1976

UA19/17/1/4 1976 Hilltopper Football

WKU Athletic Media Relations

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1976 SCHEDULE

DATE
Sept. 11 Troy (Ala.) State Bowling Green, Ky., 1:00 p.m.
Sept. 18 UT-Chattanooga , Chattanoog a, Tenn., 6:30 p.m.
Sept. 25 Austin Peay Bowling Green, Ky., 1:00 p.m.
Oct. 2 East Tennessee Johnson City, Tenn., 6:30 p.m.
Oct. 9 Open Date
Oct. 16 Tennessee Tech Cookeville, Tenn., 1:30 p.m.
Oct. 23 Eastern Kentucky Bowling Green, Ky., 1:00 p.m.
Oct. 30 Morehead State Morehead, Ky., 1:30 p.m.
Nov. 6 Middle Tennessee Bowling Green, Ky., 1:00 p.m.

LOCATION
Bowling Green, Ky., 1:00 p.m.

1976 OUTLOOK
Western Kentucky went into the 1976 football season virtually regarded as a quantum defensive unit because of a quantity of starters returning, but with a number of question marks surrounding its offensive prowess because graduation had taken a rather heavy toll there.

That situation is almost entirely reversed as the Hilltoppers head into the 1977 season with 11 of 12 starters from the '75 defensive unit that led the charge toward the team's first Ohio Valley Conference Division II national runner-up trophy in three years.

"We never had one unit decimated like that in any previous year," Feix said. "We've got pretty good young people coming along to fill those defensive spots, but they need a lot of work."

Players returning to the defensive unit are All-Ohio Valley Conference end Keith Tandy, who was shifted to linebacker during spring practice, cornerback Roy Kesterson and deep back James Johnson.

Bill Madon, a 6-3, 205-pound junior, is heir-apparent to the other linebacking end and cornerback Nate Haire has been shifted to one of the deep back slots, where Fred Kixmiller also returns after logging considerable playing time last fall.

Myron Greenfield, a 6-2, 207-pound sophomore, looks to move into one of the defensive end slots and sophomore Lonnie Hardin could also see some playing time.

Offensively, the line is strong, with center and All-America candidate Dave Carter (6-2, 250), All-OVC guard Chip Carpenter (6-2, 255), guard Nate Huggins (6-2, 230) and tackle Mike Hayes (6-5, 255) all back. Biggest problem could be finding a replacement for graduated All-OVC running back Lonnie Hardin at strong tackle.

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WESTERN KENTUCKY'S 1975 COLLEGE DIVISION ALL-AMERICAN SELECTIONS

FIRST TEAM
(Associated Press)

Player       Ht. Wt. '75 Class Position
Rick Green   6-0 210 Senior Linebacker

FIRST TEAM
(Kodak-American Football Coaches Association)

Player       Ht. Wt. '75 Class Position
Rick Green   6-0 210 Senior Linebacker

HILLTOPPERS' 1975 ALL-OVC SELECTIONS

Player       Ht. Wt. '75 Class Position
Sheroid Barrett 6-2 210 Senior Off. Tackle
Chip Carpenter  6-1 215 Sophomore Off. Guard
Rick Green       6-0 210 Senior Linebacker
Wall Herod       5-11 190 Junior Punter
John Leathers    5-11 185 Senior Def. Back
Keith Tandy    6-3 195 Junior Def. End

NATIONAL COLLEGE DIVISION LEADERS
IN ALL-TIME WINNING PERCENTAGE

From a Total of More Than 300 Schools

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<tr>
<th>Rank/School</th>
<th>Won</th>
<th>Lost</th>
<th>Tied</th>
<th>Percentage</th>
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<td>304</td>
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<td>12. Gustavus Adolphus</td>
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<td>13. Southern Connecticut</td>
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<td>18. Middle Tennessee</td>
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<td>20. Santa Clara</td>
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</table>

(Courtesy of National Collegiate Sports Services)

WITH THE PROS

Lawrence Brame - Defensive End
Dale Lindsey - Fullback

Jim Hardin - G - 1957
John Mutchler - E - 1963

Jimmy Feix - QB - 1962

COLLEGE DIVISION ALL-AMERICANS

John Bushong - DT - 1974
Virgil Livers - DB - 1974
Rick Green - LB - 1975

Porter Williams - E - 1973

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John Bushong - DT - 1974
Virgil Livers - DB - 1974
Rick Green - LB - 1975

WITH THE PROS

Lawrence Brame - Defensive End
Dale Lindsey - Fullback

Jim Hardin - G - 1957
John Mutchler - E - 1963

Lawrence Brame - End - 1969
Virgil Livers - Back - 1974

Lawrence Brame, End - 1970
Rick Green, Linebacker - 1975

OVC PLAYER OF THE YEAR

Offense
Dickie Moore, Fullback - 1967

Defense
John Mutchler, End - 1963
Lonnie Schuster, Tackle - 1973
Virgil Livers, Back - 1974
Rick Green, Linebacker - 1975

'75 HILLTOPPER DRAFT PICKS

Rick Caswell, Defensive Back - New York Giants

"75 HILLTOPPER DRAFT PICKS"