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UA94/6/1 My Story: WKU Basketball's Kenny Cooper

Kenny Cooper

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Western Kentucky University Athletics



My Story: Men's Basketball's Kenny Cooper

'My Story' is a new series on WKUSports.com of first-person feature articles written by WKU student-athletes. The student-athletes will be telling their own stories in their own words. Our 10th article in the series was written by men's basketball senior guard Kenny Cooper, who redshirted as a transfer in 2019-20 but will play his final college season this upcoming year.

Men's Basketball

Posted: 5/27/2020 9:00:00 AM

This redshirt year has taught me a lot of things, but most importantly it taught me to take nothing for granted.

This year was the first time since the age of 4 that I haven't competed in organized basketball. It was not easy to sit out, but it gave me a newfound love for the game. When I look back at previous years, I recalled myself getting complacent in the everyday grind of a season. So much, that I forget the privilege it is to play at the collegiate level.

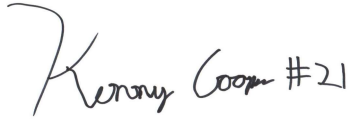
A lot of people would love to be in our position, and last year, I was one of those people who would've done anything to be out there and suit up. The year was a great learning experience for me and I have grown a lot. Mostly importantly as a person, but also as a player.

The coronavirus has taken our world by storm. All our lives have come to a screeching halt. While preparing for our conference tournament run, we had no idea that the tournament would be cancelled. Then less than 24 hours later, each one of us was back in our respective homes quarantined. It felt surreal how quickly everything had

changed. For me, the biggest change was not being around my boys anymore.

This team has become family to me over the past year. From team meals, talks in the locker room and 2k tournaments, it all seems repetitive until it's stripped away from our everyday routine.

I'm excited for this upcoming year. We've got a locker room full of hungry dudes that are finding ways to get better even during this pandemic. We all are ready to get back together as a unit and make this upcoming season one to remember.

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "Kenny Cooper #21". The signature is written in a cursive, flowing style.

[My Story: Women's Basketball's Sandra Skinner \(March 26\)](#)

[My Story: Men's Basketball's Taveion Hollingsworth \(April 1\)](#)

[My Story: Baseball's Ray Zuberer III \(April 8\)](#)

[My Story: Women's Golf's Mary Joiner \(April 15\)](#)

[My Story: Softball's Morgan McElroy \(April 22\)](#)

[My Story: Cross Country's Dedrick Troxell \(April 29\)](#)

[My Story: Women's Basketball's Whitney Creech \(May 6\)](#)

[My Story: Baseball's Kevin Lambert \(May 13\)](#)

[My Story: Football's Malik Staples \(May 20\)](#)

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