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Hout, Cassity interested in WKU football vacancy

By JOE MEDLEY 1-22-87
Daily News Sports Editor

Former Liberty University head coach Morgan Hout and Western defensive coordinator Mike Cassity have expressed interest in replacing Dave Roberts as Western's football coach.

Roberts on Friday accepted the head coaching position at Northeast Louisiana.

Western President Thomas C. Meredith has formed a search committee to be chaired by Athletic Director Jimmy Felix. The committee will try to find a new coach quickly because recruits can begin signing letters of intent on Feb. 8.

"I want to have a new coach on board before the Feb. 8 signing date," Meredith said in a released statement.

Sources close to Western's program said at least 18 prospects have made an oral commitment to Western and several are on campus this weekend.

One recruit, Sean Smith, said Roberts' leaving wouldn't be a factor in his decision.

"The program is already pretty strong, and they've got some good coaches here," said Smith, a senior at Louisville Male High. He attended Western's men's basketball game against Virginia Commonwealth Saturday night in Diddle Arena.

"It looks like they're going to get a coach from within the program and not somebody off the street. Coach Cassity told me he's probably going to get it.

Nothing official has been announced, and the search committee was formed on Saturday. The committee consists of Howard Bailey, dean of student life; Dr. Steve House, executive assistant to the president; Gary "Mickey" Riggs, a WKU alumnus and president of the "W" club for Western letter winners; and Dr. Francis H. Thompson, a professor of history at Western.

Sources say about 25 coaches have called and expressed interest in the job, but no resumes have been received.

Felix said a condition of employment for the new coach will be to keep any present Western assistant coaches Roberts doesn't take with him.

"I feel awfully good about the players we have coming back," Felix said. Western will return 21 seniors. "We have a good thing going, and the players are close to the coaches."

Felix said he and Dr. Paul Cook, executive vice president for administrative affairs and athletics committee chairman, met Friday night, and the two met Saturday with Meredith to discuss plans to hire a new coach.

Hout led Liberty, a Baptist school at Lynchburg, Va., founded by Moral Majority leader Jerry Falwell, to an 8-3 season this year in its first year in Division I-AA. Two of the losses were by one point, and the other was by three.

Hout was replaced by Sam Rutigliano, a former head coach of the NFL's Cleveland Browns.

Falwell said publicly Hout did nothing wrong at Liberty but that Rutigliano fit better into a five-year plan to reach Division I-A.

Cassity joined the Hilltopper staff in the spring of 1983 and directed a defense that was rated in the top 10 nationally in scoring defense, passing and running defense last season. He couldn't be reached for comment.

Western has set no deadline for receiving applications, but the emphasis is on getting a coach soon.

"We want to get the best man we can get as soon as we can get him," Felix said.

Roberts, 41, left after directing Western to a 26-30-1 record since taking over for Felix, who resigned after the 1983 season. Western went to the I-AA playoffs the last two years and finished 9-4 after losing to Eastern in the NCAA quarterfinals last season.

Roberts will replace Pat Collins, who resigned after a Jan. 7 arrest for allegedly hitting his wife with a clock. Bonnie Collins dropped an aggravated assault charge Thursday, and Collins announced they had reconciled.

Roberts, who grew up in Greenville, S.C., was chosen from a field of 31 applicants.

Northeast won the Division I-AA national championship in 1987. The school's facilities have been described as better than those of many I-A schools, and Roberts said he will be paid "considerably more" money than the $50,000 he was making at Western.

Felix was sorry to lose Roberts.

"It's awful disappointing to lose a good man like that," Felix said. "But I feel good for him if that's what he and Penny (Roberts' wife) want. He's worked awfully hard and deserves anything good that comes to him."

In a press conference at Monroe, La., today, Roberts said he's looking forward to working at Northeast.

"I told the staff this morning that you've done what I want to do" — win a national championship, said Roberts.

"I'm thrilled and excited. Louisiana football is as good as there is in the country and Northeast has an excellent academic and athletic reputation."

The Associated Press contributed to this article.
WKU may look past

By GENE CANTRELL Jr.
Daily News City Editor

WKU football

coaching job left open Friday when Dave Roberts accepted the Northeast Louisiana head coaching job.

Dowling is a former Georgetown College and Liberty University coach. Both schools have been ranked in the top 20 NAIA poll consistently since midway through the 1987 season. In 1988 the Indians were 10-0 during the regular season en route to their second Mid-South Conference title in as many years.

Dowling said Monday he had not applied for the Western job, "but with the rich football tradition and the great community it would be an attractive job."

"I'd be very interested in an opportunity to talk to them. I'm certainly not dissatisfied here," he said. "but Western is an attractive possibility."

Dowling was hired to start Cumberland College's football program five years ago.

"I left Liberty to come back to Kentucky to coach. I wanted to be close to our families," he said. "My wife's parents live in Columbia, mine in Bardstown, so Bowling Green would be pretty close."

applications for coach

Dowling started the Cumberland College program from scratch. He designed the uniforms, hired the coaching staff and sold prospective football players on the program a year before he fielded his first team.

The Indians, four years later, have won 17 of their last 20 games.

Dowling has a reputation as an excellent recruiter and spokesman for the program, according to an administrator at Cumberland College who asked that his name not be used.

"We heard yesterday (Monday) that there might be some interest in him down there (at Western). His coaching ability is obvious. We'd hate to lose him for that, but those other things he adds would be missed. He just is such a good representative of this institution in the community and with alumni that he would be hard for a school like this to replace. Maybe they won't hire him," the source said.

Lindsey, a 1964 graduate of Western and Bowling Green native, was in the running for the Western job in 1983 after Felix resigned. Roberts was hired then.

Lindsey also played professional football with the Cleveland Browns.

He could not be reached for comment at SMU or at his Dallas home this morning.

The number of applicants for the Western job has swelled to 48 with the three applications received this morning. The only other candidates Felix will comment on are Western defensive coordinator Mike Cassity and former Liberty coach Morgan Hout.

Cassity interviewed Monday for the job, but Felix declined to comment on the interview.

Felix said no other interviews have been set, though a Louisville newspaper reported today that Hout was in route to Bowling Green for an interview.

Western wants to name a coach by the Feb. 8 national signing date. The Hilltopper football program has 18 verbal commitments from high school seniors.

Felix "can't confirm or deny" any new candidates. "It wouldn't be fair to the committee and the applicants," he said.

Sports Editor Joe Medley contributed to this story.
Aide Cassity, ex-star Lindsey, fired

By BRUCE W. BRANCH  Staff Writer  1-24-89

BOWLING GREEN, Ky. — Western Kentucky University defensive coordinator Mike Cassity, former Liberty University coach Morgan Hout and Southern Methodist assistant Dale Lindsey are three of the top candidates to replace Dave Roberts as head coach of the Hilltoppers' football team.

Western athletic director Jimmy Felix, who heads the search committee, said Cassity, Hout and Lindsey are on a long list of 45 coaches who have expressed interest in the opening created when Roberts decided to leave Western for Northeast Louisiana after five years.

Another Western assistant, Darryl Drake, said he was interested in the job but would not apply out of respect for Cassity and because he “doubted if Bowling Green is ready for another black head coach.” (Clem Haskins was a head coach in basketball before leaving for Minnesota three years ago)

Western hopes to name a new head coach by Feb. 8.

“We’ve gotten a good response,” said Felix, who refused to release any other names. “It evidently is a good job. We’ve had some head coaches from (NCAA Division) I-AA and some assistant coaches from I-A and Division II. We have a broad spectrum of people. We are still collecting data. At this time, we have no idea how many people we will interview.”

Cassity, who has been on the Western staff for six years, including one as an assistant under Felix, is openly lobbying for the job and has reportedly told at least one recruit, Sean Smith of Louisville Male High School, that he is going to be named as Roberts’ replacement.

“I’m very much interested in the position,” said Cassity, who has the most tenure of any WKU aide. “I’ve just simply told everyone the same thing — that I thought I had the support of the other coaches and some of the administrators and I was going to make every effort to become the head football coach at Western Kentucky.

“Any successful program looks inside first and then goes outside. I know they have opened it up to everyone involved and I know they are going to hire the best person for the position.”

Sources close to the program say Western would like to hire a WKU alumnus. Felix said he could neither confirm nor deny whether Cassity has the inside track for the job.

“All I can say if we hire somebody off the staff, he’ll get it,” Felix said.

Hout led Liberty to an 8-3 record in its first season in Division I-AA before Jerry Falwell, president of the Baptist college in Lynchburg, Va., fired him so Falwell could hire former Cleveland Browns coach Sam Rutigliano.

A woman who answered the phone at Hout’s home yesterday morning and identified herself as his mother said Hout was on his way to Bowling Green for an interview.

“We are praying that if it’s God’s will, he will get the job,” she said.

Lindsey, a 1964 Western graduate, is the defensive coordinator for SMU as it prepares to return to the football field two years after receiving the “death” penalty from the NCAA for recruiting violations.

A Bowling Green native, he also played professionally with the Cleveland Browns and was in the running for the WKU job in 1983 before the Hilltoppers selected Roberts.

“I’ve had some people call me in support of him,” Felix said.

Cassity, who has personally met with each of Western’s recruits, said the staff was trying to maintain a “business-as-usual” attitude.

“Everybody has the same responsibilities. The only difference is there is no head coach right now. The recruiting coordinator (Jim Holland) is still coordinating all of the recruiting. We are being up front with all of our prospects. We are continuing study hall and weightlifting. We are going on with business as usual.”

With 18 oral commitments, Cassity said Western is on its way to a big recruiting year.

“Were trying to go back and touch base with a lot of those young men and make sure everything is still fine,” he said.

Feix names 3 of 45 candidates for WKU job

Continued from Page D1
Monday the target date

A Daily News report

Western athletics director Jimmy Felix said the target date is Monday for the head football coach search committee to submit three to five finalists.

The original date was Saturday, but Felix said, "That just wasn't possible. The committee is working awfully hard, but there's just a lot to be done."

The job was left open when Dave Roberts accepted the Northeast Louisiana head coaching position Jan. 20.

The committee is looking at about 50 resumes, and at least three candidates have been interviewed. Sources close to the program say those candidates are Western defensive coordinator Mike Cassity, fired Liberty College coach Morgan Hout and University of Kentucky assistant Jake Hallum. Contrary to reports, Cumberland College coach Tom Dowling has not interviewed and has been notified he has been eliminated as a candidate.

Western president Dr. Thomas C. Meredith has asked that a new coach be hired before the Feb. 8 signing date, but Felix said that date isn't absolute.

"We're going to try awfully hard to get one by then, but if we can't we just can't," he said.

Felix said Dr. Paul Cook, Western's vice president for administrative affairs and athletic committee chairman, has met with Western's senior football players, and the players indicate they favor Cassity.

However, Felix said, "We still have some people to talk to."

\(--\)
Players heard in WKU search

By JOE MEDLEY
Daily News Sports Editor

The committee searching for Western's new football coach has consulted the group that will be most affected by the choice -- the players.

And the players seem to lean toward Western defensive coordinator Mike Cassity.

Western will return a team that is a legitimate contender for a Division I-AA national championship next season, and search committee chairman Jimmy Felx wants those players happy.

"We want to get somebody they'll want to play for," Felx said. "Of course, we're not going to let the players choose the coach, but the committee will listen to them and give their concerns proper consideration."

Felx said the players have set criteria for the new coach.

"They don't want somebody who is going to come in and ruin everything they've worked for," Felx said. "They've said they want somebody who is strong on discipline, and Cassity is strong in that area."

But Felx said the committee is still looking at resumes and hasn't narrowed down its finalists.

The committee is shooting for Wednesday as the day to present three to five finalists to Western president Dr. Thomas C. Meredith. The target date had been Saturday and then today, but "The committee saw a couple of more candidates they wanted to interview," Felx said.

According to sources close to Western, interviewees to date include: Cassity, Western's defensive coordinator since 1983; Morgan Hout, former Liberty Baptist coach; Bob Hallum, a University of Kentucky assistant; and Woody Flsh, head coach at Gardner Webb.

Dale Lindsey, a former Western assistant and now defensive coordinator at Southern Methodist University, was reportedly a top candidate, but sources say he has not interviewed.

Felx said his office has received calls in support of several candidates.

The Western head coaching job came open on Jan. 20, when Dave Roberts accepted the Northeast Louisiana head coaching job.

Felx said the candidates range from former Division I-A head coaches to Division II head coaches.

"We've got quite an array of candidates," he said.
Western's football players wanted Mike Cassity, but it didn't take Jack Harbaugh long to get their attention when he was introduced as the team's new head coach.

"I'm not interested in making wholesale changes. Don't fix what isn't broken," Harbaugh told reporters and a large group of players Wednesday when he was introduced at a press conference.

For Western wide receiver Darwin Harris, "That was the most reassuring thing he said. "We didn't want someone who was going to come in and change everything. We've got a great team coming back, and we didn't want to spend two or three years learning a new system."

And then Harbaugh talked about winning a Division I-AA national championship next season.

"That sent chills up and down my spine," said Harris, who will be a senior next season.

Harbaugh has worked for some of the best motivators in the coaching business, including Michigan's Bo Schembechler.

His long coaching history, which includes time at Pittsburgh, Michigan, Iowa and Stanford, helped him sell himself to Western's five-member search committee and President Thomas C. Meredith.

Harbaugh's outward confidence and big dreams for Western sold his new players, who supported Western defensive coordinator Cassity.

"He seems really sure about what he wants and confident," Harris said. "He didn't hesitate. You know what's on his mind, and when he sets his mind he'll act."

Harbaugh, 49, is Western's 15th coach and succeeds Dave
Four BG standouts sign to play college football

A Daily News report
At least five area prep football stars signed a college national letter of intent today, the first day of the signing period.
Bowling Green high had four players sign.
Warren Central and Warren East didn't have any signees today, but some are expected within a week.

Here are today's signees:
ROSCOE ECHOLS signed with Western at a party at Bowling Green High this morning. He starred both as a running back and a defensive back for the Purples over the last two seasons. He also excelled as a kick returner.
He was courted by several major colleges.
CHRIS COHRON inked with Vanderbilt of the Southeastern Conference. At Bowling Green, he consistently graded the highest among Coach Dan Haley's offensive linemen. He too was sought by several major colleges.
DANNY LOVE and TYRONE AUSTIN both signed with Kentucky State.
Love and Austin were key cogs in Bowling Green's defensive line this past season.

Western gets four JuCo's
LOUISVILLE, Ky. (AP) — The University of Kentucky signed five football players to a national letter-of-intent early today, including three from Kentucky.
Heading the list was Bill Campbell, a 5-foot-11, 170-pound defensive back from Lexington Tates Creek. Campbell also considered Florida, Tennessee and several other schools.
The other in-state signees were Marty Moore, a 6-1, 225-pound linebacker from Fort Thomas Highlands, and Barry Rich, a 6-2, 240-pound offensive lineman from Monroe County High School in Tompkinsville.
Also signing with UK were Scott Gilley, a 5-11, 180-pound wide receiver from King High School in Tampa, Fla., and Rodney Jackson, a 6-3, 240-pound tight end from Tyler, Texas, Junior College.
Western Kentucky University announced four signees, all from the junior college ranks. They were: Harvey Slawik, a 6-3, 260-pound offensive tackle from Hutchinson Junior College in Kansas; Derek Wilson, a 6-2, 230-pound linebacker from Cisco Junior College in Texas; Derrick White, a 6-1, 200-pound cornerback from Garden City Junior College in Kansas; and Robert Covington, a 6-2, 260-pound offensive guard from Hutchinson.
The junior college signees inked in December.
Since taking over as head football coach at Western Kentucky eight days ago, Jack Harbaugh has been so busy recruiting he hasn't had time to sign a contract.

"They told me what the job paid ($50,000) when I came down here to interview," the former Pittsburgh assistant said. "The length or perks aren't important... it's not a big deal."

What is a big deal for Harbaugh is getting some blue-chip players on board. And after the first day of the NCAA football signing period, Harbaugh is happy with the results.

Western signed 16 players, including six junior college players and a pair of blue-chip running backs.

"I think it's going to be a good but not great year because of the (coaching) situation," said Harbaugh, who was looking for big linemen and quality running backs.

Meanwhile, the Hilltoppers' Division I-AA rivals, Eastern Kentucky, Murray State and Morehead State, were enjoying what their coaches considered to be a banner recruiting year.

EKU was looking for help particularly at running back and wide receiver, where it lost tailback Elroy Harris and Mike Cadore. The Colonels landed what appears to be a solid crop of 14 players, including All-State runner Michael Penman of Lincoln County and tailback Derrick Clark of Apopka, Fla.

Eleven of EKU's signees were either defensive backs, running backs or wide receivers. Only three of the players come from the Kentucky; five are from Florida.

"We had a great recruiting year," said head coach Roy.
Western is happy with 16 signees;

Continued from Page D1

Kidd, "We went after skill kids first and kids that could run and had some speed."

Murray State picked up 15 players, including Murray High defensive back Chandler Stroup, the son of university President Kala Stroup.

"Can we make him team captain as a freshman?" joked Murray coach Mike Mahoney when asked about the possible pressure of coaching a high-ranking administrator's son. "Seriously, though, we think he is an excellent prospect and will be a leader."

Western Kentucky: The Hilltoppers, who will lose All-America tailback Joe Arnold to graduation, may have found two replacements — running backs Richard Otway of Miami and local standout Roscoe Echois of Bowling Green High.

Otway, 6 feet and 200, is ranked by some scouting services as the third-best running back in Florida, according to the Western coaches.

Another top player is Eddie Thompson, a 5-10, 180-pound defensive back and quarterback from Fort Knox High School, where he earned All-State honors and led his team to the AAA state championship.

Western also got some good size in 6-3, 280-pound lineman Kelly Adams of Mayfield.

"Under the situation, I think we did about as good as we could," said Clark, who has been timed at 4.5 seconds for 40 yards.

He chose Eastern over Western.

"I think he wanted to go to EKU all along," said Lincoln County coach Larry Phillips. "When Western had a coaching change, that made up his mind."

Murray State: Mahoney is high on 6-3, 230-pound linebacker Norman Mims of Corbin High School; 5-10, 260-pound defensive tackle Corey Lee of Tyler (Texas) Junior College; and 5-9, 180-pound running back Patrick White of Lees McRae Junior College in North Carolina.

Mahoney said he expects Lee to step in and start as a junior.

"Our primary concern was getting some help at defensive tackle and a junior college running back and we got them," Mahoney said. "We think we got a sleeper in (White). He split time with another kid last year so his stats weren't that good, but he's got a little bit of that shake, rattle and roll."

Ten linemen were among the Racers' signees.

"We think we got another good group," Mahoney said. "I think we've had two great years of recruiting back to back."

Western recruiting coordinator Jim Holland.

Demetrius Coates, a tight end and defensive tackle, is the younger brother of starting WKU tight end Robert Coates.

Eastern Kentucky: Clark and Penman are two of the prize catches for the Colonels.

The 6-3, 210-pound Clark rushed for 1,000 yards and 13 touchdowns last season for Appomata, the alma mater of former EKU defensive end Aaron Jones. He was personally signed by Roy Kidd.

"Derrick Clark is as good as any we've ever had here," said Appomata coach Chip Gierke. "That's a heck of a statement when you consider we had Aaron Jones, Sammy Smith (Florida State) and Rodney Brewer (Florida). Although he is going to play running back at Eastern, we played him everywhere. He returned five kickoffs and punts for touchdowns."

Clark, who has been timed at 4.5 seconds for 40 yards, picked Eastern over South Carolina State and Florida A&M. Gierke says several major colleges backed off because he has not scored high enough on the ACT or SAT to be eligible as a freshman.

"He would have been able to go just about anywhere he wanted to," Gierke said.

Penman's credentials are just about as impressive.

One of five finalists for the Kentucky Mr. Football Award, he was an honorable-mention All-America pick by USA Today and a member of the All-South Honor team.

The 5-10, 175-pounder led the state in rushing (2,344 yards) and scoring (250 points and 40 TDs) while leading Lincoln County to a 13-1 record.

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"We think we got another good group," Mahoney said. "I think we've had two great years of recruiting back to back."

Morehead State: Clark said he was particularly impressed with 6-3, 235-pound offensive lineman Brian Houlion of Cincinnati Walnut Hills High School, linebacker Brandon Ford of Cincinnati Purcell Marian High, 6-4, 240-pound lineman Brian Bolles of Cincinnati Northwest and running back Anthony Jerdone of Cleveland.

"Ford is a versatile player that can play a lot of positions," Clark said. "We had to beat out Miami of Ohio to get him. Houlion is a real find. Bowles is a brown belt in karate, and I think his best days are ahead of him. He has great hand and foot speed."

Thirteen of the Eagles' signees come from Ohio, including five from Cincinnati.

"We'll decide in 1993 if this was a good recruiting class or not," Clark said. "But they look good on paper, and we had to beat out some good schools to get these kids."
WKU recruiting class 'good, but not great'

From Daily News and AP reports

New Western Kentucky football coach Jack Harbaugh said the coaching situation will affect Hilltopper recruiting.

"I think it's going to be good, but not great (recruiting) year, because of the (coaching) situation," said Harbaugh, who took over as head football coach eight days ago.

Wednesday, Western signed 17 players, including quarterback Eddie Thompson, 5-10, 180 pounds, of Fort Knox, who led the Eagles to the Class AA football title last year. (See list of sign­ings for Kentucky's colleges on Page 2-B.)

Harbaugh also added four junior college players who signed in December to those high school prospects who signed on the first day of the national signing period.

One of Western's signees was Bowling Green High's Roscoe Echols, who was recruited widely as a running back and defensive back. He was honorable mention All-State as a defensive back.

Western is interested in the 6-foot, 190-pound Echols' abilities as a running back, but Echols said that's not what swayed his decision.

"It was a better offer, and it was close to home," said Echols, who was recruited by Division I-A schools for his defensive skills. "It doesn't make a difference to me whether I play offense or defense."

Harbaugh also inked Glasgow's Mark Wheeler, a 6-3, 235-pound defensive lineman who helped the Scotties to the second round of the Class 2A playoffs last season.

Wheeler, who was recruited by Murray State and several smaller schools, said he plans to hit the weights feels he may have to redshirt his first year.

"I need to gain about 25 pounds," Wheeler said. "They told me if I can gain that weight before my freshman year that I can play in the program. But it wouldn't bother me to redshirt."

Echols, who was recruited widely as a running back and defensive back. He was honorable mention All-State as a defensive back.

"I feel Coach Harbaugh bring the program to a more intense level," he said. "We can win a championship in the next two years, want to be a part of that."

University of Kentucky coach Jerry Claiborne said he wanted on national day — team speed.

"We went out with the idea that we had to get an intense level," said Echols, "and he wanted on national day — team speed."

"I feel Coach Harbaugh bring the program to a more intense level," he said. "We can win a championship in the next two years, want to be a part of that."

Four of Kentucky's 21 Wednesday — the first day national signing period for high school athletes — were wide receivers. Two of the four 4.4 speed in the 40-yard dash, while the other two housed speed.

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"I need to gain about 25 pounds," Wheeler said. "They told me if I can gain that weight before my freshman year that I can play in the program. But it wouldn't bother me to redshirt." He is excited about playing at Western.

"I feel Coach Harbaugh can bring the program to a higher more intense level," Wheeler said. "We can win a championship in the next two years, and I want to be a part of that."

University of Kentucky football coach Jerry Claiborne got what he wanted on national signing day — team speed.

"We went out with the intention that we had to get more," Claiborne said. "That's one of the things that has been hampering our entire football team. We needed speed, especially at wide receiver, to give us more of a deep threat in our passing game. We think we've done that."

Four of Kentucky's 21 signees Wednesday — the first day of the national signing period for high school athletes — were wide receivers. Two of the four have 4.4 speed in the 40-yard dash, while the other two have 4.5 speed.

"We're very pleased with the players we've signed," Claiborne said. "I think as a whole, this is an excellent group of student-athletes."

The NCAA has reduced to 25, from 30, the number of scholarships schools may give out each year. Claiborne has already awarded three scholarships to walk-ons, reducing the number available to 22.

Twelve of Kentucky's commitments were from in-state players. They included Jason Dombroski, 6-foot-4, 235 pounds, of Louisville Trinity, considered one of the state's better line prospects; and Bill Campbell, 5-11, 170 pounds, of Lexington Tates Creek, regarded as the best defensive back in the state.

But the state's Mr. Football, quarterback Jeff Brohm of Trinity, who was heavily recruited by Kentucky, signed instead with the University of Louisville.

"He's our quarterback of the future," Louisville coach Howard Schnellenberger said.

Brohm, 6-1, 185 pounds, completed 89 of 142 passes for 1,708 yards and 20 touchdowns in leading Trinity to the Class AAAAA football title last year.

Brohm, who threw for 3,341 yards and rushed for 1,006 at Trinity, also considered Boston College, Vanderbilt and Notre Dame.
Since taking over as head football coach at Western Kentucky eight days ago, Jack Harbaugh has been so busy recruiting he hasn't had time to sign a contract.

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"We had a great recruiting year," said head coach Roy...
Do WKU football dollars put academics on sideline?

By LISA JACKSON 2-12-89
Daily News Staff Writer

Some Western Kentucky University faculty members contend the money being spent on the university's football program - approaching $1 million per year - is leaving academics on the sidelines.

Faculty Senate President Fred Murphy says the senate soon will consider a resolution asking a reappraisal of the football program.

Some faculty members think the program should be scaled down, while some believe it should be abolished, according to Dr. David Lee, dean of Potter College.

Western's football program spent more than it was budgeted every academic year this decade, according to figures provided by the Faculty Senate and Dr. Paul B. Cook, executive vice president for administrative affairs.

Figures provided by the university were obtained by the Daily News under Kentucky's Open Records law after Cook asked that the newspaper specify in writing the specific information it sought.

The records show that during 1984-85 and 1985-86, football spending at the university overran its budget by more than $132,000. In 1986-87 that overrun dropped to $75,412, but in 1987-88 it was up to $98,987.

Before a new football coach was hired earlier this month, the senate urged the coach search committee to reappraise the program. The senate told Athletics Director Jimmy Felix in a letter dated Jan. 27 it is concerned about football spending and "what has appeared to be an inability of that program to stay within the confines even of an increasingly generous budget."

Murphy, who wrote the letter, said a reappraisal was especially critical now - a time when the budget is strained. Faculty have to teach constantly-enlarging classes, he said, and out-of-date equipment is being used for instruction.

Felix said each coaching candidate was told what the team's resources were and budget confinements "so they would know exactly without a question what they had to work with."

Background checks on Jack Harbaugh, the man chosen for the coaching position, revealed "he was able to work within the framework of allocations," Felix said.

But Murphy said he is not optimistic a new coach will bring any change.

The senate has studied athletics spending, particularly in the football program, each year since 1984, Murphy said.

In 1985, the senate urged university administration to study the feasibility of moving to Division III in football. Division III schools offer no scholarships, which would free some of the money budgeted for athletics for use in academics, according to a senate report.

Continued Back Page
Column 3, This Section
The faculty's concern about athletics, said Meredith, is natural. Meredith said he supports the university's athletic programs and gave several reasons for his position.

Athletics give opportunities to athletes who participate, he said. The program gives publicity to the institution, which contributes to student recruitment, and athletics provide a rallying point for students, faculty, staff and alumni, Meredith said.

Athletic events often spur donations to the university, he said. "It gives people who would not otherwise be connected to the university a rationale for being connected." Meredith also understands the faculty's concern about spending and is going to "make sure we live within our budgets."

The football program was budgeted $781,470 for this academic year. Expenditures are not yet available since the budget year is not over, Cook said.

Money generated by football increased sharply between 1984-85 and 1985-86, but decreased each year since then. However, income figures for this year may not include all income yet, Cook said.

The football program was budgeted more than $87,500 less for 1986-87 than last year. Part of that decrease is due to the difference between in-state and out-of-state scholarship money being put in a central scholarship account, Cook said.

Team travel expenses were less this year because of scheduling, along with more money given to visiting teams, Cook said.

Revenue generated by the football program falls far short of both the amount budgeted for the program and the amount actually spent on it.

In 1984-85, the football program was budgeted $738,345, spent $670,802 and generated $128,500 in income. In 1985-86, football was budgeted $755,988, spent $699,989 and earned $168,982. In 1986-87, the budgeted amount was $911,492, with expenditures at $906,965 and income at $161,432.

During 1987-88, the program was budgeted $849,067, spent $948,054 and brought in $142,881. This academic year, the football program's budget is for the team's 70 scholarships, Cook said.

The team's schedule determines the amount of money budgeted for travel, he said, with rising costs of housing and tuition contributing to higher budgets.

Murphy said he sees a contradiction in the university's actions when it joined the Sun Belt Conference in 1982 and continued spending on football.

Western is the only school in the conference with a football program, Murphy said. The conference change would have been the "ideal time to have taken a close look at the football program," he said.

Felx disagrees.

Western's entry into the Sun Belt Conference represented the perfect time for the football program to establish itself as an independent, he said. "We no longer had to share revenues with conference members," as was the case when Western belonged to the Ohio Valley Conference.

Western's football program is important in student recruitment and fund raising, Felx said.

"To entice students to come, that's what we're about," he said.

Having a football team makes the university complete, is part of education and gives students pride, Felx said.

But the Faculty Senate's 1985 study concluded "there is no strong evidence linking successful athletic programs with either student recruitment or patterns of enrollment at Western Kentucky University."

Lee, who chaired the committee that compiled the report, said the senate believed that during serious budgeting difficulties, a decision had to be made between luxuries and necessities.

"The cost of football is disproportional to its value," Lee said.

Felx said steps have been taken during the past two years to bring the football program into the confines of its budget. The program spent between $30,000 and $39,000 over allocations this year because of going to the playoffs, which was not included in the budget, he said.
WKU Faculty Senate says football funds are sidelining academics

Associated Press

BOWLING GREEN, Ky. — Some Western Kentucky University faculty members contend that academics are being left on the sidelines because of funds spent on the football program.

A resolution seeking a reappraisal of the football program will be considered soon, Faculty Senate President Fred Murphy said.

"The program spent more than it was budgeted every academic year this decade, according to figures provided by the Faculty Senate and Dr. Paul B. Cook, executive vice president for administrative affairs. Records show that during the 1984-85 and 1985-86 budget years, the football program overspent its budget by more than $132,000. In 1986-87 the overrun dropped to $75,412, but the figure rose to $88,987 in 1987-88.

"The football program had a budget of $761,470 for this academic year; expenditures were not available since the budget year is not over.

Before the university hired Jack Harbaugh as its new football coach this month, the Faculty Senate sent a letter to Athletics Director Jimmy Feix saying it was concerned about football spending and "what has appeared to be an inability of that program to stay within the confines even of an increasingly generous budget."

Murphy, who wrote the Jan. 27 letter, said a reappraisal was especially critical now, when the budget is strained. Faculty members are teaching larger classes and out-of-date equipment is being used, he said.

"Feix said each coaching candidate was told about the team's resources and budget levels "so they would know exactly, without a question, what they had to work with," Background checks on Harbaugh revealed that he was able to work within the framework of allocations," Feix said.

In 1985, the Faculty Senate urged the university administration to study moving to Division III in football. Division III schools offer no athletic scholarships, which would free some of the money budgeted for athletics for use in academics.

But WKU President Thomas Meredith said the football program would not change divisions, even if the Faculty Senate makes that suggestion again this year.

"We're the level of institution where we need to be at least the (football division) level we are now," he said.

"Anytime you don't have enough money in the academic area, there's always concern about money being spent in athletics," Meredith said.

He said he supports the athletic program because it gives opportunities to participating students; publicizes the institution, which contributes to student recruitment; and provides a rallying point for students, faculty, staff and alumni.

Meredith said, however, that he is going to "make sure we live within our budgets."
Figures showing that Western Kentucky University has overspent its football budget the past few years gives athletic department opponents additional ammunition.

Disgruntled faculty members have been saying for years that the football program should be scaled back or eliminated because it costs too much money — money that could be spent on academics.

The figures at least partially support their feelings.

For 1988-89, the football program was allocated $761,470 but took in just $142,535. Final expenditures have not been calculated.

But during the previous four seasons (1984-85 through 1987-88), spending exceeded what was budgeted by a total of about $300,000.

Football opponents don't believe that kind of spending, or overspending, is justified since money for academics must be spread thinly around campus.

We aren't about to call for the football program, which has been rebuilt during the past few years, to be abolished. Nor do我们 believe that dropping down to a level below Division I-AA, as some people have suggested, is necessarily the way to go.

The football team is too much of a source of pride and enjoyment for alumni, students and supporters of the university to take such drastic steps.

But since the football program is so expensive, it should be run in a manner that prevents it from going over budget.

Faculty members can't be expected to make do with small salary increases and the bare necessities for their classrooms if the football program is exceeding its allocations.

If football spending is in the red one year, the program's allocation should be cut the next year. The university shouldn't appear to reward overspending by increasing the football budget the next year, but that's what's been happening much of the time.

With a new coach, Jack Harbaugh, taking over the Hilltoppers, the timing is perfect for administrators to start demanding the program stay in the black. We hope they take advantage of it.
FATHER AND SON. Western football coach Jack Harbaugh (in red jacket) stands next to his son, Chicago Bear quarterback Jim Harbaugh, during spring practice Wednesday at Smith Stadium. Jim was helping out in practice.
Western adds football assistants

From Special Dispatches

Western adds football assistants

Bruce Hoffman and Rick Denstorf have been added to the football staff at Western Kentucky University, head coach Jack Harbaugh said yesterday.

Hoffman will serve as defensive coordinator and work with defensive backs. He was head coach at Elmhurst (Ill.) the past five years.

Denstorf, who played at WKU from 1982-85, will coach the offensive line. He coached at Indiana (Pa.) last season.

Larry Hook, David Keeny and Joe Schlager have been added to the staff at Morehead, head coach Bill Baldridge said.

Hook, who will coach defensive backs, comes to Morehead from the University of Minnesota at Morris, where he served as assistant athletic director, defensive coordinator, secondary coach and head track coach.

Keeny, who will coach quarterbacks and wide receivers, is a former assistant at Arizona, Penn State and Virginia.

Schlager, who will coach the defensive line, played at Morehead from 1981-84. Last year he served as defensive coordinator at North Greenville College in Tigerville, S.C.

Volleyball: Denise Kanya, athletic director and volleyball coach at Midway College the last five years, has resigned to become assistant volleyball coach at Florida.

Basketball: Debbie Dever will become athletic director.

Basketball: Andy Liebert, a former Floyd Central (Ind.) High School player, has received a full scholarship at the University of Maine after playing two years at Maine Central Institute.
SPRING FOOTBALL AT A GLANCE
WESTERN KENTUCKY


Key losses: Coach David Roberts; FB Joe Arnold, RB Tony Brown, DB Dave Armstrong, FB Pedro Bacon, OL Dwayne Penn, OL Dean Tietot, DB Ron Burroughs, DB Voseo Anthony, PK Dan Maher, DT Darryl Atwood, DT Allen Helicheck, LB Calvin Edwards, WR Cedric Jones.


Strengths: Defense, which returns eight starters, is sound. Running game has possibilities if junior Don Smith or sophomore Vance Turpin blossoms. Wide receivers are fast and shifty. Coates can play for anybody in the country.

Weaknesses: Offensive line needs help, and depth at halfback is a question mark. Quarterbacks Mark Marsh and transfer Brian Browning are unproven. A quality place-kicker to replace Maher is needed.

Major surprises: TE Milton Diggins, RB Vance Turpin, WR Anthony Green.

Outlook: If the club can adjust to new coach Jack Harbaugh and get decent play at quarterback, it could return to the playoffs for the third straight year.

Spring game: April 29.
Harbaugh brings option to WKU; EKU could be ‘bad news’ for OVC

By BRUCE W. BRANCH
Staff Writer

He screams. He yells. He pleads. He cajoles. He hugs. He demands.

He's Jack Harbaugh, the new Western Kentucky University football coach, and he's trying to continue in place of Dave Roberts and keep the Hilltoppers among the elite in NCAA Division I-AA.

The former University of Pittsburgh assistant has gotten his first look this spring at the returnees of a club that made it to the playoffs two straight years.

Harbaugh says the players have adjusted well to his demanding style, which places a premium on discipline, fundamentals and long practices.

"I'm having fun," Harbaugh said. "We're still in the honeymoon phase. Everything is upbeat. I've gotten along well with the players. The enthusiasm among the players and out in the community has been tremendous."

The adjustment for the players has been made easier because Harbaugh's offensive and defensive philosophy is similar to the schemes employed by Roberts before he left for Northeast Louisiana.

Both use a five-man front defense and a wide-open offense that emphasizes the passing game. However, Harbaugh has installed the option into the WKU attack.

"We want to be able to attack sideline to sideline, and the only offense I know where you can do that is the option," Harbaugh said.

"Quarterback Mark Marsh has been running it well, and that is a pleasant surprise."

Marsh will be surrounded with skilled players in the backfield and one of the top pass-catching tight ends in I-AA, senior Robert Coates.

Although Western lost Tony Brown, the expected starter at tailback, when the NCAA ruled he had used up his eligibility, Harbaugh said the running game will be as productive as it was last year when senior Joe Arnold rushed for more than 1,000 yards.

The coach is high on 5-foot-10, 185-pound junior Don Smith and 225-pound junior Vance Turpin, who hasn't played in two years because of injuries.

Senior Gerard Mark, the last of four transfers from Southern Methodist, is the leading candidate to replace Pedro Bacon at fullback.

The team is loaded with speed at wide receiver, with seniors Anthony Green and Derwin Harris enjoying great springs.

Harbaugh's biggest worries are on the offensive line, where an injury to center Dan Watterston has forced him to move 6-4, 300-pound senior Don Hodge.

Harbaugh also has made some adjustments in the secondary, moving sophomore Howard Freeney from linebacker to cornerback.

Eastern Kentucky! For one of the first times in recent memory, coach Roy Kidd is not crying "wolf" in the spring.

"That could be bad news for all of us," Murray State coach Mike McMahon said.

Eastern lost some outstanding players, including record-setting tailback Elroy Harris, who bypassed a fifth year of eligibility to declare for the National Football League draft, and defensive end Jessie Small. But 34 lettermen, including 13 starters, return.

Last season the Colonels finished 11-3, capturing their third straight Ohio Valley Conference title, and making it to the NCAA I-AA semifinals before losing to Georgia Southern. See HARBAUGH PAGE 7, col. 1, this section.
Harbaugh: Tops have talent, need work on attitude

Now that spring football practice is over at Western Kentucky University, Coach Jack Harbaugh still floats "that magic word around."

"The talent is here," Harbaugh said after Wednesday's final spring practice. "I've been in the Division I-A level, and there are similar kinds of players here.

"The thing we need to work on is developing a winning attitude. We're just about there, but not quite there on the attitude yet."

"We've got enough to win a lot of games. But if you put a winning attitude and talent like we've got together, then you've got a chance at a championship."

Western, in Division I-A, looks to have a defense even stronger than last year's, with several returning regulars and more depth. At the end of the 1988 regular season, Western ranked 10th nationally in total defense.

The offense creates the questions. Can the Hilltoppers survive with an inexperienced offensive line? How well can they adjust to the option Harbaugh wants to install? How does a team replace a winner like the record-setting Joe Rowld? And just who will be the quarterback?

Spring injuries and the graduation of Dewayne Penn, Rob Wells and Dean Tiebout, have depleted the offensive line.

"After practice today, I have new offensive linemen," Harbaugh said.

The option is part of Harbaugh's scheme for overcoming the "up front." "When you have a young line,"

Senior quarterback Mark Marsh (right photo) looks to be the leading candidate to start for Western next season while Edmonson County's Brian Browning (above) is learning the ins and outs of Coach Jack Harbaugh's option.

Staff Photos by LaMar Weaver

SENIOR QUARTERBACK
Mark Marsh (right photo) looks to be the leading candidate for the quarterback slot, but Harbaugh is leaning toward Marsh.

"Marsh is our quarterback," Harbaugh said. "But I'd like for there to be a little more distance between him and the others. I don't know if it's because the others are playing better than I expected or if it's that Mark isn't picking up on things quick enough." Browning, who transferred from the University of Louisville and holds several Edmonson County passing records, says he's not worried about the quarterback competition.

"Mark is more of an option quarterback, and I'd have to say he's ahead of the pack right now," Browning said. "I come from a passing offense and I'm not quite as quick. I'm going to have to adjust to the option."

"But I'm not worried about starting this year. Hey, I've got three years left."

Defense spearheaded by returning stars Russell Foster and Xavier Jordan will be Western's stronghold in 1989.

"We'll be better defensively this year than we were last year."

defensive backs. They will try to compensate for the loss of Ron Burroughs.

"I'm excited about this group of young men," Harbaugh said. "It'll all come down to how well we develop the winning attitude. We've got all summer to work on it. If we get it, we have a chance at the championship."

Schedule

Western's final practice in full gear was Wednesday. The Hilltoppers will take today off and come back Friday for a short workout in preparation for Saturday night's controlled scrimmage, which is set for 7:30 on the field.
Foster will lead the line. The players speak positively about the discipline Harbaugh has brought, though that discipline has led to suspensions.

"He lets you know right away what's expected of you," Browning said. "He expects you to be there when you're supposed to be there." Harbaugh gave seven players "some time off to see if football is what they want." Six players have returned.

"The ones who have come back have showed a renewed attitude," Harbaugh said. "I think it's been a positive thing."

What a guy

Browning, who played under Howard so-and-so at Louisville, said Harbaugh is a player's coach.

"He's someone you can talk to," Browning said. "Coach Schnellenberger was intimidating. You were doing something if you got him to crack a smile."

"But you can talk to Coach Harbaugh about anything and feel comfortable."

She's a tackle

Susan Meredith, Western president Tom Meredith's wife, became a defensive tackle for Western Wednesday. Well, sort of.

During Tom Meredith's recent inauguration, it came out that Susan Meredith grew up with several brothers, and she said she has "the aggressiveness of a defensive tackle."

At practice Wednesday, Western's defensive line crew drove her a luxury and made her...
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Defense, spearheaded by returning stars Russell Foster and Xavier Jordan will be Western's stronghold in 1989.

"We'll be better defensively this year than we were last year," Foster said. "We've got a lot of good people, and we have more depth at every position."

Up front, Jordan, Zip Zanders, Anthony Cooper, and lauded Florida transfer Webby Barnett should give opposing quarterbacks fits.

"We've got just an awesome defensive front," Harbaugh said. "Our front four linemen are as strong as you'll find."

Foster will lead the linebackers, along with Vernon Nixon. But graduation claimed defensive leader Mike Carberry.

Jonathan Watts, Riley Ware, Troy Dowdy and Jerome Martin will be among the experienced

"I'm excited about this group of young men," Harbaugh said. "It all comes down to how well we develop the winning attitude. We've got all summer to work on it. If we get it, we have a chance at winning the championship."

**Schedule**

Western's final practice in full gear was Wednesday. The Hilltoppers will take today off and come back Friday for a short workout in preparation for Saturday night's controlled scrimmage, which is set for 7:30 on the practice field next to Smith Stadium.

There will be no Red-White game this year because of injuries and problems with facilities. At least 29 players have missed spring practice with minor injuries or for Proposition 48 reasons, and Smith Stadium's field is being worked on.

**Harbaugh's way**

Players speak positively about the discipline Harbaugh has brought, though that discipline has led to suspensions.

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At practice Wednesday, Western's defensive line crew gave her a jersey and made her an honorary member.
WKU's Coates is I-AA All-American

Western Kentucky University football player Robert Coates has been named a preseason Division I-AA All-American by The Sporting News.

The 6-foot-2, 235-pound senior from Birmingham, Ala., already has 92 career receptions for 1,096 yards. Both are school records for a tight end.

He has scored seven touchdowns.

Western's Xavier Jordan and Dan Watterson were also named to the 24-man All-Independent team, comprised of players from I-AA's 12 teams not affiliated with a conference.

Jordan is a 6-2, 240-pound senior defensive end from Atlanta, and Watterson is a 6-5, 260-pound senior center from Radcliff.

Western was picked sixth among the 12 Independents.
Western's Harbaugh hesitates on 'C' word

For the first time since Jack Harbaugh was hired in February as Western Kentucky University's head football coach, he's hesitating on the "C" word.

Now, that's to say the word "championship" isn't drawing a quick and unequivocal "you bet your cleats!"

It's not to say Harbaugh has lost faith.

Now let's examine the evolution of the "C" word:

- When Harbaugh was hired, he said, "Division I-AA championship,"

- At the end of spring practice, he said, "IAA championship,"

- Even at a Hilltopper Athletic Foundation dinner on Thursday, he said:

  "When I came on here, I said we were going to make a run at a Division I-AA national championship," he told members of the HAF. "Well, I've had some months to think about it and...I still say we're going to make a run at a championship." He also pointed out that the Hilltoppers' attitude problems have been solved.

- But that was before attitude problems and key injuries in the offensive backfield and line and on defense took hold.

"As of this morning this was Harbaugh's response to the "C" word.

WESTERN KENTUCKY University quarterback Scott Campbell (18) gets set to throw during a recent practice at Smith Stadium. Mark Marsh

may have the starting quarterback position to himself as Brownsville's Brian Browning nurses an ankle fracture.

Staff Photo by Craig Bell

Joe Medley
Daily News
Sports Editor
Commentary
S-15-57

Continued On Page 3
Column 1, This Section
When I was in high school, I checked the papers every day to see how Western Kentucky University's sports teams fared. At my school's football games, which I attended religiously, I often wore my red shirt with two white stripes on each sleeve. It said "Western Kentucky" on the front.

But when I made my decision to eventually enroll at Western, it wasn't because of red towels.

It wasn't even because I thrilled at watching my favorite school almost bring down Patrick Ewing's Georgetown team a few poll notches on television.

Instead, it was because I saw a segment on a Louisville show called "P.M. Magazine" about Western's journalism school, touted as one of the best in the country. Money made it necessary for me to live at home for two years and take my general education classes at the University of Louisville.

Western's journalism school, I knew that if I ever was to reach my life's ambition to be a sports writer, Western was the place to be.

Now I'm a Western alumni who enjoys covering Western sports and who owes a great deal to Western. As a teen I was the biggest sports freak and a Western fan in the middle of what seemed a Louisville-Kentucky civil war.

But I would never have come to Western if I weren't for the journalism school.

And now I watch Western's athletics making less than half of what they spend while Western's academic programs hold out a tin cup.

Joe Medley
Daily News Sports Editor
Commentary

Western needs more money from the state, the real culprit in this issue, but the Hilltoppers may well be playing on prime time before that happens. This year's athletic budget of $2.3 million is the same as last year's.

The Faculty Senate for years has been calling for Western to bring its athletics within the boundaries set by harsh realities. The Fiscal Committee has asked the same.

I'm a sports fanatic, a longtime fan of Western and a grateful alumnus. I wouldn't consider it a step back for the school to go to the OVC.

Western should consider such a move.
WKU offense passes; holes to fill on 'D'  

Joe Medley  
Daily News  
Sports Editor  
Commentary

Some notes and quotes from Western Kentucky University's football camp:

A Saturday scrimmage has led Coach Jack Harbaugh praising his offense and wondering about his defense.

The first-string Hilltoppers dressed in white and played the second-line players, called "Young Bucks," in Red on the Smith Stadium practice field Saturday before the Heritage Bowl high school doubleheader.

The Red jumped out to a 10-0 lead on Western's No. 1 defense, but the veterans came back for a 21-10 win on the strength of two touchdown passes by senior quarterback Mark Marsh.

"The offense looked good," Harbaugh said. "Mark played well and (running back) Donnie Smith looked good. We didn't keep stats, but I'm sure he had well over 100 yards."

The offensive line of sophomores Ivory, Warren, junior Robert Tyler, senior Bob Hodge, sophomore David Browning and junior John Burden also drew praise.

Some of the young linemen were pressed into service when starters Phillip Pryor and Kent Carter went down with knee problems.

"We had some young people in there, and we looked pretty sharp," Harbaugh said. "We weren't making that many mistakes."

Senior tight end Robert Coates, a preseason All-American in Division I-AA, caught Marsh's first scoring strike from 23 yards.

"I'll know more about it this Saturday," he said. "Right now, I don't think it would be good to name them. They know who they are."

Surprise starter

Joe Dockweller, a 6-foot-3, 250-pound defensive tackle and junior college transfer from Chicago, has won a starting position.

"He has been a pleasant surprise. He's already worked himself into a starting position," Jack Harbaugh said. "He's got a lot of grit and a great work ethic."

Proposition 48 victims

Recruits Roscoe Echols, Eddie Thompson and Vic Warton will sit out their first year as Proposition 48 victims.

All three have enrolled at Western and will try to play next year.

Echols was a star on offense and defense as well as on kick returns for Bowling Green High School in 1988.

Thompson quarterbacked Fort Knox High School to a Class 2A state title, and Warton was a star at Father Ryan High School in Nashville.

Harbaugh on Harbaugh

Coach Harbaugh gave his son, Chicago Bears quarterback Jim Harbaugh, a fair rating after the Bears' 24-7 loss to the San Diego Chargers in a Saturday NFL exhibition.

Jim Harbaugh completed nine of 13 passes for 84 yards and threw no interceptions as he
Young offensive line will

KOU football

honorble mention All-American Dwayne Penn and Rob Weinle to gradation.
Senior Dan Watterson quit because of injuries, as did Phillip Pryor.

What's left is two players who didn't suit up for a game last year and others pressed into service by injuries.

All of this has put a kink in Harbaugh's offensive plans.

"We've had to shelve the option for the time being because there's a lot of complicated blocking assignments there," Harbaugh said. "We're getting back to the basics. We want them to be able to do a few things well."

We're not going to be a great running team or a great passing team," Harbaugh said. "I just hope we can do what we want to do when we want to do it."

The defense will be the strength.

"Defensively we're very good," Harbaugh said.

Western will have depth on the defensive line with Gary Cook, Doug Jones and Joe Dockweller leading the way. Brad Thomas, Vernon Nixon, Chandler Wallace and Sohn Stancell all should see time.

The Hilltoppers have experience in the defensive backfield.

The outside linebackers will be Xavier Jordan and Raja Gordon, a 6-2, 210-pound junior. On the inside it'll be Russell Foster, Derek Wilson and Zip Zanders.

At the corners are Riley Ware and Eddie Godfrey. Howard Freeney should provide depth.

Of the defensive starters, Foster was the second-leading tackler in 1988 with 126 stops. Graduate Mike Carberry had 128.

All of the defensive linemen saw action except Dockweller, who is a junior college transfer. Thomas had 60 tackles, and Cook had 49 in 1988.

Thomas, Martin and Foster each had 4.5 quarterback sacks.
Carberry led the team with five.

The defense will have a lot of help from veteran punter Todd Davis, who notched 36.5 yards a boot last year.

Pat Lewis will be the starting place kicker, replacing all-time leading scorer Dan Maher.

make defense the key

Mark Marsh, a senior, is solid at quarterback with Scott Campbell as his backup.

"Mark is looking good," Harbaugh said. "He's really grasping the offense.

"What we'll expect most from him is leadership. We don't have a lot of leaders on the offensive side, so that'll rest mostly on him."

The fullback will be Troy Dowdy, a 5-10, 180-pound Paducah native.

Don Smith, who gained over 100 yards in Western's scrimmage on Aug. 19, and 6-2, 230-pound Vance Turpin will alternate at the tailback slot.

The tight ends will be preseason All-American Robert Coates and sophomore Milton Biggins.

"We're not going to be a great

The Hilltoppers lost All-American Dean Tiefout.

The starters for the offensive line, as well as the other positions on offense and defense, are all set for the Sept. 2 season opener at Illinois State.

Tackle Ivory Warren (6-foot-6, 300 pounds) and guard Robert Tyler (6-2, 257) were Proposition 48 victims last season and didn't play. Both will start this year.

Bob Hodge will throw in his 6-4, 300-pound frame at center. David Browning (6-4, 255) is set at the outside guard slot, and John Burden (6-5, 290) will play tackle.

"I really don't know what to expect from them because we haven't seen them under the gun," Harbaugh said. "Right now we're going to cut back and not overload them. Then by the third or fourth game, we'll see what we can add in there."
Defense improves as opener approaches

Western Kentucky University football coach Jack Harbaugh is feeling better because his defense is playing better.

But there are several question marks facing the Hilltoppers as Saturday's 1989 season opener at Illinois State draws near. Those question marks have made Harbaugh a little more shy about saying "championship." As you get closer to the season, you know more about your team," Harbaugh said. "We've got some question marks right now.

"We've got a new coaching staff and an inexperienced offensive line, and we're going to have to jell early because we've got some tough games in September."

The encouraging thing is how the defense has improved from scrimmage to scrimmage.

In an Aug. 19 red-white game the second-unit offense spotted the second-unit defense a 10-6 lead. In the Aug. 26 scrimmage, the top defense pitched a 26-0 shutout and showed some encouraging signs. "In the first scrimmage, we didn't look like we had our legs under us," Harbaugh said. "We were missing tackles and didn't look too enthusiastic."

LANIE FOMAS (left) braces himself as Howard Freeeney prepares to bring him down at Smith Stadium during Saturday's Western Kentucky at Illinois State. Western, lost All-American and Phillip Pry to chronic knee problems, but Western's offensive line look to two line Western's offense.
suit up for a game last season and others pressed into action by the huge losses.

Harbaugh said it's hard to draw conclusions about his line of Ivory Warren, Robert Tyler, Bob Hodge, David Browning and John Burden from Saturday's scrimmage.

"They're getting better," but it'll be hard to tell until Saturday night," he said. "We're getting some continuity, but we really won't know until they face blocking situations they haven't faced in practice."

Saturday's scrimmage held clues as to what offensive personality Western will have this season.

"All four touchdowns came on running plays, with quarterback Mark Marsh taking it in from one, five and 10 yards out. The 10-yarder came on a broken pass play as Marsh scrambled into the end zone.

"Mark has got quick feet, and he showed that on that play," Harbaugh said.

Marsh completed seven of 11 passes for 92 yards. The longest pass play was a 25-yarder.

Running back Don Smith scored on a one-yard dive and had 50 yards on nine carries. Vance Turpin, who shares tailback time with Smith, picked up 49 yards on seven runs.

Fullback Phil Dowdy added six yards on four runs.

"I think our quarterback performed well, and our three backs are very capable," Harbaugh said. "We have a bevy of wide receivers, and the two tight ends are outstanding."

"Again it's going to come down to the five guys between the ends and what they do. We need them to pick up on things quickly."

Injuries shouldn't be a problem for the Illinois State game. Reserve quarterback Scott Campbell has a hip pointer, and kicker Pat Levis has been battling a muscle strain. Both are expected to be ready on Saturday.

Illinois State had a rash of injuries last season and finished 1-10 under head first-year coach Jim Heacock. He had to play 18 first-year freshmen.

Western lost All-American and Phillip Pryor because of chronic knee problems. Western's offensive backs will look to two linemen who didn't.

University scrimmage game. The Hilltoppers will open their first season under new coach Jack Harbaugh at Illinois State.

Western lost All-American and dean Tiebout, honorable mention All-American Dewayne Penn and Rob Weinle to graduation off the offensive line.

The line also suffered early retirements from Dan Watterson...
Defections diminish Western's numbers

By JIM TERHUNE
Staff Writer

BOWLING GREEN, Ky. — The list of players who have left the Western Kentucky University football team since reporting for practice in August has grown to 16. Coach Jack Harbaugh said most of them weren't willing to accept his standard of "accountability.

There were exceptions. Returning first-team center Dan Watterson decided to give up football because of operations on his knees, and reserve tailback Willie Thomas is out for the season with broken ankles. Also, Harbaugh discovered that regular nose guard Chad Kraml had used up his eligibility.

As for the rest, two left by mutual consent, according to Harbaugh, meaning they wanted to leave and the coaching staff wanted them to leave. Harbaugh, however, said no players were dismissed from the team.

He would not identify any players who have left because of their differences with the coach. He also said it is too early to tell how the losses will affect the team — a question that Western Kentucky's opener at Illinois State at 7:30 p.m. EDT today may help answer.

Some players have chosen to leave Western Kentucky rather than conform to first-year football coach Jack Harbaugh's brand of discipline.
Defections cut into Western roster

Continued from Page B1

Most of those who left the team were "younger players," said Western Kentucky sports information director Paul Just. "We're in the process of educating young people," said Harbaugh, who took the Western head coaching position last spring after Dave Roberts went to Northeast Louisiana. "I think it's a misconception that coaches are perceived as not caring about what a kid does. I'm not a professor, but this is my classroom. Out there is the laboratory. The test tubes are (tackling) dummies and (blocking) sleds. Those who left chose not to be accountable, and we're not talking about how you play the left tackle hole or carry the football." Harbaugh defined "accountability." "Being polite in the food line," Harbaugh said. "Don't pull the beds out of the wall in the dorm room or break windows. You can develop a mindset: I'm an athlete and it's all right for me to do these things because they are just students. You've got all these people taking care of you on the way up, telling you how great you are, then suddenly you have to deal with your own life and you can't. If a Judy Jones up there on the hill has a problem, a coach doesn't call to fix it." For example, Harbaugh said two players verbally abused a fast-food restaurant employee a few weeks ago. Harbaugh said he asked them to go back and apologize. They refused. They are gone.

Despite Harbaugh's statement that no players were kicked off the team, senior tight end Robert Coates said: "By the guys he's dismissing he's saying there's a new sheriff in town." It all boils down to discipline," said senior linebacker Zip Zanders, a transfer from South Carolina. "And that's what football is all about." "It's been a big change," said defensive tackle Brad Thomas, a Louisville Holy Cross graduate battling to hold on to his starting job. "Some have had a rough time, but most like discipline. The whole attitude is better, but it's not there yet."

Dead ahead now is the question of how the Hilltoppers, 3-4 a year ago when they went to the NCAA Division I-AA playoffs, will stack up at Illinois State, a team Western whipped 31-16 last year.

The defense has seven regulars from a group that ranked in the top 10 in two categories. But the interior offensive line has only one part-time starter and two lettermen on its two-deep chart, the backfield is all new and the return specialist and one of the top receivers have finished their eligibility.

"The four losses we had last year were more mental than physical," senior defensive end Xavier Jordan said. "Our defense is great. We're going to stuff some people."

"I'd say by the fourth or fifth game our line will be veterans," said tight end Coates. "It's young and inexperienced, but very cocky, a plus for us because it won't back down from anybody."
Harbaugh 1-0 as Western

By PAT FORDE
Staff Writer
NORMAL, Ill. — The Jack Harbaugh Era at Western Kentucky University got off to a positive — albeit shaky — start last night as the Hilltoppers held on to a 17-12 football victory over Illinois State.

After taking a 17-3 halftime lead on the strength of Western’s defense and Illinois State’s mistakes, Western had to sweat it out as the Redbirds made a spirited and steady comeback.

Substitute quarterback Brian Chaney, after having five of his seven pass attempts dropped in the first half, led Illinois State to a touchdown and a field goal after intermission to make things close. But Western cornerback Howard Fenney came up with a crucial play late in the game.

With Illinois State facing a fourth-and-12 with 1:04 on the clock, Chaney scrambled and found tight end Mike Mackey 20 yards downfield. Mackey had the ball in his hands, but Fenney delivered a hard hit and knocked the ball loose. Western then sat on the ball to kill the clock.

After the first 30 minutes it looked to Illinois State fans as if the game would reach its normal conclusion. The school has had only two winning seasons in the past 15 and was 1-10 last year.

Western quarterback Mark Marsh made his first-ever college start and looked like a veteran in the first quarter, throwing touchdown passes of 35 yards to Darwin Harris and 33 yards to Lane Fomas for a 14-0 lead.

The Hilltoppers added a field goal by Pat Levis with 1:53 to play in the first half to make it 17-0, but they already had squandered a couple other opportunities.

After a fumble recovery and an interception deep in Illinois State territory, Levis missed field-goal tries from 36 and 24 yards as Harbaugh’s conservative strategy failed.

Just hangs on 17-12

On third down and long yardage on both possessions, Harbaugh stuck to the ground and played for the field goal, only to come up empty. Illinois State, on the other hand, spent the first half mimicking the team that stumbled through a dismal season last year. The Redbirds managed only three first downs and turned the ball over four times in the first two quarters, although the Hilltoppers converted only one of the turnovers into points.

In addition, Illinois State was buried in bad field position throughout the first half. Of the Redbirds’ first eight possessions, the average starting point was their own own 21-yard line, and three of those started inside the 10.

The only exception to that came at the end of the half and led to the Redbirds’ only points before intermission. Western’s Ronnie Shepherd hit and fumbled while returning a punt, and Illinois State’s Tom Frye recovered at the WKU 28. Four plays later, Rick Selz split the uprights with a 40-yard field goal to start the Redbirds’ rally.

In the second half, Illinois State took the opening kickoff and drove 65 yards in 14 plays to the Western 7. Chaney fired a bullet to split end Darren Washington in the end zone but it was dropped, and Illinois State had to settle for a field goal.

The Redbirds finally got into the end zone on their next possession. Chaney hit Washington for 22 yards, then two plays later tailback Vic Northern rambled 21 yards to the 3. Chaney carried around left end and dove into the end zone on the next play to make it 17-12.

Two botched snaps cost Illinois State its shot at a tie.

On a two-point attempt after the touchdown, Chaney fumbled the snap to kill that opportunity. Then midway through the fourth quarter, holder Pat Williams fumbled the snap on a field-goal attempt and the kick never got off.

Continued from Page 1
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Tops open with 17-12 win

BY DARYLL S. CROUCH
Daily News Sports Writer
NORMAL, Ill. — Western Kentucky University football coach Jack Harbaugh had some questions going into Saturday's opener against Illinois State, and his Hilltoppers answered a few he didn't even think to ask as they held on for a 17-12 victory.

Western (1-0) was barely clinging to life when cornerback Howard Freeney broke up an Illinois-State fourth-down pass at the Western 19-yard line with one minute left. The Hilltoppers were able to run out the clock for the win in Harbaugh's inaugural game at Western.

"Our kids showed a lot of character tonight," Harbaugh said. "There were times when we couldn't get the ball out of our end, but Don Smith really dug in and Robert Coats did an outstanding job of blocking."

Fifth-year senior and first-year starter Mark Marsh answered another question with his play at quarterback. Marsh completed six of 12 passes for 92 yards and two first-half touchdowns, and he engineered Western's 17-3 halftime lead.

His 35-yard touchdown pass to Darwin Harris with six minutes and eight seconds left in the first quarter capped off a seven-play, 67-yard drive that gave the Hilltoppers a 7-0 lead.

It was 14-0 when Lanie Formas hauled in a 33-yard pass from Marsh with 3:03 left in the period.

When Marsh wasn't hitting on pass plays early in the game, he was effectively running with the football. "I had butterflies coming into the game, big time," Marsh said. "But after the first quarter I was telling myself why some of those other guys are throwing 300-yard games. Everything tightened up after the first quarter though."

Western kicker Pat Levis gave Western a 17-0 lead with a 40-yard field goal in the second quarter.

The Hilltoppers lost momentum after Rick Seitz kicked a 40-yard field goal to cut Western's lead to 17-3 with 25 left in the first half.

Seitz added another field goal with 7:35 left in the third quarter, and reserve quarterback Brian Chaney ran in from three yards out with 3:45 left in the third to cut Western's lead to 17-12.

But Western held on, and Freeney's big defensive play thwarted ISU's final threat.

ISU dominated outgained Western 273-264 yards in total offense, but that didn't phase Harbaugh.

"The only stat that matters in these games is the one on the scoreboard that says Western Kentucky won its opening game," Harbaugh said.
Marsh proved he can lead Toppers in win over ISU

Western Kentucky University quarterback Mark Marsh has proven he can shepherd his flock with his mind. Murray State will try to make him do it with his arm.

Marsh got high grades after Western's 17-12 win over Illinois State on Saturday. He completed six of 12 passes for 96 yards and two touchdown passes, but Coach Jack Harbaugh says Marsh's contribution goes much deeper.

Illinois State came back from a 17-0 deficit to pull within 17-12 in the third quarter, but Marsh kept Western's offense on the field for nearly 10 minutes of the fourth quarter.

It came down to leadership, and the senior Marsh showed it in his first collegiate start.

"What he did goes beyond the passes. It was the leadership he gave us," Harbaugh said. "It didn't appear like he had been waiting around for four years. He was a force out there, and he kept things together for us when we really needed him to."

Marsh is a fifth-year senior who watched while Jeff Cesareone broke passing records at Western. Marsh was there last season in case something happened to David Armstrong.

Now Western is Marsh's team, and Harbaugh's offense works nicely around Marsh's quickness and passing ability.

That Western's offense, strapped with a frightfully inexperienced offensive line, was the key late in the ballgame on Saturday was a surprise and a tribute to Marsh.

"We conducted our play calling based on the premise that defense would win the ballgame for us," Harbaugh said. "But in the third quarter, it didn't look like that would hold up."

"Mark kept his head in the game, and the offense did a nice job of picking up some first downs in the fourth quarter. That was what won the game for us."

Murray, Western's road opponent this weekend, puts eight defenders on the line of scrimmage in the wide-tackle-six scheme.

the ugly from Western's first game of 1989:

Offense

Good: Tailback Don Smith came up with 98 yards on 22 carries (4.1 yards a carry). Vance Turpin helped Smith with 58 yards on 13 runs (4.5).

The Hilltoppers committed only one turnover, a fumble, and gained 264 yards.

Ugly: "We had too many penalties," Harbaugh said. "We had a lot of offsides and holding, and most of the time the penalties were drive-stoppers."

Western had 14 penalties for minus 109 yards.

"That's just ridiculous," Harbaugh said. "We can't expect to keep winning unless we rectify that."

Defense

Good: Linebacker and captain Russell Foster called just as good a defensive game as Marsh did on offense.

"We looked at the films, and we only saw three occasions where we weren't in the coverage we needed to be in, or we weren't in the right front," Harbaugh said. "Russell is our leader out there, calling the defenses. He did a nice job."

Foster also had 13 tackles. Six were solo shots and the rest came on assists.

Ugly: Defensive backs Jonathan Watts, Howard Free'ney and Jerome Martin had 30 of Western's 89 total tackles.

Western's last line of defense was kept busy by missed tackles up front.

"We counted 18 missed tackles for the whole game, and a lot of that came in the third quarter,"
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Murray, Western's road opponent this weekend, puts eight defenders on the line of scrimmage in the wide-tackle-six scheme. "That's going to make things tough for us, we're going to have to mix things up a little more than we did against Illinois State," Harbaugh said.

That means more passes for Marsh, who almost doubled his career passing yardage on Saturday in the first quarter. He also went without an interception.

His touchdown passes went 35 yards to Darwin Harris and 33 yards to Lanle Pomas.

Here's a look at the good and the ugly from Western's first game of 1989:

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Western's last line of defense was kept busy by missed tackles up front.

"We counted 18 missed tackles for the whole game, and a lot of that came in the third quarter," Harbaugh said. "We let them continue to run the sweep right at us, and you can't do that."

**Kicking**

**Good:** Punter Todd Davis punted eight times and averaged 40 yards. His longest was a 64-yard blast.

**Ugly:** Placekicker Pat Levis missed two field goals within 40 yards, and one was within 30. The one he hit was a 40-yarder in the second quarter.
Tops must contain Proctor

Racers will make Tops mix it up

By JOE MEDLEY 7-5-89
Daily News Sports Editor

Any defense Western Kentucky University employs to counter Murray State quarterback Michael Proctor is a gamble.

"Michael Proctor is a special kind of athlete," Western coach Jack Harbaugh said. "He's fast on his feet and presents quite a threat on the option, but then he'll drop back and burn you with the pass just when you're cheating up to take the run away."

Proctor, who reminds of Georgia Southern great Tracy Ham, will try to help Murray gun down Western for the first time since 1984 when the teams rekindle an old Ohio Valley Conference rivalry at 7 p.m. on Saturday at Murray.

Proctor is already off to a torrid start. In Murray's 24-3 beating of Tennessee-Martin, he completed 27 of 37 passes for 346 yards and a pair of touchdowns. And at 6-foot-4, 205 pounds, he ran for a team-high 77 yards on 20 carries. He accounted for 423 total yards and 57 of the Racers' 65 offensive plays.

So it should be easy to stop Murray. Just stop Proctor, right?

"I don't think football has progressed to the point that"

Defensively, Murray will try to take the run away with the wide-tackle-six, eight-man front. Defensive back Robert Lanon and linebackers Danny Amato, Anthony Brewer and Reggie Kennedy lead the

RESERVE WESTERN Kentucky University quarterback Scott Campbell (5) takes a handoff to runner Don Smith on Thursday at Western.

The Hilltoppers will play at Murray State on Saturday night.

Staff Photo by LaMar Weaver

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"The main thing is that we've got to keep Proctor from going bananas on us," Harbaugh said. "He's going to get his stats, but we've got to minimize him the best we
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So it should be easy to stop Murray. Just stop Proctor, right? "I don't think football has progressed to the point that you can stop a guy like that," Harbaugh said. "We just need to try and mix things up on defense, give them multiple looks, come with pressure at times and keep him guessing. We have to be like a fighter jabbing and moving around."

Proctor likes to throw to wideout James Huff and running back Franklin Thigpen. Huff grabbed seven passes for 110 yards and a touchdown against UT-Martin, and Thigpen caught six for 55 yards.

Defensively, Murray will try to take the run away with the wide-tackle-six, eight-man front. Defensive back Robert Lanon and linebackers Danny Amato, Anthony Brewer and Reggie Kennedy lead the charge.

"They put eight men on the line, so it'll be tough to run," Harbaugh said. "That'll put more pressure on Western quarterback Mark Marsh to throw. The Hilltoppers' season opener at Illinois State, Marsh completed six of 12 passes for 96 yards and two touchdowns. He threw no interceptions."

The rivalry
Western leads the series with Murray 26-21-7, and the Hilltoppers came back from a 17-0 deficit to win the last meeting 21-17 in Smith Stadium in 1987.

The first meeting was a 7-0 Western win in 1931, and a struggling Western team botched Murray's playoff hopes with a 27-25 win in the season finale in 1985 in Smith Stadium.
Continued from Page B1

the defensive line. Jackson has returned to that position from the line after "getting his strength up and speed down" over the summer, Bards said.

"Eastern and Marshall are our two biggest rivals," he said. "If a kid doesn't get up for them, he doesn't belong at Morehead."

Western-Murray: Scheduling snafus in '88 prevented Western and Murray from continuing a rivalry that had been unbroken since World War II. WKU has a 26-21-7 lead.

The Red Belt was unbuckled when athletic trainers Bill Edwards of Western and Tom Simmons of Murray went to a district meeting in '78. Simmons forgot a belt and borrowed one from Edwards. It was WKU red. Afterward, Simmons told Edwards that Western would have to beat Murray to get it back.

The belt, embedded in wood, hangs in the Western trainer's room. Murray has a 5-4-1 Belt lead, but Western has held it since 1985.

"I didn't know a belt could cause that much talk," said Harbaugh, in his first year as Western's coach. "We're keeping a close watch on it."

"It's a big belt. Must have been a big guy who wore it." Both teams enter the 8:30 EDT game 1-0, but only Murray has Michael Proctor. The quarterback ran or passed the ball 57 times in a 24-3 victory over Tennessee-Martín last Saturday. He went over 7,000 yards total offense for his career.

"He attacks vertically and horizontally," Harbaugh said. "How many quarterbacks can run the wishbone offense and still throw for 300-some yards? ... Proctor has to be one of the top four or five quarterbacks in the country."

Said Murray coach Mike Ma-

WKU hopes to keep Red Belt

honey: "He was 16 of 18 in the first half (against Martin). I don't think anybody could have played better than he did. Overall, he was 27 of 37, and five of those were dropped." Western's experienced defense will be under the gun, while Murray faces a guessing game.

"We'll go off what we saw in their spring game and the other one," said Mahoney, who didn't scout Western's 17-12 victory at Illinois State last Saturday. "The advantage is with them. We haven't changed defenses in 10 years."

Eastern-Delaware State:

Eastern's opponent at 1:30 p.m. EDT is not the I-AA Eastern power. That's Delaware, which the Colonels edged in a first-round playoff game in 1981 and nipped for the I-AA title in '82.

Delaware State opened with a 41-0 rout of Cheyney State. "Was Cheyney any good?" Kidd said. "No. But we exchanged film, and the film they sent us ran at under regular speed or something. It made them look slower. I debated showing it to the team, but the defense had to see what their offense was doing."
MURRAY, Ky. — Just when it looked like Western Kentucky University’s football team wouldn’t open its offense, boom! Problem was, the boom was too late.

With all of its fury, Western’s rally attempt failed as Western dropped a 17-14 decision to Murray State University here on Saturday night.

Western (1-1) trailed Murray 10-0 in the waning seconds of the second quarter. But quarterback Mark Marsh found Lane Fomas streaking down the right sideline and hit him with a pinpoint 73-yard touchdown strike to end the first half with Murray clinging to a 10-7 lead.

But it wasn’t enough to stem the Racers’ momentum.

Marsh went down at the 12:27 mark of the third with an ankle injury. He was out for the game, and his status for next week’s game with Middle Tennessee is uncertain.

Western coach Harbaugh said Marsh’s injury was a game-breaker.

"Any momentum we had going into the second half was negated, when Mark went down," he said. "But (backup quarterback) Scoi' Campbell did a fine job in relief. He showed the same poise tonight he showed in summer practice.’

continued from Page 12-A

Western

Arterburn’s nine-yard scoring reception from vaunted Racer quarterback Michael Proctor.

The Hilltoppers climbed right back into it when Western’s Eddie Godfrey returned the ensuing kickoff 99 yards for a touchdown to make it 17-14.

Murray defensive back William Hoston killed Western’s final drive with an interception at the Murray 30-yard line and rambled back to Western’s 25 with 19 seconds left in the fourth quarter.

Western was more damaging to itself than its opponent, according to senior tight end Robert Coates, who caught eight passes for 108 yards.

"I feel like we should have won," Coates said. "We had a lot of offensive mistakes, but everything is correctable. We’ll be right back Monday and get ready for Middle Tennessee, Western’s opponent in Sept. 18’s home opener in Smith Stadium.

Murray (2-0) opened the scoring with 13 minutes 4 and 14 seconds left in the second quarter with Greg Duncan’s 35-yard field goal.

The Racers took advantage of a Vance Turpin fumble on Western’s 17-yard line, and Frank Thigpen ran in a one-yard touchdown three plays later with 10:54 left in the half.

Proctor struggled throughout the contest with Western’s stunting linebackers, but he finished with 341 yards on 20 of 50 passing. The Hilltopper quarterbacks finished 11 for 22 with 206 yards and two interceptions.

Don Smith led Western’s rushing attack with 86 yards on 22 carries.

Western defensive back Howard Freeney, who knocked down four passes in Western’s opening 17-12 at Illinois State on Sept. 1, led the Hilltopper defense again, knocking down eight Proctor passes.

"This team will bounce back, there’s no question about that,” Harbaugh said. “They showed what kind of character they have when they went down 10-0 and kept fighting.”

continued from Page 12-A

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WKU's offense still needs work

Joe Medley
Daily News
Sports Editor
Commentary

In his first game as head football coach at Western Kentucky University, Jack Harbaugh tasted victory. In his second game on Saturday night he tasted defeat. "I tell you, it was a real downer," Harbaugh said about the 17-14 loss at Murray State University.

It was a downer because the Hilltoppers lost a game they could easily have won. It was a downer because Murray showed that a good team can make Western's weaknesses obvious.

Oh, by the way. Western's next two opponents, Middle Tennessee and Eastern Kentucky, are good teams.

"We've got some things we need, some real work on, and we're in the part of our schedule where we need to have those things resolved," Harbaugh said.

The weakness Harbaugh harped on in preseason was a young offensive line, and Murray made the best of that with an eight-man front.

"The Racers used the blitz, and the Hilltoppers didn't pick it up. The result was three sacks of quarterbacks Mark Marsh and Scott Campbell for a negative 21 yards, an injury to Marsh making him doubtful for the Middle Tennessee game, and an ineffective offense.

"We couldn't get any consistency," Harbaugh said. "It seemed like we'd get a pass for a first down, then a run for a first down, and then they blitz and we're punting.

"We were never able to put three or four good series together. I guess that's the sign of a young football team."

Western got 206 yards through the air and 95 on the ground, but the Racers' cranked up the blitz and hurt Western on scoring opportunities.

The Hilltoppers made it to the Racers' 20-yard line in the fourth quarter and set up kicker Pat Levis with a chance to tie the game. Murray blocked the kick.

"We just didn't get the job done in the Red Zone," Harbaugh said referring to the area close to the opponent's end zone. "We got down there and didn't execute. We had problems picking up the blitz, and that hurt."

Some good things came from the loss as Western showed it can get the big play.

Murray was up 10-0 with time running out in the first half, but Marsh found receiver Lainie Fomash without a Murray chaperon. The play covered 73 yards and put Western within 10-7 at halftime.

After a scoreless third quarter that saw Marsh go down with his ankle injury, Murray quarterback Michael Proctor found Tim Arterburn for a nine-yard touchdown pass to make it 17-7.

But Western struck again with the big play. Eddie Godfrey took the ensuing kickoff 99 yards to make it 17-14.

"We continue to show character," Harbaugh said. "We got down 10-0 and came back, and doggoned if we didn't come back down 17-7."

"The kickoff return was a nice surprise. We had spent all week working hard on special teams, and it paid off."

Also on the positives list was the punting of Todd Davis. He averaged 40 yards on nine punts to back up his 44-yard average in the Sept. 1 season opener at Illinois State.

But Murray sent a clear message to the Hilltoppers — a young offensive line must grow up fast, or the 1989 Division I-AA playoffs may be a distant dream.

Western opens its home schedule against Middle Tennessee on Saturday, and Middle Tennessee runs the same wide tackle six defense Murray ran.

"They're going to look at the film of the Murray game and they're going to come at us with the same thing," Harbaugh said. "We're going to have to do a better job of picking it up."

As for the quarterback situation, Marsh is "very doubtful for this weekend," Harbaugh said.

The twisted ankle Marsh suffered in a third-quarter sack "wasn't as bad today as last night," Harbaugh said. "There wasn't as much swelling... and we're going to try and get him some work in practice this week. We'll take it on a day-to-day basis."

Campbell completed eight of 11 passes for 112 yards with one interception on Saturday.

"He did a nice job for us, but he wasn't ready to face some of the situations Mark was preparing for," Harbaugh said. "Scott will see a lot of practice time this week looking at a lot of those same situations. He should be more ready."
Murray stalls, but its defense comes to rescue

By JIM TERRHUNE
Staff Writer

MURRAY, Ky. — There's a strong urge to call them the Murray State University Proctors. It's a mistake easily made when the quarterback passes or runs the football—almost 70 percent of the time.

But what happens when Michael Proctor needs a doctor?

A team of defensive physicians came to the operating table at Roy Stewart Stadium Saturday night and stopped Western Kentucky's offense, pushed Murray to a 17-14 victory and a 2-0 record.

Proctor, a senior who had hit 10 of 18 passes for a half and gone 27 for 37 overall the previous week at Tennessee-Martin, suffered a hamstring cramp at halftime, sat the last 12 minutes, and the man with the 62 conversion made it 10-7.

The Proctors...Page 5, col. 1, this section.

Defense rescues stalled Murray

Continued from Page D 1

Two opponents have now managed 17 points and an average of 77.5 yards on the ground.

"This was as good a defense we've played since I've been here," said Mike Mahoney, who has been at Murray three years as head coach and six as an assistant. "And there was no more important play in the game than that blocked field goal."

Jamie Lowicz, who played with a bum ankle, deflected Pat Levis' 44-yard try to tie the score at 10 with seconds left in the third quarter.

Proctor then delivered a 4-for-4, 75-yard scoring drive. It was enough to withstand a record kickoff return and sundry Western challenges in the last 12 minutes.

WKU (1-1) came with stunts, blitzes, defensive end Xavier Jordan, strong safety Jeremy Martin, and who knows who else the first half. They popped Proctor play after play, and when a receiver got Marsh dropped back and aimed a pass toward Lanie Fomas, standing inches from the right sideline.

Fomas caught it, eluded a swipe by Robby Lanon and sped 73 yards to score as the half ended. Levis' conversion made it 10-7.

A third-quarter standoff and Lowicz's blocked field goal, Proctor hit passes of 9, 42, 14 and 9 yards on a 75-yard TD march to push Murray ahead 17-7. Glen Arterburn outtwisted and outflued Western's Jonathan Watts for the last one.

Arterburn's catch came with 13:24 left in the game. Fifteen seconds later it was 17-14. Eddie Godfrey took the kickoff on his 1-yard line, weaved through traffic to the 35 and broke free on a 99-yard return.

In the last 13 minutes, WKU moved to the Racers' 44, 46 and 42. But Murray stopped each thrust, the last with an interception at 0:19.
By JOE MEDLEY 9-15-87
Daily News Sports Editor

Just three games into the 1989 football season, Western Kentucky University’s condition is critical.

The Hilltoppers face surely a must-win situation against Middle Tennessee (2-0) in Saturday’s home opener in Smith Stadium, and Western will go without its starting quarterback and two starting tailbacks.

Junior quarterback Scott Campbell will step in for senior Mark Marsh, who twisted his ankle in last week’s 17-14 loss to Murray State and has not practiced this week.

Starting tailback Don Smith, who has gained 189 of Western’s 334 rushing yards this season, will miss Saturday’s game with a bruised shoulder. And Vance Turpin, who platooned with Smith, has left the team.

“It’s not something I really want to go into,” Western coach Jack Harbaugh said about Turpin’s situation. “It was a mutual agreement kind of thing, and Vance is no longer with us.”

All of this leaves Western without 496 of its 565 total offensive yards coming into the game that could decide Western’s playoff chances this season.

The Hilltoppers are 1-1 with road games against Eastern Kentucky and Louisville ahead. Winning at Louisville has proved futile, and second-ranked Missouri rarely loses at home.

“An independent like us could have a tough time into the playoffs with four losses,” Harbaugh said. “They’re critical games for us.”

Campbell has shown he can do the job. He completed 11 of 12 passes for 112 yards against Murray State after Marsh went down in the third quarter.

Mark Marsh’s replacement this week is junior quarterback Scott Campbell, who has shown he can step into the starting quarterback position.

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Smith injured; runner Turpin gone

By Joe Medley 7-15-89
Daily News Sports Editor

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The Hilltoppers are 1-1 with road games against Eastern Kentucky and Louisville ahead. Winning against Louisville has proved futile, and second-ranked Eastern rarely loses at home.

An independent like Western could have a tough time getting into the playoffs with four losses.

"There's no doubt this is a critical game for us," Harbaugh said. "We're in front of our home fans, and we need to make the best of it."

Campbell has shown he can do the job. He completed eight of 14 passes for 112 yards against Murray after Marsh went down in the third quarter. Marsh is iffy for next week.

"Scott has taken more snaps this week, and he's doing well," Harbaugh said. "He has a better understanding of the offense."

Stepping in at tailback will be Herb Davis, a 5-foot-11, 185-pound sophomore from Louisville Doss High School. Davis, a second-year Proposition 48 victim, hasn't carried the ball this season.

"He's been our third guy all along," Harbaugh said. "He's got the ability. I anticipate he'll play well."

Davis will work behind a young offensive against Middle Tennessee's wide tackle six defense led by linebacker Anthony Coleman with 30 tackles. The Hilltoppers had trouble with the same defense against Murray.

Middle Tennessee will show the Hilltoppers different looks.

"We don't have the size up front that Murray did, so we move people around more," Middle Tennessee coach Boots Donnelly said. "We run a lot of stunts."

"They didn't blitz a lot in their first two games, but I anticipate they will this week after seeing the Murray film," Harbaugh said. "They've got four good linebackers they can send at once, or they'll send different combinations."

Middle Tennessee's offense, which averages 36.5 points and 334 yards a game, is led by tailback Joe Campbell. He's averaging 96 yards a game.

Runner Ricky Martin complements Campbell well, and quarterback Phil Ironside has completed 15 of 27 passes for 224 yards.

"Ironside runs the option well enough that you have to defend it, and he has good command of the underneath passing game," Harbaugh said.

"To win, Western is going to have to move the ball better than it has with the offensive personnel it has left."

"We're going to 'put in' as many people as we can to try and block, and we're just going to try and do a better job than last week," Harbaugh said. "We didn't execute last week."
Middle Tennessee players get kicks by blocking them at a record rate

Associated Press

MURFREESBORO, Tenn. — It's the rule rather than the exception when Middle Tennessee blocks a kick.

The Blue Raiders led the nation and set a Division I-AA record with nine blocked punts last season and are on course to better that mark this year.

Middle, which will play at Western Kentucky tonight, already has blocked three punts, one field-goal try and tackled opposing punters behind the line of scrimmage twice — once for a safety — while winning its first two games.

"If the team is down and dragging, a blocked punt has a way of picking you back up real fast, especially if you swat the ball 10 or 20 yards behind the line," said Middle defensive end Chuck Fairbanks, who blocked an East Tennessee State punt last Saturday.

"You can knock the momentum right out of a team by blocking their punt," added free safety Marty Carter, who got his first block of the season in Middle's opener against Tennessee State.

"When we blocked the field goal last week against East Tennessee," Carter said, "it was like they said, 'We can't do anything right.' They almost gave up. At that point it looked like they were starting to move the ball a little, too."

Fairbanks said there is no pressure on Middle to better last year's record.

"We aren't under any pressure ... because that record is ours," he said. "Most of the guys who blocked punts last year are back this year, so it's really our record and we take a lot of pride in it."

Coach Boots Donnelly said blocking a kick requires, among other factors, a missed assignment by a player on the kicking team.

"For us to have so many blocks this early, it goes back to the other team's mistakes," he said. "They have suffered a breakdown.... We do work very hard on special teams, and our aggressiveness has a lot to do with the matter, too."

"It takes a certain amount of luck," said cornerback Chuck Swafford, "but at the same time it takes a lot of skill to block a kick. When you block one early, like we did against (Tennessee State), you usually get the punter scared and he either rushes his punts or makes a mistake later."
Ailing Western faces stiff test from Middle

By JIM TERHUNE

Staff Writer

Ailing Western Kentucky University and Murray State enter classrooms tonight that should give each an education on where they stand in NCAA Division I-AA football.

New Western coach Jack Harbaugh will make his home debut against nationally 12th-ranked Mid-Tennessee (2-0). Murray (2-0) travels to No. 3 North Texas State (1-0).

Western (1-1), which lost at Murray last Saturday, has four players nicked with injuries and the Hilltoppers' fortunes haven't improved this week.

Quarterback Mark Marsh, who missed most of the second half at Murray with a sprained ankle, won't play tonight. Junior Scott Campbell will start, with redshirt freshman Bob Barnett as backup.

Tailback Don Smith, Western's top rusher with 176 yards in two games, is out with a sprained shoulder. No. 2 Vance Turpin, second with 69 yards, was suspended indefinitely by Harbaugh Tuesday.

No. 3 Willie Thomas was lost for the season in preseason drills.

Starting will be 185-pound sophomore Herb Davis of Louisville Doss High School, who was No. 4 on the depth chart at the season's start. He was listed then as Dewayne Davis but wants to be called Herb.

Harbaugh said he suspended Turpin because of an incident in practice, but he wouldn't elaborate.

"He'll come in Monday, we'll talk, then see what happens," Harbaugh said.

Smith will dress despite "a deltoid muscle bruise that was weak enough so that something more serious could happen," Harbaugh said.

"But a doctor said that it had improved enough so he could dress and in dire straits could play," Harbaugh said.

Starting offensive guard David Browning is also out, and free safety Jonathan Watts is questionable because of a sprained ankle.

"The Wally Pipp's we've identified," Harbaugh said. "We hope we find a few Lou Gehrigs out there.

"I Gehrig replaced an ailing Pipp

Murray quarterback Michael Proctor is averaging 344 yards passing and 47.5 rushing, but in Denton, Texas, he'll face a Proctor-like opponent. North Texas' Scott Davis hit 14 of 18 passes for 194 yards and ran 19 times for 50 yards in a 35-19 opening victory against Abilene Christian.

"Mirror images," Murray coach Mike Mahoney said.

"If we can play well, because we're recruiting now in Texas. North Texas is physical and maybe quicker than Western, with an offense that's similar to ours. I just hope they don't hit harder than Western."

After an opening 30-7 loss at Marshall, Morehead State will try to get well in its home opener against Kentucky State (0-2).

Morehead holds a 10-1-1 series edge over the Thorobreds, who have lost 27-8 to Virginia State and 20-12 to West Virginia Tech. Chris Swartz, Morehead's junior quarterback, has completed 31 of 55 passes for 387 yards and four TDs in two starts against Kentucky State.

Continued from Page B1

Other Kentucky colleges: Cumberland, coming off a 10-1 season, found itself with a surprising 7-0 halftime deficit in last Saturday's season opener against Methodist, a North Carolina school playing football for the first time.

But Cumberland righted itself for a 34-7 runaway and will get a more severe test in today's home opener against Otterbein, an Ohio team Cumberland beat by a misleading 45-17 a year ago.

"That one was 17-17 at the half," Cumberland coach Tom Dowling said, "and they went on to finish 7-2-1 and be ranked 19th (in NAIA Division II) to Cumberland's seventh) at the end of the season.

Otterbein opened with a 20-17 loss to NCAA Division II foe Michigan Tech.

"They've got 15 starters back, three who started two years ago, and two transfers from major colleges," Dowling said.

Cumberland, which is ranked No. 10 this week, ran only eight offensive plays in the first quarter against Methodist and 41 for the game. However, tailback Scott Hamilton, the No. 4 rusher in NAIA Division II a year ago, ran 14 times for 118 yards and two TDs.

Campbellsville may find out if it's for real today when Union pays a visit. Last week Campbellsville, which was 0-11 in 1988, won its first game since resuming the sport after a 58-year absence. Union, one of the top three teams in the Mid-South Conference, opened with a 25-14 victory over Guilford.

Centre (1-0), playing at Maryville, will try to give Joe McDaniels his 51st triumph at Centre, tying him for the most by any Centre coach. His son, sophomore tailback Tim, rushed for 170 yards and all the TDs in an opening 21-14 verdict over Hampden-Sydney.

Kentucky Wesleyan (1-0) will be at Evansville (0-1) in another Mid-South contest.
New faces lead to 31-16 upset

By DARYLL S. CROUCH
Daily News Sports Writer

The defense blitzed like never before, and Western Kentucky University's football team won with players it has never used in Saturday's 31-16 win over Middle Tennessee State in Smith Stadium.

In a week when the Hilltoppers lost running back Don Smith with a shoulder injury, quarterback Mark Marsh to an ankle injury and tailback Vance Turpin to discipline, Western got its most sparkling offensive output of the season before 14,700 fans in the home opener.

The Blue Raiders came in ranked as high as fourth in Division I-AA in some polls, but Western pulled off the upset to keep its playoff hopes alive.

Proposition 48 sophomore Herb Davis took over for Smith and Turpin, and rushed for 169 yards on 35 carries in his first collegiate game.

"Oh, I think I was ready to play," said Davis, a Louisville Doss High School product. "It was surprising, and a lot of guys, Howard Freaney and R. Foster pop up, and having guys ready to play and having guys ready to have what they did have today."

"Junior quarterback Campbell stepped in for a shoulder injury and started a few plays, but having guys ready to play and having guys ready to play in practice."

"In my opinion, he was the star of the game," Western coach Jack Harbaugh, a quarterback at Bowling Green State, said. "He executed our offense perfectly."

"I couldn't have done it better if I had done it myself," Harbaugh said.

"What feels so good about winning is at home. If I knew I'd had last week's 17-14 loss to Murray State in my life, I'd never been in my life..."
New faces lead Tops to 31-16 upset of MTSU

By DARYLL S. CROUCH
Daily News Sports Writer

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Proposition 48 sophomore Herb Davis—tackled Don Smith and Turpin and rushed for 169 yards on 35 carries in his first collegiate game. "Oh, I think I was ready to play," said Davis, a Louisville Dixie High School product. "Lining up and having guys like Howard Freeney and Russell Foster pop you in practice every day sure ought to have you ready."

Junior quarterback Scott Campbell stepped in for Marsh and completed 11 for 23 passes for 104 yards and a touchdown in his first start. He earned the praises of both coaches. "In my opinion, he was the star of the game," Western coach Jack Harbaugh, a former quarterback at Bowling Green State, said. "He executed the offense perfectly. I couldn't have done it better if I had done it myself."

"What feels so good about this win is it came at home. I felt as low last week (after Western's 17-14 loss to Murray State) as I've ever been in my life as a coach. This one has sure picked me up."

It was also a game of second chances for Western flanker Anthony Green and kicker Steve Donisi.

Green, a Dallas native, shined in his first game back since being benched for disciplinary reasons several weeks ago. He caught three passes for 28 yards, including a spectacular twisting touchdown grab in the third quarter that gave Western (2-1) a 24-10 lead.

"It has been a real trial-and-error situation with me as far as the coaches are concerned," Green said. "This is really my first game, and I just thank the Lord for everything that happened to me and the team."

Donisi got his call when starter Pat Lewis pulled a leg muscle in practice. Donisi came through by kicking a 33-yard field goal to put the Hilltoppers up 3-0 in the first quarter. He was also good on all four extra-point kicks.

Western took a 10-0 lead when Don Smith, rumbled in from seven yards with six minutes and five seconds left in the first quarter. The score was set up by Raja Gordon's fumble recovery at the Middle Tennessee 35-yard line.

After a 25-yard field goal by Blue Raider Joe Lisle cut Western's lead to 10-3 early in the second quarter, Western's Robert Coates caught an 11-yard scoring pass—after Campbell took Western back up 17-3 just before halftime.

The Blue Raiders threatened to make it interesting early in the third quarter when running back Joe Campbell scrambled in from six yards out to make it 17-10. The run capped a four-play, 66-yard drive.

But that was one of the few offensive highlights for Middle Tennessee (2-1).

"We just couldn't do anything with the football after that," Middle Tennessee coach Boots Donnelly. "I don't understand it. We have a great deal of respect for Western, but we didn't seem to play with any emotion."

"Our kicking game was weak, and we didn't block anybody," Davis gave the key of the evening when he bounced off five MTSU defenders on his way to a four-yard score with 5:14 left in the game. The run finished a 13-play, 60-yard drive and put Western up 31-10.

Middle Tennessee closed the scoring when Phil. Inns' inside hit Derwin Brewer for a 21-yard pass.
WKU rolls as fill-ins lead way

By JIM TERHUNE
Staff Writer

BOWLING GREEN, Ky. - Their names didn't sound like Lou Gehrig, but Herb Davis, Scott Campbell and Steve Donlisi stepped into three of Western Kentucky University's injury-caused gaps last night and lari-dumped unbeaten and 12th-ranked Middle Tennessee 31-16.

New Western football coach Jack Harbaugh, who lost his starting halfback last Saturday and his place-kicker early in the week, told a booster club he needed "to find some Lou Gehrigs because the Wally Pippes have been identified."


Davis, a redshirt sophomore from Louisville Doss High, replaced injured tailback Don Smith. Fourth-string at the start of preseason practice, Davis carried 38 times for 189 yards and two touchdowns last night.

Campbell, a junior transfer from The Citadel who threw exactly one pass for Western in 1988 and was the holder on place-kicks, completed 11 of 23 passes for 104 yards and two more scores.

Senior place-kicker Pat Lewis pulled a muscle in his kicking leg early last week. Enter Donlisi, a true freshman from Dayton, Ohio. He cracked out a 38-yard field goal on his first collegiate try and went 4 for 4 on extra points.

And Western won its home opener before an estimated 14,700, improving to 2-1 for the season. Middle Tennessee, No. 12 in the latest The Sports Network poll for NCAA Division I-AA, dropped to 2-1.

"Stunned by Western's 17-3 first-half onslaught, an angry Middle opened the second half apparently intent on making up its deficit in a hurry."

Western went three downs and out, and on the Blue Raiders' first play from scrimmage, Joe Campbell collected a pitchout from Phil Ironside and tore 43 yards up the right sideline before linebacker Derrick Wilson caught him from behind.

Campbell scored three plays later on a slant, and Joe Lisle's kick closed it to 17-10.

But instead of sagging, Western's patchwork gladiators rose up. The defense stuffed Middle inside its 20. When a punt carried only to the 26, Davis ran four straight times to the 10.

Then Campbell looped a timing pass toward Anthony Green. Green, running a fade pattern, leaned away from free safety Marty Carter for a falling catch in the end zone, and Donlisi's kick pushed the Hilltoppers' margin back to 14 at 24-10.

That came with 5:10 left in the third period, and Western broke the game completely open on its next opportunity by driving 60 yards in 13 plays.

Davis swept for 5 yards but was shaken up. Smith, who was given permission to play if desperately needed, replaced him. He ran six times for a total of 11 yards, then left favoring his sprained shoulder.

Davis returned. He swiveled up the middle for 10, danced through a left tackle hole for 7 and then churned over left guard, did a 360-degree spin while lying on top of fallen bodies and scored from 4 yards out. Donlisi's fourth straight conversion put Middle in a 31-10 hole with 12:41 to play.

All three of the new faces — or rather arms, legs and feet — played a significant role in Western's first drive of the game.

Davis' first carry in college was a trap that he snaked up the middle for 15 yards. Campbell hit Lane Fo-mas twice in the flat for 20 more, and Donlisi sidewardly a 38-yard field goal a yard above the crossbar for a 3-0 lead with 10:36 left in the first quarter.

A minute later Ironside's hard pitch- out to fullback Wade Johnson sailed through Johnson's arms and was recovered by Rafi Gordon on the Middle 35. It was the Blue Raiders' first turnover of the season.

Middle held, or so it appeared. On fourth-and-1 from the 26, Donlisi tried a 44-yard field goal that tailed off to the right. But an official's flag was on the ground. At first it was called an inadverted snap, then the entire play was waved off.

With a second chance, Davis ran for 3 yards, but Western was called for holding. On fourth-and-11, Todd Davis punted. But Middle was whistled for "illegal participation," resulting in a 15-yard penalty and giving the Toppers a first down on the 19.

Western took advantage of that strange sequence as Davis sliced for 3 yards, Campbell hit Anthony Green for 9 and Davis picked his way through a congested left tackle hole for the final. Donlisi converted, and it was 10-0 with 6:42 still to play in the first quarter.

Middle finally got uncranked early in the second period for a 72-yard march. Ironside demonstrated some deft decisions on screen passes and pitchouts, hitting Ricky Martin for a 28-yard gain and lateraling to Joe Campbell for a 35-yarder on which Jonathan Watts made a saving.

But Western's aggressive and unpredictable defense stiffened, sacked Ironside once and forced a 25-yard field goal by Lisle, making it 10-3 with 7:36 to go to the half.

Three series later, Western drove 52 yards to set the 17-3 halftime score. Campbell hit tight end Robert Coates three times, the last a 10-yarder with Coates standing alone in the right corner of the end zone.

Davis carried 18 times in the half for 94 yards and Campbell hit 7 of 14 passes for 74 yards.

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WKU’s ‘New Kids on the Block’ continue to make names for themselves.

Joe Medley
Daily News Sports Editor

Commentary

By Daily News Sports Editor Joe Medley

He sacked Middle’s Phil Ironside for a 5-yard loss on first and goal at Western’s 6-yard line late in the second quarter. The Blue Raiders settled for a field goal, and Western maintained a 10-3 lead.

Burnett’s injuries and conditioning were concerns for Harbaugh, so Burnett didn’t play in Western’s opener at Illinois State. He played sparingly against Murray before starring on Saturday.

“We believe Burnett hurt his ankle,” Harbaugh said. “That’s why we didn’t play him against Murray. He’s a very capable player, but he was not ready to go against us.”

And the last member of our chart busters team was Bob Hodge, a defensive lineman who moved to center when David Browning got hurt.

“Bob’s not a big guy, but he made some things happen on the line for us,” Harbaugh said. “He attacks well on the line, but he is not a big factor.”

Harbaugh said he is very uncertain how many of Western’s new kids on the block will become familiar faces on the bench this week’s game at Eastern Kentucky.

Campbell played well in the Murray game after Marsh went down in the third quarter, but Marsh will play this week if his ankle progresses.

“Mark won the job in spring, and he won it in fall. It’s his,” Harbaugh said. “What Scott has showed us is that we’ve got two very capable quarterbacks.”

Smith, down with a bruised shoulder, saw limited action Saturday and looks probable for Eastern. Still, Davis should see playing time since Harbaugh platooned Smith and Turpin.

Green looks like he’s back for good, and Donisi will kick field goals as long as Levis is down with a muscle pull.

He was a real leader out there.”

At running back, playing for the injured Don Smith and the dismissed Vance Turpin, was Herb Davis. Remember fans, his name is Dewayne, but he prefers Herb.

“Webbie started a few games for the University of Miami, and he attacks well on the run,” Harbaugh said. “He has good pass rushing skills, too. He creates a lot of problems.”

And the last member of our chart busters team was Bob Hodge, a defensive lineman who moved to center when David Browning got hurt.

“Bob’s not a big guy, but he made some things happen on the line for us,” Harbaugh said. “He attacks well on the line, but he was not ready to go against us.”

It’s uncertain how many of Western’s new kids on the block will become familiar faces on the bench this week’s game at Eastern Kentucky.

Campbell played well in the Murray game after Marsh went down in the third quarter, but Marsh will play this week if his ankle progresses.

“Mark won the job in spring, and he won it in fall. It’s his,” Harbaugh said. “What Scott has showed us is that we’ve got two very capable quarterbacks.”

Smith, down with a bruised shoulder, saw limited action Saturday and looks probable for Eastern. Still, Davis should see playing time since Harbaugh platooned Smith and Turpin.

Green looks like he’s back for good, and Donisi will kick field goals as long as Levis is down with a muscle pull.

“We got a lot of
Kids on the Block' are a hit

Joe Medley
Daily News
Sports Editor

Commentary

He was a real leader out there, playing for Don Smith and the Blue Raiders. He sacked Middle's Phil Ironside for a 5-yard loss on first and goal at Western's 6-yard line late in the second quarter. The Blue Raiders settled for a field goal, and Western maintained a 10-3 lead.

Burnett's injuries and conditioning were concerns for Harbaugh, so Burnett didn't play in Western's opener at Illinois State. He played sparingly against Murray before starring on Saturday.

"Webbie started a few games for the University of Miami, and he attacks well on the run," Harbaugh said. "He has good pass rushing skills, too. He creates a lot of problems."

And the last member of our chartbusters team was Bob Hodge, a defensive lineman who moved to center when David Browning got hurt.

"Bob's not a big guy, but he made some things happen on the line for us," Harbaugh said. "He created a lot of holes for Herb. He may not get a lot of the credit, but he was a major factor."

It's uncertain how many of Western's new kids on the block will become familiar faces on the bench in this week's game at Eastern Kentucky.

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Green looks like he's back for good, and Donisi will kick field goals as long as Levis is down with a muscle pull.

Browning will play when he returns at center, moving Hodge back to defense. And Harbaugh feels Burnett is in good shape to become a permanent fixture in the defense.

"We got a lot of gutsy performances from guys who hadn't been in there, and we got good performances from people who had been in there," Harbaugh said. "It was just a total team effort, and I feel really good for everyone."

WESTERN QUARTERBACK Scott Campbell prepares to take the blow from Middle Tenness State defenders in the first half of Saturday night's game. Campbell was never sacked and was dubbed the hero of the Hilltoppers' 31-16 win by Western coach Jack Harbaugh.
Showdown

Eastern risks No. 1 rank against No. 19 Western

By JIM TEHUNE

Eastern Kentucky's Jim Guice wobbling toward the locker room in 1968. Western Kentucky walk-on Kavin McGrath kicking a second-chance field goal with no time left in 1978. Eastern quarterback Roy Kidd feeling like the commander of the Alamo in 1952. And the game that wasn't a game in 1932.

The images are vivid, and the game is upon us again. The big college football rivalry in the state: Eastern Kentucky vs. Western Kentucky, 7:30 p.m. Saturday, Hanger Field in Richmond.

Incentives? They're obvious. But for good measure, add this week's national rankings. In the Division I-AA poll, put together by athletics directors who determine the division's playoff lineup, Eastern is No. 1 and Western No. 19. In The Sports Network ratings, compiled by 'sports information directors, EKU is No. 2 (behind Georgia Southern) and WKU No. 23.

"I'm proud any time we're ranked in the top 10 or 20," said Kidd, who played quarterback for Eastern in the early-1950s and is in his 20th season as the Colonels' head coach. "But I'd rather not have it this week. It's more incentive for them, and you don't need a whole lot of momentum for this game."

The kids look at it," said Jack Harbaugh, in his first year as Western's coach. "Coaches don't think it's that important because they've got tunnel vision about who they're playing.

But I think it's great for football. How many chances do you have in life to go against a No. 1 team, to roll those kinds of dice?"

Eastern and Western have had many chances to go against each other. Exactly how many is debatable.

Western's record book gives the Hilltoppers a 37-26-3 edge, achieved primarily with a 14-game winning streak from 1921 to 1941. But was that 14 or 13? Eastern's brochure gives Western a 35-27-3 lead and a 13-game streak from 1921-41, showing no game in 1932.

"There was no game in 1932," said Charles Hay, a University of Kentucky graduate who started an archive at Eastern in 1976. "It was canceled."

Hay has a telegram from Eastern president Herman Lee Donovin (the first WKU graduate in 1906) to Western president Henry Hardin Cherry in 1932.

"It said basically that Eastern had a lot of injuries at the time, that there was not a great deal of emphasis on football at the time..."
Eastern risks No. 1 vs. No. 19 Western

and that, after discussing it with the athletic committee, Eastern was in no condition to play Western," Hay said. "Donovan wired Cherry in early October. Western apparently agreed and scheduled another team for that date in late November. At some later date Western called it a forfeit."

Western's book shows a 1-0 victory over Eastern and a 58-0 victory over Louisville, both on Nov. 10, 1932.

There's one other known discrepancy. Western reports a 20-0 triumph over Eastern in 1915. Eastern has itself winning 6-0.

"I had one eyewitness account, and Eastern won 6-0," Hay said. "Let me read this from 'The Elevator,' a Western student literary magazine of December 1915, volume 7, page 99: 'Eastern won. Western lost. Oh, yes, the score was 6-0.'"

Harbaugh has taken the time to stick his nose into the war's history. "I've tried to chronicle it," he said. "I've looked at the coaches and the players back when. People have come by the office who played in this game or that game, somebody who played in ought-6. I've gone back as far as 1973 in the book. That's ironic, I guess, because that's the last time we won there." Western won the first three games against Eastern at Hanger Field after the stadium was built in 1969. Since then it's 6-8-1. And Saturday's engagement will be the fourth in the past five meetings to be played there (including two playoff games).

"This is what football's all about," Harbaugh said. "When I was at Michigan, it was Ohio State; at Stanford, California; at Pittsburgh, Penn State.

"Coach Kidd has lived so many of them, and I'm the new kid on the block. At Eastern Kentucky, they look like they've all come out of the same cookie cutter — guys doing the same things in the same uniforms, just 25 years younger. They just restructure, reload and reload, and I'm sure the old master will do some special things to us."

Kidd was asked to turn his memory into a highlight-lowlight film. He's 201-74-8, in his career but 12-13-2 against Western. He's won in Bowling Green only twice: 1968 and 1982.

Western's L.T. Smith Stadium opened in 1968, and Eastern brought a 4-1 team in for the dedication game. But Western was 5-0. It had outscored opponents 179-0. A crowd of 26,428 brimmed over the arena's 19,250 capacity. Another 400 to 500 Eastern fans who couldn't get tickets watched through wrought-iron gates.

Western was up 7-0 when linebacker Jim Garrett blasted Gulce, the Eastern quarterback. Gulce lurched to the sidelines.

"He was out of it," Kidd said. "They kept him on the sideline and worked on him, then helped him to the locker room near the end of the half. Just as they reached the goal posts (near the locker room entrance), he snapped to and came running back to the sideline. I felt a peck on my shoulder, and he said, 'Coach, I want to go back in.'"

Gulce led Eastern to a tying TD right before intermission — making Western the last team in the country that year to give up a point — and a 10-7 victory.

"There have been some heartbreaking losses, too," Kidd said. None tougher than in 1978. Eastern led 16-14 with four seconds left. McGrath, a walk-on kicker, was sent in to try a 32-yard field goal. He missed. But an Eastern defensive tackle roughed McGrath.

"He just ran into the kicker," Kidd said. "He didn't dive like you usually do. I still don't know why he did that."

With the clock at 0:00, McGrath kicked a 25-yarder for a 17-16 win. Kidd went 2-1 against Western as a Little All-America quarterback from 1951-53. The loss came in '53. A big one, 48-7.

"The week before the game, several linemen got their heads full," Kidd recalled. Too much to drink?
"Uh-huh," he said. "The coach was Tom Samuels, and he left all the offensive line home. I was behind a lot of freshmen. I took a lot of hits that day. But the next year I scored myself and threw a touchdown pass, and we won 13-7."

Does the rivalry continue at a high velocity even though Western has been out of the Ohio Valley Conference since 1982?

"The intensity's still there," Kidd said. "But not the pressure. It used to be if you were going to win a league championship and get in the playoffs, you had to beat Western. Now it's more of a must game for them because, as an independent, their record gets very important. I'd like to see them get back into the conference. It would help all of us, and I think it would help them."

But ... and you could almost see Kidd gritting his teeth as he added: "It's a hard, aggressive game, and there have been some great ones. I don't build it up as much as I used to, because if you get sky-high for Western, you're almost sure to get beat next week."
Harbaugh wants to cut nonsense

Let's cut the nonsense.
Forget the hype of the Eastern-Western game. Forget the Hanger Field ghost. And just forget all of this rivalry stuff.

Saturday's Eastern-Western matchup is so serious that the Hilltoppers and Coach Jack Harbaugh began preparing for it in February.

Harbaugh says Western needs to beat Eastern now and gain the confidence to beat the Colonels later.

"When I first met with the guys, I was candid with them: If we're going to approach our goal to win a national championship, the road will inevitably take us through Eastern," Harbaugh said. "We have to beat Eastern. That's all there is to it."

In recent years, the only ghost at Hanger Field has been the one spooking Western's closet. Western has bowed out of the playoffs each of the last two seasons at Hanger Field.

Harbaugh says the feelings and hype surrounding the rivalry has clouded the real issue.

"I didn't come here blind about the rivalry between the teams," he said. "You'd have to be on another planet to not know."

"But the most important point about this game is that our season — our hopes of winning the national title — rest on beating Eastern. That's the bottom line."

Work on the bottom line began with Harbaugh's first team meeting and threaded through every drill in the spring and fall practice sessions.

"A lot of the defensive fronts we've worked against in practice have been Eastern fronts," Harbaugh said. "A lot of the plays we've run against our defense have been Eastern plays."

The Colonels (2-0) will come in to the game ranked No. 1 in Division I-AA. Western (2-1) cracked the rankings at 19th this week.

Western beat Eastern 16-14 in the regular season in Smith Stadium last year, but the season ended with a 40-14 humiliation in the second round of the playoffs at... well, you know where.

In 1987, Western lost both meetings at Hanger Field, 29-10 in the regular season and 40-17 in the playoffs.

Eastern's prowess in its home stadium is legendary (Coach Roy Kidd would like people to think mystical), and that's another cloud Harbaugh wants to burst.

"That Hanger Field stuff is a bunch of nonsense," he said. "As far as I can tell, it's 120 yards long and 52 and two-thirds yards wide. They put 11 players on the field, and so do we. It just comes down to who executes. It's that simple."

Eastern has executed well in the 1980s. The Colonels' 9-2-4 record in the 1980s makes them the winningest team in the decade in Division I-AA.

But Harbaugh, who has coached under motivators like Bo Schembechler at Michigan, must convince a young team it can overcome all of that.
Continued from Page E1


"I wish I could have gotten this without him (Lester) getting hurt," Thomas said by phone this week. "But I'm not really nervous. I'll have to do the job and have my head screwed on straight."

Was Davis shocked at his produc- tion?

"It surprised me a little, but I had confidence in my line and they had confidence in me," he said by phone from Bowling Green. "I'm trying to leave last week behind, though. This is the main game."

Thomas is that guy's out and for some reason you feel and perceive things. They were probably saying, 'Who is this guy?'

"Markus isn't a speedster, but he's not necessarily slow," Kidd said of Thomas, who has been timed at 4.65 seconds for 40 yards. "He's got a good change of pace and change of direction, and every day I'm more and more impressed with Leon. He runs hard, works hard and does the extra things."

Davis is from Louisville Doss, where his highlight was a 255-yard, two-TD game against Butler as a senior.

Davis had attended an Eastern football camp and Kidd had wanted him to come to Eastern without a scholarship. He went to Western, Davis said, because "I had too many friends going to Eastern and it would have been a distraction."

Harbaugh seemed almost as amazed at midweek as he did last Saturday as he talked about Davis. "His feet are No. 1, his vision No. 2," the coach said. "Now I'm not trying to compare him to any means to this guy, but his style is like Tony Dorsett's. His upper body is just a-shaking and a-moving and his legs vibrating when he runs."

The proving ground is still ahead for Davis, however.

"This week will be the test," Har-baugh said. "Last week was one of those deals where a Middle Tennes-see sees that this guy's out and that guy's out, and for some reason you have a psychological drop in how you feel and perceive things. They were probably saying, 'Who is this Herb Davis guy?'

"But you can't take a guy, run him 35 times and expect him to be fresh in the fourth quarter or take that many hits and expect him to be healthy at the end of the season. You don't want to be a one-tailback team, and Don (Smith) will be ready to go, too."

Are 35 carries too many, Herb?

"If it helps the team to carry 35 times or 70 times, I'll do it," he said. "MTSU did a good job of pressuring and swarming like a bunch of ants. But I came out of it good. I hope my time has come."
Football run: WKU fraternity running 165 miles to Richmond for clash with Eastern

By LISA JACKSON 7.23.89
Daily News Staff Writer

Members of a Western Kentucky University fraternity laced up their sneakers and pulled on their rain gear this afternoon for a 165-mile trek east.

Sigma Alpha Epsilon fraternity members are running to Richmond — the home of the Eastern Kentucky University Colonels and the site of a football showdown Saturday night between No. 1-ranked Eastern and No. 19-ranked Western.

The in-state rivals split games in 1988, with Western winning 16-14 at home, then Eastern out-scoring the Hilltoppers in Richmond during the second round of NCAA Division Two playoffs 20-14.

Sigma Alpha Epsilon members will be in the stadium to support the Hilltoppers Saturday, after running all day and night to get there.

Sixty active members, pledges and alumni will take turns running a football to Eastern's Hanger Field. They will turn the ball over to Coach Jack Harbaugh at the end of their journey at 5 p.m. Saturday. The game begins at 7:30 p.m. EDT.

"We're trying to revive the tradition," said fraternity President Russ Morgan about the run. It's been more than 10 years since his fraternity attempted a similar run.

"It adds a little bit to the Eastern-Western game," said fraternity member Eddie Smith of Elizabethtown, who organized the event.

A caravan of runners and vehicles were to start their journey at Downing University Center at 3 p.m. Western President Thomas Meredith and Gary West, executive director of the Hilltopper Athletic Foundation, were scheduled to participate in the send-off.

Fraternity members gathered Thursday night at their house on College Street to finalize preparations. Participants decided that even rains prompted by Hurricane Hugo wouldn't deter their mission.

The young men pointed to the route they had highlighted on a state map — U.S. 68 to Danville then Ky. 52 to the home of the Colonels.

They hope to complete their run in about 26 hours, taking turns jumping out of a van for their leg of the race. "We'll be in the car cheering them on," Morgan said.

Although most members will run in half-mile to mile stretches, fraternity alumnuus Steve Thornton of Bowling Green has volunteered for about 25 miles of the journey, Morgan said. Thornton has run in the Boston Marathon and is one of several Bowling Green 10K organizers, he said.

The fraternity received pledges for its run and hopes to collect $1,000. Proceeds will be distributed to the United Way and to the Hilltopper Athletic Foundation.
Western hopes Eastern won't have a Fields day

By JIM TERHUNE
Staff Writer
9-23-89

Tonight's Eastern Kentucky-Western Kentucky college football game could turn on the ability of Western's defense to contain Lorenzo Fields.

The junior quarterback may be developing into the most dangerous run-pass threat coach Roy Kidd has had in his 26 years at Eastern:

"Fields has completed 65 percent of his passes for 343 yards and four touchdowns, and he has rushed for 57 yards and two more TDs in Eastern's 2-0 start," Kidd said. "I wouldn't trade him for anyone."

Eastern and Western will meet for the 66th or 67th time — depending on which school you talk to — at 7:30 p.m. EDT at Hanger Field in Richmond, where Western last won in 1973.

In the first NCAA Division I-AA poll, the rankings that determine at-large spots in the postseason playoffs, Eastern is No. 1 and Western (2-1) No. 19.

Western's veteran defense has been a key element in the Hilltoppers' two victories and drove Murray State quarterback Michael Proctor crazy for a half in a 17-14 loss at Murray two weeks ago.

"We haven't played anybody with as good a defense as Western's," Kidd said. "They do some different things, but not anything we haven't seen before."

Because of Tim Lester's season-ending knee injury, redshirt freshman Markus Thomas (96 yards in Eastern's last game at Delaware State) will start at tailback. Because of his 169 yards in 35 carries in last week's 31-16 victory over Middle Tennessee, Herb Davis will open for Western for the second week in a row.

Four other Eastern players who were hurt two weeks ago — defensive end Brett Kolnick (ankle), offensive guard Mark Mitchell (leg), offensive tackle Brooks Dalrymple (shoulder) and cornerback Mark Canady (vertebra) — will be ready to play tonight.

In Western coach Jack Harbaugh, who's about to get his first jolt of the 75-year-old rivalry, said he will start junior Scott Campbell ahead of Mark Marsh at quarterback, although both are ready. Campbell took over for the injured Marsh (ankle) last week.

Harbaugh was exuberant over the strides his offensive line made against Middle, particularly John Brown, a third-team offensive guard last spring who was forced into the lineup at center because of injuries and position switches.

"He graded out the best of all the linemen," Harbaugh said. "I thought the offense was much more physical than it had been, and it's really exciting to see the line play so well."

After directing Western past Middle, Campbell was ecstatic.

"I knew we could do it because the whole concept is team unity," he said. "In the past we were 100 individuals, and now we're one."

Eastern didn't play last Saturday, and Kidd, who is not in love with open dates, wonders how it will affect his club.

"It helped with injuries, but you never know," he said. "If we win, great; if we play bad, I'll blame it on the open date."
Thomas spurs Eastern by Western 24-3

By JIM TERHUNE
Staff Writer

RICHMOND, Ky. — Tailback Markus Thomas, a redshirt sophomore starting his first game, swept 63 yards for one touchdown and snaked 22 yards for another, launching Eastern Kentucky University's football team to a 24-3 decision over Western Kentucky last night.

The lightning third-quarter bursts of Thomas, who had gained only 16 yards in seven carries in the first half, gave unbeaten Eastern, the top-rated team in NCAA Division I-AA, its third straight victory before a crowd estimated by EKU officials at 19,200 at Hanger Field.

Western dropped to 2-2 and now is 0-9-1 in games played in Richmond since 1973.

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See THOMAS PAGE 10, col. 3, this section

Western tailback Herb Davis (white jersey) was stopped by a host of Eastern defenders.

Davis, who had gained 169 yards the previous week, was held to 13.
Thomas TDs lift Eastern

Continued from Page C 1

While Thomas' two jolting runs broke the game open, the battle of archrivals was dictated throughout by Eastern's swarming defense.

It allowed Western only one first down and 20 yards total offense in the first 25 minutes, 48 seconds.

Eastern allowed a drive to a field goal, then put down the only mild second-half threat when Randy Wardlow blocked a 41-yard field-goal try and Reggie McGee returned it 44 yards.

Thomas, shoved into the lineup when Tim Lester went down for the season with a knee injury in Eastern's last game, started a sweep left and found a hole wide open when Thomas crisscrossed his blockers and slipped the ball to Burkhead on a dive play and continued along the line of scrimmage as Burkhead rumbled for 16 yards.

The Colonels reached the Western 23, but a delay-of-game penalty andFields' slip attempting to pass for an 8-yard loss moved them back to the 35.

It only delayed the inevitable. Fields launched a rocket to Vincent Ware, who back-pedaled into the end zone and caught it just before he tumbled over the end line.

Western cornerback Riley Ware (both Wares are Floridians but no relation) flew at Vincent and just missed slapping the ball away. Campbell converted and it was 7-0 with only 3:09 elapsed.

But Eastern handcuffed itself with penalties (five for 62 yards) in the next three drives. Finally it manue-
Eastern's defense frustrates Toppers 7-24-79

By DARYLL S. CROUCH
Daily News Sports Writer

RICHMOND, Ky. — There wasn't an uglier sight for quarterback Scott Campbell's eyes — or those of the Western Kentucky University fans at Hanger Field on Saturday night — than Toby Gilbert.

Gilbert, Eastern Kentucky University's noseguard, harassed Campbell from sideline to sideline and recorded two of Eastern's six sacks as the Colonels mauled their way to a 24-3 win.

Gilbert also led Eastern in tackles with seven.

Eastern (3-0) held the Hilltoppers to just three yards per play in solidifying its No. 1 ranking in Division I-AA. Western (2-2), because of its independent status, is now under heightened pressure to win the rest of its games against Division I-AA competition to earn a berth in the playoffs.

Hilltopper coach Jack Harbaugh said Eastern's defensive line made the difference.

"They just controlled us up front," Harbaugh said. "Their handling of our offensive line made it easier for their linebackers to move and get wreckless."

And it made things tough for Campbell in his second collegiate start.

"I'm just as proud of Scott tonight as I was last week," Harbaugh said. "He showed something out there. What he went through is part of the procedure of becoming a big-time quarterback, and he survived it."

Campbell completed 15 of 31 passes for 121 yards and no interceptions.

The Colonels showed some explosiveness on offense, too. Eastern took the opening series and drove 70 yards in seven plays. A 35-yard touchdown pass from Lorenzo Fields to Vincent Ware on a third-and-22 play capped the drive and put Eastern up 7-0.

A James Campbell field goal with 6 minutes and 28 seconds left in the second quarter gave Eastern a 10-0 lead.

Western kicker Pat Lewis closed the gap to 10-3 with his 29-yard field goal with three seconds left in the second quarter.

"I thought we had several golden opportunities to score more points in the first half and didn't get it done," Eastern coach Roy Kidd said. "We struggled moving the ball a few times when we had the field position, and we can't afford to do that. Our defense saved us tonight, and our penalties almost killed us."

Eastern was penalized 11 times for 77 yards, and the Hilltoppers were whistled four times for 35 yards.

Eastern's Markus Thomas broke loose for 10-0 in the third quarter when he faked right, turned left and rambled down the sideline for a 63-yard touchdown.

Eastern added its final touchdown on a 22-yard run by Thomas with six seconds left in the third quarter. The Cincinnati freshman finished with 126 yards on 11 carries.

Don Smith led Western in rushing with 81 yards.

Western junior su Martin said Eastern looked faster than it rea...

"I don't think thou any faster than Murra Middle Tennessee's said: "And I don't thi...

"They didn't beat us. It was a hard fought game. We didn't...

Our slowest guy past line runs a 4.6 40. Mrs.

Just too jacked up for played tight. We didn't...

We weren't good enough don't be a bit surpri...

Our playoffs in.
**eastern's defense illustratesoppers**

ARYLL S. CROUCH
News Sports Writer

CHMOND, Ky. — There is no uglier sight for quarterback Scott Campbell's eyes — or the Western Kentucky University fans at Hanger Field on Saturday night — than Toby Gilbert.

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Gilbert also led Eastern in tackles with 7.

Campbell (3-0) held the Hilltoppers three yards per play in solidifying No. 1 ranking in Division I-AA Western Kentucky University tailback Herb Davis (middle) is surrounded by Eastern Kentucky University defenders Mike Carter (left) and Randy Warlow (right) on Saturday at Richmond's Hanger Field. Eastern won 24-3.

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Eastern's Markus Thomas broke the game open at the 11:44 mark of the first quarter when he faked right, turned left and rambled down the sideline for a 63-yard touchdown.

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The Cincinnati freshman finished with 126 yards on 11 carries.

Don Smith led Western in rushing with 81 yards.

Western junior safety Jerome Martin said Eastern's backfield looked faster than it really was.

"I don't think those guys were any faster than Murray's players or Middle Tennessee's players," he said. "And I don't think Fields was any better at quarterback than Illinois State's guy.

"They didn't beat us with speed. Our slowest guy past the defensive line runs a 4.6 40. Maybe we were just too jacked up for the game and played tight. We didn't lose because we weren't good enough to win. And don't be a bit surprised when we come right back and make the playoffs."
WKU getting back to basics for APSU

Coach Jack Harbaugh is strict with his rules, but even he realized a need to modify his "48-hour" rule after Western Kentucky University's loss at Eastern on Saturday.

"We have a 48-hour rule where 48 hours after the game, you forget about it and move on," Harbaugh said. "This week, we had to make it a 72-hour rule."

The 24-3 loss at Richmond was more than a notch in the loss column. It was a failure in a game Western spent spring and fall practice preparing for — indeed, gearing the season around.

The Hilltoppers' remaining seven games (maybe even the Louisville game) are must-win games from a playoffs perspective.

But for a coach who has been around winning football all of his life, the disappointment from Saturday's loss goes deeper.

"If you play your best and they play their best and beat you, they were just a better team," Harbaugh said. "At this point in the season, Eastern is a better football team."

"But the fact is we didn't play at our best. You can give them some credit for that, but we could've played better."

Though the score shows an offensive deficiency, Harbaugh was most disappointed in a defense that had been Western's strength. Two plays tell the story.

On the game's first series, Western backed Eastern up to a third-and-23 play only to let Lorenzo Fields toss a 35-yard touchdown pass Vincent Ware.

"We were in a three-deep zone, and they went 35 yards right over us," Harbaugh said. "That should never happen."

Then came Markus Thomas' 63-yard scoring gallop at the 11:44 mark of the third quarter, which put Western down 17-3 after the Hilltoppers' offense had begun showing life.

"A lot of people talk about bad tackling on that play, but there wasn't anybody is a position to get a shot at him," Harbaugh said.

Harbaugh's solution has been a trip back to the basics.

"I asked one of my players this week this question: 'When you have nowhere to go, where do you go?'" Harbaugh said. "He said, 'Coach, you go back to the beginning.'"

"So it's back to fundamental tackling drills, back to basic coverages and back to the drawing board.

Western (2-2) will play a young Austin Peay (0-4) team this week at home. The game provides Western a good opportunity to get back on the right track.

The Hilltoppers will still be without starting quarterback Mark Marsh, who suffered an ankle injury against Murray State in the second game of the season.

Scott Campbell, smothered by Eastern's pressure on Saturday, will get his second straight start in Marsh's place. Campbell has played well, but he needs to find a way to get Western's offense to follow suit.

"We haven't been getting the big plays since the Murray game," Harbaugh said. "We need to break one and go the distance."

If the Hilltoppers do, they can go back to the 48-hour rule.
Meek APSU to inherit hurting Toppers

By JOE MEDLEY
Daily News Sports Editor

Western Kentucky University's football team is hurting, and Austin Peay's is ripe for a rout.

But the Governors (0-4), who will visit Smith Stadium for a 7 p.m. game on Saturday, are the least of Western coach Jack Harbaugh's worries.

Harbaugh has reconvened the jury on his team after Saturday's 24-3 loss to Eastern. He'll reach a verdict after the Austin Peay game.

Western (2-2) looked to have the formula when it trounced then undefeated Middle Tennessee 31-16 two weeks ago. But the Eastern game has put questions back in Harbaugh's mind.

He's concerned because he says the Hilltoppers failed to show any progress against Eastern and maybe even took some steps back.

"We were a little better against Murray than we were against Illinois State, and were better against Middle Tennessee than we were against Murray," Harbaugh said.

"With Eastern, we didn't get any better. In fact, we may have gone backwards a little.

The concern comes from the fact that the Hilltoppers are allowing far more big plays than they're getting.

"Our defense has been, like no other I've coached in the number of big plays we give up," Harbaugh said. "We're not getting consistency. We stop them, and then we let them break one.

Against Eastern, Western allowed a 35-yard touchdown pass on a third-and-23 play. The Hilltoppers also gave up a 63-yard touchdown run.

"Offensively, we haven't had any real big plays since the Murray game," Harbaugh said.

Western got a 95-yard kickoff return from Eddie Godfrey and a 73-yard touchdown pass from Mark Marsh to Lanie Fomas against Mur-

WESTERN KENTUCKY University quarterback Scott Campbell is pressured by Eastern Kentucky University defender Toby Gilbert during their game on Saturday at Richmond. Western will try to rebound from its 24-3 loss to Eastern against Austin Peay State University.

Harbaugh says that's the kind of play Western needs to turn things around this week, and Austin Peay's defense has given up a few big plays this season. The Governors are coming off a 41-3 loss to Southwest Missouri State.

"They are very young," Harbaugh said. "They started some true freshmen and a lot of sophomores. They've committed to rebuilding." Austin Peay's top rusher is Mike Lewis, who has 131 yards on 37 runs.

Senior Kerry Severson and sophomore Tony Policare split time at quarterback. Severson has completed 31 of 76 passes for 307 yards, and Policare is 18 of 33 for 162 yards.

"They were able to move the ball some against Southwest Missouri State, and they're a nationally-ranked team," Harbaugh said.

Scott Campbell will start at quarterback for Western. He has completed 34 of 68 passes for 337 yards while playing for the injured Marsh.

Don Smith has rushed 69 times for 280 yards, and sophomore Herb Davis has 206 yards on 45 carries.

Injuries will affect Western on the offensive line. Bob Hodge is in a cast, and Chandler Wallace and Milton Biggins are questionable with ankle injuries.

"Our line is not blocking up, and the pass protection lacks something to be desired," Harbaugh said.

"We've got to do a better job up front."
Davis will be there again

Herb Davis is barely into his first season on Western Kentucky University's football team, but he's been through it.

Davis was a Proposition 48 victim, and he sat out his freshman year. Now, just after running for 169 yards in his first collegiate game, he's had his eligibility questioned.

But the 5-foot-10, 185-pound dynamo from Louisville Doss High School will be there for the Hilltoppers when they play Eastern Kentucky University on Saturday night at 6:30 at Hanger Field.

He'll be battling with another freshman, Eastern's Marcus Thomas, who sat out a year and is getting his chance because of a season-ending knee injury to Tim Lester.

The eligibility question arose after Western's Registrar's Office discovered it made an error in certifying Davis' eligibility. The office found that Davis was enrolled in 14 hours at Western's Community College and three at the university.

That doesn't violate NCAA rules, but Western's rules state a student-athlete must be a full-time student at the university.

Davis won't have to pay for Western's error.

A released statement by Registrar Freida Eggleton explains, "An error occurred on the part of the Office of the Registrar, when it was not detected that the majority of Herbert's course load of general education courses was in the Community College."

It was deemed unreasonable to drop Davis from his Community College classes and re-register him for university sections of the same courses, so Davis will play and stay in the Community College.

"I'm not sure what all happened, I'm just glad it's over with," Davis said.

The eligibility question is the latest chapter in Davis' fight to get back into football and stay there. The hardest part of the story was sitting out last season.

"I couldn't stand being out," he said. "I felt like I was losing something that I would never be able to regain. I thought I'd never quite be as ready as I was to play on a higher level."

"I was looking seriously at junior colleges," he said. "But my high school coach (Jerry Mays) kept telling me to stick it out."

Davis was the last running back on the depth chart during the spring, and Western's coaches considered moving him to defensive back.

"I begged them not to move me to defense, and they told me they'd keep me in the backfield and evaluate it later," Davis said.

When Don Smith went down with a shoulder injury and Vance Turpin was dismissed from the team, Davis got his chance in Saturday's 31-16 win over Middle Tennessee.

His first collegiate run from scrimmage was a 15-yard gain, and that gave him confidence.

"It felt good," he said. "I might've had a chance for a touchdown, but the field was slick and I lost my balance."

Davis scored two touchdowns, and he will split time with Smith against Eastern.

"Herb did a nice job of finding the holes and making the moves," Western coach Jack Harbaugh said. "He showed he has the ability to help us out."

Eastern (2-0) will come into Saturday's game ranked No. 1 in Division I-AA. Western (2-1) is 19th.

The Hilltoppers will have to contain quarterback Lorenzo Fields, who has completed 22 of 34 passes for 343 yards and four touchdowns.

Western will start junior Scott Campbell at quarterback, but senior Mark Marsh's ankle injury is coming around. He may see playing time.

"Both quarterbacks have impressed me," Eastern coach Roy Kidd said. "Their offense has improved a lot. They were a big-play team, but they showed they can get the big play and move the ball against Middle Tennessee."

By JOE MEDLEY 9-22-87

Daily News Sports Editor

WKU football

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WESTERN KENTUCKY University safety Jerome Martin slips through the Middle Tennessee State of-

censive line to make a hit on a Blue Raider runner

during first-half action of Saturday's 31-16 Hilltopper

win. Western is set to play at Eastern Kentucky Uni-


Bears to put Toppers' defense to the test

By MARK C. MATHIS
Daily News Sports Editor

Russell Foster wants Western Kentucky University's defense to make an early statement to Southwest Missouri.

"Illinois State was physical last week because we let them be," said Foster, a junior linebacker who leads Western with 42 tackles. "If they come out hitting, we want to hit back harder."

Unlike the last time the Hilltoppers ventured to Springfield back in 1985, when they were beaten 47-7, it will be strength against strength when they take the field Saturday at 1:30 p.m. in Briggs Stadium. It will also be the first day game Western has played this season.

Day or night aside, Western's defense will need to establish how tough it is early against a Bear rushing attack that is fourth in Division I-AA after racking up 277.3 yards a game on the way to a 2-4 record.

"We felt we should be improved in the running game," Southwest Missouri coach Jesse Branch said.

Two sophomores, halfback Rodney McConico (5-00-9, 191 pounds) and 196-pound fullback Anthony Webb, have paced that wishbone attack, one that is tuned to pick up lots of yards and eat lots of clock.

The pair has rushed for nearly 700 yards, and McConico has six touchdowns.

The running game for the Hilltoppers, 4-1 and ranked No. 10 in I-AA, hasn't been too shabby, either.

Tailback Joe Arnold's 190-yard game against Illinois State pushed him to fifth on the I-AA list. Arnold now has 634 yards at an average of six a carry.

Western's 233.2 rushing yards a game is ninth in I-AA.

Southwest Missouri's passing game has been less effective than Western's, with quarterback Daryl Patton throwing for only 418 yards.

"What has really hurt has been in the fourth quarter the (opposing) defenses have thrown caution to the wind and put a lot of pressure on us. We've tried to use the running game to sit on leads," Branch said.

That has been a monumental failure for the Bears, who had Indiana State down 24-6 late in the third quarter last week, only to lose 27-24, and had No. 2-ranked Western Illinois plastered 31-8 several weeks ago with 16 minutes to play, only to fail 35-31.

"We've been playing teams that are capable to putting points on the board in a hurry, and we've had some injuries and haven't been able to substitute for them," Branch said.

Injuries have taken a toll on Western's defense, the toughest unit to score against in I-AA, holding opponents to 9.2 points a game. Tackle Chandler Wallace had arthroscopic knee surgery two weeks ago and is out for a couple of more weeks. Linebacker Mike Carberry hasn't been practicing, so he can play with a chronic shoulder problem.

But Western is still ranked ninth in rushing defense (106 yards a game) and total defense (233.2 yards a game).

Coach Dave Roberts is, however, concerned with Southwest Missouri's wishbone, which Western hasn't seen this season.

"We lined up in it some last spring and this week," Roberts said. "But it's tough to prepare for it in a week."

If Foster and his teammates have their way, Western's defense will be hitting it early.

WESTERN KENTUCKY University is rated No. 1 in Division I-AA in scoring defense. Here Topper linebacker Russell Foster (32) is too much for Eastern Kentucky University's Elroy Harris (54) in a 16-14 struggle as the Bears to put Toppers' defense to the test.
put Toppers' defense to the test

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Western (4-1) vs. Southwest (2-4)
Stadium, Springfield, Mo.
3 p.m., Saturday

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WESTERN KENTUCKY University is rated No. 1 in Division I-AA in scoring defense. Here Topper linebacker Russell Foster (32) is too much for Eastern Kentucky University's Elroy Harris (34) in a 16-14 win earlier this season in Smith Stadium. Western's defense will be put to the test when it faces Southwest Missouri's fourth-rated rushing game Saturday.
Western scores early and often in running over Austin Peay 49-0

By JACK BARRY

BOWLING GREEN, Ky. — In a college football game played under a steady, light rain last night at balmy L. T. Smith Field, Western Kentucky blew apart Austin Peay like a cheap umbrella, 49-0.

Both teams came out throwing, but it was the towel that the Governors (0-5) seemed to be tossing. It was 14-0 after seven minutes and 35-0 at halftime as Western, ranked 20th in NCAA Division I-AA, improved to 3-2 and more than justified its standing as a 33-point favorite.

The Hilltoppers opened the scoring when Eddie Godfrey blocked Jeff Buffalo's punt on Austin Peay's first possession, and J. L. Johnson scooped the ball up and returned it 12 yards for a touchdown.

At that point the stadium announcer brought laughter from the crowd announced at 4,200 when he asked the “Austin Peay bus drivers (to) please report to your buses.”

With Western leading 14-0 early in the second quarter, Austin Peay quarterback Tony Policare, standing on his own 1-yard line, threw the ball about six feet to Western's Webbie Burnett, who had to take only two steps into the end zone.

Buffalo was inserted at quarterback and also threw an interception deep in his own territory, and Melvin Johnson returned it 28 yards to the Governors' 2. One play later, Herb Davis scored from there to make it 28-0.

Western soon was embarked on a 77-yard scoring drive that made it 35-0, Anthony Green bulling in from the 1 on the seventh play of the march.

Only the pace of the onslaught slowed in the second half. With eight seconds left in the third period, Western quarterback Mark Marsh threw his first completion of the game, a 17-yard scoring pass to flanker Lanie Fones to make it 42-0.

The Hilltoppers capped the scoring by grinding out a 69-yard drive in 16 plays.

Western now leads the series 28-4-1, but this was its biggest victory margin ever against the Clarksville, Tenn., school, which has never beaten the Hilltoppers at home. The largest previous margin had been 42-0 in 1968, and the most Western points had come in a 46-7 thrashing in 1971.
Burnett sparks defense, and Toppers cruise 49-0

By DARYLL S. CROUCH
Daily News Sports Writer

Defensive lineman Webbie Burnett isn't used to catching touchdown passes.

But the Western Kentucky University senior had his moment of glory in the second quarter of Western's 49-0 Thrashing of Austin Peay State University on Saturday at Smith Stadium.

Burnett, a 6-foot-3, 280-pounder, stole a shovel pass from Governor quarterback Tony Policare in the backfield and rambled in for a 14-yard touchdown at the 11:09 mark of the second quarter.

Burnett's play gave Western a 21-0 lead in a game where the Hilltopper defense had already dictated the tempo.

"We set our goal for not giving up the big play on defense," Burnett said. "That's the one thing that has been hurting us."

Burnett has 5.5 sacks in his first five games this season and has recorded 33 tackles behind the line of scrimmage. But his first career touchdown was a highlight.

"I really enjoy pressuring the quarterback and finishing it with a sack," he said. "But nothing feels quite like getting in the end zone. If coach (Jack) Harbaugh wants me to try running back, I'll try."

"The worst thing you can do as a defensive lineman is score a touchdown," Harbaugh said with a wink. "After that all they want to do is become linebackers and intercept passes. I didn't see Webbie after the quarterback again after he scored."

Harbaugh said Western's defensive display didn't surprise him, even after last week's 24-3 loss at Eastern Kentucky.

"This is the type of defensive team I envisioned we'd have before the season started," he said. "We needed to have a team that not only doesn't give up the big play, but one that goes out and makes the big play from the defensive side of the ball. This team showed that tonight."

The avalanche began after Western stopped APSU's game-opening series. With 13:06 left in the first quarter, Western's Eddie Godfrey blitzed through the Governors' line, blocked a Jeff Buffaloe punt, and Joe Lee Johnson scooped up the ball and scampered in from 12 yards out. Kicker Pat Levis made it 7-0.

Western quarterback Scott Campbell capped off a nine-play, 58-yard drive with 7:58 left in the first quarter to give the Hilltoppers a 14-0 lead.

By halftime, the Hilltoppers had amassed a 35-0 lead. Western added a 17-yard pass reception from Mark Marsh to Lanie Fomas and a one-yard scoring dive by Don Smith in the fourth quarter.

"We didn't have a very good game offensively," APSU coach Paul Brewster said. "Their defensive linemen up front — those guys in the middle — are just massive."

Western (3-2) held Austin Peay (0-5) to four yards rushing, 36 total yards and three first downs. Two first downs came on penalties.

Western finished with 26 first downs and rolled up 370 yards, 262 on the ground. Smith led Western in rushing with 108 yards on 13 carries.

WESTERN KENTUCKY University running back Herb Davis tumbles after being hit by an Austin Peay defender.
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WESTERN KENTUCKY University running back Herb Davis tumbles after being hit by an Austin Peay defender on Saturday in Smith Stadium. Western's Chandler Wallace (64) looks on.
By WAYNE VAUGHN

Warrants for two Western Kentucky University football players were issued this morning as the result of an early morning fight Sunday at Lampkin Park.

In the warrants, city police charged Anthony J. Cooper, 21, a junior from Miami and Russell N. Foster, 24, a senior from Orlando, Fla., with second degree assault.

The fracas, between fraternity members and Western Kentucky University football players, left one Western alumnus hospitalized and three football players suspended.

The fight started at the Jaycee Pavilion where the Kappa Alpha Psi fraternity was having a regional leadership conference.

James Edward Logan III was struck in the face by a member of the football team and other members of the team started throwing metal chairs that injured at least one other person, according to police.

Logan was on the floor at the rear of the building, according to police. Logan and Dalton "T. Bradley, 21, of Richmond, who was struck by a chair, were taken to the Medical Center, police said.

Logan was in satisfactory condition this morning. Bradley was treated at the Medical Center and released.

The incident at the park was one of a series that started late Saturday night on Western's campus, according to Lt. Richard Kirby of the campus police.

At 10:50 p.m. members of the fraternity and residents of Barnes Campbell Hall were in a fight at 908 Barnes Campbell Hall, according to Kirby.

Warrants issued for players

"They were 'yelling back and forth through the window and three of them went up to the room and a fight started," Kirby said.

All three are members of the Kappa Alpha Psi fraternity. The person that was in the fight was identified as a member of the fraternity, but not from the Western chapter, Kirby said.

After the incident at the park, campus police reported two other incidents on campus.

At 3:35 a.m. Sunday, 15 people were found behind Keen Hall. At the same time, 40 people were spotted near the entrance of Barnes Campbell Hall where police confiscated a baseball bat, but no arrests were made.

Police had not determined the cause of the incidents, but Western Dean of Student Life Howard Bailey said the incidents started because of a girl.

"The fraternity people that started the incident at the park were actually students from other campuses," Bailey said. "I don't have any details, but I know that it was because of a girl.

But Logan was a Western Alumnus and member of the Kappa Alpha Psi fraternity.

"I don't know why he was here," Bailey said. "I think he was just in town for the football game."

Coach (Jack) Harbaugh met...
Revived Hilltoppers now looking for consistency

Now that Western Kentucky University's football team has broken Austin Peay, it's time to break the cycle.

Coach Jack Harbaugh feared how the Hilltoppers would respond to the 24-3 loss to Eastern Kentucky on Oct. 23.

Western, quelled those fears by scoring 49 points the hard way, the easy way and the bizarre way in Saturday's shutout of Austin Peay in Smith Stadium.

Now the challenge is to break the cycle of inconsistency.

"We haven't put together back-to-back wins," Harbaugh said. "We beat Illinois State and lost to Murray. We beat Middle Tennessee, lost to Eastern and beat Austin Peay.

"We've got a stretch coming up where it's absolutely crucial for us to put together three straight wins.

"Our theme this week is to beat the cycle. Chattanooga is going to be the key game for the season for us.

"The Hilltoppers (3-2) can't afford any more losses with Louisville left on the schedule. Independents like Western rarely make the Division I-AA playoffs with four losses.

"Western will play, Tennessee-Chattanooga on the road, nationally ranked Southwest Missouri and Tennessee Tech at home, and Youngstown State on the road before the Louisville game. After the battle of 1-65, it's an open date and Eastern Kentucky at home.

"So just when it seemed Western had gotten past the toughest part of its schedule, the real challenge has ahead.

"We haven't lost sight of our goal to make a run for a national championship," Harbaugh said. "If we're going to make the playoffs, we've got to break the cycle of win one and lose one.

Western showed good signs against winless Austin Peay. The defense made the big plays instead of giving them up. Western's defense scored or set up the first 28 points.

The first score came when Melvin Royston and Eddie Godfrey blocked Jeff Buffaloe's punt. Joe Lee Johnson ran the loose ball in 12 yards for the score before two minutes had elapsed.

Defensive lineman Webbie Burnett made the second defensive score on a bizarre interception. Burnett picked off Tony Policare's shovel pass behind the line of scrimmage and ran 14 yards for paydirt in the second quarter.

And while Western's defense held the Governors to 36 total yards, Eastern got 63 yards on one play against Western.

"That was the big difference," Harbaugh said. "We didn't give up the big plays, and our defense was?either directly or indirectly responsible for our first four scores.

"Before, our defense was just doing enough to get the job done. Now it's becoming what I thought it would before the season.

Harbaugh also made subtle offensive changes. He used three receivers instead of five and moved Chandler Wallace in from the defensive line to the offensive line.

Vance Turpin returned to the team after a two-week suspension, giving Western three solid tailbacks with Don Smith and Herb Davis.

Smith ran for 108 yards on 13 carries.

Western rolled up 370 total yards while scoring the most points by a Hilltopper team in 21 years.

Quarterback Mark Marsh, who hadn't played since injuring his ankle in the Murray game, saw limited action in the second half. He completed a 17-yard touchdown pass to Lanie Fomas.

That Western played well after the Eastern loss is a good sign, though Austin Peak couldn't and didn't provide much resistance.

"I was really worried how we'd respond," Harbaugh said. "We came out and made some big plays and got momentum early, and we responded well. Now we've got to show some consistency.

Royston lost.

Royston, a senior defensive end, suffered a severe knee injury on the blocked punt and is lost for the season.

He underwent reconstructive surgery on Sunday morning.

"It was a freak thing where one of his own guys rolled into him," Harbaugh said. "He's a good kid. It was a real downer to have that happen to him after getting such a big play.

Quarterback situation

Marsh may not start against Tennessee Chattanooga.

Scott Campbell has performed well. He completed five of eight passes for 74 yards against Peay.

Because Campbell isn't as strong as Marsh, Harbaugh doesn't want to risk a recurrence of Marsh's injury.

"It's a wait-and-see thing," Harbaugh said. "Mark's little tender.

"I was worried he'd have to put him in to w
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nanooga. Campbell has performed completed five of eight passes for 74 yards against Austin Peay.
Because Campbell has filled in, Harbaugh doesn't want to rush Marsh's recovery. "It's a wait-and-see thing," Har­
baugh said. "Mark's ankle is still a little tender."
"I was worried that we might have to put him in to win the (Austin Peay) game. But we were able to get him some snaps and get him back into the flow.
We Apologize A story about Warren Central cross country star Kenny Chandler caused distress to some members of his family. While the story was essentially accurate about his accomplishments, some aspects of his academic past and his home life were reported.
We make it a policy to avoid writing about the home life or aca­demic background of high school students. In publishing the story about Chandler, we may have been insensitive in reporting some things. We applaud Chandler's ac­complishments.
Western Kentucky-Tennessee-Chattanooga: The 17th-ranked Hilltoppers (3-2) will seek to put a week of turmoil behind them when they visit the Moccasins (1-3) in a 7:30 p.m. EDT contest.

At least two players, leading tackler Russell Foster and Anthony Cooper, who also is academically ineligible, have been placed on probation by coach Jack Harbaugh after their arrests Monday on charges of second-degree assault. Foster and Cooper were involved in a fight at a fraternity function early Sunday morning, after Western's 49-0 victory over Austin Peay.

Harbaugh did not specify what constitutes "probation" and said he probably will wait for the court's decision before deciding his next move. He did not say whether Foster will be allowed to continue playing.

Western sports information director Paul Just said Foster injured a knee Wednesday and underwent arthroscopic surgery. He likely will be out at least two weeks.
Moccasins drop Western to 3-3 in 19-7 victory

By DARYLL S. CROUCH
Daily News Sports Writer

CHATTANOOGA, Tenn. — Reports of Western Kentucky University's football revival have been greatly exaggerated.

Just as exaggerated were the reports of its demise two weeks ago.

Western's big-play defense that accounted for two touchdowns and set up two others in a 49-0 thrashing of Austin Peay on Sept. 29 lacked zip, and Russell Foster, here Saturday night in a 19-7 loss to Tennessee-Chattanooga.

Foster, Western's leading tackler who was arrested on Monday on second-degree assault charges, practiced last week but suffered a knee injury and didn't play.

In six games, the same Western squad (3-3) at times has looked explosive, meek, intense, lethargic, bold and bashful — but not to the surprise of head coach Jack Harbaugh.

"We just don't have the people on offense to go out and knock people off the line," Harbaugh said.

"But at the same time we're not going to get the pass protection to go out and throw the ball 20 or 30 times a game."

Chattanooga (2-3) opened up a 13-0 halftime lead on a two-yard touchdown run by James Roberts and field goals of 38 and 27 yards by Rodney.

But Western came back with a 66-yard, 12-play drive engineered by quarterback Scott Campbell and propelled by running back Herb Davis to move to within 13-7 with 14:53 left to play.

Campbell, who finished out the fourth quarter in place of starter Mark Marsh, hit on passes of eight and 29 yards, and Davis carried the ball eight times for 29 yards during the drive. Campbell bulled in from one yard out.

"We felt like we were in the game after we scored," Campbell said. "But, to their credit, they came right back at us with a big drive. We just couldn't move the ball after that."

The Moccasins took the ensuing kickoff and drove 73 yards in nine plays and ate 4:50 off the clock. James Roberts' seven-yard touchdown run at the 5:03 mark of the fourth quarter ended the scoring. Roberts was the game's leading ground gainer with 99 yards on 25 carries.

Marsh completed three of 12 passes for 32 yards, and Campbell completed seven of 13 passes for 86 yards.

Western finished with 17 first downs to 15 for the Moccasin. Both teams finished with 173 yards rushing, and Western tallied a 267-245 advantage in total offense.

Western will try to rebound next Saturday when it plays host to fourth-ranked Southwest Missouri State.

"This team has the character to be a winner," Campbell said. "We just need to find the consistency."
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"This team has the character to be a winner," Campbell said. "We just need to find the consistency."
New football rules punish the innocent

When two members of Western's football team were charged last week with assaulting two fraternity members, a review of team discipline was justified.

But two new policies that Head Football Coach Jack Harbaugh enacted as a result are too extreme.

First of all, Harbaugh said that any player on a football scholarship will not be allowed to be a member of a fraternity.

That raises the question of whether the coach could also ban them from participation in other campus groups, whether they be political, religious or whatever. It seems discriminatory to prevent a player from joining whatever campus group he wishes.

And it seems unfair to both the fraternities and players to exclude them from Greek organizations. Many Western alumni combined the two activities while at school and no doubt feel as though they benefited by doing so.

Secondly, Harbaugh said that any member of the football team who goes to an off-campus party where alcohol is served will be kicked off the team regardless of whether he was drinking.

Given the college atmosphere, it's doubtful there will be many off-campus parties in which no drinking at all takes place.

Such a rule places a burden on the player of policing everyone at a party rather than just being responsible for himself.

Measures need to be taken to prevent future incidents such as the one involving the football players and fraternity members. The best way to do that, however, is to swiftly discipline those responsible, even to the point of kicking them off the team.

Western can't afford to tolerate misbehavior by members of its football program, but neither should it punish those who are innocent.
WKU's Harbaugh shrugs off criticism

By JIM TERHUNE C.
Staff Writer

Not only is the "accountability" regime in place for the time being, but morale is high and enthusiasm is bubbling, insists Western Kentucky University football coach Jack Harbaugh.

Harbaugh vigorously defended his 3-3 program and team yesterday in the wake of an off-the-field ruckus that is headed for court, major changes in his defensive unit and a bombardment of critical newspaper stories.

"What's right is right, and I can't worry about those kinds of things," Harbaugh said. "To be honest, I really don't care what's written or said. I'm staying the course. I'm in it for the long run.

"This is still the United States of America, right? Innocent until proven guilty. There's someone here hurting the Star Spangled Banner right now."

End Russell Foster, one of the key players on a talented Western defense, and academically ineligible teammate Anthony Cooper were arrested on charges of second-degree assault stemming from a fight involving players and fraternity members Oct. 1. Their court date is Oct. 17.

When Harbaugh arrived at Western last spring, he set rules governing the conduct of players on and off the field that he said was based on "accountability."

This fall, several players left or were dismissed from the team. One fullback Gerald Mark, was removed from the squad for refusing to apologize for a shouting incident at a Bowling Green restaurant, but several of those who remained strongly endorsed the new rules.

Foster has been placed on probation, but not suspended, until the courts rule on his part in the fight.

The two-year regular isn't able to play anyway, though, after undergoing arthroscopic knee surgery for an injury suffered in practice last week following the incident.

At first, Harbaugh wouldn't discuss the case. But asked if some observers found a discrepancy in his philosophy when comparing the Mark and Foster situations, he said:

"Everybody's voiced their opinion. When I dealt with the other things, I sat in my office and had to make a decision. I was the judge. This thing (Foster's) has been taken out of my hands and put in somebody's far wiser than me.

"If Russell Foster is guilty, he will pay. He's paid already — with what he's read in the papers, in the Orlando (hometown) paper and by phone calls from his mom. Yet if he's not guilty — and there are many different viewpoints about what happened — what can we do, add five games to the end of the regular season?"

A week before the incident, after a loss to archrival Eastern Kentucky, Harbaugh made drastic revisions in his powerful defensive unit.

Because of minor injuries and sicknesses but also because he was upset with blown assignments and erratic play, Harbaugh demoted end Xavier Jordan, a three-year starter; cornerback Howard Freeney, who had seven pass breakups and a Southwest Missouri State at team. But last Saturday at Chattanooga.

"I noticed an improvement in the Austin Peay game, and we were good until the last quarter at Chattanooga," Harbaugh said. "The changes that were made didn't cause the drive. It was just an overall defensive letdown. Besides, they (the ex-starters) all played.

"It's not like there is a doghouse here. Xavier had a lymph-node infection, and there were some bumps and bruises. I do things the old-fashioned way. We're a new staff that is evaluating them on how they practice, then play the best players in our judgment. Nothing is etched in stone (about who starts)."

So, as Western prepares to meet Southwest Missouri State at Home Saturday, does the Harbaugh book of accountability still work?

"I could be way off base, but I think the kids are still responding," the coach said. "I think they appreciate the fact that there is accountability. The group we have here is solid as a team. The morale is high, they're playing hard, they're enthusiastic. And I'm sure not going to change what I believe in."
Injured Foster shouldn't

Remember Jack Harbaugh's starry eyes and ecstatic smile when he took the job at Western Kentucky University's football coach in February?

Remember when he was introduced at halftime of a Western Kentucky basketball game? He thrust his pointer fingers high, did a circle at halfcourt and brought the Diddle Arena crowd to its feet.

But that was before controversy hurried to mar his first season on the Hill.

It was before questions about Herb Davis' eligibility and Russell Foster's arrest on a second-degree assault charge collided with Harbaugh's boundless enthusiasm.

Though much of what happened isn't Harbaugh's fault, Harbaugh hasn't handled controversy well. He's become evasive with the press, making it harder for us to inform our readers. He has allowed Foster to practice with the team despite the charge.

Foster, who was arrested on Oct. 2 in connection with a brawl at a fraternity party, didn't play in Saturday's loss at Tennessee-Chattanooga, but he was allowed to practice after the arrest.

Foster tore a cartilage in his knee early last week. It's not certain when he'll be physically able to play again.

There are several cases in collegiate athletics where an athlete has been suspended after an arrest and wasn't allowed to suit up until acquitted.

In some cases, an arrest leads to dismissal from the team. Former Western basketball coach Clem Haskins kicked Fred Tisdale off the team after Tisdale was arrested for taking a $1.19 worth of Kool Aid from a grocery store.

Foster certainly has not been convicted, and doubts have arisen as to whether he was even at the fraternity party when the brawl broke out.

But he is accused of punching a person in the face, a more serious charge than taking Kool Aid.

Joe Medley
Daily News
Sports Editor
Commentary

World Series

have practiced

Harbaugh should do what he can to help Foster through the problem. But Foster shouldn't have been practicing.

It not only sends a bad message about the university, but it works counter to Harbaugh's disciplinary goals.

The fray at the frat inspired Harbaugh to lay out team rules not allowing players to join a fraternity and barring them from attending parties where alcohol is served.

Yet, the player facing charges was active on the team.

Harbaugh hasn't made things any easier for himself in his lack of cooperation with the press throughout the Foster ordeal. It has gotten to the point that he won't answer the most innocent questions.

Just last week, I asked Harbaugh if Foster would play against UT-Chattanooga for my game advance. Here's how the conversation went:

"If you're wanting to talk about that, then we're not talking," Harbaugh quipped.

"I'm not trying to stir things up problems, Jack. I just want to know from a game standpoint whether one of your key defensive players is going to play," I said.

"Well, then buy a ticket and come to the damned game," Harbaugh said. "That's how you can find out."

I gave up the question for a while and then came back to it toward the end of the conversation.

"Why do you want to know that?" he asked. "What purpose does it serve?"

"Russell Foster is a key player, and I think my readers want to know whether or not he's going to play," I said. "All I want is a yes or no answer."

"Well, like I said, come on down to Chattanooga on Saturday and find out."

Harbaugh is without a doubt a good, dedicated coach. He's a disciplinarian. Just ask his players.

Until the Foster situation blew up, he was also quite informative in telling the press, and therefore the public, what to expect from the Hilltoppers. Public relations is a necessary function of the modern collegiate coach.

Harbaugh's first controversy on the Hill hasn't been a good one for him.

If the cartilage tear in Foster's knee heals before his case is judged, he shouldn't be allowed to play or practice.
By JOE MEDLEY  
Daily News Sports Editor

"What does a coach tell a team whose season's "dream" is fading away?"

"The thing you do is what we've talked about all year," Western Kentucky University football coach Jack Harbaugh said. "You just tell them to do what winning teams do. We don't worry about what the problems are. We just worry about executing and winning.

The season started with the hope of making a run at a Division I-AA national championship. But making the playoffs is all but impossible for Western now.

"The Hilltoppers' 19-7 loss to Tennessee-Chattanooga on Oct. 7 dropped them to 3-3 and out of the top 20. Rising Division I-A power Louisville is left on the schedule, and not many I-AA independents like Western make the playoffs with four losses.

Only the top 16 I-AA teams at the end of the season go to the playoffs, and chances are Western will miss after making it two straight years.

"Every game, including Saturday's clash with fourth-ranked Southwest Missouri State (6-0) in Smith Stadium, is a must-win game.

"We know we don't hold our destiny in our own hands now," Harbaugh said. "Until last week, we held our own destiny. Now our future rests on others helping us.

"On the up side, Western is undefeated at home this season. The Hilltoppers have outscored visitors Middle Tennessee and Austin Peay 80-16.

"Both home games came after disappointing losses, and UT-Chattanooga was a disappointing loss.

"We've played well at home, and we're hoping to respond well to a tough loss like we had before," Harbaugh said.

"To do so, Western will have to stop Southwest Missouri's running attack. The Bears have amassed 2,122 rushing yards. That's almost three times as many as they've given up."

Quarterback DeAndre Smith leads the Bears with 663 yards on 104 carries. Phillip Collins has 342 yards on 33 runs.

"You can have a power rushing attack and a finesse game, and their's is based on finesse and speed," Harbaugh said. "They run a lot of option and keep you off balance."

Defensively, Southwest Missouri will try to make it tough on Western quarterback Mark Marsh.

"They run a basic 4-3 and do a lot of blitzing," Harbaugh said. "They move their linebackers around a lot and come at you with different combinations."

"The Bears have given up only 257 yards a game. That's bad news considering Western's offense has been inconsistent.

"The Hilltoppers scored their touchdown against UT-Chattanooga in the fourth quarter under the direction of quarterback Scott Campbell. Campbell replaced Marsh and moved Western 66 yards in 12 plays. He ran in the score from one yard out.

The passing game has been ineffective, and defenses are keying on the running game.

"At times we've been able to move the ball, and at times we couldn't," Harbaugh said. "We've completed 47 percent of our passes, and that has hurt. When you miss a pass and it ends up second and 10 or third and eight, it throws your play calling out of whack."

The rushing game has been the bright spot for Western with 972 yards on the season. Don Smith leads the way with 471 yards on 103 carries.

Campbell, who played three-plus games while Marsh was hurt, leads in passing with 89 attempts and 46 completions for 497 yards. Marsh is 13 of 38 for 239 yards.

Western has outgained its opponents 1,725 yards to 1,669.

Leading the defense is linebacker Russell Foster, who missed the UT-Chattanooga game with a knee injury. He has 47 tackles, and he won't play this week.

Linebacker Zip Zanders has 42 stops, and defensive back Jerome Martin has 40.

WESTERN KENTUCKY University's Anthony Green (83) eludes Tennessee-Chattanooga's Jackie Washington (1) on a pitchout from quarterback Mark Marsh during their game on Oct. 7. Western will play fourth-ranked Southwest Missouri State on Saturday in Smith Stadium.
playoff chances slim

U football

"Our own hands now," said. "Until last week, we own destiny. Now, our success is in others' hands." Southwestern Missouri will try to make it tough on Western quarterback Mark Marsh.

"They run a basic 4-3 and do a lot of blitzing," Harbaugh said. "They move their linebackers around a lot and come at you with different combinations."

The Bears have given up only 267 yards this season. That's bad news considering Western's offense has been inconsistent.

The Hilltoppers scored their first touchdown against Western in the third quarter. Western lead 10-7 in the fourth quarter under the direction of quarterback Scott Campbell. Campbell replaced Marsh and moved Western 66 yards in 12 plays. He ran the score from one yard out.

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WESTERN KENTUCKY University's Anthony Green (83) blocks Tennessee-Chattanooga's Jackie Washington (1) on a punt return from quarterback Mark Marsh during their game on Oct. 7. Western will play fourth-ranked Southwest Missouri State on Saturday in Smith Stadium.
Two WKU players face charges of assault

By PAT FORDE

Linebacker Russell Foster, the leading tackler on the Western Kentucky University football team, and Anthony Cooper, a defensive tackle who was declared academically ineligible before the season, have been charged with second-degree assault stemming from a fight early Sunday morning at a fraternity function.

According to Bowling Green Police Information Officer Robert Cron, Foster was charged with punching James Edward Logan, 28, a WKU alumnus, in the face at a Kappa Alpha Psi fraternity party at Lampkin Park in Bowling Green. Logan was hospitalized at Bowling Green Medical Center and was released yesterday.

Cron said Cooper was charged with throwing a chair, which hit Damon T. Bradley, 21, of Richmond, in the face. Bradley, who had one tooth knocked out and several others chipped, was treated and released Sunday.

Foster and Cooper were taken yesterday afternoon to Warren County Regional Jail but were released on $5,000 bond each.

The altercation occurred after Western had defeated Austin Peay 49-0 Saturday evening.

Sixteen players left the Western program for a variety of reasons in the preseason. Coach Jack Harbaugh, who said most of those players were not willing to accept his standard of off-the-field "accountability," did not return repeated phone calls to his office.

According to the Associated Press, athletic director Jimmy Feix said Harbaugh met with the team afterward "to try and determine what happened."

"At least three of the players have been suspended until it can be determined what happened and how they were involved," Feix said. He did not identify the other player.

The conflict at Lampkin Park was believed by police to be the catalyst for a later confrontation on the Western campus.

Fraternity members and football players "apparently tried to get the two together and finish the argument," Cron said.

Lieutenant Richard Kirby of the WKU police said his department received a report of a fight at 3:35 a.m. on the university's South Campus. The individuals fled the area when police arrived, Kirby said, but an "unruly" crowd of 35-45 people returned and was milling about near Kermit Hall, where many of Western's football players are housed, and Barnes Campbell Hall.

Campus police called the Bowling Green police for help in dispersing the crowd. A baseball bat was confiscated, but no arrests were made, Kirby said.

Foster, 24, a 6-foot-1, 220-pound senior from Orlando, Fla., leads the Hilltoppers (3-2) in tackles with 47, including five for losses. He recorded 128 tackles a year ago and had 172.5 for his career heading into this year.

Cooper, a 6-6, 245-pound junior from Miami, Fla., practiced in the spring with the Hilltoppers but was declared ineligible before the start of this season. He was a Proposition 48 casualty his freshman year.
Toppers rally, hold on to win

By DARYLL S. CROUCH
Daily News Sports Writer

Southwest Missouri State was long on talent and long on speed, but Western Kentucky University was long on determination.

The Bears, known for their quick-strike offense, went up 3-0 just three minutes and four seconds into the game. Chris Potthast booted a 20-yard field to cap a 55-yard drive.

The visitors took a 10-0 lead after a 96-yard, three-play drive highlighted by an 80-yard jaunt by Phillip Collins. The drive took 41 seconds and culminated in a four-yard scoring run by Tony Gilbert.

A 33-yard, three-play drive that took 47 seconds off the clock ended with Collins taking in DeAndre Smith's 35-yard pass. That made it 17-0.

Western used some of its own quick-strike capability when Anthony Green took the ensuing kickoff 97 yards down the right sideline for a touchdown. Pat Lewis booted the extra point to make it 17-7.

Don Smith's 10-yard touchdown jaunt made it 17-14 with 3:10 left in the second quarter.

But Southwest Missouri went up 24-17, two minutes later after a six-yard touchdown run by DeAndre Smith.

Western was under more duress when Potthast nailed a 32-yard field goal to put the Bears up 27-14 with 12:56 left in the third quarter. Things turned in Western's favor after that.

Western answered with a two-yard touchdown run by Marsh, a three-yard scoring burst by Smith and a three-yard run by Marsh to give the Hilltoppers a 35-27 lead.

Collins snuck in from four yards out at the 3:12 mark of the fourth quarter to cut it to 35-33, but the Western defense held the Bears on the two-point conversion try.

Don Smith added the insurance touchdown with 1:47 left in the game.

"They hung in there and showed the guts to hang in there with them," Western coach Jack Harbaugh said. "I'm so proud of everybody. I could probably fly home."
Western rallies past No. 4 team

By JULIUS KEY
Staff Writer

This story appeared in some of yesterday's editions.

BOWLING GREEN, Ky. — Whenever Don Smith carries the football, he's also carrying the spirit of his mother, Alicia, who died of cancer earlier this year.

Using that as motivation, Smith ran for a career-high 233 yards and scored three touchdowns on a school-record 41 carries in Western's 42-33 upset victory over Southwest Missouri State, the nation's fourth-ranked NCAA Division II football team, Saturday night at L.T. Smith Stadium.

"I just thought in my mind that this is for my mom," Smith said. "I always think about her when I'm running the ball. It's like she's still here with me. I dedicate all my games to her."

Smith certainly had the right spirit as the Toppers rolled up 189 yards on the ground in the second half to overcome a 24-14 deficit.

"I told coach (Jack Harbaugh) at halftime that I didn't think they could stop me," Smith said. "It was just one of those days that I just felt it." Perhaps Smith's most impressive run came in the fourth period when he changed direction and ran 38 yards to the Bears' 3, setting up his third touchdown run and Western's final score.

Southwest Missouri, which had the nation's top-ranked rushing defense, did nothing to disprove that fact in the first half. But in the second half the Toppers held the Bears to a 32-yard fields goal by Chris Potthast in the third period and a 4-yard TD run by Phillip Collins in the fourth quarter.

The Toppers began to control the ball offensively and kept the Bears off the field for most of the third period as they took a 28-27 lead.

"I don't think it was a matter of us stopping them, but our offense controlling the ball and keeping them off the field," Harbaugh said.

"Our line really blocked well, and I finally think we are getting some cohesiveness on the line of scrimmage." Western went up 35-27 in the fourth period on a 3-yard run by quarterback Mark Marsh. But the Bears closed the margin to 35-33 on a 63-yard, seven-play drive that was capped by Collins' score. Western stopped the Bears' two-point conversion attempt.

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Score: Western's 35-33 over Missouri State on Saturday night at L.T. Smith Stadium.
Smith runs wild as Cardinals rout Tops

By DARYLL S. CROUCH
Daily News Sports Writer
LOUISVILLE, Ky. — Dee Smith couldn't find a home on the Hill, but he's doing just fine in the "Ville."

His first and final appearance in Cardinal Stadium proved to be no thrill for Western Kentucky University on Saturday in a 55-7 Louisville rout.

Smith, a 5-foot-11, 185-pound senior from Paducah, rushed for 66 yards on 14 carries and finished with 151 all-purpose yards and a touchdown.

Smith, a transfer from the University of Kentucky, moved to Bowling Green prior to the 1988 fall semester with the intentions of playing football at Western.

"I went down there during two-a-days," Smith said. "I talked with Coach Dave Roberts, but things just didn't work out." Louisville coach Howard Schnellenberger "welcomed me with open arms."

Smith, who led the Southeastern Conference in receiving in 1987, said Western (6-4) was stronger than the score indicated.

"They had good talent, and we knew it from watching the films," he said. "We were just in a position where we knew we had to get out to a big early lead. We haven't had too much luck the credit to them. They beat us offensively, defensively and in the special teams.

"What happened is something we saw all along in the films. Louisville has a very sound football team.

"I was stubborn enough to think we could run the ball against them. They just showed great skill and strength defensively."

Louisville rolled up 37 first downs and picked up 580 total yards while holding the Hilltoppers to three first downs and 64 net yards offense.

Western got off to a promising start, using kickoff at Western's 10, cut to his right and raced 90 yards for a touchdown. Pat Levis' kick gave Western a 7-3 lead with 10:19 left in the first quarter.

But Anthony Cummings put Louisville on top to stay with his 13-yard touchdown reception of a Browning Nagle pass with 35 seconds left in the first quarter. The Cardinals were off, and they never looked back.

Nagle hit on touchdown passes of six and 26 yards to fullback Carwell Gardner and 21 yards to Fred Jones. Louisville also got a safety when Todd Westfall recovered a fumble by Western's Russell Foster at the Western 40.

They were just on the field so long. When we did get the ball, we couldn't keep it long enough to give them a rest," Schnellenberger had mixed emotions about the game.

"As delighted as I am for our team and our program, my heart aches for Coach Haxbaugh and his team. We've been in his position many times with this program.

"The fact is, he is doing a great job with them at the Division I-AA level. They play with pride and courage every week. We knew we had to execute well.
rout Tops

11 - 5 - 87

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had to get out to a big early lead.
We haven't had too much luck
with the close ones lately."

Louisville (4-4), ended a
three-game losing streak after
dropping five games to Southern
Mississippi, Tulsa and Virginia
in the final play.

Western coach Jack Harbaugh
did not agree with Smith.

"This game was as bad as the
scoreboard," he said. "Give all

LOUISVILLE'S CARWELL Gardner (31) steps over
the goal line in the second quarter on Saturday at
Cardinal Stadium as Western's Russell Foster tries to
hold on. Louisville won the game 55-7.

the credit to them. They beat us
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ing start. After yielding 50 yards
and five first downs, the
Hilltopper defense, led by Eddie
Godfrey, Webbe Burnett and
Xavier Jordan, held the Cardi-
inals to a 29-yard field goal by
Ron Bell after Louisville mar-
ched to a first down at the Western
4-yard line.

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suing kickoff at Western's 10,
cut to his right and raced 90-
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the end zone, a 26-yard
touchdown pass from Jeff
Brom to David Moyler, a two-
yard run by Craig Swabek and
Smith's four-yard run.

"One week you're on top, and
the next week you are as low as
you can get," Green said. "Our
defense played their hearts out.
They were just on the field so
long. When we did get the ball,
we couldn't keep it long enough
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"The fact is, he is doing a
great job with them at the Divi-
sion I-AA level. They play with
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We knew we had to execute well
to beat them."

Western suffered its toughest
blow of the day when linebacker
Zip Zanders suffered a broken
fibula in his left leg in the first
quarter. Zanders, who came into
the game second on the team in
tackles with 64, is out for the
season.
Western Kentucky's Don Smith has dedicated this season to his mother, Alicia, who died last year. "I told myself I wanted to gain 1,000 yards and dedicate it to my mom," he said.

For his mother
Western's Smith pushes himself 'to do my best'

By MIKE EMBRY
Associated Press

Western Kentucky's Don Smith is making this football season one to remember.

His mother, Alicia, died last December after slipping into a diabetic coma. She was only 38. "I told myself I wanted to gain 1,000 yards this season and dedicate it to my mom," said the junior tailback from Harrodsburg, Ky. "I've made myself push on and push on to do my best."

Last season she saw him score his first collegiate touchdown when the Hilltoppers played at Morehead State in their season opener. That was the last time she was in the stands for one of his games.

"She never missed a high school game," said Smith, a three-sport standout at Harrodsburg High School. "But she got sick and only got to see one game last year. I know she's with me somewhere."

Smith had the biggest game of his career last week, rushing for 233 yards and 23 touchdowns in sparking the Hilltoppers to a 42-33 victory over then fourth-ranked Southwest Missouri. He was selected the NCAA Division I-AA Back of the Week by the Sports Network.

The 5-foot-10, 185-pound Smith carried the ball a school-record 41 times.

"For some reason I felt confident going into the game," Smith said. "We had a great week of practice. We also knew we couldn't lose anymore if we're going to the playoffs."

Smith's career at Western has been an uphill battle. He was redshirted his first season and the past two years played behind record-setting Joe Arnold.

"I didn't get to do what I came here to do at first," he said. "What Joe did was great. Now it's my chance to shine."

He suffered a shoulder injury in the second game this season against Murray State that limited his playing time against Middle Tennessee and Eastern Kentucky.

But after seven games, he has rushed for 689 yards and four touchdowns on 144 carries. He ranks among the leaders in I-AA with 97.1 rushing yards a game.

And now he's on the verge of becoming only the third player in Western history to rush for more than 1,000 yards in a season.

"I really think I can rush for 1,000 yards," Smith said. "The offense is coming along. The offensive line is coming along. The coaches are coming along. All of it started to click against Southwest Missouri."

Smith nearly ended up at arch-rival Eastern Kentucky, where his uncle, Nick Yeast, played on two national championship teams.

"He was a little disappointed I didn't go to Eastern," Smith said. "But he understood that I had to make my own decision. Eastern had Elroy Harris and James Crawford in their backfield, and I felt I could step right in here and play."

"Although I had to wait, I'm happy I decided to go to school here. I like it here."

He also was recruited by Vanderbilt, Pittsburgh and Kentucky, but they wanted him as a defensive back and Smith wanted to run the ball.
Hilltoppers look to carry momentum into game with TTU

By JOE MEDLEY
Daily News Sports Editor

Jack Harbaugh considers Saturday's 42-33 win over Southwest Missouri State one of the greatest moments in his coaching career. It's been a huge boost to his team as well.

Western Kentucky University's football team (4-3) will try to ride the momentum of the dramatic comeback when Tennessee Tech visits Smith Stadium this Saturday for a 5:30 p.m. Homecoming game.

The Hilltoppers were down to fifth-ranked Southwest Missouri 17-0 and 27-14 before making the comeback.

Western held off a two-point conversion try to maintain a 35-33 lead and added an insurance touchdown.

Harbaugh got a shoulderpad ride off the field after the game.

"I told the kids on Sunday that it was the best win I've ever been associated with," Harbaugh said.

"I've been in the Orange Bowl, I've coached in the Rose Bowl; I've been there for Penn State and Pittsburgh and Michigan and USC, but this one was most satisfying for me.

"It was just the way our players responded. Gosh, they were down 17-0. You watch things like that on television, but you never dream you might be involved with something like it."

The win also made a difference in the Hilltoppers in practice this week.

"The last couple of weeks haven't been much fun," Harbaugh said. "We didn't appear to be enjoying practice too much.

"Practice has been upbeat this week. I think the win really brought us together as a team."

An offense that has sputtered this season really came together. Don Smith rushed for 233 yards on a school-record 41 carries. He scored three touchdowns and was named Division I-AA national offensive player of the week.

A big part of his success came in thanks to the play of the offensive line.

"When you go back and look at the films, you can see that the line was playing together as a unit for the first time," Harbaugh said.

Western's passing game finally showed what Harbaugh had hoped for in the preseason. Quarterback Mark Marsh hit on 9 of 18 passes for 158 yards. He connected on some big plays as the Bears moved up to crowd Smith.

"The passing game came around to the point that we could go deep and hurt them a little," Harbaugh said. "That helped open up some things."

In an ironic twist, it was Western's offense that took up the slack for the defense.

Injuries depleted the defensive unit, which gave up 490 yards to one of the top option offenses around. The Bears got 358 yards on the ground.

Injuries still abound on Western's defensive unit. Defensive end Raji Gordon, linebacker Derek Wilson and defensive back Howard Freeney and Jonathan Watts are doubtful at best for Tennessee Tech. Freeney's football career may be over because of a neck injury.

The Hilltoppers will retain linebacker Russell Foster, who had been out with a knee injury. Foster was the team's leading tackler until he was hurt.

Foster awaits a grand jury's decision on second-degree assault charges. The decision of whether to indict him should come down before Warren Circuit Judge J. David Francis on Monday.

Tennessee Tech (3-2) has had much success against the three teams that beat Western. The Golden Eagles beat Murray State and Tennessee-Chattanooga and lost 21-20 against Eastern Kentucky on a late field goal.

Tech led top-ranked Eastern until the last play of the game. A fumble deep in Tech territory set up the game-saving kick.

The Golden Eagles don't fumble much. They have a plus-13 turnover ratio. They have six turnovers all season.

They also have a solid kicking game. Punter Tracy Graham averages 42 yards a boot, good for fifth in the nation. Field goal kicker in Ryan Weeks hit seven field goals against UT-Chattanooga and leads the nation averaging two field goals a game.

Tech is led by quarterback Thomas DeBow. DeBow leads an option attack with 546 yards passing and seven touchdown passes. DeBow set an NCAA record with 199 consecutive passes without an interception.

"They don't do anything fancy," Harbaugh said. "They just do a good job of what they do, and they don't make many mistakes.

"We've got to be careful not to turn the ball over, because they're not going to return the favor."
Western coach Jack Harbaugh may get an even better read tonight on whether his new offensive line is a treasure or fool's gold.

A week ago Don Smith shredded No. 4 Southwest Missouri for a career-high 233 rushing yards, third-best in Western history, as the Hilltoppers won a 42-33 shootout.

But tonight's homecoming opponent (6:30 EDT) is a new and improved Tennessee Tech club (3-2) that had Eastern all but beaten before losing 21-20 last Saturday.

"I've found that this part of the country has a different concept on defense than where I'm from — a linebacker-attacking front," said Harbaugh, who is in his first season at Western. "It's the kind of defense that we've had most of our troubles with.

"And here comes a Tech team that would have been in hog heaven if they hadn't fumbled (with six minutes left and a 20-14 lead against Eastern). What a boost that would have been to their program. They're very good, and they'll be in a nasty and ugly frame of mind."

Harbaugh has done some redesigning of Western's defense. It held Southwest Missouri to nine second-half points as the Hilltoppers rallied from 17-0 and 27-14 deficits.

"We've changed the whole scheme," Harbaugh said. "We've been running a (five-man front) with a little Chicago Bears thrown in. We've injected more Bear — about 98 percent Bear the second half."

He referred to the Bears' "46" defense, named for No. 46 Doug Plank, a now-retired free safety who moved up to give them an eight-man front with all manner of blitz schemes.

"We weren't a total eight-man front all the time," Harbaugh said, "but it gave us a better chance to defend the option."
Suddenly explosive Western pounds Tech 61-14

By JIM TERRHUNE

GVLING GREEN, KY. — Does anyone recognize the Western Kentucky University football team that美学 Tennessee Tech with a 61-14 shellacking last night?

Not Tennessee-Chattanooga. It dropped a 28-10 game to Tech, then knocked off Western 19-7 two weeks ago.

Looking like a traditional power from South Bend or Miami, WKU buried Tech 34-0 in the first half. During those 30 minutes, the Hilltoppers rolled up bulges of 16-2 in first downs, 207-9 yards passing and 321-14 yards total offense.

Western offensive guard Bob Hodge played at Notre Dame for a year before leaving and heading for a junior college.

"It's a little different up there, a step above," he said. "But there's an amazing amount of talent here for a (NCAA Division I-AA) team. So many could play I-A ball. For one reason or another we're here. A band of misfits.

"But there has come to be a lot of love, and now some togetherness, and I think it will carry us through the rest of the season."

The blowout came against a Tech team that had rebounded from a 1-10 season to go 3-2 with four and-one-point losses before meeting Western.

Tech quarterback Thomas DeBow had thrown an Division I-AA record 199 times without an interception before Eastern picked one off last week, and had surrendered only one in his previous 11 games. Western stole two in the first half, and Eddie Godfrey took the second back 83 yards for Western's fourth touchdown.

"I'm surprised we played like that," Tech coach Jack Harbaugh said. "We had a good practice and there was no reason to come up here and do this. We couldn't run inside, we couldn't run outside, we couldn't throw, we couldn't take the snap from center."

Now 5-3, Western won back-to-back games for the first time this season and served notice to those remaining on its schedule — even Louisville — that it's dealing from strength. In four home games, Western has averaged 45.4 points. It has totaled 103 in its last two.

"Now just show it to me on the road," said Western coach Jack Harbaugh, referring to a place where his team has scored 41 points in four games. "I think we've mastered it here at home."

Western quarterback Mike Marsh was injured part of the time and ineffective other parts of the time in Western's first six games. Last night, he hit 9 of 13 passes for 207 yards and two scores in the first two quarters, 11 of 15 for 241 overall.

"It's a matter of confidence," Marsh said. "You could see their eyes in the huddle. The offensive line is night to day. The confidence among themselves, why, there's no stopping them."

Tailback Smith, coming off a 233-yard game last week, swerved and swept for 89 yards in the half, scoring twice. He finished with 117.

Anthony Green ran an exceptional pattern, curling away from the defender after driving him to the goalpost to catch Marsh's first TD pass, a 16-yarder, and Darwin Harris ran another perfect post route with a defender on his shoulder to collect a 30-yard TD.

Western started the assault on its second possession, rolling 90 yards in 9 plays. Green made an over-the-shoulder catch of a Marsh pass for 42 yards and Smith ran for 42, including the final two.

On its next series, Western went 53 yards to the Marsh-Green connection, then 38 yards after Jeff Griffith's interception to score on Smith's 9-yard run. It was 21-0 with 2:35 minutes into the second period.

Next came Godfrey's 83-yard interception return, third longest in Western history, and the Hilltoppers finished off the half with a 55-yard march to the 20-yard Marsh-Harris closer 1:15 before intermission.

Meanwhile, the WKU defense held DeBow to 1 for 10 passing and minus-13 yards on his option runs in the first half.

"They did a really good job of looking at last year's film of me and stopping what I do," DeBow said. "It was under tremendous pressure."
By DARYLL S. CROUCH

Daily News Sports Writer

Just give the Western Kentucky University football team a little adversity, and the Hilltoppers will run wild with it.

Give the Hilltoppers a game in Smith Stadium, more known as the "House of Pain" these days, and Western will win a football game.

Western had all of that and more going for it en route to a 61-14 thrashing of Tennessee Tech University (3-3) on Saturday night in front of a Homecoming crowd estimated at 18,000.

The Hilltoppers (5-3) had to go without standout junior cornerback Howard Freeney. Freeney suffered a career-ending spine injury in Western's 42-33 win over Southwest Missouri State on Oct. 14.

The Hilltoppers responded by painting Freeney's No. 8 on their wristbands and game towels. Freeney received the game ball.

Western, 4-0 in Smith Stadium, came into Saturday's game averaging 41 points a game at home. The Hilltoppers have scored 41 points in four games on the road.

The offensive unit didn't disappoint as it rolled up 573 yards of offense, two yards shy of the school record set in 1951 when Jimmy Feix was the quarterback. Western also tied the school record for first downs with 28.

Golden Eagle coach Jim Ragland said something was missing against Western.

"I don't know what it was," he said. "We just came out lethargic. We couldn't keep them from running left, right or up the middle.

Continued On Page 8

Column 1, This Section
Hilltoppers erupt for 61-14 win

DARYLL S. CROUCH
News Sports Writer

The Hilltoppers gave the Western Kentucky University football team adversity, and the Hilltoppers will run wild with it. The Hilltoppers will give their Stadium, more known as "House of Pain" these years, and Western will win a big game.

Western had all of that and more to take its third straight league game against Tennessee University (3-3) on Saturday, Nov. 2, in front of a record crowd estimated at 3,000.

The Hilltoppers (5-3) had to go without standout junior cornerback Howard Freeney, who suffered a career-ending injury in Western's 42-33 loss to Southwest Missouri on Oct. 14.

Hilltoppers responded by going Freeney's No. 8 on wristbands and game tape.

Freeney received the ball, and the Hilltoppers went on to put up 41 points in four quarters.

The Hilltoppers' offensive unit didn't just roll up 573 yards of offense, two yards shy of the school record set in 1951.

Jimmy Feix was the back. Western also tied the record for first downs in the game.

An Eagle coach Jim said something was wrong against Western, but "I don't know what it was," he said. "We just came out and couldn't keep running left, right or middle."

Continued On Page 8

DON SMITH (36) tries to break free of two Tennessee Tech defenders on Saturday in Smith Stadium.

Western Kentucky University picked up a 61-14 win.
Hilltoppers

Continued From Page 1-B

up the middle, and we didn't block on offense. Give Western credit for most of that, because they were overwhelming."

Western quarterback Mark Marsh hit on 11 of 15 passes for 241 yards and three touchdowns in a little more than two quarters of football.

"I've got to give the credit to the offensive line for holding them out of there," Marsh said. "It's funny too, because everyone kept knocking them early saying they were too young to be effective. They've sure been effective here lately."

The win marked the first time this season the Hilltoppers have managed back-to-back wins. That is the mark of a good team becoming accustomed to a new system, according to Coach Jack Harbaugh.

"Last week, Mark (Marsh) converted 61 percent of his third-down plays," Harbaugh said. "Tonight, he made 10 of 13. When you can get it done on third down, that shows a building of consistency."

Western may have lost another key starter for the season to injury when defensive tackle Chandler Wallace went down with a twisted knee in the third quarter. Wallace will undergo arthroscopic surgery Sunday.

Harbaugh also lauded the defense, which held Tennessee Tech to 64 first-half yards — 43 coming on one play.

Western's biggest defensive play came at the 5:49 mark of the second quarter when defensive back Eddie Godfrey moved to his right, leaped into the air, intercepted a Thomas DeBow pass and raced 83 yards for a touchdown giving Western a 28-0 lead.

Western opened the scoring on its second series of the game. Don Smith's two-yard run capped a nine-play, 90-yard drive. Pat Levis' kick made it 7-0.

Anthony Green caught the first of his two touchdown passes on Western's next drive when he hauled in a 16-yard strike from Marsh with 56 seconds left in the first quarter.

Smith's nine-yard scoring run highlighted the next drive, which covered 38 yards in five plays and put the Hilltoppers up 21-0.

Smith was the game's leading ground gainer with 121 yards on 23 carries.

"I really believe we're starting to show our potential," Smith said. "It has taken us four or five games to figure out what the coach wants from us and to get on the right track."

RUTH HOSSE, a senior from Brentwood, Tenn., became Western Kentucky University's new Homecoming queen on Saturday night in Smith Stadium.
WKU players are using artwork to keep injured Freeney in their games

By JIM TERHUNE

Western Kentucky football lock- ankle is 99 percent well and I'm able to run once again, which is my main asset. I tried to come back at Chattanooga (three games ago), and it wasn't all there. Now it's getting there.

Unranked last week in the NCAA Division I-AA poll, Western (3-3) needs a win this week to stay in the running for a chance at an at-large berth.

"They were drawing the number 8 on their wristbands or messages to the player who wore it, Howard Freeney, on towels that some stick in their belts."

Freeney, a starting junior cornerback from High Springs, Fla., sustained a serious neck injury the previous week against Southwest Missouri while making a tackle. His football career is in jeopardy.

"Bone spurs developed and they're going to have to fuse the vertebrae," Harbaugh said after Western's 61-14 demolition of Tennessee Tech Saturday. "Players see that and it's a sobering experience. They get a real look at what can happen in this game."

After Anthony Green made a difficult 42-yard pass reception in Western's opening touchdown drive, he ran along the stands waving a towel with Freeney's name on it. Western lost senior offensive tackle Chandler Wallace to a torn knee ligament in the first half. Arthroscopic surgery was performed Sunday, and Wallace will likely miss the rest of the season.

Wallace was one of two linemen moved from the defensive front a few games ago to an offensive line that has helped Western score 103 points its past two games.

Quarterback Mark Marsh has been a big contributor, too. After an ankle injury dropped him behind Scott Campbell for a couple of games, he's returned to lead the past two assaults. He hit 11 of 15 passes for 241 yards and three TDs in little more than a half Saturday.

"I give myself credit for recognizing Mark Marsh's potential in the spring and early fall," Harbaugh said. "He's a four-year guy who's waited his turn behind two others."

"In the early going, every time he'd get under center he'd go like this," Harbaugh said, reaching out with his hands shaking. "Then he got hurt, and all you heard was..."
WKU must avoid 'bus of pain'

The "House of Pain" has been the site of gain for the Western Kentucky University football team.

The Hilltoppers have gained momentum, a return to the Associated Press top 20 and renewed hope for the playoffs after two consecutive wins in Smith Stadium.

Mark Marsh's arm is golden. Don Smith's legs are churning out yardage. And an offensive line maligned early in the season for inexperience is opening holes.

But even after a 42-33 come-from-behind win over sixth-ranked Southwest Missouri and a 61-14 "thrashing" of Tennessee Tech, Western has something to prove.

Western (5-3) hasn't won on the road since the opening game of the season, a 17-12 win over Illinois State. Coach Jack Harbaugh said Saturday's game at Youngstown State (5-2) should show just how far his team has come.

"Nine games into the season, we're still finding things out about our team," Harbaugh said. "We're going to find out just how far we've come at Youngstown State.

Smith Stadium has been the "House of Pain" for Western opponents, but the bus of pain has taken Western here: all three of its losses.

Western has lost to Eastern, Murray State and Tennessee-Chattanooga on the road. The loss to UT-Chattanooga three weeks ago made every game a must-win game for Western.

The Hilltoppers have finally passed the "test" of putting together back-to-back wins. A playoff berth could be decided at Youngstown, which hasn't lost at home this season.

The Hilltoppers are playing like a playoff team. Quarterback Marsh has put together two straight solid efforts after a miserable outing at Chattanooga, his first start since being sidelined with an ankle injury at Murray.

He has completed over 50 percent of his passes in the last two games. He hit for 158 yards and some key third-down conversions against Southwest Missouri. He threw for 316 yards and three touchdowns against Tech.

"I'm really happy for him," Harbaugh said. "He's waited four years for his opportunity.

"He worked awfully hard in the spring and saw some diminished returns, then he came back strong in the summer. Then he had the injury, and when he came back he had a tough night at Chattanooga.

"When good things start to happen in this business, you like to see them happening to people like Mark. He's one of the class people around."

Smith has rushed for 350 yards in the last two games. He was named I-AA national offensive player of the week after 233 yards against Southwest Missouri.

A big reason for Smith's and Marsh's success has been the improvement of the offensive line, but the line has been dealt a blow with the season-ending knee injury to Chandler Wallace.

"We were just starting to get some cohesiveness on the line," Harbaugh said. "Now that balance has been disrupted."

Wallace moved over from defense early in the season as the offensive front struggled. He was hurt in the Tech game.

Harbaugh said he may move Bob Hodge over from strong tackle to Wallace's slot and move David Browning up, or Kent Carter may step in.

"We won't make a decision there until later this week," Harbaugh said.

The statistics reflect the Hilltoppers' surge. Here's an update of Western's statistical leaders:

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QuARTERBACK MARK Marsh (5) is playing well, and the Western Kentucky University football team is on a roll. The Hilltoppers jumped back into the Associated Press Division I-AA poll after two straight wins. Western beat Tennessee Tech 61-14 or Saturday in Smith Stadium.

Smith now has 331 yards on carries for a 4.8 average. He has carried 99 times for 609 yards.

Marsh is 33 for 71 for 638 yards. He "has thrown touchdown passes and three interceptions. Tight end Robert Coates holds the lead in receiving with catches for 349 yards. And Green has 17 for 255 yards.
WKU must avoid 'bus of pain'

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Western (5-3) hasn't won on the road since the opening game of the season, a 17-12 win over Illinois State. Coach Jack Harbaugh said Saturday's game at Youngstown State (5-2) should show just how far the team has come.

"Nine games into the season, we're still finding things out about our team," Harbaugh said. "We're finding out just how far we've come at Youngstown." Smith Stadium has been the house of Pain for Western opponents, but the bus of pain has taken Western home from all three of its losses.

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**QUARTERBACK MARK Marsh (5)** is playing well, and the Western Kentucky University football team is on a roll. The Hilltoppers jumped back into the Associated Press Division I-AA poll after two straight wins. Western beat Tennessee Tech 61-14 on Saturday in Smith Stadium.

Smith now has 831 yards on 167 carries for a 4.8 average. He has hit payday six times... Herb Davis has 391 yards, and Vance Turpin has 201.

Marsh is 33 for 71 for 638 yards passing. He has thrown seven touchdown passes and three interceptions.

 Tight end Robert Coates still holds the lead in receiving with 27 catches for 349 yards. Anthony Green has 17 for 255 yards.

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**Joe Medley**

Weekly News Sports Editor Commentary
Grand jury doesn't indict two Western football players

Associated Press

BOWLING GREEN, Ky. — A grand jury decided Monday not to indict Western Kentucky University football players Russell Foster and Anthony Cooper on assault charges.

The charges stemmed from a brawl at a fraternity party in a park early on Oct. 1. The players were arrested the next day and released on surety bonds.

Prosecutors could present the case to a new grand jury in November. Assistant Commonwealth Attorney John Deeb couldn't be reached for comment yesterday.

However, Kelly Thompson Jr., an attorney for the players, said he doesn't think the case will be pursued further.

"All of the witnesses who would testify in a trial testified in the hearing," Thompson said. "The jury felt there wasn't sufficient enough evidence to prosecute."

The charges stemmed from an early morning brawl at a Kappa Alpha Psi fraternity party Oct. 1 at the Jaycees Pavilion in Lampkin Park. The two players were arrested on Oct. 2 and released on surety bonds.

Police said James Edward Logan III was struck in the face by a member of the football team and other members of the team started throwing metal chairs that injured at least one other person.

Police arrived and found about 300-400 people. Logan was on the floor at the rear of the building.

"When the police got there, the football players were back in their dorm," Thompson said. "There was still fighting, and everybody tried to say the football players started it, but none were still at the party."

Foster, a linebacker, has remained with the team during the proceedings and is Western's third-leading tackler. Cooper is academically ineligible this season.
Tops must beat Youngstown

By JORR MEDLEY

Youngstown State hasn't lost at home this season, and it runs the dreaded 'D'.

"They run the same defense the we've had trouble with all year," Western Kentucky coach Jack Harbaugh said. "It's the defense Eastern and UT-Chattanooga beat us with."

Youngstown (5-2), the 11th-ranked team in Division I-AA, will clash with Western (5-3) at noon on Saturday at Youngstown, Ohio.

Western's playoff hopes ride on which Hilltopper team shows up — the one that has scored 103 points in its last two games or the one that has scored 41 points in four road games.

"This is the biggest game of the season in terms of ramifications," Harbaugh said. "They're an independent, and we're an independent.

"We have to beat them on the road to keep our playoff hopes alive. If we lose, we're out."

The Hilltoppers seem at last to have become the team Harbaugh envisioned when vowed to make a run at the national championship. Western is coming off a 61-14 win over Tennessee Tech, a team that beat UT-Chattanooga and Murray and lost 21-20 to Eastern.

Two weeks ago, Western beat then fourth-ranked Southwest Missouri 42-33 after trailing 17-0 and 27-14.

The last two wins mark the first time all season Western has put together back-to-back wins. But those wins were in Smith Stadium, where Western hasn't lost.

"Western hasn't won on the road since a season-opening 17-12 win at Illinois State. Have the Hilltoppers improved enough to overcome their road blues?"

"I would hope that our team is more confident now," especially when you look at the way we've won our last two games," Harbaugh said. "We just had a great total team effort in both of those games. I hope that's the team we see at Youngstown."

The key to recent success has been the rise of Western's offense. Against Tennessee Tech, the Hilltoppers ran up 573 yards. Quarterback Mark Marsh throw for 399 yards and hit on several deep passes.

Marsh may not be able to go deep against Youngstown.

"They run a three-deep backfield, so it's going to be tough for us to go deep," Harbaugh said. "They have the kind of defense that bends a lot and bends some more, but they don't give up the big play. We'll have to be patient and drive it."

Youngstown can put up some offense. The Penguins average 347 yards a game, with 225 coming on the ground. Converted defensive back Archie Herring averages 7.7 yards a carry. He has 475 yards on the season.

Quarterback Ray Isaac has completed 76 of 142 passes for 852 yards and five touchdowns. He likes to throw to receiver Lorenzo Davis, who has 19 grabs for 295 yards.

Marsh, running back Don Smith and receiver Anthony Green have become the offensive stars for Western. Smith has 831 yards rushing and a 4.8 average. Green has caught 17 passes for 255 yards, and he's made several spectacular catches lately.

Green's over-the-wrong-shoulder, 42-yard grab on a third-and-11 play was seen by many to be the spark that ignited Western against Tennessee Tech.

Marsh's stats have improved to 33 of 71 for 638 yards, seven touchdowns and three interceptions.
Western tips Youngstown 41-38 on late field goal

Special to The Courier-Journal

YOUNGSTOWN, Ohio — Pat Levis' 29-yard field goal with 23 seconds left capped a wild game yesterday and gave Western Kentucky University a 41-38 victory over Youngstown State.

Youngstown (5-3), ranked 11th in NCAA Division I-AA, had tied the score on an 11-yard pass from Ray Isaac to Ron Strollo with 10:38 left in the game. Youngstown missed a 51-yard field goal at the 5:14 mark.

The winning 59-yard drive by 18th-ranked Western (6-3) included a 16-yard pass from Mark Marsh to Anthony Green on third down. When Youngstown's defense held at the 16, Levis kicked the decisive points.

"We haven't tested Pat," Western coach Jack Harbaugh said of Levis, who had attempted only one field goal in the previous four games. "We've been putting so many points on the board, it seemed like we've just needed him for extra points."

Western now has scored 144 points in winning its past three games. Youngstown entered the game on a five-game win streak.

"There was a lot of emotion on our sideline," Harbaugh said. "We knew we had to win this one to stay in the playoff picture, and our kids kept reminding us about that afternoon on the sideline. They refused to give up.

The Hilltoppers now have a 3-2 record against ranked I-AA teams this season.
Pat Levis’ kick at 0:23 saves Toppers’ win

By DARYLL S. CROUCH
Daily News Sports Writer

YOUNGSTOWN, Ohio — Jerome Martin provided the Western Kentucky University football team with the heavy hitting it needed on the road, but the smallest man on the field delivered the most pain.

Western place kicker Pat Levis, who nailed two field goals and made all five extra-point conversions, booted a 28-yard field goal with 23 seconds left to lift the 18th-ranked Hilltoppers (6-3) to a 41-38 win here Saturday over 11th-ranked Youngstown State University (5-3).

Western quarterback Mark Marsch made Levis’ heroics possible by dodging a blitzing Andre Peterson and completing a 16-yard pass to Anthony Green on a third-and-12 play from the Hilltopper 32-yard line.

“That play will probably go down as the key play of the game,” Penguin coach Jim Tressel said of the Marsh-to-Green hookup. “We had a good play on him, but their guy made the great play.”

The win over the Penguins marked Western’s first road win since its 17-12 victory at Illinois State on Sept. 2. It also put Western back into the NCAA Division I-AA playoff picture, according to Coach Jack Harbaugh.

“Both teams proved they are of playoff caliber,” he said. “I hope we both make it in.”

“This was such an incredible, hard-hitting game. Hey, we’re not in Ann Arbor (where Michigan plays). We’re not in Pittsburgh. I’ve been in those places. We’re right here in Youngstown, Ohio, and this is what real college football is all about. Forget about all the negative stuff — nothing negative out there today.”

“Van out nothing negative about the Hilltoppers’ offense. Western platooned running backs and rolled up 283 yards rushing and 26 first downs.

“Vance Turpin entered the lineup in the second quarter and finished with 128 yards on 27 carries and scored a touchdown. Fullback Don Smith gained 99 yards in 24 at-
Jerome Martin provided the Western Kentucky University football team with the heavy hitting it needed on the road, but the smallest man on the field delivered the most pain.

Western place kicker Pat Levis, who nailed two field goals and made all five extra-point conversions, booted a 28-yard field goal with 23 seconds left to lift the 18th-ranked Hilltoppers (6-3) to a 41-38 win here Saturday over 11th-ranked Youngstown State University (5-3).

Western quarterback Mark Marsh, who was one of several Western defenders to deliver devastating hits to Isaac, said he wants the Hilltoppers to become famous for their aggressiveness.

"We always try to be as physical as we can be," he said. "We hit the quarterbacks and receivers as hard as we can to try to get their minds ready to go. When we make that happen, they usually start making mistakes."

Western took the opening kickoff and drove 65 yards on 11 plays and went up 7-0 after a one-yard touchdown run by Smith and kick by Levis.

The Penguins answered on the ensuing drive and scored on a two-yard run by Archie Herring.

A 26-yard interception return by Paul Solis and a 46-yard field goal by Robert Fozcos gave Youngstown State a 17-7 lead with 14 minutes remaining in the second quarter.

Turpin gained 48 of Western's 75 yards on the next drive, and he carried it in from one-yard out to cut the deficit to 17-14 with 8:55 left in the second quarter.

Western surged in front two possessions later when Darwin Harris hauled in a 16-yard pass from Marsh with 2:08 left in the first half to make it 21-17.

The Penguins took a 24-17 lead at the end of the first half on a 17-yard pass from Isaac to Steve Jones.

Youngstown State went back up by 10 points in the third quarter on a four-yard run by Leo Hawkins.

"The people that came here saw two good teams go after each other," Tressel said.
Playoffs. The word was tossed about loosely and often as Western Kentucky University's football team prepared to visit Tennessee-Chattanooga three weeks ago.


"We were talking all about it there," quarterback Mark Marsh said recently. "Now we'll just forget it and see where we are at the end."

That was the new attitude.

Then came a 41-38 victory at Youngstown State Saturday. So coach Jack Harbaugh and his troops again are in contention for the 16-team postseason tournament.

Western (6-3) has won three straight, averaging 48 points in the process. An at-large invitation would be its third straight.

But any discussion of its chances is with a whisper.

"When we went to Chattanooga, the playoffs were in our hands," Harbaugh said yesterday. "Now they're in someone else's hands. We set a course to do the best we could, see what happens, not be concerned (about the playoffs) and not play with a clenched fist."

But the victory at Youngstown was a major step. Western beat a team that had won five in a row and was No. 11 to Western's No. 18 in the critical rankings of Division I-AA athletics directors going in. Youngstown had not given up a touchdown in 10 quarters. Western's offense scored four.

Western is certain to climb the polls ladder. "I think it'll help," Harbaugh said. "But there are so many spots taken by conferences. We battle in a league of so-called independents."

The Division I-AA committee meets Nov. 19 to select the field. Six conferences, including the Ohio Valley, and the top-ranked independent get automatic bids, leaving nine at-large spots.

But Western upgraded its stature on a rocky Saturday for the elite.

Nine of the top 20 lost. Western was tied

See WESTERN PAGE 2, col. 1, this section
Western again talking about playoffs, but game against U of L may hold key

Continued from Page D 1

for 18th with Arkansas State, the fourth-highest-rated Independent, which lost 13-7 to Dave Roberts Northeast Louisiana squad (Roberts coached Western to the past two playoffs). Another Independent, Liberty, which visits Youngstown Saturday, lost. Only No. 2 Georgia Southern won among the top Independents.

There are still cracks in the road.
Western will have to perform well Saturday at favored Division I-A rival, Louisville, against whom it has lost six straight by an average of 20.5 points.

Even that might not be good enough, because few teams with four losses are considered. Western was chosen with a 7-3 record in 1987 and 8-3 in '88.

And it closes Nov. 18 at home against Eastern Illinois, a 6-3 club rated 13th before Saturday's loss to Northern Iowa.

"I haven't been around long enough to know how all this works," said Harbaugh, in his first year at Western. "I'm sure we'll need to play well at Louisville, and the (selection) committee might look at that. Moving up in the rankings should help.

"But I'm concerned about things we can control. If we go, we go, and if we stay, we stay."

Coach Mike Mahoney was mad at himself but madder at the officials after he cost his Murray State team an unsportsmanlike conduct penalty he felt was crucial in Murray's 38-36 loss at Eastern Kentucky.

Eastern flanker Randy Bohler ran 18 yards on a reverse to the Murray 23-yard line in the third quarter. Mahoney thought linebacker Anthony Brewer was clipped on the play and stormed up the sideline screaming at officials.

The penalty moved the ball 12 yards to the Murray 11. Eastern scored a touchdown two plays later to extend its lead to 35-24.

"It wasn't a very good move on my part, but I was very upset," Mahoney said.

Murray quarterback Michael Proctor came out of the rock 'n' roll offensive battle with another record. With 18 completions, he passed Trenton Lykes of ex-OVC member Youngstown State for the league's career mark. Proctor needed only four and now has 538 to Lykes' 524.

With 128 yards rushing, Eastern tailback Markus Thomas maintained a faster ground-gaining pace than last year's school record-setter, Elroy Harris.

Thomas, No. 3 nationally last week, is averaging 140.

Linebacker Mike Carter, who has a sprained knee, will miss his second straight game Saturday when Eastern (4-0) goes to Middle Tennessee (3-0) for what will probably decide the OVC championship.

Defensive end David Wilkins, who missed the Murray game, has been given the go-ahead to practice today. He reinjured a toe last week in practice that he had broken a year ago.

Morehead State quarterback Chris Swartz, only a junior, took the school career pass-yardage record from Phil Smis Saturday in a 23-22, squeaker over winless Austin Peay and now takes aim at more distant Morehead worthies.

Swartz is seven touchdown passes from catching Charles "Izzy" Porter (1949-51) and 252 yards away from taking the school career pass-yardage record from Dave Schaetzke, a scrambling quarterback in the early 1970s.

With 1,710 passing yards in Morehead's 3-5 campaign and three games to go, Swartz is on a pace to snatch the single-season yardage record from Porter. J.G. Porter, Izzy's son, is a part-time starter at defensive end on this year's team.
On this Halloween, Western Kentucky's football team is haunting. Louisville's is haunted.

While Western quarterback Mark Marsh plays like an indomitable spirit and Hilltopper backs run like ghosts, U of L writes tales of grotesque and arabesque ways—lose football games.

When the teams renew their I-65 rivalry on Saturday at Cardinal Stadium, Western coach Jack Harbaugh hopes to walk away with a hideous laugh and to leave the Cardinals shivering over their haunted season.

After a fast start, the Cardinals are wondering what supernatural force has hexed their season. U of L has lost three games in a row. The way the Cardinals have lost has been frightening:

—Some say Louisville lost to Southern Mississippi three weeks ago on a prayer. A “Hail Mary”, to be exact.

The Golden Eagles were down their last play when quarterback Bret Favre narrowly escaped a sack and heaved the football to the Louisville 30-yard line. Michael Jackson tipped it and Darryl Tillman caught it, shook off a tackler and outraced Arthur Alexander to the end zone.

It was Southern Mississippi 16, Louisville 10.

—At sunny, then rainy, then sunny Tulsa, a similar occurrence left Louisville coach Howard Schnellenberger “disappointed and mad.”

“Mad” describes the game's finish. After Louisville had scored a touchdown with under a minute left and recovered the onsides kick, the game again came down to the last play.

Louisville found itself on Tulsa's 13 with four seconds left. Quarterback Browning Nagle's pass was batted several times...and fell harmlessly to the ground.

The score: Tulsa 31, Louisville 24.

—And just when it looked like Louisville would exorcise its demons at Virginia, lightening struck on the witching our again.

Louisville went ahead 15-13 on a 27-yard field goal by Ron Bell, but Virginia marched 81 yards in 10 plays to set up a Jake McNaherty field goal from 37 yards out.

The kick was high enough, long enough and good enough as time stood still, then expired.

It was Virginia 16, Louisville 15, and Schnellenberger was miffed at Louisville's inability to stop Virginia on the final drive.

“It's very disconcerting, very hard to understand… I hear ghosts whimpering. I hear phantoms laughing. I hear Schnellenberger grooping for answers, and that's encouraging for Western.

The Hilltoppers have won three in a row, coming back from a 17-0 deficit to chill Southwest Missouri 42-33 and 17-7 to frost Youngstown State 41-38 on Pat Levis' field goal at 0:23.

Western also brutally thrashed Tennessee Tech 61-14.

Western is playing with confidence. The Hilltoppers have scored a spooky 144 points in their last three games.

Louisville is wondering what could happen next. That mentality could make the Cardinals ripe for an upset.

Cobwebs clutter the memory of the last time Western beat Louisville. It was in 1975, and the score was 27-17 under Jimmy Feix.

Whether Western can turn it around depends on whether one believes in a Louisville jinx, or that Louisville's jinxed.
U of L is patching up backfield for Western

By RUSS BROWN
Staff Writer

An injury to Carwell Gardner will force the University of Louisville to send a patchwork, banged-up offensive backfield against Western Kentucky Saturday as it tries to snap a three-game losing streak.

Gardner, U of L’s starting fullback, suffered a separated shoulder against Virginia last Saturday and is listed as doubtful for the Cardinals’ home finale.

“That means I don’t expect him to play,” U of L coach Howard Schnellenberger said.

Gardner’s loss would be bad enough under the best of circumstances, but two other running backs also have been ailing. Junior halfback Latrell Ware suffered a deep thigh bruise at Virginia, and redshirt freshman Curtis Lipsey has missed two games with a similar injury. Lipsey is expected back this week.

Schnellenberger considered switching Ware to fullback, where he played last year, but said yesterday that more than likely he’ll shuffle Ware, Dee Smith and Lipsey in and out at halfback.

“At fullback, Schnellenberger will alternate senior Craig Swabek and juniors Pete Bynum and Bobby Hall.

“Hall is primarily a blocking back, having carried the ball only three times. As for Bynum and Swabek...”

“Bynum is more of a pass receiver-runner, and we know Swabek is going to do it the right way, no matter what his assignment,” Schnellenberger said. “He may not make anything happen when he runs out of blocking, but he’ll get whatever is provided by the blocks.”

At halfback, Ware and Smith are Mr. Inside and Mr. Outside, respectively, while Schnellenberger said Lipsey “can do it all.”

However, the combined rushing and pass receiving total of 806 yards by all six is just

U of L to use a patchwork backfield

Continued from Page D 1

11 yards more than Gardner has accounted for. And Gardner’s yardage would be even higher if he hadn’t sat out all but a quarter against Virginia with the shoulder injury.

“If Carwell doesn’t play, we lose not only a solid performer who gains a lot of yards and has a major impact for us but also a kid the other players look up to,” Schnellenberger said. “We’re certainly a better football team with him healthy.”

The running attack is suffering anyway. In the past three games the Cards have produced only 228 yards in 112 attempts for a measer 2 yards per carry.

U of L has some other players on the injured list. Offensive tackle Jerry Crafts has a sprained big toe that prevented him from starting against Virginia; offensive guard Mike McKinney suffered a hip pointer, and Schnellenberger said quarterback Browning Nagle has bruises on his throwing arm, knee and ribs. All are probable for Western (6-3).

“We’re very beat up, and that’s a major concern,” Schnellenberger said.

Schnellenberger has seen the Cards (3-4) lose four of five games after a 2-0 start.

“It’s very important for us to get back on the right track and not let the thing go down to the last play and have a dramatic win or a devas-

...
Schnellenberger: Cards must put Tops away early

By TED M. NATT JR.
Associated Press Writer

LOUISVILLE, Ky. (AP) — Louisville coach Howard Schnellenberger says he's in no position to motivate his football team, even though it has lost three straight games on the final play.

"I can speak to them from the heart... but by and large the football team establishes its own momentum and enthusiasm," Schnellenberger said Tuesday at his weekly news conference.

And "Louisville (3-4) hopes to reverse its losing trend by putting Western Kentucky (6-3) away early in Saturday's game at Cardinal Stadium."

"We can't let it go down to the last play," said Schnellenberger, referring to consecutive losses to Southern Mississippi, Tulsa and Virginia.

A Hail Mary pass lifted Southern Mississippi to victory three weeks ago, two Louisville players got their hands on a Browning Nagle pass in the end zone but couldn't hold on at Tulsa the next week and Virginia drilled a 37-yard field goal last Saturday.

Schnellenberger said the tough losses have his players upset with themselves and angry at the situation.

"You can either sit there and suck your thumb or you can get angry," he said. "Fortunately, I don't think any of them are sucking their thumbs."

But some are nursing injuries. Fullback Carwell Gardner, the team's main offensive threat, will probably miss the Western game because of a severely bruised right shoulder.

"Gardner, the team's leading rusher and receiver, suffered the injury in the first quarter of the Virginia game. A tackle drove the shoulder into the ground at the end of a 46-yard pass play and, two plays later, the same thing happened at the end of a short run."

"He knew he couldn't play after that, even though he wanted to," said Ron Steiner, an administrative assistant to Schnellenberger. "Any time he's hit, it hurts badly."" Gardner, a senior transfer from Kentucky who used to play defensive end, has gained 421 yards on 95 carries, caught 31 passes for 574 yards and even returned three kickoffs for 111 yards this year.

"His running, catching and blocking has been solid," Schnellenberger said. "Obviously we're a better football team with him than without him. We're losing a kid the others look up to."

Schnellenberger said fifth-year senior Craig Swabek, a solid but unspectacular performer, will likely start against Western and be backed up by juniors Pete Bynm and Bobby Hall.

"All of them will play. We'll put them in where we feel they can do the most good," the coach said. "Hall is a good blocker, Bynm is a good pass receiver and runner and Swabek will do it right whatever the chore."

Schnellenberger said several other starters are battered and bruised, including Nagle, offensive tackle Jerry Crafts and offensive guard Mike McKinney.

"We are a very beat up team and that's a major concern," Schnellenberger said. "But all in all, I think most of them are probable for the Western game except Carwell, who is doubtful."
WKU offense putting together big numbers

By JIM TERHUNE
Staff Writer

Quarterback Mark Marsh didn't suddenly dress himself in a Dan Marino suit. Tailback Don Smith didn't suddenly find an extra pair of Herschel Walker legs.

Western Kentucky University football coach Jack Harbaugh doesn't rant as he discusses a once-confused and inexperienced offensive line that has borrowed two players from the defense and unified. But, for whatever reasons, the offense has become an astounding force against its 70-scholarship Division I-AA brethren the last three games. The problem is Western (6-3) does not square off with I-AA Saturday. It visits 95-scholarship I-ALouisville.

"We hear so much about I-AA vs. I-A," Harbaugh said. "We've got some good players and so do they. It's 95/70 in scholarships, which I guess means they have more good players."

"I like our players, and we'll go up and be competitive. I enjoy it here at Western. So they happen to be Division I-A. So be it. We look forward to lining up with them."

"All I can say," said fifth-year tight end Robert Coates, "is that they'll be there and we'll be there and the best team will probably win. We both have pretty good teams."

U of L is 3-4 with four losses in the past five games to West Virginia, Southern Mississippi, Tulsa and Virginia. But Western's three-game assault hasn't come against lightweights, either.

It was 3-3 and averaging 20.2 points (10.3 on the road) when it prepared to meet Southwest Missouri, 6-0 and ranked fourth in I-AA, Oct. 14. It won 42-33 after

See WKU OFFENSE PAGE 5, col. 1, this section
WKU offense has come alive

Continued from Page E1

trailing 17-0 and 27-14.

On Oct. 21 it faced Tennessee Tech, which was 3-2 and coming off a 21-20 loss to Eastern Kentucky. Western won 61-14 with 573 yards of total offense, two off the school record.

Last Saturday it went to Youngstown State. Against the division's No. 11 team, one with a five-game win streak and a defense that hadn't allowed a touchdown in 10 quarters, the Hilltoppers won 41-38, rallying from 17-7 and 31-21 deficits.

"Being able to play from behind was impressive," Harbaugh said. "We got three points off an interception and seven off a punt return, but being able to put 31 on the board ourselves was good. Being able to move the ball on the final drive was, too."

Coates, who had been most of Western's meager offense the first six games with 21 catches for 262 yards (he now has 27 for 349), said there had been "no big adjustments."

"We're just executing better," he said. "You can enjoy (the big numbers), but you'd better work harder in practice so you can improve them the next week."

No. 3 tailback Herb Davts had three carries for 18 yards in the final 56-yard march to the winning field goal against Youngstown. It gave Western 245 yards from the tailback spot for the game and left folks with these dynamite figures to ponder:

Smith rushed for an average of 74.5 yards his first six games, including one when he was in for only one series. The last three he's averaged 149.7. Marsh, playing in four of the first six (he missed two with a sprained ankle), went from a 34.2 percent completion rate to 82.2 the past three.

The unit has averaged 174.2 more yards of total offense the last three games than the first six, 8.5 more first downs and 27.8 more points.

Smith now is only 104 yards from being only the third Western runner ever to get 1,000 in a season.

Western's 144 points are the most ever scored in a three-game span in its 71-year history.

If Western scores 22 against U of L, it will equal the most points in a four-game span, assembled by Jimmy Pelix's first club in 1968. That could be difficult.

U of L has beaten Western six straight times by an average of 20.5 points. Western's last triumph came in 1975, when its NCAA Division II runner-up squad won 21-17. U of L leads the series only 16-12, though.

Coates has played against Louisville three times — in 1983, '86 and '88. "They had good teams and carried themselves respectfully," he said. "They capitalized on our mistakes and their execution beat us."

Will this time be different? "We'll have to be in a good mental state, focused and concentrated, then we'll just go play and see," he said.

Western's defense, a veteran group expected to carry the team throughout the season, has been a surprise in another direction. Youngstown stung it for 31 points.

"Our defense has become strange," Harbaugh said. "It's about as good as it can be for a series, then it looks like it's never played the game. Youngstown threw one obvious pass deep flat over three-deep coverage. It was like they were on another wave length. Scary.
We're not getting that consistency."

But oh, my, the offense.

"The best thing is that the character of our team has been to battle back," Harbaugh said. "But I don't want to be a coach where you have to outscore them every week. That's not my nature and not my background."
To Harbaugh, U of Louisville Pride

COACH JACK Harbaugh (left) tells his Western Kentucky University football team to keep Saturday's game against the University of Louisville in proper perspective. Western (6-3) is on a three-game winning streak, and Louisville (3-4) is on a three-game losing streak into the battle of I-65 at Cardinal Stadium. Western hasn't beaten Louisville since 1975.
U of L just another foe

By JOE MEDLEY
Daily News Sports Editor

What a difference a new coach makes.

When Dave Roberts coached Western Kentucky University's football team, he took a colorful approach to big games. On the way to Georgia Southern two seasons ago, Roberts stopped the team bus to poor a red liquid into Georgia Southern coach. Irk Russell's favorite stream.

Roberts headed south to Northeast Louisiana last winter, and new coach Jack Harbaugh is taking a different approach to Saturday's 3 p.m. CDT game against the University of Louisville at Cardinal Stadium.

"It's just another game on our schedule," Harbaugh said. "We're not approaching this game any differently than we would approach any other game.

"Our preparation is the same. We're not changing anything in our offense. We're not having anything above the usual pep talks. Nothing like that."

One can see the difference Harbaugh has made this season. Western won during the last two seasons on raw talent Roberts wooed to the Hill. The Hilltoppers win this year with good talent and better grasp of the intangibles.

It's something in the way Western loses a near season-wrecking game at Tennessee- Chattanooga, showing little offensive punch, and then comes back to score 144 points in winning three straight games against tough teams.

Somewhere in his travels with the Bo Schembechlers of the world, Harbaugh learned how to teach winning. It looks like Western is learning.

There is a noticeable difference in Western's offense. The Hilltoppers have 896 rushing yards on 191 carries this season, despite missing two games with a shoulder injury.

Louisville looks to quarterback Browning Nagle, who has thrown for 1,658 yards and nine touchdowns. Leading rusher and receiver Carwell Gardner may miss the game with a severely bruised shoulder.

Tailback Dee Smith has accounted for 493 all-purpose yards in two games.

Western hasn't beaten Louisville since 1975, but Harbaugh only preaches winning.

"We approach every game with the attitude that we're going to win, and we think we will."

Staff Photo by Rob Hatchet

Louisville (3-4) is on a three-game losing streak coming into the battle of I-65 at Cardinal Stadium. Western hasn't beaten the Cardinals since 1975.
Continued from Page B1

...paying any attention to Western's Division I-AA status or the fact that the Hilltoppers haven't beaten U of L since 1975, losing six straight.

"When you start looking at teams and saying they're I-A or AA you're just getting caught up in a game you're not going to win," Douglas said.

Nagle said he sees little difference on film between Western and Tulsa, which defeated the Cards 31-24 two weeks ago.

"Western has great size, good speed and they're extremely aggressive," Nagle said. "They'll taunt you and talk to you, but they play hard. I think it's going to be another great game to watch."

Excitement is certainly one factor that hasn't been missing from U of L's repertoire lately.

The Cards' last home appearance was on Oct. 14, when a last-second, 16-10 loss to Southern Mississippi on a 79-yard deflected touchdown pass started a string of bad breaks that continued at Tulsa and Virginia.

After falling behind 21-0, the Cards had a chance to pull out a win against Tulsa, but a possible touchdown pass glanced off tight end Chad Fortune's chin in the end zone as time expired. Last week Virginia kicked a 37-yard field goal at the gun to beat U of L 16-15.

Western coach Jim Harbaugh said he's amazed at the bizarre twists of fate that have befallen the Cards.

"You can go through a whole career and not see some of the things that happened to them," he said. "The circumstances they've been involved in just blows your mind. It shows you how cruel football can be. I actually feel bad for them."

But not too badly.

"Hopefully, there's something left that hasn't happened to them yet that will happen for us," he said.

Western comes to Cardinal Stadium with one of the nation's hottest offenses, having averaged 461.7 yards' total offense and 48 points in its past three games.

Tailback Don Smith is the Topper's biggest threat, with 886 yards rushing and seven touchdowns. Quarterback Mark Marsh has an astronomical 177.7 pass efficiency rating for the past three games and has completed 41 of 83 passes overall for 755 yards and eight TDs.

"I think Western is better than they were a year ago," Schellenberger said. "They were tied to the passing game and won or lost with their quarterbacks and receivers. This year they're playing it closer to the vest. They're more physical and more fundamentally sound."

Harbaugh said he thinks Western can compete with U of L despite the Cards' I-A, 95-scholarship status opposed to the I-AA Topper's 70.

"We have some very, very good players here," Harbaugh said.

U of L may have the services of fullback Carwell Gardner on a limited basis despite a shoulder injury suffered against Virginia that was expected to sideline him today. Gardner has accounted for 906 all-purpose yards and is far and away the Cards' leading rusher. Earlier in the week he was believed to be suffering from a separated right shoulder, but further examinations showed he has a severe bruise instead.

This will mark the first and last appearance in Cardinal Stadium for standout halfback Dee Smith, who has accounted for 31 percent of the Cards' total offense since becoming eligible. Smith has gained 228 of U of L's 741 rushing and passing yards in the past two games.
The University of Louisville football team sent three weeks of frustration crashing down on outmanned Western Kentucky yesterday at Cardinal Stadium.

Losers of three straight games in the final seconds, the Cardinals put Western away early and romped to a 55-7 victory before a crowd of 36,126 that included Kentucky Gov. Wallace Wilkinson.

"We showed them who's boss," said U of L halfback Dee Smith.

All in all, it was about what one would expect when Division I-A — Louisville — meets I-AA as U of L dominated from wire-to-wire in a rip-roaring home finale. Nevertheless, the extent of the carnage surprised the winners.

"I expected to win, but not 55-7," said fullback Carwell Gardner, who caught two touchdown passes despite playing with a severely bruised right shoulder. "I thought they'd come out and play us tougher than they did. At first it was tooth to tooth, but then it seemed like they gave up."

It was the Cards' biggest points explosion since they blasted Marshall 56-0 on Oct. 29, 1977 — a span of 132 games.

Western actually led 7-3 on Anthony Green's 90-yard kickoff return. But the...
Western Kentucky's Jerome Martin took aim on Louisville's Dee Smith yesterday at Cardinal Stadium. Smith scored once on a 4-yard run.

U of L's 55-7 romp even surprises Cardinals

Continued from Page C1

small cushion didn't last long: by halftime U of L was in command 26-7 and the second half was strictly no contest.

NEXT FOR U OF L

Opponent: Memphis State.
Time/date: 2:30 p.m. Saturday.
Site: Memphis, Tenn.

U of L suffered another blow on its next possession when it drove to Western's 1 only to have halfback Latrell Ware fumble as he tried to dive over the line. The ball was recovered by the Tigers before heading for the shower.

Yesterday's summary

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FIRST QUARTER

Louisville: 29 FG, 10:19 left: Driver 11
Western Kentucky's Jerome Martin took aim on Louisville's Dee Smith yesterday at Cardinal Stadium. Smith scored once on a 4-yard run.

U of L's 55-7 romp even surprises Cardinals

Continued from Page 1 C-1

...small cushion didn’t last long; by halftime U of L was in command 26-0, and the second half was strictly no contest.

"It was one of those days when most everything went well for us," U of L coach Howard Schnellenberger said. "We made very few mental errors, either offensively or defensively.

"It wasn’t an electrically-charged game, but after we’ve been through I’d rather have a bland ol’ game like this."

Quarterback Browning Nagle and an aggressive defense sparked the rout that boosted U of L’s record to 4-1 while dropping Western to 6-4.

Nagle completed 16 of 22 passes for 150 yards and a record-tying five touchdowns in about 21/4 quarters. With TD tosses to Anthony Cummings, Fred Jones and the pair to Gardner, Nagle for the second time this season matched a school record shared by six others.

He left the game with 6:07 remaining and U of L ahead 41-7. He replaced by freshman Jeff Proctor, who led another touchdown pass — the first of his college career.

"After the last three weeks, a win like this was just a tremendous uplift for the whole team," said Nagle, who also threw four TD passes in an opening 28-21 win at Wyoming. "Everybody really needed this."

So U of L expanded its lead as a result of the Cards’ dominance that they never had to pant and compiled a staggering 37-3 advantage in first downs. Western, which had averaged 416.7 yards total offense in its last three games, managed a mere 64 yesterday while 11 of L rolled up 580.

"Louisville did a great job," Western coach Jack Haarbaugh said. "It was convincing, it was thorough and it was very impressive from our side. It’s just too bad for us that they put it all together; I never dreamed it would be this bad.

U of L dominated from the outset, although the scoreboard didn’t begin to reflect it until the second quarter.

In the first quarter, the Cards outgained their visitors 150 yards to 17 and held a 12-1 advantage in first downs. Yet they didn’t lead until the final minute of the period.

U of L drove to the Western 4 on its first possession, but had to settle for a 29-yard field goal by Ron Bell after Gardner lost 8 yards on two carries and Nagle threw an incomplete pass.

Then on the ensuing kickoff, Green stunned the Cards with his touchdown return. The senior wide receiver from Dallas caught a short pass on the right hash mark, angled to the right sideline and outraced defensive end David Moyler to the end zone.

"That was really a shock," Gardner said. "I thought, ‘Uh-oh, it’s going to be a long game.’"

It wasn’t Green’s longest kickoff return — he had a 97-yarder earlier this season against Southwest Missouri — but it ranked as a milestone of another sort. It was the first kickoff return for a TD by a Louisville opponent since Oct. 16, 1976, when Northeast Louisiana’s Harvey Johnson also ran one back 90 yards.

But Green was in no mood to chat about his feat afterwards. "I told the coach before the game that I’d run one back and I did," Green said before heading for the shower.

U of L suffered another blow on its next possession when it drove to Western’s 1 only to have halfback Michael Ware fumble as he tried to dive over the line. The ball was recovered by Western’s Jeff Adkins.

But that was the Hilltoppers’ last gasp as U of L took firm control of the game by scoring on its next three possessions.

"I knew if we played hard we could have this type of outcome," defensive end Mike Flores said. "Of course, we didn’t expect to score 55, but we did expect to give them a lot of trouble and shut them down.

Flanker Anthony Cummings provided the Cards with their go-ahead TD on a 13-yard pass from Nagle with 35 seconds left in the quarter.

Before intermission Nagle also threw a 6-yard TD pass to Gardner and a 21-yarder to Fred Jones; and U of L added a safety when Ray Buchanan blocked a punt through the end zone.

After first Gardner with a 25-yard TD pass early in the third quarter, and cornerback John Gainey recovered a fumble to set up a 35-yard field goal by Ron Bell, Nagle, Gardner 21 yard pass from Nagle.

Gardner with a 26-yard TD run with 3:07 remaining, and U of L added a safety when Ray Buchanan blocked a punt through the end zone.

Nagle went Gardner with a 25-yard TD pass early in the third quarter, and cornerback John Gainey recovered a fumble to set up a 35-yard field goal by Ron Bell.

After first Gardner with a 26-yard TD run with 3:07 remaining, and U of L added a safety when Ray Buchanan blocked a punt through the end zone.

Gardner with a 26-yard TD run with 3:07 remaining, and U of L added a safety when Ray Buchanan blocked a punt through the end zone.

Nagle sent Cummings, 13 pass from Nagle (Bell kick), 9:35. Drive: 8 plays, 78 yards. Key plays: Smith, 12 run, Nagle, 11 run.

SECOND QUARTER

Louisville — Gardner, 6 pass from Nagle (Bell kick), 0:24. Drive: 10 plays, 55 yards. Key plays: Swabek, 12 pass from Nagle; Nagle, 10 run on 4th-and-3. Louisville 10.

Western — Safety, Buchanan blocked punt through end zone, 6:00. Louisville 5.

Louisville — Cummings, 4 pass from Nagle (Bell kick), 2:29. Drive: 10 plays, 73 yards. Key plays: Lipsey, 27 pass from Nagle. WKU 16-yard penalty, roughing the passer.

THIRD QUARTER

Louisville — Gardner, 26 pass from Nagle (Nagle), 0:17. Drive: 4 plays, 55 yards. Key plays: Nagle, 10 pass from Nagle; Gardner, 12 pass from Nagle; Gardner, 8 pass from Nagle. Louisville 21.

Western — Stewart, 21 pass from Nagle (Bell kick), 0:28. Drive: 14 plays, 72 yards. Key plays: Lipsey, 5 run; Nagle, 10 run. Western 3-3.


FOURTH QUARTER

Louisville — Moyland, 26 pass from J. Bron (Lipsey). Drive: 4 plays, 52 yards. Key play: Lipsey, 10 run.

Team statistics

Western Ky. vs. Louisville

First downs 37 37
Rushings 267-yards 258-yards
Passing yards 10 313
Passes 15 25
Passes Complete 9-30 7-18
Punts 3 4
Penalties 2-30 2-30
Time possession 22:30 23:00

Individual statistics

Running

Western Ky. — Gardner 10-55, 1 TD. J. Bron 5-4-3, 3 TD. Lipsey 3-17, 1 TD. Moyland 1-10, 1 TD. Nagle 1-13, 3 TD.

Louisville — Williams 10-81, 1 TD. K. Broh 9-60, 1 TD. Proctor 8-23, 1 TD. Moyland 1-4, 1 TD.

PASSED:

Western Ky. — Gardner 9-17-1, 13 TDs. Bron 2-10, 6 TD.

Louisville — Smith 13-33-3, 5 TDs. W. Broh 2-21, 4 TDs. Moyland 0-3, 3 TDs. Proctor 1-6, 0 TD.

RECEIVING

Western Ky. — Gardner 2-39, 1 TD. Smith 3-21, 1 TD. K. Bron 2-26, 1 TD. Moyland 1-4, 1 TD. Moyland 1-10, 1 TD. Proctor 1-4, 1 TD.

Louisville — Williams 8-22, 1 TD. Smith 1-10, 1 TD. Depue 2-3, 1 TD. Moyland 2-27, 1 TD. Moyland 1-3, 1 TD.

Attendance 34,128.
Western pays heavy price for get-well Cards

By RUSS BROWN
Staff Writer

Never mind that the victim was a clearly overmatched, Division I-AA team, the University of Louisville's 35-7 rout of Western Kentucky Saturday could provide just the spark for a strong finish.

"I think one of the biggest things is that as coach Howard Schnellenberger put it, it was a dose of much-needed snake-bite antidote," Gardner said. "It was real important to us to win, and win decisively. I think it will be the start of a winning season for us."

Gardner, who had suffered a severely bruised right shoulder against Virginia the previous weekend, said he had planned on sitting out the game until Schnellenberger called him into his office Friday for a pep talk.

"I was looking forward to resting and getting ready for Memphis," Gardner said. "I've never really had to play with pain before. But coach Schnellenberger pumped me up and told me I should try to play, and I'm glad I did."

Gardner caught two touchdown passes and gained 29 yards rushing to close in on 1,000 all-purpose yards for the season (he has 980). Quarterback Browning Nagle called the easy victory a "great motivator for the rest of the season."

"We always found a way to lose, and we finally won big," Nagle said. "This is just a tremendous uplift for everybody. We played solid, strong, consistent and we executed well. It's something to build on."

Nagle tied his own record — also shared by six others — with four touchdown passes and probably would have broken it if Schnellenberger had left him in a while longer. As it was, Nagle's afternoon ended just seven minutes into the second half.

"Yeah, I would have loved to have gotten the record," he said. "But I have to look at it teamwise. If I go down we have to have someone else ready. There are a lot of games left and the opportunity may come around again."

The lopsided triumph gave Schnellenberger a chance to send in freshman Jeff Brohm for his first extended action of the season, and the coach liked what he saw.

"I've never really had to play with pain before. But coach Schnellenberger pumped me up and told me I should try to play, and I'm glad I did."

"Gardner caught two touchdown passes and gained 29 yards rushing to close in on 1,000 all-purpose yards for the season (he has 980). Quarterback Browning Nagle called the easy victory a "great motivator for the rest of the season."

But it would be a beauty. He threw it right on the money."

Gardner also played a role in a completion that Schnellenberger would just as soon had not happened. It came on the Cards' last series with sophomore Erik Watts at quarterback. Schnellenberger wanted U of L to run out the clock, but Watts threw a sideline takeoff pass to Brohm for a 40-yard gain.

"I had instructed them to run the ball, but Erik picked up a blitz," Schnellenberger said. "And, in his fervor to gain favor with his position coach he called a takeoff. I know why he did it; he figured it would be his only chance. It was a beauty. He threw it right on the money."

As it turned out U of L didn't score on the drive, stalling at the Western 14.

U of L established a school record for attendance in a season, drawing an average of 37,511 fans for four home games. The old mark was 27,663, set in 1985.
Former Feix assistants to coach in playoffs tonight

By DARYLL S. CROUCH

Daily News Sports Writer

Good people tend to rub off on their employees, and Jimmy Feix rubbed off on his assistants in a big way.

Feix, who guided the Western Kentucky University football team to six Ohio Valley Conference titles and two NCAA Division I-AA runner-up finishes from 1968-1983 and currently serves as director of athletics, has seven former assistants gunning for titles on the high school and professional level.

Feix's first wave of coaches went on to the professional ranks and are enjoying successful careers. The most notable is Houston Oilers head coach Jerry Glanville. Romeo Crennel, the defensive line coach of the New York Giants, coached under Feix from 1971-74. Joe Bugel, currently coaching with the Washington Redskins, leaned under Feix from 1964-68.

Clarence Baker, Sam Clark, Jim Tinius, Larry and Butch Gilbert, along with Larry Walker and Bill Hape, all are guiding high school teams into playoff action tonight.

Baker, an assistant under Feix from 1975-83, came to Western to replace Joe Bugel, who now is a defensive line coach for the Redskins. Baker is preparing Class 2A, Region One, District Two champion Logan County for tonight's first-round playoff match against Fort Knox.

"I could envision Coach Baker making a success of it," Feix said. "All of my coaches have done so well. It really gives me a quiet kind of pride. It's a great feeling inside. I may not have been able to coach a lick, but I sure could pick good people to help me."

Clark, a Tompkinsville native, coached the offensive backfield under Feix from 1973-83. Clark took over the Monroe County football program four years ago when the county and city schools combined.

Continued On Page 5
Column 3, This Section
Western must beat 
EIU to gain berth 
in I-AA playoffs

By JOB MEDLEY
Daily News Sports Editor

It’s do or die for Western Kentucky University’s football team.

For the Hilltoppers to stay alive in the Division I-AA playoff picture, they must beat Eastern Illinois in Saturday’s 7 p.m. game in Smith Stadium.

Western comes into the contest at 6-4, and a win would put the Hilltoppers on the playoff bubble. Eastern Illinois is 7-3.

Western is coming off a devastating 55-7 loss to Louisville two weeks ago and an open date last week.

Should Western win Saturday, there are several playoff possibilities. Western could end up playing Eastern Kentucky or Middle Tennessee on the road. Western lost 24-3 at Eastern and beat Middle Tennessee 31-16 at home this season.

The playoff pairings will be announced at 2 p.m. Sunday.

“I really have no idea what’s going to happen,” Western coach Jack Harbaugh said. “I haven’t been on this level long enough to know that much about how a loss to a Division I team (Louisville) will affect us.

“I just know we need to show up and beat Eastern Illinois. The rest is out of our control. I never worry about things we can’t control.”

Western athletics director Jimmy Feix serves on the Central Region Advisory Committee that will try to get as many of its teams as possible in the playoffs. The chairman of the committee, retired Indiana State Athletics director Bernard Cooper, also heads the national committee.

“The indication I’m getting is that if we win, we’re in. But nothing is set in stone,” Feix said. “We won’t bid on a home game in the first round, but we may bid on a second-round game if we get that far.”

Coached by Bob Spoo, Eastern Illinois is coming off of a 16-15 win over Southwest Missouri.

EIU was ranked fourth in the nation in scoring defense at one point this season, and they’re giving up 12.7 points a game.

“They were very impressive in that win over Southwest Missouri,” Harbaugh said. “They play sound, rugged football and are a very tough team to score on.”

Leading that defensive attack is defensive back Tim Lance with 114 tackles. Linebacker Jeff Mills has 96 stops.

Offensively, EIU junior quarterback Eric Arnold has completed 178 of 304 passes for 2,125 yards and 12 touchdowns. His favorite target is wide receiver Jason Cook, who has 36 catches for 726 yards and seven scores.

Running back Jamie Jones averages 81 yards a game, and Daryl Holcombe is second in the nation in kick returns with a 29.1-yard average.
Win or else for Eastern, Western?

By JIM TERHUNE
Staff Writer

Can Eastern Kentucky University avoid ending the season with a third straight loss?

Can Western Kentucky knock off a fourth ranked opponent?

Almost surely in Western's case, and possibly in Eastern's; the answers to those questions will determine whether they will grab two of the eight open berths in the NCAA Division I-AA football playoffs.

Eastern, whose record has slipped from 8-0 to 8-2 and, ranking from No. 1 to No. 10, will be at Morehead State (5-5) at 1:30 p.m. EST today.

Western, 6-4, but a club that whipped Middle Tennessee States (No. 12), Southwest Missouri State (No. 9) and Youngstown State (No. 17), will close at home at 8 EST against No. 13 Eastern Illinois (7-3).

"It's a playoff game within a playoff game," Western coach Jack Harbaugh said, 'figuring that the winner goes and the loser doesn't.'

"You never know what will get you in," Eastern coach Roy Kidd said, "but I think if we beat Morehead, there'll be no doubt."

Eight teams already have been named by the committee that will complete the field tomorrow. Six are assured of being hosts of first-round games: No. 1 Georgia Southern (10-0), No. 2 Furman (9-1), No. 3 Stephen F. Austin (9-1), No. 5 Montana (9-2), Southwest Missouri (8-2) and Middle Tennessee (7-3) and the Ohio Valley Conference champion.

Eastern is Morehead's biggest rival. "You turn the film on and you see them all week as the fumbles and taking advantage of them," Baldridge said. "The biggest thing is to make them earn everything they get."

Eastern tailback Markus Thomas ranks third in I-AA rushing with 138.6 yards a game.

"He's not one of the strongest ones we've had before," Baldridge said. "But he's the best I've ever seen at going down the sideline on a tightrope. The defense usually uses the sideline as a 12th man. He uses it for offense."

Morehead features quarterback Chris Swartz, who's broken most of Phil Simms' school passing records, and tailback Jerome Williams, who is second in the OVC in rushing at 83 yards a game and first in receptions with 43 for 412 yards.

Morehead inside linebackers Doug Bowell (18 solo tackles, one fumble recovery) and Jim Jackson (11 solos, two tackles for loss while playing with a broken hand) had big games in a 13-10 win over Division I-A foe Cincinnati last week.

"First, we've got to get our heads up from a loss (20-19 at Central Florida last week) that really hurt us," Kidd said. "And I want our kids to keep their composure. There were so many penalties in the game last year it was unreal."

Eastern had 21 infractions for 201 yards and Morehead 15 for 170 in Eastern's 59-17 victory last year.

Eastern Illinois-Western:

After a week off to heal, Western may get three former starters back. All bodies are welcome against a team with the nation's fifth-best defense against scoring (12.7 points a game) and 12th-best total defense (285.5 yards).

Western offensive tackles Chad Wallace and Harvey Sloniker began working out after arthroscopic knee surgery; Wallace has missed two games and Sloniker five. Defensive end Raji Gordon (four tackles for loss and a quarterback sack) will start after being sidelined three games with a leg injury.

"The tackles are iffy," Harbaugh said. "They won't start but could play."

Eastern Illinois nipped Southwest Missouri 16-15 last week to put it in position to make the playoffs. Four weeks earlier Western had outgained Southwest Missouri 42-33.

Western has set a school record with seven returns for TDs (three kickoffs, two punts, two interceptions).

Austin Peay-Murray State:

Down emotionally after a loss to Middle Tennessee that killed its playoff hopes, Murray (5-4-1) won't have to recover too much to hang Austin Peay (9-10) a winless season.
Tops' playoff hopes fade in 10

By DARYL S. CROUCH
Daily News Sports Editor

For the first time this season, the Western Kentucky University football team learned that the "House of Pain" works both ways.

The Hilltoppers ended their season at 6-5 in Smith Stadium on Saturday, in agony knowing their Division I-AA playoff hopes were dashed in a 10-7 loss to Eastern Illinois.

The Panthers' win ended Western's home winning streak at 13 games. Western hadn't lost at home this season.

Eastern Illinois got a one-yard touchdown run by Broc Montgomery with 4:16 left in the fourth quarter, and the Panthers (8-3) held on for the win.

Western was manhandled by the Panthers' defensive line and was held to 257 yards total offense. Quarterback Mark Marsh was sacked eight times in his final game.

Western's lone offensive highlight was Don Smith's 89-yard rushing game. Smith finished the season 1,005 yards, becoming the third Hilltopper in history to rush for 1,000 yards.

The Hilltopper defense caused some pain of its own. Western held Eastern Illinois to 11 first downs and harassed Panther quarterback Eric Arnold into 16 of 42 passing for 113 yards and two interceptions.

"Our coaches told us about this place all week," Arnold said. "We thought it was going to be rough here, and it was. They have a hard-hitting team, and they got some good sticks on us early.

"We were intimidated. It just wasn't a good night for our skill people. But obviously, our defense wasn't scared."

Jerome Martin led the Western defense with seven solo tackles, three sacks and and two interceptions. Eddie Godfrey finished with six tackles.

"We played as hard as we could," Godfrey said. "I think this team has matured this season, but we just couldn't stop them at the end. It sure hurts not going to the playoffs.

"Our job is to take the ball away from their offense. When our offense can't move the ball, we have to dictate field position and get the ball back."

Western got on the board first when Smith rolled in from four yards out with 4:06 left in the first quarter. Smith's run kept a five-play, 39-yard drive set up by Martin's recovery of a Terrence Hickman fumble.

The Panthers closed it to 7-3 on Ray D'Alexio's 32-yard field goal with 5:50 left in the second quarter.

Western coach Jack Harbaugh said Eastern Illinois' front four made the difference.

"I knew they were good, but I didn't know they were that good."

WESTERN'S DON Smith (36) is downed by a host of Eastern Illinois defenders on Saturday night in Smith Stadium. Smith became Western's third 1,000-yard rusher with an 89-yard game, giving him 1,005 yards for the season. Western fell 10-7 from consideration for a playoff...
Harbaugh said, "We weren't able to run the ball, and their defensive pressure made it awfully difficult for us to throw it."

Another problem for Western was the punting game. The Panthers' defensive line bothered Todd Davis into a 32-yard average on 12 attempts.

"Their pressure from the special teams hurt us," Harbaugh said. "They were able to keep us backed up."

Eastern Illinois' final scoring drive started at the Western 36-yard line, set up by a 15-yard punt return by Hickman. Arnold hit John Metzner with a 21-yard strike on the next play. Two plays later, Montgomery scored.

Western got the ball back with 4:16 left, and Marsh was sacked on two consecutive plays for a minus 11 yards. He missed Anthony Green on a long pass attempt on third down, and Davis had to punt.

Eastern Illinois got the ball back with 2:22 left and ran up the middle three times before punting to Western with 39 seconds left.

Marsh hit Green with a 25-yard gain to the Western 47, but the drive stalled their. Marsh was intercepted by Tim Lance on the game's final play.

"It was another emotional win for us," EIU coach Bob Spoo said. "It's something we've heard several times this year. It was a tremendous effort by our defense. The offense struggled some but wouldn't be denied when they had to come through."

Eastern Illinois 0
Western Kentucky 7

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**INDIVIDUAL STATISTICS**


**RECEIVING** - E. Illinois: Moore 5-37, Metzger 1-21, Jones 2-14, W. Kentucky: Green 8-69, Ebbins 3-34, Blaine 2-21.
Eastern Illinois scores late, trips WKU 10-7

By JULIUS KEY
Staff Writer

BOWLING GREEN, Ky. — Eastern Illinois' running back Broc Jones' 1-yard run with 4:16 remaining pulled out a come-from-behind 10-7 victory over Western Kentucky in NCAA Division I-AA football action last night.

Eastern Illinois' record improved to 8-3, while Western fell to 6-5.

The Panthers' winning score capped a 36-yard, four-play drive which was set up by Glen Puryear's 15-yard punt return. He had fumbled a first-half punt to set up Western's only score.

After the return, Panthers quarterback Eric Arnold hit John Metzger for a 21-yard gain to the Western 15-yard line. On the next play tailback Jamie Jones scammed 14 yards to the 1. Jones had 71 yards on 19 carries. A play later, Montgomery dived over.

The loss negated a strong defensive effort by the Hilltoppers, who held off several threats by the Panthers. Western's offense, after playing well in the first half, was unable to sustain a drive in the second half.

Neither team could do much for very long as mistakes dominated the first half, which ended with Western leading 7-3.

Western had chances to score more, but tailback Don Smith fumbled the ball away twice, and another drive ended with the Hilltoppers turning the ball over on downs at Eastern Illinois' 9-yard line.

Quarterback Mark Marsh was stopped for no gain on the fourth-down play in the first quarter, and Smith's second fumble came at the
Eastern Illinois (8-3) gained a Division I-AA playoff berth and eliminated Western Kentucky (6-5) from consideration with a 10-7 victory Saturday night in a non-conference college football game. The bids were announced yesterday.

Broc Montgomery's 1-yard touchdown plunge and a pass rush that caused nine quarterback sacks enabled the Panthers to end Western's home winning streak at 15 games.

Montgomery, who gained just 1 yard on three carries, scored with 14:16 left in the game, giving Eastern Illinois its first lead.

Western's defense had protected a 7-3 lead since the second quarter, but a short punt by Todd Davis and a 15-yard return by Terrance Hickman to the Hilltoppers' 36-yard line helped set up the winning score.

Hickman had fumbled a punt earlier in the game to set up Western's only score, a 4-yard TD run by tailback Don Smith.

"That first-half fumble was on my mind," Hickman said. "I wanted to redeem myself. I just didn't concentrate on that fumble."

Smith, who rushed for 89 yards on 23 carries, finished with 1,005 yards this season, becoming only the third Western player to gain 1,000 yards in a season.

But Smith fumbled the ball away twice — the second time at the Eastern Illinois 12 — and another Western drive ended when the Hilltoppers turned the ball over on downs at the Panthers' 9.

"Their front put tremendous pressure on us and we weren't able to protect our passer the way we needed to," Western coach Jack Hatbaugh said of the nine sacks of quarterback Mark Marsh.

**COLLEGE FOOTBALL**

**LSU 44, Mississippi State 20**: Tom Hodson passed for two touchdowns, Harvey Williams ran for two, and David Browdyke kicked field goals of 49, 50 and 48 yards to lead the host Tigers (6-7, 4-5), who damaged the bowl hopes of the Bulldogs (5-5, 1-5).

Hodson completed 12 of 21 passes for 208 yards. His touchdown passes were from 10 yards to Eddie Fuller in the first quarter and 55 yards to Tony Moss in the second quarter.

Williams' touchdown runs were from 6 yards in the second quarter and 3 yards in the third. Browdyke's three field goals extended his string of successful kicks to 17.
Western Kentucky University football coach Jack Harbaugh has a season under his belt. It's time to grade him.

Harbaugh's first season on the Hill had ups and downs, but the Hilltoppers were in the playoff hunt until the last play.

Since the end of a semester is nearing, let's give Harbaugh his grades.

Wins and loss, B minus

A 6-5 record borders on a 5-6 record, but the Hilltoppers played a murderous schedule with more road games than home games.

A 55-7 loss at Louisville was forgivable. So was a 24-3 loss at Eastern Kentucky. Few visitors leave Hanger Field with a win.

The only loss that's hard to forgive is the 19-7 loss at Tennessee Chattanooga. Western's offense sputtered, and the loss made every game afterward a must-win game from a playoff standpoint.

But after that, the Hilltoppers beat then fourth-ranked Southwest Missouri 42-33, Tennessee Tech 61-14 and Youngstown State 41-38.

Western came back from deep deficits to beat Southwest Missouri and Youngstown State.

The 10-7 season-ending loss to Eastern Illinois on Saturday was acceptable. EIU was ranked 18th in the country and had one of the best front lines in the game.

Player relations, B plus

One thing that was in bad need of repair was player-coach relations at Western, and Harbaugh did much in that area.

Former coach Dave Roberts was not popular among the players. Some players felt like Roberts broke promises and didn't exert much discipline.

Harbaugh was carried off the field more than once by his players, and the team rallied around him at times.

He introduced more discipline. Several players were either suspended or kicked of the team long before the season started for not seeing things Harbaugh's way.

He demanded class attendance, and he demanded his players to be on time, all of the time. He consulted the team when new rules were introduced.

The only questionable handling of a discipline matter came when he allowed Russell Foster to practice while Foster was facing second-degree assault charges. But Foster got a no true bill, meaning there wasn't enough evidence to bring the case to trial.

Public relations, A (there's no higher grade)

Is there a more personable coach in the business?

Public relations is one of the most important duties of the modern collegiate coach, and Harbaugh has done a good job.

At halftime of Western's basketball exhibition in Diddle Arena on Thursday, he presented a trophy to the Toy Bowl champion Falcons and made sure to give the kids a high-five.

Comments

The Harbaugh era should be a good one for Western and its fans. Fans can expect winning teams and exciting games. They can also expect that the football program is in the hands of a winner.
Writer says WKU finale mishandled

Editor, Daily News:

This letter is written for the sole purpose of expressing my dismay regarding the handling of Western Kentucky's final home football game of 1989 against Eastern Illinois.

Now I have no complaints, with the grit and vigor with which the Toppers played. It was a hard fought game, and both teams should be commended.

But why on earth the game was played at night is utterly beyond me. The forecast had been for cold weather for that weekend so it wasn't like we didn't know it was coming and yet it still remained a night game.

Although I was happy to see lights go up at LT Smith Stadium and I personally enjoy night games, a level of discretion should also be utilized. It is totally senseless to subject the players and fans to such poor conditions when you don't have to. As a result of this poor judgment, a paltry crowd of only 4,000 people showed up, and most of them either left early or froze in their seats.

Come on athletic department, you would change a game time for television, why not do it for the well being of the players and fan (and your budget)?

Dan Rudloff
Bowling Green
Western can afford China trip and football

D.N., 12-5-7

Editor, Daily News:

No distortion of the truth is beyond the power of caustic argument, which simply means that one fisherman, if he's devious enough and talks fast enough, can convince his body that the boat isn't sinking. There's just too much water in the lake so it's not necessary to bail.

Apparently there's a panel at Western trying to find ways to save money and two or three members of a sub-committee have suggested that the football program be dropped. It's a reasonable and practical idea which wouldn't cause a lot of agony, but the idea two chances, slim and none. There's a fairly political gambit which says that if you want to kill a good idea, poll the opposition which will grow as the poll continues. In this case ask for an opinion from the old grads, the boosters club, anyone who works in the program, the people who sell the red towels and pompons.

The ultimate irony occurs when the athletic director gives his opinion on TV. Asking him is like asking at the service station if your car need a new fanbelt.

Oh well, if Western can afford to send the president to China it can afford a football program.

John Daly
Bowling Green, KY 42101
Players have previous charges

By WAYNE VAUGHN 10-3-89
Daily News Special Writer

Two Western Kentucky University football players charged Monday with assault previously have been charged in similar incidents.

Anthony J. Cooper, 21, a junior from Miami was arrested Sept. 11 by campus police on a charge of fourth-degree assault. Police alleged he struck Christopher D. Lightsey on Sept. 8 on campus.

A pre-trial hearing is scheduled for Oct. 17 before Warren District Judge Tom Lewis on that charge.

Russell N. Foster, 24, a senior from Orlando, Fla., previously has been arrested twice — Oct. 10, 1986, and Dec. 12, 1987 — on fourth-degree assault charges. Police alleged in both cases Foster struck two people in the face. Foster was put on pre-trial diversion in both instances.

One charge was dismissed after Foster successfully completed his year pre-trial diversion. Court records did not show a dismissal of the second charge although the one-year period of pre-trial diversion ended in February.

The players were arrested Monday on charges of second-degree assault following an early morning fight Sunday at Lampkin Park.

Police alleged Foster struck James Edward Logan III, in the face and that Cooper threw a metal chair, which hit Damon T. Bradley, 21, of Richmond in the face.

The fight between the players and fraternity members started early Sunday at the Jaycee Pavillion where the Kappa Alpha Psi fraternity was having a party to conclude a weekend regional leadership conference.

Players

Foster and Cooper were jailed Monday afternoon at Warren County Regional Jail, but were released on $5,000 surety bond each.

Foster, a linebacker, led the Hilltoppers in tackles last season. He helped Western hold Austin Peay to 36 yards in total offense in the Hilltoppers' 49-0 victory on Saturday. Cooper is a defensive tackle who was declared academically ineligible before the season.

Coach Jack Harbaugh instituted two new policies to prevent similar incidents.

"Our guys were involved, but to what extent I don't know," Harbaugh said. "We are going to get involved and stay on top of this issue."

Harbaugh said before the arrests he had taken action to prevent any future incidents involving the football team.

"I met with the team Sunday," Harbaugh said. "I put players on probation and will probably wait until the court makes its decision.

They are better at handling this type of situation than us."

At Sunday's meeting Harbaugh implemented two new policies:

— Any member of the football team who goes to an off-campus party where alcohol is served will be removed from the team whether or not he is drinking.
— Any player on a football scholarship will not be allowed to be a member of a fraternity.

Asked to confirm how many players were put on probation and what that probation included Harbaugh said it was "team business" and he would not answer more questions about the incident.

— Daily News Staff Writer Lisa Jackson contributed to this article.