

1982

UA19/17/1/4 1982 Hilltopper Football

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Western in the Polls

Seven times in the 14 years since Jimmy Feix took over the head coaching duties at his alma mater the Hilltoppers have earned a berth among the nation's elite football squads in the polls. The highest the Toppers have ever finished in the polls was at the close of the 1973 and 1975 seasons when they claimed the number three slot in the Associated Press Division II poll. Here's a rundown of the Hilltoppers' final ranking in each of those seven seasons.

Year	Poll	WK Ranking	Year	Poll	WK Ranking
1968	AP	19th	1973	AP	3rd
1970	UPI	9th	1975	AP	3rd
	AP	12th	1978	NCAA	4th
1971	AP	6th	1980	NCAA	5th

Western OVC Football Title Years

Year	OVC Record	Overall Record	Coach
*1952	4-1-0	8-1-0	Jack Clayton
1963	7-0-0	10-0-1	Nick Denes
1970	5-1-1	8-1-1	Jimmy Feix
1971	6-1-0	8-2-0	Jimmy Feix
1973	7-0-0	12-1-0	Jimmy Feix
*1975	6-1-0	11-2-0	Jimmy Feix
1978	6-0-0	8-2-0	Jimmy Feix
1980	6-1-0	9-1-0	Jimmy Feix

*Co-Champion

OVC Players-of-the-Year

Offense

Dickie Moore, Fullback—1967
John Hall, Quarterback—1979

Defense

John Mutchler, End—1963
Lawrence Brame, End—1969
Lawrence Brame, End—1970
Lonnie Schuster, Tackle—1973

Virgil Livers, Back—1974
Rick Green, Linebacker—1975
Biff Madon, Linebacker—1976

OVC Coaches-of-the-Year

1963—Nick Denes
1973—Jimmy Feix

1978—Jimmy Feix
1980—Jimmy Feix

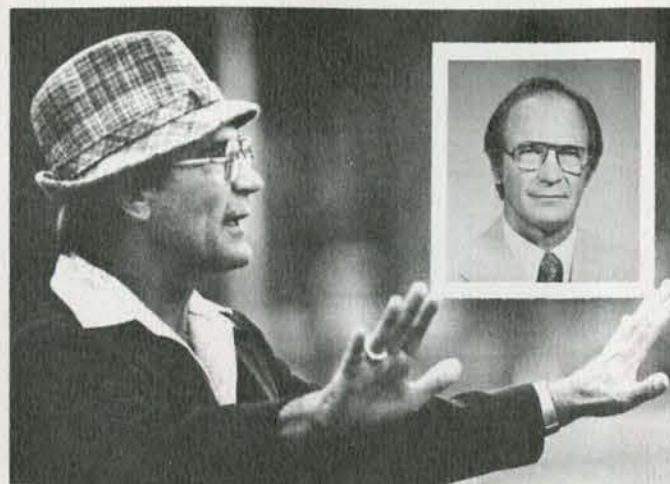
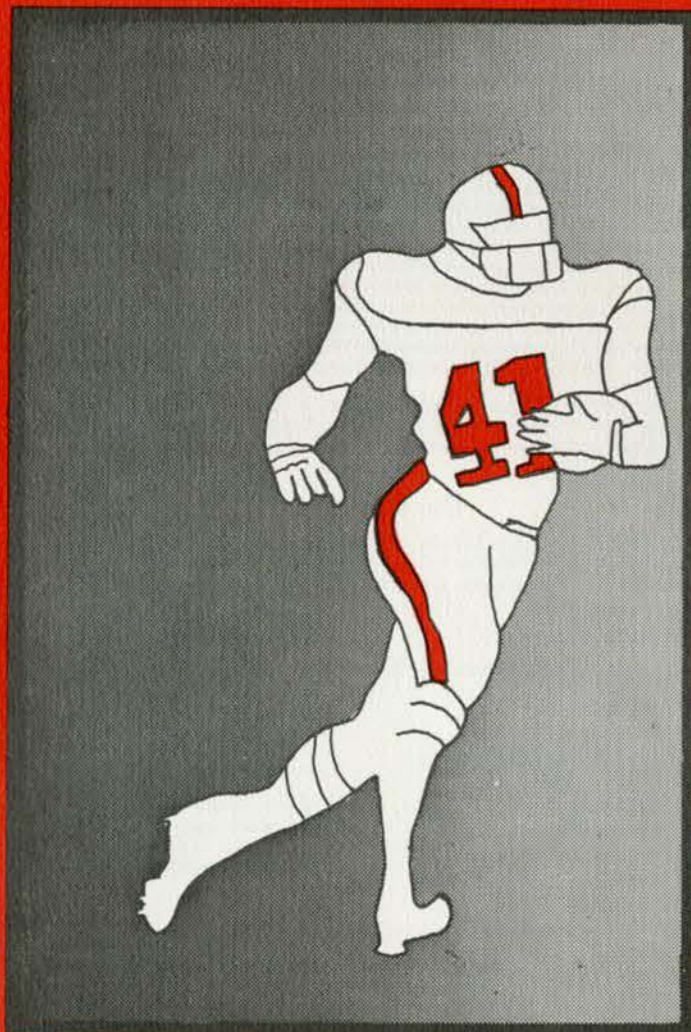
University Information

Location: Bowling Green, Kentucky 42101
Affiliation: NCAA I-AA, Independent
Nickname: Hilltoppers Colors: Red and White
President: Dr. Donald W. Zacharias
Enrollment: 13,002
Chairman, University Athletic Committee: Dr. John D. Minton
Athletic Director: John Oldham
Head Football Coach: Jimmy Feix
Assistant Head Coach: Butch Gilbert
Defensive Coordinator: Bill Hape
Defensive Line: Clarence "Stumpy" Baker
Quarterbacks, Receivers: Sam Clark
Defensive Backfield: Larry Walker
Trainer: Ron Dunn
Assistant Trainers: Bill Edwards, Renee Bethune
Football Office Phone: Area 502 745-2984
Athletic Office Phone: Area 502 745-3542

—For Information on All Sports—
Sports Information Director: Paul Just
Office Phone: 502 745-4295
Home Phone: 502 781-4852

1982 Hilltopper Football

Western Kentucky University



Coach Jimmy Feix

The 1982 season will be Jimmy Feix's 15th as head coach of the Hilltoppers, but his name has been closely connected with winning football at Western Kentucky for much longer than that.

His association with Western gridiron successes began in September, 1949, when he came to the campus as a freshman quarterback from Henderson, Ky. In his senior year, 1952, he and his Hilltopper teammates tied for the Ohio Valley Conference championship and added a Refrigerator Bowl win over Arkansas State to finish with a 9-1 record.

At the same time, Feix was earning Little All-America honors for himself. When his collegiate playing days were over, the New York Giants of the National Football League drafted him and he was impressive in pre-season drills, but a serious injury early that fall ended his pro career.

Feix returned to Western in 1957 after four years in the U.S. Air Force. He served as a graduate assistant that first year while completing the requirements for the Master's degree, then became a full-time assistant under former Hilltopper Head Coach Nick Denes the following season.

Feix was named head coach in December, 1967, when Denes retired from active coaching. In 1968, his "rookie" season as head coach, Feix led Western to seven wins against only two losses and a tie with nationally ranked — and bowl-bound — Akron.

In 14 seasons, his Hilltoppers have won or shared the coveted league championship six times, in 1970, 1971, 1973, 1975, 1978 and 1980. His 1982 team will be the first at Western in the past 34 years to compete as an independent. WKU withdrew from the OVC in May to join the Sun Belt Conference, which does not sponsor a football championship.

His 1973 team was the first undefeated, untied team in Western history, finishing the regular season with a perfect 10-0 record while leading the nation's Division II teams in scoring at 37.7 points per game.

The '73 Hilltoppers then entered the first-ever NCAA Division II national championship playoffs and finished second, winding up the season with an overall 12-1-0 record.

Western went to the NCAA playoffs again in 1975 and again finished as the No. 2 team in the nation, finishing 11-2-0.

He rallied his 1978 squad from an injury-riddled 1977 campaign when the Hilltoppers fell to 1-8-1 and last place in the conference to an 8-2 mark and the OVC crown. The Western comeback was the most impressive turnaround performance in the nation in 1978.

Feix was named Kodak College Division Coach-of-the-Year Division Four in both 1973 and 1975. He also won OVC Coach-of-the-Year honors and was honored similarly by the *Louisville Courier-Journal* and *Inside Kentucky Sports* magazine in 1973. He also won league Coach-of-the-Year laurels in 1978 and 1980.

One of the most successful and respected mentors in the game, Feix goes into the 1982 campaign with a career coaching record of 99 wins against only 43 losses and 5 ties, for a winning percentage of .690. His 14 Hilltopper teams have won 67, lost 28 and tied 2 in Ohio Valley Conference competition, a .701 percentage.

A frequent lecturer at football clinics, Feix has been a primary influence in the organization and continuation of the activities of Western's chapter of the fellowship of Christian Athletes.



Butch Gilbert



Bill Hape



Clarence Baker



Sam Clark

The Assistant Coaches



Larry Walker

1982 Schedule

Date	Opponent (Series Record)	Site/Time (Central)
Sept. 4	Louisville (WK 12-10-0)	Louisville, Ky/6 pm
11	Delaware (UD 1-0-0)	Newark, Del/12:30 pm
18	Akron (UA 4-2-2)	Bowling Green, Ky/1 pm
25	Austin Peay (WK 23-3-1)	Bowling Green, Ky/1 pm
Oct. 2	open date	
9	Youngstown State (WK 4-2-0)	Bowling Green, Ky/1 pm (Homecoming)
16	Tennessee Tech (WK 23-21-1)	Cookeville, Tenn/1:30 pm
23	Eastern Kentucky (WK 34-19-2)	Bowling Green, Ky/1 pm
30	Morehead State (WK 32-6-2)	Morehead, Ky/1 pm
Nov. 6	Middle Tennessee (WK 25-22-1)	Bowling Green, Ky/1 pm
13	open date	
20	Murray State (WK 23-19-6)	Murray, Ky/1:30 pm

Home games in boldface type

1981 Results (6-5-0 overall; 4-4-0 OVC)

Date	Opponent (crowd)	W-L	Score WK-Op
Sept. 5	at Evansville (6,100)	W	35-7
12	Delaware (13,000)#	L	14-38
19	Kentucky State (10,000)	W	54-14
26	at Austin Peay (8,000)*	W	28-0
Oct. 3	open date		
10	at Youngstown State (4,029)*	W	35-14
17	Tennessee Tech (11,500+)*	L	3-14
24	at Eastern Kentucky (20,800)#	L	11-19
31	Morehead State (17,000)*	W	19-15 (Homecoming)
Nov. 7	at Akron (6,002)*	W	19-14
14	at Middle Tennessee (3,500)*	L	17-31
21	Murray State (8,500)*	L	6-38

Attendance: 108,431 (9.857 per game)
Home: 60,000 (12,000 per game)
Road: 48,431 (8,072 per game)

*Ohio Valley Conference game.
#Televised by ESPN, delayed.

Home games in boldface type.
*All-time Smith Stadium attendance tops 1,000,000.

1982 Football Outlook

With 16 starters back in uniform, Coach Jimmy Feix is looking for his 1982 Western Kentucky University football team to have an experienced nucleus around which to build a winner in the school's first campaign as an independent since 1947.

Western, 6-5 overall on the gridiron in '81 (and 4-4 in its last drive for an Ohio Valley Conference title), has joined the Sun Belt Conference, which does not sponsor a football championship, and will now have to rely on its position in the NCAA Division I-AA poll to earn a post-season playoff berth.

"It's certainly a challenge," said veteran Hilltopper Head Coach Jimmy Feix, who begins his 15th season at the WKU helm. "In a manner of speaking we'll be playing a 'conference' game every time we go on the field.

"We've put together a tremendous schedule for 1982," he added. "In fact, with nine good I-AA teams and a strong I-A school, we probably have one of the toughest schedules in all of Division I-AA."

The Hilltoppers travel to Louisville (I-A), Delaware and Murray State during the course of the '82 campaign and host arch-rival, and I-AA national runner-up Eastern Kentucky in the fall. Louisville is expected one of its best teams in years and Delaware, Murray St. and Eastern are legitimate I-AA powerhouses. The remainder of the always-tough OVC schools round out the slate.

Western does have a lot of talent back. However, to be up to the challenge, Coach Feix and his staff will need to adequately fill several key vacancies, including those left by the graduation of a pair of All-America performers — defensive ends Donnie Evans and Tim Ford.

Headlining a list of outstanding returnees are All-OVC standouts Paul Gray (who led the conference in tackles) and John Newby (who led the OVC while setting a school record for pass receiving).

Here's a closer look at this year's Hilltopper gridders:

In the backfield, Western returns quarterback Ralph Antone, who led the OVC last season with a .525 pass completion percentage while running up a total of 1,356 yards in the air. Gone is fullback Troy Snardon, one of the most successful ball carriers in WKU history. But, tailback Danny Embree will be back in the red and white. Embree celebrated his first collegiate start at Akron last fall with 205 yards and wound up the '81 season leading his teammates in average yards per carry with a 5.7 mean. Also back is Ty Campbell, a promising fullback who saw considerable action last fall.

The Hilltoppers also return their top three receivers. Newby first entered the lineup to replace an injured teammate (1980 All-OVC receiver Jerry Flippin) and responded with a school record 48 catches (736 yards) on the year. Flanker Ron Hunter caught 30 aerials for some 415 yards. And, Embree came out of the backfield to grab 18 passes for 169 yards. All in all, 13 of the 16 'Toppers who were on the receiving end of 143 of WKU's 164 catches in 1981 return.

One of the major tasks facing the Western coaching staff a year ago was rebuilding the interior offensive line. But, this time around, almost everyone returns. However, replacing center Greg Gallas, a four-year starter, will be no small item. Back-up Rick Schneider (6-2, 230) seems to be the heir apparent. Tackle Tom Fox is also back but appears ticketed for a return to the defensive line. Still, veterans Will Rice (6-4, 244), Jim King (6-6, 250) and Scott Rouch (6-2, 235) are formidable forces in the trenches.

Perhaps the biggest question mark will be the defensive line. All three starters — Evans, Ford and nose tackle Tony Wells, a four-year starter — are gone. But, Fox has experience there along with '81 back-ups Tony Eatherly (6-0, 215) and Mike Hamilton (6-0, 220). And, Stuart Bundy (6-0, 220) came out of spring drills as a prime candidate for the nose slot.

It's a totally different picture in the linebacker corps, where a wealth of experience returns. Heading the list is Gray, an all-conference performer who led his teammates in total tackles (173) and was second in tackles for loss (20 for 83 yards), and David Suggs, the OVC's most frequent tackler behind the line (21 for 115 yards).

Barry Bumm and Lamont Meacham, two of the OVC's most respected performers in the defensive backfield, have graduated and will be difficult to replace. However, there is a good bit of talent remaining. Strong safety Reginald Johnson, who led the 'Toppers with five interceptions last fall, will be back for his third campaign as a starter. And, senior Davlin Mullen (6-1, 173), a nifty quick cornerback who missed most of last season with a broken foot, appears to be ready to go. And, Randy Grimes should see a lot of action at both safety positions. However, Bumm's slot is still up for grabs, although freshman Paul Majors appeared to have the inside track after spring practice. Ronnie Fishback and Mark DeRuzzo will see a lot of action at the corner back positions.

Western returns virtually its entire kicking game, including soccer-style placekicker Jim Griffiths (24-27 PATs and 7-12 FGs) and punter Mike Miller (38.2 average). And, making a bid for playing time in spring drills was freshman Walter Haberlock, a placekicker and punter with a strong leg and good accuracy.



19,250-Seat L. T. Smith Stadium



Hilltopper Football All-Americans

- 1952—Jimmy Feix, *Quarterback*
 1957—Jim Hardin, *Guard*
 1963—John Mutchler, *End*
 1964—Jim Burt, *Halfback*
 Dale Lindsey, *Fullback*
 1970—Lawrence Brame, *Def. End*
 1971—Jimmy Barber, *Linebacker**
 1973—Mike McCoy, *Def. Back*
 Porter Williams, *Split End*
 1974—John Bushong, *Def. Tackle*
 Virgil Livers, *Def. Back*
 1975—Rick Green, *Linebacker*
 1977—Chip Carpenter, *Guard*
 1980—Tim Ford, *Def. End*
 Pete Walters, *Guard*
 1981—Donnie Evans, *Def. End**
 Tim Ford, *Def. End**

*Academic All-American



BRAME



LIVERS



FORD



EVANS

Post-Season Appearances

The Hilltoppers have appeared in a total of eight post-season games, six of them as a part of their participation in the NCAA Division II national playoffs in both 1973 and 1975.

Here is the complete rundown:

- 1975—NCAA Division II Playoffs**
 Western 14, Northern Iowa 12
(First Round; Cedar Falls, Ia.)
 Western 14, New Hampshire 3
(Semifinals; Rice Bowl, Baton Rouge, La.)
 Western 14, Northern Michigan 16
(Finals; Camellia Bowl, Sacramento, Calif.)
- 1973—NCAA Division II Playoffs**
 Western 25, Lehigh 16
(First Round; Bowling Green, Ky.)
 Western 28, Grambling 20
(Semifinals; Rice Bowl, Baton Rouge, La.)
 Western 0, Louisiana Tech 34
(Finals; Camellia Bowl, Sacramento, Calif.)

- 1963—Tangerine Bowl (Orlando, Fla.)**
 Western 27, Coast Guard Academy 0

- 1952—Refrigerator Bowl (Evansville, Ind.)**
 Western 34, Arkansas State 19



Western's Red Towel

Western's unique red towel originated with the late E.A. Diddle, one of the most successful coaches in history and a member of the Naismith and Helms Athletic Foundation Halls of Fame.

Through 1,062 Hilltopper basketball games — 759 of them wins, fourth highest total ever for a coach — Diddle clutched a red towel. He chewed on it, threw it, cried on it, waved it at fans and used it to signal players.

Though Mr. Diddle has been identified primarily with 'Topper basketball, he won his first game at Western on the gridiron — 6-0 over Louisville. He coached football from 1922 through 1928, winning at a 61 percent rate and running up a victory total that was unsurpassed until 1954. His 1928 squad, one of the best in Western annals, marched to the state championship, outscoring their opposition 171-7.

The red towel became synonymous with Ed Diddle and he became synonymous with Western's winning athletic heritage. And now fans at every Hilltopper sporting event wave red towels as they cheer for the "Big Red."

The '82 Hilltoppers

Captain: Tom Fox, 6-4, 255, Sr., Defensive End, Parma, Ohio
 Alternates: John Newby, 6-1, 186, Sr., Split End, Clairton, Pa.
 David Suggs, 6-0, 200, Sr., Bandit Back, Shelbyville, Tenn.

Basic Offense: "I"
 Basic Defense: 3-4-4
 Lettermen Lost/Returning: 12/36
 Offense: 6/18
 Defense: 6/16
 Kickers: 0/2
 Starters Lost/Returning: 8/16
 Offense: 2/9
 Defense: 6/5
 Kickers: 0/2

Heaviest: Tom Fox, 255
 Lightest: Rodney Clark, 165
 Alan Mullins, 165
 Average Weight: 201.94 pounds
 Tallest: Jim King, 6-6
 Shortest: Danny Embree, 5-8
 Glendell Miller, 5-8
 Average Height: 6-0 5/6
 Oldest: Mike Miller, 23 (2/6/59)
 Youngest: Stacy Johnson, 17
 (12/12/64)
 Average Age: 19.90 years

1981 All-OVC Selections

Player	Ht.	Wt.	'80 Class	Position
Barry Bumm	6-0	175	Senior	Defensive Back
Donnie Evans	6-4	250	Senior	Down Lineman
Paul Gray	6-2	220	Sophomore	Linebacker
John Newby	6-1	186	Junior	Wide Receiver

1982 Veterans Roster



FOX



GRAY



HUNTER



NEWBY

Name	Class	Pos	Ht	Wt	Hometown (High School)
Tony Antony	Jr.	BB	6-2	215	Bowling Green, Ky. (Warren East)
Ralph Antone***	Sr.	QB	6-2	195	McMurray, Pa. (Peters Township)
Greg Barnes**	Jr.	BB	6-1	197	Memphis, Tenn. (Canton, Ill.)
Jeff Bender*	Jr.	QB	5-11	190	Tampa, Fla. (Jesusit)
Richard Bryant	So.	DE	6-2	235	Cohutta, Ga. (Northwest Whitfield)
Stuart Bundy	Fr.	NT	6-0	220	Toronto, Ontario (Malvern Collegiate)
Tyrone Byrd	So.	CB	5-11	180	Toledo, Ohio (Scott)
Ty Campbell*	So.	FB	6-1	212	Milton, W. Va. (Milton)
Dante Carpenter*	So.	FS	6-0	185	Russell Springs, Ky. (Russell Co.)
Rodney Clark	Fr.	TB	5-10	165	Winchester, Ky. (George Rogers Clark)
Marvin Cottrell**	Jr.	LB	5-10	190	Harlan, Ky. (Evarts)
Mark DeRuzzo**	Jr.	CB	6-1	167	New Orleans, La. (Louisville Eastern)
Justin Diel	Fr.	QB	6-1	180	Gallatin, Tenn. (Gallatin Senior)
Tony Eatherly**	Jr.	DE	6-0	215	Bowling Green, Ky. (Bowling Green)
Danny Embree**	Jr.	TB	5-8	180	Buffalo, Ky. (Larue Co.)
Ronnie Fishback**	Jr.	CB	5-11	170	Shelbyville, Tenn. (Central)
Tom Fox***	Sr.	DE	6-4	255	Parma, Ohio (Parma)
Paul Gray**	Jr.	LB	6-2	222	Gilbertsville, Ky. (Davies Co.)
Jim Griffiths**	Sr.	PK	6-1	195	Glen Burnie, Md. (Old Mill)
Randy Grimes*	So.	SS	6-0	190	Paducah, Ky. (Tilghman)
Walter Haberlock	Fr.	PK-P	6-0	205	Princeton, Ky. (Caldwell Co.)
David Hall	So.	BB	6-2	205	Springfield, Ky. (Washington Co.)
Mike Hamilton*	So.	DE	6-0	220	Madisonville, Ky. (North Hopkins)
Glenn Hickman	So.	SpE	6-2	173	Bardstown, Ky. (Bardstown)
Dennis Horning	So.	LB	6-0	200	Kent, Ohio (Roosevelt)
Charlie Houser	So.	TB	6-0	177	Bloomington, Ind. (Bloomington North)
Ron Hunter***	Sr.	FI	5-11	195	Princeton, Ky. (Caldwell Co.)
Sylvester Ingram	Jr.	FB	5-11	215	Greensburg, Ky. (Green Co.)
Reginald Johnson***	Sr.	SS	6-2	205	Tampa, Fla. (Hillsboro)
Alan Jones*	Jr.	G	6-1	225	Louisville, Ky. (Fern Creek)
Jim King**	Jr.	G	6-6	250	Bolingbrook, Ill. (Bolingbrook)
Jo-Jo Lee***	Sr.	SpE	5-9	175	Daytona Beach, Fla. (Spruce Creek)
Mickey Lewis*	So.	TE	6-0	208	Glasgow, Ky. (Barren Co.)
Tom Lucky	Fr.	LB	6-0	205	Paris, Ky. (Bourbon Co.)
Paul Majors	So.	FS	6-1	170	Mt. Juliet, Tenn. (Mt. Juliet)
Elliott Mallard**	Jr.	T	6-2	245	Pinellas Park, Fla. (Clearwater Central Catholic)

Mike Miller***	Sr.	P	6-0	170	Frankfort, Ky. (Franklin Co.)
Davlin Mullen***	Sr.	CB	6-1	173	Clairton, Pa. (Clairton)
Mark Nelson***	Sr.	FI	6-1	192	Mercer, Pa. (Mercer)
John Newby**	Sr.	SpE	6-1	186	Clairton, Pa. (Clairton)
David Norwood*	So.	BB	6-0	190	Louisville, Ky. (Iroquois)
Greg Poppelwell	Fr.	T	6-1	250	Russell Springs, Ky. (Russell Co.)
James Potter	Fr.	CB	5-11	175	Nashville, Tenn. (McGavock)
Fred Prince	Fr.	TE	6-5	220	Clairton, Pa. (Clairton)
Robert Ray**	Jr.	LB	6-1	215	Nashville, Tenn. (Stratford)
Will Rice*	Jr.	T-C	6-4	244	Elizabethtown, Ky. (Elizabethtown)
Scott Rouch**	Jr.	G	6-2	235	Galveston, Ind. (Lewis Cass)
Richard Sampson	Jr.	T	6-0	240	Broomall, Pa. (Maple Newtown)
Rick Schneider*	Jr.	C	6-2	230	Louisville, Ky. (DeSales)
Pat Simpson***	Sr.	T	6-2	250	Hopkinsville, Ky. (Hopkinsville)
Todd Sims*	Jr.	C	6-0	208	Louisville, Ky. (Doss)
Tommy Smith**	Jr.	TE	6-3	215	Lebanon, Ky. (Marion Co.)
David Suggs***	Sr.	BB	6-0	200	Shelbyville, Tenn. (Central)
Scott Travis	Fr.	QB	6-3	190	Glasgow, Ky. (Glasgow)
Joel Whitney	Fr.	NT	6-2	210	Shelbyville, Tenn. (Central)
Walter York**	Jr.	BB	6-2	210	Bowling Green, Ky. (Warren Central)

*denotes letters won.

1982 Signees

Barry Anderson	Fr.	T	6-4	230	Nashville, Tenn. (McGavock)
Troy Bensing	Fr.	TE	6-5	225	New Albany, Ind. (New Albany)
Steve Biggs	Fr.	DE	6-3	225	Newburgh, Ind. (Castle)
Mike Bradley	Fr.	DE	6-3	220	Louisville, Ky. (Ballard)
Mike Clemens	Fr.	SS	6-3	190	Owensboro, Ky. (Catholic)
Rick Densdorf	Fr.	LB	6-0	210	Rockport, Ind. (South Spencer)
Mark Fatkin	Fr.	DE	6-3	220	Elizabethtown, Ky. (North Hardin)
Rob Howerton	Fr.	FB	6-2	225	Evansville, Ind. (Reitz)
Stacy Johnson	Fr.	LB	6-1	218	Henderson, Ky. (Henderson Co.)
Glendell Miller	Fr.	TB	5-8	175	Owensboro, Ky. (Senior)
Terry Mimms	Fr.	TB	5-10	175	Madisonville, Ky. (North Hopkins)
Alan Mullins	Fr.	SpE	6-0	165	Independence, Ky. (Simon Kenton)
Tommy Pace	Fr.	NT	5-10	230	Paducah, Ky. (Tilghman)
Darrell Sadler	Fr.	FB	6-0	175	Madison, Tenn. (Madison)
Greg Taylor	Fr.	TB	5-10	185	Corbin, Ky. (Corbin)
Mark Williamson	Fr.	SS	6-0	205	Chandler, Ind. (Castle)