1990

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Western Kentucky University
Office of Public Information  •  Bowling Green, KY 42101  •  (502) 745-4295

**LADY TOPPERS TO HOST BARBECUE AND OPEN HOUSE**

Bowling Green, Ky. -- Western Kentucky's Lady Toppers will host fans and friends to an evening of fun and food Thursday, Sept. 21 at the first annual "Lady Topper Barbeque."

The cookout and get together will be held on the South Lawn of the Dero Downing University Center, across from L.T. Smith Stadium on the WKU campus, from 5:30 p.m. to 8:00 p.m. (CDT). The menu includes barbeque ribs and all the trimmings, with children under 12 enjoying free hamburgers and hotdogs. Cooks and servers will include the entire Lady Topper team and coaching staff.

The event will serve as a fund-raising activity of the Lady Toppers, with admission coming in the form of a $25.00 donation to the Hilltopper Athletic Foundation.

"This is an excellent opportunity for both our players and our fans to get together before the season and get to know one another on a personal basis; especially our new players," commented WKU Head Coach Paul Sanderford. "And, the picnic will hopefully enable us to raise enough money to help keep the Lady Topper program at the highly competitive level it has been over the last few years."

Not only do kids eat free, but the first 300 to arrive will receive a free Lady Topper basketball, suitable for autographs. And, the Topper locker room and facilities will be open for fans to tour.

Tickets are available at the WKU Ticket Office, the Lady Topper Basketball Office, the Hilltopper Athletic Foundation (all located in Diddle Arena) or at radio station WBLG, "The Gator," on Fairview Ave., in Bowling Green.

For further information, contact the Lady Topper Basketball Office at (502) 745-2133.

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EXCITING FIELD SET FOR SEVENTH ANNUAL BOWLING GREEN BANK INVITATIONAL

Bowling Green, Ky. -- The seventh annual Bowling Green Bank Invitational will tip-off Western Kentucky's 1989-90 Lady Topper basketball season featuring top contenders from four of the most competitive conferences in women's basketball.

Joining Sun Belt Conference power Western Kentucky for the two-day tournament will be St. John's of the Big East Conference, Illinois from the Big Ten and Duke from the Atlantic Coast Conference.

Action gets underway Saturday, Nov. 25, with the Duke Blue Devils taking on the Fighting Illini at 6:00 p.m. (CDT), followed by a WKU-St. John's matchup at 8:00 p.m. The consolation and championship games are set for Sunday, Nov. 26, at 1:00 and 3:00 p.m., respectively, in WKU's E.A. Diddle Arena.

"This is one of the finest fields we've ever assembled for the Bowling Green Bank Invitational," commented WKU Head Coach Paul Sanderford. "St. John's is favored to win the Big East this year, and Duke and Illinois both had one of the best recruiting classes in the country. We'll have our work cut out for us to make it to the championship game!"

The Lady Toppers have reached the championship game each year of the tournament. Western has won the Bowling Green Bank Invitational four times, including three in a row, beginning in 1986.

Tickets are $15.00 for both sessions and are available through the Western Kentucky University Ticket Office in Diddle Arena (502 745-5222) or at any of the five Bowling Green Bank locations. Hilltopper Athletic Foundation Red Towel members and Lady Topper season ticket holders can order their tickets before Oct. 6 for just $12.50.
Western Kentucky University
Office of Public Information • Bowling Green, KY 42101 • (502) 745-4295

RUGGED '89-90 LADY TOPPER SCHEDULE FEATURES BOTH NATIONAL CHAMPIONSHIP TEAMS

Bowling Green, Ky. -- Western Kentucky University's 1989-90 women's basketball schedule may be the toughest that a Lady Topper team has ever faced!

The 27-game regular season slate features contests with both college teams that won national championships last spring -- NCAA titlist Tennessee (35-2) and Oregon (22-10), the champ in the annual National Women's Invitational. Unfortunately, veteran Head Coach Paul Sanderford's WKU five will have to take on both of those teams on the road. Western travels to Knoxville to face the Lady Vols Thursday, Jan. 4, in the 25,000-seat Thompson-Boling Arena, the site of the 1990 NCAA Women's Final Four (Mar. 30-Apr. 1). And, the Toppers take on Oregon in first-round action in Cellular One Red Raider Classic at Texas Tech Dec. 1.

"Once again we think that we've put together one of the finest schedules in the country," commented Sanderford. "We believe you have to play the best to get yourself in the best possible shape to compete in your conference and in post-season play. A schedule like this would be a real challenge for any team in the nation.

"We'll be a young team this year," he added. "So, we’ve got our work cut out for us. It should be an exciting year of college basketball for both our players and our fans. We're all looking forward to it."

The '89-90 Lady Toppers return two starters -- the team's only seniors, 6-0 All-America candidate Tandreia Green (18.8 ppg, 9.0 rpg) and 6-2 center Michelle Clark (7.3 ppg, 6.9 rpg) -- from last year's team that went 22-9, won the Sun Belt Conference Tournament and advanced to play in the NCAA Tournament.

Topper fans, some of the most loyal in the college game (WKU has ranked among the top 10 in the nation in home attendance for women's basketball for the past seven years in a row), will get their first look at the '89-90 WKU women in two exhibition contests in November. Sanderford's charges take on the women's team from Ft. Hood, Tex., at 1:30 p.m. (CST), Sunday, Nov. 12, as part of a season-opening doubleheader with the military base that pits Coach Murray Arnold's Hilltopper men's team against the Ft. Hood men at 3:30 that afternoon.

-- more --
Then, the Lady Toppers host the Swedish National Team at 2:30 p.m. the following Sunday (Nov. 19). Western will be hoping to avenge a 76-52 loss suffered at the hands of the Swedes in exhibition action last fall.

Things get underway officially for the WKU women Saturday and Sunday, Nov. 25 and 26, when the Toppers play host to the seventh annual Bowling Green Bank Invitational in E.A. Diddle Arena, the 12,370-seat home of Western Kentucky basketball. Duke takes on Illinois in the opener at 6:00 p.m. Saturday and the Toppers test St. John's in the nightcap at 8:00 p.m. The consolation and championship games are set for 1:00 and 3:00 p.m., respectively, Sunday afternoon.

Other schedule highlights include matchups with traditional powers such as Texas, Nevada-Las Vegas, Old Dominion, West Virginia, Middle Tennessee and Murray State at home. And, the Toppers will take on the likes of Louisiana State, South Alabama, Alabama, Northeast Louisiana, Tennessee Tech, Illinois State, Texas Tech and Villanova on the road.

The 1989-90 WKU slate features a total of 30 schools, including 22 that posted winning records last year. One of those (Tennessee) racked up a 30-victory campaign while 11 more -- Illinois State (23-8), Lafayette (20-9), Middle Tennessee (21-6), Murray State (22-10), Nevada-Las Vegas (27-7), Old Dominion (23-9), Oregon, Tennessee Tech (22-8), Texas (27-5), Vanderbilt (21-8) and West Virginia (24-8) -- each accounted for 20-or-more wins. In addition, seven others -- Indiana State (18-9), Louisiana State (19-11), Northeast Louisiana (19-9), South Alabama (18-11), Southern Illinois (19-10), Villanova (18-12) and Virginia Commonwealth (19-10) -- narrowly missed that 20-win plateau.

And, 12 of those 30 teams reached post-season play last spring. National champion Tennessee led the way, accompanied by Illinois State, LSU, Nevada-Las Vegas, Old Dominion, Tennessee Tech, Texas, Vanderbilt, Villanova and West Virginia in the NCAA Tournament. Oregon was joined by Murray State in the NIT field.

Twenty of the teams on the WKU schedule saw action against the Lady Toppers last season. Western won 16 of 24 contests (.667) with those schools in the '88-89 campaign.

The 1989-90 season will be the 28th in the history of the women's game on the Hill. Through the years, Lady Topper teams have compiled a sparkling 337-191 record for a .638 winning percentage. In his seven years at the Topper helm, Sanderford has built an impressive 175-54 (.764) worksheet, winning 20-or-more games each year and earning post-season berths the last six seasons in a row.
<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Date</th>
<th>Day</th>
<th>Opponent (’88-89 Record; Tournament)</th>
<th>Site (Time - CST)</th>
<th>Series Record</th>
<th>Last Year</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Nov. 12</td>
<td>Sun</td>
<td>FORT HOOD TAMERS (exhibition)</td>
<td>Bowling Green, Ky. (1:30 pm)</td>
<td>0-0</td>
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<td></td>
<td>19</td>
<td>SWEDISH NATIONAL TEAM (exhibition)</td>
<td>Bowling Green, Ky. (2:30 pm)</td>
<td>Swed 1-0</td>
<td>Swed 76-52#</td>
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<tr>
<td></td>
<td>25</td>
<td>BOWLING GREEN BANK INVITATIONAL</td>
<td>Bowling Green, Ky.</td>
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<td>DUKE (12-16)</td>
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<td>ST. JOHN'S (10-18)</td>
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<td>WESTERN KENTUCKY (22-9; NCAA)</td>
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<td>26</td>
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<td>CHAMPIONSHIP</td>
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<td>28</td>
<td>at Illinois State (23-8; NCAA)</td>
<td>Normal, Ill. (7:00 pm)</td>
<td>WKU 3-0</td>
<td>WKU 89-60#</td>
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<td>at Cellular One Red Raider Classic</td>
<td>Lubbock, Tex.</td>
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<td>Western Kentucky (22-9; NCAA)</td>
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<td>Oregon (22-10; NMIT Champion)</td>
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<td>WKU 1-0</td>
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<td>Texas Tech (16-13)</td>
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<td>WKU 2-0</td>
<td>WKU 70-60#</td>
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<td>Grambling State (17-11)</td>
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<td>2</td>
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<td>Consolation</td>
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<td>Championship</td>
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<td>Mon</td>
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<td>NEVADA-LEAS VERS (27-7; NCAA)</td>
<td>Bowling Green, Ky. (7:00 pm)</td>
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<td>9</td>
<td>Sat</td>
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<td>at Southern Illinois (19-10)</td>
<td>Carbondale, Ill. (7:35 pm)</td>
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<td></td>
<td>17</td>
<td>Sun</td>
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<td>WEST VIRGINIA (24-8; NCAA)</td>
<td>Bowling Green, Ky. (2:30 pm)</td>
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<td>28</td>
<td>Wed</td>
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<td>Western Kentucky (22-9; NCAA)</td>
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<td>Alabama (14-15)</td>
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<td>Villanova (18-12; NCAA)</td>
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<td>vs</td>
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<td>Lafayette (20-9)</td>
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<td>29</td>
<td>Thu</td>
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<td>Consolation</td>
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<td>Championship</td>
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<td>Championship</td>
<td>(2:00 pm)</td>
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<td>Date</td>
<td>Day</td>
<td>Opponent (’88-89 Record; Tourney)</td>
<td>Site (Time - CST)</td>
<td>Series Record</td>
<td>Last Year</td>
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<td>Jan. 4</td>
<td>Thu</td>
<td>at Tennessee (35-2; NCAA Champion)</td>
<td>Knoxville, Tenn. (6:30 pm)</td>
<td>UT 3-0</td>
<td>UT 76-57#</td>
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<tr>
<td>11</td>
<td>Thu</td>
<td>TEXAS (27-5; NCAA)</td>
<td>Bowling Green, Ky. (7:00 pm)</td>
<td>UT 4-1</td>
<td>UT 90-67</td>
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<td>14</td>
<td>Sun</td>
<td>SOUTH FLORIDA (14-13)*</td>
<td>Bowling Green, Ky. (2:30 pm)</td>
<td>WKU 9-0</td>
<td>WKU 79-61</td>
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<td>17</td>
<td>Wed</td>
<td>VANDERBILT (21-8; NCAA)</td>
<td>Bowling Green, Ky. (8:00 pm)</td>
<td>VU 9-7</td>
<td>VU 100-89</td>
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<tr>
<td>20</td>
<td>Sat</td>
<td>VIRGINIA COMMONWEALTH (19-10) (dh)*</td>
<td>Bowling Green, Ky. (5:15 pm)</td>
<td>WKU 6-1</td>
<td>WKU 75-60</td>
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<tr>
<td>25</td>
<td>Thu</td>
<td>at Louisiana State (19-11; NCAA)</td>
<td>Baton Rouge, La. (7:00 pm)</td>
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<tr>
<td>27</td>
<td>Sat</td>
<td>at South Alabama (18-11)*</td>
<td>Mobile, Ala. (7:00 pm)</td>
<td>WKU 9-3</td>
<td>WKU 92-64#</td>
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<tr>
<td>Feb. 1</td>
<td>Thu</td>
<td>DAYTON (8-19) (dh)</td>
<td>Bowling Green, Ky. (5:15 pm)</td>
<td>WKU 8-1</td>
<td>WKU 55-53</td>
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<td>5</td>
<td>Mon</td>
<td>at Indiana State (18-9)</td>
<td>Terre Haute, Ind. (7:00 pm)</td>
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<tr>
<td>7</td>
<td>Wed</td>
<td>at Alabama at Birmingham (8-20)*</td>
<td>Birmingham, Ala. (7:00 pm)</td>
<td>WKU 9-1</td>
<td>WKU 79-47#</td>
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<tr>
<td>12</td>
<td>Mon</td>
<td>MURRAY STATE (22-10; WTT)</td>
<td>Bowling Green, Ky. (7:00 pm)</td>
<td>WKU 21-10</td>
<td>MGU 63-62</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>17</td>
<td>Sat</td>
<td>at UNC Charlotte (12-17)*</td>
<td>Charlotte, N.C. (5:00 pm)</td>
<td>WKU 7-1</td>
<td>WKU 86-59#</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>19</td>
<td>Mon</td>
<td>at Ohio University (8-20)</td>
<td>Athens, Ohio (6:00 pm)</td>
<td>WKU 3-0</td>
<td>WKU 75-48#</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>22</td>
<td>Thu</td>
<td>OLD DOMINION (23-9; NCAA)*</td>
<td>Bowling Green, Ky. (7:00 pm)</td>
<td>ODU 7-5</td>
<td>ODU 66-56</td>
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<tr>
<td>25</td>
<td>Sun</td>
<td>at Tennessee Tech (22-8; NCAA)</td>
<td>Cookeville, Tenn. (2:00 pm)</td>
<td>TTT 12-9</td>
<td>WKU 70-59#</td>
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<tr>
<td>28</td>
<td>Wed</td>
<td>MIDDLE TENNESSEE (21-6)</td>
<td>Bowling Green, Ky. (8:00 pm)</td>
<td>MTSU 17-12</td>
<td>WKU 77-64</td>
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<tr>
<td>Mar. 4</td>
<td>Sun</td>
<td>at Northeast Louisiana (19-9)</td>
<td>Monroe, La. (2:30 pm)</td>
<td>2-2</td>
<td>WKU 73-55#</td>
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<td>9-11</td>
<td>Th-Sa</td>
<td>at Sun Belt Conference Tournament</td>
<td>Norfolk, Va. (tba)</td>
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* Sun Belt Conference Game  
(dh) Doubleheader With Men's Varsity  
# 1988-89 Home Game  
$ 1989 Sun Belt Conference Tournament Game  
% 1989 NCAA Tournament Game

NOTE: All Lady Topper games are broadcast by the Hilltopper Network. And, selected Topper home games will be telecast on a delayed basis by the WKU-TV Sports Network.

8/23/89
"MIDNIGHT MANIA" SET TO OPEN WKU MEN'S & WOMEN'S PRE-SEASON PRACTICE SCHEDULES

Bowling Green, Ky. -- Western Kentucky University's basketball teams will begin their 1989-90 practice seasons Sunday, Oct. 15, at 12:01 a.m. (CDT), with the annual "Midnight Mania" in E.A. Diddle Arena on the WKU campus.

Music, dancing, prize giveaways, a spirit contest, Hilltopper and Lady Topper player introductions, and a slam dunk contest for the men's team will highlight the traditional event, which has drawn thousands of WKU fans to the Arena for a sneak preview of previous Western teams. Things get underway Saturday night (Oct. 14) at 10 p.m., and the varied activities continue until the wee hours Sunday morning.

The 1989 edition "Midnight Mania" caps off a busy night for Hilltopper fans, who will have a chance to see Coach Jack Harbaugh's football Toppers take on fourth ranked Southwest Missouri next door in L.T. Smith Stadium at 7:00 p.m., that night.

Among the prizes up for grabs is a new automobile from Gary Force motors (Honda/Mazda/Toyota/Dodge). Selected fans, who register as they enter the Arena, will get to attempt a shot from half court to have a chance at winning the car.

Other prizes, donated by more than 30 businesses in the Bowling Green area, include dinners at area restaurants, bicycles, telephones and a "Money Scramble" for cash.

The Arena floor will be available for a sock hop prior to the introduction of the '89-90 Topper teams. Music will be provided by "Spiral Staircase." And, the candidates for 1989 Homecoming Queen will be introduced to the crowd (Homecoming is scheduled for next week, Oct. 21).

Then, just after the stroke of midnight, Coach Murray Arnold's Hilltoppers and Coach Paul Sanderford's Lady Toppers will be introduced to the audience.

The men's team is then scheduled to put on the slam dunk contest, followed by a three-point shooting contest.

WDNS-FM (O-98) will be on hand to broadcast the "Midnight Mania" activities, beginning at 10 p.m.

Admission is free and all Hilltopper fans are invited to visit with their basketball teams at "Midnight Mania" after the football game.

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Western Kentucky University
Office of Public Information • Bowling Green, KY 42101 • (502) 745-4295

TWO OF KENTUCKY'S FINEST INK EARLY WITH THE LADY TOPPERS

Bowling Green, Ky. -- Two of Kentucky's finest prep players, 6-0 forward Debbie Houk of Green County High and 6-3 forward Lori Abell of Louisville Ballard, took advantage of today's early signing date and inked with Western Kentucky University.

"We're thrilled to have two of the top players in the state commit to us early," commented Lady Topper Head Coach Paul Sanderford. "I think this reasserts the fact that Western Kentucky University is the top women's basketball program in the state. We are a Kentucky team. We recruit Kentucky kids first and we will continue to do so."

Houk averaged 19 points, 10 rebounds and five assists per game as a junior. An excellent shooter, she connected on 60% of her field goal attempts and 78% from the free throw line. Houk also tallied 86 steals on the season, leading her Lady Dragons to an impressive 24-7 record.

"Debbie is an outstanding shooter and she has those intangible qualities that can make her a solid collegiate player," noted Sanderford. "She will give us that big swing forward player we will need with the graduation of (senior All-America candidate) Tan Green."

Houk was named to the All-Region team last year for the second consecutive year, and has been a member of the All-District team in each of her three seasons.

"I've always wanted to go to Western," commented Houk. "I made my decision to be a Lady Topper a long time ago."

A standout in the classroom as well, Houk has a 3.2 GPA. She is the daughter of Mr. and Mrs. Barry Houk of Green County.

Abell has led her Ballard Bruins to an impressive 75-14 mark in her three seasons, including a 28-3 mark last year. Abell averaged 18.4 points and 11.3 rebounds per game for Coach Wayne Walker.
"Lori is a great inside intimidator," said Walker. "She averaged 3.9 blocks per game and really did the job for us on defense as far as rebounding, too. We simply had to have Lori in the game."

A second team All-State selection last year, Abell is a three-year All-District selection and has been named to the All-Region team two consecutive years.

"Lori is a strong offensive player as well," continued Walker. "She has a good touch with the ball." Abell shot 59% from the field and 64% from the line as a junior.

"Lori is one of the best big players in the state," commented Sanderford. "She will remind Western fans of Melinda Carlson (former Lady Topper All-Conference post player) because she's so agile and mobile for a big player."

"I signed with Western because I think it's the best place for me," said Abell. "The fans, the players, and the coaches are great -- it has the best overall environment in women's basketball."

Also an excellent student, Abell is considering a business major. She is the daughter of Darnell and Charles Abell, both of Louisville.

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LADY TOPPERS SIGN CLARK COUNTY STANDOUT LEA ROBINSON

Bowling Green, Ky. --- Western Kentucky Lady Topper Head Coach Paul Sanderford has announced the signing of 5-11 forward Lea Robinson of George Rogers Clark High School. Robinson became the third prep student in the state to ink early with Western Kentucky when she signed the national letter-of-intent earlier today.

"Lea Robinson is probably the best athlete in the state," commented Sanderford. "She has excellent quickness and we look for her to be a dominant perimeter player."

Robinson averaged 19.8 points and 10.0 rebounds per game for the Lady Cardinals, leading them to an impressive 29-3 mark and a runner-up finish in the state tournament. An excellent shooter, Robinson connected on 56% from the field last season.

"I think Lea's best attribute is her attitude," said George Rogers Clark Coach Lisa Goodin. "She did not play organized basketball in junior high, so for the short time she's been playing she's doing extremely well. She's very coachable and she has not even come close to her potential," Goodin continued.

Robinson, a pre-season first team All-State pick by the Lexington Herald Leader, is considered a candidate for this year's coveted "Miss Basketball" award. She was ranked 18th among 240 top swing forwards listed by the Bluestar Index. Bluestar also ranked Robinson 67th in its overall Top 80 Index.

"I'm sure she'll go to Western and continue to improve her game. She's a natural athlete and a hard worker." Goodin, a former standout at Eastern Kentucky University, has now sent two players to the Toppers. Robinson will join former teammate Jennifer Berryman on the Lady Topper roster.

Robinson, who had been recruited by over 80 colleges and universities, had narrowed her choices down to Western and Indiana. "When it came right down to it, Western had everything I was looking for," said Robinson.
"The academics are there; I liked the style of basketball they play and I like the personnel. I just felt in my heart that Western Kentucky was the place for me."

As a sophomore, Robinson helped the Lady Cardinals to a 28-4 mark and a trip to the state tourney. In her two years on the varsity squad, her teams have recorded 57 wins against only seven losses. As a rookie, Robinson played on the JV team that went undefeated. This year's team has been ranked number two in the state in the preseason polls.

Robinson joins 6-0 forward Debbie Houk of Green County and 6-3 forward Lori Abell of Louisville Ballard on the list of Lady Topper early signees. Both Houk and Abell signed on Wednesday, November 8th, the first day of the official early signing period.

"I'm very pleased with our early signees," commented Sanderford. "We feel like we got the cream of the crop as far as the Kentucky athletes and we pride ourselves on that. We are a Kentucky team and we recruit Kentucky kids."
FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE
November 15, 1989
WOMEN'S BASKETBALL
By: Sally Raque
Sports Information
CONTACT: Paul Just, SID

Western Kentucky University
Office of Public Information • Bowling Green, KY 42101 • (502) 745-4295

BOWLING GREEN BANK INVITATIONAL TICKETS NOW ON SALE

Bowling Green, Ky. --- Tickets are now on sale for the seventh annual Bowling Green Bank Invitational Women's Basketball Tournament, to be held November 25-26 in Western's E.A. Diddle Arena.

The Thanksgiving weekend event, which has traditionally been a tip-off tourney on the Lady Topper schedule will feature teams from four of the toughest conferences in women's basketball. Joining Western, the pre-season favorite to win the Sun Belt Conference, will be St. John's of the Big East Conference, Illinois of the Big Ten Conference and Duke from the Atlantic Coast Conference.

"This is one of the finest fields we've ever assembled for the Bowling Green Bank Invitational," commented WKU Head Coach Paul Sanderford. "We'll have our work cut out for us to reach the finals."

Duke and Illinois get things started Saturday night with a 6:00 p.m. tip-off, followed by the WKU-St. John's matchup at 8:00 p.m. Sunday's consolation game begins at 1:00 p.m., followed by the championship contest at approximately 3:00 p.m. Western's Lady Toppers have won three straight BGBI titles.

Reserved chairback seats are just $12.00 a set, which includes all four games of the tournament. General admission tickets are available for $4.00 per day. Western students are admitted free with valid student I.D.s. Tickets are on sale now at any of the five Bowling Green Bank locations around town, and at the WKU Ticket Office in Diddle Arena.

For more information, contact the WKU Ticket Office at (502) 745-5222.
FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE  
December 12, 1989  
WOMEN'S BASKETBALL  
CONTACT: Sally Raque  

Western Kentucky University  
Office of Public Information  •  Bowling Green, KY 42101  •  (502) 745-4295  

Game #8  

WESTERN KENTUCKY LADY TOPPERS vs. WEST VIRGINIA MOUNTAINEERS  
Sunday, Dec. 17; 2:30 p.m. (CST)  
E.A. Diddle Arena, Bowling Green, Ky.  

Team Records: Western Kentucky -- 2-5 overall (2-1 home; 0-4 road)  
West Virginia -- 2-2 overall (0-0 home; 2-2 road)  

Coaches: WKU -- Paul Sanderford, eighth year  
177-59 (.750)  
WVU -- Co-Head Coach Kittie Blakemore, 17th year  
241-190 (.559)  
Co-Head Coach Scott Harrelson, fourth year  
54-39 (.581)  

Probable Starting Lineups:  
Western Kentucky "Lady Toppers"  
Forward: 24 Mary TAYLOR (6-1, Jr., 10.3 ppg, 5.1 rpg)  
Forward: 42 Tandrea GREEN (6-0, Sr., 16.4 ppg, 7.3 rpg)  
Center: 30 Michelle CLARK (6-2, Sr., 8.7 ppg, 7.6 rpg)  
Guard: 12 Kelly SMITH (5-9, Jr., 6.9 ppg, 3.6 rpg)  
Guard: 21 Kim PEHLKE (5-7, So., 8.4 ppg, 1.6 rpg)  

West Virginia "Mountaineers"  
Forward: 31 Donna ABBOTT (6-0, So., 10.5 ppg, 8.0 rpg)  
Forward: 42 Lori WILSON (6-0, So., 8.8 ppg, 4.3 rpg)  
Center: 35 Tracey SLOGIK (6-5, Sr., 11.3 ppg, 6.5 rpg)  
Guard: 4 Rosemary KOSIOREK (5-5, So., 15.5 ppg, 3.5 rpg)  
Guard: 10 Christy COOPER (5-9, Fr., 13.8 ppg, 5.3 rpg)  

The Series:  
WKU 3, WVU 2  
In Bowling Green: WKU 2, WVU 1  
In Morgantown: WKU 1, WVU 1  
First Meeting: WKU 95-49 '85-'86 in Bowling Green  
Last Meeting: WVU 66-57, NCAA East Regional first round  
Bowling Green, Ky.  

Series Notes:  
After running up three straight wins in the WKU-WVU series, the Lady Tops suffered two straight defeats at the hands of the Mountaineers, both losses coming last season. The first WVU series win was a 69-67 overtime decision last year in Morgantown. Then, WVU ended the Tops' '88-'89 campaign with a 66-57 humbling in Diddle Arena in the first round of the NCAA East Regional.  

--over--  

Athletics-Basketball,women
One more thing about that WKU-WVU series, the margin of victory for the Lady Tops in their three wins over the Mountaineers has been 30.3 points. The point margin in the two Topper losses to West Virginia has been just six points.

Only five teams have managed to pull a "double defeat" on the Lady Toppers in the Paul Sanderford era. Last season, West Virginia became the fifth team to have knocked off the Lady Toppers twice in a single season. The others; Mississippi ('82-83), Vanderbilt ('83-84 and '86-87), Tennessee ('84-85) and Sun Belt Conference foe Old Dominion ('84-85). Incidentally, all five teams were ranked among the Top 20 at the time they pulled the "double defeats" and all five went on to see NCAA tourney action.

The free throw line has been a critical factor during WKU's five-game slump. In the Lady Tops' last five games, all setbacks, the opposition has racked up a lot of points from the charity stripe, connecting on 92 of 124 attempts for an impressive .742 percent. Western has been whistled for 101 personal fouls, for an average of 20.2 per contest, with four Toppers fouling out of the game. The result has been an average of 24.8 FT attempts for the opposition. On the other hand, Western has made good on just 45 of 73 attempts (.616), and has had the whistles blown in their favor just 66 times, for an average of 13.2 per game (including one DQ). Western has gone to the free throw line an average of just 14.6 attempts in the past five games!

Senior forward Tandreia Green is climbing the Lady Topper all-time scoring ladder. With 115 points through the first seven games of the season (16.4 avg.), Green now has 1,441 points, which ranks fifth on the all-time list. Green started the season in the number seven slot, but has already surpassed Pam (Kordenbrock) Hart (1,375 pts) and Brenda Chapman (1,436 pts). Green is just five points shy of moving up another notch, and surpassing the fourth all-time Lady Topper scorer, Beth (Lane) Blanton (1,446)

Green, Combs set new Lady Topper record in last year's WVU game, when they both collected 20 rebounds against the Mountaineers in Western's 66-57 loss in the first round of the NCAA East Regional in Diddle Arena. The two combined for more than half of Western's 60 boards that night, outrebounding the WVU squad 60-29! Green and the graduated Brigette Combs set a new Lady Topper record for individual rebounds in a game. Both marks were career-highs for the two Lady Toppers.

Western Coach Paul Sanderford has never lost more than two games in Diddle Arena in a single season. In fact, it's only been the last two years that he was beaten twice at home. Western enters the West Virginia contest with one home loss already on the record, a tough 64-58 setback at the hands of the 12th-ranked Lady Rebels of UNLV. Left on the Lady Topper home slate after the WVU game...Top 25 teams Texas, Vanderbilt, and Old Dominion!

Western's only other Sunday afternoon contest so far this season was a narrow 81-79 win over Illinois in the championship game of the Bowling Green Bank Invitational. The Lady Toppers were 6-1 in Sunday afternoon contests last season.
Western Kentucky University
Office of Public Information • Bowling Green, KY 42101 • (502) 745-4295

LADY TOPPERS AFTER STATE ATTENDANCE RECORD WITH OLD DOMINION GAME

Bowling Green, Ky. -- The streak is being threatened. For the past six seasons, the Western Kentucky Lady Topper basketball team has drawn the largest crowd to witness a women's basketball game in the state of Kentucky.

But, thus far this season that boast belongs to Kentucky, who drew 7,100 fans to the Lady Cats home game against Tennessee in January. Not to be outdone by their Lexington foes, Coach Paul Sanderford and the Lady Toppers have issued a plea to Lady Topper fans to help them keep the streak in tact, and are hoping for a turnout of at least 7,101 for their next home game, Thursday February 22nd against Sun Belt Conference nemesis Old Dominion.

"We need our fans to turn out in a big way," commented Sanderford. "We can't let Kentucky and Lexington outdo us; we need to show people that Bowling Green and Western Kentucky University is THE place for women's basketball in this state!"

Big things are planned for the game, which is being billed "Student Appreciation Night." Wendy's of Bowling Green and Castner Knott have teamed up to distribute 3,000 free tickets. They can be picked up at any of the three Bowling Green Wendy's restaurants. No purchase is necessary. A computer will be donated to the area school with the most students in attendance and a WKU student group with the best showing will win a color television. Special pre-game and halftime activities include a WKU faculty appreciation ceremony and a hot shot contest.

The 7:00 pm game, which could end up deciding the regular season conference championship and the tourney's top seed, is being broadcast live back to the Old Dominion fans in Norfolk, Va., and taped for delayed replay on the national network, Home Team Sports. Western Kentucky University's own WKYU-TV is also taping the contest for delayed replay on its statewide cable network.

"The cameras will be out in full force and it will be a great time to show people across the nation just how great Hilltopper fans are," Sanderford continued. "Bring your buddy and bring those red towels. We need to get Diddle Arena rocking!"

Diddle Arena has been good to Sanderford and the Lady Toppers. Western, who is 12-7 on the year and riding a four-game winning streak, is 9-1 in the Diddle "den of doom" this season, including upset wins over ranked opponents Texas and Vanderbilt. Sanderford and company are an impressive 103-9 (92%) since his arrival on the Hill, and have never lost more than twice at home in a single season.

Athletics-Basketball, women
FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE
March 21, 1990
WOMEN'S BASKETBALL
CONTACT: Sally Raque

LADY TOPPER BASKETBALL WRAPS UP ROLLERCOASTER SEASON WITH SIXTH NCAA APPEARANCE

Bowling Green, Ky. -- It was an up and down year for Lady Topper basketball at Western Kentucky University, and the '89-90 season came to a close on both a high note and a low note.

The Lady Tops earned a sixth straight bid to the NCAA Tournament, but lost in the first round of the MidEast Region to host DePaul, 73-63. "There's only one team in the country that can end their season with a win," remarked WKU Head Coach Paul Sanderford, who led the Western women to a 17-12 mark this year. "I was happy we got invited to the NCAA and I think we deserved a bid; we played well down the stretch and had some quality wins."

Western rebounded from a 4-7 start to post big upsets over Texas (then ranked #4), Vanderbilt (#17) and Tennessee Tech (#18), and went on an 8-1 stretch run in February. Western has traditionally played well in "crunch time," February and March, under Sanderford, going 83-25 (.769) in the final two months.

The Lady Tops tied for first in the Sun Belt Conference with a 4-2 mark in league play during the regular season. Western won the coin toss to land the #1 seeding in the Sun Belt tournament, but lost in the semi-finals to host Old Dominion, who went on to capture the conference crown. Western won the regular season showdown with rival ODU, winning 68-66 in Bowling Green in front of 6,791 Western fans.

Western posted an impressive 11-1 mark in E.A. Diddle Arena, losing only to highly-regarded Nevada Las Vegas (#5) by a slim 64-58 margin in early December. Sanderford and company own a dominating 113-9 mark at home since '83, for a home winning percentage of .936! Sanderford raised his eight-year coaching record to 192-66 (.744), however fell short of keeping his streak of 20+ wins alive. He had won at least 21 games each season since arriving on the Hill in 1983.

The Lady Toppers will lose two seniors off the '89-90 squad, 6-0 forward Tandrea Green and 6-3 center Michelle Clark. Green finished her WKU career in fine fashion, tying former WKU great Kami Thomas for second place on the all-time scoring list with 1,796 points. The Washington, D.C. product also finished her career second in all-time rebounds, blocks and steals. Green led the Toppers in both scoring and rebounding for the second straight year and made the All-Sun Belt Conference team for the third consecutive year. She was named the WKU female athlete of the year for 1990.

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Athletics-Basketball, Women
Clark was a solid performer for the Lady Toppers over the past four years, and averaged 8.7 points and 5.7 rebounds per game as a senior. A Prop 48 victim her freshman year, the Louisville, Ky., native will earn her degree in Recreation this summer.

Western took advantage of the November early signing period to ink three outstanding prospects from the Kentucky High School ranks, All-State forwards Lea Robinson, (5-11, Clark County High) Debbie Houk (6-0, Green County) and Lori Abell (6-3, Louisville Ballard).

"We'll certainly miss the contributions of Tandreia Green and Michelle Clark, but we have a good group of players returning next year," Sanderford said. "We've already signed three quality players, and we'll probably sign a few more. I can tell you one thing for certain, next year will be another exciting year for Lady Topper fans," Sanderford promised.
Western Kentucky University
Office of Public Information • Bowling Green, KY 42101 • (502) 745-4295

LADY TOPPER BASKETBALL BANQUET SET FOR NEXT WEEK

Bowling Green, Ky. --- Western Kentucky University’s Lady Topper basketball program will host its annual Awards Banquet on the WKU campus Tuesday evening, April 17th.

It will be held in the main dining room of the Downing University Center at 6:00 p.m. (CDT), and the public is invited to attend. The cost for the full course steak dinner is $10 per person. Reservations must be made by contacting the women’s basketball office at (502) 745-2133.

The ‘89-90 Lady Toppers finished the season with a 17-12 mark, and a share of the Sun Belt Conference regular season title. Western also participated in its sixth straight NCAA tournament.
FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE
April 11, 1990

WOMEN'S BASKETBALL
Contact: Sally Raque

SANDERFORD INKS ALL-AMERICAN WAGES; TWO MORE KENTUCKY PREP STARS

Bowling Green, Ky. -- Western Kentucky University Head Coach Paul Sanderford has added three more to his list of recruits who have signed on the dotted line.

All-American Valerie "Buffy" Wages, and Kentucky prep stars LaTonya Bland and Kim Warfield inked national letters-of-intent today to play their collegiate basketball with the WKU Lady Toppers.

"We're pleased that all three of these athletes have committed to our program," commented Sanderford. "Each player will bring unique qualities to our basketball team that fit in with our plans for a new look in 1991."

Wages comes to the Hill from Woodsen High School out of Washington, D.C., the same program that sent graduating All-American Tandreia Green to Red Towel Territory four years ago. A 1990 Parade All-American, Wages was named Player-of-the-Year by both the Washington Post and Gatorade. She was among USA Today's list of Top 25 recruits in the nation.

The 5-7 guard averaged 24.3 points, five assists and five steals in leading her '90 Warriors to a 31-1 record and #10 national ranking by USA Today. The three-time All-State selection set the Woodsen High career scoring mark with 1,890 points in her three years. Her WHS teams posted an impressive 79-9 mark during her tenure with Coach Bob Headen.

"Valerie's knowledge of the game is exceptional," Headen remarked. "She knows what to do with the basketball, especially in critical situations. When the chips were down, we put the ball in her hands."

"Buffy is one of the better athletes in the country," commented Sanderford. "She comes from an outstanding high school program and will give us much needed quickness and athleticism in the backcourt."

LaTonya Bland is a 5-6 speedster out of Louisville's Waggener High School. She also set her school scoring mark with 1,624 career points. Bland averaged 16.2 points, 5.3 assists and 4.1 steals directing the Wildcat backcourt.

"LaTonya Bland is the quickest player in Kentucky," Sanderford stated. "She's a good penetrator and an excellent passer."

"LaTonya's best attributes are her ball handling skills and her willingness to work hard," added Waggener Coach Robert Stewart. "She'll do well at Western."

Bland was selected to the Courier-Journal All-State second team three years in a row, and is a three-time All-Region and All-District selection as well. She was rated #1 in Region 7 along with Ballard's Lori Abell, who inked with WKU in November, and Southern standout Gwen Doyle.
Warfield, a 5-8 guard, played her prep ball at Conner High in Hebron, Ky. Although she missed the '88 season with knee surgery, she returned to action for her senior season this year, and led Conner to a 32-4 mark and a trip to the Sweet 16 Tournament.

Warfield averaged 15.8 points, six rebounds and 5.1 assists per game as a senior, shooting .925 from the free throw line and 45% from the three-point stripe. In her Sweet 16 appearance in WKU's Diddle Arena, she pumped in 27 points on 9-13 shooting from the field, and recorded three assists and four steals in a 55-54 loss to West Hopkins.

"Kim Warfield has the ability to make other players on the floor better," Sanderford said. "When she is fully recovered from her knee problems, she will be able to help us a great deal. She is one of those overachievers who has great leadership qualities."

Warfield was voted Most Valuable Player of the Ninth Region tourney, and totaled over 2,000 career points at Conner.

Wages, Bland and Warfield join three others on the list of WKU signees. November's early signing period resulted in the inking of 6-0 forward Debbie Houk of Green County, 6-3 forward Lori Abell of Ballard and 5-11 forward Lea Robinson of Clark County.
FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE / April 23, 1990
Women’s Basketball / Contact: Sally Raque

LADY TOPPERS FARE WELL AT OLYMPIC SPORTS FEST TRIALS

Bowling Green, Ky. --- Members of Western Kentucky University’s Lady Topper basketball team fared well at the 1990 Olympic Sports Festival trials held in Fort Worth, Texas over the weekend (April 20-22).

Sophomore guard Kim Pehlke of Louisville was selected as an alternate. The 5-7 Pehlke was among the final 15 chosen from over 175 participants trying out for the South team, which will be coached by Northwestern University Coach Don Perrilli.

Freshman guard Renee Westmoreland made it to the final cut of 35 players. And, WKU signees Lea Robinson of Clark County and Lori Abell of Louisville Ballard made it to the third and second rounds, respectively. Sophomore forward Jennifer Berryman also participated in the tryouts.

"I was pleased with the way our girls competed," commented WKU Assistant Coach Cristy McKinney, who was on hand for the trials. "It speaks well of our program to have two guards among the final 35, and our signees did well, too. A lot of people were impressed with the play of Lea and Lori."

A committee selected a team of 12, with an alternate guard, forward and center. All players participating had to be under 20 years of age before January 1990.

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FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE / May 1, 1990
WOMEN'S BASKETBALL / Contact: Sally Raque

LADY TOPPERS SIGN JUCO ALL-AMERICAN LISA LANG

BOWLING GREEN, KY. --- Western Kentucky University Lady Topper Basketball Coach Paul Sanderford has announced the signing of 5-11 forward Lisa Lang, a JuCo All-American out of North Carolina.

Lang played her JuCo ball at Louisburg Junior College, where Sanderford coached prior to taking over the Lady Topper program in '83. Sanderford coached at Louisburg from 1977-82, posting a 163-19 mark with the Lady Hurricane program.

"The great thing about signing a player out of Louisburg is that Lisa has played for (Louisburg Coach) Mike Holloman. Mike was my assistant at Louisburg for two years and we have a very similar coaching philosophy," Sanderford commented. "That should make it an easy adjustment for Lisa, I look for her to pick up our system quickly."

Lang powered the Lady Hurricanes to a 29-2 record last season, and a No. 5 national ranking. She averaged 17.4 points and 11.8 rebounds per contest, shooting an impressive 52.4% from the field. Her season highs included performances of 31 points and 19 rebounds. In the Region X semi-finals, Lang posted a quadruple-double, recording double digits in scoring, rebounding, steals and assists. She was named the 1990 Region X MVP and was twice named to the All-Region team. The Lady Hurricanes totaled 55 wins against only six losses in Lang's two-year tenure.

"Lisa Lang is a tremendous athlete," Sanderford continued. "She is one of the strongest women's basketball players I have ever seen. Lisa will help us fill the void left by the graduation of Tandreia Green."

The daughter of Mr. and Mrs. James R. Lang of Wilson, N.C., Lisa becomes the seventh standout to ink with the Lady Toppers this year. Forwards Debbie Houk (6-0, Green County), Lori Abell (6-3, Louisville Ballard) and Lea Robinson (5-11 Clark County) all took advantage of the early signing period in November. This spring, Sanderford signed three guards: 5-7 All-American Valerie "Buffy" Wages (Washington, D.C.), 5-6 LaTonya Bland (Louisville Wagner) and 5-8 Kim Warfield (Conner High).

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FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE / May 10, 1990
Women's Basketball / Contact: Sally Raque

LADY TOPPER TRINA WILSON EARN DISTINCTION IN DESIGN

Bowling Green, Ky. -- Western Kentucky University's Trina Wilson, at 6-4 an obvious standout on the basketball court, has also made her presence known in her academic area of Interior Design.

The Lady Toppers' junior center has recently learned that several of her original compositions have been selected for exhibition at the Annual Meeting and Exposition of the American Home Economics Association, June 23-27, 1990 in San Antonio, Texas.

Wilson's designs were selected by a national committee that based their selection on color, texture and other elements of design.

"Trina's designs have been selected for a very exclusive exhibition," commented WKU's Dr. Joyce Rasdall, who submitted Wilson's work from her Interior Design class. "Trina will receive a great deal of exposure at this exhibition. It is a real tribute to her talents."

Wilson's designs centered on visual texture, and are pen and ink drawings and markers on illustration board. She was one of five Western students to have designs selected for this prestigious exhibition.

On the basketball court, Wilson averaged 4.8 points and 3.5 rebounds per contest through the first 14 games of the '89-90 season before knee surgery forced her to miss the remainder of the season.
FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE / May 31, 1990
Women's Basketball / Contact: Sally Raque

LADY TOPPER HOOPS CAMP OFFERS INNOVATIVE INSTRUCTION

Bowling Green, Ky. -- Western Kentucky University Lady Topper basketball coach Paul Sanderford has been conducting summer basketball camps on the Hill for seven years.

Each year, Sanderford and his experienced staff hold week-long sessions for individual campers and varsity teams. This year is no exception, but in addition to an individual camp (June 24-28) and two weeks of team camp (July 1-5 and July 6-10), Sanderford has added a new concept to his schedule, a shooting camp, set for June 29-July 1.

"We're excited about offering a shooting camp for the first time," Sanderford commented. "It will be like a 'shot doctor'-type camp. Each camper will be videotaped when they arrive at camp and then again at the end of the session," Sanderford explained. "They will get an evaluation checklist to continue working on their shooting, plus a copy of their videotaped shooting skills."

The camp is limited to the first 100 applicants. The cost for the week-long shooting camp is only $95 per camper.

According to Sanderford, both sessions of the team camp are already full, however some spots are still open for the individual camp (June 24-28; cost: $220).

For more information on the Lady Topper basketball camps, or to reserve your spot, please contact the WKU Lady Topper Basketball Office at (502) 745-2133.

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FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE / June 11, 1990
Women's Basketball / Contact: Sally Raque

LADY TOPPER BASKETBALL UPDATE

Green, Sanderford active at U.S. National Team tryouts -- Former Lady Topper Tandreia Green and WKU Coach Paul Sanderford were in Colorado Springs, Co., recently to participate in the U.S. National Team tryouts held at the Olympic Training Center.

Green, a 6-0 forward who led the Lady Toppers to a sixth straight NCAA appearance last season, joined 147 of the best women's basketball players in the country to compete for a spot on one of two teams that would represent the U.S. in the upcoming Goodwill Games and World Championships. Tandreia survived the first two cuts, and was one of only 10 athletes in the Open Division to advance that far.

"Tandreia had an excellent tryout," commented Sanderford, who was one of four floor coaches selected to conduct the tryout sessions. "I think she surprised some people out there. She was up against the very best athletes in the country, including 31 Kodak All-Americans."

"I felt like a kid in a candy store," Sanderford continued. "It was a real honor for me to be on the floor and have an opportunity to coach the best talent in the country. These young ladies were the pre-Olympic team for 1992 and they can play!"

Spots still available for Lady Topper Basketball Camp -- The 8th Annual Paul Sanderford Lady Topper Basketball Camps get underway in a few weeks, and some spots still remain for both the Individual camp and the Shooting Camp. Both sessions of the Team Camp are full.

OVER
The Individual Camp is set for June 24-28 on the Western Kentucky University campus. The Shooting Camp is the following week, June 29-July 1. For information and to reserve a spot, contact the Lady Topper Basketball Office at (502) 745-2133.

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FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE / June 22, 1990
Women's Basketball / Contact: Sally Raque

WKU RECRUITING CLASS BEST IN THE STATE. AMONG TOP 20 IN THE NATION

Bowling Green, Ky. -- Western Kentucky University's Lady Topper basketball program not only boasts the best recruiting class in the Bluegrass State, but has recently been tabbed as one of the best in the nation.

Coach Paul Sanderford and his staff have added seven new players to the Lady Topper roster, including five from the Kentucky high school ranks. In fact, Western claims more recruits on the 1990 Kentucky All Star Team (three -- Lori Abell, Debbie Houk and Lea Robinson) than any other university. The Kentucky All Stars whipped the Indiana All Stars in the first game of the annual series last week, and will play in Hoosier territory tomorrow night in Market Square Arena.

With Western signing the cream of the Kentucky crop, along with Parade All-American Buffy Wages (Washington, D.C.) and JuCo All-American Lisa Lang Wilson, N.C.), basketball's noted Blue Star Report ranked the Lady Topper class 14th on its Top 20 list.

"I'm not at all surprised by that ranking," commented Sanderford. "We obviously had the best class in the state, with three players on the All Star team, and with Buffy Wages and Lisa Lang we flexed our muscles in the national recruiting fight."

Western was the only Sun Belt Conference school ranked by the Blue Star Report. Two schools on the Lady Tops' '90-91 schedule were ranked -- Vanderbilt (#3) and North Carolina State (#12).