one of the OVC's most consistent batsmen, he has hit .299, .317, and .318 in his three years at Western. . . a first-team selection to the All-OVC team as a sophomore in '78.

	AB	R	H	2B	3B	HR	RBI	Avg
1977	137	27	41	6	1	4	14	.299
1978	154	42	48	7	1	7	31	.317
1979	173	40	55	13	0	1	25	.318

Robert Pickett Junior, Inf Campbellsville, Ky.

Starts first season at Western after sitting out '79 as a redshirt. . . will most likely be used in reserve role this year, but should be a strong challenger for the starting job at second base. . . transferred to WKU from Campbellsville College, where he had two outstanding seasons. . . a prep star at Campbellsville High, Pickett batted .396 as a senior and was voted the team's Most Valuable Player.



ROCCO



STEWART

Greg Raymer Freshman, P Bowling Green, Ky.

Lean, hard-throwing righthander could be big part of mound staff this season despite lack of collegiate experience. . . concluded outstanding four-year career at nearby Warren Central High last year, and was regarded as one of the state's best prep pitchers. . . was also top hurler on Bowling Green's Southern Kentucky American Legion team, winning six games while recording 106 strikeouts in 86 1/3 innings pitched and posting an impressive 1.92 ERA.

Phil Rine Junior, P Lakeland, Fla.

Sat out last season after transferring from Polk Community College (Fla.). . . slick lefthanded hurler with good breaking ball and "sneaky quick" fastball. . . was outstanding prep hurler at Lakeland High where he had fine high school career.

Ron Rocco Senior, Inf Braddock Hills, Pa.

Steady veteran had another fine season for 'Toppers in '79, batting .342 while seeing action at every infield position. . . earned second-team All-OVC honors after gaining first-team berth in 1978. . . one of Western's most dependable players, Rocco came to "the Hill" after playing his freshman season at Nevada-Las Vegas. . . started last season as a reserve, but hot bat put him back on starting nine. . . "One of the real leaders of the club," according to Murrie.

	AB	R	H	2B	3B	HR	RBI	Avg
1978	135	26	40	7	1	1	23	.296
1979	112	27	39	11	1	1	15	.342

Ron Stewart Senior, OF Tampa, Fla.

One of the unheralded stars in the Ohio Valley Conference, Stewart hit a robust .364 last season. . . came to Western from Florida College where he was the third leading Florida junior college hitter (.342) in 1978. . . looks to hold down a starting spot in the outfield and challenge for All-OVC honors this spring. . . has good speed and is one of the best glovemen on the team.

	AB	R	H	2B	3B	HR	RBI	Avg
1979	107	34	39	4	1	0	10	.364



THOMAS



VARNADOE



Ma. WILLIAMS



Mi. WILLIAMS

Donnie Thomas Sophomore, OF-1B Elizabethtown, Ky.

Leg injury limited him to 18 games last spring, but he should be at full speed this season. . . hit .275 when he did play, and should be in the running for a starting outfield berth. . . came to Western after an outstanding high school career at Elizabethtown High, where he helped lead the Panthers to the 1975 Kentucky state baseball championship. . . played two years of basketball (1977-79) for the Hilltoppers before deciding to concentrate on baseball.

	AB	R	H	2B	3B	HR	RBI	Avg
1979	40	7	11	1	0	0	2	.275

Mary Varnadoe Senior, P Griffin, Ga.

Had good season as starter-reliever for Western last spring, posting a 3-1 mark and a respectable 3.30 ERA in 32 2/3 innings. . .came to Western last season after two outstanding seasons at Middle Georgia J. C., where he was the ace of the staff in '77 with a 8-1 record. . .gutsy competitor with a good breaking ball. . .could be a key member of this spring's staff due to his ability to perform both as a starter and in relief. . .has excellent control.

	IP	H	R-ER	BB	SO	ERA	W-L
1979	32 2/3	36	17-12	7	19	3.30	3-1

Mark Williams Senior, P Tampa, Fla.

Had an off season for Hilltoppers in 1979, going 2-4 with a 5.95 ERA. . .has the potential, however, to become a top-notch OVC pitcher. . .Williams transferred to Western after two tremendous years at Hillsboro Community College in Tampa, Fla. . . at Hillsboro, he was 9-4 in 1978 and helped lead his team to the runner-up spot in the Florida Junior College League.

	IP	H	R-ER	BB	SO	ERA	W-L
1979	33 1/3	39	26-22	19	23	5.95	2-4

Mike Williams Junior, 1B Shelbyville, Ky.

Mr. Everything for Western a year ago, Williams hit a resounding .382 with eight home runs and 50 runs batted in. . .his total of 63 hits led the Ohio Valley Conference and helped place him on the All-OVC second-team. . .started season as pitcher-first baseman but booming bat locked up permanent job at first for him. . .banner season saw him break three individual school records including most hits (63), most total bases (103) and most RBI's (50). . .should be in the running for first-team All-OVC honors this spring. . .had outstanding career at Shelby County High, where he clubbed 15 homers as a senior and earned prep All-America honors. . ."Mike is an outstanding ballplayer and is without a doubt one of the most valuable members of our team," said Coach Murrie. . .Williams could easily become an All-America candidate.

	AB	R	H	2B	3B	HR	RBI	Avg
1979	165	30	63	8	2	8	50	.382



ZARATE

Rene Zarate Junior, C Tampa, Fla.

Had rough season at plate for 'Toppers in '79, batting .157 in 28 games. . .has great potential, however, and expects to bounce back with solid season this spring. . .will battle with Rick Alfonso and Ralph Antone for starting berth at catcher. . .had great season as freshman at Western, hitting .342 with two HR's and nine RBI's in 20 games. . .a converted third baseman.

	AB	R	H	2B	3B	HR	RBI	Avg
1978	38	5	13	4	0	2	9	.342
1979	51	7	8	0	0	0	5	.157

Records

Team

Single Season:

Miscellaneous

Most Games: 54 (1979)

Most Victories: 31 (1979)

Longest Winning Streak: 13 (1978), 12 (1928)

Hitting

Most at Bats: 1,564 (1979)

Most Runs: 326 (1979)

Most Hits: 495 (1979)

Most Doubles: 105 (1979)

Most Triples: 20 (1970)

Most Home Runs: 46 (1978)

Most Total Bases: 759 (1979)

Most Runs Batted In: 282 (1979)

Most Walks: 210 (1979)

Highest Batting Average: .316 (1979)

Pitching

Most Inning Pitched: 383 1/3 (1979)

Lowest ERA: 2.70 (1970)

Most Strikeouts: 262 (1979)

Most Complete Games: 20 (1971, 1977)

Most Shutouts: 5 (1913, 1959, 1973, 1978, 1979)

Individual

Single Season

Hitting

Most At Bats: 173 (Mike Murray, 1979)

Most Runs: 45 (Frank Hughes, 1978)

Most Hits: 63 (Mike Williams, 1979)

Most Doubles: 16 (Joe Hathcock, 1979)

Most Triples: 6 (Don Durham, 1970; Jim Zwiesler, 1971)

Most Home Runs: 11 (Jim Atkinson, 1978)

Most Runs Batted In: 50 (Mike Williams, 1979)

Most Total Bases: 103 (Mike Williams, 1979)

Most Walks: 32 (David Kendall, 1978)

Fewest Strikeouts/At Bats: 2/82 (Freddie Carlisle, 1979)

Highest Batting Average (min. 50 AB): .418 (Don Durham, 1970)

Most Stolen Bases: 27 (Mike Murray, 1979, 30 att.)

Consecutive Game Hitting Streak: 16 (Ron Stewart, Joe Hathcock, 1979)

Pitching

Most Innings Pitched: 78 (Paul Orberon, 1978)

Lowest ERA (min. 25 IP): 0.87 (Leonard Mullins, 1970)

Most Strikeouts: 80 (Don Durham, 1970)

Most Complete Games: 8 (Don Durham, 1970; Phil Van Meter, 1971)

Most Appearances: 16 (Rick Gittens, 1978)

Most Victories: 8 (Paul Orberon, 1978)

Fewest Hits/Innings Pitched: 31/55 (Don Durham, 1970)

Fewest Walks/Innings Pitched: 7/32 2/3 (Marty Varnadoe, 1979)

WKU Batting and Pitching Leaders

Batting Champions:

1970 - Don Durham, P-OF .418
1971 - Jim Zwiesler, OF .323
1972 - Steve Long, 1B .408
1973 - Jack Glasser, C .375
1974 - Steve Keck, CF .370
1975 - Dee Deener, SS .366
1976 - Harold Craft, 2B .337
1977 - Terry Tedder, 1B .359
1978 - Jim Atkinson, RF .408
1979 - Mike Williams, 1B .382

ERA Champions (min. 25 inn.):

1970 - Leonard Mullins 0.87
1971 - Mike Grubb 2.33
1972 - Mike Grubb 2.67
1973 - Greg Stahl 1.17
1974 - Steve Carter 3.24
1975 - Rey Ford 1.80
1976 - Paul Orberon 2.75
1977 - Mark Biven 2.41
1978 - Paul Orberon 2.19
1979 - Mark Biven 1.95

1979 Statistics

Overall: 31*-22-1 (18-8-1 Home; 13-14 Away)

OVC: 10-10 (5th)

Player, Pos.	G	AB	R	H	2B	3B	HR	RBI	BB	SO	TB	SB	Bat		Field		
													Avg	PO	A	E	Avg
Fred Carlisle, 2B	29	82	15	23	1	0	0	9	9	2	24	0	.280	29	38	2	.971
Rick Despaux, OF-P	38	56	16	17	4	1	0	4	6	15	23	13	.304	21	6	3	.900
Kenny Fox, 3B	52	155	39	55	8	5	3	26	22	15	82	7	.355	42	72	12	.905
Mike Green, C	42	112	19	30	5	2	9	24	27	27	66	0	.268	152	18	5	.971
Joe Hathcock, DH	49	165	21	55	16	0	7	39	16	22	92	1	.333	2	0	0	1.000
Walt McThenny, OF	32	85	18	17	6	1	5	11	18	17	40	5	.200	56	7	2	.969
Mike Murray, SS	52	173	40	55	13	0	1	25	18	21	71	27	.318	96	127	15	.937
Charlie Payne, Inf.	10	14	2	4	1	0	0	3	3	0	5	0	.286	7	10	2	.895
Leonard Phillips, OF	43	123	29	45	11	4	7	40	14	29	85	4	.366	69	5	7	.914
Ron Rocco, Inf.	40	112	27	39	11	1	1	15	17	18	55	6	.342	62	68	5	.963
Tommy Sapp, OF	43	114	22	31	6	0	3	18	8	6	46	2	.272	71	5	2	.974
Ronnie Stewart, OF	46	107	34	39	4	1	0	10	14	9	45	18	.364	33	0	3	.917
Mike Williams, 1B	52	165	30	63	12	2	8	50	22	23	103	0	.382	328	36	9	.976
Rene Zarate, C	28	51	7	8	0	0	0	5	12	9	8	0	.157	127	7	3	.978
Donnie Thomas, OF	18	40	7	11	1	0	0	2	4	6	12	1	.275	23	2	0	1.000
Others		10	0	2	0	0	0	1	0	2	2	0	.200	6	2	0	1.000
TOTALS	54	1556	326	495	99	17	42	282	210	221	759	84	.316	1124	403	70	.956

Pitchers

<i>Pitcher</i>	<i>G</i>	<i>GS</i>	<i>CG</i>	<i>IP</i>	<i>H</i>	<i>R-ER</i>	<i>BB</i>	<i>SO</i>	<i>W</i>	<i>L</i>	<i>S</i>	<i>ERA</i>	<i>PO</i>	<i>A</i>	<i>E</i>	<i>Field Avg</i>
Ricky Baker	7	2	1	29	29	22-16	17	22	3	0	0	4.97	3	4	1	.875
Rick Becker	9	7	0	37 2/3	33	23-17	38	17	3	2	0	4.06	2	12	0	1.000
Mark Biven	13	10	7	74	49	29-16	32	28	7	3	0	1.95	9	9	2	.900
Wayne Denton	4	4	1	16	14	14-1	11	11	1	1	0	0.56	0	0	1	.000
Rick Despaux	9	0	0	11	4	7-4	12	11	0	0	3	3.27	0	2	1	.667
Rick Gittens	12	0	0	11 1/3	10	7-6	7	7	1	1	3	4.78	1	7	1	.889
Larry Glasscock	8	7	1	36	35	31-22	30	36	2	5	0	5.50	1	4	2	.714
Ben Jones	7	2	0	18 2/3	26	20-13	18	17	0	1	0	6.27	0	1	0	1.000
Marty Mason	12	9	6	58 1/3	42	30-23	40	58	6	4	0	3.55	3	15	3	.857
Jeff McKinley	4	4	1	19 1/3	21	26-10	17	11	3	1	0	4.66	1	11	0	1.000
Marty Varnadoe	7	4	2	32 2/3	36	17-12	7	19	3	1	0	3.30	2	7	0	1.000
Mark Williams	8	5	0	33 1/3	39	26-22	19	23	2	4	2	5.95	1	3	0	1.000
Tim Wright	4	0	0	5	9	7-6	8	2	0	0	0	10.80	0	0	0	-----
TOTALS	54	54	19	382 1/3	347	259-168	256	262	31	22	8	3.96	23	71	11	.899

*School Records

1979 Ohio Valley Conference Standings

Team	OVC		Overall	
	W - L	Pct	W - L	Pct
1. Morehead State	14 - 4	.778	23 - 19	.548
2. Murray State	10 - 5	.667	25 - 18	.758
3. Austin Peay	11 - 6	.647	23 - 24	.489
4. Middle Tennessee	13 - 10	.565	27 - 17	.614
5. Western Kentucky	10 - 10	.500	31 - 22	.585
6. Eastern Kentucky	6 - 11	.353	11 - 19	.367
7. Tennessee Tech	1 - 19	.050	5 - 32	.135

1979 Ohio Valley Conference Team Leaders

Batting	AB	Hits	Avg
1. Western Ky.	1564	495	.316
2. Morehead St.	1261	393	.312
3. Austin Peay	1358	419	.308
4. Middle Tenn.	1291	376	.291
5. Eastern Ky.	806	225	.279
6. Murray St.	955	255	.267
7. Tenn. Tech.	1043	232	.222

Scoring	Runs	Avg
1. Murray St.	257	7.3
2. Morehead St.	309	7.2
3. Middle Tenn.	305	6.8
4. Western Ky.	326	6.0
5. Austin Peay	264	5.6
6. Eastern Ky.	165	5.5
7. Tenn. Tech	140	3.7

Pitching	IP	R	ER	ERA
1. Murray St.	256	130	109	3.83
2. Western Ky.	382-1/3	259	168	3.96
3. Austin Peay	320	266	184	4.02
4. Middle Tenn.	328	208	148	4.06
5. Eastern Ky.	197	223	114	5.21
6. Morehead St.	304	260	202	5.98
7. Tenn. Tech	268-2/3	339	276	7.57

Fielding	PO	A	E	Pct
1. Murray St.	768	513	48	.964
2. Western Ky.	1147	478	81	.953
3. Austin Peay	960	359	88	.937
4. Morehead St.	912	377	93	.935
5. Middle Tenn.	985	360	104	.928
6. Eastern Ky.	591	254	79	.915
7. Tenn. Tech	806	247	107	.908

1979 OVC Pacemakers

Doubles:	Joe Hathcock (WK)	16
Triples:	Eric Graves (MT)	8
Home Runs:	Jody Hamilton (Mo)	19
RBI's:	Jody Hamilton (Mo)	60
Stolen Bases:	Mike Murray (WK)	27
	(30 att.)	
Runs:	Jody Hamilton (Mo)	47
Hits:	Mike Williams (WK)	63

1979 OVC Batting Leaders

<i>Player (School)</i>	<i>G</i>	<i>AB</i>	<i>R</i>	<i>H</i>	<i>RBI</i>	<i>Avg</i>
1. Jody Hamilton (Mo)	42	146	47	62	60	.435
2. Gene Baker (AP)	18	26	6	10	14	.384
3. Doran Perdue (Mu)	35	120	39	46	18	.383
4. Mike Williams (WK)	52	165	30	63	50	.382
5. Bobby Hinus (MT)	45	149	45	55	35	.369
6. Leonard Phillips (WK)	43	123	29	45	40	.366
7. Ron Stewart (WK)	46	107	34	39	10	.342
8. Kenny Fox (WK)	52	155	39	55	26	.355
9. Tommy Blankenship (MT)	45	159	46	55	27	.346
9. Chris Vinyard (AP)	47	153	34	53	32	.346
9. Corky Prater (EK)	30	79	23	27	21	.346
12. Ron Rocco (WK)	40	112	27	39	15	.342

1979 OVC Pitching Leaders

<i>Player (School)</i>	<i>W-L-S</i>	<i>IP</i>	<i>R-ER</i>	<i>BB</i>	<i>SO</i>	<i>ERA</i>
1. David Bradford (Mu)	2-1-0	24-2/3	7-5	8	8	1.82
2. Jeff Shaw (EK)	2-2-1	14-1/3	11-3	17	16	1.88
3. Mark Biven (WK)	7-3-0	74	29-16	32	28	1.95
4. Doug Downey (AP)	5-2-3	52-1/3	19-16	18	32	2.15
5. Doyle Miller (Mu)	4-1-0	49	18-13	16	38	2.39

1979 Hilltopper All-OVC Performers

First Team

Mark Biven, senior, pitcher

Second Team

Mike Williams, sophomore, 1B

Marty Mason, junior, P

Kenny Fox, junior, 3B

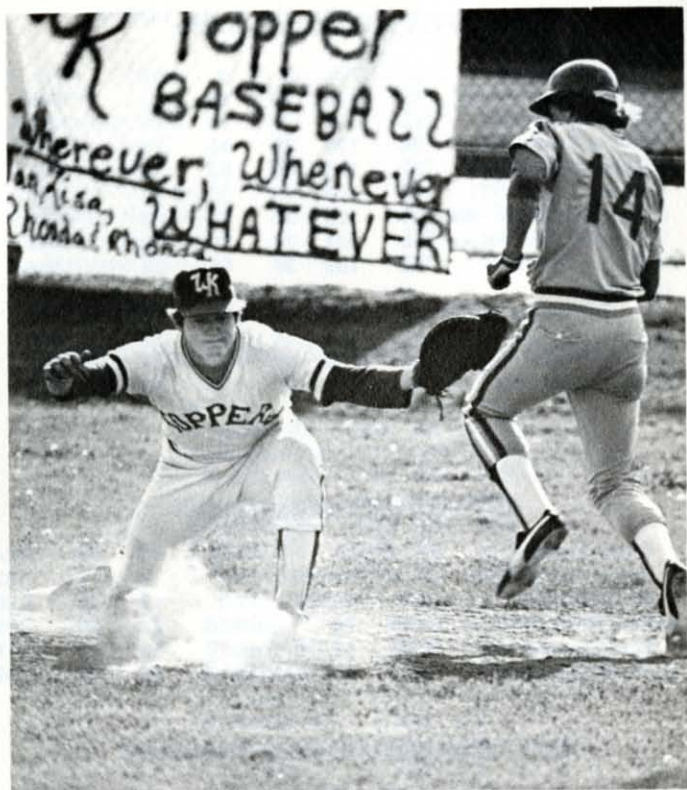
Ron Rocco, junior, Inf

Leonard Phillips, senior, OF



Marty Mason
Mike Williams

Ron Rocco
Kenny Fox



1979 Results

<i>Date</i>	<i>Opponent</i>	<i>Results</i>	<i>Pitcher of Record</i>
Mar. 7	Alabama	L2-9	Glasscock (0-1)
Mar. 7	Alabama	W10-1	Ma. Williams (1-0)
Mar. 8	Auburn	L1-17	Mason (0-1)
Mar. 9	Columbus College	W6-1	Varnadoe (1-0)
Mar. 9	Columbus College	W7-2	Gittens (1-0)
Mar. 10	Georgia Southern	L3-23	McKinley (0-1)
Mar. 11	Jacksonville	W13-5	Biven (1-0)
Mar. 12	Florida	L2-3	Glasscock (0-2)
Mar. 13	Florida	L3-4	Mason (0-2)
Mar. 15	Canisius	W17-4	Baker (1-0)
Mar. 16	South Florida	L1-4	Ma. Williams (1-1)
Mar. 17	Florida State	L4-14	Glasscock (0-3)
Mar. 26	Ferris State	W9-1	Biven (2-0)
Mar. 26	Ferris State	W6-1	Glasscock (1-3)
Mar. 27	Ferris State	W7-3	Becker (1-0)
Mar. 27	Ferris State	W4-3	Mason (1-2)
Mar. 29	Eastern Illinois	W4-0	Varnadoe (2-0)
Mar. 29	Eastern Illinois	W7-1	Denton (1-0)
Mar. 30	Eastern Illinois	W9-4	McKinley (1-1)
Mar. 31	Middle Tennessee	L4-5	Biven (2-1)
Mar. 31	Middle Tennessee	L1-7	Glasscock (1-4)
Apr. 3	Louisville	W6-2	Mason (2-2)
Apr. 3	Louisville	L1-2	Ma. Williams (1-2)
Apr. 6	David Lipscomb	L3-10	Varnadoe (2-1)
Apr. 6	David Lipscomb	L6-10	Denton (1-1)
Apr. 7	Eastern Kentucky	W3-0	Mason (3-2)
Apr. 7	Eastern Kentucky	L3-4	Becker (1-1)
Apr. 8	Austin Peay	L2-3	Biven (2-2)
Apr. 11	Murray State	W1-0	Mason (4-2)
Apr. 11	Murray State	T5-5	-----
Apr. 14	Middle Tennessee	W4-1	Biven (3-2)
Apr. 14	Middle Tennessee	W2-0	Becker (2-1)
Apr. 17	Louisville	W4-2	Glasscock (2-4)
Apr. 17	Louisville	W4-3	Ma. Williams (2-2)
Apr. 18	Tennessee Tech	W11-1	Biven (4-2)
Apr. 18	Tennessee Tech	W15-0	Mason (5-2)
Apr. 19	Northeast Illinois	W12-0	Varnadoe (3-1)
Apr. 19	Northeast Illinois	W10-7	Baker (2-0)
Apr. 20	Northeast Illinois	W13-3	McKinley (2-1)
Apr. 21	Morehead State	L12-13	Glasscock (2-5)
Apr. 21	Morehead State	L7-11	Ma. Williams (2-3)
Apr. 22	Eastern Kentucky	W16-6	Biven (5-2)
Apr. 22	Eastern Kentucky	W12-1	Mason (6-2)
Apr. 24	Kentucky Wesleyan	W6-3	Baker (3-0)
Apr. 24	Kentucky Wesleyan	L2-7	Jones (0-1)
Apr. 25	Austin Peay	W7-1	Biven (6-2)
Apr. 25	Austin Peay	L3-4	Mason (6-3)
Apr. 28	Morehead State	W6-4	Biven (7-2)
Apr. 28	Morehead State	L4-7	Mason (6-4)
Apr. 29	Murray State	L4-10	Ma. Williams (2-4)
Apr. 29	Murray State	L2-3	Gittens (1-1)
May 1	Kentucky Wesleyan	W13-7	Becker (3-1)
May 1	St. Joseph's (Ind.) (n)	W13-6	McKinley (3-1)
May 2	Kentucky	L1-2	Biven (7-3)

(n) neutral site.



1980 Schedule

<i>Date</i>	<i>Opponent</i>	<i>Site</i>	<i>Time</i>
Mar. 8	Thomas More	Denes Field	1 p.m.
Mar. 9	Evansville	Denes Field	1 p.m.
Mar. 15	Kentucky Wesleyan	Valdosta, Ga.	2 p.m.
Mar. 16	Valdosta State	Valdosta, Ga.	2 p.m.
Mar. 17	Florida	Gainesville, Fla.	7:30 p.m.
Mar. 18	Florida	Gainesville, Fla.	7:30 p.m.
Mar. 19	South Florida	Tampa, Fla.	7:30 p.m.
Mar. 20	Tampa	Tampa, Fla.	2 p.m.
Mar. 21	Valdosta State	Valdosta, Ga.	7:30 p.m.
Mar. 22	Columbus College	Columbus, Ga.	2 p.m.
Mar. 23	Troy State	Troy, Ala.	1 p.m.
Mar. 27	Indiana	Denes Field	2:15 p.m.
Mar. 28	Depauw	Denes Field	2 p.m.
Mar. 29	+Middle Tennessee	Murfreesboro, Tenn.	1 p.m.
Mar. 30	+Tennessee Tech	Denes Field	1 p.m.
Apr. 1	Louisville	Denes Field	1 p.m.
Apr. 2	Kentucky Wesleyan	Owensboro Ky.	1 p.m.
Apr. 3	McKendree College	Denes Field	1 p.m.
Apr. 4	McKendree College	Denes Field	1 p.m.
Apr. 5	+Eastern Kentucky	Denes Field	1 p.m.
Apr. 6	+Austin Peay	Clarksville, Tenn.	1 p.m.
Apr. 7	Quincy College	Denes Field	1 p.m.
Apr. 8	David Lipscomb	Nashville, Tenn.	3 p.m.
Apr. 10	+Murray State	Denes Field	1 p.m.
Apr. 12	+Middle Tennessee	Denes Field	1 p.m.
Apr. 13	Kentucky Wesleyan	Denes Field	1 p.m.
Apr. 15	Louisville	Louisville, Ky.	1 p.m.
Apr. 17	+Tennessee Tech	Cookeville, Tenn.	1 p.m.
Apr. 19	+Morehead State	Morehead, Ky.	1 p.m.
Apr. 20	+Eastern Kentucky	Richmond, Ky.	1 p.m.
Apr. 22	*Kentucky	Lexington, Ky.	1 p.m.
Apr. 23	Campbellsville	Denes Field	2 p.m.
Apr. 24	+Austin Peay	Denes Field	1 p.m.
Apr. 26	+Morehead State	Denes Field	1 p.m.
Apr. 27	+Murray State	Murray, Ky.	1 p.m.
Apr. 30	Kentucky	Denes Field	1 p.m.

+Ohio Valley Conference Doubleheader

*Non-Conference Doubleheader