

3-1971

UA19/2/3 Tony Cochran Fan Interviews

WKU Athletics

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Western Kentucky University
UA19 WKU Athletics
Series 2 Basketball
Item 3 Tony Cochran Fan Interviews

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Description: Audiotape interviews by Tony Cochran regarding WKU's first NCAA final four. Interviewees include William "Big Six" Henderson and Clarence Glover.

Date: 1971

Formats: 1 audiotape, 1 wave file

Subject Analytics:

African Americans
Basketball
Basketball players
Blacks

Fans
Interviews
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Digital Commons Classifications:

African American Studies
Communication
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Race and Ethnicity
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Oral History Recording List UA19.2.3 ~ Records

01/28/2019

Media ID	Side	Start time	Subject
Tape 1	1	00:00:00	<p>Unidentified announcer: ----- this afternoon with nine seconds on the clock, Glover's in the bonus. Man I hope he gets one of these. Glover eyes that bucket, a lot of pressure here. He got it! 80 to 76 ----- There's the kid that played the ball in this tournament, right there, Glover. 80 to 76. Glover at the line once again. Got them both! Got them both! 81 - 76. Seven, six, five, Blevins (?) put it in. That's it, Western is the champion of Mideast Region! Western's going to Houston! Oh boy!! 81 to 76 as we come from behind. Western's on their way to the finals for the first time ever. 81 to 76 as the Toppers win it here in a come from behind. Man, we were so far behind at one time I thought they were gonna blow us out. 81 to 76, whoohoo! We're going to Houston. 81 to 76.</p>
Tape 1	1	00:01:20	<p>Unidentified man: And so for the first time ever the Western Hilltoppers moved into the finals of the NCAA tournaments. One of the final four teams after weeks of regular season play at tough competition in the tournaments. Probably the greatest all time fan for the Hilltoppers is William "Big Six" Henderson. Recognized by most folks as the man behind the clock. Tony Cochran talked with Big Six during the Kentucky state high school basketball tournament where Big Six was confined to a wheelchair after suffering a broken hip in a fall several weeks ago.</p>
Tape 1	1	00:01:50	<p>Tony Cochran: Looking great.</p> <p>William Henderson: Well thank you, I'm feeling great. I mean it's good to be up after five weeks in traction, flat of my back and I couldn't move an inch. I tell you, it feels like a new world to me. Course after that Western win the other night that put me in better shape than anything, even the doctors' help.</p>
Tape 1	1	00:02:07	<p>TC: Well, that's what I was gonna ask you. I figured that the Western victory over the University of Kentucky probably did more for you than anything the doctors ever did for you.</p> <p>WH: In my 60 [sound cuts out] all independent games and playing for 23 years that was the biggest thrill I guess of my life in sports. With ----- big boys that I helped get down there to Western, talked, tried to talk them into going, coming through like I knew they could come through if they played ball. I told Adolph [Rupp] sixteen years ago, and I told him three years ago too, that if Western ever played Kentucky they'd beat them. And he said "Big Six, you're as crazy as hell." I said, "I may be, but that's my firm belief." And they came through for me, and I'll tell you, of course they came through for a million other people, but it was really the biggest thrill of my life the other night. I laid there and cried, I wouldn't even answer the telephone. I guess that was my biggest thrill I guess it was Adolph's biggest disappointment but that's the way life is.</p>
Tape 1	1	00:03:08	<p>TC: That's right, and of course the Western Hilltoppers are going to take on Ohio State this afternoon to see if they get to take that trip to Houston and boy, won't that be something?</p> <p>WH: That'll be something, but they played the game that I was so crazy about and this is anticlimactic as far as I'm concerned. I want them to win. I've watched Ohio State beat them twice. And I don't want them, I want them to beat Ohio State and I know they can. But I think they've played their, their biggest game and top. And they were up for it, and they can get up, they'll win. If Big Mac is up and I think he will be I think they'll win today. I think they'll go all the way, I'm honest with you. I know they can if they, they've never been beaten this year. They've lost, they lost to South Carolina, they lost that game. They even lost to Austin Peay but they, they didn't, they beat themselves, nobody beat them. That's the way it's been all the year.</p>
Tape 1	1	00:04:05	<p>TC: Talking with some Western fans and are you going to get a chance to go to Houston?</p> <p>Unidentified woman: No, I'm afraid not.</p> <p>TC: Are you going to watch it on the television?</p> <p>UW: Sure I am.</p> <p>TC: What did you think over the holidays when we beat Kentucky?</p> <p>UW: Well, I live in Lexington and had mixed emotions, but I'm really glad it came out the way it did.</p> <p>TC: How did the people in Lexington take that loss?</p> <p>UW: They kept pretty quiet about it. They felt pretty bad.</p>

Media ID	Side	Start time	Subject
			<p>TC: What did you think about the big win over Ohio State?</p> <p>UW: Oh, it was terrific. ----- The game before on, during the Jacksonville game and the UK game, OK so I was drinking orange juice in the second half of the Jacksonville game. So I was drinking the whole way through the UK game we killed it. So I was drinking the whole way through the Ohio State and we came through.</p> <p>TC: Are you going to drink orange juice against Villanova?</p> <p>UW: I've already got it.</p> <p>TC: You going to get a chance to go to Houston?</p> <p>UW: No, I wish I was, I wish I were.</p> <p>TC: You're going to watch it on TV and drink your orange juice.</p> <p>UW: Sure thing.</p> <p>TC: Lots of luck.</p>
Tape 1	1	00:05:06	<p>Unidentified man: The loyalty of fans was aptly demonstrated when the Toppers returned from their victory in the Mideast tournament. And more than a mile of cars, nearly 1,000 persons greeted the weary Toppers. Clarence Glover, known as Big C expressed the sentiment to the entire team as he talked over WBGH following the return from Athens.</p> <p>TC: Come on in Clarence, you played a great ballgame in the Mideast regional. How's it feel to be the champion?</p> <p>Clarence Glover: Oh it feels very good, Tony.</p> <p>TC: How we gonna do against Villanova?</p> <p>CG: Well I hope we're gonna win. I believe we are. I tell you man, it's really great the way the people turned out. I didn't expect this. Didn't none of us expect this. We thought, well they said they had a motorcade. We didn't expect anything like this.</p> <p>TC: Well y'all played great basketball.</p> <p>CG: Well, I mean, we got great fans. We got great people. Man, this is tremendous, this is something else, I tell you.</p>