1988

UA1F WKU Archives Vertical File - Football 1988

Follow this and additional works at: https://digitalcommons.wku.edu/dlsc_UA_records

Part of the Journalism Studies Commons, Mass Communication Commons, Social History Commons, and the Sports Studies Commons

Recommended Citation

https://digitalcommons.wku.edu/dlsc_UA_records/5471

This Article is brought to you for free and open access by TopSCHOLAR®. It has been accepted for inclusion in WKU Archives Records by an authorized administrator of TopSCHOLAR®. For more information, please contact topscholar@wku.edu.
Roberts might get 20 signees

By MARK C. MATHIS
Daily News Sports Editor

The chance to compete immediately for the starting quarterback job and getting to play baseball, too, has lured Frankie Wood to Western.

WKU football

Wood, a 6-foot-2, 220-pound quarterback-catcher from Clarksville (Tenn.) High, will sign a national letter of intent Wednesday to play football for Western. Wednesday is the first day for high school seniors to sign national letters in football.

And Western coach Dave Roberts is looking for at least 14 more signees when the two-month long signing window opens at 8 a.m., Wednesday. Western could get as many as 20 signees before the period is over in April.

Wood, a Class 3A All-State quarterback last year, orally committed to Western a week ago, and can't wait to get here.

"I wish I could pack up and come tomorrow," Wood said in a telephone interview. "I'm really excited."

Part of the reason for that excitement is that Roberts and his staff have told Wood he will be able to come in and possibly play in his freshman year. At the very least, Wood will have a chance to compete for the job left vacant by Jeff Cesarone, who graduates this spring with just about every Hilltopper passing record in the books.

"They told me the quarterback job is up for grabs," said Wood, who canceled a visit to Georgia last weekend. "Everybody else was talking about red-shirting. And they might red-shirt me at Western, too, but at least I'll have a chance."

David Armstrong, Cesarone's understudy for three years, will be the top competitor for the quarterbacking chores. But he will have to beat out Wood, a drop-back specialist, and a possible junior college signee.

Roberts doesn't have a junior college quarterback in school now, but there is a possibility of signing one out of the California JUCO ranks. Another high school quarterback is also expected to sign out of Ohio. NCAA rules prohibit Roberts and his staff from discussing any recruits until they have actually signed.

However, sources in the program have said that Western is expected to sign Jeff Rutledge, a 6-7, 280-pound defensive tackle from Madisonville-North Hopkins.

Rutledge, a second team All-State selection this year, is also being heavily recruited by Eastern and Louisville.
Nine sign for Roberts

Coach Dave Roberts was running up his phone bill Tuesday night.

A new NCAA rule prohibiting college football coaches from seeing prospective signees for 48 hours before this morning's 8 a.m. start of the national letter-of-intent signing period kept the Western coach on the telephone until the wee hours.

But it started paying off with nine signees in the first early-morning wave.

Roberts was unavailable for comment this morning, but he got a couple of big linemen and a high school quarterback among the nine signees. Insiders with the football program expect 14 signees this week. Because of NCAA rules, Roberts can't discuss any recruit until he has signed a national letter with Western.

Here is a list of the signees as of this morning:

- James Johnson, 6-foot, 185-pound running back/defensive back from Paducah Tilghman.
- Keith Nelms, a 6-3, 245-pound defensive end from Cisco (Texas) Junior College.
- Terrell Griffin, a 6-3, 220-pound linebacker from Perry, Fla. (Taylor County).
- Matt Current, a 6-3, 219-pound linebacker from Middletown (Ohio).
- Gary Cook, a 6-3, 290-pound nose guard from Butler (Kan.) Community College.
- Chris Sweat, a 6-3, 245-pound tackle from Middletown (Ohio).
- Ivory Warren, a 6-6, 307-pound offensive tackle from Lake Butler Fla. (Union County).
- Bob Barnett, a 6-2, 210-pound quarterback from Hamilton (Ohio).
- Chris Butler, a 6-2, 220-pound linebacker from Huntsville, Ala. (Johnson High).
Smith has been monarch at ODU

By MARK C. MATHIS
Daily News Sports Editor

Frank Smith can empathize with the football players around the country today signing national letters of intent.

The Old Dominion point guard was almost one of them four years ago.

As an option quarterback at Mount Vernon High in Alexandria, Va., Smith was recruited by the heavyweights of the college football world. Oklahoma, Nebraska and Notre Dame all wanted the services of the 6-foot, 180-pound speedster. He visited all three schools during his senior year at Mount Vernon, but before he ever made it to the Golden Dome, Smith already decided that he would make his collegiate mark on the basketball court.

ODU has been thanking him ever since.

The all-time leader in assists and steals in the Sun Belt Conference will lead the Monarchs, 14-7 overall and 6-2 in SBC, into Diddle Arena for the last time to face Western tonight at 8.

The senior has recorded 808 career assists and 270 steals heading into tonight's tilt that will be key in keeping the Hilltoppers in the conference race. Western is 13-7 overall and 4-4 in the conference.

And it's kind of weird that a guy who made his name by running the ball in high school would become an even bigger influence passing it.

"I knew I wanted to play basketball more than football," said Smith, who didn't really think he was that much better in basketball than football. "I never looked at it that way. I just enjoyed playing basketball more."

Before his senior year in high school, one which would end with the Class 3A football championship, Smith had already made up his mind to play basketball, according to team insiders. Virginia was the only other school that showed much interest in Smith on the court. And that came late in the recruiting process. ODU stayed with Smith all through his junior and senior years. But he took his football visits, anyway.

"It was nice. I was kind of taking the trips and enjoying them. My recruiting was very controlled

Continued on Page 3
Column 1, This Section
State coaches have reasons to be pleased

By BRUCE W. BRANCH
Staff Writer

Continued from Page D 1

tant coach Jack Isom said, "You always need good linemen." The 6-1, 228-pound Henry, who was also recruited by Illinois and Western Kentucky, will be joined on the Colonels team by his older brother, James, a former lineman at Kentucky State who will pay his own way to Eastern as a walk-on.

"I wanted to go someplace where we could play together," Chris Henry said. "Eastern is a nice school. I felt more at ease with their coaches. I felt as though I could trust them and they would take care of me."

The Colonels signed seven players from Kentucky. "We take the best kids we can get, and there were quite a few in the state this year," Isom said.

Eastern also landed five players from Cincinnati, including four teammates from Princeton High. "Signing a kid from Cincinnati is just like signing one from Kentucky," Kidd said. "I'm very pleased."

The Colonels also went into Florida, where they have had huge success in recent years, and came away with two offensive linemen, a wide receiver and a quarterback. However, Isom said Eastern didn't get the number of good defensive backs it was seeking.

"There are still some unsigned players out there good enough to play for us," he said. "We just have to sign them."

WESTERN KENTUCKY

Coach Dave Roberts said his club's 7-4 season and No. 11 national ranking paid immediate dividends.

The Hilltoppers signed 15 players, including 6-6, 290-pound offensive tackle Irv Warren of Lake Butler, Fla., quarterback Frankie Woods of Clarksville, Tenn., defensive back James Johnson of Paducah Tilghman and 6-2, 260-pound defensive tackle Sean Glenn of Doss.

"The coaching staff and I are happy with the quality of young men who have elected to become a part of our program," Roberts said. "We didn't get all of the ones we wanted, but from top to bottom it's the best class athletically we've had. Having a winning record really helped. We got some people's attention."

Warren, who was recruited by several major colleges before missing several games with an injury, might make an immediate impact. "He fell off a three-wheeler and got hurt," Roberts said. "A lot of people backed off, but we stayed in there. We think he is a tremendous prospect."

Glenn, who came on strong for Doss at the end of the season, picked Western after strongly considering Eastern.

The highly touted Woods is expected to challenge for the starting quarterback spot vacated by senior Jeff Cesarone.

"I hope he (Woods) can play," Roberts said. "On film, he looks good. But you never know until you get them in here."

However, Roberts said most of his freshman will be redshirted or be used in backup roles. "I hope we can let the young guys be young for a while before throwing them in the fire," he said.

MURRAY STATE

Coach Mike Mahoney said his biggest needs were a quality kick returner, a top-flight running back and a punter.

Mahoney thinks speedy Michael Brooks of Huntsville, Ala., Dwayne Depp, who rushed for 4,000 yards during his career at Glasgow High, and Northeastern Mississippi Junior College transfer Rod Coggin can fill the voids.

"We lost both of our starting backs, Willie Cannon and Bill Bird," Mahoney said. "Brooks can return punts and kickoffs, and he will also contend for a running back spot."

"We finally got a two-step punter in Coggin. I like that, and Depp was a finalist for Mr. Football."

Mahoney said he was disappointed in the small number of Kentucky players he signed. He lost Marshall County defensive lineman Mike Thompson to Arizona, wide receiver Freddie Jones of Calloway County to Louisville and linebacker Kurt Bar­ber of Paducah Tilghman to Southern California.

"I wish we were getting more in-state kids," Mahoney said. "We offered 13 and got only two."

The Racers have signed 19 players.

"After only signing 11 last year, we needed a big year," Mahoney said.

MOREHEAD STATE

The Eagles, who finished 2-8 last season, were looking for players in just about every position.

"A lot of our freshmen are going to play right away," said coach Bill Baldridge, who has signed 24 players. "We knew going in we needed wide receivers and defensive backs. We also needed some more speed. I feel real good about the quality of kids we got."

Morehead State's biggest haul was 6-1, 250-pound lineman David Conley of Boyd County. Conley, who was recently picked for the Kentucky All-Star team that will face Tennessee, had also considered Kentucky, Marshall and Eastern.

"He visited Kentucky last week, and they didn't offer him a scholarship," Baldridge said. "Then he visited us and he canceled the rest of his visits."

Baldridge is also high on wide receiver Mike Gray of Doss, a 4.5 sprinter, wide receiver Terry Yeast of Harrodsburg and running back Darrin Harris of Montgomery County.

Linebacker Pete Bifone of Trinity and running back Wes Porter and tight end Mike Price, a pair of hometown products from Rowan County High, also signed with the Eagles.
National letter-of-intent signees

KENTUCKY

Player, Hometown (High School/UC) Pos. Ht. Wt. Notes

Kurt Anthony

Player, Hometown (High School/UC) Pos. Ht. Wt. Notes

Ryan Hockman, Chuck Latimer, Reggie Troy, Jose Mike GergoSky, Chos McNamee, PikeVIlle (PikeVille) Ivory Warr&f'l. Brad Ladd, Madisonville (Madisonville) TaylOr, Miami, Fla. (South Miami) Maynard, At'wOOds (Russell) Armstead, Burks, Monroe, Hometown London, OhIO (MCKinley)

Maynard, At'wOOds (Russell) ••••

Smith, JAcxOf1, Canton, OhIO (MCKinley)

RaVe Dyne, Mississauga, On. Redi Campbell, Athens, Ala. (Athens)

Mike McDaniel, Tuscaloosa, Ala. (Bish Bishop

Jose Gonzales, St. Anne, III. (Bishop McClashe) Troy Jackson, Canton, Ohio (McKinley)

Ariv Johnson, East St. Louis, Ill. (E. St. Louis) D3

Fred Jones, Murray, Ky., (Calloway County) WR

Dale Kiser, New Albany, Ky. (New Albany)

Curtis Lipsey, Chicago (St. Patrick)

Dwayne Lundie, Decatur, Ga. (Towers)

Shawn Rodriguez, Tampa, Fl. (Chamberlain)

Steve Soto, Miami, Fla. (McEachern)

Anthony Sensac, Osceola, Ind. (Pend)

Albertson Smith, South Bend, Ind. (Rice)

Brevin Smith, Orlando, Fl. (Oak Ridge)

Pete Traver, Wellington, Fla. (Springfield)

Dennis Trutl, Decatur, Ala. (Austin)

Klaus Wilmersmeyer, Mississauga, Ont.

Andre Wright, Harvey, Ill. (Thornton)

Chas. Smith, Akwesasne (Cayuga)

Liggett Butler, Polk City, Fla. (Auburndale)

Western Kentucky

Player, Hometown (High School/UC) Pos. Ht. Wt. Notes

Bob Barnett, Bonney, Neshoba, Ind. (Barnett)

David Browning, Redwood (North Hardin)

Chris Carriere, Cape Coral, Fla. (Cape Coral)

Cory Cook, Waterloo, Iowa (Butler, Ken., J.C.)

Matt Corrupt, Mitchellville, Ohio (Mitchellville)

Seal Dillion, Los Angeles, Calif. (Seal)

Terril Griffin, Perry, Fla. (Taylor County)

Larry Ivery, Pascagoula, Miss. (D'Ivry)

Houston Johnson, Palms, Tenn. (Gillespie) DT

James Johnson, Tucson, Ariz. (Bogan) RB

Tod Sledge, Cincinnati (Turf)

Chris Smith, Mississippi (Oxford)

Ivy Warren, Lake Butler, Fla. (Union County)

Frankie Woods, Clarksville, Tenn.

Eastern Kentucky

Player, Hometown (High School/UC) Pos. Ht. Wt. Notes

Dowby Berkhalter, Cincinnati (Princeton)

Lance Easton, Fernandina Beach, Fla.

Joe Helmer, Jeffersonville, Ind. (Jeffersonville)

Chris Henry, Louisville (Doss HS)

Trevon Madison, Madison (Madison)

Pepe Lopex, Frisco, Texas (Frisco)

Chris Mcdonald, Plaquemine (Plaquemine)

Dennis Newlin, Louisville (High Cross)

Wayne Peterson, Fernandina Beach, Fla.

Ted Poesker, Versailles (Woodford County)

Brian Pressier, Bradenton, Fla. (Stetson)

William Smith, Marion Natl. (Marion Military)

Marcus Thomas, Cincinnati (Princeton) TB 5-11 175

Clay Tipton, Orrville, Ohio (Orrville) LB 5-11 215

Alice Woods, Cincinnati, Ohio (Princeton) DB 5-9 200

Ron Woods, Cincinnati (Princeton HS) CB 5-11 240

Mark Woolum, Plaquemine (Plaquemine) QB 6-0 200

Chris Young, Johns Creek, Ga. (Cass Tech) FB 6-3 215

Morehead State

Player, Hometown (High School/UC) Pos. Ht. Wt. Notes

Mike Anderson, Morehead (Flora County) WR 6-3 170

Pete Bollone, Louisville (Trinity) RB 6-1 187

Matt Blair, Plaquemine (Plaquemine) QB 6-2 170

Matt Carter, Cincinnati (Princeton) FB 6-1 170

Eddy Cloud, Cleveland (Sta) DB 5-11 175

Tom Conlin, Pittsburgh (North Hills) LB 6-1 200

David Conley, Carlsbad (Boyd County) TE 6-3 200

Lance Derry, Villa Hills (West Heights) TE 6-3 205

Tray Dobbs, Louisville (Alton) WF 5-11 170

Mike Garey, Louisville (Gos) WR 6-0 155

Darin Harris, Mount Sterling (Montgomery County) RB 5-11 190

James Hutton, Cincinnati (Hughes) WR 5-10 150

Ellie Johnson, Cincinnati (Cincinnati) DB 5-10 185

Joe Kuyneck, Mentor, Ohio (Lake Catholic) TE 6-4 215

Larky Maggard, Ironton (Whitestown) OL 6-2 220

Troy McGinnis, Harrodsburg (Harrodsburg) LB 5-10 190

Bobo Mayer, Alexandria (Newport) RB 6-2 175

Jim Price, Morehead (BowEN County) TE 6-3 245

John Porter, Odesa, Fla. (Glenville) LB 6-2 220

West Porter, Morehead (Flora County) DL 6-4 215

Hugh Scott, Cincinnati (Purcell Marian) LB 6-1 170

Joe Tonkovich, Pittsburgh (Briarcrest) DB 6-2 215

Terry Yeat, Harrodsburg (Harrodsburg) WR 6-1 145

Murray State

Player, Hometown (High School/UC) Pos. Ht. Wt. Notes

Tom Bau, Davielle (Davielle) OL-OL 6-2 250

Mike Brooks, Huntsville, Ala. (Johnson) LB 5-10 180

Brown, Mayfield, Ky. (Mayfield)

Bernard Calnon, Tampa (Robinson) DT 6-0 245

Rod Coggin, Somersville, Miss. (Miss. Miss. JCT.) P 5-10 170

Steve Dinkham, Newport, Ky. (Covington)

Don Feldhaus, Cincinnati (Moeller) LB 5-11 185

Dave Hall, Cincinnati (Cincinnati) TE 6-3 215

Eric Ingram, Brownsville, Tenn. (Haywood County) DB 6-1 170

Shawn McClain, Elizabeth, N.J. (Elizabeth) LB 6-2 235

Ogech German, Alpha, Ohio (Fairmont)

Terrence Petty, Huntsville, Ala. (Johnson) WR-DB 6-3 185

Ray Reynolds, Louisville (J.T. duPont) LB 6-0 190

Felix Springfield, Memphis (Whitehaven) WR 5-9 170

Jeff Sibert, Bristow (Marshall County) DB 6-2 175

Jeff Sweezy, Springville, Ill. (Gill Hill) LB 5-11 190

Mickel Wolters, Satellite, Fla. OL 6-5 235

Rudy Wray, Decatur, Ala. (Austin) LB 6-0 185

Indiana

Player, Hometown (High School/UC) Pos. Ht. Wt. Notes

Lars Anderson, Glenview, Ill. (Glenbrook South) CB 6-4 200

Robert Bass, Brooklyn, N.Y. (Tilden)

Cahill Bell, Miami, Fl. (Andrew Green) LB 5-3 230

Ken Derrick, Lauderdale Lakes, Fl. (Boyd Anderson) LB 5-2 230

Kirk Bollini, Neshoba, Ind. (Barnett)

Alan Bryant, Dayton, Ohio (Jefferson) FB 6-2 250

Johnson, Canton, Ohio (Canton, Ohio)

Toby Cole, Carmel, Ind.

Rich Dzieniak, Euclid, Ohio

John DeVries, Brooklyn, N.Y.

Greg Farrell, Covel, Ind. (CovEL Military

Tom Green, St. Louis, Mo. (Vanderber)

Jim Harmon, Naperville, Ill. (Naperville)

Jason Jack, Valparaiso, Ind.

Jerry McConna, Hanafin, Mo.

Mike McDonald, St. Louis, Mo. (Hazelwood East) DT 5-2 225

Mike McDonald, Cincinnati (Western Hills) DT 5-11 190

John Miller, Massillon, Ohio (Washington)

Harm Noe, Tampa, Fla. (Butler CC)

Ray Potts, Detroit, Mich. (Bishop Gallagher)

Chris Swartz, Alam, Minn. (Minneapolis)

Eme Thompson, Terre Haute, Ind. (Taylor)

Harry Waring, West Miami, Fl. (Palmetto)

Stanley Wheeler, Lansing, Mich. (Saginaw)

Keith Whitlock, Louisville (St. Xavier)

Vanderbilt

Anthony Carter, RB 6-6 200, North Hardin
Nine more high school football players signed national letters of intent with Western Wednesday afternoon.

That brings the total to 18 signees for Coach Dave Roberts' squad.

One of the most impressive signees is Eric Bates, a 5-foot-11 running back from James Monroe High in Fredericksburg, Va. Bates set a single-season state rushing record last year with 3,039 yards.

Here is a complete list of the Hilltoppers' new football players:

- Bob Barnett, QB, 6-2, 210, Hamilton, Ohio.
- Eric Bates, RB, 5-11, 185, James Monroe (Fredericksburg, Va.).
- David Browning, OT, 6-4, 245, East Hardin (Elizabethtown, Ky.).
- Chris Butler, LB, 6-2, 220, Johnson (Huntsville, Ala.).
- Gary Cook, NG, 6-3, 290, Butler, Kan. CC.
- Matt Current, LB, 6-3, 219, Middletown, Ohio.
- Sean Glenn, DT, 6-2, 260, Louisville Doss.
- Terrell Griffin, LB, 6-3, 220, Taylor County (Perry, Fla.).
- Larry Harris, DB, 5-11, 180, Paris, Ky.
- Randy Houston, DT, 6-2, 240, Giles County (Pulaski, Tenn.).
- James Johnson, RB-DB, 6-4, 185, Paducah Tilghman.
- Matt MacIntyre, WR, 5-10, 170, Brentwood Academy (Nashville, Tenn.).
- Keith Neloms, DE, 6-3, 245, Cisco, Texas CC.
- Rick Schulte, TE, 6-5, 215, Moeller (Cincinnati).
- Todd Sledge, DT-OL, 6-2, 250, Turpin (Cincinnati).
- Chris Sweat, DT, 6-3, 245, Middletown, Ohio.
- Ivory Warren, OT, 6-6, 307, Union County (Lake Butler, Fla.).
- Frankie Woods, QB, 6-2, 215, Clarksville, Tenn.
- Dale Young, OT, 6-5, 260, Central High (Columbia, Tenn.).
- Doug Hughes, OL, 6-4, 255, Lexington Henry Clay.
- Brian Connelly, LB, 6-2, 235, College of DuPage (Chicago).
- Eric Towell, FS, 6-3, 195, Northeast Mississippi Junior College.
Western’s Mangold to bypass senior year to play in Canada

By BRUCE W. BRANCH
Staff Writer

Western Kentucky University starting fullback Pete Mangold will pass up his senior year of eligibility to play professionally in the Canadian Football League.

Mangold, a Toronto native, was the ninth player picked in the second round by the Saskatchewan Rough Riders in the CFL draft of Canadians.

“Canada is home for me and I’m going to try to make a career out of playing professional football,” Mangold said. “The National Football League doesn’t really appeal to me. I’m graduating in May, and I’m ready for a new challenge.”

The 6-foot-1, 230-pound Mangold could have returned to Western for one more season after playing two years for the Hilltoppers and one for Drake, from where he transferred after that school dropped the sport following the 1984 season.

A good blocker, strong inside runner and a special teams performer, Mangold rushed 21 times for 65 yards and five touchdowns last season. He also caught three passes for 21 yards and made five tackles.

During his two-year Western career, he rushed for 156 yards while catching nine passes for 49 yards.

“We have high hopes for Pete,” Saskatchewan assistant coach Dick Adams said. “We are hoping he is going to push and be a starter. He has the size and good speed and he runs hard. Our personnel director, Dan Rambo, was very high on him. We checked on him and we found out no one in the NFL knew about him. I think he has an excellent opportunity up here.”

Mangold is trying to join Lawrence

---

Hilltoppers senior Mangold to play in Canada

Continued from Page D 1

the NFL combine, has seen his stock rise dramatically following impressive workouts in recent weeks. More than 20 NFL coaches, scouts and general managers watched the 254-pound Jones run a 4.7 40-yard dash and register a 36-inch vertical. He will work out again tomorrow.

Georgia coach Sonny Dews and Tennessee coach Don Talbot have visited Richmond recently to evaluate Jones.

“Jones may go in the first round,” Kidd said. “His stock has gone way up since the combine tested him. I’ve never had this many people coming, not even when we had (former NFL star) Wally Chambers. Coaches have been coming from all over the country.”

Safety Danny Copeland, offensive tackle John Jackson, running back James Crawford and nose guard Eugene Banks also will receive opportunities to play in the NFL either as late-round draft picks or free agents.

Western fullback David Smith and Morehead State punter Greg Burke of Louisville St. Xavier probably will be late-round picks as well.

“Burke may go in the first six rounds,” Morehead coach Bill Balridge said. “Chicago has been in here twice and the San Francisco 49ers came in (last week).”

Running back Willie Cline, wide receiver Stanley Howard and kicker Paul Hickert of Murray State have been told by NFL scouts they may get their shots as free agents. Morehead defensive end Keith Farrell is in the same situation.

Kidd said starting fullback Oscar Angulo has been moved back to tight end where he played two years ago. However, Angulo is not participating in spring workouts because he is a reserve outfielder on the baseball team.

Sophomore Marcus Moses of Louisville Southern is starting at tight end in his place.

“Angulo might as well be out here with us,” Kidd said. “It doesn’t look like he’s going to get to play much baseball. I guess he isn’t that good.”

The Western baseball team is 24-12 under ninth-year coach Joel Murrle. Murrle, the winningest coach in Hilltoppers history with 298 victories, can reach the 300 mark this week.

Western plays Austin Peay at home today before traveling to Vanderbilt tomorrow and returning home for a game against Kentucky Thursday.
WKU will be under lights

Western football fans will be watching the Hilltoppers under the lights this fall.

All five Western home games will be either have either evening or twilight starts in 1988.

The Hilltoppers, 7-4 last year with their first-ever appearance Division I-AA playoffs, will find out how good they are in a hurry with the season opener at Middle Tennessee, and the home opener the next week at Smith Stadium against archrival Eastern.

Western will visit Middle Tennessee Sept. 17 at 7:30 p.m.

The Hilltoppers will then play three straight at home, starting with Eastern on Sept. 24. Austin Peay and Illinois State come to town the next two weekends. Four of Western's five home games will start at 7 p.m. The Oct. 29 homecoming game against Tennessee Chattanooga will begin at 6:30 p.m.

Western will play at Division I-A Louisville Nov. 12 at 3 p.m.

Here is Western's complete schedule:

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Date</th>
<th>Opponent</th>
<th>Time</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Sept. 17</td>
<td>Middle Tennessee</td>
<td>A</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Sept. 24</td>
<td>Eastern</td>
<td>H</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Oct. 1</td>
<td>Austin Peay</td>
<td>H</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Oct. 8</td>
<td>Illinois State</td>
<td>H</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Oct. 15</td>
<td>Southwest Missouri</td>
<td>A</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Oct. 22</td>
<td>Tennessee Tech</td>
<td>A</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Oct. 29</td>
<td>Tennessee Chattanooga</td>
<td>H</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Nov. 5</td>
<td>Eastern Illinois</td>
<td>A</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Nov. 12</td>
<td>Louisville</td>
<td>A</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Nov. 19</td>
<td>North Carolina A&amp;T</td>
<td>H</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
A WESTERN FOOTBALL player lunges at a blocking bag in spring practice drills recently at the practice field beside University Boulevard. Spring practice will end with the Red-White scrimmage April 23 at Smith Stadium.
Roberts urging seniors to take leadership roles

They trudge across University Boulevard about 3:30 p.m. every day, crossing the railroad tracks to get to the practice field.

Western's football players cross the rails, but Coach Dave Roberts was the one railing last Saturday during the Hilltoppers' first full scrimmage of spring practice.

He had found little to like during a 3-hour session on the game field at Smith Stadium, and he was letting this team coming off a Division I-AA playoff berth know about it.

After three hours on a warm spring afternoon, Roberts was ready to start over. The team scrimmaged for about another 30 minutes.

It isn't that Roberts hasn't been eating his Cheerios lately, but he's looking for leaders to replace a solid corps of seniors that led Western to its first I-AA postseason competition and a 7-4 record.

Continued On Page 4

Column 1, This Section
Roberts wants seniors to lead

Continued From Page 1-B

as leaders."

Roberts has always been a strong advocate of seniors taking the team by the horns. The seniors did that last year, and to a small degree the year before.

But this is a team that is going to be watched closely. Was last year a fluke? Or was it the start of something real? Those are the questions a lot of fans will be asking.

Western, which was consistently ranked in the I-AA Top 20 last year, will find out soon enough when it takes to the road Sept. 17 to face Middle Tennessee in the season opener. The next weekend, just a little old team called Eastern wanders into Smith Stadium for the start of a Season Under The Lights.

That is why this spring is doubly important for Western. Roberts wants this team to establish its identity.

Some experience was lost recently when tight end Lance Alm, backup quarterback Jeff Isom and outside linebacker Walter Loving told Roberts they wouldn't be back next year. Loving, one of Western's top tacklers, had played five years in four and was out of eligibility. There were some rumblings of problems between Roberts and these players, but he said, as far as he knew, there were none.

It's not easy to turn players who had been followers into leaders in roughly a month. But with spring practice ending this next week with the Red-White Game, under the lights at Smith Stadium, leadership needs to emerge.

"The senior class needs to take leaps and bounds. And when they do, the others will follow," Roberts said. "When I get upset on the football field, it's the effort, and the attitude and the hustle of the senior. If the others are going to follow them, then they had better be at full speed."

Roberts says he is pushing the team hard, hence the 3-plus-hour session last Saturday.

"Some of them talk a good game, but we want to put you in a situation where your tired, your side hurts," Roberts said. "What are you going to do? Are you going to give into it? Or are you going to pull the others up?"

There is a lot of pushing and pulling at several positions.

The Hilltoppers are thin on the defensive line, although several experienced starters return, led by Rob Weinle. Notre Dame transfer Bob Hodge and Purdue transfer Dwayne Penn are also playing well, Roberts said. But if there are any injuries, redshirt freshmen may have to come in.

That line will be protecting David Armstrong, who has the quarterback job until somebody takes it from him. Roberts said the senior southpaw from Brentwood, Tenn., has been very efficient in both practice and live situations.

Joe Arnold, the workingman's favorite, is No. 1 at tailback. Tony Brown and Pedro Bacon have also been working out well in the backfield. Roberts said once Gerard Mark gets his blocking down better at fullback, he'll "be a force to be reckoned with."

Willie Thomas and James Fletcher are also working in the offensive backfield.

There is a full stable of speedy receivers for Armstrong to throw to.

Cedric Jones, LSU transfer Glenn Holt, Lanie Fomas, Tyson Farrow and Donnie Sheppard are all looking for passes to catch.

Roberts has a lot to replace in the defensive backfield. But a year-old injury to a top nose guard has him most concerned.

Nose guard Denny Caple is slow in recovering from a complete knee reconstruction, which is slowing the progress of the defensive line, where Robert Brown, Allen Reit-
On track

Spring football practice along University Boulevard recently. Pittman is a junior from Harrodsburg, Ky. Spring practice will end with Saturday’s Red-White Game at Smith Stadium.

Red ‘D’ to test White offense

They say defense wins games. Well, Saturday night we’re going to put that to the test at Smith Stadium in the Red-White Game.

Mark C. Mathis
Daily News Sports Editor
Commentary

Given the choice of which “drafted” team I wanted to take Wednesday, yours truly, with a little advice from the assistant coaches, picked the team with most of the defensive starters back from the 1987 squad that was nationally ranked in Division I-AA for stinginess.

That is the Red Team, and Hilltopper Radio Network play-by-play man Wes Strader will join me on the sidelines at 7:30, under the lights.

And you know what else? We’re going to win.

Put the obvious intelligence factor aside — we’re taking on WBKO-TV’s Gene Birk and Bill Caudill, TV guys, for gosh sakes —

Continued On Page 4
Column 1, This Section
JAMES PITTMAN watches Western spring football practice from the railroad tracks that run along University Boulevard recently. Pittman is a junior from Harrodsburg, Ky. Spring practice will end with Saturday's Red-White Game at Smith Stadium.
Red 'D' to test White offense

Continued From Page 1-B

I'm going to test that theory to the fullest Saturday night.

The Red Team has enough to stop anything coming up the middle, and the secondary, while virtually untested, is the one that will probably be starting in the fall.

Tackles Robert Brown and Allen Reicheck, end Xavier Jordan, linebackers Russell Foster, Calvin Edwards and Scott Walker will be up front.

Riley Be-Ware, Jonathan Watts and Vincel Anthony all saw time in the defensive backfield last year.

Not enough power for you? Well, how about looking at the offensive backfield. Tony Brown, a 6-3, 220-pounder has run well this spring from the tailback spot. Pedro Bacon split time with the now departed Pete Mangold at fullback last year.

The Red Team has the best offensive lineman on the team — Rob Weinie, and people who have played on the offensive line, like Chandler Wallace and John Burden. And, there's that possession receiver who was such a key for the team last fall, tight end Robert Coates.

But, perhaps the biggest asset the Red Team has is in the specialty teams.

Kicker Dan Maher could be the difference in this one, because everytime the Red Team gets within smelting distance of the goal line — if the Reds get stopped, which they won't — Maher will be out there kicking it.

0-1-1.

Murray and Strader are ready for their first victory. Birk is ready for his first defeat.

Western's basketball tournament

Until Athletic Director Jimmy Feix has the contracts in hand, only the date is set for Western's new invitational basketball tournament. The 4-team tournament, scheduled for Dec. 2-3 at Diddle Arena, is slated to have Murray and Drexel. Feix is waiting for the contracts to come back before confirming either team. He said he should be receiving them within a week.

Creighton was supposed to be the fourth team, according to Feix, but the Omaha, Neb., school got an offer for a national television game with Notre Dame and decided not to come to the tournament.

The eighth Wendy's Classic this past season is still up in the air. Dan Davis, founder and organizer of the tournament pulled his support on the night of this year's final. Davis wouldn't comment, but it is believed part of the reason he did so was because of interference from out-of-town President Burn Alexander on whether Western would play Kentucky Wesleyan, which Davis had orally committed to Wesleyan to do, or Centre, Alexander's alma mater.

Financial considerations were cited by others close to the tournament as another reason for Davis' withdrawal.

Under Davis' leadership, the early Wendy's tournament brought in some of the finest basketball teams in the country, like Georgetown and Louisville.

Feix said it may be early summer before other corporate sponsors are found for the tournament. Several local companies have been approached as potential sponsors for the tournament.

Glover also interested in WKU assistant coaching job

Jim McDaniel, Clarence Glover, Rex Bailey, Jerry Duan, Jim Rose, Jerome Perry and Gary Sundmacker all attended the Louisville Pro-Am celebrity reunion Thursday night in Louisville honoring Western's 1971 Final Four team.

McDaniel and Glover were also supposed to talk to Western assistant coach Murray Arnold about the assistant coaching vacancy on Arnold's staff.

Hank Harris, who joined Arnold's staff after Arnold took over for Clem Haskins two years ago, left Western recently to take a head coaching job at Labette Community College in Kansas.

Arnold said Wednesday he was in no hurry to fill the vacancy. He did say an assistant coach would be hired before July 11 when the NCAA allows coaches to go off campus and recruit.
Red Team beats White

Continued From Page 9

He got beat by superior coaching.

The first half belonged to David Armstrong and the White Team's offensive line.

The Hilltoppers will have a deadly combination on the left side of that line this fall with Bob Hodge, a 6-foot-4, 300-pound behemoth, at tackle and Dewayne Penn, no small youngster himself at 6-2, 290, going at guard.

And the Red defense saw the ball go to the left side, a bunch in that first half.

"Did you see where we were running?" Penn asked the Red "coaches" after the game. "Right behind us. Look out Middle Tennessee! That's all you're gonna see."

But for the 109 yards the White Team racked up, it came away at halftime with only three points on a 39-yard Pat Levis field goal.

In the second half, the tables turned, leaving Birk, uh, Red-faced.

The Red Team moved the ball well in the second half, picking up 141 yards, mostly on the ground.

But the difference was this fourth down.

The Red coaching staff took the chances, going for it on a couple of occasions, and getting it.

Look at it this way. If the Red offense was within three yards of a first down in the second half, it was going for it.

And the gambles paid off. Making the fourth downs kept the White defense on the field a long, long time in the second half.

Both Red scoring drives were fueled by going for it, and making it, on fourth down.

The final toll was taken in the fourth quarter when the Red Team drove and scored on Pedro Bacon's 5-yard run with 7:53 left in the game.

Now, even I'll admit there might have been illegal procedure on Dan Maher's 42-yard field goal in the third period, but it didn't matter.

The magic Joe Arnold and his White offensive line worked in the first half fizzled in the second because they couldn't get their hands on the ball.

The only time the White Team could get it going was on the final, do or die drive. And Arnold, who finished with 78 yards on 12 carries, ran strong behind his giants, putting a tinge of worry in the young coach's gut.

But, finally, around the 30, the Red defense stopped the fateful drive.

That stand did several things. It let the offense get the ball back and run out the clock. It assured that the only touchdown scored for the coaching tandem of Mathis-Strader in the 3-year history of this media series would stand in victory.

Most of all, though, it saved face. A record of 1-1 to the TV guys (Bill Caudill didn't even show up) is bad enough.

0-2-1 would've been hari-kari time.
Western's football team will be deeper in the offensive backfield than it has ever been during Coach Dave Roberts' 5-year tenure.

That much could be counted on as spring practice came to an end with last Saturday's Red-White Game under the lights at Smith Stadium.

Joe Arnold, who finished on top of the tailback list last year after David Smith and Tony Brown went down with injuries, will stay atop that list heading into the fall.

Arnold, a 5-foot-11, 193-pound senior, looked as good as ever Saturday night in picking up 96 all-purpose yards for the White Team.

Brown, a 6-2, 225-pound junior transfer from SMU, looked very good in the spring.

Don Smith (5-10, 185) is best out of the wishbone, and will probably return punts next season.

James Fletcher, a highly-touted junior from Somerset, is still learning Coach Dave Roberts' complicated system, but has all the physical tools to make it.

Those are the A backs. The B backs, or fullbacks, are also loaded.

Pedro Bacon, a 5-11, 225-pound senior from Paducah Tilghman, has given defensive coordinator Mike Cassity's starting unit fits in the spring.

At 6-1, 240, Gerard Mark, another SMU transfer, is a bull to bring down.

It's pretty obvious, Western finally has a backfield filled like Coach Roy Kidd likes to do it at Eastern.

If only it were so easy in the defensive backfield, where all four spots will probably be up for grabs in the fall.

Here's a position by position look at how the Hilltoppers stack up coming out of spring drills:

Quarterback—David Armstrong has this job locked up after waiting three years as Jeff Cesarone's understudy. During the spring, Armstrong handled most of the passing, and Mark Marsh did most of the running out of the option. Marsh is a capable backup for Armstrong. He also has better wheels.

Receivers—Western is very deep at this position. Cedric Jones, who is back for his senior year after sitting out in 1987, leads the way. Ronnie Sheppard is a junior with 10.3 speed in the 100 meters. Glenn Holt saw some passes last year, as did Kelvin Nedd, Tyson Farrow and Lanie Fomas are redshirt freshmen with great speed.

Tight end—This spot, which is very important in Roberts' offensive scheme, is woefully thin. Robert Coates is a great possession...
Continued From Page 1-B receiver, but after that there's only Ron Jackson, a redshirt freshman. Western's balance between pass and rush suffered last year when Coates went down with a sprained ankle.

Offensive tackle—Rob Weinle (6-5, 270) is considered Western's best offensive lineman. John Burden from Butler County is a 6-5, 290-pound sophomore will have to fight Dwayne Penn, a 6-2, 290-pound transfer from Purdue, to hold down a starting job. Kent Carter is a redshirt freshman who could add depth.

Guard—Larry Mucker, a 6-1, 250-pound sophomore, holds down one of the spots. But the spring belonged to Bob Hodge, a 6-4, 300-pound transfer from Notre Dame. Those at the Red-White game got a feel for what Hodge and Penn together can do. Anybody need a house moved?

DEFENSE

Tackle—Allen Reitcheck and Robert Brown are 2-year veterans who can do the job. Darryl Atwood is another SMU transfer who made a mark last season.

Nose guard—Chad Kraml, a 6-3, 255-pound junior, stepped in for Denny Caple after a knee injury knocked Caple out in midseason. If Caple returns healthy, it will help deepen a depleted front line.

End—Xavier Jordan is solid at one of the end spots. Howard Freeney is a 6-2, 210-pound redshirt freshman who could give some help. Jeff Griffith, Sean Chandler and Francis Fitzpatrick might shore up this also thin position.

Linebacker—This group is the most solid on the defensive side of the ball. Mike Carberry, Allen County-Scottsville's Wayne Bush, Russell Foster, Calvin Edwards and Vernon Nixon all have experience there, and there might be some moving when the fall rolls around. Zip Zanders is a strong transfer from South Carolina who can't shake the injury bug.

Cornerback—A lot depends here on whether Roberts allows Ron Burroughs to come back on the team. Burroughs is now suspended from the squad. If not, Horace Smith, a transfer from Georgia, would step in after coming on strong in the spring. Riley Ware, a spot player the last year, will take over the other corner spot.

Safety—Tray Dowdy and junior college transfer Jonathan Watts look good at strong safety or free safety. Vincel Anthony, who played a lot at free safety, will probably go there again in the fall.
DAVID SMITH of Western was chosen by the Philadelphia Eagles in the eighth round of the National Football League draft Monday. He became Western coach Dave Roberts' highest pick at Western. Here Smith poses during practice last fall.

On Eagles wings
Western's Farrow says he's grateful to be redshirt

By BRUCE W. BRANCH
Staff Writer

DOWLING GREEN, Ky. — Tyson Farrow was used to being a big football star at Louisville Male High. He gained lots of yards, scored plenty of touchdowns and got more than his share of the headlines as Male captured Third District titles in each of his three years as a starter.

But when Tyson arrived at Western Kentucky University last fall, reality struck. Western coach Dave Roberts took one look at the 5-foot-9, 150-pounder and decided his future lay at wide receiver rather than tailback. Farrow also was held out of 10 games before being sidelined by injuries.

"In high school, they would call a route that was the route you ran. Here, you have to learn to adjust to the coverage and find the open spots. I'm really glad I didn't (play) last year. The offense is so difficult I would have wasted a year," Farrow said.

Farrow has spent a lot of time with wide receivers coach Darryl Drake.

"He has sat me down and tried to help me understand the different defenses," Farrow said. "My first goal is to play next year and start the following season. I have to look at things realistically."

Farrow is confident the Hilltoppers can make the long climb back into the national spotlight. Last season Western finished 7-4, its first winning season under Roberts, and made the NCAA Division I-AA playoffs for the first time under Roberts.

Roberts, who expects to welcome back 36 lettermen and 12 of 24 starters, including kicking specialists, said his goal in the spring was to "go back to basics."

"Last year is over," he said. "We have to start all over again."

A primary spring task was finding a quarterback to replace Jeff Cesaroni, who holds most of the school's passing marks. Fifth-year senior David Armstrong, a 6-0, 195-pound left-hander from Nashville, apparently beat out junior Mark Marsh (6-3, 190) of Cincinnati and sophomore Scott Campbell (6-4, 190) of Gulf Breeze, Fla.

Armstrong, who has the most experience, has completed 41 of 95 passes for 438 yards and three touchdowns during his career.

Western should be strong at running back. Joe Arnold, who accounted for 1,295 all-purpose yards, including 901 rushing, and scored nine TDs, will return at tailback along with Tony Brown (6-1, 220), who ran 63 times for 302 yards in just five games before being sidelined by injuries.

Pedro Bacon (237), who had an excellent spring, and Gerard Mark give strength at fullback. Transfers Bob Hodge (6-4, 240) from Notre Dame and Dewayne Penn (6-2, 280) from Purdue will add bulk to the Hilltoppers' offensive line.
WKU's Frary available

James Frary may be the best football player never to have played for Western.
Frary, of Kankakee, Ill., is one of 17 players eligible for today's NFL supplemental draft.
He lists Western as the school he played at.
The only problem is he never played a down for the Hilltoppers.
Frary signed a national letter of intent to play for Coach Dave Roberts in 1984. At 6-foot-6, 290 pounds, he was one of the first giants Roberts signed.
Frary started fall practice that year, but stayed on campus only about a week before returning home to get married.
Two years later, Frary was back for spring practice and was scheduled to start in the fall of 1986.
But, once again, Frary left school.
Smith, under legal cloud, will quit UK for Western

By SCOTT FOWLER
Staff Writer

LEXINGTON, Ky. — Dee Smith, the flashy wide receiver for the University of Kentucky football team who has two cocaine-trafficking charges pending against him in Cincinnati, said yesterday he is transferring to Western Kentucky.

UK coach Jerry Claiborne had temporarily suspended Smith from the team after the player was arrested in February. Since then Smith's football career — and judicial fate — has been in limbo.

Smith's lawyer, Les Gaines, said a pretrial hearing is scheduled in September, but the case may not go to trial until next year.

Smith and two other Lexington men — Terrone Cateskill and Robert Reis — were arrested Feb. 26 for allegedly trying to sell four ounces of cocaine for $5,600 to two undercover agents of the U.S. Drug Enforcement Administration's Cincinnati task force.

Smith again proclaimed his innocence and said he hopes transferring to Western will get his life back on track.

"The last few months have been a very tough time for me," Smith said by telephone from his home in Paducah. "I just didn't know what direction I was going in. I didn't know where I would go to school or anything. Hopefully I can get it all together now."

Smith, who must sit out this year under the NCAA's transfer rule, will have one year of eligibility left.

Claiborne had little to say about Smith's departure, although Smith said he had broached the subject of transferring several times with the coach throughout the summer.

"I've already visited with Dee, and I don't want to do it again in the newspaper," Claiborne said. "I do wish him the best of luck at Western, though."

Smith said he isn't sure that he can get a scholarship at Western. Hilltoppers coach Dave Roberts is on vacation and couldn't be reached, and his assistants didn't return calls.

As a sophomore Smith was among Southeastern Conference leaders in receiving, kickoff returns and punt returns. He was UK's primary big-play threat, catching 23 passes for 420 yards and four touchdowns and running for four more scores. His 55 points ranked third on last year's team and would have been tops among returning Wildcats.

Two of Smith's uncles, Greg and Dwight Smith, were standout basketball players at Western, and Dee Smith had considered the school after graduating from Paducah Tihghman.

"Partly because of those connections, I feel at home there," he said. "Also, it's just about a two-hour drive from my house. They also throw the ball a lot."

Smith said he plans to concentrate on his studies this year and begin practicing football with the Hilltoppers next spring.

"I believe I can take the sitting out OK," he said. "Now that I know my direction, it will be easier. I'm going to go to class and just do all the things that a normal student does."
Smith must be cleared

---

There was a lot of fuss made last week when Dee Smith announced he was transferring to Western Kentucky University. A lot of fuss especially considering Smith, a flashy wide receiver for the University of Kentucky last year, may never get to play for the Hilltoppers.

See, Smith is awaiting trial on two cocaine-trafficking charges in Cincinnati.

UK coach Jerry Claiborne had suspended Smith from the team after the player was arrested in February with two other Lexington men -- Terrone Gateskill and Robert Relis -- for allegedly trying to sell four ounces of cocaine to undercover agents of the U.S. Drug Enforcement Administration's Cincinnati task force.

Smith said at the time that he only drove the men to Cincinnati and was in a phone booth when the arrests were made.

---

The incident put a huge gash in UK's tail offense because Smith was about the only big-play threat Claiborne had.

Smith pleaded not guilty to the charges, and his trial is expected to begin in September.

But Smith, a 5-foot-11, 182-pounder out of Paducah Tilghman, wasn't allowed to participate in spring practice at UK, and wouldn't have been allowed to come out for this fall's practice, which begins in August.

Had Smith stayed at UK -- and been cleared, he could've been reinstated by Claiborne, but sources close to the UK football program said after charges weren't dropped in Smith's arrest, Claiborne had already decided he wouldn't let Smith back on the team.

So, now Smith says he's enrolling at Western this fall.

But Western coach Dave Roberts, just back from a vacation in Florida, isn't so sure the talented receiver will ever play for him.

"He won't be offered a scholarship until he's cleared," Roberts said Monday. "You know my policy on drugs."

That policy has been: If anyone playing football for Western is caught using or selling illegal

---

before playing for WKU

---

Drugs, it's an automatic dismissal from the team. No second chances.

Roberts says if Smith is cleared, then there's a place for him on Western's football team.

"We want him if he's cleared," Roberts said. "He's an NFL player."

Smith said Monday night in a telephone interview from Paducah that he contacted Western through Allan Cox, Tilghman's head football coach.

"I have a lot of family ties to Western," Smith said. "My mother and two uncles went there. It was my second choice when I was being recruited."

Greg and Dwight Smith, the uncles, were two of the best ever for Western during the Clem Haskins playing era.

"Because I had so much family that went there that attracted me to Western out of high school," Smith said.

"I recruited him extremely hard," Roberts said. "We have three Tilghman players coming to Western this fall. Cox is in our corner."

Pedro Bacon, another Tilghman product, is in Western's backfield this coming season.

"Dee is very close to Pedro," Cox said. "He knows the young men going to Western. Going to Western was more Dee's idea. He was looking at the closeness to home."

Smith will lose a year of eligibility because of NCAA transfer rules. He can play his senior season, if he's cleared of the cocaine charges.

"If the case is dropped and he can get to Western and play his senior year, he could have a pro career. But everything is pending on the outcome of the trial. There is always life after," Smith certainly would like to have football in that life.
Coaches know who is in Top shape

Mark C. Mathis
Daily News
Sports Editor

The coaches haven't been traveling around to players' homes. They haven't had mommies spy on their sons. They haven't even had half of them on campus this summer.

But, if a Western Kentucky University football player hasn't been working out during the summer as prescribed in a booklet distributed to him, it isn't tough for the coaches to figure out.

"If a guy is bench pressing 320 in the spring, and he comes back benching 220, you know," said Dave Roberts, Western's head coach.

And Western's coaches started knowing Saturday when the varsity reported to campus for strength training. Freshmen were also tested, but they've been on campus, practicing, since last Wednesday.

The tests, which include bench press, squats, power clean, dumbbell clean and a two-mile run, finish up this afternoon.

Western's coaching staff set out goals for each player to work toward over the summer with a daily workout.

The players not reaching their goals will be in for some predawn work.

Players who don't make their running time get up for a 5 a.m. jog. Same time for those who didn't pump enough iron.

How long does this go on?

"Until we feel they shouldn't do it anymore," Roberts said.

With Western trying to improve on its 7-4 record last year and first-ever Division I-AA playoff appearance, that could be a long time.

About 30 players stayed around Western during the summer, many taking classes.

Roberts and his coaching staff don't hover over the players while they're on campus. The players are left to work on the honor system. If they don't work out, then they are dishonored during a team meeting to be held tonight.

"It can be a pretty interesting meeting," Roberts said. "We start talking about who has reached their goals, and who hasn't."

By late Saturday afternoon, some impressive performances had already been turned in.

Vincel Anthony, a 195-pound strong safety, had benched 440 pounds.

"Pretty darned impressive," Roberts said.

Close to Anthony's total were running back Tony Brown and defensive end Zip Zanders.

Roberts' work with the freshmen had been limited to making them feel comfortable with drills.

"So they won't feel completely lost," Roberts said, although he admitted most will be lost when the varsity starts practice early Monday morning.

The Hilltoppers will be involved with three-a-days until Aug. 22, when classes start.

Roberts said he will redshirt most, if not all, of the freshmen, but a few have stood out.

Western started getting in the door at state power Paducah Tilghman last year, and James Johnson, a cornerback from there, looks good. Larry Harris, another cornerback from Paducah, got good reviews from Roberts.

David Browning, an offensive guard from East Hardin, is also high on Roberts' freshman list.

Morehead opening game

Morehead and Western will open the season Sept. 11 at Morehead. Western has a four-year deal to play home-home with the Eagles.

Roberts said he wants to get a contract worked out with Georgia Southern, too. He had one tentative four-year deal worked out with Georgia Southern, a two-time national I-AA champion, next year.

Brown transfer

Until the University of Louisville grants Edmonton County's Brian Browning a release from his scholarship, Roberts can't talk to him about transferring to Western.

Browning is one of the most prolific passers ever to come out of Southcentral Kentucky, and was redshirted by the Cardinals last year.

Status of other players

There are a couple of players in eligibility limbo.

Walter Loving, a talented end, is waiting on the door to an appeal for an extra year of eligibility from the NCAA.

"Loving sat out a year of school when his mom cancer and his father, a Marine, was overseas," Loving is appealing to get four years of eligibility in NCAA rules.

Stadler, an athlete, can take five play four.

Dean Tiebout, an end, is also awaiting a call from an eligibility hearing. He's sitting out a year with an injury.

Burroughs, Harris back on track

Ron Burroughs, a first-year defensive cornerback, and Darwin Harris are back on track with an injury. The Hilltoppers are back in full-spring football practice after being hit by the end of spring scrimmages.

Burroughs, the defensive coordinator, is a first-year player for the Cardinals last year.

Harris is second on the depth chart.
The coaches haven't been traveling around to players' homes. They haven't had mommies spy on their kids. They haven't even had half of them on campus this summer.

But, if a Western Kentucky University football player hasn't been working out during the summer as described in a booklet distributed to him, it isn't tough for the coaches to figure out.

"If a guy is bench pressing 320 in spring, and he comes back benching 326, you know," said Dave Roberts, Western's head coach, and Western's coaches started prowling Saturday when the varsity reported to campus for strength tests. Freshmen were also tested, but they've been on campus, practicing, since last Wednesday.

The tests, which include bench presses, squats, power clean, dumbbell clean and a two-mile run, will be up this afternoon.

Western's coaching staff set out tasks for each player to work on over the summer with a daily workout plan.

The players not reaching their goals will be in for some predawn workouts.

Players who don't reach their running time get up for a 5 a.m. jog. Same time for those who didn't pump enough iron.

"How long does this go on?" "Until we feel they shouldn't do it anymore," Roberts said.

With Western trying to improve on its 7-4 record last year and first-ever Division I-AA playoff appearance, that could be a long time.

About 30 players stayed around Western during the summer, many taking classes.

Roberts and his coaching staff don't hover over the players while they're on campus. The players are left to work on the honor system. If they don't work out, then they are dishonored during a team meeting to be held tonight.

"It can be a pretty interesting meeting," Roberts said. "We start talking about who has reached their goals, and who hasn't."

By late Saturday afternoon, some impressive performances had already been turned in.

Vincel Anthony, a 195-pound strong safety, had bench pressed 440 pounds. "Pretty darned impressive," Roberts said.

Close to Anthony's total were running back Tony Brown and defensive end Zip Zanders.

Roberts' work with the freshmen has been limited to making them feel comfortable with drills.

"So they won't feel completely lost," Roberts said, although he admitted most will be lost when the varsity starts practice early Monday.

About 30 players will be involved with three-a-days until Aug. 22, when classes start.

Roberts said he will redshirt most, if not all, of the freshmen, but a few have stood out.

Western started the day at state power Paducah Tilghman last year, and James Johnson, a cornerback from there, looks good. Larry Harris, another cornerback from Paris, got good reviews from Roberts.

David Browning, an offensive guard from East Hardin, is also high on Roberts' freshman list.

Morehead opening game

Morehead and Western will open the season Sept. 10 at Morehead. Western has a four-year deal to play home-home with the Eagles.

Roberts said he wants to get a contract worked out with Georgia Southern, too. He had one tentatively worked out that fell through last spring. Western is likely to pick up Georgia Southern, a two-time national I-AA champion, next year.

"Browning transfer?"

Until the University of Louisville grants Edmonson County's Brian Browning a release from his scholarship, Roberts can't talk to him about transferring to Western.

Browning is one of the most prolific passers ever to come out of Southcentral Kentucky, and was redshirted by the Cardinals last year.

Status of other players. There are a couple of Western players in eligibility limbo.

Walter Loving, a talented defensive end, is waiting on the results of an appeal for an extra year of eligibility from the NCAA.

Loving sat out a year-and-a-half of school when his mother had cancer and his father, a colonel in the Marines, was overseas.

Loving is appealing the five-to-play-four rule. He is looking for a sixth year to get his four years of eligibility in NCAA rules, state that an athlete can take five years to play four.

Dean Tihart, an offensive lineman, is also awaiting the outcome of an eligibility hearing after sitting out a year with an asthma condition.

Burroughs, Harris back on team

Ron Burroughs, a fiery and aggressive cornerback, and split end Darwin Harris are back on the football team after being suspended toward the end of spring practice for what Roberts called an "on-the-field incident."

Burroughs is the lone returning starter in the defensive backfield. Harris is second on the receiving depth chart.
Heritage Bowl may not need a large parade

The only thing missing is a parade.

The Heritage Bowl kicks off the area football season in style Saturday night at Smith Stadium.

There'll be bands, tailgating, a queen and a football triple-header.

And to think this grew out of a basketball tournament.

The organizing committee for the Heritage Bowl is much the same as the one that brought the Girls State Basketball Tournament to Diddle Arena several years ago.

When the Kentucky High School Athletic Association looked for more bucks in Frankfort this year, that committee looked for other ways to replace the lost tourism and revenue.

They were also looking for something that would bring high school students to Western Kentucky University's campus. You know, just to take a look around for when junior decides where he's going to college.

The Heritage Bowl might not be the perfect thing. We'll have to wait and see. But it is an idea that has great potential. Certainly better than the Bowling Green 10K Classic, the abandoned roadrace that David Mason conducted successfully for almost a decade. The organizers of that race are going to try and get a megarace organized in two months. It took Mason almost a year to do each Wendy's 10K — and he had plenty of practice.

Yes, the Heritage Bowl has a chance, but only if the fans come out Saturday night in good numbers. And if they don't, it won't be from a lack of effort by the organizers and sponsors, who have been pushing this thing for it seems like a month.

"We want to make it a festival atmosphere," said Fred Hensley, Western's public Information director and spokesman for the organizing committee. "We wanted to have some special events."

Those will include a queen's candidate luncheon; performances by bands from all six of the high schools involved; a pregame show by Western's band; a tailgating party at 2 p.m.; the crowning of the queen between the second and third games at 8:30 Saturday night; and a short fireworks display at 11 p.m., following the Warren Central-Paducah Tilghman clash. Bowling Green and Owensboro Apollo start the action at 4 p.m. Fort Knox and Oldham County then play at 6:30.

Each school is given a $2,500 guarantee, which is the norm for this kind of event.

Each of the sponsors put up $7,500. And the first $37,500 back from ticket sales is recovered by those sponsors. Money above that is split between the organizing committee and the schools that played in the bowl.

The event does the usual public relations job of giving Western and the city exposure and getting prospective students on campus.

Just like the Girls State Tournament.

However, unlike the state tournament, which will be back in 1990 but is at the whim of the KHSAA, the Heritage Bowl can become a permanent fixture on the city's landscape. And that's the intended goal, according to Hensley.

"We're told that with the resources we have in the tourist commission, the sponsors and Western, this can be the major bowl game in the state," Hensley said. "The others are put on by quarterback clubs."

The oldest bowl in the state is the Recreation Bowl in Mount Sterling. It has been running on quarterback club backing for the better part of 40 years.

If fans come out for the first Heritage Bowl, showing the sponsors there is an interest in the event, then there's no reason to think it can't celebrate some double-digit birthdays.

Even without a parade.
Roberts puts the burden of success on Hilltop

By BRUCE W. BRANCH
Staff Writer

BOWLING GREEN, Ky. — After three years of trying, coach Dave Roberts proved last season he could win at Western Kentucky.

Fact is, the former Vanderbilt assistant led the Hilltoppers to an NCAA Division I-AA playoff berth with a 7-4 record and a No. 11 national ranking.

Now, in his fifth year at Western, the big question is: Can he continue that success?

“I guess we will find out real quickly,” Roberts said. “The leadership is a big question right now. We lost a couple of good players, including a quarterback (Jeff Cesareone) who threw for 9,000 yards (in his career). We have some (holes) to fill, but we have some players here. There are some people waiting in the wings. There is a nucleus. Hopefully we have built a solid foundation.

“The big thing is leadership. If our seniors aren’t ready, we could fall flat on our face.”

Roberts, a cautious sort, won’t make any brash predictions.

But Western, which boasts six All-America candidates among a strong group of 36 returning lettermen and 13 starters, could wind up in the national championship race again.

Although there are games with Division I-AA Louisville (Nov. 12), rival Eastern Kentucky (Sept. 24) and perennial Ohio Valley Conference power Middle Tennessee (Sept. 17), the schedule doesn’t appear to be as strong as it was last year when the Toppers played nine of their 11 games against nationally ranked teams. Three of the new teams on the schedule had losing records last year.

But Roberts wants his team to get a better start than it has the past two years.

“We want to take up where we left off last year,” he said. “We hope we can come out of the block. We don’t play well early. Gardner-Webb beat us in our opener last year, and Livingston beat us two years ago.”

Roberts’ major worry is finding a replacement for the record-breaking Cesareone. Fifth-year senior David Armstrong has the past two years. He was waiting for word from the transfer Bob Hodge.

Roberts said. and center Dan Watterson (6-5, 292) will be pushed for All-America honors. How- ever, Tiebout is waiting for word from the NCAA on his appeal for another year of eligibility. Otherwise his career will be over.

Arnold, a 5-foot-11, 193-pound lightweight, rushed for 901 yards, fifth best school history, and eight touchdowns as a junior. He also caught 24 passes for yards and a TD and averaged 19.5 yard kickoff returns to finish second nationally in all-purpose yardage.

He will be backed up by 6-2, 225 junior Tony Brown and 5-10, 185-pound sophomores Don Smith. Although slowed by injury Brown managed 302 yards in five games. Senior Pedro Bacon (237 yards, four TDs and Gerard Mark will share the fullback position.

They will run behind one of the top offensive lines in I-AA, including Tief (6-4, 290) if he’s eligible, Weinle (6-5, 290) and center Dan Watterson (6-5, 280). NC State transfer Rob Hodge (6-5, 300) is a leader candidates at tackle and guard respectively. But there isn’t much depth.

“I think our running back situation is good, but we are thin in the offensive especially, if Tiebout can’t play,” Rob said.

Western suffered a big blow when
But Western, which boasts six All-America candidates among a strong group of 36 returning lettermen and 13 starters, could wind up in the national championship race again.

Although there are games with Division I-AA Louisvile (Nov. 12), rival Eastern Kentucky (Sept. 24) and perennial Ohio Valley Conference power Middle Tennessee (Sept. 17), the schedule doesn’t appear to be as strong as it was last year when the Toppers played nine of their 11 games against nationally ranked teams. Three of the new teams on the schedule had losing records last year.

But Roberts wants his team to get a better start than it has the past two years.

“We want to take up where we left off last year,” he said. “We hope we can come out of the block. We don’t play well early. Gardner-Webb beat us in our opener last year, and Livingston beat us two years ago.”

Roberts’ major worry is finding a replacement for the record-breaking Cesarone. Fifth-year senior David Armstrong is the heir apparent, although he only completed 1 of 9 passes in three games last year.

“He has a strong arm and he has been around for five years, so he should know the offense,” Roberts said.

Roberts has stockpiled plenty of talent at other positions.

Tailback Joe Arnold, cornerback Ron Burroughs, linebacker Mike Carberry, placekicker Dan Maher, offensive guard Dean Tiebout and offensive tackle Rob Weinle will be pushed for All-America honors. However, Tiebout is waiting for word from the NCAA on his appeal for another year of eligibility. Otherwise his career will be over.

Arnold, a 5-foot-11, 193-pound lightning bolt, rushed for 901 yards, fifth best in school history, and eight touchdowns as a junior. He also caught 24 passes for 139 yards and a TD and averaged 19.5 yards on kickoff returns to finish 22nd nationally in all-purpose yardage.

He will be backed up by 6-2, 225 junior Tony Brown and 5-10, 185-pound sophomore Don Smith. Although slowed by injuries, Brown managed 302 yards in five games. Senior Pedro Bacon (237 yards, four TDs) and Gerard Mark will share the fullback position.

They will run behind one of the largest offensive lines in I-AA, including Tiebout (6-4, 290) if he’s eligible, Weinle (6-5, 270) and center Dan Watterson (6-5, 260). Notre Dame transfer Bob Hodge (6-4, 300) and Purdue transfer DeWayne Penn (6-2, 290) are leading candidates at tackle and guard, respectively. But there isn’t much depth.

“Tiebout and offensive line especially, if Tiebout can’t play,” Roberts said.

Western suffered a big blow when 6-2, 235-pound tight end Robert Coates, who caught 40 passes for 470 yards as a sophomore, broke his foot playing basketball. He will miss four or five games. Doug Jones, who had been switched to tackle, and Ron Jackson will fill in.

Glen Holt and Darwin Harris give the team speed at wide receiver.

Carberry, who led Western with 108 tackles, and Burroughs (68 tackles, nine pass breakups and one interception) lead what should be a stingy defense.

End Xavier Jordan, tackles Robert Brown and Allen Reitcheck and nose guard Chad Kraml are expected to give the team solid play up front. In addition to Carberry and Calvin Edwards, three other experienced hands return at linebacker.

If there is a soft spot, it is in the defensive backfield, where Western lost three of four starters. Vincel Anthony, a valuable backup at strong safety, corner back Riley Ware and free safety Troy Dowdy will be on the hot seats early.

Maher is a consistent placekicker. Last season he made 13 of 20 field goals and 30 of 31 PATs to push his scoring total to 170, most ever by a Hilltopper kicker.
Winning is new feeling for Tops

Coming off a winning season, Western Kentucky University's football players, never before had Coach Dave Roberts' troops returned in the fall as winners.

This year, Roberts fifth at the helm, they do.

The Hilltoppers were 7-4, Division I-AA playoff participants and ranked 11th in the I-AA poll.

The players getting ready for Picture Day Wednesday at Smith Stadium weren't surrounded by bright lights from above. No extraterrestrial sense of power. But many of them are bigger -- in the muscular, not fat, sort of way. And most of them have an air of confidence that was thought to be gone forever from Western football.

"Everybody is a lot more confident," said Rob Weinle, a 6-foot-5, 285-pound senior offensive tackle who is one of six Hilltoppers being touted for All-America honors this year.

"We have higher hopes. We have..."
Roberts' troops returned in the fall as winners.

This year, Roberts fifth at the helm, they do.

Mark C. Mathis
Daily News
Sports Editor
Commentary

The Hilltoppers were 7-4, Division I-AA playoff participants and ranked 11th in the I-AA poll.

The players getting ready for Picture Day Wednesday at Smith Stadium weren't surrounded by bright lights from above. No extraterrestrial sense of power. But most of them are bigger — in the muscular, not fat, sort of way. And most of them have an air of confidence that was thought to be gone forever from Western football.

"Everybody is a lot more confident," said Rob Weinle, a 6-foot-5, 285-pound senior offensive tackle who is one of six Hilltoppers being touted for All-America honors this year.

"We have higher hopes. We have a better outlook that kind of filtered over from last season."

The filtering came from Western winning five out of its last six games in the regular season. Something it had to do to make the playoffs. The Hilltoppers were blown out 40-17 by Eastern Kentucky in the first round of those playoffs. But they seemed happy just to make it there.

"Now, instead of just making it, Western's leading players want to challenge for greater heights. And winning last year makes that seem more possible than ever before."

You know you have a chance to repeat (the playoffs)," said Joe Arnold, the running back who has constantly fought off challenges from bigger and stronger athletes to become one of the most prolific rushers in Western history. His 901 yards last fall was the fifth-highest single-season total ever for a Hilltopper back.

For once, Arnold comes into fall camp as the No. 1 tailback. But Tony Brown, who underwent arthroscopic knee surgery Tuesday, is right there, waiting. At least Brown will be in two weeks, when he is able to return to practice.

Still, it's the winning that lingers for Arnold. That's what made him work-harder than ever this summer to bump his weight up to 265 pounds, while still keeping his quick moves, not any challenge from a teammate.

"You want to prepare yourself better, go at it extra hard, because you might win the national championship," Arnold said.

"Just thinking about a national championship might have gotten you a padded-room reservation in past years. But in 1988, such

Rodney Dolgener

Team picture

Rodney Dolgener and his wife, Stacy, have Western Kentucky University's football team Wednesday at Smith Stadium.

Their picture taken together during Picture Day for Western's leading players want to become one of the most prolific rushers in Western history. His 901 yards last fall was the fifth-highest single-season total ever for a Hilltopper back.

You know you have a chance to repeat (the playoffs)," said Joe Arnold, the running back who has constantly fought off challenges from bigger and stronger athletes to become one of the most prolific rushers in Western history. His 901 yards last fall was the fifth-highest single-season total ever for a Hilltopper back.

For once, Arnold comes into fall camp as the No. 1 tailback. But Tony Brown, who underwent arthroscopic knee surgery Tuesday, is right there, waiting. At least Brown will be in two weeks, when he is able to return to practice.

Still, it's the winning that lingers for Arnold. That's what made him work-harder than ever this summer to bump his weight up to 265 pounds, while still keeping his quick moves, not any challenge from a teammate.

"You want to prepare yourself better, go at it extra hard, because you might win the national championship," Arnold said.

"Just thinking about a national championship might have gotten you a padded-room reservation in past years. But in 1988, such
Winning a new feeling

Continued from Page 1-B

Thoughts can be cleared; reality for us will be what we're supposed to do. We'll win. We've got to get ready for Western. Our last year's success will lead to putting it all together. It's just a matter of putting it all together. Perhaps the most important engineer in this project will be David Armstrong, three years the understudy of Jell Cesarone, who put his name in the record book so much you'd swear it's a misprint. Armstrong isn't going to be asked to throw a zillion times a game, but his performance will be key in a completely balanced attack.

He did his part to get ready for the fall. "I was running and lifting all summer," Armstrong said. "It really makes a difference in this heat. You can tell who has been working and who hasn't. And you can sense more confidence in the guys, who have to prove themselves again. You have to prove yourself every year. But we know if we do what we're supposed to, we'll win." Another All-America candidate doesn't put much credence in the last-year's-success theme. Mike Carberry, a spirited senior linebacker, has forgotten about last year. "Last year has no bearing at all on this year. But that's a personal feeling," Carberry said. "Some guys expect to win because we won last year. And that's good for the team. But it's a whole new year for me." And this year hasn't started out the greatest for Western's leading tackler. Carberry became dehydrated during a practice earlier in the week and had to go to the hospital. "My legs are still weak, and I don't want to come back and get injured," Carberry said. "I want to make sure I make it through all 11 this year. Just as Western wants to make it through another winning season.
Dave Roberts likes to practice, practice, practice.
And when Western Kentucky University’s football team finishes practice, Roberts likes to practice some more.

Four-hour sessions weren’t out of the ordinary for the Hilltoppers in past years.
By the end of some practices, the players were going half speed. By the end of the year, the protracted practicing had many players worn out.

But, this year, Hilltopper players are thanking their water jugs, because Roberts practices have been shortened from a death march to a short hike with backpacks.

Sometimes Roberts is even letting them put down their packs.

Why, a recent Western practice only lasted two-and-a-half hours.
Imagine that. And the players were in shorts and pads. Amazing.

If Roberts has suddenly gotten a kind heart where practice is concerned, he isn’t showing it. He merely points to lack of depth for giving his team a break.

“We’ve been going full equipment one day, shoulder pads and shorts the next. We only had one day of contact before school started,” Roberts said. “Last year at this time we were never coming out of pads.”

One reason for the slow start was the heat. Another was the schedule — it’s still three weeks to opening day at Morehead. Last year, Western started a week earlier and had an open date the second week of the season.

But depth on the offensive and defensive lines seems to be the overriding consideration in giving the players more consideration — and more time off.

“We’re trying to save the offensive linemen’s legs,” Roberts said. “Some of our depth will have to come from freshmen. Some will have to play.”

Now, Roberts is talking about playing redshirt freshmen. All of this year’s true freshmen will be redshirted. Roberts still doesn’t like to play second-year freshmen, but he may end up doing just that because after the first wave on the offensive line, which includes Rob Weinle, Dan Watterson, Bob Hodge, Dewayne Pitt and, possibly, Dean Tiebout, there’s not much experience.

It’s even worse for the defensive line, where only nose guard Chad Krami and tackle Allen Reilcheck return as starters.

The light work will be over Saturday, though, when the second scrimmage of the preseason takes place at Smith Stadium at 2 p.m. Western had its first scrimmage last Sunday, but it wasn’t much, according to Roberts.

Here’s a look at some other developments around the Hilltopper camp.

Quarterback controversy?
Talk around the practice field says that Mark Marsh, a junior from Cincinnati, will displace senior David Armstrong at quarterback by season’s end.

Armstrong, a fifth-year senior, was the primary backup to Jeff Cesarone the last three seasons, and Roberts says he’s earned the right to start Sept. 10 against Morehead.

Western has been working on the option, and Marsh is better suited to run that because of his overall athletic ability.

But, once again, Roberts says the offensive line would necessitate any moves to a total option offense.

“If we lose a couple of linemen, then the only chance we’d have to move the ball would be to go to area or zone blocking. We might have to do some option. We’re trying to run a couple of things off it. The option stops a lot of blitzes,” Roberts said, adding he’s always been a one-quarterback coach, and Armstrong is that quarterback.

“David has done his time. And he has a better understanding of the offense,” Roberts said. “But Mark is chomping at the bit.”
Practice, practice, practice

DAVE ROBERTS, Western Kentucky University head football coach, puts his team through blocking drills at a practice Wednesday. Western opens the season Sept. 10 at Morehead.
Quarterback now Armstrong's job

By MARK C. MATHIS
Daily News Sports Editor
Waiting and watching.

David Armstrong has done a lot of that in his career at Western Kentucky University.
The quarterback spent most of the past four years watching Jeff Cesarone set virtually every passing record at Western.

But Cesarone has graduated, taking his records with him.

This is Armstrong's offense, now. He's waited, and it's the fifth-year senior's turn to show what he can do.

Joe Arnold has shown what he can do at tailback before, but sometimes it hasn't been enough to keep him on the field.

Arnold has been knocked out of Western's lineup by bigger and stronger guys more times than he'd care to remember. He's been overlooked, pushed to the side, left on the bench. But, now, in his senior season, the starting tailback job belongs to Arnold.

There's no David Smith to talk about. Tony Brown, a 6-foot-2, 225-pound junior who transferred from Southern Methodist last year, is out of the picture for a few weeks, recovering from arthroscopic knee surgery.

The focus is on Arnold.

Western's offensive backfield could revolve around Armstrong and Arnold this fall. And both,

Continued On Page 16
Column 3, This Section

Offensive backs

It seems, are ready for that to happen.

"Armstrong's been cool about the whole situation," Arnold said recently. "You really can't tell when Dave's happy and sad. He's just relaxed all the time. He knows the plays. He knows the defense. It's not like he hasn't been a part of this team. He's been waiting for his chance. His chance has finally got here."

The senior from Nashville, Tenn., won't be throwing nearly as much as Cesarone did during his career, as there's more of a push to run 60 percent of the time and pass the other 40.

"We put in the wishbone and the option. Those are the only changes," Armstrong said. "We'll still run the sprint draw and the sweep. That's going to be our bread and butter."

Mark Marsh, a 6-3 junior from Cincinnati, is said to be a quicker quarterback in the option. He will be Armstrong's primary backup, and main competition if Armstrong falters.

Scott Campbell, a 6-4 sophomore from Gulf Breeze, Fla., is also at quarterback.

Armstrong, who threw nine passes last fall, won't be expected to do what Cesarone did—throw for over 8,000 yards and nearly 50 touchdowns. He won't have to, because he has a
Armstrong, Arnold keys

Continued From Page 13-A

plenty of backs to run the ball.
Arnold is the leader among those backs.
The Decatur, Ga., native came into camp this year with a more muscular 197-pound frame that is bench pressing 355 pounds.
Arnold sat around a lot last year watching Smith — a Herschel Walker runalike — work over defenses between knee injuries. When Smith was knocked out for the year after the Tennessee Chattanooga game, Arnold stole the show.
The 260 yards Arnold had against North Carolina A&T in the season finale was the second-best rushing performance ever by a Western back. His 901 yards last year was the sixth-highest rushing total in a single season. With 1,902 rushing yards so far, Arnold is poised to become the seventh Hilltopper ever to go over 2,000 yards.
"He's established himself as the veteran running back. He knows what he's doing out there," Armstrong said. "When it comes down to the crunch time, you know we're going to go to Joe Arnold."
And when it's time for Arnold to crunch through a hole, he depends on Pedro Bacon, Western's senior fullback. Arnold calls him the best fullback he's ever seen.
"He doesn't get a lot of recognition for what he does," Arnold said. "But, when I'm making an 80-yard touchdown run, Pedro is the one knocking the guy back five yards to spring meloose."
For Bacon, who holds Western's record for the longest touchdown run from scrimmage (99 yards), blocking is as enjoyable as running.
"It's always fun to knock somebody on his back," said Bacon, a senior from Paducah Tilghman.
Bacon has ample support at fullback from Gerard Mark, a 6-1, 240-pound junior who also transferred last year from SMU. When Brown returns, it will give Western one of its deepest backfields in years.
Don Smith, a sophomore from Harrodsburg, is listed third on the tailback depth chart. Willie Thomas, a freshman from Sopchoppy, Fla., is third at fullback. Elliott Moore is a 28-year-old senior listed at fullback.
"The only person we lost was David (Smith)," Bacon said. "It's like we gained two for one."
The two who have gained the most are Armstrong and Arnold.
Roberts doesn't like lack of enthusiasm

By MARK C. MATHIS
Daily News Sports Editor

After the scheduled 80 plays of last Saturday's scrimmage, Coach Dave Roberts wasn't satisfied.

So, he gave Western Kentucky University's football team a lecture and had it run another 40 plays.
That wasn't so bad. Last year he would've started the whole scrimmage over.

The problem wasn't execution, it was enthusiasm. Roberts wasn't seeing enough. He wanted some more hitting, howling and hollering in the relatively cool 93-degree heat.

After more plays, a bit more enthusiasm and a touchdown drive, Roberts was ready to take his leave.

"They're tired. We practiced this morning," Roberts said as the sun was setting over Smith Stadium. "But we made a lot of mistakes. We had five or six offside penalties. We can't be doing things like that."
Western went through a light scrimmage Friday, and Roberts was pleased with the defensive work. He's still looking, however, for enough bodies to fill out the depleted defensive line.

Three out of four single-practice days went well last week, but Roberts wants the Hilltoppers tougher before the Sept. 10 opener at Morehead. That was the reason for the 40 additional plays.

There might be even more than that Thursday night, in Western's final preseason scrimmage.

It wasn't until after last year's opening-game loss to tiny Gardner-Webb that Western really started hitting. This year, with a No. 17 preseason ranking, Roberts is looking for popping pads at game-level decibels two weeks before Morehead.

"I don't want to go as long Thursday. But I want it to be sharp," Roberts said.

Western's offense looked more mobile with quarterbacks David Armstrong and Mark Marsh sprin-
Coates a big key to Toppers' game

By MARK C. MATHIS
Daily News Sports Editor

With its propensity for passing, Western Kentucky University has been able to maintain one of the best receiving corps in Division I-AA.

That won't change this year, despite the early absence of Robert Coates, the leading returning receiver, who broke his right leg in a pickup basketball game during the summer.

Cedric Jones, generally considered Western's top pass-catching threat, is back after sitting out a year for personal reasons.

The 6-foot, 179-pound senior from Clermont, Fla., has been out of practice the last week with a stomach ailment, but he got a lot of work in last Saturday's full scrimmage, going both at flanker and split end.

"There's really not a lot of difference," Jones said last week of the two positions. "One is usually a primary receiver, and the other is a decoy."

Jones has 29 receptions for 373 yards and two touchdowns two seasons ago. He figures to be more primary than decoy until Coates comes back, probably in time for the Eastern-Western game on Sept. 24.

"Sitting out wasn't anything to be disappointed about," Jones said. "I still got some practice while I was out. I definitely missed playing in games, but I had other responsibilities."

Jones will have plenty of company on the outside, with junior Darwin Harris, senior Glenn Holt and freshmen Tyson Farrow and Lanie Fomas. Ronnie Shepard is a transfer from Tyler (Texas) Junior College. Senior Kelvin Nedd and junior Anthony Green are also on the depth chart at split end and flanker, respectively.

All are in the light and quick range. And many figure to be contributing.

"We've got a whole lot of speed for a I-AA team," said Harris, who averaged 22.8 yards for his six catches last year. "Everybody's got speed, everybody's got hands. It comes down to experience. I'm going to try and do my part."

Coates, a 6-2, 235-pound junior from Birmingham, Ala., did his part last year, catching 40 passes for 470 yards, ranking second in yardage to the graduated Malcolm Darden. Coates was also a strong blocker, but injuries slowed him in the second half of the year.

An injury has him riding an exercise bicycle and thinking of his six catches last year.

"I want to get 85 receptions for 1,000 yards. I can still get that, although I'll miss a couple of games," Coates said.

And those goals aren't unreasonable, even though the Hilltoppers also throw to their running backs a lot.

Western's complicated passing game in many ways revolves around the tight end. The Hilltoppers have a strong, quick one in Coates.

"He gives the offense a little versatility," Jones said. "He blocks real well and can catch well, so that takes a lot of pressure off the outside guys. Our offense is based around him."

Doug Jones, a 6-3, 252-pound sophomore, has been moved back to his original position as Coates' backup after spending the spring at defensive tackle.

"He will have to play a bunch," said Darryl Drake, Western's receiver coach. "He's been a pleasant surprise."

The broken leg and persistent problems with a sprained ankle last year have been anything but pleasant for Coates, who is frustrated and anxious to come back.

"The tight end plays a very special role," Coates said. "I'm on the sidelines, I'm doing anything to help team."

Even with a lot of speed talent, Western's receivers are Coates' kind of help.

CEDRIC JONES runs with a reception in a recent Western football practice on Western's practice field on University Boulevard.

Editor's note: This is the second in a seven-part series on Western football. The other installment will appear Thursday.
Coates a big key to Toppers' game

By MARK C. MATHIS
Daily News Sports Editor

Western Kentucky football preview

With its propensity for passing, Western Kentucky University has been able to maintain one of the best receiving corps in Division I-AA. That won't change this year, despite the early absence of Robert Coates, the leading returning receiver, who broke his right leg in a pickup basketball game during the summer.

Cedric Jones, generally considered Western's top passing threat, is back after sitting out a year for personal reasons. The 6-foot, 170-pound senior from Clermont, Fla., has been out of practice the last week with a stomach ailment, but he had a lot of work in last Saturday's full scrimmage, going both at flanker and split end.

"There's really not a lot of difference," Jones said last week of the two positions. "One I usually a primary receiver, and the other is a decoy."

Jones had 29 receptions for 73 yards and two touchdowns his first two seasons ago. He figures to be more primary than decoy until Coates comes back, probably in time for the Eastern Western game on Sept. 24.

"Sitting out wasn't anything I'd be disappointed about," Jones said. "I still got some practice while I was out. I definitely missed playing in games, but I had other responsibilities."

Jones will have plenty of company on the outside with junior Darwin Harris, senior Jemm Holt and freshmen Tyson Arrow and Lanie Fomas. Ronna Shepard is a transfer from Tyler (Texas) Junior College.

"He gives the offense a little versatility," Jones said. "He blocks real well and can catch well, so that takes a lot of pressure off the outside guys. Our offense is based around him."

Doug Jones, a 6-3, 252-pound sophomore, has been moved back to his original position as Coates' backup after spending the spring at defensive tackle.

"He will have to play a bunch," said Darryl Drake, Western's receiver coach. "He's been a pleasant surprise."

The broken leg and persistent problems with a sprained ankle last year have been anything but pleasant for Coates, who is frustrated and anxious to come back.

"The tight end plays a very special role," Coates said. "If I'm on the sidelines, I'm not doing anything to help the team."

Even with a lot of speed and talent, Western's receivers need Coates' kind of help.

Editor's note: This is the second in a seven-part series looking at Western football. The offensive line will be previewed in Tuesday's edition.
ROB WEINLE (left) and Bob Hodge wait for Western's football practice to begin recently. Weinle is being pushed for All-America honors at offensive tackle this year. Hodge is a transfer from Notre Dame.

Starters big, but backups thin

Offensive line

By MARK C. MATHIS
Daily News Sports Editor
Western Kentucky University

Rodney Dolgener, a 6-3, 290-pound junior from Cisco (Texas) Junior College, should be a nice reinforcement for
Waiting for action

ROB WEINLE (left) and Bob Hodge wait for Western's football practice to begin recently. Weinle is being pushed for All-America honors at offensive tackle this year. Hodge is a transfer from Notre Dame.

Starters big, but backups thin

By MARK C. MATHIS
Daily News Sports Editor

Western Kentucky University sure is thin this year on the offensive line.

Wait a minute. Arent the "thinnest" proposed starters center Dan Watterson and guard Chuck Hughes, each 6-foot-5, 260 pounds.

No, this offensive front is just as big as last year's, although it's quicker.

But it's thin when it comes to numbers. After the starters, there isn't much experience.

"You get used to being lean on the offensive line. It's nothing new," said Rob Weinle, a 6-5, 275-pound senior out of Cincinnati, who is being pushed for All-America honors this year at tackle.

"But if Dean Tiebout isn't declared eligble for a fifth year in six by the National Collegiate Athletic Association, it will press Hughes into starting service and irritate an already itchy situation.

James Pittman, a 6-2, 240-pound sophomore from Harrodsburg, is third behind Tiebout and Hughes.

Two transfers, one from Purdue and the other from Notre Dame, will help put experienced bodies at strong guard and quick tackle.

Dewayne Penn is a 6-2, 290-pound senior whose affection with the pro-style offense used at Purdue in the days before Fred Akers drew him to Western.

"I felt that I could come in here and be a dominant force." The starters can be dominating. It's the backups who might be in trouble should injuries hit the line.

Rodney Dolgener, a 6-3, 290-pound junior from Cisco (Texas) Junior College, should be a capable replacement for Penn at strong guard.

But sophomores John Burden (6-5, 290), from Butler County, and Pittman, and freshman Kent Carter (6-6, 270), from Corbin, are not that seasoned.

Things aren't any better at center, where Watterson, a junior from Elizabethtown, is back for his third season as a starter.

His lone backup is Larry Mucker, a 6-1, 250-pound sophomore from Louisville, who was moved from guard after last season.

"We'll just have to wait for some of those young guys to come through," Weinle said.

If injuries make the line any thinner, those young guys will have to fatten up fast.

Editor's note: This is the third story in a seven-part series previewing Western football. Specialty teams will be looked at Wednesday.
Maher looking for even more points

By MARK C. MATHIS
Daily News Sports Editor

Dan Maher's dependable right leg will be at Western Kentucky University's disposal for one more year.

Western has picked up 170 points in the last three years off Maher's ability to boot a football between the uprights.

Western thanks your right leg, Mr. Maher.

The senior from Florence is the third all-time leading scorer in Western history. Sixty-five more points and Maher takes the scoring lead from former running great Clarence Jackson.

It seems a goal within easy reach, because Maher had 69 points last year, and after a slow start.

The senior came into last season nursing a stress fracture in his left push-off leg.

"The first half of the year, I was about 4 out of 9 on field goals," Maher said. "I finished up making my last 9 out of 11. My leg gradually healed. But up until the fifth or sixth game of the year it gave me a lot of trouble."

Maher worked this summer to put himself in the best shape he's ever been in. He tries not to think about it, but a successful season — both for him and the Hilltoppers — could attract some professional scouts.

"I try to just worry about this season. But I can't help but think if I had a good year, then the possibility would be there for me," Maher said. "A lot of it depends on how the team does."

Becoming the all-time leading scorer could help in that success, but Maher is thinking more about the mechanics of his strange job, rather than the rewards afterward.

Specialist

"I've been thinking about technique, how I hit the ball," Maher said. "The last week I've really felt comfortable."

The one fault with Maher's kicking has been consistency from outside the 30-yard line.

Maher managed only 8 of 15 field goals from beyond the 30. Kicking off might help his distance, but Pat Levis, a sophomore from Cincinnati, has that duty for now, anyway.

"I worked pretty hard getting my leg back in shape, because I'd like to kick off. But I guess that remains to be seen," Maher said.

The major problem with Western's kicking game, however, had to do with then-freshman punter Todd Davis, who averaged 39 yards a kick last year, but had a few blocked along the way. The most costly coming against Eastern during the regular season.

Maher, who lends moral support to Davis, said the sophomore from Harrodsburg is better at getting the ball off.

"It's hard coming in as a freshman, they expect so much out of you," Maher said. "He had some step problems, and was a little slow. But he's worked on that and become a two-step punter. I've been impressed with the way he's hitting the ball. He's been very consistent."

At the other end of the spectrum, Joe Arnold, who's gained 3,171 all-purpose yards, is being tapped as the No. 1 kickoff return man.

Strong safety Vincel Anthony is also listed as a kickoff returner.

Elliott Moore is the leading punt-return specialist. But reserve tailback Donald Smith and Horace Smith, a junior cornerback, are also available for punt or kickoff return chores.

Reliable kicker

DAN MAHER should give Western a reliable kicker this season. The senior has scored 170 points in three seasons with the Hilltoppers.

Editor's note: This is the fourth story in a seven-part series previewing Western football. The defensive backfield will be profiled on Thursday.
Maher looking for even more points

By MARK C. MATHIS
Daily News Sports Editor

Dan Maher's dependable right leg will be at Western Kentucky University's disposal for one more year.

Western has picked up 170 points in the last three years off Maher's ability to boot a football between the uprights.

Maher is the third all-time leading scorer in Western history. Sixty-five more points and Maher takes the scoring lead from former running great Clarence Jackson.

It seems a goal within easy reach, because Maher had 69 points last year, and after a slow start.

The senior came into last season nursing a stress fracture in his left, or pushoff, leg.

"The first half of the year, I was about 4 out of 9 on field goals," Maher said. "I finished up making my last 9 out of 11. My leg gradually healed. But up until the fifth or sixth game of the year it gave me a lot of trouble."

Maher worked this summer to put himself in the best shape he's ever been in. He tries not to think about it, but a successful season—both for him and the Hilltoppers—could attract some professional scouts.

"I try to just worry about this season. But I can't help but think if I had a good year, then the possibility would be there for me," Maher said. "A lot of it depends on how the team goes."

Becoming the all-time leading scorer could help in that success, but Maher is thinking more about the mechanics of his strange job, rather than the awards afterward.

Specialist

"I've been thinking about technique, how I hit the ball," Maher said. "The last week I've really felt comfortable."

The one fault with Maher's kicking has been consistency from outside the 30-yard line.

Maher managed only 8 of 15 field goals from beyond the 30. Kicking off might help his distance, but Pat Levis, a sophomore from Cincinnati, has that duty for now anyway.

"I worked pretty hard getting my leg back in shape, because I'd like to kickoff. But I guess that remains to be seen," Maher said.

The major problem with Western's kicking game, however, had to do with then-freshman punter Todd Davis, who averaged 39 yards a kick last year, but had a few blocked along the way. The most costly coming against Eastern during the regular season.

Maher, who lends moral support to Davis, said the sophomore from Harrodsburg is better at getting the ball off.

"It's hard coming in as a freshman, they expect so much out of you," Maher said. "He had some step problems, and was a little slow. But he's worked on that and become a two-step punter. I've been impressed with the way he's hitting the ball. He's been very consistent."

At the other end of the spectrum, Joe Arnold, who's gained 3,171 all-purpose yards, is being tapped as the No. 1 kickoff return man.

Strong safety Vince Anthony is also listed as a kickoff returner.

Elliott Moore is the leading punt-return specialist. But reserve tailback Donald Smith and Horace Smith, a junior cornerback, are also available for punt or kickoff return chores.

Reliable kicker

DAN MAHER should give Western a reliable kicker this season. The senior has scored 170 points in three seasons with the Hilltoppers.

Editor's note: This is the fourth story in a seven-part series previewing Western football. The defensive backfield will be profiled on Thursday.
The lone returning starter

RON BURROUGHS is the lone returning starter among Western's defensive backs this season. He will be looked on for leadership in the secondary, where the Hilltoppers lost three of four starters.

The lone returning starter

BURROUGHS looks to be the leader

By MARK C. MATHIS
Daily News Sports Editor

No area of Western Kentucky University's football team has more question marks than the secondary—a source of great strength in 1987.

James Edwards, a consensus Division I-AA All-American at free safety, is gone, taking his team-high seven interceptions with him.

Harold Wright, an experienced cornerback, is gone. Darnell Martin, the second-leading tackler last year with 103 stops, is gone.

The lone returning starter is Ron Burroughs, a talented and confident cornerback.

"I feel only the freshmen are inexperienced," said Burroughs, a senior from Owensboro. "We've got a lot of people with playing experience. We don't feel like we're young. People are confident with being starters and with playing their roles. I knew I would be the only starter back, so I came in with the attitude that I was going to take charge and be a leader, and they would look up to me."

The 5-foot-10, 180-pounder was one of the underlings to Edwards, Martin and Wright last year, but they made him feel like he was also a leader.

"They didn't look at me as 'let's teach him how to do this and how to do that.' They told me that I was a starter, so I had to be one of the leaders on the team as a junior." Burroughs said.

And the questions concerning the secondary? Burroughs brushes them aside.

"I feel confident that we can go into a game with the people we have," Burroughs said.

That's because the reserves last year got a good share of game experience.

Vince Anthony, a 5-11, 195-pound senior out of Louisville Male, is set to go at strong safety.

Jonathan Watts, a junior from Port Gibson, Miss., is No. 2 at strong safety.

Riley Ware, a small but quick sophomore from Fort Myers, Fla., will start at the other corner.

Horace Smith, a junior college transfer from Lexington, is second behind Ware.

Troy Dowdy, a hard-nosed junior from Lone Oak, near Paducah, is picked to start at free safety.

Former Glasgow standout Harry Hayes is listed as Dowdy's backup.

Until the rest of the secondary takes Burroughs' lead, the defense might have to look elsewhere for overall leadership. The cover men might need to be covered until they get their assignments down.

"I'm looking at the linebackers because of their experienced players like Calvin Edwards, Mike Carberry, Russell Foster more than us to take charge," Burroughs said. "Last year, the secondary got everybody else up. I'm looking for them (the linebackers) to pull the defense together. After the guys come along, then maybe we can be like the secondary we had last year."

Western certainly would like for that to happen.

Editor's note: This is the fifth story in a seven-part series previewing Western's football team. The defensive line will be examined Friday.
Western Kentucky University is suffering from a malady common to college football teams across the country this time of year.

Practiceitis.

It's not a deadly disease, but it can be debilitating to teams that are trying to get ready for their season openers.

Many schools start their seasons this weekend. You've heard University of Kentucky coach Jerry Claiborne talk about a lack of intensity. You've heard his players complain that they are tired of hitting each other. Why, sportswriters are even getting tired of doing mountains of preseason profiles.

"We're kind of sick of practicing against each other," said David Armstrong, Western's starting quarterback for next week's opener at Morehead.

"They're tired of practice. They're tired of hearing me griping at them. We need to see somebody else. We may not be ready, but it's time to play," said Dave Roberts, Western's head coach. "This last week is a hump week we needed to get these guys over."

Get the message? The hitting under the lights Thursday at Smith Stadium was as crisp as a late fall evening, but Roberts wanted more. And he let them know it, making them go another 15 minutes to close out the two-hour session after a teeth-gritting tongue lashing.

"We definitely needed to pick up the intensity," said Ron Burroughs, Western's lone returning starter in the secondary. "It was a little slow early in the scrimmage, but after the little talk we had to go back to the old way, talking to them, messing with their minds."

Burroughs was talking about his offensive opponents.

"We start talking to them, getting them mad so they'll talk back to us. After the talk (from Roberts) we went back to the old school, acting rowdy and loose, like nobody can stop us."

Armstrong likes those defensive tactics, as long as his offense doesn't buy them.

"The offense needs to keep its composure," Armstrong said.

"The defensive guys need to get excited."

Roberts wouldn't mind if everybody got excited, especially the seniors.

"The enthusiasm was better tonight, but I want us to play up to our ability, whatever that is," Roberts said.

The voters on the Associated Press Division I-AA poll think Western has enough ability to be ranked No. 17 in the preseason. Roberts doesn't want any of his players taking that ranking too seriously. He keeps telling the team it isn't that good.

"We've got too many people reading the newspapers," he said.

So, after some time off for Labor Day, Roberts wants the Hilltoppers to come back ready to do some serious hitting.

"It will give them a chance to get away from football for the last time," Roberts said.

And maybe enough time to recover from practiceitis.

Mark C.
Mathis
Daily News
Sports Editor
Commentary

Wood wants stat

By JOE MEDLEY
Daily News Sports Writer

Rick Wood puts it on the line.

Cross country
No depth makes injuries a pain

By Mark C. Mathis
Daily News Sports Editor

When looking for the prototype nose guard, one would probably overlook Chad Kraml.

The reason isn’t because Kraml can’t play the position— he was in on 40 tackles last season. But he just doesn’t look like the typical fireplug nose guard.

Kraml is 6-foot-3, 255 pounds. Most nose guards are 6-2 and 290. Or 6-2, 262, like Denny Caple, Western’s nose guard for nearly three years before a knee injury ended his career last season.

Get the idea? Nose guards aren’t taller types. They are usually shorter and stouter, kind of like Kraml’s backup, Gary Cook, a 6-3, 290-pound junior college transfer.

“Who’s a taller type? Nose guards aren’t taller types. They are usually shorter and stouter,” said Chad Kraml, when asked to describe what a nose guard looks like.

Kraml’s backup, Gary Cook, is 6-3, 290 pounds. Most nose guards are 6-2 and 290. Or 6-2, 262, like Denny Caple, Western’s nose guard for nearly three years before a knee injury ended his career last season.

“Who’s a taller type? Nose guards aren’t taller types. They are usually shorter and stouter,” said Chad Kraml, when asked to describe what a nose guard looks like.

Kraml’s backup, Gary Cook, is 6-3, 290 pounds. Most nose guards are 6-2 and 290. Or 6-2, 262, like Denny Caple, Western’s nose guard for nearly three years before a knee injury ended his career last season.

Get the idea? Nose guards aren’t taller types. They are usually shorter and stouter, kind of like Kraml’s backup, Gary Cook, a 6-3, 290-pound junior college transfer.

But, as a teammate said of Kraml, “He gets the job done.”

“I did all right last year,” Kraml said. “We looked at the film, and I had a couple of busts.”

But, as his tackles indicate, he did his share of busting, too.

There’s a lot more of a job to do for the interior defensive line this year without the experience of Curt Paige, Steve Walton or Allen King, who all graduated.

“There’s only two true players on the defensive line that have experience, me and Chad Kraml,” said Allen Reitcheck, one of those true players at tackle. “We’ve got a couple of junior college transfers who have looked good. I was a junior college transfer and came in the next year and played, so I’m not really worried. If we have a few injuries, then things might get a little hectic.”

Several people are down along the line heading into the final week of practice before the season opener against Morehead.

Xavier Jordan, a 6-2, 240-pound junior end from Atlanta, has bad blood pressure problems, that have kept him out of most of preseason practice.

Zip Zanders, another end who’s a transfer from South Carolina, has also been out of practice the last week nursing injuries. Zanders has been used at both stand-up end and down end.

In Western’s defensive scheme, the ends play like outside linebackers, with the stand-up end covering receivers coming out of the backfield or the tight end, and the down end rushing the passer.

“It’s a combination position,” said Zanders, who, at 6-0, 218 pounds, started at middle linebacker for South Carolina as a freshman. “We call the outside linebacker the defensive end. We help the interior line.”

The injuries at end have pushed two freshmen, Howard Freeeney (6-2, 210) and Brad Anchors (6-4, 215), to the top of the depth chart.

More new faces include Chandler Wallace, a 6-3, 270-pound sophomore who played on the offensive line last year but has been converted to tackle opposite Reitcheck. Brad Thomas, a smallish sophomore, is Wallace’s backup. David Wilson, a 6-2, 240-pound sophomore from Mayfield, is listed behind Reitcheck.

There is one good thing that has come out of the depth problem on the defensive line.

“You get a lot of reps in practice,” Reitcheck said.

Editor’s note: This is the sixth story in a seven-part series previewing Western’s football team. The final story in the series on Sunday will look at the linebackers.
Carberry sure he will be ready to go

By MARK C. MATHIS
Daily News Sports Editor

Mike Carberry has been out of practice for about a week with a sore shoulder.

Don't worry, though, he assures anyone who's listening that he'll be ready for the season opener Saturday at Morehead.

Don't worry about his leadership ability, either. Even though he's not on the field, he's been yelling encouragement from the sidelines throughout much of the preseason practices and scrimmages.

Yes, Western Kentucky University's most noted spokesman still likes to talk, so who better to give his appraisal of the Hilltoppers' linebacker situation than last year's leading tackler.

"Xavier Jordan being out is a major concern," said Carberry, who was in on 108 tackles. His 73 solo stops was a runaway team high. "It's very important for him to come back. He provides leadership."

Jordan, a 6-foot-4, 240-pound junior from Atlanta, is listed as a defensive end, but in Western's defense, an end by any other name is an outside linebacker. He has had some blood pressure problems in the preseason, but is expected to be in playing condition soon.

Carberry, a 6-6, 220-pound senior from Oaklawn, Ill., also provides leadership from his inside linebacker slot, by words and deeds, but it isn't his aim to put that label on himself.

"It was nice being the leading tackler, I'm glad I was the leading tackler," Carberry said. "But I could've come in third in tackles and that wouldn't bother me, as long as we come out on top and I'm doing my job. I might not make all the tackles all the time, but I could be the reason the tackles are being made."

Another reason for tackles being made is Calvin Edwards, the 6-1, 220-pound senior who starts at the other inside linebacker slot opposite Carberry. Edwards was in on 47 tackles and recovered three fumbles, including one he returned for a touchdown.

The linebacking position is one of the deepest on the team.

Russell Foster is a 6-1, 220-pounder who is in the starting spot on the depth chart until Carberry comes back. The junior from Orlando, Fla., is considered one of the best athletes on the team.

Foster also has added knowledge of Eastern Kentucky's backfield, because he used to block for Elroy Harris as a fullback in high school.

"He's a great athlete. He'll come up and put a hit on you," Carberry said of Foster.

Wayne Bush, a 6-1, 220-pound senior, is a dependable backup from Allen County-Scottsville. Scott Walker is a 5-10, 200-pound senior from Campbellsville who is a terror on special teams.

Carberry, as evidenced by his starting a linebacker discussion with Jordan, likes to expand his position's ranks by including the defensive ends as part of his group.

"Brad Anchors has been playing a lot. So has Howard Freeney," Carberry said.

He may not look for the role of leader, but Carberry is one. And he likes to talk almost as much as he likes to hit.

Editor's note: This concludes a series of articles previewing Western's football team.
UK transfer Dee Smith gone from

By BRUCE W. BRANCH
Staff Writer

Former University of Kentucky wide rec-
ciever Dee Smith, who transferred to West-
ern Kentucky following his arrest on drug
charges, has left the school.

Smith moved out of his dormitory room
on the Western campus last week and has
been unavailable for comment since then.

"He liked it here a lot and we liked him a
ton," said Western coach Dave Roberts. "We
thought he was a super player. Things just
didn't work out. I think he might transfer to
an NAIA school."

Smith was arrested along with two other
men last February for allegedly trying to sell
four ounces of cocaine to two undercover
agents of the U.S. Drug Enforcement Admin-
istration. The former Paducah Tilghman star
has proclaimed his innocence.

Morehead State

fullback Jerome Wil-
liams, who suffered a
knee injury in the Eagles' 30-17, season-
opening loss to Marshall on Saturday, will
be out at least three weeks.

I don't think it's going to be anything
that's going to be too bad," said running-
backs coach Terry Chian. "It's something
we are going to have to look at on a day-to-
day basis."

Murray State flanker Mark Murray, who
caught six passes for 125 yards, suffered a
knee injury and safety Tim Bread a pulled
muscle in his chest during the Racers' 32-24
loss to Tennessee-Martin. Coach Mike Ma-
honeysaid both are questionable for Sat-
turday's game against Southeast Missouri.

Eastern Kentucky will be without fullback
Rick Burkhead (hamstring) and offensive
tackle Carl Satterly (knee) in its opener Sat-
turday against Delaware State. Coach Roy

Western Kentucky, too

Kidd said Satterly will probably miss three
weeks but Burkhead should be able to play
next week against Marshall.

Western Kentucky will open its season
against Morehead on Saturday without tail-
back Tony Brown (knee), linebacker Mi-

Michael Carberry (shoulder) and defensive
end Xavier Jordan (high blood pressure).

Mahoney has to be getting a little wor-
ed about his running game. No Racers
ball-carrier has gained more than 100 yards
in a game since 1986, when at least one
runner gained 100 in each of the final five
games.

The Racers finished with 56 yards on 33
carries against Tennessee-Martin.

I'm not worried about last year," Ma-
 honey said. "The good football teams run
the ball and win. Part of the problem was
our offensive line, and the other part of the
problem was our tailbacks.

"Saturday we just didn't take advantage
of the wishbone, and when we went to the in-
formation our tailbacks lined up too deep,
When they got to the line people were com-
ing off blocks."

The Hardee's Restaurant in Morehead
might go bankrupt if the Eagles continue to
rack up sacks the way they did against Mar-

See DEE SMITH
Dee Smith leaves Western Kentucky

Continued from Page D 1

shall, when they registered five.
Fans at Morehead games get a dis-
count of 50 cents per quarterback
sack on a $3.49 "sack pack," which
includes a hamburger, large fries
and an extra-large soda.
By the end of the game Morehead
and Marshall fans were yelling
"Hardee's, Hardee's." After the
game there were long lines at the
restaurant to take advantage of the
99-cent bargain.
Here is more proof that Kidd
could be running the top college
football program in the state. Six
former Colonels have made it to the
National Football League in the last
two years: defensive end Aaron
Jones and offensive guard John
Jackson, Pittsburgh Steelers; kicker
Dale Dawson and defensive end
Fred Klingel, Philadelphia Eagles;
safety Danny Copeland, Cleveland
Browns; and guard Byron Ingram,
Kansas City Chiefs.
Nine Eastern players have either
been drafted or signed as free
agents by NFL teams in the past two
years. No other state college has put
as many as six players in the NFL
in the same period.
"That's not bad for a little NCAA
Division I-AA school," Kidd said.
"That ought to show these kids in
the state that they don't have to go
to a big school to make it to the
pros. I hear that a lot in recruiting.
If you are good enough, the pros are
going to find you. They have a good
enough scouting system that you
won't be overlooked."
An academic-athletic scholar-
ship in honor of Brig. Gen. Herbert
Wassom, a former Western Ken-
tucky football player who was killed
in an airplane crash Aug. 17 in Paki-
stan, has been established by the
school's W-Club.
Wassom, a lineman, was captain
of the 1960 team and was named to
the All-Ohio Valley Conference team
in 1959 and 1960.
Many questions worrying Roberts

Joining Dave Roberts for lunch in the days before Western Kentucky University opens its football season means some cheese crackers and a diet soft drink.

So it is for a head coach pondering what kind of team will follow his first winning effort. Last year, Western went 7-4, ended up nationally ranked and in the Division I-AA playoffs for the first time ever.

But, while folks pat him on the back for a good season, they wonder how much better it will be this time around.

Roberts, as with most newly successful coaches, can't get a break.

If he's losing, like Roberts did the first four years he was at Western, then the fans want his scalp if he can't produce a winner. If he's winning, then the fans want more winning, or they want his scalp.

Roberts has plenty of hair left as he gets ready for Saturday's season opener at Morehead, and with the talent on this Hilltopper squad, he can plan on keeping it.

The players, as players will do, think this Western team will be very good. One hears whispers of national championships when walking through the locker room.

"We've got an awful lot of ability. And our attitude is a big improvement," said Dan Maher, Western's senior kicker. But, what does a flaky kicker know about a football team? "I have time in practice. I make it my business to observe what's going on. We're ready to get it going."

"We have an opportunity to win nine games," said Mike Carberry, Western leading tackler last year at linebacker. "But we have to start getting people back from injuries."

Ah, ha. Western has lots of talent. But the Hilltoppers are hurting in depth, and preseason injuries to some key individuals has made the questions loom even larger.

Defensive end Xavier Jordan hasn't been in on a play of practice because of blood pressure problems. Tailback Tony Brown had arthroscopic knee surgery early in preseason camp. Wide receiver Cedric Jones just got back in pads this week after suffering with a stomach ailment. Carberry has been out with a shoulder injury.

Lots of nagging problems. No easy solutions.

Roberts won't even guess how far Western might be able to go in postseason—if it gets there.

"It depends on how David (Armstrong) plays. It depends on how healthy the offensive line men stay. Defensively we're very thin. I don't know if we're strong enough to keep up with people mashing on us. The secondary, how quick it responds," Roberts said. "There's too many questions to say 'golly, we're a real good football team.' The athletes are here in most positions. It's a matter of getting them experienced."

The secondary is most suspect after losing consensus All-American James Edwards and veteran defenders Harold Wright and Darnell Martin. Ron Burroughs is the only returning starter. Vince Anthony played a lot at strong safety last year, and is being counted on to make a significant contribution.

"Anthony could be a big key," Roberts said. "He needs to be a leader."

That's what Roberts wants out of all his seniors. Last year's graduating class was the one Western built around since Roberts came on board. It included Jeff Cesaron, the most prolific passer in Hilltopper history.

Armstrong replaces Cesaron at quarterback. He, along with Carberry, Burroughs, Rob Weinie and others are the new seniors. The new leaders.

"The senior class this year will be really interesting," Roberts said. "We built and built and built on last year's seniors to be the leaders, even when they were sophomores. They've gone. Now this group has to lead the football team. All the coaches are eager to see how they're going to respond. We told the seniors the other night we've gotten to the point to where the program is solid. Now we've got to improve."

If Western improves enough, maybe Roberts will have more time for lunch.
Western quarterback relishes first start

By BRUCE W. BRANCH
Staff Writer

BOWLING GREEN, Ky. — Every so often during the past four years, Western Kentucky University quarterback Dave Armstrong would wait into the office of coach Dave Roberts and confidently state his case.

"I'm the best quarterback you've got," Armstrong would announce, "I'm better than Jeff Cesarone or anybody else you have."

Roberts would listen quietly, and Armstrong would return to clipboard duty on the sidelines while Cesarone, who holds most of the Hilltoppers' passing records, would continue to receive most of the playing time.

"He doesn't lack confidence; that's for sure," Roberts said. "Quite often he would come to me and tell me he thought he should be playing, but he'd always do that behind closed doors. And when he walked out, he would always say, 'I'm a team player.' It's going to be a neat experience having a new quarterback because it's kind of an unknown."

Armstrong remembers his visits with Roberts fondly. He also relishes his first start.

"I would get kind of frustrated," the Nashville, Tenn., native said. "Jeff would have a mediocre game and I would talk to Coach and ask why I didn't get a chance to play."

For his career, the left-handed Armstrong is the most experienced quarterback the Hilltoppers have. Although he completed just 1 of 9 passes for seven yards last year, he has responded when called upon in the past.

As a redshirt freshman in 1985, Armstrong completed 28 of 59 passes for 327 yards and two touchdowns, including a 192-yard effort against Appalachian State and a 12- of-19 performance for 122 yards in a relief role against Middle Tennessee. For his career, the 6-foot, 195-pound Armstrong is 41 of 85 for 455 yards and three TDs with five interceptions.

"Most of the time when I played in the past the game would be decided one way or another," Armstrong said. "I don't feel any pressure. I'm kind of a loose guy, and I'm going to do what I have to do. I don't feel like I have to prove myself to anybody. We're going to find out Saturday night how things are going to work out. I feel confident going into this game. Pressure is something you put on yourself."

Roberts has been impressed with Armstrong's strong arm and the way he carries himself. He is hoping that Armstrong's leadership and tenacity will help Western win enough games to return to the NCAA Division I-AA playoffs.

Armstrong has no doubts about this Western team.

"We went 7-4 last year, and I think we are going to be a more exciting team this year," he said. "We move the ball good and we have one of the top defenses... We have some great athletes on defense. Our secondary is one of the quickest secondaries I've ever seen. I think we are going to open the eyes of a lot of people."

Western has a strong running game that includes tailback Joe Arnold and fullback Pedro Bacon and good depth at wide receiver.

"I feel confident in the people we have on offense and defense," Armstrong said. "I feel we are going to move the ball. We have a great offensive line coming back and some great running backs. There's a lot of talent at the receiver positions. I'm surrounded by good people. That will definitely help out. I have confidence in what I'm doing. I think everything will work out."

Since practice began, Armstrong has been dreaming of what it is going to be like playing instead of sitting.

"I'll be walking to class and I'll picture myself throwing a touchdown pass or running the ball in," he said. "A lot of people may think I'm a little bit cocky, but I'm just confident in what I can do. I just have high expectations. I picture good things happening. The main thing with me is winning. I guess I'm an overachiever."

But first things first, and Morehead, which played 10th-ranked Marshall tough before dropping a 30-17 decision, won't be a pushover. The Eagles didn't appear to be the same club that stumbled to a 2-8 record last season.

"Everybody likes playing state rivals," Armstrong said. "We want that state championship. We play Eastern, Morehead and Louisville, but right now we're just taking one game at a time. Morehead State is all we are thinking about."

Getting a chance to play tomorrow will make up for all the weeks of disappointment for Armstrong. It also has proved to him that good things do come to those who wait.

"I thought about leaving several times," Armstrong said. "I can remember calling home my freshman year and calling home. My mother told me to hang in there. They (parents) told me I would get my chance if I stayed. I'm sorry I had to wait so long, but I'm glad I stayed."

Continued from Page E 1

Now, with Cesarone gone, Armstrong is going to receive his chance to show Roberts and the rest of the Western coaching staff what he can do.

After beating off the challenges of a junior Mark Marsh and sophomore Scott Campbell, the fifth-year senior will be at the controls when Western opens its season at 7:30 p.m. EDT tomorrow at Morehead State.

Western's Armstrong relishes his first start

Continued from Page E 1

play. My chance is here now. I have to make the best of it."

The left-handed Armstrong is the most experienced quarterback the Hilltoppers have. Although he completed just 1 of 9 passes for seven yards last year, he has responded when called upon in the past.

As a redshirt freshman in 1985, Armstrong completed 28 of 59 passes for 327 yards and two touchdowns, including a 192-yard effort against Appalachian State and a 12-of-19 performance for 122 yards in a relief role against Middle Tennessee. For his career, the 6-foot, 195-pound Armstrong is 41 of 85 for 455 yards and three TDs with five interceptions.

"Most of the time when I played in the past the game would be decided one way or another," Armstrong said. "I don't feel any pressure. I'm kind of a loose guy, and I'm going to do what I have to do. I don't feel like I have to prove myself to anybody. We're going to find out Saturday night how things are going to work out. I feel confident going into this game. Pressure is something you put on yourself."

Roberts has been impressed with Armstrong's strong arm and the way he carries himself. He is hoping that Armstrong's leadership and tenacity will help Western win enough games to return to the NCAA Division I-AA playoffs.

Armstrong has no doubts about this Western team.

"We went 7-4 last year, and I think we are going to be a more exciting team this year," he said. "We move the ball good and we have one of the top defenses... We have some great athletes on defense. Our secondary is one of the quickest secondaries I've ever seen. I think we are going to open the eyes of a lot of people."

Western has a strong running game that includes tailback Joe Arnold and fullback Pedro Bacon and good depth at wide receiver.

"I feel confident in the people we have on offense and defense," Armstrong said. "I feel we are going to move the ball. We have a great offensive line coming back and some great running backs. There's a lot of talent at the receiver positions. I'm surrounded by good people. That will definitely help out. I have confidence in what I'm doing. I think everything will work out."

Since practice began, Armstrong has been dreaming of what it is going to be like playing instead of sitting.

"I'll be walking to class and I'll picture myself throwing a touchdown pass or running the ball in," he said. "A lot of people may think I'm a little bit cocky, but I'm just confident in what I can do. I just have high expectations. I picture good things happening. The main thing with me is winning. I guess I'm an overachiever."

But first things first, and Morehead, which played 10th-ranked Marshall tough before dropping a 30-17 decision, won't be a pushover. The Eagles didn't appear to be the same club that stumbled to a 2-8 record last season.

"Everybody likes playing state rivals," Armstrong said. "We want that state championship. We play Eastern, Morehead and Louisville, but right now we're just taking one game at a time. Morehead State is all we are thinking about."

Getting a chance to play tomorrow will make up for all the weeks of disappointment for Armstrong. It also has proved to him that good things do come to those who wait.

"I thought about leaving several times," Armstrong said. "I can remember calling home my freshman year and calling home. My mother told me to hang in there. They (parents) told me I would get my chance if I stayed. I'm sorry I had to wait so long, but I'm glad I stayed."
Hilltoppers will face passing team

By MARK C. MATHIS
Daily News Sports Editor

David Armstrong isn't nervous about starting his first game at quarterback. Ron Burroughs isn't worried about the secondary getting burned. But those two men may play the biggest parts in Western Kentucky University's season-opening football game Saturday at Morehead.

Armstrong, a fifth-year senior from Brentwood, Tenn., gets his first collegiate start after watching Jeff Cesarone the last four years break every record in the book.

"I don't feel nervous. I'm just anxious to play. I'm the type that stays loose. I don't seclude myself in a closet before a game," Armstrong said Thursday. "It's been four years since I started a football game. I guess the feeling will come back."

"There's not as much pressure on David as there was on Jeff four years ago," Western coach Dave Roberts said. "David's waited in the wings so long that we're all excited for him."

The feeling of being the leader is totally new to Burroughs, a senior cornerback from Owensboro. Burroughs will take charge of a green secondary that Morehead coach Bill Baldridge has already said he will test.

"Each game this season teams are going to say we're inexperienced, and they're going to put the secondary to the test," Burroughs said. "But we want them to put the ball in the air. We're looking forward to it."

Quarterback Chris Swartz is certain to oblige Burroughs and his mates — safeties Jonathan Watts and Vincel Anthony, and fellow cornerback Riley Ware.

Where is it?

DARWIN HARRIS tries to make a catch during Thursday's Western Kentucky University football practice. The Hilltoppers open the season Saturday night at Morehead.
Eagles will take to the air

For Western to move the ball, Armstrong must come out sharp on Western's short routes, and Joe Arnold must get his running legs early.

Morehead sacked Marshall's quarterback five times last week.

"They're a totally different team," Roberts said of the Eagles. "They're a lot more physical on defense. Their quarterback reminds me of Jeff, except he's a lot more mobile. We know how good Marshall is, and Morehead had two opportunities to win the game."

Morehead was up 10-3, and could've gone up 17-3 had it not been for a Swartz interception.

Topper notes

Funny what an opening game can do for the injury situation.

Defensive end Xavier Jordan (high blood pressure), linebacker Mike Carberry (shoulder), linebacker Calvin Edwards (stomach), wide receiver Cedric Jones (stomach) and running back Tony Brown (knee) will all be ready to play on Saturday.

And, offensive tackle Dean Tiebout has been cleared by the National Collegiate Athletic Association to play this season.

Tiebout left Iowa his freshman year after severe asthma problems and sat out of school for a year. He transferred to Western after that. He had gone past the five-years-to-play-four requirement and had to appeal to the NCAA to play four seasons in six years.

Continued From Page 1-B

The 6-foot-3 sophomore threw for 236 yards on 22 of 40 passing with three interceptions in last week's 30-17 season-opening loss to Marshall, the No. 10 team in the Division I-AA preseason poll. Western is ranked No. 17 in that same poll.

"He did that in a downpour," Baldridge said. "If it had been dry, he would've had a super day."

Wide receiver Ty Howard had a super day, catching 10 passes for 134 yards to get Ohio Valley Conference Player of the Week honors.

Swartz and Howard could be set for another big one if Western's secondary doesn't grow up quick.

"If I'm Morehead's quarterback, I've got to be licking my chops," Roberts said. "He could sit back there and pick us apart. We've told the defense to be patient, because Morehead is going to move the ball."
WKU needs to start quickly

It's too bad Western Kentucky University has to play an opening game. It would be better if the Hilltopper football team could just start with a second game of the season.

Maybe between now and Saturday evening, when Western opens its season at Morehead, the team can be hypnotized into thinking it's already played a game.

Let's see, under Coach Dave Roberts Western is 2-2 in opening games. Western has played good teams (Tennessee State) and won, fair teams (Appalachian State) and lost, and poor teams (Gardner-Webb) and won and lost, or, more precisely, been embarrassed.

That's what happened last season when that little ol' accounting firm Gardner-Webb upset the Hilltoppers 28-24 at Smith Stadium on a last-minute pass play.

Roberts has been doing his best to avoid the Garder-Webb Syndrome this year. He has lectured his team on being more intense, on how it's not very good yet, on how if it doesn't get things together, it will be blistered by the Eagles from eastern Kentucky.

But, employing Coaching Psychology 101, Roberts hasn't mentioned to the team the fact that Western folded in its opening game last season, and how a slow start this time might be disastrous.

"We've tried to avoid talking about that," Roberts said earlier this week. "We haven't mentioned Gardner-Webb at all. We just want to be prepared mentally and physically for Morehead."

Hey, coach, the players aren't around right now. Tell us how you really feel about the situation.

"Last year we knew what Gardner-Webb had, and we told the players what they had. But I don't guess they believed us very much," Roberts said.

They seem to be taking heed this year. For one thing, Western is ready to play a game. The Hilltoppers are practiced out. For another thing, they aren't overlooking Morehead as they might an NAIA school like Gardner-Webb. They know who Morehead is from a 30-17 loss to Division I-AA runnerup Marshall last week. Morehead could've won the game if it hadn't made a couple of crucial mistakes.

"The coaches have been putting a little fear into us," said Dan Watterson, Western's starting center. "We took Gardner-Webb too lightly. Morehead had a good showing last week. We're definitely not taking them lightly. The guys are really itching to play a game."

One of Roberts' tongue lashings following the final scrimmage last week got David Armstrong in the right frame of mind for his first start ever at quarterback.

"We're improving, but we're still making too many mistakes," Armstrong said.

"We need to be perfect for Morehead. We opened the last two seasons kind of nonchalant. We can't get all uptight thinking about last year. We need to have a bit of looseness, but we need to concentrate. We've opened with weaker teams thinking we're going to win. Now we've got to go into every week expecting a battle."

It seems as though Western is more ready to battle this year than any of Roberts' previous four.
Senior tailback Joe Arnold, one of eight running backs to carry the ball for Western, rushed 17 times for 95 yards. Junior Tony Brown, showing no signs of an injured knee that has sidelined him for most of the pre-season, added 66 yards on seven carries.

Western finished with 371 yards in offense, including 284 rushing.

The Western defense was spearheaded by end Xavier Jordan, who had three tackles for losses, tackle Chandler Wallace (nine tackles) and a hard hitting secondary. Western forced three turnovers and limited Morehead to only 48 yards rushing.

It was a hard hit from the blind side by the 6-2, 240-pound Jordan that forced Morehead starting quarterback Chris Swartz to leave the game in the second period with a mild concussion. Swartz, who completed just 5 of 14 passes for 63 yards, was replaced by senior Lance Jansen. Jansen completed 19 of 30 for 179 yards.

Senior safety Vince Anthony set up the Hilltoppers' first score when he intercepted a Swartz pass and returned it 35 yards. A personal foul against the Eagles tacked on 15 more yards and gave Western a first down on the Morehead 15.

Four plays later, sophomore tailback Don Smith burst through the right side to give the Toppers a 7-0 lead with 2:54 left in the opening stanza.

Western got on the board again in the second quarter following another Morehead turnover. Bacon cracked over from Paducah, scored twice on one-yard runs, and Maher kicked field goals of 40 and 42 yards as Western dominated play throughout.

Fifth-year senior David Armstrong, facing a chance to start after backing up record-setting Jeff Cesario at quarterback, ran the Toppers offense to near perfection. Armstrong scored one touchdown on a one-yard run and set up another with a 24-yard scramble. He completed 10 of 19 passes for 97 yards.

"It was easy for me," said the 6-foot, 195-pound Armstrong. "All I did was sit back there and hand off to the backs. It was an easy game plan. I think we just outmaneuvered them. The offensive line did a super job."
By MARK C. MATHIS
Daily News Sports Editor
MOREHEAD, Ky. — Anybody wondering if Western Kentucky University would have its typical opening game shouldn't have been concerned.

Western lost its opener last year to Gardner-Webb, a top-ranked, but obviously weaker, NAIA team.

There was no such foolishness this year.

With the offensive line working over Morehead's smaller defense and taking advantage of two early Eagle turnovers, Western built a 21-0 halftime lead and cruised to a 34-0 bashing Saturday night in front of 6,500 fans at Jayne Stadium.

"We weren't sure how David (Armstrong) or the secondary were going to do," Western coach Dave Roberts said. "We played with our legs tonight. We were fresh. Maybe in the past, the first game we played tired. I thought it would go down to a touchdown, but it kind of got overwhelming."

Despite setting a school record for penalties (15) worth 160 yards, Western dominated this opening game as it has no other in Roberts' five-year tenure.

The Hilltoppers ran behind either Rob Weinle and Dewayne Western on the left side, or Chuck Hughes and Dean Tiebout on the right with equal effectiveness.

"We like to play physical. I thought they would come a little harder, but they were tentative, like they were trying to read what we were doing," said Tiebout, a senior tackle whose eligibility was in doubt as late as Thursday because he was trying to get a waiver from the National Collegiate Athletic Association to play four years in six because of an illness his freshman season at Iowa.

"We've got a big-time offensive line," said Penn, a senior guard.

Big-time enough for Western to rush for 276 yards of its 371 yards in total offense.

And Western's defense was vicious, knocking out starting quarterback Chris Swartz early in the second quarter on a blindside hit by end Xavier Jordan, who had two sacks in the first half. Jordan had only been practicing this past week after suffering from high blood pressure for much of the preseason.

Chandler Wallace, a converted offensive lineman, had three tackles for losses. Western totaled 12 tackles in Morehead's offensive backfield.

The shutout was preserved when Steve Tow had the last of three field-goal tries batted away with no time left on the clock. He had kicked a field goal just before the final play that was nullified because of a penalty.

"We thought we could be dominant," Jordan said of the defense that allowed Morehead 290 yards. "We wanted to put pressure on their quarterback to keep the pressure off our defense.

Penn on the left side, or Chuck Hughes and Dean Tiebout on the right with equal effectiveness.

"We like to play physical. I thought they would come a little harder, but they were tentative, like they were trying to read what we were doing," said Tiebout, a senior tackle whose eligibility was in doubt as late as Thursday because he was trying to get a waiver from the National Collegiate Athletic Association to play four years in six because of an illness his freshman season at Iowa.

"We've got a big-time offensive line," said Penn, a senior guard.

Big-time enough for Western to rush for 276 yards of its 371 yards in total offense.

And Western's defense was vicious, knocking out starting quarterback Chris Swartz early in the second quarter on a blindside hit by end Xavier Jordan, who had two sacks in the first half. Jordan had only been practicing this past week after suffering from high blood pressure for much of the preseason.

Chandler Wallace, a converted offensive lineman, had three tackles for losses. Western totaled 12 tackles in Morehead's offensive backfield.

The shutout was preserved when Steve Tow had the last of three field-goal tries batted away with no time left on the clock. He had kicked a field goal just before the final play that was nullified because of a penalty.

"We thought we could be dominant," Jordan said of the defense that allowed Morehead 290 yards. "We wanted to put pressure on their quarterback to keep the pressure off our defense.

Continued On Page 17
Column 1, This Section

WESTERN'S XAVIER Jordan hits Morehead 34-0 win! State quarterback Chris Swartz during Western's
WESTERN'S XAVIER Jordan hits Morehead State quarterback Chris Swartz during Western's 34-0 win Saturday night at Morehead.

Continued On Page 17

Staff Photo by Kevin Eans
Western

Continued From Page 12-A

Armstrong, the senior quarterback who said he was never nervous coming into his first career start, performed calmly in completing 10 of 19 passes with no interceptions for 97 yards.

"The offensive line made my job easy," Armstrong said. "All I had to do was hand off and make a few checks. I wasn't surprised at the offensive line. We expected to come out and move the ball up and down the field."

A Vincel Anthony interception of Swartz and a 15-yard penalty on the return gave the Hilltoppers possession on Morehead's 15. Four plays later, with 2:54 left in the first quarter, Donald Smith scored his first collegiate touchdown to put Western up 7-0 with Dan Maher's extra point.

Maher added three more extra points and field goals from 42 and 40 yards. The senior kicker has converted 23 straight extra points.

Pedro Bacon scored early in the second quarter from the 1, three plays after Allen Reitcheck recovered a Rodney Gordon fumble. David Armstrong set up the touchdown on the previous play with a 25-yard scamper. Bacon closed the scoring with another 1-yard run early in the final period.

A 4:02 drive was capped off with 3:39 to go in the first half by Armstrong bootlegging in the third touchdown of the half on a fourth-and-1 play.

The rout could've been on even sooner had Western scored on its second possession of the game. Getting to the 1 but failing on two straight plays. Joe Arnold, who gained 93 yards on 17 carries, was stuffed by linebacker Doug Bowell.

"We knew they would run the ball on us, and we couldn't get into a butting contest, but that's what we did," Morehead coach Bill Baldridge said.

In this opening game, Western wasn't going to get butted out of a victory.
Size guys clear way for Western's offense

By BRUCE W. BRANCH
Staff Writer

BOWLING GREEN, Ky. — When they run onto the football field, the stadium fills. When they run through the chow line, cooks hide and cows run for the nearest pasture. And when they get down to business in the trenches — the line of scrimmage — opposing players sometimes tremble and wilt under the pressure.

"Intimidation is the name of the game," said DeWayne Penn, a senior offensive guard for Western Kentucky University. "We love to manhandle people."

Meet the Western Kentucky offensive line, largest in school history and one of the largest in NCAA Division I-AA. The top six players, including Penn (6 feet 2, 290 pounds) and utility man Bob Hodge (6-4, 300), average 6-4, 279 pounds.

Junior center Dan Watterson is 6-5, 260. Penn's running mate at guard is junior Chuck Hughes (6-5, 260). The tackles are seniors Rob Weinle (6-5, 275) and Dean Tiebout (6-4, 290). Waiting in the wings are freshman Kent Carter (6-6, 270), sophomore Phillip Pryor (6-3, 270) and junior Rodney Dolgener (6-3, 260).

"We've always tried to bring in big offensive linemen because we like to throw the football," Western coach Dave Roberts said.

They are big men with big...
Size guys clear the way for Western Kentucky's offense

Continued from Page D1

dreams, and perhaps within their massive bodies lies the success or failure of the Hilltoppers, ranked 17th in Division I-AA.

Western opened its season Saturday by rolling over Morehead State 34-0. The big men up front kept the pressure off quarterback David Armstrong and allowed the Hilltoppers to rack up 371 yards on offense, including 284 rushing.

"We played well, but we have some improving to do," Penn said. "We have to cut out some mental mistakes to keep winning. Physically, Morehead just couldn't take it. It wasn't anything fancy. It was just body against body. The offensive line is very physical. That's the way we are coached to play."

Roberts expects more of the same when Western travels to No. 15 Middle Tennessee (1-1) Saturday. Middle, which has allowed only 21 points, was upset 28-16 by Western in Bowling Green last year, but the Toppers haven't won in Murfreesboro since 1969.

"Middle was extremely quick last year but not necessarily that big," Roberts said. "Now they are big, and they haven't lost any quickness. Nobody has driven the ball on them and scored yet this season. This will be a good test for us."

The Western offensive line has been three years in the making, and Roberts admits that during preseason workouts and spring practice he sometimes thought they weren't going to make it.

"There was always somebody hurt, and we didn't look very good playing," he said. "We were never able to get them all together, but Lonnie Hansen is a heck of an offensive line coach."

Penn, who swears he once ran 40 yards in 4.88 seconds and is willing to bet a steak or two that he can cover the distance in 5.2 or less now, is playing his first season since transferring from Purdue, where he played two seasons. Tiebout is a bona fide All-America candidate. He is starting for the second season after transferring from Iowa. Hodge came to the team from Notre Dame.

"Size-wise and talent-wise we are real close to a Big Ten line," Penn said.

Weinle weighed only 228 pounds when he came to the Hilltoppers. Hughes, who is from Hopkinsville, weighed 225. He and Watterson of Elizabethtown, virtually were ignored by other state colleges.

"Those guys hit the weights and worked themselves into becoming good football players," Roberts said.

Roberts said he doesn't mind that his training-table bill has escalated during the past three seasons.

"They definitely can put it away," he joked. "Their mammas are glad they are in college."

Penn said their forays to nearby restaurants have created a sense of unity among the interior linemen.

"We love going out to eat. We're not fat. All of us can move."

And he doubts that many move better.

"I don't know too many teams that can stay with us for 60 minutes if we play the way we are supposed to play," he said.

Weinle calls this year's offensive line "the best I've ever been on."

"Everybody on this line has experience," he said. "We're not a flashy group, but we just try to go out there and play like an unit and get the job done."
Two Western Kentucky University students were arrested Monday after allegedly assaulting another student last week, Western Kentucky University Police said.

Charles Robert Hughes III, 21, of Hopkinsville and Douglas Lee Hughes, 19, of Lexington were arrested on the Western campus about 1:30 p.m., police said. Both were lodged in the Warren County Regional Jail on a $5,000 cash bond.

The charges stem from an incident about 10:30 p.m. Thursday in a Western parking lot in which Frederick Clark Towery, age unavailable, was assaulted, police said. Towery, also a resident of Keen Hall, was treated at the Medical Center and released.

Charles Hughes was charged with second-degree assault and Douglas Hughes was charged with complicity to commit second-degree assault, police said. Both are residents of Keen Hall.

WKU football players charged with assault

The South-Central Kentucky Bureau

BOWLING GREEN, Ky. — Two Western Kentucky University football players have been indicted by a Warren County grand jury on assault charges.

Charles Robert Hughes III, 21, of Hopkinsville, and Douglas Lee Hughes, 19, of Lexington, were indicted Monday. Charles Hughes, a junior offensive tackle, is charged with assault. Douglas Hughes, a freshman offensive guard, is charged with assault by complicity. Pleas of not guilty were entered for both at an arraignment Tuesday at which a public defender was appointed to defend them. Each was released on a $1,000 bond.

The Hugheses are charged in an assault last Thursday night on Frederick Clark Towery, who said he lost several teeth.

Towery reported an altercation with three persons in a campus parking lot, according to a WKU police report. Towery was treated for cuts on his left hand and inside his mouth and the loss of a permanent dental plate, the report says.
MIDDLE TENNESSEE'S Wade Johnson (38) is met by Western defenders Mike Dubose (49) and Mike Carberry (18) Saturday night at Murfreesboro, Tenn. MTSU won the contest 13-10.

Collier also had his best outing this year, completing 7 of 10 passes for 111 yards and no interceptions. His running also kept Western from putting much of a rush on as it did against Morehead.

"He's a good athlete," Western end Xavier Jordan said. "We were trying not to let him break containment. We were prepared, they just executed well."

Armstrong, a senior from nearby Brentwood, Tenn., didn't execute so well, completing 13 of 29 for 102 yards with the two interceptions.

"I take the fault for this one," Armstrong said. "I should've checked out a couple of times. The offensive line played well, and the defense played great. If the quarterback had played better, we would've won."

That's not necessarily true, though, because when the Hilltoppers got within sniffing distance of the goal line, Middle toughened up.

When Western got down to the making the Hilltoppers settle for a 29-yard Dan Maher field goal with 7:07 to go in the first quarter.

Middle came back on the ensuing possession and went up 7-3 on a 1-yard dive by Johnson with 2:15 to play in the first quarter.

Joe Lisle hit the extra point, but missed 50- and 40-yard field goal tries in the second quarter, the latter coming as time was running out in the half.

Maher missed a 31-yarder with 11:14 to play in the half.

Down 7-3, Kelvin Nedd retured the second-half opening kickoff 69 yards to the Middle 30. It became a wasted effort when Armstrong missed on two passes and the Hilltoppers had to punt.

A holding penalty nullified a 50-yard Collier-to-Vince Parks pass play deep into Hilltopper territory and stopped a Middle drive at the end of the third quarter.

Western got right back in the game at that point driving 50 yards in eight plays before Armstrong hit Arnold on a 7-yard pass to put the Hilltoppers up 13-7 with 1:51 left in the quarter.

Again Thomas was the guy making the play after third-and-20 Armstrong pass, ending the Hilltoppers' last threat.

"It's amazing for Thomas to do that. He's had a bad back and a broken thumb," Middle coach Don Collier said after his team went to 2-1.

The Hilltoppers were victimized by Johnson, a 5-10, 195-pound sophomore, who scored both Raider touchdowns on a pair of 1-yard dives to go with his 76 yards on 14 carries.

The second score came with 3:40 left in the third quarter, and put Middle up 13-3. The extra point was blocked, but Ron Burroughs could advance the ball only 20 yards before being tackled.

Middle's win lessened the impact of the Blue Raiders' second consecutive loss. MTSU, at 7-0, is alone atop the Sun Belt Conference.

The offense played well, rushing for 273 yards and no interceptions. The defense played great. If the quarterback had played better, we would've won."

The offensive line played well, and the defense played great. If the quarterback had played better, we would've won."

When Western got down to the
in 13-10 victory

By MARK C. MATHIS
Daily News Sports Editor
MURFREESBORO, Tenn. —
Western Kentucky University was
picking up just where it left off
last week against Morehead.

The Hilltoppers drove the foot-
ball right at Middle Tennessee. 
Western's offensive line was
moving the Blue Raiders out
along the line of scrimmage, with
Joe Arnold was pounding out
yardage behind them.

But the funny thing was, Mid-
deed was doing the same thing.

The Blue Raiders were working
cover Western's defense on the
ground with punishing runs by
fullback Wade Johnson, and
quarterback Marvin Collier was,
as usual, keeping everybody
picking up just where it left off
ball right at Middle Tennessee.

As this Saturday evening wore
on it was apparent this wasn't
Morehead.

And the results weren't the
same as in Western's season
opener, either, as it lost 13-10 in
front of 10,500 fans at Floyd
Stadium.

"We had some opportunities,
and they stopped the opportu-
"nities," Coach Dave Roberts
said after Western fell to 1-1.

The biggest stopped oppor-
tunities were interceptions by
Middle linebacker Don Thomas.

The first interception of
Western quarterback David
Armstrong came in the second
quarter when a bad punt gave
the Hilltoppers the ball at the
Middle 24. Western was at the 18 three
plays later when Armstrong
threw into traffic, right to
Thomas.

The second opportunity stop-
came with 3:09 left in the game
and Western driving for the
potential winning touchdown.

Again Thomas was the guy
making the play after end Marty
Evans ticked a third-and-20
Armstrong pass, ending the
Hilltoppers' last threat.

"It's amazing for Thomas to
do that. He's had a bad back and
a broken thumb," Middle coach
Boots Donnelly said after his
team went to 2-1.

The Hilltoppers were victimized
by Johnson, a 5-10, 195-pound
sophomore, who scored both
Raiders touchdowns on a pair of
1-yard dives to go with his 76
yards on 14 carries.

The second score came with
3:40 left in the third quarter, and
put Middle up 13-3. The extra
point was blocked, but Ron Bur-
roughs could advance the ball on-
ly 20 yards before being tackled.

Middle's win lessoned the im-
 pact of Arnold's game-high 139
yards on 27 carries, the third-best
performance of his career.

Collier also had his best outing
this year, completing 7 of 10
passes for 101 yards and no in-
terceptions. His running also kept
Western from putting as much of
a rush on as it did against
Morehead.

"He's a good athlete," Western end Xavier Jordan said.

"We were trying not to let him break containment. We were
prepared, they just executed well."

Armstrong, a senior from near-
by Brentwood, Tenn., didn't ex-
cute so well, completing 13 of 29
for 102 yards with the two in-
terceptions.

"I take the fault for this one," Armstrong said. "I should've
checked out a couple of times. The offensive line played well,
and the defense played great. If the quarterback had played
better, we would've won."

That's not necessarily true,
though, because when the
Hilltoppers got within sniffing
distance of the goal line, Middle
made the Hilltoppers settle for
making the Hilltoppers settle for
a 23-yard Dan Maher field goal
with 7:07 to go in the first
quarter.

Middle came back on the ensu-
ing possession and went up 7-3
on a 1-yard dive by Johnson
with 2:15 to play in the first quarter.

Joe Lisle hit the extra point,
but missed 50- and 40-yard field
goal tries in the second quarter,
the latter coming as time was
running out in the half.

Maher missed a 31-yarder with
11:14 to play in the half.

Down 7-3, Kelvin Nedel retur-
red the second-half opening kickoff 69
yards to the Middle 30. It became
a wasted effort when Armstrong
missed on two passes and the
Hilltoppers had to punt.

A holding penalty nullified a
50-yard Collier-to-Vince Parks
pass play deep into Hilltopper
territory and stopped a Middle
drive at the end of the third
quarter.

Western got right back in the
game at that point driving 50
yards in eight plays before Arm-
strong hit Arnold on a semi-fade
route from the 7. Maher's extra
point made it 13-10.
Chandler Wallace was happy to
be back on defense. Xavier Jordan
was just happy to be back.

Wallace and Jordan stood out
the most for Western Kentucky
University's defense in its 34-0
whitewash at Morehead last
week. That's kind of surprising,
not because of a lack of ability
but because of a lack of time at
their respective positions coming
into the season.

Wallace did plenty of defensive
work at Fort Pierce (Fla.) Central,
but when he came to Western, he
was put on the defensive line as a
redshirt freshman. He was moved
back to defensive tackle this season.
Western's coaches are glad they
made the switch.

Jordan returned at defensive
end as the leading sack man for
Western, noting seven
quarterback putdowns for 69 yards
in losses last season. But the junior
from Atlanta was facing a bigger
crisis than any offensive lineman
could give him coming into the
year.

An initial preseason checkup revealed that Jordan had an
enlarged left heart ventricle.

"Oh yeah, I was pretty scared.
It's like you're 21 years old, and
to have someone lay that on
you..." said Jordan, a 6-foot-2,
240-pounder whose wide smile is
uncharacteristic of the terror he
put in opposing quarterbacks
hearts. "I had an EKG (electrocardiogram) and that said my
left ventricle was enlarged. So I
got to a cardiologist. He put me
on treadmill and did some other
tests, and said I was all right to
play."

Yet, Jordan didn't get back in
to practice until the Monday
before Morehead. He had lost
weight, but evidently not any
stamina or strength, as he
recorded four tackles, two for
losses of 13 yards and a quarter-
back sack.

Jordan's rapid recovery put
Morehead quarterback Chris
Swartz in the hospital. A blind-
side hit by Jordan knocked
Swartz out of the game with a
concussion and a sprained neck.

"He couldn't even see the
scoreboard," Morehead coach
Bill Baldridge said of his
quarterback Saturday night.

They don't call Jordan the "X
Man" for nothing.

"Reckless abandon," is what
Denny Caple calls it. Caple was
starting nose guard for Western
until a knee injury ended his
career in the middle of last season.

"When he wants to play,
there's nobody who can stop him
one on one," Caple said.

Wallace, a 6-3, 270-pound soph-
omore, wasn't especially happy
on the offensive line, even though
he saw a lot of time there.

"I'm not a better blocker than
I am a defensive player," Wallace
said. "I would just
rather play defense."

To show how much he'd rather
play it, Wallace went out and got
two sacks in the Morehead
game.

Now that the offensive line has
more strength than it can handle,
Western's defense is reaping the
benefits of having Wallace on its
side.

"We knew when we recruited
him he could be good," said
David Huxtable, Western's defen-
sive line coach. "Our only con-
cern was how disciplined
Chandler would be, how his at-
titude would be with him moving
back and forth. It's really impor-
tant to be able to trust them on
the field on Saturday night."

The discipline and trust will be
very important Saturday when
Western travels to Middle Ten-
nessee. Marvin Collier is a more
versatile quarterback that was
Swartz. He will be more mobile,
and with dependable running
backs, Middle won't throw nearly
as much as Morehead.

That's fine with Wallace, who
is pleased to be running at people
again, instead of having them run
at him.

"When I came in as a
freshman, I wanted to play
defense," Wallace said. "I'm
real happy now."

That could make opposing
defenses real sad.
Western's bionic offensive line has Raiders worried

By MARK C. MATHIS
Daily News Sports Editor

The incoming freshmen are in the 6-foot-5 and 230-pound range. They're tall and skinny, but we can rebuild them, make them stronger, bigger, better than they were before.

Now, three years later, they are 6-5 and 280 pounds. We busted a training table on them, we had them lift thousands of pounds of weights.

They are...the Six Million Dollar Offensive Line.

It's hard to ever imagine Rob Weinle (6-5, 285) or Dan Watterson (6-5, 260) as ever being skinny, but when they came to Western Kentucky University they were. Oh, they were tall enough, but they didn't have the bulk needed in college to protect quarterbacks or open holes for running backs to sprint through.

"I was a late bloomer," said Weinle, a senior tackle. "I gained 15 pounds between my senior year in high school and my freshman year in college. I came in weighing 230, put on another 20 my freshman year, then 10 pounds a year after that. It wasn't hard to adjust, because I didn't put it all on at once."

Watterson came in weighing 240, and the junior center has put on 10 a year to reach his playing weight at center.

Weights, weights, weights — and plenty of chow, too.

Guys like guard Dewayne Penn (6-2, 290), Dean Tlebout (6-4, 290) and Bob Hodge (6-4, 300) were big in high school, that's why they went to Purdue, Iowa and Notre Dame, respectively, before transferring to Western.

"We've always tried to recruit guys who were big and would grow," Western coach Dave Roberts said. "We're not going to get the guys who were 6-5, 270 in high school, because they're going to go to Tennessee or Ken-

Continued On Page 4
Column 3, This Section
Western

Continued From Page 1-B

Indianapolis: Western's offensive line got rave reviews in last week's 34-0 season-opening win at Morehead. The Hilltoppers blasted holes through and rolled over the smaller Eagles to the tune of 264 rushing yards. Western's line was knocking Morehead's defense eight yards off the line of scrimmage at times.

That has Middle Tennessee coach Boots Donnelly shaking in, well, his boots as Western prepares for a 7:30 visit to Murfreesboro on Saturday night.

"Their size is a major concern," Donnelly said. "They're extremely big, maybe as big as I've seen in a long time. When you've got guys 300 pounds getting out on the corner on the sweep, something has got to be wrong. Those guys are bionic."

No, just big, strong and quick.

"Bob (Hodge) lost over 20 pounds last summer. Everybody was trying to be over 270, but still able to run," Weinle said. "It's better to be able to run and be big, rather than just be excessively big."

Excessive or not, Western's offensive line will get a more challenging test this week against a Blue Raider defense that hasn't allowed a drive over 24 yards in working to a 1-1 record.

Donnelly complains about his defensive line being small, but it matches up to Western's defensive front, which averages around 250 pounds.

Tackle Brent Shepard is small at 228 pounds, but the rest of the Blue Raider interior is solid.

"Their defense has never been huge, but they're more physical looking and physical playing," Roberts said.

Western's defense was quite physical in limiting pass-oriented Morehead to 48 yards on the ground, but it might face a stiffer challenge from a Middle attack led by senior quarterback Marvin Collier.

Collier has been great in the past, but he's gotten off to a slow start this year, completing only 26.3 percent of his passes and rushing for only 63 yards.

"He's had two very subpar games for Marvin Collier," Donnelly said. "But we've got such a young offensive team that he's had difficulty in having confidence in everyone around him."

Middle didn't have anyone break 40 yards rushing in last week's 14-10 loss at Northern Illinois, but the defense kept the Blue Raiders in the game.

"We have to contain Collier, but the key is to be patient on offense," Roberts said. "It's going to come down to their defense versus our offense."

Then a bionic line will come in handy.
what big win means

fifth year.

But, what does it mean?

"We played extremely hard and aggressive," Roberts said Sunday night. "Sometimes we were overzealous, with all the penalties. That's about as many penalties as I've ever been associated with.'"

The Hilltoppers and Eagles were whistled for a combined 256 yards in penalties, with Western taking the worst of that with 15 for 160 yards. And Western still won by 34 points.

Roberts, however, is still puzzled. He was surprised at how easily Morehead was overcome, especially considering how the Eagles led Marshall, then the No. 10-ranked team in Division I-AA, early, only to fall 30-17.

He's not sure now if Morehead is really real, or if his team is really that good.

Morehead coach Bill Baldridge offered some possible answers as the fog drifted in Saturday night:

"The offense was simply stifling when it came to scoring. The Hilltoppers allowed 290 yards in total offense — backup quarterback Lance Jansen getting most of that on 19 of 30 passing for 179 yards after starter Chris Swartz was knocked out of the game with a concussion — but keeping the Eagles in their own territory until late in the game, when the only thing left to tally was the final.

Yes, Western looked better than ever in the opener of Roberts' fifth year.

"We've played two nationally ranked teams (Western was No. 17). Marshall played well, but we still haven't recovered from that game. We had some people injured, Western and Marshall would be a good matchup. They're both big, and their running games are a lot alike."

Western punched up 264 yards over Jayne Stadium.

Continued On Page 10

Column 1, This Section
Eastern and Western face tough road tests

By BRUCE W. BRANCH
Staff Writer

Eastern Kentucky coach Roy Kidd said he didn't know what to expect when his young club opened its football season last week against Delaware State. What the veteran coach got was a resounding 48-7 triumph.

Kidd says his fourth-ranked Colonels will need a similar effort when they travel to Marshall (2-0) tonight for a non-conference game at 7 p.m. EDT.

Marshall, ranked 10th in NCAA Division I-AA, opened with wins over Morehead State (39-17) and Ohio University (31-14).

Last season Eastern fell behind Marshall 34-17 before rallying in the fourth quarter to win 37-34.

Marshall finished 10-5 last year and made it to the I-AA final. With 87 lettermen back, Marshall appears primed for another run at the title.

The Thundering Herd is averaging 30.5 points and 410 yards a game. Quarterback John Gregory has completed 33 of 68 passes for 441 yards and two touchdowns. Running back Ron Darby leads the ground game with 215 yards and four TDs.

"Darby is a fine back and they have good receivers," Kidd said. "Getting

Continued from Page B-1

in the playoffs and going as far as they did last year has really given their kids confidence."

Eastern again will rely on a ball-control offense, and hopes its defense can control Marshall's offense, Kidd said.

Western Kentucky-Middle Tennessee: Western has not won at Middle since 1969, and the Hilltoppers' chore won't be easy tonight when the two square off at 8:30 (EDT).

Defense-minded Middle is 1-1 after beating Tennessee State in its opener 14-7 and losing to Northern Illinois 14-10. Western opened its season with a convincing 34-0 triumph over Morehead State.

"Middle has one of the most awe-some defensive units in I-AA football," said Hilltoppers coach Dave Roberts. "They are good, quick and experienced ... This should be one of our stiffest tests of the season."

Morhead State-Kentucky State: Both teams will be trying for their first victory after two losses.

Kickoff time is 7 p.m. at Alumni Stadium in Frankfort.

Morehead will try to get its running game untracked, and quarterback Chris Swartz should return after missing most of last week's game with a concussion.

"We have to play sound football," said Morehead coach Bill Baldridge. "Defensively, we have to stop them. They are a big-play team."

Kentucky State coach William Head thinks his club will be competitive despite a 37-0 loss last year. "It ought to be a good one," he said. "We have to go out and play well all the way through."

Murray State-Southern Illinois: Murray coach Mike Mahoney said a victory today is critical.

The Racers are off to a disappointing start after losses to Tennessee-Martin (32-24) and Southeast Missouri (16-13).

"We need a win to get some confidence," Mahoney said. "You don't want to go too many weeks without a win. The big improvement last week was we played hard against a better team, but we still came up short."

Southern Illinois lost 17-13 to Western Illinois.

Kickoff time is 2:30 p.m. at McAndrew Stadium in Carbondale.
Loss slams WKU back to earth

There's nothing like a little loss to slam a football team down to the ground after a week with its head in the clouds.

That happened to Western Kentucky University — especially quarterback David Armstrong — following last Saturday's 13-10 heartbreaker at Middle Tennessee.

"There's no doubt about that," Coach Dave Roberts said when asked if his team came back to earth following a fired-up week in the wake of a 34-0 smearing of Morehead in the season opener.

Western, ranked No. 17 in the Division I-AA coaches poll, tumbled out of that list, too, following the defeat at Murfreesboro. Middle Tennessee is No. 20 this week. Eastern Kentucky, the Hilltoppers' first home foe Saturday at Smith Stadium, is No. 8.

As the cliche goes, it doesn't get any easier.

It wouldn't have been easy for the Hilltoppers last week, but it could've been a win if they had made some plays offensively.

"We had some key opportunities, and we didn't execute," said Dewayne Penn, a guard on Western's offensive line that turned in its second straight powerful performance. "We were put in position, and we just didn't do it."

How true.

Western, which managed just 262 in total offense, but also held Middle to 265, got the ball on Middle's 24 midway through the second quarter following a 10-yard Chuck Daniel punt.

Three plays later, at the Middle 18, Armstrong was intercepted by Don Thompson, who returned the ball 47 yards. Western goes into the locker room at halftime down 7-3. It should've been up 10-7, or even 13-7, had Dan Maher hit his second field-goal try of the evening.

Kelvin Nedd returns the second-half kickoff 69 yards to the Middle 30. Western can't do anything with that fine effort, though, and punts the ball back to Middle.

Middle goes up 13-3 later in the third quarter, but that's OK, because Western puts a strong scoring drive together early in the fourth, and is down 13-10.

With a little more than six minutes to go in the game, Western is at its own 6 following a Daniel punt.

Five plays later, Western is moving the ball again, just as it has all night, and is at its 43. Joe Arnold, who had one of his best outings ever with 139 yards on 27 carries, loses five on a busted play. A delay of game penalty pushes Western into a second-and-20 situation.

Armstrong is back to pass, breaks out of the pocket, throws into traffic, the ball is tipped and intercepted, again by Thomas.

Roberts tried to be gentle Saturday night, laying the blame on himself and taking the pressure off his senior quarter-back, who was starting only his second game.

But Roberts and Armstrong both know what the problem was. "We got out of sync throwing the ball," Roberts said this morning. "It was what we'd been doing everyday in practice, but we didn't get it done on Saturday night. The offensive line isn't going to play any better. The defense played well, although they picked on Ron Burroughs. We misfired on some passes that we would've been very happy if we had completed."

Armstrong wasn't very happy at all after the game. He issued praise and thanks to the offense and defense, but took the blame mostly himself. Tightly so.

"We're a strong offensive team, and we can move the ball, but I made a few bad passes and some bad decisions," Armstrong said.

Will this be a learning experience?

"I don't want to have any learning experiences. I want to win," Armstrong said.

When you've been knocked out of the clouds, it's good to take a hard loss hard.
Anthony hopes Western's secondary will be primary in defeating Eastern

By BRUCE W. BRANCH
Staff Writer

BOWLING GREEN, Ky. -- Western Kentucky University free safety Vince Anthony understands a good rivalry.

He enjoyed one when he played football for Louisville's Male High against Manual. And for the past four years, the same has been true of the Hilltoppers' series with Eastern Kentucky.

So when the two schools square off Saturday night at L.T. Smith Stadium, Anthony is hoping revenge and pride will put his club over the top.

"It's a great rivalry," Anthony said. "By me coming from Male, I would have to compare it with our games with Manual. I want to win every one."

That has not been the case for Western recently.

Last year, Eastern beat the Toppers 20-10 during the regular season and 40-17 in the first round of the NCAA Division I-AA playoffs.

Both games were played in Richmond. Western beat Eastern 24-10 here in 1986.

Anthony

Although Eastern is ranked eighth, both teams have 1-1 records following tough losses last week. Western was beaten 13-10 at Middle Tennessee, while Eastern dropped a 34-32 decision to third-ranked Marshall.

"All of the guys that have returned have those losses (to Eastern) in the backs of their minds," said Anthony. "The home team always seems to have an edge, but there is always a first time for everything, so we want to go out there and play our butts off. We hope to come away with a victory."

Western has one of its best defensive units in recent years, particularly in the secondary, where Anthony joins cornerbacks Ron Burroughs and Riley Ware and strong safety Jonathan Watts to form a hard-hitting foursome that hasn't allowed a touchdown pass this season.

"We take pride in everything we do," Anthony said. "As a defensive backfield, we are like a little family, but our entire defense."

Anthony hoping for win

Continued from Page 11 9-22-88

Anthony has come 100 miles," Cassity said. "We have spent a lot of time working on his tackling. He has shown a lot of leadership in the secondary. In our system, our free safety must not only be physical, but he also must be intelligent. He has to make all of the checks for us."

Anthony says his emergence as a team leader has helped him toward the line.

"A lot of the guys look up to me," he said. "I want to play my best. I just want to do whatever it takes for the team to win, and if a team doesn't score, it can't win."

Cassity thinks Anthony has a shot at pro ball.

"It all depends on what happens the rest of the season," Cassity said. "He has nine more chances to prove himself."

Anthony has a philosophical view.

"If the opportunity is there I will give it a shot," he said. "I have everything in proper perspective. I've put God first and then me. If it's meant to be, it will be. No matter what happens, I have thoroughly enjoyed college. Nobody should miss out on an opportunity to go to college. If they do, they are selling themselves way short."

"The time has passed by very fast. Just like my mother said it would. Now I want to go out in style. Just one more victory over Eastern Kentucky."
Arnold gets big stats, but doesn’t worry over them

Some running backs are constantly concerned with their statistics.

"How many yards did I get, man?" they'll ask after every game.

Joe Arnold doesn’t look at stats.

He just runs.

And, once again, Arnold has run into the record books at Western Kentucky University.

With 193 yards on 27 carries last week at Middle Tennessee, Arnold became only the seventh Hilltopper ever to rush for over 2,000 yards in a career.

His total last week vaulted him into fifth place on the all-time list with 2,134 yards, Dickie Moore heads the list with 3,560 yards.

"No, I didn’t know that," Arnold said with a smile when informed of his feat.

The senior from Decatur, Ga., is off to his best start in his career with 239 yards in Western’s 1-1 season. His — and Western’s — biggest challenge yet this season comes up Saturday night when Eastern Kentucky comes to Smith Stadium for the annual War Within the State.

Arnold attributes his fast start to maximum conditioning — he has 195 more-muscular pounds spread across his 5-foot-11 frame — more footspeed from twice-a-day running sessions during the summer and an offensive line that could’ve blocked back the Red Sea for Moses.

"Definitely, the offensive line has something to do with it," Arnold said. "Everytime I’ve touched the ball there’s been a little crease, maybe not a hole, but a crease."

And Arnold has found his way through it most of the time in the last two games. In 44 carries, Arnold has only seven yards in losses.

“When I got caught behind the line it was a busted play,” Arnold said.

The blocking of Rob Weinle, Dewayne Penn, Dan Watterson, Chuck Hughes, Dean Tiebout and company has given Arnold those creases and holes.

That line has also helped Arnold to his 116-yard a game average, seventh best in Division I-AA. Two places above Arnold in the I-AA rushing rankings is Elroy Harris, Eastern’s honorable All-America tailback, with a 123.5-yard average.

You can almost sense a kind of love affair between Arnold and his offensive line. And, really, one can’t exist without the other.

Arnold gets his yardage because the line blocks so well. The colossal line, which has already been the subject of several newspaper stories this year, doesn’t get the ink unless Arnold and his backfield mates get their yards.

“I’ve been able to adjust to the line, knowing what kind of cuts to expect," Arnold said. "And they enjoy blocking for me, that’s the best thing about it. These guys come over to the sideline saying ‘Keep running the ball coach.’ You never used to hear that. These guys are begging the coaches to run. And it’s been positive yards."

Another positive for Arnold has been his yardage. And the line working hard makes me work extra hard,” Arnold said. "The more a game goes along, the more confidence I have. And the line working hard makes me work extra hard."

But don’t look for Arnold to look at his stats. He’s too busy running.

---

**KENTUCKY INVITATIONAL**

At Lexington, Ky.

**Women’s teams —** Kentucky 322; Indiana 472; Michigan 314; Western Kentucky 1468; Edinboro 1506; Murray State 1867; Marshall 1748; Marquette 1564.


**Men’s teams — Indiana 472; East Tennessee 543; Kentucky 684; Edinboro 675; Southern Illinois 118; Marquette 102; Anderson 186; Marshall 206; Cincinnati 254; Murray State 282.

Events like this Saturday's upcoming Eastern-Western football game give coaches an excellent chance to test their psychology training.

Western Kentucky University coach Dave Roberts is downplaying the War Within the State.

"I don't want to know anything about emotion," Roberts said earlier this week. "There's no hype. Nobody is wearing 'Beat Eastern' t-shirts. We're trying to keep things on an even keel. I hope the crowd will be big, and that we'll have a football atmosphere. I just want us to get ready to play football."

Sure. And I've got a little land at the bottom of Kentucky Lake.

Roberts not hyping

Mark C. Mathis
Daily News
Sports Editor
Commentary

I'd like to sell you.

Western's coaches aren't pumping this game, but the players know something is up.

"This is Eastern week," said Joe Arnold, Western's senior tailback. "You've got to get the feeling."

David Armstrong, who will start his first Eastern-Western game at 7 p.m. Saturday in front of perhaps 18,000 fans, realizes the importance. He doesn't want his home debut spoiled.

"Eastern week is always special. If you can't get up for Eastern, you can't get up for anybody," Armstrong said. "It's another game, but it's Eastern. Eastern is not going to beat us at home. That's just something they're not going to do."

Eastern hasn't 'done it often. The Colonels have come away from Bowling Green winners just twice since Smith Stadium opened in 1968. They won in '68 and in '82.

This is only the second time Eastern and Western have met in a Hilltopper home opener, way back in 1941. And, this is only the 11th time in the 64-year history of the rivalry that both teams have gone into this game coming off losses.

Western dropped a 13-10 decision to Middle Tennessee last week. Eastern's James Campbell was just short on a 50-yard field goal try at the gun in its 34-32 heartbreaking loss at Marshall.

That should make each team a little hungrier, but it's not working out that way in Richmond.

Eastern coach Roy Kidd was very concerned earlier this week about the blood, or lack there of, that he was seeing in his players' eyes.

Used to be, there was an Ohio Valley Conference championship at stake. Nine out of 10 times, whoever won the Eastern-Western game would win the OVC. But since Western dropped out of the OVC, it hasn't been the same. Both Kidd and Roberts realize that.

"I couldn't believe it in practice," Kidd said. "They're not serious about getting ready to go down there. They're young, and more than half of them have never been in an Eastern-Western game. They don't know what they're getting into when they go down there, but I do. I told a team a couple of years ago about it, and it scared them. The year before last they beat us, and we were ready last year. Last year, we beat them twice, so they'll be the ones to get motivated this time."

Eastern beat Western 20-10 in the regular-season matchup at Richmond last year. The second time, in the Division I-AA playoffs, Eastern laid a top-class, 40-17 butt kicking on the Hilltoppers.

That should be motivation enough to send Eastern back home without win No. 3 at Smith Stadium.
Toppers must stop Eastern's runners

By MARK C. MATHIS
Daily News Sports Editor

It's quite simple.

Stop the run, stop Eastern Kentucky's offense.

"We have to stop the run first," said Mike Carberry, a Western Kentucky University linebacker.

Eastern (1-1) has built a traditionally strong program — ranked No. 8 in Division I-AA and with the best I-AA winning percentage in the 1980s — on the legs of tailbacks like Elroy Harris, a 5-foot-9½, 218-pound junior, who had his 10th straight 100-yard rushing game last week in a 34-32 loss at Marshall.

Eastern has been running for nearly 300 yards in its first two games, and has a whopping 453.5 total offense average.

But, surprise, Eastern has another weapon to give offensive linemen so we felt we Middle. The senior hasn't lost last year, had his second straight been Eastern to the I-AA quarterfinals Mack truck. The Hilltoppers have total offense average. about Eastern's running game, meet Saturday at 7 p.m. at Smith Senior tailback Joe Arnold had his 10th straight
nearly 12 of 15 for 176 yards against enTshe.

Daily News couldn't line up percentage ed No. 8 of tailbacks like Elroy Harris, a Carberry said. investigation Into the charges"

Carberry said. "He's as hard as worker as I've ever had," Eastern coach Roy Kidd said. "We lost seven offensive linemen, so we felt we couldn't line up and run at people. We've got to pass the ball more."

Carberry says the reason Fields has been so successful is that opposing defensive backs haven't worked hard enough.

"Their quarterback is more confident," Carberry said. "He's a lot more comfortable back there. But the secondaries we've seen on film haven't been playing him right. Eastern passes out of the option, and the defensive backs have been playing run."

That brings up Western's secondary. Ron Burroughs, the leader of the group, was burned several times last week in Western's 13-10 loss at Middle Tennessee. It was later disclosed that Burroughs had suffered a sprained ankle during the week. Junior safety Jonathan Watts was impressive, though, with 14 tackles, 10 unassisted.

Eastern at Western

TEAMS: Eastern (1-1) vs. Western (1-1)

SITE: Smith Stadium

TIME: 7 p.m., Saturday

RADIO: WBLG-PM, WKCT-AM

"Ron will be fine. What happened last week is forgotten," Carberry said.

Besides, Kidd says Western's defense is better than Marshall's, anyway.

"They're quicker," Kidd said. "They've got a better secondary."

But, while there's all this talk about Eastern's running game, it shouldn't be forgotten that Western has a running game to contend with, too.

Senior tailback Joe Arnold is off to his best start ever behind an offensive line as big as a Mack truck. The Hilltoppers have been rushing for 212 of their 316.5-yard average in total offense.

The passing game came under question last week after quarterback David Armstrong threw two drive-ending interceptions at Middle. The senior hasn't lost confidence, though.

"We were three or four plays away from putting 25 points on the board," Armstrong said. "It's not that we didn't move the ball against them. If we can correct the mistakes, we'll be OK."

Kidd is afraid of mistakes with an inexperienced defense coming to Smith Stadium. Eastern lost four All-Ohio Valley Conference players from that unit, including Aaron Jones, a No. 1 draft choice last year of the Pittsburgh Steelers.

"We're not the team we were last year," Kidd said. "You don't lose people like Jones, (Eugene) Banks, (Harold) Torrens and (Jessie) Small and expect to be as good."

Western just wants to be as good as it can against Harris and Fields.

Topper tidbits

Chuck Hughes, an offensive lineman who was charged with second-degree assault, and Doug Hughes, a freshman offensive lineman who was charged with complicity to commit second-degree assault following an alleged incident two weeks ago on Western's campus, aren't being disciplined by Roberts.

Roberts said following his own investigation into the charges, brought by Frederick Clark Towery, he found no reason to suspend the players pending judicial proceedings.

The players are expected to come to trial in early October. Arnold has rushed for 232 yards on 44 carries. Tony Brown has 78 yards on 12 carries.... Darwin Harris leads all receivers with seven catches for 80 yards.... Todd Davis is averaging 37.3 yards a punt.... Western is averaging 29.3 yards a kickoff return, third best in I-AA.... Western leads I-AA in scoring defense, allowing 6.5 points a game.... Linebacker Russell Foster leads the team in tackles with 18....
Maher's field goal boosts

By BRUCE W. BRANCH
Staff Writer

BOWLING GREEN, KY. — Senior Dan
Maher kicked three field goals, including
a 46-yarder with 2:24 remaining, as Western
Kentucky upset Eastern Kentucky 16-14 be-
fore 18,000 football fans in L.T. Smith Stadi-
um last night.

The winning kick was set up by a 50-yard
pass from quarterback David Armstrong to
Cedric Jones that pulled the Hilltoppers out
a big hole at their own 21 and gave them a
first down at the Eastern 29.

Backup fullback Gerard Mark gained 13
yards on a shuttle pass down the Eastern 23
to set up Maher's game-winning field goal.

Eastern's last chance for victory slipped
away after it drove from its 30 to the West-
ern 14 and James Campbell, who had been
replaced on extra points because of inconsis-
tency, missed a 31-yarder with one sec-
ond remaining.

The victory avenged two losses to Eastern

Western Kentucky over Eastern 16-14

On the next series, Eastern got another
break when a pass bounced off the hands
tight end Robert Coates into the waiting
arms of Myron Guyton, who made the inter-
ception at the 38.

Quicker than you can say Tim Lester, the
freshman fullback lined up at tailback and
exploded 38 yards over left tackle for the
ty ing touchdown. Josselyn's second conver-

See WESTERN'S
PAGE 9, col. 1, this section

last season and improved Western's record
to 2-1.

Eastern, ranked eighth nationally by The
Associated Press, lost its second game in a
row for the first time since 1977. Its record
is now 1-2.

Down 13-0, Eastern got back into the
game near the end of the third quarter by
driving 62 yards on 12 plays to score on a 13
yard pass from Lorenzo Fields to wide re-
ceiver Randy Bohler.

Redshirt freshman Brad Josselyn kicked
the extra point PAT to pull the Colonels
within 13-7 with 4:16 left in the third qua-
ter.

The EKU drive was kept alive by a dar-
ing gamble on a fourth-and-four play from
its 44. Lining up in punt formation, the ball
was snapped to the up back Calvin Gillis,
who rambled 10 yards to the Western 46 for
a first down.

A 12 yard run by tailback Elroy Harris on
fourth and two from the Western 13 also
kept Eastern moving.

On the next series, Eastern got another
break when a pass bounced off the hands
tight end Robert Coates into the waiting
arms of Myron Guyton, who made the inter-
ception at the 38.

Quicker than you can say Tim Lester, the
freshman fullback lined up at tailback and
exploded 38 yards over left tackle for the
ty ing touchdown. Josselyn's second conver-

Continued from Page C-1
Maher kicks home victory

By MARK C. MATHIS
Daily News Sports Editor

With Western Kentucky trailing Eastern Kentucky 14-13 late in the game, Maher got all the inspiration needed from Coach Roberts' simple message. "I told him to kick it dad," Roberts said. "He canceled two years ago.

And, from 40 yards out 2:44 left, an estimated 18,000 screaming in his ears in an Eastern-Western game a thinking of his father, Maher did.

"When they went up started thinking about it," said after booting his third goal of the night. "It's my get points. I had to be re was just another kick."

But before starting just Eastern-Western victory option, the Hilltoppers had to James Campbell's try game-winner from 31 yards with five seconds on the clock. The kick was about a yard to the left.

"I'm just mighty they Roberts said. "Ours made theirs didn't."

The much-maligned Ca has missed extra points in two Eastern victories in two last three games dating to last year's Division playoffs. Campbell missed extra points last year.

"I really don't want about it," Campbell said Eastern, ranked No. 8 in fell to 1-2.

And Eastern coach Roy
By MARK C. MATHIS
Daily News Sports Editor

With Western Kentucky University trail­ling Eastern Kentucky 14-13 late in the game, Dan Maher got all the inspiration he needed from Coach Dave Roberts' simple message.

"I told him to kick it for his dad," Roberts said. "He died of cancer two years ago."

And, from 40 yards out with 2:44 left, an estimated 18,000 fans screaming in his ears in the 65th Eastern-Western game and him thinking of his father, Jack, Maher did.

"When they went up 14-13, I started thinking about it," Maher said after booting his third field goal of the night. "I'm just another kick." But before starting just another Eastern-Western victory celebration, the Hilltoppers had to withstand James Campbell's try at the game-winner from 31 yards out with five seconds on the clock.

The kick was about a yard wide to the left.

"I'm just mighty thankful," Roberts said. "Ours made it and theirs didn't."

The much-maligned Campbell has missed extra points costing Eastern victories in two of its last three games dating back to last year's Division I-AA playoffs. Campbell missed eight extra points last year.

"I really don't want to talk about it," Campbell said after Eastern, ranked No. 8 in I-AA, fell to 1-2.

And Eastern coach Roy Kidd, losing two of his first three at Eastern for the first time since his first year in 1964, refused to blame the junior kicker.

"Two fumbles and the interception cost us the game," Kidd said. "You can't put the blame on Campbell, too many other things happened. My heart bleeds for him."

The game was about as even statistically as the score would indicate — Western outgaining the Colonels 325-312 yards in total offense.

Western, now 2-1, had a 13-0 halftime lead after converting two Elroy Harris fumbles and a Jeff Griffith interception of Lorenzo Fields into a pair of 27-yard field goals and a 34-yard scoring pass from quarterback David Armstrong to split end Darwin Harris.

The Hilltoppers should've been up 21-0, but their first two scoring drives fell short.

Tailback Joe Arnold was his usual strong self in the first half, picking up 90 of his game-high 117 yards.

Eastern used a 10-yard gain by Calvin Gillis on a fake punt to keep a third-quarter drive going. Fields, who hit 12 of 19 passes for 145 yards, connected with flanker Randy Bohler from 15 yards out to cut the margin to 13-7 with 4:16 to go in the third quarter.

Rover Myron Guyton picked off an Armstrong pass that hit tight end Robert Coates in the chest to set up Eastern's go-ahead score.

Tim Lester, running for the first time at tailback after starter Elroy Harris went down with a hip pointer, blasted 38 yards on the first play following the interception to put Eastern up 14-13 with Brad Josselyn's extra point.

Harris gained 97 yards on 21 carries before leaving the game.

Western started the fateful, game-winning drive at its own 8, and Armstrong's 50-yard completion over the middle to a diving Cedric Jones was the key play.

Armstrong completed 16 of 34 passes for 178 yards. The 50-yarder was his longest pass of the night.

"(Robbie) Andrews should have knocked that pass down," Kidd said. "When you don't make the plays, you're going to get beat."
On game day, Western's Jordan has a sack attack

By BRUCE W. BRANCH
Staff Writer

He is Freddie Krueger in cleats and shoulder pads. Nicknamed the "X" man by teammates, Western Kentucky University junior Xavier Jordan has never seen a quarterback he didn't want to hurt.

"I try to terrorize quarterbacks if I can," said Jordan, a defensive end who proved his point earlier this season by knocking Morehead quarterback Chris Swartz cold with a jarring sack. "I want to put them out every time. I don't want to put them out of college football, just out of my game. It's all a part of playing defense. It's something you have to do. It's all a part of being a hard hitter."

Three games into a 2-1 season, Jordan has proved himself to be not only a hard hitter, but also a masterful pass rusher.

The Hilltoppers' defense has shown marked improvement, particularly against the pass, and Jordan is a primary reason.

Western, which has forced 14 fumbles, is second nationally in scoring defense, allowing just nine points a game. It is allowing only 162.7 yards against the pass.

"In the first three games he has played extremely well," defensive end coach David Watkins said. "Against Morehead he had a chance to rush the passer and he had a super game. He does an excellent job."

The 6-foot-2, 240-pound Jordan has 10 tackles, three for losses totaling 24 yards, including two sacks.

"It's (sacking the quarterback) what I think about," Jordan said. "I watch television and I see guys like Dexter Manley (of the Washington Redskins), Lawrence Taylor (New York Giants) and Andre Tippett (New England Patriots). I like to give the fans and quarterbacks something to think about.

"Sacks are a combination of head slaps and speed. I try to get off the ball quick. The next thing you know you are on the quarterback. It's a great feeling."

Western is hoping to feast on Austin Peay (1-2) at L.T. Smith Stadium at 8 p.m. EDT Saturday.

Austin Peay quarterbacks have been sacked 10 times, and for the third consecutive year its starting quarterback has been injured. Freshman Tony Policare, who has thrown just one varsity pass, will start in place of Bill Desmond, who is out with a broken foot.

It's the kind of setting that usually brings out the best in Jordan.

"He (Jordan) is extremely quick and has real good strength," Watkins said. "He can beat just about any blocker. When we play somebody that is going to throw the ball, we let our pass rushers do what they do best.

See WESTERN'S JORDAN
PAGE 7, col. 4, this section

We've played passing teams pretty well this season, and we are playing another one this week."

Jordan's emergence as one of the Hilltoppers' top defenders is kind of a surprise. He missed all of preseason practice because of high blood pressure, and up until last year he was an inside linebacker.

"He lost about 20 pounds in four weeks, but he may be a little quicker (4.7 for 40 yards) now," Jordan said. "He has gained a lot of the weight back, but I don't think the weight loss affected him at all. He did lose some strength. The more experience he gets, he's just going to get better and better."

Jordan, who is from Atlanta, said he signed with Western because it was a smaller school where he thought he had a better chance for survival. He was also recruited by Appalachian State, South Carolina and Clemson.

"At the time I was thinking about whether I could make the grades to stay in school," Jordan said. "I wanted to go someplace where I could get some attention and get looked at. I felt I could contribute to the Western program."

Jordan said he is looking forward to when he graduates next year.

"My goal is to graduate, but I want to get a chance to play in the NFL," he said. "I feel like I can play with the big-time players."
Hilltoppers need drives

Mark C. Mathis
Daily News
Sports Editor
Commentary

9-29-85

The offense is moving down the field. Joe Arnold is churning out yardage. The offensive line is knocking opposing defenders on their fannies. A touchdown is imminent.

But, cough, cough, wait. Western Kentucky University is on the 20, cough, cough. It's on the 15, cough, cough. It's down to the 5. Offsides, Western, choke, sputter.

It's field goal time.

Dan Maher has been getting plenty of practice this year. He kicked three field goals in Western's 16-14 win over Eastern Kentucky last week, including the game winner. Maher has made six out of seven field goals this year.

And, as James Campbell pointed out for the Colonels when he missed the potential game winner with time running out last Saturday night, having a dependable kicker is a good way to get points on the board.

But an even better way is to put the ball in the end zone when your offense has a chance.

Two Elroy Harris fumbles in the second set up Maher's field goals. They should've set up Western touchdowns.

With first-and-goal at Eastern's 5 after the first fumble, an illegal procedure penalty knocked Western back to the 10. Three straight David Armstrong in completions left the scoring to Maher.

On Eastern's first play from scrimmage after the kickoff, Harris fumbled again, giving the Hilltoppers the ball at the Eastern 14. Western had a fourth-and-1 situation at the Eastern 5. Coach Dave Roberts elected to take a delay of game penalty, giving Maher a better angle for his second field goal of the young evening.

Eastern quarterback Lorenzo Fields was intercepted on the ensuing first play from scrimmage.

Finally, five plays later, Armstrong zips a 34-yard completion to Darwin Harris for a, yes, touchdown.

Western was up 13-0 at the half after all of Eastern's faux pas.

But, the Hilltoppers could've easily been up 21-0 and 18,000 faithful rocking Smith Stadium could've gotten the victory celebration started just a wee bit earlier.

There would've been no need for last-minute heroics from Maher; or last-second anxiety because of Campbell.

Now, let's not mistake this for serious complaining, because Western did win the game, 13-21 on the year and ranked No. 14 in the Division I-AA poll.

But, it's obvious that when there is knockout potential there, the gloves should be in place.

The early touchdown failures were forgotten by the time Tony Brown was climbing the lockers in Western's wild dressing room celebration.

"The defense was playing well," Maher said Saturday night. "Coach Roberts said we would find a way to beat them. We got points when we were down there. I didn't think it (not scoring touchdowns) was a momentum buster."

But it was a life giver to Eastern, which came out and went up 14-13 by the end of the third quarter.

Roberts realizes what the problems are on offense.

"We know what we're doing when we get down there, we just need to do it better," Roberts said. "I can assure you we're working on it. Eighty percent of the time last year if we got inside the 40 we scored some points. If we get inside the 4 we want to score a touchdown, if not then we'll take points on the board. We can get three if we can't get seven."

Against Eastern, getting three three times almost wasn't enough.
APSU looks like old Western

By MARK C. MATHIS

Daily News Sports Editor

To get an idea of what Austin Peay will be bringing to Smith Stadium for its football game Saturday night with Western Kentucky University, just remember back to the Western of a couple of years ago.

The Hilltoppers weren't very good in their first two years under Coach Dave Roberts. Many times they were pretty poor.

"We asked the players to think back to how we were," Roberts said. "They're young, aggressive, they make crazy mistakes sometimes. On occasion they can rise up and bite defense. The Govs start said, 'they're young; Austin Peay hasn't been aggressive'.

Most of what's been going for you, other times they can get the freshman, and have only four tailback game with an average of two.

Darwin Harris leads likely against No. Austin Peay is last in the Ohio Valley Conference in team defense. The Govs start 10 freshman, and have only four seniors on the squad.

Still, though, Roberts isn't chuckling to himself or planning to take the weekend off.

- After last week's gut-wrenching 16-14 win over arch rival Eastern Kentucky, a thoughtful person in all-purpose yardage with 145.3 strong has completed 39 of 82

One two years ago. Gard- cond in scoring average in Western, (2-1)

Ohio State, 47.6

wants a Division I-AA Eastern. "We've told them people will, move the ball on them, so they have to hit and run to the ball," Roberts said.

Topper tidbits

Injuries have piled up for Western this week. Defensive tackle Chandler Wallace is doubtful with a sprained knee. Fullback Pedro Bacon is questionable with a sprained ankle. Nose guard Chad Kraml is questionable with shoulder problems, as is linebacker Brad Anchors with a neck sprain.

Kicker Dan Maher is ranked fourth in I-AA in field goals per game with an average of two. Maher has kicked seven of eight field goals attempted this year.

Darwin Harris leads Western in receiving with 134 yards on 10 catches. Cedric Jones is next with five catches for 97 yards. Armstrong has completed 39 of 82 passes for 377 yards and a 47.6 completion percentage. Armstrong has thrown for two touchdowns and had three passes intercepted.... Strong safety Vincel Anthony and defensive end Jeff Griffith have each picked off one pass this year.... Linebacker Russell Foster leads the team in tackles with 29. Linebacker Brad Anchors and safety Jonathan Watts each have 25 tackles....

Austin Peay is the fourth straight OVC school Western has played this year.
Arnold joins elite with big game

By MARK C. MATHIS
Daily News Sports Editor

It was an impressive little run, probably Joe Arnold's most impressive of the night.

The senior tailback took a pitchout to the right, slipped in a seam, cut upfield, slipped in another seam, cut back upfield. He was stopped 25 yards later giving Western Kentucky University first-and-goal at the Austin Peay 4-yard line.

It should've been impressive, because that run put Arnold in some exclusive company.

Against Austin Peay on Saturday night, before a smallish home crowd of 7,500 at Smith Stadium, Arnold became only the third running back in Western history to string together three straight 100-yard rushing games.

Arnold finished with 115 yards and two touchdowns on 21 carries, and that while splitting series with Tony Brown, who did well with 74 yards on 17 carries.

Arnold's record bordered on coach Paul Brewster said. "They have three (Arnold, Brown and Bacon) who are as good as anyone we have faced so far."

The avalanche of numbers Arnold has had makes his blockers feel good, too.

"It makes our day," said De-wayne Penn, a senior guard. "If he's getting the yards then that means we're blocking, and we get some publicity, too. We're trying to get him 1,000.

With 464 yards in four games, Arnold is well on his way to becoming only the second Western rusher ever to gain 1,000 yards rushing in five of his last seven games.

"Western has so many outstanding running backs," Austin Peay coach Paul Brewster said. "They have three (Arnold, Brown and Bacon) who are as good as anyone we have faced so far."

The avalanche of numbers Arnold has had makes his blockers feel good, too.

Western 28
Austin Peay 3

FIRST DOWNS
WESTERN 15
AUSTIN PEAY 12

FIRST DOWNS
WESTERN 15
AUSTIN PEAY 12

RUSHING-Austin Peay, Scott 25-79
Western Kentucky, Arnold 22-115, Brown 17-74

PASSING-Austin Peay, Tucker 1-19, Peay 3 pass from Coates 3 pass from Armstrong
Western Kentucky, Armstrong 6-19-172, Harris 3-14-81, Maher 3-74-131.5

RECEIVING-Austin Peay, Tucker 1-19, Peay 3 pass from Coates 3 pass from Armstrong
Western Kentucky, Coates 1-37, Gholston 5-17, Armstrong 1-22

INDIVIDUAL STATISTICS
RUSHING-Austin Peay, Scott 25-79
Western Kentucky, Arnold 22-115, Brown 17-74

PASSING-Austin Peay, Tucker 1-19, Peay 3 pass from Coates 3 pass from Armstrong
Western Kentucky, Armstrong 6-19-172, Harris 3-14-81, Maher 3-74-131.5

RECEIVING-Austin Peay, Tucker 1-19, Peay 3 pass from Coates 3 pass from Armstrong
Western Kentucky, Coates 1-37, Gholston 5-17, Armstrong 1-22

WESTERN KENTUCKY University linebacker Jerome Martin (37) chases Austin Peay's Sammy Gholston Saturday night in Smith Stadium. Western trounced the Governors 28-3 to move to 3-1.

"We were a little upset that we didn't get a shutout," Burroughs said. "We wanted to win like we did last year."

Western scored a 27-0 shutout then in Clarksville, Tenn.

This time Western held the Governors to 104 yards in total offense while gaining 392 itself, 230 coming on the ground.

It got bad enough for the shallow Governors that they pulled two of their starting quarterbacks...
It was an impressive little run, probably Joe Arnold's most impressive of the night.

The senior tailback took a pitchout to the right, slipped in a seam, cut upfield, slipped in another seam, cut back upfield. He was stopped 25 yards later giving Western Kentucky University first-and-goal at the Austin Peay 4-yard line.

It should've been impressive, because that run put Arnold in some exclusive company.

Against Austin Peay on Saturday night, before a smallish home crowd of 7,500 at Smith Stadium, Arnold became only the third running back in Western history to string together three straight 100-yard rushing games. Arnold finished with 115 yards and two touchdowns on 21 carries, and that while splitting series with Tony Brown, who did well with 74 yards on 17 carries.

Arnold's record bordered on impressive little run, said De-wayne Penn, a senior guard. "If he's getting the yards then that means we're blocking, and we get some publicity, too. We're trying to get him 1,000." With 464 yards in four games, Arnold is well on his way to becoming only the second Western rusher ever to gain 1,000 yards in a single season. Moore did it twice during his three-year career.

The game wasn't the prettiest thing a football fan would want to see, but it was effective enough to push the No. 14-ranked Hilltoppers to 3-1. The Governors fell to 0-4.

Dan Maher went over 200 career points with field goals of 34 and 44 yards. Quarterback David Armstrong partially made up for a 6 of 19 passing performance with a 3-yard scoring pass in the third quarter while being chased out of bounds to tight end Robert Coates.

Austin Peay averted the shutout with a 24-yard field goal by Tom McMillian in the fourth quarter. The Hilltoppers have given up 7.5 points a game—defensively, second-best in Division I-AA.

Cornerback Ron Burroughs wanted the goose egg, but on a night when Western was suffering from post-Eastern syndrome.
Senior tailback Joe Arnold rushed 21 times for 115 yards and two touchdowns as host Western Kentucky rolled over Austin Peay 28-3 in college football Saturday night.

Place-kicker Dan Maher started the scoring for the Hilltoppers with a 34-yard field goal in the second quarter. Western then scored 10 points in the final 3:01 of the half. Arnold scored from 22 yards out, and Maher added a 44-yard field goal with 48 seconds left.

"I thought Austin Peay played extremely well," said Western coach Dave Roberts. "I'm just glad to win despite making some errors and doing some crazy things. We wanted to keep our offense balanced, but we could have done things a little bit better in that area."

Western, ranked 14th in the NCAA Division I-AA poll, improved its record to 3-1. The Hilltoppers came into the game with the No. 2 scoring defense, giving up only nine points a game. That dropped to 7.5 as Austin Peay fell to 1-3.

Arnold's performance made him only the third Western player ever to gain more than 100 yards in three consecutive games. Maher, who scored eight points, now has 202 career points, ranking him third in all-time scoring for the Hilltoppers.

At Bowling Green, Ky.
Austin Peay 0 0 0 0 0 3-3
Western Kentucky 0 13 16 0-28
Western -- (Maher, 34, FG; Western -- Joe Arnold, 22, run (Maher kick); Western -- Maher, 44, FG; Western -- Arnold, 1, run (Maher kick); Western -- Robert Coats, 3, pass from David Armstrong (Darren Horns, pass from Armstrong); Austin Peay -- Tom McMillan, 24, FG.)
Blue-collar Toppers 'bad' in rout of APSU

"You're going to write something bad about us, aren't you, because of the sluggish way we played?"

That question was posed by a Western Kentucky University manager on the sidelines Saturday night as the Hilltoppers 28-3 win over outmanned Austin Peay neared finality.

Well, bad is a relative term in this sense. If a man is thinking bad in the sense of how Western played compared to its victory over Eastern Kentucky last week, then, yes, this was a bad game.

If that same man is thinking bad in terms of good team sleep-walking its way through a bad opponent, then bad might be an inappropriate term. Sluggish definitely would be.

And, sluggish definitely wasn't unexpected for this game. Middle Tennessee and Eastern stressed the Hilltoppers to their limit in the preceding two weeks. It would only be natural to letdown with the Governors coming to town.

"I was proud of them," Western coach Dave Roberts said. "You can only sky high for two or three games a year. We told them they were the better team, and we wanted them to do a blue-collar job, to go out and get the job done."

Western was blue collar enough to rack up nearly 400 yards in total offense (392) and hold Austin Peay to just over 100 (104). The Hilltoppers were blue collar enough to pick up 24 first downs while letting the Governors have only seven. They were blue collar enough to have starting quarterback David Armstrong complete only six passes for 75 yards, and still win handily. Why, they were even able to absorb 11 penalties while running their record to 5-1 and probably enhancing their No. 14 ranking in Division I-AA.

Certainly the players didn't shy away from this sluggishness issue.

They knew what was going to happen after Eastern. They proved against Austin Peay they were good enough to win on sheer talent.

"We were very flat," said Joe Arnold, Western's starting tailback who rushed for 115 yards — his third straight game over the century mark — while alternating series with Tony Brown. "We had a lot of emotion against Eastern last week, and we didn't expect to be as emotional. It wasn't easy. They were holding us for awhile. But the defense came up with some big plays and that turned it around. When the defense does something, it gets me excited."

The biggest thing Western's defense did was keep Austin Peay from doing anything.

Austin Peay (1-3) got into Western territory three times — two of those in the first half — and on its only scoring drive, was turned away from the Hilltopper 2 with a field goal.

Maturity became the description of choice in Western's locker room.

"There's one or two times on the schedule when you've got to grit your teeth and make the best of it, because after a big win like Eastern Kentucky, you're emotionally down," said Dewayne Penn, one of the offensive linemen on the Big Red Express that seems to be chugging Joe Arnold toward 1,000 yards. "In the second half we showed our maturity and took the game to them."

Rob Weinle, one of Penn's talented mates on that line at tackle, went down late with a twisted left ankle and a pulled right hamstring. That was the most substantial loss of the night for the Hilltoppers, one that didn't hurt in this game, and might not be a factor this week against Illinois State, but could loom large down the road against toughies like Southwest Missouri and Eastern Illinois.

And that's what a game like this can get a team ready for — down the road.

"Coach Roberts told us not to get too emotional for this one," fullback Pedro Bacon said. "When you play flat like we did tonight and still win, there's not going to be too many people who can get you. It's a sign of mature athletes. Those squawks are bad for the heart."

Just like those Austin Peay blowouts will give it plenty of
Armstrong still learning

By MARK C. MATHIS
Daily News Sports Editor

After four games, David Armstrong is learning what it means to be a starting quarterback.

The creed is simple: When things go well, you get the credit; when things go badly, you get the blame.

Western Kentucky University is 3-1 and ranked No. 10 in Division I-AA heading into Saturday night's tilt with Illinois State, but Armstrong hasn't been doing so well.

The fifth-year senior from Brentwood, Tenn., has hit 45 of 101 passes for 44.6 percent. Armstrong, who will be getting his fifth career start against the 1-4 Redbirds, has thrown three touchdowns and four interceptions. In last week's 28-3 blowout loss, Armstrong completed only 6 of 19 passes for 75 yards.

His numbers have been coming under scrutiny in the last week. Teammates are being quoted anonymously about Armstrong's production. There are even rumblings of a quarterback change in the air, although Coach Dave Roberts has said he will stay with his main man.

"He's being erratic, just like Jeff (Cesarone) was when he first came here," Roberts said. "It's called gamesmanship. He gets flustered when things aren't going exactly as they did in practice. His inexperience has a great deal to do with it, so we've cut back to our basic routes."

Those are the in and out curls, and the inside short routes to running backs and the tight end.

With Robert Coates still trying to come back from an offseason broken foot, tight end has been a problem spot for the Hilltoppers all year. Coates played sparingly against Eastern Kentucky, but he has caught only four passes on the season.

Zip Zanders was moved over from linebacker last week after Doug Jones and Ron Jackson suffered injuries.

Because tight end is the setup position in Western's passing scheme, the missing Coates has been a big problem.

"It's taken away from the short passing game," Armstrong said. "There's no fluidity in the passing game without Robert in there."

So, this week Western will be working on trying to get the ball out to Cedric Jones more at flanker. Split end Darwin Harris is Western's leading pass receiver with 142 yards on 11 receptions.

"We have to start getting the ball to Cedric more," Roberts said.

Western has been piling up 212 yards a game rushing, but without balance, Illinois State... Continued On Page 4

Column 3, This Section
Armstrong

Continued From Page 1-B

D.N. 10 - 7 - 8

and others down the schedule -- will begin sending nine men to the line of scrimmage.

That's why Western desperately needs to get the ball in the air more this week -- whether it be with Armstrong or Mark Marsh, the junior backup from Cincinnati, at the controls.

"He's a fifth-year senior, but he's a rookie," Roberts said of Armstrong. "We ask the quarterback to check nine different things at the line of scrimmage, so it's tough. Everybody has a hand in it when the passing game is good, or bad. But David is the quarterback, and he has to deliver."

Talk to Illinois State coach Jim Heacock, and he thinks Western is delivering with interest.

"We're not sure what doesn't concern us about Western," Heacock said. "We're having a general rebuilding year around here."

A big block of that new building is sophomore tailback Vic Northern, who rushed for 235 yards on 30 carries in Illinois State's first win of the year last week, a 20-0 victory over Missouri-Rolla.

"He ran hard, and the offensive line did a better job of blocking for him," Heacock said.

Despite the poor record, Roberts is concerned about the Redbirds because of their close losses against Eastern Illinois and Southern Illinois. Western will travel to Eastern Illinois later in the season.

Topper tidbits

Tailback Joe Arnold remains the No. 8 rusher in I-AA with a 116-yard-per-game average. Arnold is also still among the all-purpose rushing leaders with 137.7 yards a game through rushing, pass receiving and kickoff returns...

Kicker Dan Maher is fourth in I-AA field goals per game at an average of two. With two field goals and two extra points last week against Austin Peay, Maher became the first Western kicker and only third player to go over 200 career points. Maher has 202 points...

Western's defense is still ranked second in I-AA scoring defense, allowing 7.5 points a game. Western is 14th in rushing defense, allowing 115 points a game, and 10th in total defense, allowing 247.8 yards a game...

Western is 15th in rushing offense, picking up 212.8 yards a game on the ground...

Offensive lineman Rob Weinle will be in a cast for four weeks after fracturing three bones in his foot. Freshman Kent Carter (6-foot-6, 270) is being slated to start at tackle...

Defensive tackle Chandler Wallace will be out two or three weeks after undergoing arthroscopic knee surgery. Sophomore Brad Thomas (6-0, 220) may start for Wallace....
Arnold leads way as Western

By JIM TERHUNE

Bowling Green, Ky. — Joe Arnold used his piston-driven legs for medium-length runs, then short power bursts that set up 10 third-quarter points and guided Western Kentucky University to its third straight football victory last night.

The 31-16 triumph over Illinois State at L.T. Smith Stadium pushed Western to a 4-1 record, its best start since 1981, and moved Arnold closer to the elite runners of Western's past.

Arnold's 100 yards on 26 carries was the Decatur, Ga., senior's fourth straight game over 100. Only one other Western runner, Dickie Moore, has done that, and he had four-game streaks of 100 or more twice in 1987.

Arnold sliced for 17, 18 and then 20 yards on a pass from David Armstrong on three consecutive plays leading to a Western field goal.

Then he ripped off a 27-yard sweep, followed by runs of three, eight and three at the end of a drive that gave Western breathing room at 24-16.

Finally, he end fullback Pedro Bacon sealed it with three runs to the last TD after Cedric Jones' 42-yard punt return set Western up at Illinois State's 32 with 4:02 to play.

Western raised its 14-10 halftime advantage to 17-10 with a 72-yard push to Illinois State's 15, where it stalled and Dan Maher kicked a 32-yard field goal.

Kentucky beats Illinois State 31-16

was high and sailed through the hands of the holder, leaving Western in front 17-16.

It quickly became 24-16. Arnold swept right end for 27 yards to the Western 47. Then, with the defense keying on the tailback, Bacon got a rare moment to carry the ball, rolled over left guard and pounded 39 yards to the State 14.

Arnold took it from there, running three, then eight, then the last three on a dive over left guard on which he was lifted into the end zone by moving blockers. Maher kicked and Western had an eight-point lead.

The disappearing leg of flanker Cedric Jones and a knife-like cut by Arnold was barely enough to offset Illinois State's big Mackey attack for a 14-10 first-half advantage.

Jones caught Armstrong's cross-field bullet in a seam near the right sideline on the sixth play of Western's opening drive. He showed Illinois State rover David Smith his left leg, then took it away and raced to the end zone to finish a 33-yard play. Maher's kick made it 7-0.

Illinois State retaliated with a 51-yard drive to Western's 20. Stalling there, Rick Seltz lofted a dying-quail spiral that slipped over the crossbar for a 46-yard field goal. It was 7-3.

Illinois State took a 10-7 lead the next time. It touched the ball, thanks to tight end Mike Mackey, a 6-foot-3, 240-pounder who could have been a redshirt sophomore in 1988 for Western, was honored before the game.

Western answered with a 79-yard drive in 11 plays featuring mostly Arnold. The tailback carried eight times, the last a 17-yarder that he cut inside right end and split two defensive backs after taking a pitch from Armstrong. Maher's extra point made it 14-10 at intermission.

The memory of Jeff Barnett, who would have been a redshirt sophomore in 1988 for Western, was honored before the game. Barnett, from Louisville DeSales High School, was killed in an auto accident this past June. He had been listed as the No.2 center on the depth chart coming out of spring practice.

The burst gave Mackey, who entered the game with 106 yards on 11 catches in five games, 115 on three grabs in 30 minutes. On the drive leading to the Illinois State field goal, Mackey latched onto 24- and 18-yarders, then had to be helped from the field after being pinned under a pile on a running play.

Western answered with a 79-yard drive in 11 plays featuring mostly Arnold. The tailback carried eight times, the last a 17-yarder that he cut inside right end and split two defensive backs after taking a pitch from Armstrong. Maher's extra point made it 14-10 at intermission.
Western wins for Barnett

By MARK C. MATHIS
Daily News Sports Editor

The players dedicated this Western Kentucky University football game to Jeff Barnett, an offensive lineman who was killed last summer in an automobile accident.

A jersey with Barnett's number, 50, was given to his parents in a touching ceremony before Western's game Saturday night with Illinois State.

Barnett's former offensive line mates wore his number on their helmets.

"I guarantee you it was emotional," Western coach Dave Roberts said. "I don't know about the players, but it was hard for me."

Illinois State, however, tried its best to spoil the ceremonious significance of the evening in front of an estimated 10,200 fans at Smith Stadium.

Western, ranked No. 10 in Division I-AA, came through for its fallen friend, 31-16, mainly because of David Armstrong and Joe Arnold.

For Armstrong, who has been maligned lately because of low production at quarterback, it was a new experience.

The senior hit 10 of 16 passes for 111 yards and a touchdown tonight. "We had been running the sweep so much that they brought their linebackers up, and we could throw the curl all night," Armstrong said.

Senior flanker Cedric Jones caught five of those passes for 76 yards and had his first touchdown catch of the season as Western went to 4-1. Jones also returned five punts for 70 yards, five more than Illinois State's Ken Smith's season total.

The senior hit 10 of 16 passes for 111 yards and a touchdown tonight. "We had been running the sweep so much that they brought their linebackers up, and we could throw the curl all night," Armstrong said.

Senior flanker Cedric Jones caught five of those passes for 76 yards and had his first touchdown catch of the season as Western went to 4-1. Jones also returned five punts for 70 yards, five more than Illinois State's Ken Smith's season total.

For Armstrong, who has been maligned lately because of low production at quarterback, it was a new experience.

The senior hit 10 of 16 passes for 111 yards and a touchdown tonight. "We had been running the sweep so much that they brought their linebackers up, and we could throw the curl all night," Armstrong said.

Senior flanker Cedric Jones caught five of those passes for 76 yards and had his first touchdown catch of the season as Western went to 4-1. Jones also returned five punts for 70 yards, five more than Illinois State's Ken Smith's season total.

Western went ahead for good on Arnold's 2-yard plunge with 6:30 remaining in the third quarter. Arnold had a 27-yard run and Pedro Bacon a 39-yard jaunt to key that drive.

Bacon added the insurance score on a 13-yard run.

And this dedication game was safe for Barnett's memory.

Illinois State Saturday in Smith Stadium. Bacon had 77 yards rushing.

Western 31
Illinois State 16
I guarantee you it was emotional," Western coach Dave Roberts said. "I don't know about the players, but it was hard for me."

Illinois State, however, tried its best to spoil the ceremonial significance of the evening in front of an estimated 10,200 fans at Smith Stadium.

Western, ranked No. 10 in Division I-AA, came through for its season opener. Barnett said, "It was heartwarming to spoil the Redbirds' game Saturday night with Illinois State."

Barnett's former offensive line mates wore his number on their helmets.

Joe Arnold, maligned lately because of low numbers, was a factor in Illinois State's 31-16 defeat, mainly because of David Armstrong and Joe Arnold.

For Armstrong, who has been maligned lately because of low production at quarterback, it was a narrative to remember. The senior hit four of five passes for 76 yards and had his first touchdown catch of the season as Western went up to 4-1. Jones also returned five punts for 70 yards, five more yards than Western totaled in punt returns last year.

"I hadn't had the ball for a couple of games," Jones said. "But it was no problem. I got a chance to play, and the offensive line set me up."

The senior tailback had his season's best game and his season-high total rushing. Western coach Jim Heacock said, "I hadn't had the ball for a couple of games," Illinois State coach Jim Heacock said. "We have to get in there and compete better defensively."

Western's 343-yard rushing attack also got a lift from fullback Pedro Bacon, who had 77 yards on five carries. The Hilltoppers finished with 454 yards in total offense compared to 325 for Illinois State, now 1-5 on the year. The Redbirds gained 255 yards off of Western's all-time list.

Junior tailback Tony Brown finished with 17 carries for 69 yards alternating with Arnold.

Western's 1-10, 16-0-111. Bacon, 10, 16-0-111.

Western and Illinois State finished the game with 10-10, 209-255. Western went ahead on Arnold's 2-yard plunge with 6:50 remaining in the third quarter. Arnold had a 27-yard run and Pedro Bacon a 39-yard jaunt to key that drive.

Bacon added the insurance score on a 13-yard run.

And this dedication game was safe for Barnett's memory.

Western 31
Illinois State 16

Illi-ILL
Western Kentucky 7 7 10 7-31

Listening-Illinois State 2 7 6 0-17

WCU-Jones 33 pass from Armstrong (Maheer kick)

ILL-FG Seitz 45

ILL-Mackey 73 pass from Wilson (Maheer kick)

WCU-FG Maher 32

ILL-Miller 14 pass from Wilson (run failed)

WCU-Arnold 2 run (Maheer kick)

WCU-Bacon 12 run (Maheer kick)

A-10,200

First downs Rushes-yards Passing
WCU-26-104 3-3-111

ILL-25-55-367

Return Yards Comp-Att-Int
WCU-36 99

ILL-30-1 15-6-9

Punts 6-45 5-5

Penalties-Yards 0-0 2-24

Time of Possession 26:39 33:31

INDIVIDUAL STATISTICS
Rushing-Illinois State's, Northern's 10-62,

Wilson, 6-14, W. Kentucky, 39-190,

Bacon 9-77, Brown, 7-62

PASSING-Illinois State, Wilson, 18-30-2 255,

W. Kentucky, Armstrong, 10-16-0 111

RECEIVING-Illinois State, Mackey 3-115,

Mackey 9-56, Seitz 3-56, W. Kentucky, Jones 5-26, Harris 2-17, Arnold 1-7.

Western Kentucky University running back Pedro Bacon (23) lugs one of his five carries during Western's 31-16 college football win over Illinois State Saturday in Smith Stadium. Bacon had 77 yards rushing.

Western went ahead on Arnold's 2-yard plunge with 6:50 remaining in the third quarter. Arnold had a 27-yard run and Pedro Bacon a 39-yard jaunt to key that drive.

Bacon added the insurance score on a 13-yard run.

And this dedication game was safe for Barnett's memory.
Armstrong gets job done against ISU

No one said so, but last Saturday David Armstrong was about down to his last chance.

One more game as the starting quarterback of Western Kentucky University's football team, and if Armstrong didn't perform, Coach Dave Roberts might be looking Mark Marsh's way.

But, Armstrong, for the first time this season, was on from the opening gun in helping the Hilltoppers to a 31-16 win over tough Illinois State.

The fifth-year senior completed his first six passes of the night, including a 33-yard touchdown strike to Cedric Jones, to set the tone for a 10 of 16 evening worth 111 yards.

Armstrong hit 6 of 8 in the first half, and that loosened up the Redbirds enough to allow Joe Arnold and company to rush for 267 yards in the second half and put the game away.

"It was good to get it going that way," Armstrong said. "I played like I'm supposed to play. It's a good feeling."

It was also good to see something more than Arnold sweep or Arnold up the middle. Not that it hasn't worked, but defenses were starting to catch the drift, and they were playing Western for the run, while all but ignoring the pass.

That happened again against Illinois State, which brought its linebackers up to defense the run, leaving the curl routes open. It also shouldn't be ignored that Western put extra hours into the passing game during last week's practices.

And that paid dividends for flanker Cedric Jones, who had his best night of the year with five catches for 76 yards.

"Joe's been running the sweep, we hadn't been throwing the ball any, and we were just testing Dave out," said a happy Jones on Saturday. "The coaches all know I can catch it. We were just getting comfortable. People are keying on Joe, now we're going to open up a lot of defenses."

That will come in handy this week when Western travels to Southwest Missouri, another hard-hitting member of the Gateway Conference. The Hilltoppers are entering a semiflirtough stretch in the year. After Tennessee Tech next week, there'll be Tennessee Chattanooga, Eastern Illinois and the University of Louisville.

Getting the ball to Jones was on the top of Roberts' game plan last week. Jones is a possession receiver with great speed. He needed to be getting the ball more; and Armstrong had to start delivering. Both happened.

Armstrong said he didn't feel pressure coming into the game. Roberts said there was none on Armstrong, but you got the feeling that if Armstrong didn't get it done early last Saturday, he would be on the sidelines.

"We had a talk, and I told him Thursday, 'Look, you've got ability, just get the daggum thing done,'" Roberts said. "We heard about throwing too hard, and throwing this and that, and that's just a bunch of baloney. We've got the receivers and the quarterback. He's going to throw it hard, you catch it, and let's get the thing moving. There were too many excuses."

There were just enough completions against Illinois State.
Western on roll with Arnold rushing up a storm

By TED M. NATT JR.
Associated Press

Western Kentucky tailback Joe Arnold has rushed for more than 100 yards in four straight games, but he isn't about to take credit for the Hilltoppers' 4-1 record and No. 8 ranking in the NCAA Division I-AA football poll.

"I think everybody tries to be a leader on and off the field; you just can't pinpoint one person," Arnold said. "We just go out there as a big family playing together."

"I don't think people see that. They just see me running for 100 yards."

Arnold, a senior from Decatur, Ga., points to the fact that Western has the top-ranked scoring defense in Division I-AA and is ranked No. 11 in total defense.

"Those guys deserve a lot of credit," he said. "They're playing well."

So is Arnold. His rushing average of 130.8 yards a game is fifth-best in Division I-AA, and his all-purpose running average of 154.8 yards a game is ninth-best.

His 2,556 career rushing yards place him third on Western's all-time list, leaving him 29 short of moving past Clarence Jackson into second. Another 100-yard effort Saturday at Southwest Missouri State would make Arnold the first back in school history to accomplish that feat in five straight games.

"Joe works extremely hard on the field and is a great team player, so it couldn't happen to a better guy," coach Dave Roberts said. "But he's made it happen. He's an overachiever."

Arnold rushed for more than 2,900 yards at Avondale High School in suburban Atlanta but was rejected by Division I schools.

"They said I was too small, which I didn't understand," said Arnold, who weighed 169 pounds then but has since bulked up to 195. "All of them wanted me to play wide receiver or defensive back. But I knew I could run the ball."

"Western was the only one talking about playing running back."

Arnold made his presence felt immediately, running for a 57-yard touchdown on his second carry as a collegian in the sixth game of his freshman season. "I've been playing ever since then," he said.

He has accounted for 1,000 all-purpose yards the past two seasons and is on his way to reaching that plateau again this year, which would be another first for a Western player.

But Arnold said he never pays attention to individual statistics, because winning is the bottom line.

"When I first got here, everybody was playing for themselves... there wasn't much team togetherness," he said of his first two years, when Western was 8-13-1.

Last year, however, the Hilltoppers turned it around, putting together a 7-4 record while reaching the I-AA playoffs. The momentum has continued this season.

"The goal," Arnold said, "is to win the national championship."
Southwest will show

Mark C. Mathis
Daily News
Sports Editor
Commentary

It was an hour-long flight that took forever. It was the kind of plane ride you'd never forget.
Western Kentucky University's football team was returning from Springfield, Mo., where it had just been vaporized by Southwest Missouri.
The final was 47-7. A Missouri Massacre. That's what it was. It ranks as Coach Dave Roberts' worst loss in five years at Western.
There was enough depression on that flight back to Bowling Green to keep a psychiatrist busy for a month. If the plane had gone down I'd have been an up note on the day. If I'd had a parachute, I would've gotten out of there.

There were a few low-water marks those first years I was here, Roberts said. "But after that game, I wondered if defense or offense would ever enter my vocabulary again."

Southwest Missouri, only 6-4 that year, pounded Western for 621 yards and 36 first downs. The Bears only led 10-7 at the half.
"It could've been 67-7 if they hadn't fumbled a few times in the first half," Roberts said.

Roberts and the Hilltoppers return to the scene of the massacre Saturday when they take on Southwest Missouri for their first game in the sunshine this season.

But in 1985, year of the massacre, there was no silver lining, except that it wouldn't take long

how far WKU has come

to get back home.

This year, the team is traveling by bus. It's about an eight-hour trip. But instead of a massive funeral on the way back, Western could be in for a rollicking celebration.
Western's program has done a 360 since that long September day. There is an abundance of talent. There is enthusiasm. There is confidence. There is pride. There is a No. 10 ranking in Division I-AA.

The Hilltoppers have come far since Roberts took over for Jimmy Feix in the final days of 1983.

This game at Southwest Missouri will show just how far the program has come. The results should be satisfying.
"If we could win this game after the beating we took there last time, then we could win the rest of our games this year," said Denny Caple, one of the beatees that afternoon whose career was ended last year because of a knee injury. Caple 'helps' Western's coaching staff in what would've been his senior year.

Roberts won't go that far, but he does feel this game is a measurement of how good the Hilltoppers really are. Western (4-1) has won its last seven games at Smith Stadium, completing a three-game homestand without a blemish, and, without much emotion. Now it's time for a road test. And Western will have to stoke the emotional fire like it did for the season opener at Morehead.

"Good teams take care of business at home. The really good teams can take their act on the road," Roberts said. "You try to get really up for three or four games a year. Eastern was one of them. This is the second one. The team has been told that."

If it listens, those eight hours on the way back will seem like one.
Tops fire a 'Georgia Bullet,' gun down Bears

By MARK C. MATHIS
Daily News Sports Editor
SPRINGFIELD, Mo. — When Western Kentucky University last came to this city on the edge of the Ozarks, it was hammered, humbled and humiliated by Southwest Missouri.

The Hilltoppers found out on their latest visit here Saturday that redemption can be a mighty good cure for a 40-point loss.

Western used two interceptions, a penalty and two touchdown runs by Pedro Bacon — one a 90-yarder — to run out to a 21-7 halftime lead and hold on for a 21-14 win in front of 8,059 fans at Briggs Stadium.

But the Hilltoppers needed the "Georgia Bullet" to finally take the bite out of the Bears.

After a pass interference call on free safety Vincel Anthony with 3:16 to play in game, Southwest Missouri had the ball at the Hilltopper-14. On third-and-7 from the Western 11, tackle Western 21
Southwest Mo. 14

Brad Thomas and end Jerome Martin fired the "Bullet" by sacking quarterback Daryl Patton for a 9-yard loss. Southwest Missouri got seven yards on fourth down, giving Western the ball with 1:31 to play. The Hilltoppers converted a third down on its final possession and ran the clock out.

"We knew we had to stop them right there," said Thomas, a sophomore from Louisville.

"We ran a weak side Georgia Bullet, with me going inside and the rover (Jonathan Watts) going outside," said Martin, a sophomore from Tallahassee, Fla. "Jonathan did a good job of going outside, but he overran it. We were going in to make something happen."

It was the crowning play for a defense, that had been pushed around for 409 yards by Patton and his wishbone attack. Western was outgained in several offensive categories — most notably first downs (26-13) and passing yardage (158-48).

The second half was especially tough on Western's defense, with Southwest Missouri controlling the ball for 22 minutes and 39 seconds. The Bears (2-5) had the ball for nearly 40 minutes.

"They owned us in the second half," Western coach Dave Roberts said. "They marched up and down the field like it was a track meet."

But, as Bacon pointed out, "The sign of a great defense is to bend but not break. They came through when they had to."

Creating turnovers hadn't been a forte of Western's defense, either, despite being ranked in several Division I-AA categories and leading the nation in scoring defense, holding opponents to fewer than 10 points a game.

The Hilltoppers made getting the ball away from Southwest Missouri's talented offense a specialty in this one as they went to 5-1 and are sure to move up from their No. 8 ranking in I-AA.

Linebacker Zip Zanders intercepted Patton to set up a 1-yard Joe Arnold touchdown run and put Western up 14-7.

Cornerback Riley Ware intercepted Patton late in the first quarter to start Western's first scoring drive. And when punter Todd Davis was rouged up, the ensuing penalty kept that drive alive until Bacon ran off tackle for 14 yards and the opening score of the game.

Patton redeemed himself on the Bears' first possession of the second quarter, finding split end by Xavier Roberts said.

"Just like everybody else flew on the sweep," said Roberts, who had a career-high 131 on just seven carries. "That tackle was going to go big if their linebackers were flow hard. When I first came into the game I was looking for somebody to tackle me."

"It never happened."

A fumbled pitch was recovered by defensive end Xavier on Southwest Missouri's first play of the second quarter, finding split end Ray Ratliff streaking down the left sideline behind cornerback Ron Burroughs for a 40-yard touchdown that tied the game 7-7 with Chris Potthast's extra point.

Bacon's 90-yard scoring came on first-and-10 at Southwest Missouri punt a yard clipping penalty on Westen. It was a simple off-tackle play which Bacon outran the after breaking past the firsts of Bear defenders.

"We were trying to get the first down and sure to move up from their No. 8 ranking in I-AA.

409 yards better than the Western defense, with South Missouri had the ball for 22 minutes and 39 seconds. The Bears (2-5) had the ball for nearly 40 minutes.

"They owned us in the second half," Western coach Dave Roberts said. "They marched up and down the field like it was a track meet."

But, as Bacon pointed out, "The sign of a great defense is to bend but not break. They came through when they had to."

Creating turnovers hadn't been a forte of Western's defense, either, despite being ranked in several Division I-AA categories and leading the nation in scoring defense, holding opponents to fewer than 10 points a game.

The Hilltoppers made getting the ball away from Southwest Missouri's talented offense a specialty in this one as they went to 5-1 and are sure to move up from their No. 8 ranking in I-AA.

Linebacker Zip Zanders intercepted Patton to set up a 1-yard Joe Arnold touchdown run and put Western up 14-7.

Cornerback Riley Ware intercepted Patton late in the first quarter to start Western's first scoring drive. And when punter Todd Davis was rouged up, the ensuing penalty kept that drive alive until Bacon ran off tackle for 14 yards and the opening score of the game.

Patton redeemed himself on the Bears' first possession of the second quarter, finding split end by Xavier Roberts said.

"Just like everybody else flew on the sweep," said Roberts, who had a career-high 131 on just seven carries. "That tackle was going to go big if their linebackers were flow hard. When I first came into the game I was looking for somebody to tackle me."

"It never happened."

A fumbled pitch was recovered by defensive end Xavier on Southwest Missouri's first play of the second quarter, finding split end Ray Ratliff streaking down the left sideline behind cornerback Ron Burroughs for a 40-yard touchdown that tied the game 7-7 with Chris Potthast's extra point.
'Georgia Bullet,' gun down Bears

21

Mo. 14

is and end Jerome
the "Bullet," by
and his wishbone attack. Western
was outgained in several offen-
itive categories — most notably
first downs (26-13) and passing
yardage (158-48).

The second half was especially
tough on Western's defense, with
Southwest Missouri controlling
the ball for 22 minutes and 39 se-
conds. The Bears (2-5) had the
ball for nearly 40 minutes.

"They owned us in the second
half," Western coach Dave
Roberts said. "They marched up
and down the field like it was a
track meet."

But as Bacon pointed out,
"The sign of a great defense is to
bend but not break. They came
through when they had to."

Creating turnovers hadn't been
a forte of Western's defense, ei-
ther, despite being ranked in se-
veral Division I-AA categories and
leading the nation in scoring
defense, holding opponents to
crowning play for a
defense that had been pushed
around for 409 yards by Patton
and his wishbone attack. Western
was outgained in several offen-
sive categories — most notably
first downs (26-13) and passing
yardage (158-48).

The second half was especially
tough on Western's defense, with
Southwest Missouri controlling
the ball for 22 minutes and 39 se-
conds. The Bears (2-5) had the
ball for nearly 40 minutes.

"They owned us in the second
half," Western coach Dave
Roberts said. "They marched up
and down the field like it was a
track meet."

But as Bacon pointed out,
"The sign of a great defense is to
bend but not break. They came
through when they had to."

Creating turnovers hadn't been
a forte of Western's defense, ei-
ther, despite being ranked in se-
veral Division I-AA categories and
leading the nation in scoring
defense, holding opponents to
fewer than 10 points a game.

The Hilltoppers made getting
the ball away from Southwest
Missouri's talented offense a
speciality in this one as they went
to 5-1 and are sure to move up
from their No. 8 ranking in I-AA.

Linebacker Zip Zanders in-
tercepted Patton to set up a 1-
yard Joe Arnold touchdown run
and put Western up 14-7.

Cornerback Riley Ware in-
tercepted Patton late in the first
quarter to start Western's first
scoring drive. And when punter
Todd Davis was rouged up, the
ensuing penalty kept that drive
alive until Bacon ran off tackle
for 14 yards and the opening
score of the game.

Patton redeemed himself on the
Bears' first possession of the
second quarter, finding split end
Ray Ratcliff streaking down the
left sideline behind cornerback
Ron Burroughs for a 40-yard
touchdown that tied the game 7-7
with Chris Potthast's extra point.

Bacon's 90-yard scoring run
came on first-and-10 after a
Southwest Missouri punt and 15-
yard clipping penalty on Western.
It was a simple off-tackle play on
which Bacon outran the pursuit
after breaking past the first wave
of Bear defenders.

"We were trying to get off the
goal line conservatively,"
Roberts said.

"Just like everybody else, they
flew on the sweep," said Bacon,
who had a career-high 131
yards on just seven carries. "The off
tackle was going to go because
their linebackers were flowing so
hard. When I first came through,
I was looking for somebody to
tackle me."

It never happened.

A fumbled pitch was recovered
by defensive end Xavier Jordan
on Southwest Missouri's first play
at its own 25 after Western went
up 21-7, and the Hilltoppers
looked to be ready to put the game
away.

But linebacker Steve Vincent
knocked the ball loose from Ar-
ald at the Southwest Missouri 1,
and the Bears recovered.

Western looked like it would
need that score when the Bears
took the second half kickoff and
consumed 8:47 before split end
Randy Rappert caught a 3-yard
scoring pass from Patton. A fake
punt let the Bears keep the ball...

Southwest Missouri's four turn-
overs were uncharacteristic,
Coach Jesse Branch said.

"We had a plus-2 turnover
ratio coming into this game,"
Branch said. "The last two
games we lost, the other team
turned it over more than we
did."

After losing big leads, and
games with them, twice this
year, Branch thought the roles
would change.

"I thought we were destined to
win one," Branch said.

A gutty defense destroyed that
destiny.
Bacon sizzles in Western's 21-14 win

Special to The Courier-Journal

SPRINGFIELD, Mo. — Despite Southwest Missouri State's having huge statistical advantages, Western Kentucky led, in the statistic that counted most — the final score — as the Hilltoppers posted a 21-14 college football victory yesterday.

Southwest Missouri gained 409 total yards to Western's 303, but the Hilltoppers had six defenders with 10 or more tackles. Senior linebacker Mike Carberry (10 tackles); senior safety Vincel Anthony, a Louisville Male product, (13 tackles); senior defensive tackle Allen Reliecheck (13 tackles); junior nose guard Chad Kraml (12 tackles); Thomas Foster (11 tackles) and junior linebacker Russell Russell (10 tackles).

Bacon finished with 138 yards on seven carries, a career high. His 90-yard touchdown run was only the third by a Western player. Bacon scored on a 59-yard run in 1986 and in the first half. Bacon carried the ball only twice, both for touchdowns, covering 16 and 90 yards.

"They overplayed us for the sweep and we countered. The hole was there, and I got through it," Bacon said of his 90-yard sprint. Asked if he was running out of gas near the goal line, "No. I looked over my shoulder and saw Cedric (flanker Cedric Jones) and nobody else."

In the first half, both teams had 11 first downs and Western had outgained Southwest 256 yards to 217. In the second half, it was the Hilltoppers' defense that preserved the lead.

"We sure dodged one big bullet today," Western coach Dave Roberts said. "We knew they could run the football, but they took it in the second half and marched it up and down the field like it was a track meet."

Southwest Missouri (2-5) maintained possession for 22:39 of the second-half's 30 minutes as Western managed only 15 offensive plays.

Southwest took over with 7:50 to play at its own 22 and drove to the Western 11-yard line.

"The Hilltoppers' defense proved up to the task, when on third-and-7 with 2:22 left, freshman defensive end Brad Thomas sacked quarterback Daryl Patton for an eight-yard loss. On fourth-and-15, Patton completed a 6-yard pass to Randy Rupert, but it was not enough and Western took possession.

"We didn't play very well at times, but we played hard and we were fortunate," Roberts said. "Then we found a way to win it when it counted there in the final minute."
For once, the stats lied.
Southwest Missouri outgained Western Kentucky University 409-393 in total offense. Southwest Missouri outpassed Western 158-48. Southwest Missouri had 26 first downs to Western's 13. Southwest Missouri controlled the football nearly 40 minutes, Western 20:13. Southwest Missouri had the ball 22:39 in the second half, Western 7:21.

Joe Arnold ran for only 80 yards, breaking his 4-game string of 100-yard rushing games. Todd Davis punted for 196 yards. Dan Maher didn't kick a field goal. David Armstrong barely passed the ball.

And, yet, the Hilltoppers escaped Springfield with a 21-14 victory, upping their record to 5-1 and climbing to No. 5 in the Division I-AA poll.

In past years, that big of a statistical edge would’ve doomed Western to a two- or three-touchdown loss. But it won. How did it happen?

Western's defense, that’s how.

Despite getting roughed up by Southwest Missouri's wishbone and surprise prowess in the passing game, Western took the ball away from the Bears early, setting up three first-half scores, then sacked quarterback Daryl Patton for eight yards on a key third-and-7 play at the Hilltopper 11, stopping Southwest Missouri's drive late in the game for the potential game-winning touchdown.

Cornerback Riley Ware got to the football first for Western's defense, picking off a Patton pass late in the first quarter to set up Western's first score.

Zip Zanders, back at linebacker after a couple of weeks filling in at tight end, got the ball back to Western's offense early in the second quarter with another interception of Patton. That theft set up Western's second score, giving the Hilltoppers a 14-7 lead.

End Xavier Jordan recovered a fumble on the Bears' first play from scrimmage following Pedro Bacon's 90-yard touchdown run, and Western came within a yard of scoring again, which would’ve put the ballgame away.

“The difference was turnovers,” Roberts said. “The defense gave the offense the ball four times, and that’s just hard play.”

The fourth time was early in the fourth quarter, when Russell Foster's fumble recovery stopped another long Southwest Missouri drive at the Western 33.

Without the turnovers — and some fine running by Bacon when Arnold was shut down — Western would’ve lost this game.

Southwest Missouri's offense was as good as advertised. It's wishbone attack confused Western's defense badly. The Hilltoppers were reacting too fast to the misdirection Patton was giving them. They had to slow down their reading time in the second half.

“In the first half we were running to the ball, and they kept giving us that misdirection,” said Foster, one of six Western defenders with 10 or more tackles.

“The defensive line was doing an excellent job. The linebackers had to slow down and react.”

But in slowing down, it gave Southwest Missouri more time to get where it was going.

That is until the last series, when tackle Brad Thomas and end Jerome Martin fired in and sacked Patton.

Thomas got credit for the sack, but it was really a team effort, with about four Hilltoppers giving chase.

“What I really like about this team is that everybody plays together,” Martin said. “We're going to bend but not break. Even if you get down to the 2, we're not going to let you in.”

Western didn't let the Bears in at the end, making the only stat that counted the final score.
Run and shoot may push WKU

By MARK C. MATHIS  
*

If Western Kentucky University's secondary doesn't defend against Tennessee Tech's run and shoot passing attack better than it did against Southwest Missouri last week, Tech quarterback Thomas DeBow might be seeing a lot of DeBlitz.

"We started throwing a bunch with the first team offense going against the first team defense in practice," Western coach Dave Roberts said. "We wanted to get the secondary into competitive situations, because Tech will uncork it."

But if Western's secondary can't cover, "the blitz is the answer to that," Roberts said.

And that answer might come early in Saturday's 1:30 p.m. homecoming game at Cookeville, because DeBow has been uncorking it.

Tech, only 1-5, made Western take notice with a 14-7 loss to Eastern Kentucky at Richmond last week. In that loss, DeBow led a 79-yard drive to pull Tech to within 14-7, and he had another drive going to tie the game before two sacks ended the upset bid.

DeBow, a sophomore, is among the Ohio Valley Conference's offensive leaders, hitting 58 of 109 passes for 992 yards and five touchdowns. Wide receivers Marc Campbell (16 catches for 296 yards) and Kenneth Gilstrap (15 catches for 222 yards and three touchdowns) are DeBow's favorite targets.

The week before the Eastern game, Tech pulled off a 16-13 OVC upset at Murray. In both the Eastern and Murray games, Tech's wide tackle six defense stood out.

"In the last two weeks, our defense has played as well as any we've had here in the last three years," Tech coach Jim Ragland said.

Usually, a 1-5 team would be a breather for a 5-1 squad like Western, ranked No. 5 in Division I-AA. But a secondary giving up 157.3 yards a game and allowing opposing quarterbacks to complete 53.8 percent of their passes has Roberts concerned.

"We knew the wishbone would be tough last week, but the passing game is where we got beat," Roberts said.

Western's defense had been on the field for about 90 plays when it stopped Southwest Missouri short on a fourth down passing play. Roberts said that pass was to the wrong receiver, and Southwest Missouri had a man wide open for a touchdown.

Jonathan Watts has played well at strong safety, Roberts said. Vincel Anthony leads the team in interceptions with two, but has been better against the run at free safety. Ron Burroughs and Riley Ware both, however, need to pick it up at corner, Roberts said.

Roberts will also be looking for some better play calling from himself when the Hilltoppers go into action.

"I was too conservative last week because the wind was so bad there," Roberts said.

Look for the Hilltoppers to open things up considerably this week.

Campbell (16 catches for 296 yards) and Kenneth Gilstrap (15 catches for 222 yards and three touchdowns) are DeBow's favorite targets.

The week before the Eastern game, Tech pulled off a 16-13 OVC upset at Murray. In both the Eastern and Murray games, Tech's wide tackle six defense stood out.

"In the last two weeks, our defense has played as well as any we've had here in the last three years," Tech coach Jim Ragland said.

Usually, a 1-5 team would be a breather for a 5-1 squad like Western, ranked No. 5 in Division I-AA. But a secondary giving up 157.3 yards a game and allowing opposing quarterbacks to complete 53.8 percent of their passes has Roberts concerned.

"We knew the wishbone would be tough last week, but the passing game is where we got beat," Roberts said.

Western's defense had been on the field for about 90 plays when it stopped Southwest Missouri short on a fourth down passing play. Roberts said that pass was to the wrong receiver, and Southwest Missouri had a man wide open for a touchdown.

Jonathan Watts has played well at strong safety, Roberts said. Vincel Anthony leads the team in interceptions with two, but has been better against the run at free safety. Ron Burroughs and Riley Ware both, however, need to pick it up at corner, Roberts said.

Roberts will also be looking for some better play calling from himself when the Hilltoppers go into action.

"I was too conservative last week because the wind was so bad there," Roberts said.

Look for the Hilltoppers to open things up considerably this week.

Topper Tidbits

Despite having his string of 100-yard rushing games broken in four, tailback Joe Arnold still moved into second on Western's all-time career rushing list with 79 yards against Southwest Missouri. Arnold now has 2,653 career yards. Arnold has rushed for 733 yards this season, and still averaging 122.2 yards a game...
EKU wary of W. Carolina; Western may be passing

By BRUCE W. BRANCH
Staff Writer

Disappointing Western Carolina (2-4) doesn't look like much of a match for streaking Eastern Kentucky (4-2), but Eastern coach Roy Kidd says his 15th-ranked Colonels could be stepping into a mine field today when they enter E. J. Whitmire Stadium in Cullowhee, N.C.

"We seem to be catching them at a bad time, and they are a lot better team than their record indicates," said Kidd, whose Colonels have won their last three games.

Western Carolina, which began the season with high hopes, will be playing before a big homecoming crowd and riding the crest of a 45-10 victory over North Carolina A&T.

Kickoff for the non-conference game is 2 p.m.

The Catamounts' record is deceptive because two losses were to NCAA Division I-A North Carolina State (46-6) and South Carolina (28-0). Their other losses have been to Southern Conference rivals Tennessee-Chattanooga (19-14) and the Citadel (27-21). Western Carolina defeated East Tennessee State 33-23.

Offensively Western Carolina is paced by quarterback Todd Cottrell, who has completed 80 of 158 passes for 1,077 yards and seven touchdowns. In the last three games, he has thrown for 777 yards and six TDs.

His favorite target is wide receiver Otis Washington, who has caught 28 passes for 553 yards and four touchdowns.

Defense has been the main problem for the Catamounts. They have yielded an average of 27 points per game and more than 400 yards a game on the ground.

That could spell good news for Eastern running backs Elroy Harris and Tim Lester, who are the top two runners in the Ohio Valley Conference with a combined total of 1,186 yards and 12 TDs.

The Colonels are bolstered by the expected return of quarterback Lorenzo Fields, who was hurt in the first quarter of their 14-7 win over Tennessee Tech last weekend.

"We've improved the past two weeks, but we must play several notches higher to have a chance at beating Eastern," said Western Carolina coach Bob Waters. "This is a pivotal non-conference game for us. We've got to beat a good football team to get something going for our conference schedule."

**Western Kentucky-Tennessee Tech** — Fifth-ranked Western Kentucky (5-1) is off to its best start in the four-year reign of coach Dave Roberts, while Tennessee Tech (1-5) has shown flashes of brilliance in beating Murray State (18-13) and in last week's loss to Eastern Kentucky.

The problem for Roberts is he doesn't know which Tech team will show up at 2:30 p.m. in Cookeville, Tenn., for the Golden Eagles' homecoming game.

"We don't know if we are going to be playing the Tech team that struggled early in the season or the Tech team that won at Murray and played Eastern tough. If we're not ready to play mentally and physically, we could be in for a long day," Roberts said.

Western escaped with a 21-14 victory over Southwest Missouri last Saturday.

"Robertis said the passing game could be the key to beating Tennessee Tech. Opponents, he said, have started to key on stopping tailback Joe Arnold, who has rushed for 733 yards and five touchdowns.

"We're playing hard and that's all I can ask for," Roberts said. "But each week it seems like teams are adding an extra man on the line of scrimmage. Now we are going against eight- and nine-man fronts, so we are definitely going to have to throw the ball."

Senior quarterback David Armstrong has hit 63 of 132 tosses with four interceptions and four touchdowns.

Tennessee Tech is led by sophomore quarterback Thomas Debow, who has passed for 942 yards and five TDs.

**Morehead State-Tennessee State** — This will be the first meeting between the two clubs, and both desperately need a victory. Kickoff is scheduled for 1:30 p.m. at Jayne Stadium in Morehead.

Morehead (1-6) is 0-2 in the conference. Tennessee State (1-5-1) is 0-3. Last week Middle Tennessee crushed Morehead 49-0. Tennessee State lost 22-7 to Murray.

The matchup will highlight two of the top quarterbacks in the OVC. Morehead sophomore Chris Swartz has thrown for 1,179 yards and seven TDs, while Chauncey Hines of TSU has 697 yards and three touchdowns.

**Centro-Rose Hulman** — This could be the toughest test of the season for unbeaten Centro. Kickoff in Danville, Ky., is set for 2:30 p.m.

Centro (5-0), ranked fourth in NCAA Division III South, sports a 2-0 College Athletic Conference mark. For Rose-Hulman, which blasted Evansville 42-10, this will be its CAC opener.

Against Evansville, Rose-Hulman quarterback Jason Duff threw for a career-high 370 yards and three touchdowns while completing 20 of 31 passes. He has thrown for 1,659 yards and 11 touchdowns.

Centro is averaging 35.6 points and 376.8 yards a game. Defensively the Colonels have allowed just 106.4 points and 175 yards.

Last year Rose-Hulman cruised Centro 31-0.
**Toppers pull out victory**

By MARK C. MATHIS  
Daily News Sports Editor  
COOKEVILLE, Tenn. — Coach Dave Roberts wanted to start out with some fancy plays, but in the end, it was good, old-fashioned football that beat Tennessee Tech.

In a 17-0 second-quarter hole, and after a falling flea flicker on the first play from scrimmage, the Hilltoppers went with their basic plays — Joe Arnold left and Joe Arnold right — to gut out a 20-17 victory Saturday over a fired-up Tech ballclub on homecoming in front of 9,242 fans at Tucker-Stadium.

Arnold knocked out 309 yards on 34 carries — 129 in the second half — and scored the game-winning touchdown on a 4-yard run with 1:10 to play.

The senior tailback provided most of Western's 305 yards in total offense. Arnold now has 951 yards on the year.

"The offensive line told me they would open the holes, and for me just to run," said Arnold, who had the second-best day of his career and is on line to become only the second Western rusher in history to go over 1,000 yards in a season. Dickie Moore had 1,000 yards twice during his career.

"Our guys are determined," Arnold said. "And they have confidence. I'm kind of worried, and they're over there saying, 'We're OK. We're going to get them.'"

The Hilltoppers, now 6-1 and ranked No. 5 in Division I-AA, needed all of that confidence after handing the ball over twice on fumbles, one by Arnold and one by tailback Donald Smith, and having the Eagles convert one into a 5-yard touchdown pass from quarterback Thomas DeBow to Sam Brooks and the other into a 29-yard Ryan Weeks field goal.

DeBow, who hit 15 of 26 for 136 yards, scored on a 3-yard run with 5:51 to play in the first half to seal Western in a 17-0 hole that it didn't look like it would escape from.

"We were trying to get too fancy in the first half," said Roberts, who came in wanting to open things up offensively. "We needed all of that confidence it gave them," Western fullback Pedro Bacon said. "Then we settled down. The line started clicking, and Joe started clicking."

The Hilltoppers started their first drive of the second half 95 yards away from a score but got close enough for kicker Dan Maher to hit his seventh field goal this year, breaking a record set by Charlie Johnson in 1975.

Maher booted a 23-yarder on Western's next possession with 2:28 left in the third quarter to cut the deficit to 17-13.

Time of possession started swinging more as the second half went along. Tech went three plays and out all four times it had the ball in the fourth quarter.

Tackle Allen Reitcheck was one of the leaders on Western's defense, getting in on 11 tackles. Linebacker Russell Foster had a game-high 12 tackles.

"At the half we said it was a new 30 minutes. We said we'd just get down and go," Reitcheck said.

Tech's offense was stopped with 6:28 to play, and Western took it 75 yards for the final score.

Quarterback David Armstrong was 2 for 15 on the day when he completed maybe the most important pass for Western this year on the first play of that drive, hitting Cedric Jones for 17 yards. Jones contributed mightily in key situations with six punt returns for 36 yards.

"It was good to do that," Armstrong said of the completion. "We didn't complete a whole lot of passes, but we won."

From there, Arnold took over, running eight plays and even trying an option pass. Tech was penalized on that play for holding, giving Western the ball first-and-10 at the Tech 18. A reverse to Jones picked up seven, and Bacon hit for seven more before Arnold's score.

By the fourth quarter, Western's offensive line had taken over the line of scrimmage, knocking Tech back on almost every play.

"They were wearing down. You could see it in there faces," Bacon said.

"In the second half they wore down," guard Dewayne Penn said. "Joe didn't wear down."

That much was obvious.
Western doesn't worry, workhorse

By GEORGE ROLLER
Staff Writer

COOKEVILLE, Tenn. — With 6:28 left to play yesterday, Western Kentucky University's offense was staring at 75 yards of artificial turf it needed to travel to avoid an upset defeat that would have severely damaged its Division I-AA playoff chances.

Its passing game wasn't working against a homecoming-inspired young Tennessee Tech team that was desperately seeking its second victory in seven games.

No problem, said Joe Arnold, Western's workhorse running back.

"I've got confidence in my offensive line," he said. "I knew we were going to get it in."

Arnold and Western did get into the Tech end zone with 1:10 to play, taking the lead for the first time all day and improving its record to 6-1 with a 17-0 victory.

Quarterback David Armstrong had a miserable 3-for-16, 20-yard passing day, but he started the winning drive with a 17-yard completion to Cedric Jones.

Arnold finished off the drive by picking up the last 27 yards, going in standing up from four yards out.

As Arnold left the field after the game, the Tech band played the theme from "Superman." Arnold thought that was appropriate for his offensive line.

Arnold plows through Tech

But what, Western worry?

"I'm not saying we wanted to be down," Penn said, "but we know we're good enough to come back.

Tech took its 17-0 lead with the help of two Western fumbles.

Tech had to go just 11 yards for its first touchdown after Arnold dropped a handoff late in the first quarter. DeBow passed to Sam Brooks for five yards and the touchdown on a third-down play.

Don Smith's fumble stopped Western's next drive at the Tech 36 and the Golden Eagles marched 52 yards to set up a 29-yard Ryan Weeks field goal that made it 10-0.

Tech then drove 72 yards in 11 plays with the help of a 22-yard inside reverse gallop by Fred Lowery and an 18-yard DeBow pass to Mike Campbell. DeBow scored on an option keeper from three yards out for a 17-0 lead with 5:51 left in the first half.

Western finally got on the scoreboard with 3:03 left in the half, and it was partly because Tech's defense couldn't keep its hands out of Arnold's facemask.

Penalty flags were thrown on three consecutive plays, the last one setting up Gerard Mark's one-yard scoring plunge.

Western got some help from Tech as it narrowed the deficit to 17-10 with a 25-yard field goal by Dan Maher. It was set up when Brooks muffed Todd Davis' 44-yard punt at the Tech 14 and Scott Walker recovered for the Hilltoppers.

 Maher's field goal was a school record seventh straight, breaking the record of six set in 1975 by Charlie Johnson.

 Maher made it eight in a row with 2:26 left in the third period, hitting from 23 yards out at the end of an Arnold-led drive.

That set the stage for the dramatic finish.

Western's defense put a stranglehold on Tech in the second half. No Golden Eagle possession lasted longer than seven plays.

"We didn't change anything," said tackle Allen Recheck, whose 11 tackles were second to linebacker Russell Foster's 12. "At the half we said just keep playing, and that's what we did."

Arnold's big day, his second 200-yards-plus effort and his 10th career 100-yards-plus day, gave him 851 yards with four games left in the season. Only one back has ever topped 1,000 yards for Western - Dickie Moore with 1,055 in 1965 and 1,444 in 1967.

The victory guaranteed a second straight winning season for fifth-year coach Dave Roberts (23-27-1 overall) and assured Western of its 47th winning year in 70 seasons of football.

Next for Western is a homecoming match with Tennessee-Chattanooga Saturday at 6:30 p.m.
Western had many heroes in victory

There was a smorgasbord of Hilltopper heroes walking in the brilliant autumn afternoon sunshine last Saturday.

Many played a large part in Western Kentucky University’s heart-pounding, 20-17 win over Tennessee Tech.

Joe Arnold, Pedro Bacon, Cedric Jones, the offensive line, Allen Reitcheck, and, even David Armstrong all came through at one time or another, or at various times, for the Hilltoppers to win their sixth game in seven this year.

And so it should’ve been in game of this magnitude.

Tennessee Tech, 1-8, was no outstanding opponent, but with a 14-7 loss at Eastern Kentucky last week, and a better-than average quarterback, the Golden Eagles were dangerous.

Also, this contest in Cookeville would have a major impact on the No. 5 team’s chances for a Division I-AA playoff berth — if it lost.

A loss at Tech would’ve meant Western having to beat either Eastern Illinois or the University of Louisville on the road, and win both home dates with Tennessee Chattanooga (homecoming on Saturday) and North Carolina A&T in the season finale.

No small order.

And, frankly, Coach Dave Roberts was worried about this one. Tech had played well this season, but found ways to lose. It happened again Saturday.

Western hit the artificial turf flat footed, laid the football down twice to lead to Tech scores and found itself down 17-0 with nearly six minutes to go in the first half.

Roberts wanted to try reverses, halfback options and the like early on to loosen Tech up.

On the first play of the game, Armstrong hurried a flea flicker in the direction of tackle Rob Hodge. An ineligible receiver penalty and loss of down postponed Roberts’ plan until the game-winning drive, when a

Continued On Page 11
Column 5, This Section

Mark C. Mathis
Sports Editor
Commentary

Continued From Page 9
halfback pass almost worked and a reverse gained seven yards.

The penalty was foreshadowing. Western would be whistled for 120 yards on this day.

Halftime in Western’s locker room was a different experience. Usually Roberts is calm and cool, but he admitted to sounding off after looking at a 17-7 deficit to start the second half.

“We came out a little too cocky,” said Bacon, who once again threw many key blocks in helping Arnold to 209 yards while getting 68 on 11 carries himself.

“Coach, (Roberts) got on us, and we settled down.”

And as the offensive line settled down in the trenches, Tech started wearing down.

Western controlled the ball for 18:15 in the second half, after having it only 6:54 in the first.

The plan was to run Arnold until he or Tech dropped. He tired only on his way down from a postgame interview in the press box.

“It was a long way up there,” Arnold said.

But not as long or far as he and the line’s constant pounding of Tech would bring Western back.

And this with people like All-American candidate Rob Weinle out with injuries. Western had a redshirt freshman, 6-foot-6, 270-pound Kent Carter, starting at tackle. Another redshirt freshman backed him up.

Injuries on the defensive front have forced Reitcheck forward. Chandler Wallace, a sack master at the beginning of the year, may be out for the rest of the season after an infection set in on the knee that he had arthroscopic surgery performed on.

Reitcheck abused Tech guard Keith Martin so often that the senior tackle’s name was heard often in the press box in the second half.

“They’ve been wanting me to help more and pick the pace up,” said Reitcheck, who did so with 11 tackles, including a 9-yarder for a loss. “As far as I know, I might be down to my last five games, so why not go get it?”

Why not? Reitcheck and others up front had to hit it up to overcome quarterback Thomas DeBow, a junior who threw for 136 yards to seven different receivers at a better than 50 percent clip.

Jones, a senior flanker, had several invigorating punt returns in the second half, none really for super field position, but the kind that demoralize a defense with the chase. Arnold had a 46-yard kick return and Donald Smith returned a kickoff 41 yards.

Lots of heroes, each finding a small moment.

Never was that more true than when Armstrong faced a first-and-10 at his own 25 with 6:28 to play and Western trailing 17-13.

He found Jones in front of Tennessee Tech’s bench, 17 yards downfield. Armstrong didn’t throw another pass the rest of the drive, and he only completed two of his previous 15, some his fault, some his receivers. But he hit one that got Western out of a hole, softened up Tech enough to let Arnold work and started Western on its victory march.

Armstrong was in a sour mood afterwards when a reporter said he’d had a terrible day. Western had found a way to win for the second straight week. That was all that mattered to Armstrong.

It was a day for heroes, even ones who’d had lousy days.
Roberts basking in success after lean days at Western

By BRUCE W. BRANCH Staff Writer

BOWLING GREEN, Ky. — When Dave Roberts was hired as head football coach at Western Kentucky University in 1984, he came to the Hilltoppers with a reputation of a masterful recruiter and a rising star in the coaching ranks.

However, three straight losing seasons resulted in a cumulative mark of 10-22-1. That and a lukewarm relationship with state high school coaches left some Hilltopper supporters grumbling.

But Roberts, who has an upbeat personality, never panicked.

"Everywhere I've been, (including) Davidson and Vanderbilt, we got the heck kicked out of us when we got there," Roberts said. "We weren't very good. It was rough. I was unhappy with the start, but we understood what was happening because we didn't have the players. It had happened two other times, so this was a very similar situation.

"When we got here I said I would work as hard as I could, harder than anybody in the country, and if it was good enough, it was good enough. If it's not, it's not."

The hard work has paid off: Roberts, 41, now is the toast of the town and is shaking the cobwebs off his boy-wonder image.

After compiling a 7-4 record and earning its first NCAA Division I-AA playoff appearance last season, Western will take a 6-1 record and No.5 national ranking, highest among I-AA independents, into tomorrow's homecoming game with Tennessee-Chattanooga (3-5) at L.T. Smith Stadium.

"We've been winning ugly," Roberts said. "But the last two weeks have been fun. We've been talking about dealing with adversity, and it hit us right in the face."

Since climbing to No.5 in the poll, Western has had to rally to escape being upset at Southwest Missouri (21-14) and Tennessee Tech (20-17).

Western's start is its best since the 1975 club was 6-0 on its way to an 11-2 record. Western's ranking matches the third-highest in the school's history.

"I'm proud of what we have accomplished," Roberts said. "I'm especially happy for the seniors who have stuck it out and turned things around when a lot of people didn't think it could be done."

Western's success hasn't gone unnoticed; at least two other Division I-AA schools have shown an interest in Roberts.

"That's real nice," Roberts said. "But right now I'm concentrating on this season."

See ROBERTS PAGE 6, col. 1, this section

"We've been winning ugly, but the last two weeks have been fun," says Western Kentucky football coach Dave Roberts, whose team is rated No. 5 in Division I-AA.
Roberts bask in success now

Continued from Page E 1

Roberts bask in success now

We have goals, and one of them was
to build this program.

Jimmy Felix, Western's athletic di-
tector and the man Roberts re-
placed, is one of Roberts' biggest
boosters.

"I have nothing but good things to
say about him," said Felix, who was
instrumental in bringing Roberts to
Bowling Green. "He knows his X's
and O's, and he knows how to get
players. You can't win without
players. I think our program is back
to where it was."

Roberts isn't so sure. He says it
will be difficult for anyone to match
Felix's record of 12 winning seasons
in 16 years. Felix, who had just two
losing seasons, had one incredible
stretch from 1968-1975 when his
clubs dominated the Ohio Valley
Conference with a 68-17-3 mark.

"Other than Eastern Kentucky,
which will probably stay on top for-
ever, it's kind of hard to (win consist-
tently) in I-AA football," Roberts
said. "I don't know if we are all the
way back, but we are moving in the
right direction."

That direction seems to be toward
the I-AA playoffs and a serious chal-
lenge for the national title, but Rob-
erts plays down such talk.

"We haven't said anything to the
players about the playoffs or the na-
tional title," he said. "We've tried to
stay focused on what we have to do,
and that's win one game at a time."

Still, the possibilities are exciting
if Western can manage at least two
victories in its last four games
gains Chattanooga, Eastern Illinois
(3-4), Division I-A Louisville (5-3)
and North Carolina A&T (2-6).

"North Carolina A&T isn't playing
very well right now, but we have
two in a row that should prove to
be interesting," Roberts said.

If Western's steady move upward
has been paralleled by a steady in-
flux of talent, particularly from oth-
er schools.

"When we got here, we struggled
with players in state," Roberts said.
"We didn't have much money, so we
brought in some transfers. We've
fared pretty good. Some of the guys
that have transferred in from larger
schools, like Dean Tiebout (Iowa)
and DeWane Penn (Purdue), have
been great players."

Roberts also has mended enough
fences with Kentucky high school
coaches that he is starting to attract
his share of home-grown talent. For-
ty Kentucky players are on this
year's roster.

"The hard part we faced in state
is (that) coach Felix had been here a
long time and was well-respected."

Roberts said. "I was a new guy tak-
ing his place, and that didn't make
anybody happy. It wasn't a matter
of them not liking me. It would have
been that way with anybody.

"It took a while for people to say
Dave Roberts is OK and Western is
a good place."

Roberts likes to think of himself
as a players' coach, so recruiting
comes naturally for him.

"I have a good time with the
players," he said. "I like them to
work hard on the field. I like
them to be vocal and personable. I like very
aggressive football players."

If Western can manage at least two
victories in its last four games
gains Chattanooga, Eastern Illinois
(3-4), Division I-A Louisville (5-3)
and North Carolina A&T (2-6).

"North Carolina A&T isn't playing
very well right now, but we have
two in a row that should prove to
be interesting," Roberts said.

If Western's steady move upward
has been paralleled by a steady in-
flux of talent, particularly from oth-
er schools.

"When we got here, we struggled
with players in state," Roberts said.
"We didn't have much money, so we
brought in some transfers. We've
fared pretty good. Some of the guys
that have transferred in from larger
schools, like Dean Tiebout (Iowa)
and DeWane Penn (Purdue), have
been great players."

Roberts also has mended enough
fences with Kentucky high school
coaches that he is starting to attract
his share of home-grown talent. For-
ty Kentucky players are on this
year's roster.

"The hard part we faced in state
is (that) coach Felix had been here a
long time and was well-respected."

Roberts said. "I was a new guy tak-
ing his place, and that didn't make
anybody happy. It wasn't a matter
of them not liking me. It would have
been that way with anybody.

"It took a while for people to say
Dave Roberts is OK and Western is
a good place."

Roberts likes to think of himself
as a players' coach, so recruiting
comes naturally for him.

"I have a good time with the
players," he said. "I like them to
work hard on the field. I like
them to be vocal and personable. I like very
aggressive football players."

If Western can manage at least two
victories in its last four games
gains Chattanooga, Eastern Illinois
(3-4), Division I-A Louisville (5-3)
and North Carolina A&T (2-6).

"North Carolina A&T isn't playing
very well right now, but we have
two in a row that should prove to
be interesting," Roberts said.

If Western's steady move upward
has been paralleled by a steady in-
flux of talent, particularly from oth-
er schools.

"When we got here, we struggled
with players in state," Roberts said.
"We didn't have much money, so we
brought in some transfers. We've
fared pretty good. Some of the guys
that have transferred in from larger
schools, like Dean Tiebout (Iowa)
and DeWane Penn (Purdue), have
been great players."

Roberts also has mended enough
fences with Kentucky high school
coaches that he is starting to attract
his share of home-grown talent. For-
ty Kentucky players are on this
year's roster.

"The hard part we faced in state
is (that) coach Felix had been here a
long time and was well-respected."

Roberts said. "I was a new guy tak-
ing his place, and that didn't make
anybody happy. It wasn't a matter
of them not liking me. It would have
been that way with anybody.
Arnold may find 1,000 elusive

By MARK C. MATHIS
Daily News Sports Editor

Sixty one yards.

This year, that's half's work for Joe Arnold. Sixty one yards Western Kentucky senior tailback needs only the second Hilltopper rush for 1,000 yards in a season. Dickie Moore ran 99 yards twice during his two seasons in 1965 and '67.

But, Arnold, coming game of the season against Tennessee Tech, might not reach that magic number because of position in this game - Tennessee-Chattanooga.

The Moccasins allowing just 96.8 yards per game, UTC (3-5) has allowed a total of 68 yards this year, so coming from Division II - Tulane and Georgia Southern - is a big test, but I know the line will do the job, Penn said last week.

"They're big all across the front," Arnold said. "I know they're big test, but I know the line will do the job."

Penn, a 290-pound defensive lineman, is one of the top players on the Hilltopper roster and has had a productive season that has seen him earn All-American honors. He has collected 21 tackles and three sacks this season. Arnold picked up 20 carries and scored a winning touchdown last week in a 20-17 victory over Tennessee Tech.

Other offensive linemen are ready to step up as well. Western's practice schedule is heavy with a focus on blocking techniques and protecting the quarterback. The team's offensive line is considered one of the top in the nation, and Arnold needs to break 1,000 yards doesn't seem likely, but it's a goal he's been working towards all season.

Staff Photo by Lamar Weaver

JOE ARNOLD (33) gets a high five from offensive lineman Dean Tiebout after scoring a touchdown in a recent Western Kentucky University game. Arnold needs 61 yards to become the second player in Hilltopper history to break 1,000 yards in a season.
story to break
ards to become the
hv LaMar

By MARK C. MATHIS
Daily News Sports Editor
Sixty one yards.
This year, that's about one
half's work for Joe Arnold.
Sixty one yards is all the
Western Kentucky University
senior tailback needs to become
only the second Hilltopper ever to
rush for 1,000 yards in a season.
Dickie Moore ran for over 1,000
yards twice during his career —
in 1965 and '67.
But, Arnold, coming off his best
game of the season last week at
Tennessee Tech, might have to
wait longer than usual for that
magic number because of the op-
opposition in this homecoming
game — Tennessee-Chattanooga.
The Moccasins have been
allowing just 96.8 yards a game.
UTC (3-5) has allowed only 774
yards this year, some of that
coming from Division I-A schools
Tulane and Georgia Tech, some
of it coming from I-AA powers
Georgia Southern and Marshall.

"They're big and quick up
front," Arnold said. "It will be a
big test, but I know the offensive
line will do the job. (Dewayne)
Penn said last week that they'd
get me 200, and sure enough it
happened."

Penn, a 230-pound Mack truck
on two legs, is one of the escorts
Arnold has had in this fantastic
season that has seen him rise to
fourth on the I-AA rushing list
with a 134-yard-a-game average.
Arnold picked up 206 yards on 34
carries and scored the game-
winning touchdown against Tech
last week in a 20-17 victory.
Other offensive linemen were
talking Thursday before
Western's practice about what
Arnold needed to get. Sixty one
yards doesn't seem like much for
one of the top tailbacks and off-
fensive lines in I-AA, but Penn
says this will be the biggest
challenge for the No. 5 Hilltop-
ners (6-1) this year.
"By far, this will be the
toughest defensive line we've
faced," Penn said. "They pride
themselves on being physical. But
we pride ourselves on being phy-
sical, too. We have to come out
with the first blow to set the
tone."
Western didn't get going last
week until it was 17 points down
at Tech. A start like that this
week will be disastrous.
Western came from behind to
escape Chattanooga with a 20-17
win last year.
"For that to happen against a
hard-nosed team like Chatt-
anooga, you have to be a little
bit lucky," Western coach Dave
Roberts said. "They're no
finesse team. They load up and
pound you."
Because the Moccasins are so
good against the run, Western
will have to do more than hand
the ball to Arnold to win.
"We've got to open it up more.
We've got to get the ball and
have some time to run some of
our stuff," Roberts said.
Quarterback David Armstrong
had a horrendous game last week
against Tech, but one of his three
completions was a key 17-yarder
late in the game that got
Western's game-winning drive
started.

Armstrong's ability to work the
short routes may be the key to
Western winning, and to Arnold
getting the coveted 1,000 yards.
Tennessee-Chattanooga's off-
ense was dealt a severe blow
when quarterback Brad Patterson
was knocked out of last week's
Marshall game with a knee inju-
ry. Sophomore Stan Nix or
freshman Vince Carrelli will step
in for Coach Buddy Nix.
The Moccasins are very
balanced. Two senior tailbacks —
Andre Lockhart and Darryl
Streeter — have combined for
nearly 900 yards.

Arnold's 300 all-purpose yards
last week upped his season total
to 1,157, making him the first
Western player ever to run for
more than 1,000 all-purpose yards
in three straight seasons.... Ar-
nold has 2,841 career rushing
yards....

Kicker Dan Maher set a school
record with his two field goals
last week that extended his streak
to eight. Maher has also
kicked 36 straight extra points,
just four short of Steve Wilson's
record set in 1969-70. Maher's 220
total points are 14 short of the
school record set by Clarence
Jackson from 1970-73....

Linebacker Russell Foster
leads Western's nationally ranked
defense with 69 tackles. Foster,
however, may not play this week
because of an undisclosed inci-
dent involving a member of
Western's coaching staff. Roberts
said that the incident wasn't
serious, and Foster wasn't
suspended or kicked off the
team....

Linebacker Mike Carberry is
second on the team in tackles
with 65.... Tackle Allen Reiichcek
has 58 tackles; safety Vince An-
thony has 51 tackles....
Western is allowing 11 points a
game, fourth best in I-AA....
Western survives UTC's comeback to claim victory

By MARK C. MATHIS

Daily News Sports Editor

Before the sun had set Saturday, Western Kentucky University seemed to have put Tennessee-Chattanooga to bed.

The Hilltoppers were ahead 14-0 before dark, then went up 31-9 with 9:10 to play in the game on Joe Arnold's third touchdown run of the night.

But the Mocs put on a furious comeback, scoring three touchdowns and being only a I-AA when tailback Andre Lockhart was pushed down by end Xavier Jordan, letting Western escape with a 31-29 homecoming victory in front of about half of the estimated 18,200 fans at Smith Stadium.

"We got up 31-9 and all of a sudden everybody relaxes. And, their quarterback started picking us apart," Western coach Dave Roberts said after the Hilltoppers endured their third close shave in as many weeks and went to 7-1.

"You're going to have to start calling us the cardiac kids.

Western survives UTC's comeback to claim victory

Continued From Page 1-B

nine yards out four plays later to make it 31-23 with 3:36 to go.

UTC's onsides kick was recovered by Western at the Mocs' 34, and after four plays, Maher was called on for a 47-yard field goal try. It was blocked by linebacker Junior Johnson and returned 25 yards by end Terone Harris to set the Mocs up at the Western 41.

Carelli hit a pair of third-and-10 passes to keep possession, the second to receiver Kelvin Philpot at the Western 7. UTC overcame a 15-yard offensive pass interference penalty and the loss of down that went with it on third-and-22 when Carelli hit tight end Travis McNeal over the middle for the score.

Lockhart appeared to have slipped on the two-point try, but Jordan said he got a hand on the UTC taillback and pushed him down.

It was a good thing, because Carelli and his receivers took advantage of Western's blitzes in the last 10 minutes to work the middle with McNeal (six catches, 92 yards) and split end Travis Hooks (four catches for 75 yards).

"Their quarterback started clicking, and maybe we thought the game was over," linebacker Mike Carberry said. "We shook up the quarterback early. We were blitzing sometimes, and they would go to the tight end. The last touchdown, that was my man.

"They were delaying the tight end, and that left the linebackers one on one," Western cornerback Riley Ware said.

It looked early as if Western would easily send UTC down to 3-9, using a punt return and an Arnold run to go up 14-0.

"We made so many mistakes early, getting the punt run back on us," UTC coach Buddy Nix said.

Cedric Jones used a perfect autumn sunset as a backdrop for a scintillating 90-yard punt return to open the scoring and tie a school record.

Later in the first quarter Arnold became only the second Western football player ever to rush for over 1,000 yards when he scored on a 4-yard run.

The Hilltoppers parlayed that lead into a 31-9 advantage on a 1-yard Arnold run, a 33-yard Dan Maher field goal and a 30-yard run by Arnold in the second half.

UTC has been allowing an average of 96.8 rushing yards a game, fifth-best in Division I-AA.

By halftime, Arnold had 99 yards on 12 carries and Western had rushed for 121 yards.

Arnold ended up with 200 yards on 29 carries and became the second Western player to go over 3,000 career yards one play before scoring on the 30-yard run that seemingly put the game out of reach.

The Hilltoppers picked up 219 yards on the ground of their 345 in total offense.

Quarterback David Armstrong helped balance Western's offense with 6 of 18 passing and no interceptions for 126 yards.

But, at the finish, Western's defense had to back UTC down, and it did.

"We thought we had it in the bag," said Robert Coates, Western's tight end who had five catches for 80 yards. "We let down mentally. This isn't the kind of team you want to do that against." Especially when one thinks that team is ready for bed.
JOE ARNOLD (33) of Western Kentucky University tries to shake loose from Tennessee-Chattanooga defenders Saturday night in Smith Stadium. Western won its homecoming game 31-29.
Western squanders big lead, but

By JIM TERHUNE
Staff Writer

BOILING GREEN, Ky. — It was over. It was 31-9 with nine minutes to play.

Western Kentucky University would win its sixth straight football game. Joe Arnold and his linemates would celebrate his 186 yards rushing for the game, 1,135 for the season and 3,037 for his career.

Isn't that right, Tennessee-Chattanooga? No, not quite.

Andre Lockhart's two-yard plunge made it 31-15 with 5:52 left. Vince Carelli's nine-yard pass to Quintin Alford made it 31-21 with 3:36 to go. Carelli's two-point conversion pass to Phil Hooks made it 31-23.

A blocked Western field-goal attempt and a 41-yard drive to Carelli's 22-yard third-down looper to Davis McNeal over the middle made it 31-29 with 1:01 to play.

KENTUCKY COLLEGE FOOTBALL

Would this game, so surely in Western's hands, end in a tie?

Carelli, a redshirt freshman starting his first game after Chattanooga's regular quarterback went down with a knee injury last week, got the snap and started right on an option play.

He pitched to tailback Lockhart. Lockhart began a right-end sweep and slipped slightly. Western defensive end Xavier Jordan came up. Lockhart went down, and Western had a 31-29 victory before 18,200 open-mouthed homecoming fans.

"I got a hand on him," said Jordan.

"Their quarterback started picking us apart," Western coach Dave Roberts said. "We got up 31-9 and all of a sudden everybody started relaxing."

"We figured we had the game in the bag," Western tight end Robert Coates said, "and we broke down mentally."

"I thought we might get 'em," said Chattanooga's Hooks, "but not quite."

Western, ranked fifth in NCAA Division I-A, has now won six games in a row for a 7-1 record. It goes to Eastern Illinois Saturday before visiting another club on a streak, homestate opponent Louisville, on Nov. 12.

Chattanooga was expected to be the roughest challenge on its schedule since Eastern Kentucky. Chattanooga came in 3-5, but two of its losses were to Division I-A Tulane and Georgia Tech, and the other three to Marshall, Georgia Southern and The Citadel, ranked 2, 6 and 18 in the NCAA poll.

But the Tennesseans had lost starting quarterback Brad Patterson, and Carelli couldn't strike a match the first 3½ quarters.

Western expanded a 14-3 halftime lead with Arnold's one-yard power slant, Dan Maher's 32-yard field goal and Arnold's 30-yard move inside left end. Countered only by Lockhart's one-yard dive, it was 31-9 before the Western roof buckled but didn't quite cave in.

Western stung Chattanooga in a hurry at the outset. The visitors went three downs and out on its first series, and Billy Smith's punt spiraled high and deep 50 yards to Cedric Jones at the Western 10.

Jones eased up into an ever-widening gap at about the 20, cut inside a couple of nearby tacklers and headed back toward the left sideline. When he hit the Chattanooga team's 30, he was home free.

Jones' 90-yard return iced a Western record held by three others, the last in 1968, Dan Maher's extra point made it 7-0.

Two series later, Western drilled the ball 64 yards to double its lead. David Armstrong hooked up with tight end Robert Coates, standing alone in the left flat, for 22 of them.

Arnold got the final 37 yards on consecutive slants through a gaping hole between right tackle and end. The first went for 28 and the second for nine as Arnold became the second WKU back to rush for over 1,000 yards (Dickie Moore did it twice, in 1965 and '67). Maher's kick increased it to 14-0.

Chattanooga's first real opportunity came when Mike Lowman returned a punt 25 yards to the Western 30. But WKU tightened, and Dennis Waters, trying to break his own season field-goal record, missed from 26 yards out.

Chattanooga showed more serious signs of life a few minutes later, driving steadily 62 yards to the Western 10. But two Carelli passes missed and Waters had to come in again. This time he broke the school kicking mark with his 14th field goal from 27 away, and it was 14-3 at halftime.

UT-CHATTANOOGA 0 3 0 26 — 29

WESTERN KENTUCKY 14 0 10 7 — 31

Western — Cedric Jones, 90, punt return (Dan Maher kick); Western — Joe Arnold, 9, run (Maher kick); UT-Chattanooga — Dennis Weems, 27, FG; Western — Arnold, 1, run (Maher kick); Western — Maher, 33, FG; UT-Chattanooga — Andre Lockhart, 1, run (pass failed); Western — Arnold, 30, run (Maher kick); UT-Chattanooga — Lockhart, 2, run (pass failed); UT-Chattanooga — Quintin Alford, 9, pass from Vince Hooks (Phil Hooks, pass failed); UT-Chattanooga — Travis McNeal, 22, pass from Carelli (Reid Hooks, pass failed); attendance — 18,200.

UT-Chatt. Western

First downs 20 14

Rushes-yards 34-1295-218

Passing yards 245 128

Return yards 33 104

Penalties 10-35-1-8-17-0

Earned
WKU still wants a full 60 minutes

All Dave Roberts wanted to do was get 60 minutes of solid football out of Western Kentucky University.

Shoot, the Hilltoppers gave him more than 50 minutes of overpowering pigskin action in running up a 31-9 lead of Tennessee-Chattanooga last Saturday at Smith Stadium.

Unfortunately, that almost wasn't enough.

Many of the estimated 18,200 homecoming faithful were heading for the exits and parties by the time Joe Arnold scored his third touchdown, putting Western up by a seemingly insurmountable 22 points with 9:10 to play.

Pity, because those final minutes were enough to make a Halloween ghost faint with fright.

The crowd left because they thought the game was over. Seemed like the team did, too, giving the Mocs' three touchdowns before Andre Lockhart fumbled and was half pushed by defensive end Xavier Jordan on the potential game-tying two-point conversion try with one minute and one second left in the game.

Even Roberts admitted to letting up on UTC too early.

"There were two mistakes I'll try not to make again," Roberts said in a relieved Western locker room on Saturday. "First, I shouldn't have tried the field goal. I should've run the ball and let them have it. And second, I substituted too early."

The field goal try was a 49-yarder by Dan Maher, who had missed two previously on the night. It was blocked by Junior Jackson and returned to the Western 41 by Terone Harris.

That set up the Mocs' final score, and almost turned off the steam for a Western squad that is 7-1 and still ranked No. 5 in Division I-AA.

The fumble was on a pitch to tailback Donald Smith, who chased the ball 14 yards before it was recovered by tackle Joe Brunson, settling up another UTC comeback touchdown.

But instead of bashing his team for its near fatal failures, Roberts said he used the narrow win as a positive experience.

"We played about 53 minutes of great football, where we totally dominated," Roberts said. "When we decide we want to play, we can really play. But when we don't, we can go from being very good to being sorry."

Instead of playing well and losing, though, Western has played well sometimes and still won.

Three Saturdays ago Western was looking at Southwest Missouri driving for a possible game-winning touchdown, only to stop it when it got close in the final minutes.

Two weeks ago at Tennessee Tech, Western spotted the Golden Eagles a 17-0 lead before roaring back to win the game in the final minutes with a splendid offensive drive.

Last week it was a combination of a Jordan push and some soft turf.

"We'd had two weeks of experience with that (close games) and we won," Roberts said. "I don't think anybody panicked."

That's the sign of a team that knows how to win. It's also a sign of a team being extremely lucky.

A combination like that can be tough to beat.
Arnold deserved thousand

Joe Arnold and his offensive line have a mutual admiration society going.

Arnold gives all the credit for his running success this year to his line and fullback Pedro Bacon. Bacon and the line will give the credit to Joe.

That line's so big, getting 1,000 yards has just been natural, Arnold will say. Oh, look at Joe, he just runs so fast that we only have to hold a block for a second, the linemen or Bacon will tell you.

You almost expect these guys to start hanging love beads on each other.

It's been that way all season, and that's part of the reason Arnold is only the second Western Kentucky University football player ever to run for over 1,000 yards in a single season.

"The line will tell you it's Joe, and Joe will tell you it's the line," Western coach Dave Roberts said. "You couldn't have a better situation. The truth lies somewhere at the midpoint."

Arnold got broke the 1,000 barrier with 196 yards in last Saturday's 31-29 victory over Tennessee-Chattanooga. With the Hilltoppers up 31-9 in the fourth quarter, it was thought that game would be a celebration of Arnold and all he's accomplished.

But if certain people hadn't been injured the last two years, Arnold might never had the chance to get close to 1,000 yards.

Oh, he's been one of the top all-purpose rushers at Western during his career, but he never was quite looked at as No. 1. There was always somebody else who was bigger and stronger at tailback, waiting for their chance to eliminate Arnold.

Last year, Arnold had to fight off challenges from David Smith. When Smith went down with knee injuries last year it opened the door for Arnold, who responded with 260 yards in the regular-season finale at North Carolina A&T.

This year, Tony Brown, a transfer from Southern Methodist, was being looked at as the possible replacement for Arnold. Brown was used in an alternating role with Arnold until suffering a sprained foot that has kept him out of action for several weeks.

Arnold never complained about the competition. In fact, he said earlier this year that Brown helped rest him. Arnold just let nature take its course.

And, now, Arnold stands alone with the affection and adoration that's the way it should be, because Arnold is a good example of what a student-athlete should be.

The 5-foot-11, 195-pound senior from Decatur, Ga., is one of the nicest guys around, always quick with a smile or a laugh.

Arnold goes to class and does well. Teammates say he works as hard on the books as his cuts on the field. He plans to graduate with a psychology degree.

A person not blessed with the best size in the world, he worked himself into the football 30 or more game.

Arnold has become a leader this year. He recounted a story of a fellow player being late for missing a class.

"I was behind a bus, didn't know I was there," he said. "The guy had to quit. I told the guy to quit. I told the guy to quit."

When you're around Joe Arnold long enough, it's contagious!
Arnold reserved thousand

Arnold and his offensive line have a mutual admiration going.

Arnold gives all the credit for his running success this year to line and fullback Pedro Bacon and the line will tell you it's Joe, Arnold will say. Oh, look at Joe, he runs so fast that we only have to hold a block for a second, linemen or Bacon will tell you. Almost expect these guys to hang love beads on each other.

It was that way all season, that's part of the reason Arnold is only the second Western Kentucky University football player ever to run for over 1,000 yards in a single season.

No line will tell you it's Joe, Joe will tell you it's the Western coach Dave Roberts said. "You couldn't have him in that situation. The truth lies somewhere at the midpoint." He said got broke the 1,000 barrier with 196 yards in last Saturday's 31-29 victory over Tennessee-Chattanooga. With the gappers up 31-9 in the fourth quarter, it was thought that game would be a celebration of Arnold's accomplishments.

However, it ended with Arnold's teammates thanking the man who got the job done. Arnold's accomplishments were downplayed – especially by the man who got the job.

"I didn't feel any different, I'm happy because I've had it before," said Arnold, who limped around his locker Saturday night after carrying the ball 29 times and running his season total to 1,135 yards. "It was a goal, but I haven't really been thinking about it. By having as good an offensive line as I've had, it wasn't hard to accomplish."

But if certain people hadn't been injured the last two years, Arnold might never had the chance to get close to 1,000 yards.

Oh, he's been one of the top all-purpose rushers at Western during his career, but it was never quite looked at as No. 1. There was always somebody else who was bigger and stronger at tailback, waiting for their chance to eliminate Arnold.

Last year, Arnold had to fight off challenges from David Smith. When Smith went down with knee injuries last year it opened the door for Arnold, who responded with 260 yards in the regular-season finale at Northern Illinois. A&T.

This year, Tony Brown, a transfer from Southern Methodist, was being looked at as the possible replacement for Arnold. Brown was used in an alternating role with Arnold until suffering a sprained foot that has kept him out of action for several weeks.

Arnold never complained about the competition. In fact, he said earlier this year that Brown helped rest him. Arnold just let nature take its course.

And now, Arnold stands alone with the affection and adoration. And that's good. That's the way it should be, because Arnold is a good example of what a student-athlete should be.

The 5-foot-11, 195-pound senior from Decatur, Ga., is one of the nicest guys around, always quick with a smile or a laugh.

Arnold goes to class and does well. Teammates say he works as hard on the books as he does on his cuts on the field. He is on line to graduate with a degree in psychology.

A person not blessed with the best size in the world, Arnold has worked himself into shape to run the football 30 or more times a game.

Arnold has become a team leader this year. Roberts recounted a story of a player griping because he had to run at 6 a.m. for missing a class.

"I was behind a locker, they didn't know I was there, and Joe told the guy to quit griping, he missed the class, so he should run and get it over with. You want to hear these kinds of things out of your seniors," said Roberts, who calls Arnold one of the four or five best persons, not just players, he's ever coached.

There's that admiration again. When you're around Arnold long enough, it's contagious.
Fans must remain involved in games

Editor, Daily News:

This is being written in regards to the apathy and total indifference of most of the crowd that attended Western’s football games. Many times this season the players have had to motion to the crowd for them to show some life and do a little cheering in behalf of our team. We are all guilty of being like spectators at a movie — watching and that is all.

Tennessee-Chattanooga is a prime example last Saturday night. We, as fans, were keyed up as the game began but after a couple of touchdowns, most became complacent and the game became secondary to them. After the half people kept leaving, and they were OUR people who were displeased with the creeping coldness and our players, when they needed us, found little support.

When we go to a game, whether it is football, basketball or some other sport, we should back our team by not only being present but encouraging them on.

One other thing I would like to suggest, if I may. The public address announcer, whenever an opportunity affords itself, praises the virtues of certain businesses, who I am sure are FRIENDS and patrons of Western but to constantly announce the fact that they are good and loyal friends of Western, not once but two and even three times, it becomes repetitious and frankly to me boring.

John P. Hanes
1341 College St.
Bowling Green
WKU can solidify bid to playoffs with victory

By MARK C. MATHIS
Daily News Sports Editor

Knowing the subjective selection process for the Division I-AA playoffs, Coach Dave Roberts wants no chances taken with his Western Kentucky University football team getting into that tournament for the second straight year.

Despite a 7-1 record, a 6-game winning streak and a No. 5 national ranking, Roberts knows that there are a ton of teams with 7-1, 6-1 and 6-2 records in the same NCAA I-AA poll voted on by four athletic directors and a board of regional ADs, including Western’s Jimmy Felix.

"Too many people have all the same records. There’s not much difference," Roberts said Thursday. "I told the team two weeks ago that the next two games would be the most important of the season, and one of those is behind us."

Western vs. Eastern Illinois

TEAM: Western (7-1) vs. Eastern Illinois (4-5)
SITE: O’Brien Stadium, Charleston, Ill.
TIME: 1:30 p.m., Saturday
RADIO: WKCT-AM, WBLG-FM

The Panthers have always been impressive throwing the ball, and that could be a big problem for a Western defense that gave up 246 passing yards to UTC freshman quarterback Vince Carelli, most of that coming in the second half.

Western quarterback David Armstrong looked better last week, completing 8 of 16 for 126 yards. He is averaging 196 yards per game on the ground and 6.6 yards per carry, the best in the nation.

But Western has gone as far as Joe Arnold’s legs would carry it this year, and Saturday will be no exception.

Arnold, who now has 1,135 yards on the season, injured a hamstring last week while gaining 196 yards on 29 carries, but will play Saturday.

Topper ticket
Western is averaging 344.1 yards a game on the ground and 344.3 net yards. Arnold is averaging 5.9 yards a carry. Fullback Pedro Bacon is averaging 6.1 yards a carry.

The rushing game should be helped this week by the return of tailback Tony Brown and offensive tackle Rob Weinte. Brown

The Hilltoppers are getting ready for Saturday’s game at Eastern Illinois.
A Western Kentucky University running back goes through a drill during a recent practice. The Hilltoppers are getting ready for Saturday's game at Eastern Illinois.

WKU can solidify bid to playoffs with victory

By MARK C. MATHIS
Daily News Sports Editor

Knowing the subjective selection process for the Division I-AA playoffs, Coach Dave Roberts wants no chances taken with his Western Kentucky University football team getting in that tournament for the second straight year.

Despite a 7-1 record, a 6-game winning streak and a No. 5 national ranking, Roberts knows that there are a ton of teams with 7-1, 6-1 and 6-2 records in the same NCAA I-AA poll voted on by four athletic directors and a board of regional ADs, including Western's Jimmy Feix.

"Too many people have all the same records. There's not much difference," Roberts said Thursday. "I told the team two weeks ago that the next two games would be the most important of the season, and one of those is behind us."

That's why he's had a couple of heartfelt talks with the Hilltoppers as they get ready to travel to Eastern Illinois for a 1:30 p.m. game Saturday.

"When you get this late in the season there's very little difference in winning and losing," Roberts said. "About the time you think you're good, somebody comes up and knocks you into the nickle seats."

The Hilltoppers know plenty about that little difference in winning and losing stuff. Their last two victories — over Tennessee Tech and Tennessee-Chattanooga, respectively — have come by a grand total of five points.

Western never having won at O'Brien Stadium in Charleston might not bode well for the Hilltoppers, although Eastern Illinois is 4-5, losing four of its last five and last three straight.

"The first time we went up there we didn't have a chance," Roberts said. "The second time we played hard and lost, and now we have to take our act on the road to a place where we haven't had any success."

Losing starting quarterback Eric Arnold two games ago hasn't helped Eastern Illinois, which has senior backup Kurt Simon in his place.

Simon has thrown for 531 yards, but also has hurled seven interceptions.

His best receiver is Ralph Stewart with 32 catches for 594 yards and eight touchdowns.

The Panthers have always been impressive throwing the ball, and that could be a big problem for a Western defense that gave up 246 passing yards to UTC freshman quarterback Vince Carelli, most of that coming in the second half.

Western quarterback David Armstrong looked better last week, completing 8 of 16 for 126 yards.

But Western has gone as far as Joe Arnold's legs would carry it this year, and Saturday will be no exception.

Arnold, who now has 1,135 yards on the season, injured a hamstring last week while gaining 196 yards on 29 carries, but will play Saturday.

Topper tidbits
Western is averaging 214.1 yards a game on the ground and 344.6 net yards. Arnold is averaging 59 yards a carry. Fullback Pedro Bacon is averaging 51 yards a carry....

The coming game should see the return this week by the return of tailback Tony Brown and offensive tackle Rod Weenie. Brown was alternating with Arnold before suffering a sprained ankle against Southwest Missouri. Weenie broke a foot early in the season. Both are expected to see action Saturday....

Kicker Dan Maher has a string of 49 straight extra points, easily the best in the nation and 21 of 21 for his career. With 77 points, Maher is poised to break Clarence Jackson's school scoring record of 293 points....

Split end Cedric Jones has returned 33 punts with only two fair catches for 361 yards, an average of 11 yards a carry....

Linebackers Mike Carberry and Russell Foster continue to lead Western in tackles. Carberry has 77 tackles, including a team-high 41 unassisted. Foster has played against UTC because he missed practice during the previous week, still has 77 tackles. Tackle Allen Ritchie has 44 tackles and strong safety Vince Anthony has 23. Anthony and Carberry each had 12 tackles against UTC.

Western vs. Eastern Illinois

TEAMS: Western (7-1) vs. Eastern Illinois (4-5)
SITE: O'Brien Stadium, Charleston, Ill.
TIME: 1:30 p.m., Saturday
RADIO: WKCT-AM, WBLG-FM
Eastern Illinois wins 6-0, snaps Western’s winning streak at 6

CHARLESTON, Ill. — Western Kentucky had its six-game winning streak snapped yesterday as Eastern Illinois prevailed 6-0 in rainy weather.

Eastern Illinois scored with 8:37 remaining in the second quarter when senior quarterback Kurt Simon hit freshman running back Warren Pearson with a 25-yard pass over the middle. The Hilltoppers blocked the extra-point attempt.

James Marable, who led Eastern Illinois in rushing with 59 yards, carried the ball nine times in the drive.

The Hilltoppers’ scoring threat came late in the third period, when junior kicker Dan Maher’s 41-yard field-goal attempt was blocked.

Four plays later Eastern Illinois fumbled a snap, and Western’s Chad Krani recovered on the 30-yard line. The Hilltoppers moved to the 9-yard line and stalled. Maher missed a 26-yard field-goal attempt.

Western moved the ball to midfield with 1:21 remaining on the clock, but senior quarterback David Armstrong’s pass was intercepted by senior safety Scott Johnson.

Western coach Dave Roberts said the weather played a factor in the game.

“Overall, they played a better ball game than we did,” he said. “We just could not run consistently on this muddy field. They adapted to the weather conditions better than we did.”

“They deserved to win. We just couldn’t stick it in the end zone when we had to.”

The Hilltoppers’ offense was led by senior running back Joe Arnold, who carried 20 times for 74 yards. Arnold, who has rushed for more than 1,200 yards this season, passed once for 25 yards.

Armstrong connected on 10 of 23 passes for 85 yards with three interceptions.

Western has never won in three attempts at O’Brien Stadium.

Western, ranked fifth in NCAA Division I-AA, fell to 5-2 on the year.

Eastern Illinois improved to 5-3.

| Western Kentucky | 6 |
| Eastern Illinois | 0 |

First downs | Western: 13 | Eastern: 13
Net yards rushing | 102 | 148
Passes | 24-11-3 | 13-5-1
Passing yards | 108 | 69
Fumbles lost by | 0 | 1
Yards penalized | 8-36.7 | 7-35.1
Punts | | |
Weather, history doom Tops to loss

CHARLESTON, Ill. — History wasn’t on Western Kentucky University’s side Saturday coming to Eastern Illinois.

Western had lost the last six times it played on Nov. 5 over the past 50 years, and the Hilltoppers had never won here in three tries at O’Brien Stadium.

Both those streaks stayed intact — and Western’s 6-game winning streak didn’t — in a 6-0 loss to the Panthers in front of 10,021 fans who endured a cold and drizzly day.

The weather conditions had as much to do with Western — the No. 5 team in Division I-AA trying to sew up a playoff berth — as did the weather conditions falling to 7-2 as did an inspired Eastern Illinois defense.

“We got into a mud fight. We didn’t make the cuts. They did,” Western coach Dave Roberts said. “Their offense hadn’t been very potent, but today we didn’t deliver. We didn’t react to the weather very well.”

No, the Hilltoppers didn’t.

Tailback Joe Arnold slipped his way to 74 yards on 20 carries. Quarterback David Armstrong said a wet ball contributed to his three interceptions. The senior hit of 23 passes for 83 yards. Tight end Robert Coates caught five of those for 73 yards.

Eastern Illinois rushed for 148 of its 207 yards in total offense.

“You could see your heels going down in the mud,” Arnold said. “I couldn’t take off or get outside. There were plenty of times when I would’ve made the same cuts on a dry field and been gone.”

Yes, the weather had a lot to do with Western gaining only 214 yards in total offense.

After picking up only 24 yards the entire first quarter, EIU went 95 yards its first possession of the second quarter.

Quarterback Kurt Simon passed only twice in the 14-play drive, the second one a 25-yard strike to over the middle to tailback Warren Pearson, who was wide open after catching Western in a zone coverage.

“That was one of our best drives of the year,” Simon said.

Cornerback Ron Burroughs blocked kicker Mike Turek’s extra point try, and the score stood 6-0 at the half. It was the first time this season that Western had been held scoreless in the first half.

It was also the first time Western had been shutout since 1984 at Southeastern Louisiana.

Six was all Eastern Illinois would need in evening its record at 5-5-1.

The weather helped a strong defense make running nearly impossible for Western.

“We stressed that if we won the neutral zone we could control their offensive line,” said George Boykin, an Eastern Illinois linebacker. “We beat them off the ball, and they couldn’t make their cuts.”

Linebacker Jeff Mills led the Panthers’ defensive effort with 16 tackles. Tackle John Jurkovic contributed 15 tackles.

Eastern Illinois, trying to salvage a winning season, also had emotion on its side.

“We tried to challenge the players all week,” Eastern Illinois coach Bill Spoo said. “If you can have an emotional edge, that’s a big part of winning.”

Not that Western didn’t have its chances, though.

Dan Maher had a 41-yard field goal try blocked early in the second half. Maher missed a 26-yard attempt with 6:12 left in the third quarter, that coming after Armstrong hit Cedric Jones for 12 yards a fourth-and-3 play to the Eastern Illinois 11.

“The defense turned the ball over to us. We didn’t execute,” Western guard Dwayne Penn said.

Nose guard Chad Kramm recovered a fumbled snap to Simon early in the third quarter that set up the second Maher miss, his fifth failure in the last six attempts.

Western strong safety Jonathan Watts intercepted Simon late in the third quarter, but the Hilltoppers did nothing.

Western had another chance in the final minutes, reaching the Panthers’ 48 on a 24-yard pass from Armstrong to Coates after a 27-yard completion had been nullified by a holding penalty.

Armstrong was intercepted by safety Scott Johnson to seal the win.

“It was a miserable day out there,” Armstrong said.

“Nothing good happened for us,” Simon said.

And history repeated itself.
It was like getting laryngitis before auditioning for the Metropolitan Opera.

There was Beanie Cooper, the chairman of the NCAA Division I-AA football playoffs selection committee, sitting in the comfortable president’s box at O'Brien Stadium, while fans, Eastern Illinois’ and Western Kentucky University’s football teams endured a miserably cold and damp day in Charleston.

Cooper had come from Indiana State, where he is the vice president in charge of athletics, to watch Western, the No. 5-ranked team in I-AA, take on a worse-than-usual Eastern Illinois team.

The field was a mess from a rainy Friday. Eastern Illinois had longer cleats in their shoes than Western did, so their players had an easier time catching the Joe Arnold than he had trying to scoot around the ends where he has worked his magic so many times this year.

Because of that, and one 95-yard drive in the second quarter, the Panthers beat Western 6-0.

And Cooper was there to see it, which had some good and some bad to it.

Athletic Director Jimmy Feix said that it was good Cooper was there to see the loss in person, and to know that the conditions had something to do with it. Feix said Cooper indicated that Eastern Illinois played over its head against Western.

But, after three straight weeks of dodging bullets, Western took the one fired by a .500 Eastern Illinois team right between the eyes.

The Hilltoppers are staggered at 7-2 after a 6-game winning streak, but things aren't as bad as they seemed on the 5-hour bus ride back to Western.

A quick look at other teams in the I-AA poll this morning showed that Western was one of four teams out of the top five in the Central Region that lost last weekend. The No. 1 and No. 2 teams in I-AA were also beaten.

Top-ranked Marshall and No. 2 Western Illinois both lost. Middle Tennessee, Western and Indiana State also lost out of the Central Region. Western Illinois is also in the Central. Eastern Kentucky was the only team of the top five in the Central that won, beating Middle Tennessee in a vital Ohio Valley Conference showdown.

"I don't know how far we'll tumble. But it's not so bad when everybody else gets beaten," said Feix, one of the four Central Region athletic directors who vote on the polling board.

The only trouble is Western would've virtually clinched a playoff berth with a victory at Eastern Illinois. Western now needs a good showing, if not an outright victory, this week at Louisville, and a strong finish at home against North Carolina A&T to make the playoffs.

Automatic bids are given out to six conference champions and the top two ranked independents — Western was the top-ranked independent in I-AA before the loss.

And with Georgia Southern being the only other independent close to Western, record wise, it might be safe to think Western will still be one of the top two independents when the year is over.

But, instead of going into Louisville relaxed with the feeling of already being in the playoffs, the Hilltoppers might need a victory over the Cardinals to ensure getting the bid. And a win over a much-improved Louisville team that passed the ball for over 2,000 yards this year isn't very likely.

So it will come down to North Carolina A&T in a situation similar to last year's, when Western had to wait until the final gun to know it had a playoff bid.

Too bad Western wasn't in full voice for this audition.
Western no longer just on thin ice; it could get frozen out of playoffs

By BRUCE W. BRANCH
Staff Writer

For the past month the Western Kentucky University football team has been skating on thin ice.

The ice finally melted last Saturday in Charleston, Ill., and Western lost a pivotal game 6-0 to Eastern Illinois that robbed the Hilltoppers of their No. 5 national ranking and cast a shadow on their NCAA Division I-AA playoff chances.

“We've bitten the bullet the last four weeks,” said Western coach Dave Roberts, whose team narrowly beat Southwest Missouri, Tennessee Tech and Tennessee-Chattanooga before falling to Eastern Illinois.

“We hit a mudbowl and freezing again, and we just got beat. That was an important game for us. We told our kids two weeks ago we have to make it against Eastern Illinois.

“Somebody is going to have to lose for us to get in.”

Although that might not actually be the case, Western, now ranked No. 11 at 7-2, desperately needs a victory in its final two games Saturday at Louisville (7-3) and the following week at home against North Carolina A&T (2-8) to have a chance to be one of 16 playoff teams.

The playoff picture was further muddied last week when six of the top 10 teams in Division I-AA lost. In addition to Western, top-ranked Marshall (9-1), No. 2 Western Illinois (9-1), No. 7 North Texas State (6-3), No. 8 Middle Tennessee (6-3) and No. 9 Delaware (6-3) all fell.

The champions of six conferences — Big Sky, Gateway, Ohio Valley, Southern, Southland and Yankee — receive automatic bids to the playoffs, as do the nation's two highest-ranked independents, which currently are No. 3 Georgia Southern (7-2) and Western.

With unranked independents Liberty (6-3), Towson State (5-3) and William & Mary (5-3-1) also enjoying good years and a slew of teams in contention for the eight at-large berths, Western can ill afford a bad showing against U of L at 4 p.m. in Cardinal Stadium.

But things might not be as bad as they appear for the Hilltoppers, who made the playoffs last year with a 7-3 record.

“It's hard to say,” Roberts said. “There are three or four teams in I-AA that are pretty darn good, and after that you just don't know.

“It's gotten so competitive it's hard to say what will happen. You just don't know what (kind of record) will get you in. We really haven't looked at all of that. We can only wait and wonder what the future might hold.”

Playoffs aside, beating Louisville — assured of its first winning season in 10 years — will be a tall order. Nobody knows that better than Roberts, whose club was swamped 45-6 in 1986, the last time the two teams met. However, the Cardinals managed just a 23-14 victory the previous year.

“We'll have to play just perfect, and they will have to really help us,” Roberts said. “They are going to have to fumble the ball around and throw some interceptions.

“They are a pretty good football team. Coach Howard Schnellenberger has done a remarkable job. There weren't a lot of people that thought they could win seven or eight games. I would think we would be heavy underdogs.”

Roberts said he would like to use the game as a measuring stick.

“They are a much better team than they were a couple of years ago when they hammered us, but so are we,” he said. “We've told our players to relax. A couple of years ago we got pumped up, and they kicked us pretty good. They could have called the score. We are taking this just like any other game.

“This is a good opportunity for our players to play against a Division I-A school and see how they stack up. We've made progress, and I know Louisville has made progress. It should be interesting.”
Arnold, others not in awe of Louisville

This was some locker room talk that a mother could listen to, especially Joe Arnold's mother, Judy, who will be at Cardinal Stadium on Saturday to watch her son run the football against the University of Louisville.

Arnold was discussing the finer points of Western Kentucky University's battle plan for Howard Schnellenberger's suddenly successful 7-3 Cardinals.

It sounded a lot like the other game plans Western used to fashion a 7-1 record and a No. 5 ranking in Division I-AA before losing 6-0 at Eastern Illinois last weekend, knocking the Hilltoppers to 11th and making the I-AA playoffs more possible than probability.

"Looking at the trick plays?" a visitor asked Arnold as he perused a scouting report on Louisville.

"Yeah, here's one," Arnold quipped. "They'll hand the ball off to me, I'll go here. This guy will block this guy. This guy will block this guy. This guy will block this guy. I'll cut up here and take this guy on."

Arnold was describing the "Iso," one of Western's three basic running plays. Iso, short for Isolation, sweep. L's players ask. How can we?

That's been the backbone of Western's offense this year. Its running attack has gained 2,059 yards of that coming from Arnold, the starting tailback in that offense.

And Western will show that backbone many times before the Cardinals finish what will probably be their final game this year. Louisville is aching to get in a bowl game. It knows the possibilities are slim, but the Cardinal players know to lose to Western would knock them from any possibility of continuing the season.

A solid Western team stands in the way, but Louisville probably isn't going to pay attention, especially with Western coming off a 6-0 loss to a .500 I-AA team.

Take these guys seriously, U of L's players ask. How can we? We're Division I-A. We're good this year. We're big this year. We're deep and experienced this year. Western should be intimidated when they walk on the artificial turf Saturday.

Feelings may change by then, but as of now, Western isn't intimidated by the football Cardinals.

"What's the difference?" Arnold asked. "The only difference is that they're a I-A team. It's just another game. We'll run our same three plays. I don't think Howard will pick up on that."

A hearty laugh follows from the visitor and several players sitting around before Wednesday's practice.

"Dean, we going to change anything?" Arnold asks Dean Tiebout, a 6-foot-4, 280-pound guard who will be one of the escorts for Arnold, Tony Brown and fullback Pedro Bacon.

"We haven't changed anything yet. Why should we now?" Tiebout says.

The last time Western ventured to Cardinal Stadium, it was a bad team playing another bad team. The only problem was, the other bad team whipped Western's bad team 45-6.

"We played stupid," Arnold said.

That result, and the built-in lack of respect factor from Louisville, could help Western in this one. Louisville can't be taking Western seriously. Arnold doesn't think so, anyway.

"They're looking at it like they'll blow us out by 60. But they've got to be crazy to think that," Arnold said. "I just don't see it looking at the film."

Indeed, U of L's biggest defensive lineman is tackle Ted Washington, a 6-5, 285-pound sophomore who is fourth on the team in total tackles with 79, including 45 solo. The rest of Louisville's defense looks human.

"It's not like we're playing Nebraska," Arnold said.

The film sessions will be over by the time more than 35,000 fans fill Cardinal Stadium for the game. Three of the top four crowds in Cardinal Stadium history have seen for the Western-U of Leash.

The potential of performing in front of that many people has Western's players excited, especially a talent like Arnold, who is fourth on the I-AA rushing list.

You want to do well in front of a big crowd, not get embarrassed.

"It's going to be fun seeing all those people in the stands," Arnold said. "That's going to get you fired up."

That, and a little locker room talk.
Many factors will be weighed

Mark C. Mathis
Sports Editor

The final question to be posed by this correspondent is a simple one.

How can Western, Kentucky University, possibly beat the University of Louisville on the football field Saturday?

So many factors will go into the 3 p.m. game in front of an expected 35,000-plus crowd at Cardinal Stadium. The Cardinal's 7-3 are having their best season in 10 years. Coach Howard Schnellenberger's ballclub is holding onto the slim possibility of a bowl bid.

- Coach Dave Roberts Hilltoppers are ranked No. 11 in Division I-AA with a 7-2 mark. Western had been No. 5 and a way to stay in the playoff berth before sliding to a 6-0 loss last weekend at Eastern Illinois. Now Western almost has to beat Louisville and North Carolina A&T to secure a berth. A&T will be easy; Louisville will not.

- Louisville has a stellar-quality quarterback in senior Jay Gruden. He is the only Cardinal to have consecutive 2,000-yard passing seasons. With a 200-yard game against Western, Gruden will go over 7,000 career yards.

- Louisville having a good quarterback is Big Worry No. 1 for Hilltoppers because their pass defense has been adequate at best this season. Western's secondary hasn't seen a quarterback of Gruden's caliber this year. That's a scary thought.

- Another scary thought concerns Western's quarterback, David Armstrong. While Armstrong has done fine han-

ding the ball off or pitching it to Joe Arnold, the fifth-year senior has had problems getting it downfield often enough to keep defenses from stacking it up on the line.

One clear thing in Western's favor is a vaunted rushing attack. Arnold has racked up 1,203 yards this season. Behind an offensive line that would be the envy of some Southeastern Conference schools.

Enough naming of factors. You get the idea — Western is a heavy underdog in this one for obvious reasons. It is a smaller school with fewer players going against a bigger school with more talented players.

The Hilltoppers, however, aren't running up the Red Towel and surrendering. They think they can win. Coach Dave Roberts just shrugs his shoulders when you ask him how.

"All our guys want to find out is if we can be competitive," Roberts said. "Two years ago we got out there and they wiped us up. 45-6. We haven't played in a year, so we don't know, and they don't know. There's no pressure on us. They're supposed to blow us out of the tub. We told the players to go up there and let's see some one-on-one matchups and see what happens."

Senior offensive tackle Rob Weine saw his first action in several weeks at Eastern Illinois after coming back from a broken foot. He's relishing the one-on-one matchups Roberts is talking about.

"I want to play well in front of a lot of people. It kind of bothers you when you start for four years and then miss half your senior season," Weine said. "It gets you excited going up there because you know you'll be playing against good people."

Schnellenberger respects Western's offensive front that averages over 270 pounds. Center Dan Watterson, a junior from Elizabethtown, says the Hilltoppers have earned that respect.

"There's not better line in the state top to bottom," Watterson said. "We'll play with anybody. Nobody are we going to be intimidated."

Gruden is one of Louisville's good people. So is halfback Dean Booker. If Gruden gets hot, it could be ugly. Western will have to play its best defensive game of the year to stay close.

The Hilltoppers probably won't want to waste Western's signal caller, Armstrong, by putting in 40 passing plays for this game. He might, however, be called on to run the option more than in any other game this year to allow Arnold to get on the corners easier than with a conven-
tional sweep.

For certain, Armstrong will have to complete some key passes if Western is to win.

Because U of L's defense pursues so hard, Western will have to run the sweep inside the tight end more.

Another certainty is that Western must keep possession, using time-consuming drives to keep Gruden and company off the field.

Surprisingly, neither coach is really using the bowl-game-playoff factor as incentive.

"I don't think the bowl talk has anything to do with it," Schnellenberger said. "We want to win our last game of the season."

"We've got to finish 8-3 to get in the playoffs, and that may not get it," Roberts said.

But Roberts does know that a win over Louisville would almost automatically put Western in the playoffs.

So many factors. A lot of people keep using the word "interesting" when talking about this game. It's like Western isn't sure if it can stay with Louisville, but it thinks it can beat the Cardinals; and Louisville isn't sure if it's really that much ahead of Western, but it thinks it can cream the Hilltoppers.

See, interesting. And strange.

You almost feel Western could surprise the Cardinals in this one, and that's the strangest feeling of all.

But, for once, I'm going to stick with conventional wisdom and say U of L by a touchdown.
Western will get tested

By MARK C. MATHIS

Howard Schnellenberger has had trouble getting some people to understand the principle of natural progression. It isn't some Darwinian theory, but the way a sorry football team can become better, if not outright good.

"I'm sure do think that's what it's been," the University of Louisville coach said of his team's rise. "We don't have a great team, but we have a good team. It's been a natural development."

It's also been slow in coming for the mentor who won a national championship in five years at Miami and promised to make the Cardinals nationally competitive in the same amount of time.

At 7-3 heading into Saturday's season finale against Western Kentucky University, U of L seems to have indeed moved at least into the good bracket.

Western, at 7-2 and No. 11 in Division I-AA, will find out how good Louisville is, and in essence, how good it is, in front of probably more than 26,500 fans in the stadium.
Howard Schnellenberger has had trouble getting some people to understand the principle of natural progression. It isn't some Darwinian theory, but the way a sorry football team can become better, if not outright good.

"I sure do think that's what it's been," the University of Louisville coach said of his team's rise. "We don't have a great team, but we have a good team. It's been a natural development."

It's also been slow in coming for the mentor who won a national championship in five years at Miami and promised to make the Cardinals nationally competitive in the same amount of time.

At 7-3 heading into Saturday's season finale against Western Kentucky University, U of L seems to have indeed moved at least into the good bracket.

Western, at 7-2 and No. 11 in Division I-AA, will find out how good Louisville is, and in essence, how good it is, in front of probably more than 35,000 at Cardinal Stadium. Kickoff is 3 p.m. CST.

U of L has some experience at most positions, has enough talent to go around, has become a more balanced and cohesive unit, and, a better football team.

Its defense has played well, and the offense is above its usual potency with both quarterback Jay Gruden and halfback Deon Booker having career seasons.

"We've been getting more of a group effort," said Gruden, who needs 77 yards to break his school record for passing yards in a season at 2,481. "The defense has been giving us more input. Before this year, we had been playing guys without a lot of experience."

The senior became U of L's all-time passing leader earlier this season, and has 6,824 career yards while hitting better than 50 percent of his passes.

Gruden has also gotten considerable help from a healthy Booker, a 5-foot-10, 202-pound senior who needs just 93 yards to get a 1,000-yard rushing season. It's been 10 years since U of L had a 1,000-yard rusher — Nathan Poole with 1,394.

"The offensive line has been opening some big holes for him," Gruden said in a telephone interview earlier this week from Louisville. "It's really helped the passing game. When defenses drop off, we go to the short passes."

Any kind of passing game has been unkind to Western's secondary, which has played a part in giving up 153.9 yards a game through the air.

Free safety Vincel Anthony, one of Western's top tacklers with 70 and two interceptions, says the Hilltoppers have plenty of respect for Gruden, so much that the secondary may run man coverage a lot.

Staff Photo by Mike Teegarden

DARWIN HARRIS (5) tries to avoid being tackled by a defensive teammate during a recent Western Kentucky University practice. The Hilltoppers are getting ready to take on the University of Louisville on Saturday.
Continued From Page 1-B

"We have played some man. But we haven't had to go with it that much because the "defensive" line has been getting some sacks," Anthony said.

An effective pass rush may elude Western against Cardinals because of their strong pass blocking.

"The coaches we talked to at Maryland say you can never get to their quarterback. They said they couldn't come close," Western coach Dave Roberts said of a Terrapin team that beat U of L 27-16. "We're going to try and mix it up defensively, but they're pretty proficient at pass blocking."

And, just as U of L has improved, so has Western. The Hilltoppers, behind senior tailback Joe Arnold's 1,209 yards and nine touchdowns, have rushed for 228.8 yards a game.

Arnold's 134-yard-a-game average is fourth best in I-AA. Western's rushing average is 10th in I-AA.

Western's giant offensive line has drawn raves of respect from opposing coaches all season.

"Their line is very imposing," Schnellenberger said.

"They run it well and run it often. It may be the biggest offensive line we've played against. You don't find many schools in the Division I Top 20 that have that kind of size."

That may be pushing it, but the Hilltoppers have been stopped running the ball only by mother nature, last week in a quagmire at Eastern Illinois.

"I think we can move the ball on them," Roberts said. "I have confidence."

Topper Hits

Arnold needs 236 yards to break Dicke Moore's single-season rushing record of 1,444 set in 1967. Arnold is only 129 yards short of Clarence Jackson's all-purpose single-season record of 1,556 yards...

Kicker Dan Maher, who has missed five of his last six field-goal tries after hitting 11 out of 12, is still just seven points behind Jackson's all-time scoring record of 234 points...

Planker Cassie Jones has 373 yards in punt returns this year for 10.7 yards a return. Jones is also the team's pass receiving leader with 17 catches for 258 yards...

Linebackers Mike Carberry and Russell Foster continue to lead the team in tackles. Carberry has 84 tackles and Foster 80. Anthony has 70 tackles and two interceptions. Tackle Allen Deitch has 68 tackles...
U of L coach not taking Western lightly in finale

By RUSS BROWN
Staff Writer

Big. Strong. Dedicated. Very special.
Those are all words that University of Louisville football coach Howard Schnellenberger has used this week to describe the Cardinals' next opponent. He could be talking about Notre Dame, Florida State or Miami, but no, there hasn't been a last-minute schedule change.

U of L (7-3) is closing its season today at 4 p.m. at Cardinal Stadium against Division I-AA Western Kentucky (7-2), a team it has lost to only once in the past 34 years and one that is limited to 25 fewer scholarships than the I-A Cards.

So Western coach Dave Roberts must be wondering why Schnellenberger considers the Hilltoppers so dangerous.

"We're at a tremendous disadvantage," Roberts said. "I would think Louisville spends more on their press guide than we have in our total recruiting budget. It might be times two.

"In the past Louisville hasn't been very good and we haven't either, and they've kicked the heck out of us. At our level we're playing hard now and sometimes not very good, but they're playing extremely well. So there's a tremendous difference."

How big a difference?

"For us to win the game we have to play perfect and they have to play really poorly," Roberts said. "And I mean really poorly. They've got to turn the ball over. (quarterback Jay) Gruden has to have a terrible day, things like that."

U of L quarterback Jay Gruden is hoping to go out a winner in today's finale against Western Kentucky at Cardinal Stadium.

U OF L-WESTERN

AT A GLANCE

Site: Cardinal Stadium.
Kickoff: 4 p.m. EST.
Favorite: No line.
Records: U of L 7-3; Western Kentucky 7-2.
Last meeting: U of L won 45-6 in 1985.
Series: U of L leads 15-12.
Television: None.
Radio: WHAS-AM (640).

See U OF L COACH
PAGE 7, col. 1, this section
U of L coach not taking Western lightly in finale

Continued from Page D 1

This is a series that Roberts once wanted to end. The Hilltoppers haven't beaten U of L since a 21-17 upset in 1975, and after a 45-6 drubbing two years ago, Roberts said he wasn't interested in playing the Cards anymore.

But Western's administration didn't share his feelings. Western gets a $35,000 guarantee for the game and wanted to continue its athletic relationship with U of L because of the schools' lucrative home-and-home basketball series.

These days Roberts refuses to comment on his earlier stance or whether he's changed his mind. "It's a good series for the Western fans," Roberts said. "You'd also like to see the game competitive. If it's not, then... that's all I need to say."

Schnellenberger sees no reason why today's game shouldn't be competitive. Western is on the way to its best season since 1980, is ranked 11th in I-AA and figures to have plenty of incentive in going against its larger in-state rival.

"It will take an extraordinary effort on our part to find a way to beat them," Schnellenberger said. "We think that Western Kentucky can come up here and compete with us and has a legitimate chance to win."

A once-hoped-for bowl bid is now out of the question for U of L. Win or lose, there will be no postseason activity for the Cards because no bowls have shown any interest.

But they'll be shooting for their sixth win in a row and their best record since a 9-1 mark in 1972. So the U of L players insist there'll be no overlooking Western, despite its I-AA status.

"We want to be 8-3 real bad," said offensive guard Jeff Smith, one of nine seniors who'll be playing their final game. "We've come too far to get real big heads or take anything for granted."

Gruden said a loss to Western would destroy much of the respect the Cards have worked so hard to earn throughout the season.

"If we lost to Western, the whole season would be shot," Gruden said. "They're I-AA, and we'd feel we hadn't accomplished anything. So this is a big game for us to end on a positive note for next year.

"By no means can we go out and play somebody with our heads in the clouds because we're not strong enough or fast enough or anything like that. We've got to play well, like we have the last four or five weeks."

If Gruden, U of L's all-time passing leader, throws for just 77 yards, he'll break his own school record of most passing yards in a season — 2,481 last year.

Also, senior halfback Deon Book er needs 93 yards to become the Cards' first 1,000-yard rusher since Nathan Poole gained 1,394 in 1978.

Western's major offensive threat is senior running back Joe Arnold, who has gained 1,231 yards in 212 carries for a 5.7 average. He has scored nine touchdowns.

Western relies heavily on its running attack, having averaged only 101.3 yards passing. Senior quarterback David Armstrong has completed a modest 84 of 187 passes (44.9 percent) for 842 yards and four touchdowns.

HOW GRUDE N RANKS WITH TOP U OF L QUARTERBACKS

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Player</th>
<th>Years</th>
<th>Comp</th>
<th>Att</th>
<th>Yds</th>
<th>TD</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>1. Jay Gruden</td>
<td>1985-86</td>
<td>557</td>
<td>1,021</td>
<td>6,824</td>
<td>42</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2. Ed Rubbert</td>
<td>1983-85</td>
<td>430</td>
<td>873</td>
<td>5,496</td>
<td>28</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>3. John Madeya</td>
<td>1979-72</td>
<td>364</td>
<td>746</td>
<td>4,504</td>
<td>34</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>4. Dean May</td>
<td>1980-83</td>
<td>293</td>
<td>689</td>
<td>4,232</td>
<td>27</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>5. Benny Russell</td>
<td>1984-86</td>
<td>271</td>
<td>583</td>
<td>3,957</td>
<td>25</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

GAME BY GAME THIS SEASON

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Opponent (score)</th>
<th>Comp.</th>
<th>Att.</th>
<th>Int.</th>
<th>Yds.</th>
<th>TD</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Maryland (W, 27-16)</td>
<td>28</td>
<td>45</td>
<td>2</td>
<td>319</td>
<td>2</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Wyoming (L, 44-9)</td>
<td>18</td>
<td>29</td>
<td>3</td>
<td>207</td>
<td>0</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Memphis State (W, 29-18)</td>
<td>15</td>
<td>23</td>
<td>1</td>
<td>171</td>
<td>1</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>North Carolina (W, 28-34)</td>
<td>26</td>
<td>43</td>
<td>1</td>
<td>323</td>
<td>2</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Southern Miss (L, 30-22)</td>
<td>16</td>
<td>34</td>
<td>2</td>
<td>234</td>
<td>3</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Tulsa (W, 9-3)</td>
<td>15</td>
<td>28</td>
<td>2</td>
<td>186</td>
<td>1</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Virginia (W, 30-28)</td>
<td>26</td>
<td>45</td>
<td>2</td>
<td>268</td>
<td>3</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Tulane (W, 38-35)</td>
<td>24</td>
<td>35</td>
<td>2</td>
<td>320</td>
<td>2</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Cincinnati (W, 21-6)</td>
<td>28</td>
<td>47</td>
<td>1</td>
<td>266</td>
<td>1</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Virginia Tech (W, 13-3)</td>
<td>12</td>
<td>28</td>
<td>1</td>
<td>111</td>
<td>0</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Totals</td>
<td>209</td>
<td>354</td>
<td>18</td>
<td>2,405</td>
<td>15</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Maryland's Nathan Poole gained 1,394 yards in 1978.

Cincinnati's Joe Arnold has 1,231 yards in 212 carries.

Western's senior running back Joe Arnold has gained 1,231 yards in 212 carries for a 5.7 average. He has scored nine touchdowns.

They're I-AA, and we'd feel we hadn't accomplished anything. So this is a big game for us to end on a positive note for next year.

By no means can we go out and play somebody with our heads in the clouds because we're not strong enough or fast enough or anything like that. We've got to play well, like we have the last four or five weeks.

If Gruden, U of L's all-time passing leader, throws for just 77 yards, he'll break his own school record of most passing yards in a season — 2,481 last year.
Tops stay close early but fall back to defeat

By MARK C. MATHIS
Daily News Sports Editor
LOUISVILLE, Ky. — There was the thick smell of cigar smoke Saturday in the University of Louisville locker room.

And why not? The Cardinals had just beaten Western Kentucky University 35-17 to lock up an 8-3 record, by far the best in Coach Howard Schnellenberger’s four seasons here, and the players and coaches were smoking stogies to celebrate the victory.

“Going from 3-7-1 to 8-3, I’m going to classify that as 5,000 percent improvement,” Schnellenberger said. “For this thing to happen in the fourth year is very gratifying.”

But, it certainly wasn’t an easy task in front of 31,630 season-finale fans at Cardinal Stadium.

U of L was up only 15-10 at the half, giving Western several scoring opportunities. The Hilltoppers took advantage of only one.

“We talked at halftime about keeping it close going into the fourth quarter, hoping to get some turnovers and the win,” Western coach Dave Roberts said. “Instead, we give it up and they got some big plays.”

The Cardinals started rolling with the help of a late third-quarter drive for one touchdown and a Joe Arnold fumble on the ensuing kickoff, setting up another score that put the game out of reach.

Dean Booker, who went over 1,000 yards for the season with a 144-yard effort on 27 carries, scored the second of his three touchdowns with three seconds to play in the third quarter on a 3-yard run to put U of L up 22-10.

“They played aggressively in the first half, and we didn’t expect their defense to play as well as it did,” said Booker after his final game at U of L. He also caught three passes for 69 yards.

“But, I didn’t see worry on anybody’s faces.”

After the Arnold fumble at the Western 38, Booker went in from the 1 nine plays later to lock this one away at 29-10.

Western, the No. 11 team in Division I-AA, fell to 7-3 with a home date left against North Carolina A&T on Saturday to lock up a playoff berth.

“We struggled offensively all night,” Roberts said. “We had some trouble blocking some of their people.”

Western picked up only 248 yards in total offense compared to 526 for the Cardinals.

Senior tailback Joe Arnold had 75 yards in 20 rushes, putting him at 1,306 yards for the season. Quarterback David Armstrong hit 13 of 27 passes for 106 yards, two interceptions and a touchdown to split end Ronnie Shepard from 12 yards out with 1:03 left in the game to make it 29-17.

U of L quarterback Jay Gruden hit 15 of 28 passes for 200 yards, two touchdowns and two interceptions, both in the first half.

After a slow start it was Western’s defense that kept it as close as it was at the half.

A simple screen pass from Gruden to Booker turned into a 58-yard scoring play when the U of L halfback lost safety Jonathan Watts in the open field with less than three minutes gone in the game.

Western’s defense started flexing its muscle, then, though.

Later in the first quarter, U of L punter Klaus Wilmshmeyer fumbled a snap and was tackled at his own 5. Western refused to take advantage, being stopped at the 1 on an ensuing defensive stand after that gift.

But the Hilltoppers scored anyway on U of L’s ensuing first play from scrimmage when tackle Brad Thomas recovered Gruden’s fumble in the end zone for a touchdown.

Kicker Dan Maher’s extra point gave the Hilltoppers their only lead of the day at 7-6.

U of L went back up 12-7 when Gruden hit flanker Calvin Dickson from 11 yards out. Nothing special about that play, except Gruden threaded the pass between three Western defenders.

Finally, there were three turnovers in a 2:16 sequence of a strange second quarter.

The first incident was wide receiver Joey Hamilton’s fumble of a Todd Davis punt that was recovered by Western linebacker Vernon Nixon at the U of L 28.

Western moved the ball to the U of L 18, where Cedric Jones’ touchdown run off of a reverse of a clipping penalty was called back to the 33 because of a penalty.

Then split end Darwin Harris fumbled a pass from quarterback David Armstrong, giving the Cardinals possession at their own 28.

That didn’t last long, however, because on the first ensuing play from scrimmage, Gruden threw a bullet right to cornerback Ron Burroughs, who returned it 14 yards to the Cardinal 24.

In all, U of L had seven fumbles, losing five. Western lost two fumbles and Armstrong threw two interceptions.

“We were playing good defense and trying to get the offense the ball in good field position,” said Burroughs, a senior cornerback.

“It was a matter of turnovers. They converted on our turnovers, we didn’t convert on theirs.”

And that left U of L celebrating in a smoke-filled room.
Loss leaves Western wondering about its chances for playoffs

By BRUCE W. BRANCH
Staff Writer

Western Kentucky University football coach Dave Roberts turned out to be somewhat of a prophet.

Before his NCAA Division I-AA Hilltoppers stepped up in class to take on Louisville yesterday in Cardinal Stadium, Roberts said the only way his club could win or stay close was if U of L had a bad day and his club played its best game of the season.

For one half, at least, Western got the breaks. It was looking for in the form of four turnovers and a blocked extra point. One of the turnovers, a fumble in the end zone by Louisville quarterback Jay Gruden, was recovered by Brad Thomas for a touchdown. It took the Hilltoppers a 7-6 lead with 1:31 left in the first quarter and hopes of an upset. But after fumbling and bumbling its way through the first half, U of L (8-3) took a 15-10 halftime lead before regaining its winning form in the second half to post a convincing 35-17 triumph before 31,636 spectators that put the finishing touches on its first winning season in 10 years.

"We had some opportunities early, and they shut the door on them," said a dejected Roberts. "I thought we played well, but they did what they had to do. They're an 8-3 team. I'm proud of our team, and I'm proud of the Louisville team."

Western defensive end Xavier Jordan said the Hilltoppers proved they are a quality team.

"We shocked them," he said. "They expected a blowout and we gave them a game. They're a good football team, but so are we. We came out here to win the game, not to just give them a good game. We just didn't take advantage of our breaks. This game was good for the entire state."

Still, nobody knows what the fallout will be for Western (7-3), which is ranked 11th in Division I-AA and still in contention for a playoff berth despite two straight losses. The Top- pers were upset 60-7 by Eastern Illinois last week.

"We have to come back and win next week against North Carolina A&T and see if we can get in the playoffs," Roberts said, "A loss like this doesn't help."

To a man, the Hilltoppers are hoping the I-AA selection committee won't base its decision on a loss to a winning I-A team.

"I don't think this loss will hurt us too much," Jordan said. "We were playing a I-A team. They have to look at how hard we played and they have to look at what we do next week and let that dictate what happens."

"All we have to do is do our job next week and let the NCAA committee do the deciding," said offensive guard DeWayne Penn.

Quarterback David Armstrong agreed.

"I don't think this hurts our playoff chances, but you never know," he said. "We have one more game to play. We'll try and win that one and then worry about the playoff picture. We're 7-3, and there are a lot of teams 7-3. If we lose our next game, we know we aren't going to the playoffs."

Senior safety Vincel Anthony, who played at Louisville Male High School, took a philosophical view of the game.

"The score wasn't indicative of the game," he said. "Just like any game, you take away one or two plays and the score might have been different. We played hard, but we made too many mistakes. My hat's off to them."

"We're going to have to have an excellent performance next week and hopefully get some help. If we win, we finish 8-3, and if we go to the playoffs, fine. If we don't, I enjoyed my career."

Western kicker Dan Maher set a school record by kicking his 38th and 42nd straight extra points. The old record was 40 in a row, set by Steve Wilson in 1970.

Maher also tied his own school record with his 13th field goal of the season.
Forget blunders, Cards celebrate an 8-3 season

By RUSS BROWN  
Staff Writer  
C.J. 11-13  

Visitors to the University of Louisville locker room last night ran risks to their eyes and lungs. The place was filled with cigar smoke.


And why not? There was certainly plenty to celebrate, and the Cardinals deserved a few puffs on victory cigars after turning back tenacious Western Kentucky 35-17 in their season finale.

The win, in front of an announced crowd of 31,656 in Cardinal Stadium, enabled U of L to finish with an 8-3 record for its best showing since a 9-1 mark in 1972.

The Cards also captured their sixth victory in a row and eighth in their last nine games following an 0-2 start.

Booker had double reason to party. He scored three touchdowns while gaining 104 yards to boost his season total to 1,011 and become U of L's first 1,000-yard rusher since Nathan Poole gained 1,394 in 1978.

"I'm elated," Booker said. "I went into the game thinking that if I got five yards and we won I'd be happy, but once we started playing I really wanted to get the 1,000. When coach (Gary) Nord told me after the third quarter that I needed only 20 yards, that inspired me."

Booker, who got 80 of his yards in the second half, went over the 1,000 mark on a slithering 13-yard run up the middle with 5½ minutes remaining in the game.

Quarterback Jay Gruden, who threw two touchdown passes to Booker and senior flanker Calvin Dixson, rewrote the U of L record book. By completing 15 of 28 passes for 200 yards Gruden finished the year with 2,605 yards, breaking his own record of 2,481 established last season. He wound up with 12 school career or season records.

Sanders: sensational

Oklahoma State tailback Barry Sanders set the NCAA single-season touchdown record yesterday, scoring five times against Kansas for a season total of 31.

Mike Rozier of Nebraska and Lydell Mitchell of Penn State held the old record, 29.

But Sanders did more than score. He ran for 312 yards, giving him 2,003 for the season. That makes him the third player in NCAA history to break the 2,000-yard barrier.

Details. Page 3.

Still, it was hardly the type of convincing, precision win that Louisville might have expected against a Division I-AA team. In fact, Western, ranked 11th in I-AA, battled the Cards nose to nose for three-fourths of the game, thanks in large part to numerous mistakes by the winners.

Going into the final 15½ minutes, U of L, which lost seven turnovers, was clinging to
Louisville’s Joey Smith (37) met Western Kentucky’s Joe Arnold as he tried to score on fourth-and-one early in yesterday’s game. Louisville held, but quarterback Jay Gruden fumbled on the next play and tackle Brad Thomas recovered in the end zone for a Western touchdown.

Victory over Western gives Cards something to celebrate: 8-3 season
Victory over Western gives Cards something to celebrate: 8-3 season

Continued from Page C1

On U of L's next series, Western got its first scoring opportunity when linebacker Russell Foster intercepted a pass at midfield. But the Hilltoppers were stopped at the U of L 29 and Dan Maher missed a 46-yard field goal.

The Cards made another serious miscue on its next series. After Gruden was sacked for a 21-yard loss by end Xavier Jordan on the U of L 12, Wilmsmeyer dropped the ball on a punt try. He picked it up and tried to run, but was tackled by Eddie Godfrey on the five.

"I was yelling at Craig Swabek to move right because there was a guy there with a clear shot," Wilmsmeyer said. "When I turned my head back, the ball was coming. I wasn't ready and it hit the heel of my hand. There were two guys on me very quick."

U of L's defense held on a fourth-down dive from the one by Arnold. On the next play Gruden dropped back into the end zone to pass, was crunched by linebacker Jerome Martin and fumbled.

Tackle Brad Thomas, who later suffered a broken left ankle, fell on the ball for a touchdown and Maher kicked the conversion for a 7-6 lead. Dixson said.

"Jay put the ball low enough in the perfect place," Dixon said.

"Anywhere else and it could have been intercepted, but it came right into my stomach as I fell and all I had to do was keep it."

After the subsequent kickoff, U of L drove from its own 31 to Western's Elliott Moore is dropped by Arthur Alexander after catching a short pass. U of L limited Western to 248 yards total offense — only 31 yards and three first downs in the first half.

Yesterday's summary

WESTERN KENTUCKY 7 3 0 7 -17
LOUISVILLE 6 9 7 13 -35

FIRST QUARTER
Louisville — Deon Booker 50 pass from Jay Gruden (kick blocked by Ron Burnough), Drive: 7 plays, 80 yards, Key play: Chad Fortune, 10 pass from Gruden.
Western Kentucky — Brad Thomas sacked Gruden in end zone (Dan Maher kick), Drive: 1 play, 0 yards, Key play: none.

SECOND QUARTER
U of L's defense limited Western (7-3) to 248 yards total offense, including a mere 81 and three first downs in the first half.

"We struggled all night offensively, trying to find something that would work," Western coach Dave Roberts said. "We had trouble blocking them.

"We just couldn't control them," Western quarterback David Armstrong said. "They were very aggressive on defense. We've played bigger teams, but not many that were more aggressive.

But the Cards' errors on offense made it close most of the day. They had four turnovers in the first half, and that doesn't count Wilmsmeyer's fumble that led to Western's only touchdown in the first half.

In all, U of L fumbled four times, losing two, and Gruden threw two interceptions, one directly into the hands of one of cornerbacks Ron Burroughs.

Booker gave U of L a 64-yard on the opening series where he took a short pass from Gruden and found himself face to face with Western strong safety Jonathan Watts at the Hilltoppers' 40-yard line.

Booker came to nearly a dead stop, then he juked about 10 different ways and left Watts frozen in his tracks as he headed down the right side to complete a 58-yard touchdown reception.

"All that falls under God-given talent," Booker said. "I just went with the flow. I got as close to him as pass was crushed by linebacker Jerome Martin and fumbled.

Tackle Brad Thomas, who later suffered a broken left ankle, fell on the ball for a touchdown and Maher kicked the conversion for a 7-6 lead with 1:51 left in the first quarter.

The Cards regained the lead at 12-7 with 10:18 remaining in the second period on an 11-yard touchdown pass from Gruden to flanker Calvin Dixon, who caught the ball in a crowd of defenders.

"Jay put the ball low enough in the perfect place," Dixon said. "Anywhere else and it could have been intercepted, but it came right into my stomach as I fell and all I had to do was keep it.

After the subsequent kickoff, Western drove from its own 31 to the U of L 18 before a go-ahead touchdown run by flanker Cedric Jones on a reverse was nullified by a clipping penalty.

On the next drive, the Cards regained possession after Joe Lawrence fumbled in the end zone (Joe Maher kick), giving U of L its second lead of the game at 15-14.

"I thought it was a super game for the defense," said U of L tackle Ted Washington said. "They should have only had three points. For the past few games, the defense has been helping the offense out a helluva lot. Hopefully, in the future both will be equal and we'll dominate everybody.

Washington will have to wait until September 1989 to find out. But the future does indeed look bright with the Cards losing only three starters and nine seniors overall from this year's club.

"We're at a greater plateau, striving for new heights," Booker said. "They're getting almost everybody back, so I feel the confidence from having the kind of season we had this year will set the tone for next year."

---

**Yesterday's summary**

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Western Kentucky</th>
<th>7 3 0 7 -17</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>LOUISVILLE</td>
<td>9 7 13 -33</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

**FIRST QUARTER**

- Western Kentucky, 10:18: Bobby Hall, 33 run (kick), Drive: 1 play, 0 yards, Key plays: none.
- Western Kentucky, 2:46: Bobby Hall, 23 FG, Drive: 1 play, 0 yards, Key plays: none.
- Western Kentucky, 1:41: Jay Gruden sacks Gruden in end zone (Jim Maher kick), Drive: 1 play, 0 yards, Key plays: none.

**SECOND QUARTER**

- Western Kentucky, 8:51: Joe Washington, 15 pass from Armstrong, 38 pass interception return.
- Western Kentucky, 6:21: Pat Armstrong, 14 run, Drive: 1 play, 0 yards, Key plays: none.

**THIRD QUARTER**

- Western Kentucky, 10:58: Joe Armstrong, 3 run (ball kick), Drive: 10 plays, 56 yards, Key plays: Stephens, 14 run, Walter Wise, 14 pass from Jay Gruden.
- Western Kentucky, 1:41: Joe Armstrong, 23 FG, Drive: 1 play, 0 yards, Key plays: none.

**FOURTH QUARTER**

- Western Kentucky, 11:21: Joe Armstrong, 3 run (kick blocked), Drive: 2 plays, 37 yards, Key plays: Hill, 37 touchdown run.

**Team statistics**

- Louisville: Rushing-yards: 33-99, Passing yards: 0, Passing TDs: 0, Interceptions: 0, Fumbles: 0, Fumbles lost: 0, Penalties: 0, Time possession: 0.

**Individual statistics**

- PASSING: Western: Armstrong 27-13-2, 106 yards, Scot Campbell 1-0-0, 0 yards, Louisville: 22-15-2, 200 yards, Joe Gracie 1-1-0, 0 yards, 2 yards.
- RECEIVING: Western: Darvin Harris 3-18, Ronnie Shepard 2-27, Robert Coates 2-25, Joe Arnold 2-9, Pedro Bacon 2-8, Anthony Green 1-8, Louisville: Booker 3-65, Fortune 4-34, Dixon 1-11, Swabek 2-12, Rice 2-20, Wise 2-25, Broomfield 1-16, Stephens 1-6.

**Attendance:** 31,536.
WESTERN KENTUCKY University wide receiver Cedric Jones (82) gained a first down on this carry despite the defense of Joey Smith Saturday in Louisville's Cardinal Stadium. The University of Louisville won the game 35-17.
Western must win to earn playoff berth

By Joe Medley

Daily News Sports Editor

It's simple.

If Western Kentucky University's football team beats North Carolina A&T Saturday in Smith Stadium, the Hilltoppers should go to the playoffs. If Western losses, 1988 was just a nice season.

"Based on the rankings, we should go if we win," Western coach Dave Roberts said. "We were 16th, and they've got to take 16 teams."

And where will Western go?

"My grape vine has been telling me things like Furman, The Citadel, Western Carolina or Western Illinois," Roberts said. "But no one really knows at this point. I sure don't."

If Western (7-3) is to go, it must recover from the losses to Eastern Illinois and Louisville in the last two weeks.

"We didn't play well at Eastern Illinois," Roberts said. "We played hard at Louisville, but we still came up short."

"We've just got to go out and play well."

That should be enough against the Aggies (2-8).

A&T has given up 384 yards a game this season, 222 of which came on the ground.

Western runs for 220 yards a contest and could explode for more Saturday.

"We give up a lot of yards rushing, and they've got a strong rushing game," A&T coach Bill Hayes said. He is in his first year at the school. "It's going to take our best effort to stop them."

The Aggies' wishbone offense could give Western some problems.

"We've had trouble with the wishbone this year," Roberts said.

The Aggies average 237 yards offense a game, and the attack is keyed by quarterback Keith Matthys. He has completed 36 of 99 passes for 460 yards and rushed for 287 more on 104 carries.

Western is led by Joe Arnold's 1,308 rushing yards on 232 carries. He and 16 other seniors will play their last home game Saturday.

A second-straight playoff berth would fall in well with the progress the Hilltoppers have made while those seniors have played.

"Last year, we set a goal to go 7-4 and did it," Roberts said. "This year, we wanted 9-2. We didn't get that, but we can get our eighth win. Not too many Western teams have done that, and I'm proud for our seniors."
must win to earn playoff berth

North Carolina A&T Western (7-3)

Fourth Stadium.

6: 7 p.m. CST. Saturday.

WKCT-AM, WBLG-FM.

He is in his first year as coach. “It's going to take a lot of effort to stop them.”

North Carolina A&T Western has had trouble with the Hilltoppers this year, he said. The Hilltoppers are led by Joe Arnold's leading yards on 232 carries and 16 other seniors will play in the last home game Saturday.

Last week, the Hilltoppers scored 20 points and won 11-7. We set a goal to go 9-2. We did that, but we can get to 11 wins. Not too many teams have done that, I think for our seniors.”

WESTERN KENTUCKY University defender Brad Thomas (52) gets after Eastern Kentucky University quarterback Lorenzo Fields earlier this season in Smith Stadium. Western will try to lock up a playoff berth against North Carolina A&T Saturday.
Win may put Western in playoffs

Continued from Page B1

I I I I I

think everyone else feels the same way.

Beating North Carolina A&T, a member of the Mid-American Athletic Conference, shouldn't be that difficult for Western, provided the Hilltoppers can regain their early-season form. Under first-year coach Bill Hayes, the Aggies (2-8) have lost six straight games since beating Morgan State 31-28. Included in their record are lopsided losses to Florida A&M (58-7), Delaware State (37-7) and Western Carolina (43-10).

North Carolina A&T, which lost to Western 45-27 last season, is giving up 385 yards a game defensively. Playing at home after road losses to Eastern Kentucky (56-17) and Louisville (35-17) also should help the Hilltoppers, but coach Dave Roberts will take nothing for granted in the 8 EST game at L.T. Smith Stadium.

"We've got to shake off the effects of the last two games and get back on track," said Roberts, who didn't want to discuss his club's playoffs prospects. "Coach Bill Hayes has some fine athletic talent, but they've had to adjust to a new coach, and I know how tough a chore that was when I came to Western Kentucky."

"We insist our kids work hard, but we always want them to have fun and enjoy the game, and the last two weeks haven't been that way."

Last year against North Carolina A&T, Western's Joe Arnold rushed for 260 yards and four touchdowns. The senior has rushed for 1,284 yards this season, leaving him 150 short of the Western single-season record set in 1987 by Dickie Moore.

**Morehead State-Eastern Kentucky:** Morehead hasn't beaten Eastern in 17 years, and the prospects of that happening in today's 1:30 p.m. game in Richmond aren't bright.

Eastern (7-2), which already has wrapped up the Ohio Valley Conference championship and an automatic bid to the I-AA playoffs, is riding a six-game winning streak.

Morehead (3-7) has a modest two-game string after beating Tennessee Tech (20-3) and Austin Peay (43-6).

"We were a little flat-footed last week, and I expected us to be," Eastern coach Roy Kidd said, referring to a come-from-behind, 35-31 victory over Central Florida. "Last week woke us up, and we had some good practices."

Most of Morehead's hopes of reversing last year's 23-0 outcome rest on sophomore quarterback Chris Swartz, who has passed for 2,015 yards and 15 touchdowns. He leads the OVC in passing and has the league's top three receivers, Ty Howard (45 catches), Jerome Williams (42) and John Irwin (31).

"Swartz is a good passer and they have some kids who can catch the ball," Kidd said. "He gets a deep drop, so it's going to be hard to get to him."

Morehead must find a way to stop Eastern running backs Elroy Harris and Tim Lester. Harris leads I-AA in rushing with 1,421 yards and 20 touchdowns. Lester has 903 yards and four TDs.

"EKU is a national-championship-caliber team," Morehead assistant head coach Vic Clark said. "Execution is their forte. We have to play error-free football to match up with them."

**Murray State-Austin Peay:**

Murray (3-6), with a victory in today's 2:30 p.m. EST game in Clarksville, Tenn., would salvage a second-place finish in the OVC with a 4-2 league record. For Murray to claim the spot outright, Tennessee Tech (1-9, 1-4) would have to upset Middle Tennessee (6-4, 3-2).

Murray's only conference losses were in overtime, 16-13 to Tech and 31-24 to Eastern.

"Second place isn't bad when you consider where we started (6-5, 0-1)," Murray coach Mike Mahoney said. "Our football team has improved a great deal since the start of the season. I wish we had a couple of games left. We took our opportunities, but we didn't take advantage of them. It has been a season of missed opportunities."
Hilltoppers roll past Aggies

Continued from Page C1

By J.C. CLEMONS
Staff Writer

Bowling Green, Ky. — Neither rain nor the opposition could stop the Western Kentucky Hilltoppers last night in a 44-0 football victory over North Carolina A&T.

But the scoreboard clock did.

So badly did the Hilltoppers (8-3) manhandle the Aggies (2-9) en route a 37-0 halftime lead that it was decided at intermission to cut the Aggies’ misery.

By mutual agreement of the head coaches, it was decided to play 12-minute quarters in the second half instead of the NCAA standard of 15 minutes.

Western officials said the action was permitted under NCAA rules that allow it under extreme conditions. They were so extreme — on the scoreboard and the mud-soaked field — that the clock was kept running throughout the fourth quarter.

“We just wanted to get the game over with,” said Western coach Dave Roberts, whose players dragged him across the mud-soaked field after the game. “We’ve been beaten up on a few times ourselves. We just wanted to keep the ball moving and get it over with.”

Western, ranked No. 16 in NCAA Division I-AAA, now must wait for an expected phone call today inviting them to the playoffs for the second year in a row.

“I’m very, very proud of my football players,” Roberts said. “We set a goal — and we hope tomorrow to be able to keep on playing.”

Preferably the way they did for the first 30 minutes last night.

How bad was it for the Aggies?

Western tailback Joe Arnold entered the game needing 160 yards to break the school’s single-season rushing record. He had 177 at halftime on only 12 carries.

“The offensive line, in the beginning of the year, said they’d get me all the yards I wanted,” Arnold said. “All I wanted was the record. It’s great.”

Arnold now has 1,461 yards this season, breaking the record of 1,444 set by Dickie Moore in 1987.

North Carolina A&T fumbled five times in the first half, lost all five, and the Hilltoppers turned three of them into 16 points.

“We thought we would be able to move the football because we did last year,” said Roberts, whose Hilltoppers blasted the Aggies 45-27 in 1987 in Greensboro.

When the Aggies weren’t dropping the ball, they were missing tackles. Western, which went into the game averaging 220 yards rushing per game, had 301 in the first half. It wound up with 371.

"It’s kind of surprising," Roberts said. “But we just concentrated out there and got with it.”

The Hilltoppers took the opening kickoff and drove 56 yards in five plays, with fullback Pedro Bacon scoring from a yard out.

Two plays later, North Carolina A&T fumbled the snap and linebacker Mike Carberry recovered for Western at the Aggies’ 9-yard line.

Arnold then blasted through the middle for the score and Dan Maher booted another extra point, giving the Hilltoppers a 14-0 lead with 12:11 remaining in the first quarter.

The Aggies fumbled the ball away on their first snap from scrimmage following the ensuing kickoff and Western cornerbiback Doug Samuel recovered at the A&T 48. Five plays later tailback Tony Brown slipped out of a tackle and rambled 19 yards for a TD.

And so it went as the game continued that way, with Arnold breaking loose for an 81-yard run for one of the rapid-fire touchdowns.

Maher’s extra point that gave the Hilltoppers a 27-0 lead with 5:59 to play in the first quarter also gave the senior from Florence, Ky., Western’s all-time scoring lead with 235 points. He finished with 239.

North Carolina A&T 0 0 0 0 — 0
Western Kentucky 27 10 0 7 — 44

First downs 5 18
Rushes-yards 34-551-371
Passing yards 40 19
Passes 0-2 2-6-0
Punts 3 3-37.2 4-40.9
Kicks 3 2-64 F-3-2
Flies 2-70

N.C. A&T Western
Records fell harder than the steady rain that drenched Smith Stadium on Saturday night.

They fell harder than North Carolina A&T did in the 44-0 loss to the Hilltoppers that all but clinched Western (8-3) its second straight playoff berth.

Western will find out whom, where and if it will play today at 2 p.m.

"I sure hope so," Western coach Dave Roberts said after he let members of his team drag him 20 yards through the mud. "We'll have a good idea about what's going on tomorrow. It all depends on how everybody else does. We'll go where ever, and we're just glad to be playing. We don't care."

And now the records.

On a second-quarter right-end sweep, Western tailback Joe Arnold broke Dickie Moore's mark for most yards rushing in one season. Moore had 1,444 in 1967.

Arnold gained 15 yards on the play to give him 1,447 for the year and 163 for the game. He finished at 1,461 and 177.

"If it weren't for my offensive line, I wouldn't have all the yards," Arnold said. "I give all the credit to them. They made it so I could get as many as I want."

Senior kicker Dan Maher became the school's all-time leading scorer with a first-quarter extra point that gave Western a 27-0 lead.

Maher finished with 239 career points. He beat Clarence Jackson's old mark of 234.

WESTERN KENTUCKY University runner Pedro Bacon is smothered by two North Carolina A&T defenders in a driving rain as NCAA rules permit a game to be shortened in extremely bad playing conditions, and Western's field and sideline was soaked under brown water late in the downpour.

Saturday night in Smith Sta season at 8-3 and open the doo intensified.

Western ran up 301 rush yards on 35 carries in the half and 390 total yards on night.

Western's 44 points was most it scored all season.
rain fall hard as WKU thumps A&T

Western Kentucky University runner Pedro Bacon is smothered by two North Carolina A&T defenders in a driving rain.
Eastern will play Western if both survive first round

By BRUCE W. BRANCH
Staff Writer
C.J. 11-21-84

Eastern Kentucky University and Western Kentucky will make appearances in the NCAA I-AA football playoffs for the second straight year and were placed in the same bracket yesterday by the NCAA selection committee.

Eighth-ranked Eastern (9-2) will play host to No. 11 Massachusetts (8-3) of the Yankee Conference Saturday at 7 p.m. EST.

The 16th-ranked Hilltoppers (8-3) will travel to Macomb, Ill., to meet fourth-ranked Western Illinois (10-1), winner of the Gateway Conference, at 1 p.m. EST.

If Eastern and Western win, they will meet for a second time this season. Western defeated Eastern 16-14 in Bowling Green Sept. 24.

"I hope Western wins," Eastern coach Roy Kidd said. "I'm always for the state schools. I don't know if this is true, but I have been told if Western wins, we would get the next game at home, so I'm really going to be rooting for Western."

Eastern (9-2), which will be appearing in the playoffs for the ninth time in the 11 years they have been held, earned an automatic berth by winning its third straight Ohio Valley Conference championship. The Colonels made it to the I-AA semifinals last year and won titles in 1979 and '82.

Continued from Page D1

with a 40-17 rout of Morehead State that extended the Colonels' winning streak to eight games, has scored 30 or more points in seven games while averaging 30.7 points per game.

"I'm a little surprised we're 9-2," Kidd said. "It used to be to go a long way in the playoffs you had to have a great defense. Now to go far it seems like you have to be able to put up points on the board, and we have the ability to do that. That's one of the things I was pleased about this year."

Western Kentucky (8-3), ousted by Eastern 40-17 in the first round last year, sealed a berth in the playoffs by demolishing North Carolina A&T 44-0 in its season finale Saturday.

"It feels real good (to be in the playoffs)," Western coach Dave Roberts said. "I'm tickled to death for our senior football players and I'm tickled to death for me. There are some awfully good teams in the playoffs, but we sure are glad to be one of them."

Eastern, which ended the regular season

DCalculations and Pairings: NCAA said Wednesday the automatic bids have been announced.

DIVISION I-AA PLAYOFFS

Saturday's first round

(Times to be announced)

Western (9-2) at Western Illinois (10-1)
Massachusetts (8-3) at Eastern (9-2)
Montana (8-3) at Idaho (9-1)
Northwestern State (9-2) at Boise State (8-3)
Delaware (7-4) at Furman (9-3)
Texas (8-3) at Marshall (10-1)
Georgia Southern (9-2)
Jackson State (9-2) at Stephen F. Austin (9-2)
Quarterfinals, Dec. 3
Semifinals, Dec. 10
Championship, Dec. 17

by NCAA selection committee.

Massachusetts and Delaware were co-champions of the Yankee Conference. However, Delaware took the automatic bid because of its victory over the Minutemen during the regular season. Massachusetts was picked as at-large team.

"I'm glad we get a home game," said Kidd, who will get his 200th career victory if the Colonels make it to the final in the 16-team playoffs.

"I don't really know a whole lot about (Massachusetts), but I remember playing Boston University from that conference in 1983 and getting beat (24-20) in the first round of the playoffs.

"They sound a lot like us," Kidd said of Massachusetts. "They really like to run the ball and use the option."

Roberts said his club has a tough chore ahead.

"We are very much an underdog," he said of the matchup with Western Illinois. "They are 10-1 and they beat the heck out of Eastern Illinois, who we lost to (6-0). Their only loss is to NCAA I-A team Northern Illinois, but crazy things can happen in the playoffs."

PAGE 6, col. 4, this section
Western is in, but WIU's Singer tough

By JOE MEDLEY 11/2/84
Daily News Sports Editor

Western Kentucky football coach Dave Roberts knows his team is in the Division I-AA playoffs. Now the question it can Western stop Paul Singer?

"I don't think you really stop someone like that," Roberts said about Western Illinois' record-setting quarterback. "You just try to slow him down and not let him get quick touchdowns on you."

Western (8-3) will play its first-round game Saturday at Western Illinois (10-1). The winner will play the winner between Massachusetts and Eastern Kentucky.

Singer, who played for Western graduate Joe Jaggers at Fort Knox High, has broken all of WIU's passing records. This year, he has completed 201 of 354 passes for 2,639 yards and 20 touchdowns.

"We've had problems with throwing quarterbacks," Roberts said. "We've just got to work on ball control and not letting him burn us quickly."

WIU, coached by Bruce Craddock, beat Eastern Illinois 45-6 and Southern Illinois 35-31. Western lost to EIU 6-0 and held on to beat SIU.

"I'm just happy for the seniors, and particularly the players who have been here for a while," Roberts said. "We're glad to go where ever they want to send us and play whomever."

Western will make its second straight playoff appearance. The Hilltoppers lost to Eastern 40-17 at Hanger Field in last year's first-round game.

"We've set a goal this year to do better than last year's team," Roberts said. "We got beat pretty good at Eastern last year, and we want to do better this time."
Toppers made it, now want success

By JOE MEDLEY 11-25-88
Daily News Sports Editor

When Western's football team gave the school its first winning season and first playoff berth under Coach Dave Roberts last year, it set a precedent for this year's team.

"When we got together in the preseason, the seniors felt a good goal was to go 9-2 and just try to do better than last year's team," Roberts said.

This year's 8-3 record is an improvement over last year's 7-4 mark. But to do better, Western needs to win its first-round playoff game Saturday at Western Illinois (10-1).

The Hilltoppers came apart in the second half and lost 40-17 to Eastern in the first round last year.

"Last year, we were just kind of happy to get there," Roberts said. "This year, we'd like to do better. We got beat pretty good last year."

Western will try to reach its goal starting at 12 p.m. CST Saturday. The winner will play either Eastern or Massachusetts.

To do it, Western must contain a Fort Knox product who is drawing comparisons to some of the best quarterbacks ever.

The numbers say it best. Paul Singer has completed 201 of 364 passes (55.2 percent) for 2,639 yards and 20 touchdown passes this season.

"He's a lot like a Roger Staubach," WIU coach Bobby Craddock said comparing Singer to the former Dallas Cowboys great.

"He can do so many things well. He's got a future in the NFL." Craddock uses Singer's talents. Almost 65 percent of WIU's offense comes in the air.

"We've got to keep him from piling touchdowns on us quickly," Roberts said. "You're not going to stop him. You've got to slow him down." Singer likes to throw to Steve Williams and running back Brett Grimshaw. Williams has 50 catches for 762 yards and eight scores, and Grimshaw has 43 grabs for 485 yards for four touchdowns.

The Leathernecks try to balance Singer's passing with Grimshaw's running. He has 529 yards on 103 runs.

"They can run the football," Roberts said. "You have to respect all facets of their game. They're impressive."

Western has been impressive, but the Hilltoppers have gotten most of their yardage on the ground. Western has amassed 2,755 yards on the ground this year to just 1,037 in the air.

Joe Arnold owns Western's single-season record with 1,461 rushing yards. Fullback Pedro Bacon added 507 yards on 78 carries.

It's the rushing game behind the powerful offensive line that must give Western ball control.

"If Singer doesn't have the football in his hand, he can't hurt us," Roberts said. "He's going to get the football, but we've got to keep it out of his hands as much as possible and slow him down when he has it."

Stopping Singer will be a challenge, but Roberts is glad to have the burden.

"I'm really happy for the seniors," he said. "We've already done better than last year, but we're not through working on that goal."
take first steps in search of title

By BRUCE W. BRANCH
Staff Writer

Eastern Kentucky University and Western Kentucky open the NCAA Division I-AA football playoffs today, with Eastern seeking its third national title.

The seventh-ranked Colonels (9-2), riding the crest of eight straight victories and a third consecutive Ohio Valley Conference championship, seek their 21st straight win at home against 10th-ranked Massachusetts (8-3) at 7 p.m. EST at Hanger Field in Richmond.

No. 12 Western (7-3), making its second straight appearance in the I-AA playoffs, meets No. 3 Western Illinois (10-1) at 1 p.m. in Macomb, Ill.

The Hilltoppers lost 40-17 to Eastern in the opening round of last year's I-AA playoffs. The Colonels went on to reach the semifinals before losing 33-32 to eventual champion Northeast Louisiana.

Here is a closer look at today's two games.

Massachusetts-Eastern: This one figures to be a shootout between two potent offenses.

Eastern, which has appeared in nine of 11 I-AA playoffs and has an 11-6 postseason record, broke nine individual and team OVC records while averaging 30.7 points and 416.1 yards per game this season.

Massachusetts, the I-AA runner-up to Florida A&M in its only playoff appearance in 1978, averages 491.8 yards per game.

This will be the first meeting between the two. "They are a lot like us," Eastern coach Roy Kidd said. "I just hope we can stop them.

"If used to be that you won with good defense in the playoffs, but now you have to be able to outscore people, and fortunately for us, we have been able to put some points on the board. I'm very pleased with that aspect of our football team.

Massachusetts quarterback Dave Palazzi is the top gun for the Minutemen. He threw for 2,043 yards and 14 TDs and rushed for 660 yards and five TDs this season.

Palazzi's favorite receivers are Chip Mitchell, who has 33 catches for 638 yards and six TDs, and Mike Tobin, who has 29 receptions for 441 yards and one TD.

"They definitely have some weapons," Kidd said.

Massachusetts' defenders probably are just as worried

See EASTERN

Continued from Page B1

about the Colonels.

Eastern tailback Elroy Harris was named OVC Offensive Player of the Year this season after leading I-AA with 1,543 yards rushing and 21 TDs. Freshman fullback Tim Lester added 975 yards and five TDs.

Teams couldn't gang up on the two because sophomore quarterback Lorenzo Fields completed 82 of 125 passes for 1,223 yards and eight touchdowns this season.

Western Kentucky-Western Illinois: The loss to Eastern last year came in the Hilltoppers' first I-AA playoff appearance.

"Last year we were just happy to be (in the playoffs)," Western Kentucky coach Dave Roberts said. "We had bad practices all week. I don't think we'll play this year, but we've had better practices, and the reason is we've been there before."

To beat Western Illinois, the Gateway Conference champion, Western must stop one of the top quarterbacks in I-AA in Paul Singer, who is from Fort Knox.

With Singer completing 201 of 364 passes for 2,437 yards and 23 touchdowns, the Leathernecks averaged 31.3 points and 377.1 yards per game. For his career, the 6-foot-3, 195-pound Singer has completed 840 of 1,202 passes for 7,850 yards and 64 TDs — all school records.

"They've got a great quarterback, and I don't think you stop great players; you just try to slow them down some," Roberts said. "It's going to be tough. Some of the pro scouts have told us he is the fourth-rated quarterback in the draft. Playing against Jay Gruden (of Louisville) will help us against him."

Western Illinois has six receivers with 10 catches or more, topped by wide receiver Steve Williams and running back Brett Grimshaw.

Williams has 50 catches for 762 yards and eight TDs, and Grimshaw has 43 catches for 485 yards and four TDs. Grimshaw also has rushed for 529 yards and two touchdowns.

Western will counter with a strong running game led by tailback Joe Arnold, who has gained 1,461 yards and scored 12 touchdowns this season while averaging 6 yards a carry.

Quarterback David Armstrong has completed 99 of 220 passes for 957 yards and five TDs. He has thrown nine interceptions.

"We have to be able to move the ball, especially in the air," Roberts said. "We played two other Gateway teams — Eastern Illinois and Southwestern Missouri — and they just stacked nine men at the line of scrimmage."

The two teams last met in 1968, with the Hilltoppers winning 66-0. This season they played three common opponents.

Western Kentucky beat Illinois State 31-16 and Southwest Missouri 21-14 but lost to Eastern Illinois 6-0.

Hilltoppers upset Western I

By JOE MEDLEY
Daily News Sports Editor

MACOMB, Ill. — Western found the best way to beat Paul Singer — catch his passes.

Western’s secondary played perhaps its best game this season against Western Illinois here Saturday.

The Hilltoppers shared six interceptions and returned two for touchdowns.

Singer led a 29-point fourth-quarter comeback and had 407 yards on 32 for 60 passing, but Vince Anthony’s interception with 43 seconds to play at Western’s 20-yard line saved a 35-32 Division I-AA college football playoff win.

The win was Western’s first ever I-AA playoff victory and its first playoff win since a 14-3 besting of New Hampshire in the 1975 Division II semifinals.

“When you consider that we came up here and beat a great football team in its place, this is a great win for our program,” Western Coach Dave Roberts said.

Western (9-3) will play Eastern Kentucky University on Saturday at Richmond. Eastern beat Massachusetts 28-17 to advance to the next round.

“Right now, I don’t care who we play,” Roberts said. “I’m just happy to get to the showers.”

Western staged a 28-point blitz in the second quarter Saturday. The last two scores were interception returns of 43 yards by Ron Burroughs and 37 yards by Zip Zanders.

Western’s last interception return for a touchdown was Xavier Jordan’s 51-yard runback against Central Florida in 1985.

“We had a bet to see who could get the most interceptions,” said Zanders, who sat home injured during last year’s 40-17 loss to Eastern Kentucky in the playoffs. His runback made it 21-3.

“It was just a great game for the defense. We made the big plays. It feels great to be a part of it.”

“I made some bad decisions,” said Singer, a Fort Knox native who threw for just under 2,700 yards in the regular season.

“In the second half, we started taking what they were giving us. I guess we should’ve started doing that sooner.”

Western held the ball only four minutes and 24 seconds of the second quarter.

A seven-play, 69-yard drive that ended with quarterback David Armstrong’s 2-yard touchdown run on fourth down sparked the rally.

Armstrong’s run answered Layne Bennett’s 32-yard field goal and made it 7-3 Western.

Three plays later, Western’s Chad Kraml deflected a pass and intercepted Singer at the WIU 16-yard line. That set up Joe Arnold’s 2-yard scoring dive to make it 14-3.

Two interception returns made it 28-3 at halftime.

“We knew coming in that they have some great players in that secondary,” said WIU Coach Bruce Craddock, whose team finished 10-3.

“They were just great athletes who were able to maneuver their way for the end zone after the pickoffs. I wish we would’ve done a better job of tackling them.”

Two possessions later, Western seemingly sealed the win with a 35-yard drive set up by an interference call against WIU on a punt play.

Armstrong rolled right bootleg and hit tight end Coates for a 9-yard score to make it 35-3 with 4:53 left in the third quarter.

But Singer, a leader of WIU comebacks this season, wasn’t through.

After Derek Swanson’s pass was intercepted, Williams picked up the
**Western Illinois, face EKU**

**Stern wins 28-17**

IOND, Ky. (AP) — Western rushed for 216 yards and another lead Eastern Kentucky 28-17 victory over Massachusetts Saturday in the 26th NCAA Division I-AA playoffs.

A 20-yard TD run with 2:04 remaining in the game put up 21-17. Western quarterback Tobin faced a 28 mph wind and four straight timeouts on the next possession and Eastern took over Massachusetts' 20-yard line.

A 14-0 first quarter ended with Western's 30-10 lead. Swanson scored on a 2-yard pass from Singer. But Singer hit Williams for a 30-yard field goal from Palazzi.

On the next play, Anthony kicked a 40-yarder and Western ran out the final 35 seconds.

“Swanson then recovered an onside kick, and Singer led a 58-yard drive that ended with a 12-yard scoring strike to Pablo Luis. A conversion pass to Williams made it 35-19 with 12:36 to play.”

Western then held Eastern on downs and, aided by a facemask penalty, drove 42 yards in two plays, the second being Swanson's 12-yard scoring run. Singer hit Wes Courier with a pass on the conversion try, but Courier was tackled short of the goal line to leave the score at 35-25 with 11:01 left.

“I knew we were going to come back,” Singer said. “We've done it so many times before.”

But Western's defense would hold on long enough. The Hilltoppers forced WIU into an unsuccessful 47-yard field goal attempt on its next drive.

After Western's offense managed only one first down on its next drive, Singer orchestrated a 55-yard scoring drive. Swanson scored on a 3-yard run to make it 35-32 with 1:45 left.

Western got a second-and-two play on its next possession but couldn’t get the first down. A punt gave WIU the ball at its 30 with 1:11 left.

Singer hit Williams with a 30-yard pass to Western's 40, and Williams just couldn’t make it a touchdown and didn’t score a touchdown with Western defensive back Doug Samuel for a pass in the end zone two plays later.

On the next play, Anthony made the interception, and Western ran out the final 43 seconds.

“Our defense made the big plays today,” Zanders said. “We've got a bend-but-don't-break defense, and we came through.”

Singer couldn’t hide his emotions. His eyes welled up and his voice broke.

“After the game, I was feeling pretty sad,” he said. “But I realize I've got a lot of wonderful things in life. Just a lot of great things.”

---

**College football**

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>W. Kentucky</th>
<th>28-17</th>
<th>0-28</th>
<th>0-19</th>
<th>0-28</th>
<th>7-28</th>
<th>7-28</th>
<th>7-28</th>
<th>7-28</th>
<th>7-28</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>WIU-FG Bennett</td>
<td>22</td>
<td>---</td>
<td>---</td>
<td>---</td>
<td>---</td>
<td>---</td>
<td>---</td>
<td>---</td>
<td>---</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>WIU-Armstrong</td>
<td>10-20</td>
<td>(Maher kick)</td>
<td>---</td>
<td>---</td>
<td>---</td>
<td>---</td>
<td>---</td>
<td>---</td>
<td>---</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>WIU-Armstrong</td>
<td>10-20</td>
<td>(Maher kick)</td>
<td>---</td>
<td>---</td>
<td>---</td>
<td>---</td>
<td>---</td>
<td>---</td>
<td>---</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>WIU-Lewis</td>
<td>13-23</td>
<td>Interception return</td>
<td>---</td>
<td>---</td>
<td>---</td>
<td>---</td>
<td>---</td>
<td>---</td>
<td>---</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>WIU-Burroughs</td>
<td>13-23</td>
<td>Interception return</td>
<td>---</td>
<td>---</td>
<td>---</td>
<td>---</td>
<td>---</td>
<td>---</td>
<td>---</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>WIU-Armstrong</td>
<td>17-28</td>
<td>9 pass from Armstrong (Maher kick)</td>
<td>---</td>
<td>---</td>
<td>---</td>
<td>---</td>
<td>---</td>
<td>---</td>
<td>---</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>WIU-Bentley</td>
<td>17-28</td>
<td>1 run (Borich pass from Singer)</td>
<td>---</td>
<td>---</td>
<td>---</td>
<td>---</td>
<td>---</td>
<td>---</td>
<td>---</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>WIU-Lewis</td>
<td>17-28</td>
<td>32 pass from Singer (Williams pass from Singer)</td>
<td>---</td>
<td>---</td>
<td>---</td>
<td>---</td>
<td>---</td>
<td>---</td>
<td>---</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>WIU-Swanson</td>
<td>21-32</td>
<td>Run (failed)</td>
<td>---</td>
<td>---</td>
<td>---</td>
<td>---</td>
<td>---</td>
<td>---</td>
<td>---</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>WIU-Swanson</td>
<td>21-32</td>
<td>Run (Bennett kick)</td>
<td>---</td>
<td>---</td>
<td>---</td>
<td>---</td>
<td>---</td>
<td>---</td>
<td>---</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

**INDIVIDUAL STATISTICS**

I- AA: Eastern, Western win
Iron-man Harris' 40 carries help EKU rally 28-17

By J.C. CLEMONS
Staff Writer

RICHMOND, Ky. — With 1:41 left in last night's NCAA Division I-AA playoff game against the University of Massachusetts, Eastern Kentucky tailback Elroy Harris took a slow, painful stroll to the locker room.

By then, though, he'd earned whatever respite he could get.

Harris, the Colonels' candidate for the Walter Payton Trophy that goes to the top I- AA player, rambled for 191 yards on 40 carries as Eastern scored a 28-17 comeback victory over the Minutemen.

"That was a fine exhibition," Eastern coach Roy Kidd said. "If that kid doesn't win the top player ... something is wrong with the ballot.

"When the game is on the line, he gets better, and when he's got to get it, he gets it. He sucked it up. He had a thigh injury. I just hope it's not serious because we're going to need him in the playoffs."

Eastern, which extended its home winning streak to 21 games and won its 12th playoff game, scored a 28-17 comeback victory over Western Kentucky yesterday in the first round of the NCAA Division I-AA football playoffs.

The Hilltoppers, ranked 12th, took a 32-point lead into the final quarter but were not assured victory until strong safety Vince Anthony that goes to the top I- AA player, made the last interception at the Western Kentucky 20-yard line and returned it 6 yards with 6 seconds remaining. That finally cooled off Leathernecks quarterback Paul Singer, who completed 32 of 60 passes for 407 yards.

"Games like that make you age very fast," said Western defensive end Xavier Jordan. "I'm 22, but I feel like I'm going on 51. You see any gray hairs?"

No, but Hilltoppers coach Dave Roberts, who called it "a great win for our program," said he had more than a few anxious moments leading up to Anthony's interception.

"I almost had a heart attack at the end," Rob-
Harris helps Eastern rally to 28-17 victory

Continued from Page C1

game, will play host to Western Kentucky next Saturday at 1 p.m. EST in the second round.

But before the Colonels could set up another match against the Hilltoppers, they had to overcome a scrappy U-Mass team that jumped to a 14-0 first-quarter lead.

And they called on their iron man.

Harris carried six times for 36 yards in a nine-play, 46-yard drive and scored on a 2-yard run with 3:04 to play to give the Colonels the lead for the first time, 21-17. Fullback Tim Lester added an 18-yard TD run with 2:07 left for the final margin.

"I got more tired in the first half," Harris said. "Then I started catching my wind. They were keying on me early and forgot about (quarterback) Lorenzo (Fields) and (fullback Tim) Lester. That's what always happens. But by that last series, they started watching everybody."

Trailing 14-6 at halftime, the Colonels drove 79 yards against the wind to tie the score.

First, Harris broke through a couple of would-be tacklers and dragged two more defenders for a 17-yard gain to the U-Mass 22-yard line. Then Lester blasted up the middle for a TD that pulled Eastern within 14-12.

With the U-Mass defense now keeping one eye on Harris and the other on Lester, Fields faked to the fullback then completed a pass to tight end Oscar Angelo to tie the score with 6:05 remaining in the third period.

Late in the quarter, the Minutemen took advantage of a 26-yard punt into the wind by Jeff Johnson to Eastern's 39 and went ahead 17-14 on Silvio Bonvini's 27-yard field goal early in the final period.

Spurred on by a 44-yard kickoff return by Mike Cadore to the Minutemen's 37, Eastern drove to first-and-goal at the 8. But Fields fumbled the snap on third-and-goal at the 5, and nose-guard Steve Robar recovered with 8:55 to play.

Eastern's defense held, and following a punt, the Colonels were threatening again. This time Harris came through.

"I was worried," Kidd said, "Our kids never quit. We beat a fine football team. They really surprised me, particularly on defense. Especially in the first half, they whipped us up front."

The Minutemen won the toss, took the wind and kicked off. U-Mass held and Johnson's low kick traveled only 23 yards, giving U-Mass a first down at the Colonels' 47-yard line.

Two plays later, quarterback Dave Palazzi connected with Mike Tobin on a slant for a 39-yard touchdown.

Later in the quarter, Lester fumbled the ball away at the Colonels' 29. It was recovered by U-Mass linemen Matt Tolley with 4:03 to go in the period.

Five rushing plays later, David Mitchell scored from the 2, and Bonvini added the point-after kick for a 14-0 lead.

Harris was held to 36 yards in the opening quarter on 12 carries.

Eastern got rolling with the wind in the second quarter, but it was Fields who got the Colonels untracked. He ran 39 yards on four carries in a 56-yard drive that culminated in a 40-yard field goal by James Campbell.

After the Minutemen fumbled at the Colonels' 28, Eastern's Bernard Rhodes recovered.

Harris, a 5-10, 220-pound junior from Maitland, Fla., who led Division I-AA rushers with 1,563 yards this season, burst through the middle for a 40-yard gain to the U-Mass 16.

Fields' 7-yard run gave Eastern first-and-goal at the 5, but Eastern had to settle for a 27-yard field goal by Campbell with 5:35 left in the first half.

"They were getting a little bit frustrated and mad at themselves," Kidd said. "We told them to calm down, stay with them and everything would take care of itself."
Hilltoppers survive frantic comeback

Continued from Page C 1

er's said after his first playoff victory. "We were very fortunate. They played extremely well when they got going. Unfortunately, one team had to lose, but 100 people played very hard out there. We knew they were going to come back; it was just a matter of when.

"Zip Zanders and the defense kept their composure very well. (Singer) was on fire at the end." Anthony extinguished that fire by picking off a deflected pass over the middle. The six interceptions were one short of the school record.

"We were all worried," said Anthony, a senior from Male High School. "The ball went off the hands of the receiver (Singer) and (cornerback) Jonathan Watts. It came right to me.

"Like I've said all along, if it came down to the end, I wanted the defense to be on the field. We knew we could get the job done. We came together as one today. We knew that's the only way we could win."

Singer, who is from Fort Knox High School, "is the best quarterback we've faced this year, bar none," Anthony added. "We led them shock up in the first half, but they came back like true champions."

Western Kentucky (9-3), which last won a postseason game in 1985 when it beat New Hampshire in the Granitat Rice Bowl, reaches the quarterfinals for the first time.

The Hilltoppers, who were drilled 49-17 by Eastern Kentucky in the playoffs last season, will play Saturday at Eastern (10-2), a 28-17 winner over Massachusetts last night.

"I don't matter how it looked," Western senior offensive tackle Dean Tiebout said. "I don't care who we play or where we play at this stage of the game."

Western spotted the Leathernecks a 3-0 lead, then turned three interceptions into 21 points during a 28-point second-quarter explosion. The Hilltoppers got touchdowns on interception returns of 37 yards by Zanders and 43 yards by cornerback Ron Burroughs.

"All week long the linebackers were challenging the defensive backs," said Zanders, an outside linebacker. "We made a bet to see who could get the first interception and who could get the most interceptions. We bent, but our defense never breaks. When it's time to play football, we get the job done."

When Western went up 35-3 on a 8-yard TD pass from quarterback DavId Armstrong to tight end Robert Coates, it looked as though the Hilltoppers might enjoy a rare playoff laugher.

But after a fumble by Western Kentucky fullback Pedro Bacon at the Western Illinois 1-yard line late in the third quarter, things turned around. Instead of the Hilltoppers joying a 42-3 lead, a bizarre series of events cut the margin to 35-11 and started a frantic fourth quarter.

After running back Derek Swanson, who caught 14 passes for 171 yards, punched the ball out to the 6, Singer hit Swanson for 22 yards. He tumbled, but Williams grabbed the ball on the dead run and ran 69 yards to the Western 4 before Anthony dragged him down.

"The momentum changed at that point, and we were never able to get it back," Roberts said. "If we had scored on that possession, we would have been in very good shape."

Ulysses Bentley scored from the 1 with 13:36 to play, and Singer hit wide receiver Mike Borich for a two-point conversion.

Western Illinois got the ball back on an onside kick, and it took Singer just six plays to complete a 58-yard drive with a 12-yard TD pass to wide receiver Pablo Luis. Singer hit Williams for two points to make it 35-19 with 12:36 to play.

The Leathernecks then stopped Western cold, sacking Armstrong for a 10-yard loss on third down, and forced a punt.

Swanson ran 12 yards for a touchdown to make it 35-25 at the 11:01 mark, but Watts stopped Williams short of the goal line after he caught a short pass from Singer on another two-point try.

The Leathernecks marched 55 yards in nine plays to score on a 3-yard run by Swanson, putting them within 35-32 with 1:45 remaining.

Western Illinois got the ball back at its own 30 with 1:11 left after forcing the Hilltoppers to punt. Singer moved his team to the Hilltoppers' 40 before Anthony made his interception.

"I'm sad for our players and sad for our seniors," said Western Illinois coach Bruce Creddoek, whose team finished 10-2. "They had an outstanding football season. Those guys are champions in my book.

"Time just ran out on us. If we could have had another possession or two, things could have been different."

"I'm proud of everybody on this football team," Singer said. "When you get down that far and nobody gets down on each other, what a beautiful thing!"

| WESTERN KENTUCKY | 0 28 7 0 0 35 |
| WESTERN ILLINOIS | 0 0 29 3 32 |

Western Illinois - Layne Bennett, 37; FS; Western Kentucky - David Armstrong, 2; run (Don Mather kick); Western Kentucky - Joe Arnold, 2; run (Mather kick); Western Kentucky - Zip Zanders, 37, interception return (Mather kick); Western Kentucky - Ron Burroughs, 43, interception return (Mather kick); Western Kentucky - Robert Coates, 9, pass from Armstrong (Mather kick); Western Illinois - Ulysses Bentley, 1, run (Mike Borich pass from Paul Singer); Western Illinois - Pablo Luis, 12, pass from Singer (Steve Williams, pass from Singer); Western Illinois - Derek Swanson, 12, run (pass faked); Western Illinois - Swanson, 3, run (Borich pass), 0 - 6,000 att.

First downs 14 27
Rushes-attempts 40-148 31-136
Passes 12-21 6-12-26
Punting yards 106 407
Fumbles-lost 3 4
Penalties-yards 10-77 10-41
Punts 5-33.7 6-34
Time of Possession 24:28 35:32
Classic clash: Western seeks playoff revenge on Eastern

By BRUCE W. BRANCH

Whenever Western Kentucky defensive back Riley Ware thinks about playing archrival Eastern Kentucky, he breaks out in goose bumps from his helmet to his cleats.

"We like playing those suckers, and they like playing against us," said Ware, who grew up in Fort Myers, Fla., and knows a good rivalry when he sees one. "When the playoffs started we knew it would probably come down to this: Us against them."

Us against them — as in Eastern vs. Western, Act 2, Year 2 — will take place at 1 p.m. Saturday in the quarterfinals of the NCAA Division I-AA football playoffs at Hanger Field in Richmond.

The rematch was set up when Western upset Western Illinois 35-32 and Eastern beat Massachusetts 28-17 last Saturday.

This will be the second straight year the rivals have met twice in the same season. To top things off, Kentucky is the only state with two schools still alive in the I-AA playoffs.

"I hope we have good weather and a good crowd," said Eastern's Roy Kidd, who has been coaching in the series for 25 years.

"The people in the state of Kentucky who have never seen an Eastern Kentucky-Western Kentucky football game don't know what they're missing. This is going to be a tough football game, a typical Eastern-Western game with just a little more meaning."

Western outlasted Eastern 16-14 in Bowling Green the first time around this season. Last year the Colonels won both meetings, including a 40-17 playoff victory in Rich-

mond that sent them into the semifinal round.

"We're definitely looking forward to this game," said Western senior safety Vince Anthony, a graduate of Louisville's Male High School. "We were hoping they would win. Now it's just like last year. They beat us twice and now we would like to return the favor."

Although Western coach Dave Roberts swears it's just another game, one gets the feeling from the two teams that this matchup is going to be something special.

"It's always a tough game when we play," Eastern tailback Elroy Harris said. "We play hard against each other, and there is no love lost."

"This is going to be a war," Western offensive tackle Dewayne Penn said. "Their linebackers remember what we did to them last time. We made a lot of pancakes."

"We want them again. We want the sun to be shining, we want the field to be dry, so if we win we don't want there to be room for any excuses. These are the kind of games you live for. These are the kind of games that make champions."

Roberts said the game should be a showcase for a state where football is often dwarfed by basketball and where Eastern and Western football live in the shadow of Louisville and Kentucky.

"I'm very proud of our seniors, and I'm very proud of Eastern Kentucky," Roberts said. "Coach Kidd has been there for 25 years and he is one of the finest coaches in the country. He doesn't get enough recognition. I have nothing but respect for the man."

"We've gone from (talk of) getting rid of football to having a pretty good football team. I set EKU as our standard. I told my team when I came here, 'When we get to their level, we'll be a pretty decent football team.'"

Roberts said rivalry games usually bring out the best in both teams.

"Any time you play against coach Kidd's team it's going to be fun," he said. "They are going to be well-prepared and fired up."

Kidd says Roberts is one of his favorite coaches and Western is one of his favorite teams, "except when they play us." He says the Hilltoppers match up well with his Colonels.

"I think Western Kentucky has a heck of a football team," Kidd said. "I think they are a lot better than they were before. They even look bigger. When they walk (out) on the field before the game starts, they may tilt us off the field before the game starts.

"I'm sure my kids are looking forward to it just like their kids."
Tops must avoid Hanger hangup for playoff win

Legend has it that Eastern's Hanger Field can be adjusted to make the visiting team drive uphill and the Colonels to drive downhill.

There is another tale about the Hanger Field ghost that freezes opponents.

Fact has it that Western is among several teams that haven't won there in a while.

Is there such a thing as a Hanger Field hangup?

Western coach Dave Roberts, whose team visits Eastern on Saturday for a Division I-AA playoff game, doesn't think so.

"I'm sure (Eastern coach Roy Kidd) would like to make visiting teams drive uphill, but that's all a bunch of baloney," Roberts said. "They do have a lot of tradition there, but we'll play them anywhere. Our kids are certainly not intimidated."

Western lost twice there last year, including 40-17 in the playoffs, but the Hilltoppers bring a much better team into Saturday's game. Western beat Eastern 16-14 earlier this year at Smith Stadium.

But can anyone beat Eastern at Hanger Field?

The Colonels are 95-16-1 in 19-plus years there. Their last loss at home was a 13-7 loss to Marshall in 1985.

Eastern won all six games there this year, including last week's 28-17 playoff win over Massachusetts.

The last time Western won at Hanger field was in 1973. That score was 35-0.

The Hilltoppers tied Eastern 10-10 in 1963 when Eastern had a 34-game home winning streak that eventually reached 36.

The present winning streak stands at 21, and Sports Information Director Karl Park feels it has an affect on Eastern's players.

"I really believe that when a game is close, the players get to feeling like they don't want to be the ones to lose the streak," he said.

But the players get most of their inspiration from the wild fans that usually fill the 20,000-seat stadium.

"There's not much doubt about the fact that our crowd helps us a lot," Kidd said. "They get fired up, and it fires the players up."

Hanger Field, named after architect and engineer Arnold Hanger, is famous (maybe infamous) for the hill, the non-bleechered section where fans give hilltoppers a whole new meaning.

"It's a tough place to play," Roberts said. "They have a rowdy crowd, but I've said before I like it that way. I hope they do fill up that hill and have a crowd shouting and throwing things at us. It's great for the game."

And usually, it's great for Eastern.

"I believe there's something to the home-field advantage here," Park said. "The players feel it, and you feel it in the stands."

Western may be the only team in I-AA not overly intimidated. The Hilltoppers are the winningest Eastern opponent there with three wins.

"When you go there, it's just a matter of who has the biggest legs to fill their pants," Roberts said.
Eastern, Western ready to battle

By JOE MEDLEY

Daily News Sports Editor

OK. Here we go.

It’s time for Eastern and Western.

It’s time Eastern coach Roy Kidd to talk down his team, and Western coach Dave Roberts to refute that.

“This has been a very relaxing year for me because I never really expected us to be this successful,” said Kidd, in his 25th season at Eastern said.

“When we started this year, I figured we’d win our six home games and maybe one road game. I would’ve been happy with that. But they surprised me.”

Now, a rebuttal from Roberts.

“He’s always talking down his team and saying how young they are,” Roberts said. “They have a great football team. They have two likely early draft choices and a solid running game.”

What will count is who has the best team Saturday when they square off for their Division I-AA quarterfinal game at Eastern (10-2). Kickoff is 12 p.m. CST.

One thing both coaches agree
"This has been a very relaxing year for me because I never really expected us to be this successful," said Kidd, in his 25th season at Eastern said.

"When we started this year, I figured we'd win our six home games and maybe one road game. I would've been happy with that. But they surprised me."

Now, a rebuttal from Roberts.

"He's always talking down his team and saying how young they are," Roberts said. "They have a great football team. They have two likely early draft choices and a solid running game."

What will count is who has the best team Saturday when they square off for their Division I-AA quarterfinal game at Eastern (10-2). Kickoff is 12 p.m. CST.

One thing both coaches agree on is that Western (9-3) has a much better team than the one that lost to Eastern 40-17 in a rainy playoff game last year.

"There's not much question about that," Kidd said. "They're solid all around. I think that Joe Arnold is one of the best halfbacks I've seen. He's got a lot of the qualities that you like to see in a back that he never stops struggling for extra yards."

Arnold and Eastern tailback Elroy Harris will be the feature attractions for two teams who like to run, run, run.

Arnold is Western's single-season rushing record-holder with 1,527 yards. He has 14 touchdowns as well.

Harris leads the all I-AA rushers with 1,684 yards and 22 scores. He ran for 141 yards in the Colonels' 28-17 first-round win over Massachusetts Saturday.

The matchay will mark the second straight year the rival schools have met in the playoffs.

Arnold will be the feature attraction for two teams who like to run, run, run.

Arnold is Western's single-season rushing record-holder with 1,527 yards. He has 14 touchdowns as well.

Harris leads the all I-AA rushers with 1,684 yards and 22 scores. He ran for 141 yards in the Colonels' 28-17 first-round win over Massachusetts Saturday.

The matchup will mark the second straight year the rival schools have met in the playoffs.
Continued From Page 1-B

"I don't think we'll be able to do that against Western," Kidd said. "We're going to have to mix it up a bit."

Western is coming off a 35-32 win over a pass-happy Western Illinois team.

Western won on the strength of its ability to create turnovers. The Hilltoppers picked off six of Paul Singer's passes and returned two for touchdowns.

Turnovers killed Eastern in its first meeting with Western Sept. 24 at Smith Stadium. The Colonels fumbled seven times, and Western recovered two. Western came up with one interception.

"When you look at their stats, they've fumbled 50 times this year," Roberts said. "So we're telling our guys to get a helmet on them. We may not be able to stop Harris, but maybe we can make him fumble."

Western won the earlier meeting 16-14 after Eastern kicker James Campbell missed a short field goal try in the final seconds.

"That was a hard loss to take at the time," Kidd said. "You get over it, but at the time it was really hard to swallow."

Saturday's may be a hard one to survive.

"It got kind of scary on the sidelines for the last game," Roberts said. "There was some real hitting going on out there, and I expect it will be the same this time.

"There won't be as many words as there used to be. I think the players for both teams have much more respect for each other.

"But there will be plenty of hitting. You can bet on that."
Eastern, Western will collide in 'the kind of game you live for'

By BRUCE W. BRANCH  C. J.
Staff Writer  /  3-4-8

RICHMOND, Ky. — Eastern Kentucky, riding the crest of a nine-game winning streak, and Western Kentucky, coming off a 35-32 upset of Western Illinois, will battle today for a semifinal berth in the NCAA Division I-AA football playoffs.

"It's going to be a war," said Western's DeWayne Penn, a 290-pound offensive tackle, "but it's the kind of game you live for." This is what competition is all about. We're going to get after each other.

Eastern (10-2), which dispatched Massachusetts 28-17 in last Saturday's first round of the playoffs, will enter the 1 p.m. game at Hanger Field ranked No. 7 in Division I-AA. Western (9-3) is No. 12.

Each team will be seeking revenge — Eastern for a 16-14 loss to Western Sept. 24 in Bowling Green, and Western for two losses to Eastern last season, the second 49-17 here in the first round of the playoffs.

The Colonels, in fact, haven't lost at Hanger Field in 21 games since they dropped their 1985 home opener to Marshall.

"We know how it is to go up there," said Joe Arnold, Western's senior tailback. "We know we can't make mistakes and turn the ball over. We can't give them any slack. You have to play with a lot of emotion.

"It didn't make any difference who we were playing as long as we got to the second round. It's going to be good; two Kentucky teams, two rivalry teams."

Defensively, both teams are physical, quick and aggressive. Eastern has allowed just 294.3 yards and 15.9 points per game, while Western is yielding 295.8 and 14.8.

"Last week we had to stop a passing team," said the Hilltoppers' Vince Anthony, a safety from Louisville Male High School. "This week it's a running team. It'll be another challenge. Both of us will just line up and play smash ball. Only the strong will survive."

Offensively, Eastern is averaging 413.2 yards and 30.5 points, Western 321.9 and 23.9. Each has a strong running game with a marquee player at tailback.

For Eastern it's 5-foot-9, 220-pound Elroy Harris, who has rushed for 1,734 yards and 22 touchdowns while finishing the season as the No. 1 runner and scorer in I-AA.

"Elroy will be looking out for our defense," Arnold said. "Last time he got hit a lot.

See 'IT'S THE KIND..."
"It's the kind of game you live for" (Continued from Page B1)

Coach Roy Kidd said Eastern must take some of the burden off Harris, who carried the ball 40 times last week.

"Elroy has been carrying us," Kidd said. "He took a pretty good beating (against Massachusetts). His bruised leg, but he'll be back. He's carrying the ball too much. I told our coaches we are going to have to throw the ball more and use Tim Lester at tailback more."

Lester, normally a fullback, has run for 1,045 yards and seven TDs.

Arnold, running behind an offensive line that averages about 280 pounds, has gained a career-high 1,527 yards and scored 13 TDs this season.

"Joe Arnold has impressed me from the first time I ever saw him," Kidd said. "He's to them what Elroy is to us."

Each team has its weaknesses. For Eastern it's inexperience and the erratic place-kicking of junior Jim Campbell, who has missed five conversions. Missed kicks, including a last-second, 38-yard field-goal try against Western, helped saddle Eastern with both its losses (the Colonels fell to Marshall 33-32).

Western often has lacked offensive balance.

"We are going to have to do more than pitch the ball to Joe Arnold," Western coach Dave Roberts said. Western quarterback David Armstrong, a fifth-year senior, has completed just 45.3 percent of his passes — 106 of 233 — for 1,073 yards and six TDs.

Eastern quarterbaek Lorenzo Fields has completed 85 of 133 (63.9 percent) for 1,260 yards and eight touchdowns. His favorite targets are wide receivers Mike Cadore (23 catches for 301 yards) and Randy Bohler (28-484). Cadore has nine touchdowns, three on pass receptions, five rushing and one on a kickoff return.

"I don't see a 30-30 game," Kidd said. "I think it'll be pretty low-scoring, with each team getting after the other pretty good. Eastern is a better team than they were before. The keys are going to be turnovers, major penalties and the kicking game."

Indiana subs Little Rock for Iowa State

From AP and Special Dispatches

Iowa State University announced yesterday it has lost an NCAA appearance has been rescheduled. NCAA rules require that games played on foreign tours during the academic year count against the 28-game lim-
Western Kentucky quarterback David Armstrong, above, scored on a 3-yard run in the fourth period, but it wasn’t nearly enough. At right, Eastern Kentucky halfback Elroy Harris, No. 34, dove over from the 1 in the first quarter for one of his four TDs as Eastern won 41-24.
Eastern whips Western 41-24

Continued from Page C1

The Eastern football team is special. Our kids beat a good football team. This has to be one of our best team efforts of the season, and we had to have it to win.

Junior tackle Elroy Harris shook off an injury to his thigh to rush 26 times for 109 yards and four touchdowns as the Colonels averaged a 16-14 loss Sept. 24 in Bowling Green, Ky.

"Our offensive line went out and did what it had to do," said the 5-foot-10, 220-pound Harris. "We really wanted to beat them, and I wanted to do well. They did a lot of talking during the week. I just wanted to make sure I did better than the first time we played (97 yards). If I had to rate my performance, I would call it a 10."

Harris had plenty of help, particularly from backfield mate Tim Lester, quarterback Lorenzo Fields and wide receiver Randy Bohler.

Lester led the Eastern ground attack with 146 yards on 32 carries, while Fields hit 6 of 8 passes for 110 yards and one TD. He also rushed nine times for 43 yards. Bohler made three spectacular fingertip catches for 61 yards and a TD.

"Tim Lester is a super win," said Eastern Kentucky coach Roy Kidd, who notched his 19th victory. "I'm tickled to death we got 41 points. This football game is pretty good."

Eastern, which scored on four of its first five possessions, overcame its first five possessions, overcame a 10-7 halftime deficit to take a 24-10 halftime lead on a 2-yard TD run by Harris, a 25-yard scoring pass from Fields to Bohler and a 34-yard field goal by James Campbell on the final play of the half. Harris had a 1-yard TD run in the first quarter.

The Colonels broke the game open by scoring 17 unanswered points in the third quarter. Harris scored on runs of 7 yards and 1 yard, and Campbell hit a 37-yard field goal to give Eastern a 41-10 advantage. Harris did not return to action after his final TD run midway through the period.

In the second quarter we dropped a couple of passes and we had a short punt to give them a couple of scoring opportunities, and they stuck it in the end zone," Roberts said. "That was pretty much the football game."

Western did mount a late rally. Tailback Joe Arnold, who finished with 141 yards on 15 carries after gaining just 4 yards on four tries in the first half, ran 6 yards for a touchdown run by quarterback David Armstrong with a 50-yard sprint from the WKU 20 to the EKU 30.

That made it 41-17 with 3:15 left in the third period, and Arnold closed the scoring with a 75-yard TD run with 8:02 remaining.

"We finally got on a roll in the second half," he said. "They just picked up momentum before we did."

"I wanted to beat Eastern, but I hope they go on and win the whole thing so we won't look so bad."
Eastern just too much at Hangs

By BUDDY SHACKLETTE
Daily News Sports Writer
RICHMOND, Ky. - Eastern Kentucky's hopes of beating Eastern and advancing to the semi-finals of the Division I-AA playoffs were smothered Saturday as the Colonels trounced the Hilltoppers 41-24.

"They (Eastern) just played extremely well," Western coach Dave Roberts said. "They deserved to win."

"Our kids beat a good football team," Eastern coach Roy Kidd said. "We had to play good today to win."

Eastern fullback Tim Lester rushed for a game-high 146 yards while his counterpart, Elroy Harris, hit pay dirt four times for the Colonels.

Western deferred the winning toss choosing to kick off to Eastern, but the host Colonels moved 80 yards on 11 plays for Harris' first TD of the day.

Western responded by taking the ball down to the Eastern 12 yard-line before Dan Maher kicked a 33-yard field goal to make the score 7-3.

The Western defense hung tough on the Colonels' next possession, forcing the Colonels to punt.

Western moved to the Eastern 13 yard-line behind the passing of quarterback David Armstrong, who completed his first attempts.

In the second quarter, strong hit tight end Robin with a six-yard touchdown catch which gave Western its only lead, 10-7.

On Eastern's next pos, the Colonels responded with running corps, as they "all year.

Midway through the third down and 13 Eastern quarterback Fields connected with Bohler on a 19-yard strike placed the Colonels Western 30.

The Colonels responded with the running corps, as they "all year.

Midway through the third down and 13 Eastern quarterback Fields connected with Bohler on a 19-yard strike placed the Colonels Western 30.

The Colonels responded with the running corps, as they "all year.

Midway through the third down and 13 Eastern quarterback Fields connected with Bohler on a 19-yard strike placed the Colonels Western 30.

The Colonels responded with the running corps, as they "all year.

Midway through the third down and 13 Eastern quarterback Fields connected with Bohler on a 19-yard strike placed the Colonels Western 30.

The Colonels responded with the running corps, as they "all year.

Midway through the third down and 13 Eastern quarterback Fields connected with Bohler on a 19-yard strike placed the Colonels Western 30.

The Colonels responded with the running corps, as they "all year.

Midway through the third down and 13 Eastern quarterback Fields connected with Bohler on a 19-yard strike placed the Colonels Western 30.

The Colonels responded with the running corps, as they "all year.

Midway through the third down and 13 Eastern quarterback Fields connected with Bohler on a 19-yard strike placed the Colonels Western 30.

The Colonels responded with the running corps, as they "all year.

Midway through the third down and 13 Eastern quarterback Fields connected with Bohler on a 19-yard strike placed the Colonels Western 30.

The Colonels responded with the running corps, as they "all year.

Midway through the third down and 13 Eastern quarterback Fields connected with Bohler on a 19-yard strike placed the Colonels Western 30.

The Colonels responded with the running corps, as they "all year.

Midway through the third down and 13 Eastern quarterback Fields connected with Bohler on a 19-yard strike placed the Colonels Western 30.

The Colonels responded with the running corps, as they "all year.

Midway through the third down and 13 Eastern quarterback Fields connected with Bohler on a 19-yard strike placed the Colonels Western 30.

The Colonels responded with the running corps, as they "all year.

Midway through the third down and 13 Eastern quarterback Fields connected with Bohler on a 19-yard strike placed the Colonels Western 30.

The Colonels responded with the running corps, as they "all year.

Midway through the third down and 13 Eastern quarterback Fields connected with Bohler on a 19-yard strike placed the Colonels Western 30.

The Colonels responded with the running corps, as they "all year.

Midway through the third down and 13 Eastern quarterback Fields connected with Bohler on a 19-yard strike placed the Colonels Western 30.

The Colonels responded with the running corps, as they "all year.

Midway through the third down and 13 Eastern quarterback Fields connected with Bohler on a 19-yard strike placed the Colonels Western 30.

The Colonels responded with the running corps, as they "all year.

Midway through the third down and 13 Eastern quarterback Fields connected with Bohler on a 19-yard strike placed the Colonels Western 30.

The Colonels responded with the running corps, as they "all year.

Midway through the third down and 13 Eastern quarterback Fields connected with Bohler on a 19-yard strike placed the Colonels Western 30.

The Colonels responded with the running corps, as they "all year.

Midway through the third down and 13 Eastern quarterback Fields connected with Bohler on a 19-yard strike placed the Colonels Western 30.

The Colonels responded with the running corps, as they "all year.

Midway through the third down and 13 Eastern quarterback Fields connected with Bohler on a 19-yard strike placed the Colonels Western 30.

The Colonels responded with the running corps, as they "all year.

Midway through the third down and 13 Eastern quarterback Fields connected with Bohler on a 19-yard strike placed the Colonels Western 30.

The Colonels responded with the running corps, as they "all year.

Midway through the third down and 13 Eastern quarterback Fields connected with Bohler on a 19-yard strike placed the Colonels Western 30.

The Colonels responded with the running corps, as they "all year.

Midway through the third down and 13 Eastern quarterback Fields connected with Bohler on a 19-yard strike placed the Colonels Western 30.

The Colonels responded with the running corps, as they "all year.

Midway through the third down and 13 Eastern quarterback Fields connected with Bohler on a 19-yard strike placed the Colonels Western 30.

The Colonels responded with the running corps, as they "all year.

Midway through the third down and 13 Eastern quarterback Fields connected with Bohler on a 19-yard strike placed the Colonels Western 30.

The Colonels responded with the running corps, as they "all year.

Midway through the third down and 13 Eastern quarterback Fields connected with Bohler on a 19-yard strike placed the Colonels Western 30.

The Colonels responded with the running corps, as they "all year.

Midway through the third down and 13 Eastern quarterback Fields connected with Bohler on a 19-yard strike placed the Colonels Western 30.

The Colonels responded with the running corps, as they "all year.

Midway through the third down and 13 Eastern quarterback Fields connected with Bohler on a 19-yard strike placed the Colonels Western 30.

The Colonels responded with the running corps, as they "all year.

Midway through the third down and 13 Eastern quarterback Fields connected with Bohler on a 19-yard strike placed the Colonels Western 30.

The Colonels responded with the running corps, as they "all year.

Midway through the third down and 13 Eastern quarterback Fields connected with Bohler on a 19-yard strike placed the Colonels Western 30.

The Colonels responded with the running corps, as they "all year.

Midway through the third down and 13 Eastern quarterback Fields connected with Bohler on a 19-yard strike placed the Colonels Western 30.

The Colonels responded with the running corps, as they "all year.

Midway through the third down and 13 Eastern quarterback Fields connected with Bohler on a 19-yard strike placed the Colonels Western 30.

The Colonels responded with the running corps, as they "all year.

Midway through the third down and 13 Eastern quarterback Fields connected with Bohler on a 19-yard strike placed the Colonels Western 30.

The Colonels responded with the running corps, as they "all year.

Midway through the third down and 13 Eastern quarterback Fields connected with Bohler on a 19-yard strike placed the Colonels Western 30.

The Colonels responded with the running corps, as they "all year.

Midway through the third down and 13 Eastern quarterback Fields connected with Bohler on a 19-yard strike placed the Colonels Western 30.
just too much at Hanger Field

By BUDDY SHACKLETTE
Daily News Sports Writer
RICHMOND, Ky. - Western Kentucky's hopes of beating Eastern and advancing to the semi-finals of the Division I-AA playoffs were smothered Saturday as the Colonels trounced the Hilltoppers 41-24.

"They (Eastern) just played extremely well," Western coach Dave Roberts said. "They deserved to win."

"Our kids beat a good football team," Eastern coach Roy Kidd said. "We had to play good today to win."

Eastern fullback Tim Lester rushed for a game-high 146 yards while his counterpart, Elroy Harris, hit pay dirt four times for the Colonels.

Western deferred the winning toss choosing to kick off to Eastern, but the host Colonels marched 80 yards on 11 plays for Harris' first TD of the day.

Western responded by taking the ball down to the Eastern 12 yard-line before Dan Maher kicked a 30-yard field goal to make the score 7-3.

The Western defense hung tough on the Colonels' next possession, forcing the Colonels to punt.

Western moved to the Eastern 13 yard-line behind the passing of quarterback David Armstrong, who completed his first six pass attempts.

In the second quarter, Armstrong hit tight end Robert Coates with a six-yard touchdown pass which gave Western its first and only lead, 10-7.

On Eastern's next possession the Colonels responded with their running corps, as they've done all year.

Midway through the drive, on a third down and 13 situation, Eastern quarterback Lorenzo Fields connected with Randy Bohler on a 19-yard strike that placed the Colonels at the Western 30.

Five plays later, Harris bowled in for his second touchdown of the contest with a two-yard run to put Eastern up 14-10.

With Western unable to move the ball on their next series, they were forced to punt.

Unfortunately, Western punter Todd Davis hung up a 12-yard punt that set the Colonels up with a two-yard TD run to put Eastern up 14-10.

With Western unable to move the ball on their next series, they were forced to punt.

Unfortunately, Western punter Todd Davis hung up a 12-yard punt that set the Colonels up with a two-yard TD run to put Eastern up 14-10.

"We weren't ready to play," Armstrong said. "We didn't have anywhere near the intensity we've had the past two weeks."

The Toppers tried to rally. On their next possession, Western tailback Joe Arnold, who rushed for 141 yards on 15 carries, scampered 50 yards to place Western at the Eastern 30-yard line.

Eight plays later, Armstrong scored on a three-yard run, putting Western 24 points behind the Colonels.

Western showed signs of a comeback when they kept Eastern's Lester out of the end zone on a fourth-and-goal situation from the Western 1-yard line.

With 7:58 left, Arnold struck again, scampering down the right side for a 75-yard touchdown. That would be Western's final score of the contest.
The football season may be over for area teams, but two of the teams ended with solid runs at their respective championships.

Western Kentucky University advanced to the final eight of the Division I-AA playoffs before falling to Eastern Kentucky University, and Warren Central High School made it to the final four of the Class 4A playoffs before losing to Louisville Manual.

As for Western, its first round playoff victory over Western Illinois indicated a continued improvement in the program since coach Dave Roberts arrived. Unfortunately, arch-rival Eastern ended the Hilltoppers' season in each of the last two years by beating them at Richmond.

We can only hope that if Western faces Eastern in the playoffs next year, the game will be held in Bowling Green.

Warren Central, meanwhile, advanced to play Manual after defeated defending champion and previously undefeated Shelby County 14-12.

Teams don't make it as far in their playoffs as Western and Warren Central did without a combination of talent, coaching and courage.

We congratulate both the Hilltoppers and the Dragons on seasons they can be proud of.
WKU's Arnold, Tiebout named All-America

A Daily News report

Western senior football players Joe Arnold and Dean Tiebout have been named to the Walter Camp Foundation I-AA All-America Team.

Arnold, a 5-foot-11, 195-pound tailback from Decatur, Ga., rushed for a school-record 1,668 yards in 13 games this season and accounted for 2,002 all-purpose yards with his pass receiving and kickoff returns for another school mark. He broke 12 season and career records at Western.

Tiebout, a 6-4, 290-pound offensive tackle from Maywood, Ill., helped Western to a school-record 4,201 yards total offense during the Hilltoppers' 9-4 campaign. Western gained a school-record 2,918 yards rushing.

Arnold and Tiebout led Western to the second round of the I-AA playoffs, where the Hilltoppers lost 40-17 to Eastern Dec. 3.

"We're very proud of Joe and Dean," Western football coach Dave Roberts said in a released statement. "They are both fine young men and great examples of the kind of leadership we got from our seniors this fall."

This is the second straight year Western players have landed on the Walter Camp team. Defensive back James Edwards was selected last year. Arnold and Tiebout are the 23rd and 24th Hilltoppers to earn All-America honors.