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UA12/2/1 Fall Sports Preview

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College Heights
Herald Fall sports

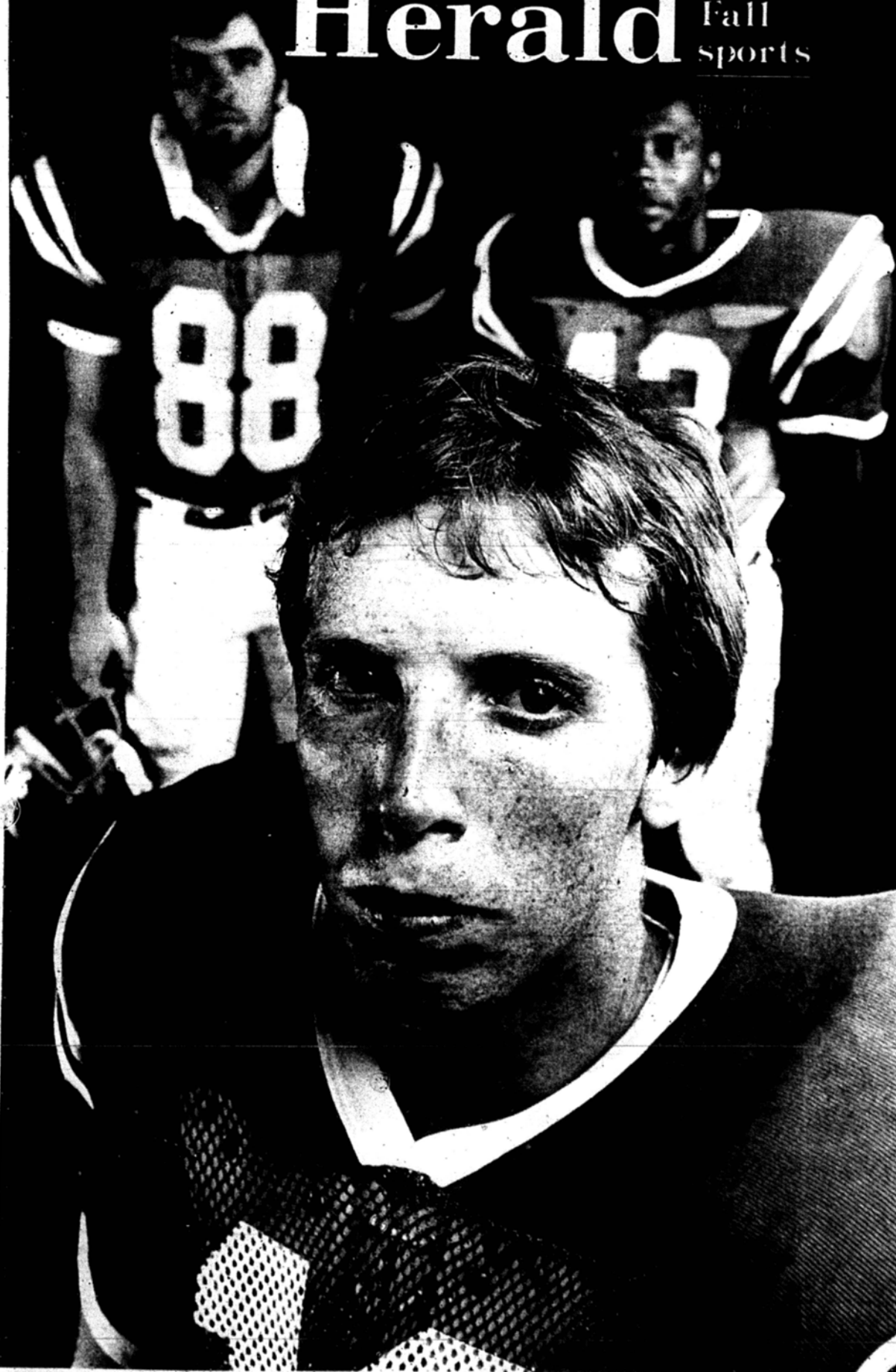


Photo by Todd Buchanan

Feix restrained in setting goals

By MARK HEATH

One year ago, coach Jimmy Feix said that his team had a goal for that season — a national championship.

That goal quickly faded with losses in the first two games. The revised goal was an Ohio Valley Conference championship.

Kentucky teams accomplished

Football

those goals, but not Western. Murray won the OVC title while Eastern claimed the NCAA Division I-A championship.

This year, a more realistic Feix finds his team picked by league coaches to finish third in the conference, despite having an experienced team. Defending champion Murray received the coaches' nod to repeat with Eastern expected to second.

In the pre-season all-conference selections, however, Western had six players selected to the honor squad, more than any other in the conference.

They are quarterback John Hall, tight end Ricky Gwinn, defensive end Tim Ford, line-backer Brad Todd, defensive back Barry Bumm and punter Ray Farmer.

The Hilltoppers return 37 lettermen from last year's 5-5 squad. Gone from that team, however, are all-conference players Eddie Preston and Carl Estelle, along with Chuck DeLacey and Carl Brazley.

This season Western will begin with two new opponents that, according to Feix, are more in Western's league. The Hilltoppers open with Evansville and Kentucky State instead of University of Tennessee at Chattanooga and Lamar.

Western lost its first two games last season by scores of 41-28 and 58-27. But, Feix said those losses weren't as bad as what accompanied them.

"If you start the season off like we did last year, it is difficult," Feix said. "The losses weren't as



Photo by Roger Sommer

The Hilltopper defense stops an attempt by Lamar to gain yards during last year's game, but the effort

bad as the physical condition we ended up in. Maybe even if we lose those first two, we won't get beat up quite as bad."

Health appears to be Feix's biggest concern. Last season the Hilltoppers lost Chuck DeLacey, Ford, Nate Jones and Barry Skaggs to injuries.

"We have been pleased with the way we are looking so far," Feix said, "mainly because Nate Jones is looking so good and we haven't had any major injuries."

Feix said he expects Western to have "a pretty good team, if we stay healthy. We are just awfully, awfully thin—even worse than last year."

The Hilltoppers will once again run a pro-set I offense, Feix said.

The key to that offense will be depth at the running back corps and quarterback.

Despite a current bout with tendinitis, two-time All OVC

quarterback Hall will start Sept. 6 against Evansville.

Hall, 6 feet, 185 pounds, could become the first quarterback to make the all-conference squad three times, if he is selected for post-season honors this year.

Other quarterbacks this year, include Marty Jagers, 6-0, 190 and Ralph Antone, 6-2, 195. Both saw limited action last season.

Feix said this year's offense will feature more strong runners,

failed to stop the 58-27 loss. Western will return this year with six pre-season all-conference players.

including Troy Snardon, 6-0, 205; Barry Skaggs, 5-10, 188; and Nate Jones, 5-10, 185.

"I expect us to be more of a physical, punishing-type offense," Feix said. "Don't expect us to be real wide open because we have got some real strong runners. It (offense) is not very deep, and that tends to emphasize a strong inside running game."

Other starters at offensive

positions will be Greg Gallas, 6-1, 225, at center; Pete Walters, 6-3, 225, and Mark Blackburn, 5-10, 215, at guards; and Steve Catlett, 6-1, 230, and Phil Rich, 6-4, 260, at tackles.

Tight end will be Gwinn, 6-2, 220, while Jerry Flippin, 5-8, 165, will play split end and Ron Hunter, 5-11, 185, will be at flanker.

Defensively, Western has a strong line, but almost no back-up, Feix said.

"Our front line defensive people are quality people," Feix said. "There is just not a whole lot of experience behind them."

Defensive starters are Tony Wells, 5-9, 196, nose tackle, and Donnie Evans, 6-4, 240, and Ford, 6-4, 245, at defensive ends. Linebackers will be Greg Barnes, 6-1, 195; Todd, 6-2, 215; Bryan

See TOPPERS Page 11, Column 1

Date	Team	Place
Sept. 6	Evansville	Here
Sept. 13	Kentucky State	Frankfort
Sept. 20	Akron	Akron
Sept. 27	Austin Peay	Here
Oct. 11	Youngstown	Here
Oct. 18	Tennessee Tech	Cookeville
Oct. 25	Eastern	Here
Nov. 1	Morehead	Morehead
Nov. 8	Middle Tenn.	Here
Nov. 22	Murray	Murray

Hut four: All-OVC quarterback ready for senior year

By KEVIN STEWART

In less than two months it will have been three years since John Hall took his first snap from center in his first starting varsity game as a Hilltopper.

For Hall, the initiation was forgettable, if not downright scary. Eastern's Hanger Field had an overflow crowd of more than 20,000 fans. The maroon-and-white clad Colonel fans were yelling for blood, Hilltopper blood, after the morning's homecoming festivities had left some in a "spirited" mood.

To make matters worse, the skinny freshman didn't know he was going to start, until just

before the game.

"It was kind of a freak situation," Hall recalled recently. "Doug Bartholomew (Western's starting quarterback) got a 102-degree temperature right before we were to play, and coach Feix came up to me and said, 'You can sink or swim.'"

"There was a big crowd there; it was the biggest crowd I'd ever played before in my life," Hall said, his voice getting louder. "I was scared. I didn't know nothing."

Hall's performance was mediocre, at best. He hit on eight of 28 passes in a 35-10 loss. But the experience was invaluable. Hall would start the year's last three

games — a move planned by Feix to help prepare Hall for his next three years at the helm.

Now the senior from Goodlettsville, Tenn., faces a season in which he could become one of the Ohio Valley Conference's and Western's greatest quarterbacks.

With All-OVC honors this season, Hall would become the first quarterback to gain that honor three times.

As as, Hilltopper he has a chance to break school records in career passing attempts, career pass completions, career passing yardage, career touchdown passes and career pass completion percentage.

In addition, he holds the school

record for most touchdown passes in a game with five, and he was named OVC Offensive Player of the Year last season after missing out on the honor by one vote the year before.

The list of records is impressive, but for Hall, they mean little compared to team success.

"Individual goals are something I've never really thought about," Hall said. "You just can't go out there and put your individual goals before your team."

In his two full years as quarterback, Hall has guided Western to 8-2 and 5-5 records. Injuries to several key players short-circuited a winning season

last year. But this year, barring injuries, could be a lot like Hall's sophomore campaign.

Hall was no stranger to records before he came to Western. In three years at quarterback for White House High, Hall led his team to records of 10-2, 9-2 and 12-1. Each team made the state's Class AA post-season play and reached the finals Hall's senior year. He was first-team all-state that year.

Football has always been Hall's first love.

"I played basketball two years in high school, but I'd always end up quitting to go back to football

See HALL

Page 4, Column 1

Fast company: OVC's balance impresses coaches

By MARK HEATH

Ohio Valley Conference football coaches seem to agree that whoever wins the conference race will have to beat some fast company.

Last season, the conference produced its first National Collegiate Athletic Association national champion, Eastern Kentucky took the Division I-AA honors.

This year, the conference has several veteran squads and a few dark horses which could produce an interesting fight for the title. "The level of competition is as great as I have ever seen it," Murray coach Mike Gottfried said. "Everybody has a shot. I wouldn't be surprised if anyone of the eight teams wins it. This could be the best race in OVC history. I really feel it's going to be a great race."

Gottfried's Racers won their first conference title in 28 years last season, and the Racers have been chosen by coaches as the favorite to win the title again.

Here is a rundown of conference opponents in the order of their ranking in the preseason coaches' poll. (Western was ranked third)

MURRAY STATE

Murray had a 6-0 conference record and 9-2-1 overall record

OVC football

last year. The team returns 46 of 50 from last year's squad.

No team in the OVC has ever returned such an experienced squad.

The only starter lost to graduation was guard Reggie Pope.

Quarterback Ricky Ray with drew from Murray, and former All-OVC fullback Danny Lee Johnson will sit out the season with an injury and return next year. Murray's other loss was a third-string safety.

The Racers top returnee is apparently safety Terry Love, 6-foot-4, 205 pounds. Love was named to the OVC preseason all-conference squad and all star squads picked by Kodak and the Associated Press last year.

Joining Love on the OVC preseason team are Rick Lanpher, a 6-3, 210-pound defensive tackle, defensive end Glenn Jones, 5-10, 200, and defensive back Greg Evans, a 6-2, 200-pound junior.

Gottfried said his team's strength will be defense.

"The jury is still out on the offense, but they will be strong," he said.

A starting quarterback has not

been chosen, Gottfried said. That position is being sought by Gino Gibbs, 5-11, 190-pound transfer from College of the Canyons in California, and Winston Ford, a 6-2, 190-pound sophomore, who was Ray's back-up last season.

Murray will once again use a pro-set I offense along with a 5-2 defense, Gottfried said.

EASTERN KENTUCKY

Eastern edged Western by six points in the preseason poll and returns an experienced squad. This year.

The only question mark in the Colonels' lineup appears to be their defense. Only four defensive starters return from last season's national championship team, while the offense has eight starters back.

Eastern placed five players on the preseason team. Dave Booze a 6-3, 185-pound receiver, caught 17 passes in seven games last season for 291 yards before being sidelined with an injury. Jerry Parrish, 5-11, 173-pound wide receiver, and Dale Patton, a 5-10, 231-pound fullback, were named to the squad as was Kevin Greve, a 6-1, 238-pound guard. Eastern's lone defensive preseason all star was safety George Floyd.

Eastern finished second in the

See KENTUCKY Page 12, Column 1



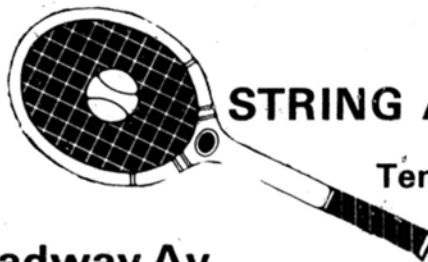
Austin Peay quarterback Sonny Defilippis will direct the Governor attack this season.

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Photo by Roger Sommer

Junior free safety Barry Bumm is escorted downfield by five of his defensive teammates after intercepting a pass. Bumm led the team with nine interceptions last year.

Hall readies for final campaign

Continued from Page 2.

...just to go back to work out," he said.

And he had no doubts about where he wanted to play football. Since coming to Western in 1975 to be treated for an injury by then-trainer Russell Miller, Hall had been sold on "the Hill."

The Hilltoppers made it to the National Collegiate Athletic Association Division II finals that autumn, which convinced Hall that Western was the right choice.

Although Hall is small for a quarterback (6 foot-1, 185) he said he would like to try out with a professional team.

"There's a lot of good players that haven't been drafted, but you grow up and see those pro football games and you think, 'Wow, I'd like to be a pro football player,'" Hall said smacking his fist into his palm to emphasize the point. "You know there's some good quarterbacks my size in the pros, too. I'm a Pat Haden (quarterback of the Los Angeles

Rams) fan."

Despite Hall's credentials and aspirations, he can still improve. Feix said his star quarterback is a slow starter and could improve spotting all his receivers before throwing.

Hall acknowledges the slow starting. "I've always been slow," but he's set his own goals for improving.

"Last year in a couple of games I'd hit eight or nine passes in a row then I'd miss six or seven," he said. "I think total improvement for me would be carrying out my fakes better and working on my consistency."

Feix said that Hall has made improvements but that a recurring shoulder injury may cause a slow start again.

Before last year's first game Hall said he felt a pain and heard a pop in his right shoulder. Although the injury nagged him throughout the year, he didn't do anything for it until he started getting sore again this year.

"I just didn't feel like I had the zip. So I got a cortisone shot in

my shoulder this spring and after a couple of days I felt like I had a cannon back there."



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Two recruits brighten season outlook for Tops

By KEVIN STEWART

Just as the afternoon sun brightens Cecil Ward's small, square office on Smith Stadium's west side, the arrival of two freshmen brightens the outlook for his women's cross country team.

Last fall, the first-year coach's

Women's cross country

chances of success looked dim. Since he didn't have a runner who specialized in the 5,000-meter run, he made do with athletes from the track team and a few walk-ons.

The season was a disaster.

Western placed last in all of its five meets, and the team couldn't qualify for the Ohio Valley Conference championship because one runner didn't show up.

Ward had hoped that some of his athletes could run well enough to convince other schools that Western had a cross country team, but it didn't work. At times, he had to find someone to run the day of the meet.

"There weren't any cross country people on the team last year. I just made up the team to go to the cross country meets," Ward lamented.

This year should be better. Ward used parts of two scholarships to attract two bonafide cross country runners.

Kathleen Buemel won 10 high school track titles in Texas, including the state cross country championship.

Tina Jordan won the seven-state regional junior championships twice and finished seventh in the National Junior Olympics, an event Ward claims only "the cream of the crop" attend.

Ward said he hopes to have the nucleus of a good team with the two freshmen, junior Julie Pendygraft, last year's top returning runner, junior Shelia Clay, senior Vanessa Miller and newcomer junior Sandy Seith.

"Our record has to go up. I think if I can hustle and get enough people, we can have a decent team," Ward said.

Ward said that most OVC programs have nine to 12 women on a team.

Despite his optimism, Ward said he doesn't know how quickly the program can compete with other schools, especially with recent cuts to an already limited budget.

"Until we are even with the rest of the Kentucky schools on the number of scholarships, we're always going to be hurting," Ward said. "When you can recruit five or six cross country people onto your team you're going to beat people who recruit two."



Photo by Roger Sommer

Making her way to the finish line, Shelia Clay, a Memphis, Tenn., junior, will return this season.

Date	Teams	Place
Sept. 6	Westport Classic	
Sept. 20	UK Invitational	Louisville
Sept. 27	Kentucky Inter-collegiate Conf.	Lexington
	Lady Topper Invitational	Louisville
Oct. 4	Indiana	Here
Oct. 11	KWIC	Bloomington
Oct. 18	championship	Richmond
Oct. 25	OVC championship	Morehead



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Top runners return, but coach missing



Photo by Roger Sommer

Senior all-American Larry Cuzzort competes at Murray during the Kentucky Intercollegiate Championships. Cuzzort and junior Jim Groves were co-winners of the meet.

By MARK HEATH

Western will take an experienced squad into this fall's cross country season, with the top seven runners returning, including All-American Larry Cuzzort, from last season's nationally ranked team.

Among the few new faces will be a new head coach, who hasn't yet been named. Former coach Del Hessel left Western last week to accept the head coaching job at New Mexico after four years and three Ohio Valley Conference championships at Western.

Western's only graduates from last year's squad were Pat Curl, who was the team's eighth man, and Chris Payne.

That squad easily won the conference and went on to place 12th in the National Collegiate Athletic Association finals in Bethlehem, Pa.

Hessel said last season's squad of seven, along with four recruits, should leave Western at least as good as last year.

"With their ability, they should be able to repeat it (title)," Hessel said. "If they stay healthy, it should be a foregone conclusion, but you can't always say that in college athletics."

Among this year's returnees are three who Hessel said are potential All-Americans. They are

Men's cross country

Cuzzort, Dave Murphy and Jim Groves.

Cuzzort, a senior from Evansville, Ind., was an All-American last fall, placing 21st in the NCAA finals from a field of 270. Cuzzort also has All-America status in the 5,000 meters in outdoor track and the two mile in indoor track.

Murphy, a senior from Bristol, England, has never been an All-American, but has run some impressive times, Hessel said.

Murphy, who transferred from Nevada-Reno in 1978, set an OVC record in the outdoor 10,000 meters in 1979. Hessel said he is a

world-class runner.

Groves, an Ontario, Canada freshman, was OVC cross country champion as a freshman in 1978 and placed 72nd in last season's NCAA finals. He usually ran third on the team last year, Hessel said.

The other top returnees are Ron Becht, Mike Clay, Tim Brooks and Bill Gautier.

Becht, a Tillsonburg, Canada, senior, has run the mile in 3:58.9. Last fall, he was 104th in the NCAA.

Clay, a Fort Walton Beach, Fla., senior, placed 121st in the NCAA finals, and Brooks, a Fort Myers, Fla., senior, placed 128th.

Hessel said Gautier, a Hendersonville junior, should provide depth for this year's squad.

Joining the group will be four recruits: Ashley Johnson, Simon Cahill, Greg Orman and Don Verbridge.

Date	Team	Place
Sept. 20	Murray	Murray
Sept. 27	KICC	Louisville
Oct. 4	Joe Binks Invit.	Louisville
Oct. 11	Indiana Invit.	Bloomington
Oct. 18	WKU Invit.	Here
Oct. 25	OVC Championship	Morehead
Nov. 8	WKU Open	Here
Nov. 15	NCAA Regionals	Furman, S.C.
Nov. 22	NCAA Championship	Wichita, Kan.

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Graduation hurts team

By JIM HALL

Golf coach Jim Richards knows his team members are inexperienced, but he's hoping they'll make 'him' believe in beginner's luck.

Gone from last year's team, which finished second in the OVC tournament and one stroke behind Eastern, are David Dalton, Jim Bagnardi and Jeff Hollis.

Dalton, the captain of last year's team, was fifth man on the team despite injuries. But, according to Richards, scores weren't the most valuable thing about him. "More than anything," Richards said, "we'll miss his leadership."

Bagnardi and Hollis also will be hard to replace. Both were regular starters, and Bagnardi was an all-conference player as a junior.

To fill the void left by graduation, Richards is depending on two returning starters, Ken Perry and Mike Naton. Both are juniors who have acquired "a lot of confidence and experience since they were freshmen," Richards said. "They used to just worry about making the traveling squad, but now they talk about winning tournaments."

Richards said this "different air about the way they approach things" will improve their chances of winning tournaments. Perry of Franklin has com-

Men's golf

pleted what Richards calls a "fine summer of golf." He won some tournaments and competed in the U.S. Amateur at Pinehurst, N.C. He also shot a 61 in a tournament in Russellville.

Richards credits hard work for Perry's success, noting that he has been "hitting 300 to 500 balls a day this summer."

Naton of Camillus, N. Y., was hampered this summer by a shoulder injury. But Richards still expects a good year from him.

Also returning from last year's team is Charles Rawlins. The senior from Bend, Ore., "strikes the ball well," Richards said.

Two transfers, Scott Beard and Scott Ray, will become eligible in the spring.

Beard, a transfer from Auburn, is the nephew of Frank Beard, once a top player on the professional tour. He has four years of eligibility at Western.

Ray of Alabama is regarded highly by Richards. "There's no

reason why he shouldn't be a good player for us," Richards said.

Because Beard and Ray will not be able to play in the fall, the team will have to rely on several freshmen.

One of those newcomers, Phillip Hatchett, "won about everything he played in" while in Russellville, according to Richards. This summer, Hatchett made the cut at the Western Juniors Tournament at Purdue University.

Mort Jorgenson is another freshman who will probably see action this fall, according to Richards. Jorgenson played high school golf in New Hartford, N. Y., and won the New York State Tournament as a senior.

Joe Vitalone, from Clinton, N. Y., is the other freshman on the team. Last year he was the New York State Juniors champion.

Because he will be using freshmen early in the year, Richards will be counting on the leadership and consistency of what few older players he has. "There is a lot of mental pressure in golf," he says, "and it's tough to deal with."

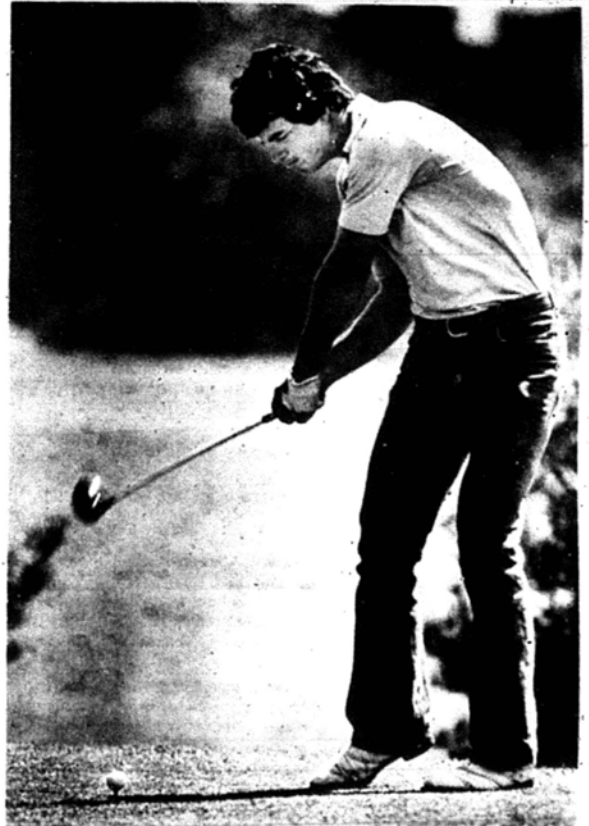




Photo by Kim Kotarik

Mike Naton, a Camillus, N.Y., junior, concentrated on his swing during practice last spring. Naton led the Hilltoppers in their last spring meet when he tied for second place in the Ohio Valley Conference Golf Championship.

Date	Event	Place
Sept. 19-20	Murray Tournament	Murray
Oct. 4-5	Eastern Tournament	Richmond
Oct. 9-10	Opryland Tournament	Nashville
Oct. 17-18	Memphis St. Tourn.	Memphis



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Vital

Louisville tournament could open door to national exposure

By TIMOTHY R. MCKENZIE

With the chance of nationwide exposure riding on a strong showing in the Kentucky Women's Intercollegiate Conference tournament at Louisville the end of October, coach Betty Langley said her team must be ready for the fall season.

"This fall season is very vital to us," the ninth-year coach said, adding that the spring season "doesn't mean that much to us unless we qualify for the regional tournament to be held in May."

Last season was the team's first losing season in eight years. Last fall's 4-10 record was too much of a burden for the team to overcome, Miss Langley said. "The players and I had a hard time adjusting to that," she added.

Returning to the squad will be four of the top five players.

Junior Sandy Leslie, the No. 1 player, has compiled a 26-2 record in her two years at Western and has qualified for the Association of Intercollegiate Athletics for Women Region II tournament both years.

Betsy Bogdan played the No. 4 position for the Toppers last year and will return. Also returning will be No. 3 player Muge Ozgenel, No. 4 player Betsy Bogdan and No. 5 Laurie Leslie.

Women's tennis

Sandy's younger sister, Sophomore Christa Riley will also be returning.

Miss Langley has one new scholarship player Susan Bradley of Nashville, Tenn. Other newcomers will be Terri Zhe of Sleepy Hollow, Ill and Lisa Metzger of Paducah.

Robin Campbell was supposed to play here this season, but she told Miss Langley two weeks ago that she decided to play at the University of Tennessee at Chattanooga.

Lost from last year's OVC runner-up team is the No. 2 player Kathy Ferry, who graduated. Also missing from the fall team this year will be Cathy Summers, who decided to drop tennis because of conflicts with classes in the nursing program.

"She and I discussed it and we decided that she just couldn't do both this fall. She may be back in the spring, however, depending on her schedule," Langley said.

Cathy Summers, who played No. 5 and No. 6 last year is getting married and will be transferring.



Photo by Roger Sommer

Junior Sandy Leslie returns a backhand shot during practice. Leslie helped lead Western to a second-place finish in the Ohio Valley Conference. She also qualified for the AIAW championships, but was eliminated in the first round.

Date	Teams	Place
Sept. 12-13	Morehead West Virginia	Morehead
Sept. 19-20	Kentucky Vanderbilt	Home
Sept. 26-27	Middle Tenn. Invitational: Eastern	Murfreesboro
Oct. 3-4	Austin Peay Louisville	Home
Oct. 14	Middle Tenn.	Louisville
Oct. 17-18	Murray	Murfreesboro
Oct. 24-25	Miss. Univ. for Women, Murray	Murray
Oct. 31- Nov. 1	KWIC championship	Louisville

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Freshmen shooters hold key

By PHIL SKAGGS

Four freshmen may hold the key to the success of Western's riflery team this fall, according to first-year coach Sgt. Gene Chaffins.

Chaffins is in his first coaching

Riflery

assignment after teaching marksmanship in the Army the past eight years.

Western lost four shooters from last year's team, which finished sixth nationally. Two graduated and two, Cary Browning and Greg Muir, have been declared ineligible this fall because they failed to earn enough credits last year, Chaffins said.

Chaffins said Browning and Muir should be able to pick up enough hours this semester to return to the squad next spring.

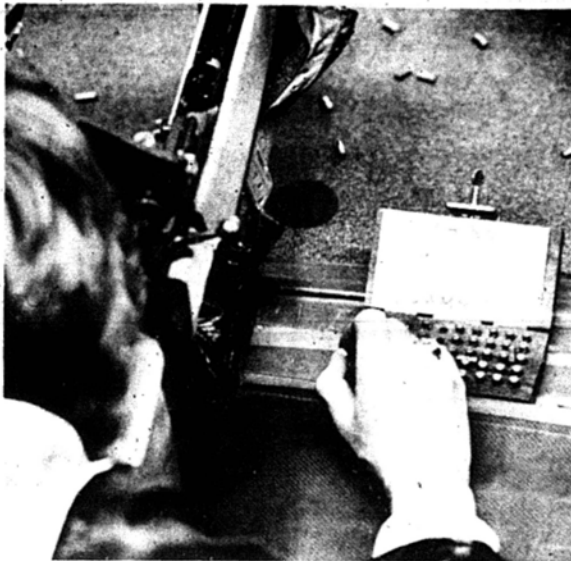


Photo by John Rott

Last year freshman Cary Browning of Enid, Okla., uses a visual aid to improve his riflery.

Returning from last year's team are senior Greg Stickler, junior Eric Sack and sophomore Stephen Cser.

The freshmen are Laura Jones, Chris Lair, Danny Pyle and Kirby Sack, Eric's sister.

"If I had not have lost Cary and Greg, we probably would

have finished as good as last year or even moved up to fifth (in the nation)," Chaffins said.

"With them gone, I couldn't say how we'll do," he said. "It depends on these freshmen. I don't know how well they can shoot, but I've heard they're pretty good."

Toppers return with experience

By TIMOTHY R. McKENZIE

Four of coach Nancy Quarcelino's top five golfers from a year ago return this year.

Those returnees, plus Melissa Jones, the No. 2 high school player in the state last year, make Ms. Quarcelino "real pleased and anxious" for the coming season.

Last year's top three players—Sue Clement, Savona Williams and Susan Mercke—as well as No. 6 player Cindy Summers and Sandy Douglas give the team depth and experience.

Leading the list of walk-ons is Terri Chadwell from Somerset. "She has a good swing," said Ms. Quarcelino, "and she should fit in real well. I feel good about her."

Women's golf

Marla Williams from Scottsville, Jennie Dieterle from Richmond, and Carol Strader from Evansville, Ind., will compete for spots on the squad, the coach said.

The team will play in five

tournaments this fall. "This is more than we usually play in the fall," Ms. Quarcelino said. "I hope it will keep our scores down and help the players to be enthusiastic."

The first tournament will be played here at Indian Hills Country Club, where Ms. Quarcelino is assistant pro. Competing will be the University of Kentucky, Memphis State and the University of Tennessee at Chattanooga.

Sept. 15-16	Lady Topper Invitational	Here
Sept. 22-23	Blue Ridge Mountaineer Invit.	Boone, N.C.
Sept. 27-28	Purdue Invit.	W. Lafayette
Oct. 13-15	Georgia Invit.	Athens, Ga.
Oct. 17-18	Lady Cat Invit.	Lexington

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Photo by John Rott

Members of Western's Ohio Valley Conference championship team celebrate a home run in last spring's OVC tournament. Western enjoyed its best season ever, last spring, finishing second in the NCAA South Region tournament.

Workouts begin today

'Rebuilding' big task for second-year coach

By TIMOTHY R. MCKENZIE

Coach Joel Murrie has a big job ahead if he expects to match the accomplishments of his first team.

The second-year coach has 13 recruits and 15 returning lettermen to start what may be considered a rebuilding year.

"The big task is to take a bunch of new people and mold them into one team with the old," Murrie said. "I want them to feel like a team instead of a bunch of all-stars that they are."

Leading the list of returnees is first baseman Mike Williams, who was drafted last year in the 12th round by the Montreal Expos. Williams, however, decided to play his final season at Western.

Williams set a conference record with a .420 batting average and led the league with 23 home runs.

Pitching is the reason Murrie and student assistant coach Marty Mason consider it a rebuilding year.

"Anytime you have this many young pitchers you almost have to label it a rebuilding year," Mason said.

Murrie said he is looking to senior Phil Rine "to give a lot of leadership."

"He comes in and throws strikes," Murrie said, "and that is really what we need."

Murrie said the team will have a lot of underclassmen, and "we are going to need some leadership. But this team still has a lot of potential."

Leading the list of new recruits will be six pitchers. They are

Baseball

left-handers Kevin Benzing of Gay Mill, Wisc., and Chris Joslin of Flint, Mich., and righthanders Dave Delello of Carmel, Ind., Doug Metz of Cincinnati, Ohio, Cam Walker of Manitoba, Canada and John Zarate of Tampa, Fla.

New infielders will be Mark Ashby of Shelby County, Kevin Birkobyn of Cincinnati, Ohio, Jim Hess of Colorado Springs, Colo., Paul Knuth of Saint Joseph, Mich. and Rick Shaker of Flint, Mich.

Outfielders signed are Dale Mihalo of Chicago, Ill. and Rick

Parrish of Largo, Fla.

Murrie said there is no reason these players can't step in and help the team immediately. He also said that no position is sewed up. Tryouts begin today and anyone who is interested should contact Murrie.

The fall exhibition season will start near the second week in October. About 20 games are scheduled.

"I want to see if what the players do in the drills will happen in the game situation," Murrie said.

"We might have some five o'clock hitters who hit well in practice but when that seven o'clock game comes around they don't do so well."



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Sports added despite cuts

By PHIL SKAGGS

Co-recreational flag football has been added to the intramural program, which opens its fall season next month.

"We had a really good response to women's flag football last fall and a trial run (of flag football) last fall also went well, so we're going ahead with it," said Debby Cherwak, assistant director of recreational activities.

"We're looking for a big turnout," Ms. Cherwak said. "Our co-rec response has been tremendous."

Other co-rec sports offered are volleyball, basketball, softball and inner-tube water polo. Only volleyball will be played in intramurals this fall.

Ms. Cherwak said the main goal of co-recreational sports is to provide social, rather than competitive, activity for students.

"We're trying to offer socialization...for people who just want to play, have a good time and meet other people," she said.

Other first-time activities this fall will be in the areas of martial arts, weightlifting and wrestling.

Intramurals

Ms. Cherwak said the wrestling club actually started last spring but never got "off the ground."

In addition to men's, women's and co-recreational activities, faculty-staff program will offer organized volleyball, bowling and slimmastics sessions this fall.

A meeting for the men's flag football teams will be at 7 p.m. Sept. 9 in Diddle Arena, room 144, Ms. Cherwak said. All team entries must be turned in at the meeting.

She added that anyone wishing to participate in intramurals this year should also come.

Anyone interested in officiating for intramurals should attend the meeting, Ms. Cherwak said.

The program's budget was cut 10 percent in accordance with Gov. John Y. Brown Jr.'s ordered cutbacks. To save money, student employment will be cut, Ms. Cherwak said.

"That means we'll be asking more teams to provide officials," she said.

When asked to compare Western's intramural program with those of other Kentucky colleges, Cherwak said it is considered one of the best, considering its size.

"We feel like ours' is one of the best in the state," she said.

"A guy who was involved here went to UK (University of Kentucky) and said that, although their program was larger, it is not better, considering how many students they have on campus," she said.

She added that a girl who transferred here from Middle Tennessee University said the program there was "nothing compared to Western's."

Ms. Cherwak said other schools in Kentucky seem to be copying Western's program, particularly Eastern, which she said "has picked up some of our format."

"We're not perfect," she said.

"We have room to grow."

Ms. Cherwak said that turning minor, or non-revenue, college sports into sports clubs, which are funded by intramural programs is one trend.

Such moves would cut spending and save money, she said.

Women's activities

Sport	Final entry date	Play begins
Flag football	Sept. 10	Sept. 15
Tennis (doubles)	Sept. 12	Sept. 17
Badminton	Oct. 20	Oct. 22
Racketball (doubles)	Oct. 20	Oct. 22
Basketball	Oct. 22	Oct. 27
Swimming	Oct. 31	Nov. 5
Turkey trot	Nov. 14	Nov. 17
Track and field	Nov. 14	Nov. 18
Table tennis (doubles)	Nov. 25	Dec. 3
Archery	Dec. 1	Dec. 4

Men's activities

Sport	Final entry date	Play begins
Flag football	Sept. 9	Sept. 15
Bowling	Sept. 11	Sept. 18
Golf	Sept. 12	Sept. 16
Tennis	Sept. 12	Sept. 16
Horseshoes (singles)	Sept. 12	Sept. 17
Badminton (singles)	Sept. 19	Sept. 24
Handball (singles)	Sept. 19	Sept. 23
Table tennis (singles)	Oct. 3	Oct. 8
Racketball (singles)	Oct. 3	Oct. 7
Volleyball	Oct. 10	Oct. 14
Swimming	Oct. 31	Nov. 5
Table soccer	Nov. 7	Nov. 12
Turkey trot	Nov. 14	Nov. 17

Toppers picked third

Continued from Page 2-

Gray, 5-11, 200; and Tom Tussey, 5-11, 210.

Cornerbacks will be Davlin Mullen, 6-1, 170, and Lamont Meacham, 6-0, 170. Bumm, 6-0, 175, will handle free safety duties. The strong safety position is still up for grabs, Feix said. Reginald

Johnson, 6-2, 205, and David Suggs, 6-0, 190, are now competing for the spot.

Farmer will handle punting duties with Mike Curnutte handling place kicking.

Jones and Craig Freeman will be running back kickoffs and Mullen and Flippin will be returning punts.

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Kentucky teams should dominate OVC

—Continued from Page 3—

conference last year, with a 5-1 conference record and an 11-2 overall mark.

"Team-wise, our offense is the strongest," coach Roy Kidd said. "Our defense is the big question. We got a couple of green people at linebacker and at nose guards.

"We won't be as good as last year, and we can't be as strong," Kidd said.

Eastern will also use a pro-set I offense and a 5-2 defense. Running the offense will be Chris Issacs, a 5-10, 167-pound junior quarterback.

AKRON

Akron becomes the newest member of the OVC eligible for the title this season.

The school of 23,000 in northern Ohio has 28 returning lettermen and had four All-Americans on last year's squad, two of whom are returning.

The All-Americans are Don Schutz, a 6-5, 225-pound offensive tackle, and Brad Reese, a 6-2, 225-pound linebacker. Both were on the Associated Press Division II team.

Akron's sports information director, Ken MacDonald, said Akron's biggest strength will be a veteran defense.

Another strong point appears to be the kicking game. Andy Graham, the Zips 6-0, 185-pound kicker, kicked 16 of 21 field goals

last season while connecting on 18 of 21 points after touchdowns.

On offense, Akron has a young backfield. The only experience comes from Dennis Brumfield, a 6-0, 200-pound halfback.

MacDonald said Akron's only weak area is its depth on defense. The school will have to depend on freshmen to replace any injured starters.

AUSTIN PEAY

Austin Peay, picked to finish fifth, returns 38 lettermen from the team that placed fifth last year. Peay was 2-4 in the conference last season and 7-4 overall.

Among those returning are three preseason all-conference picks. Richard Wosniack, a 6-5, 252-pound defensive tackle, made the squad along with wide receiver Steve Puthoff, 6-2, 185-pounds, and Calvin Griffin, a 6-1, 270-pound offensive guard transfer from Albany State.

The Governors plan to use a multiple offense with a split backfield this season. Leading that offense will be Sonny Defilippis, a 6-2, 185-pound quarterback.

The Governors won five of the six games in which Defilippis played last season.

The Governors' defense will be a 5-2.

"We are right on pace where we need to be," coach Watson

Brown said. "We have got a good shot at the title. The players believe we can do it, and so do I."

MOREHEAD

Picked to finish sixth this season, Morehead was the only team to shut out Western last year. The Eagles beat the Hill-toppers, 3-0.

The field-goal kicker who gave Morehead the win and the quarterback who engineered the scoring drive are among the Eagles 31 returning lettermen.

Nick Rapier, the kicker, and Don Reeves, the quarterback, join linebackers Rob Smith, a 6-4, 228-pound transfer from Arkansas State, Gary Carmichael, 6-1, 205-pounds, and Danny Goodch, 6-0, 220-pounds, are all top returnees.

Morehead finished third in the conference season with a 3-2-1 record and overall record of 5-4-1.

"The No. 1 thing so far is we are in good physical shape," coach Tom Lichtenberg said. "We are a little better than last year. We lost some key people but have had some key players come through."

Lichtenberg said Reeves has the ability to pass and will add another dimension to Morehead's team.

MIDDLE TENNESSEE

Middle Tennessee finished

sixth in the conference last season with a 1-5 record and 1-9 showing overall. This season, the Blue Raiders are picked to finish seventh. Sports information Director Ed Arning said Middle will have to wait a year before it expects much success.

Middle had one member on the preseason team, offensive tackle Bill Spurlock, 6-4, 239-pounds.

Middle also had the conference's leading quarterback in total offense last season, Brown Sanford. The 5-10, 176-pound sophomore is listed as one of the top returnees in Division I-AA in passing and total offense.

Other key returnees to Middle's sophomore-dominated club are James Griffin, a 6-2, 182-pound free safety and Dennis Mix, 5-10, 185-pound safety.

Arning said Middle will have a tough year, especially with a road trip that puts the Blue Raiders at Murray and Eastern on consecutive weekends.

"Next year, they should be a respectable club from the outset," Arning said.

Arning said Middle's defense and punting are still questionable. The team has not yet found a punter.

Offensively, the Blue Raiders will use a split back veer.

TENNESSEE TECH

Tech, last year's last-place finisher, with an 0-5-1 record in conference play and a 1-8-2 overall showing, is expected to remain in the league's cellar.

Tech lost 23 players from that squad and returns only 28 lettermen.

Tech had two players named to the preseason squad, Ronnie Dyer and Wayne Anderson. Dyer, is a 6-2, 220-pound defensive end, and Anderson is a 5-10, 170-pound place kicker.

Tech will use an I-formation offense this season and a five-man front on defense.

Tech will be more pass-oriented because of its two quarterback candidates.

James Aaron, a 5-11, 180-pound junior, transferred from the Air Force Academy and is battling a freshman, Tony Constantine, 6-1, 175-pounds, for the starting spot.

Tech's other returnees include Rod Demps, a 6-2, 222-pound linebacker; tight end David Gray, 6-5, 220-pounds; center Mike Chemela, 6-1, 215-pounds; and Ronald Bond, a 5-11, 195-pound running back.

Sports Information Director Tucker Davis said the offensive line should be the question mark for Tech. Defense should be the strong suit, Davis said.

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