1977

UA19/17/1/1 Baseball Media Guide

WKU Athletic Media Relations

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1977 SCHEDULE

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*Ohio Valley Conference Western Division games*

1976 RESULTS

OVERALL T-21 OVC: 2-8

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*Ohio Valley Conference Western Division games*

UNIVERSITY INFORMATION

Location: Bowling Green, Ky, 42101
Conference: Ohio Valley Conference
Nickname: Hilltoppers
Colors: Red and White
President: Dr. Dan O. Deason
Enrollment: 13,352 (1976-77)
Chairman, University Athletic Committee: Dr. John Minton
Athletic Director: John Oldham
Baseball Coach: Dr. Barry Shollenberger
Home Field: Nick Deans Field
Athletic Office Phone: Area 502 745-9542 or 745-3348

—FOR INFORMATION ON ALL SPORTS—
Assistant Public Relations Director: Ed Genius
Phone: 745-4295

1977 OUTLOOK

Dr. Barry Shollenberger, in his first year as head coach of Western Kentucky University's baseball team, unabashedly calls 1977 "a rebuilding year."

"I don't know how we could classify it as anything else, he declared, "since we have 21 new faces (including 12 freshmen) among the 33 names on our roster."

"While we don't have a lot in numbers," he continued, "we do have some 'quality' people back from last season."

"If we can find enough 'quality' players among our newcomers to complement them, we could become a darkhorse contender."

Shollenberger vows the Hilltoppers' strong point will be a positive attitude.

"We'll hustle, whether we're winning by 20 runs or losing by 20," he declared.

"Our next biggest asset is pitching depth. Baseball is a game that begins and ends with pitching. We do have depth... we'll have to see if enough of our pitchers come up to Ohio Valley Conference standards."

"Our hitting is best termed as inexperienced. Returnees Terry Todder (first base), Gary Larimore (outfield) and Wally Moss (catcher-designated hitter) will provide some solid leadership there, but our other hitters are virtually untested against quality pitching."

In mid-winter, Shollenberger saw defense as the area in which the Hilltoppers needed the most work, "but we can't work on defense indoors. We'll have to wait until we get outside and see what we can put together."

He added, "Our speed and base-running are adequate, but not outstanding. We'd like to run and put as much pressure as possible on the defense. I don't know yet how much pressure our speed will let us bring to bear."

He further noted, "The staff at Middle Georgia, for example, had a composite earned run staff had a combined earned average of 2.06, ninth best in the league's lowest ERA at 2.14 and was named the league's rookie of the year."

However, he injured his arm in September of that year. After being drafted to the major league roster of the Cincinnati Reds in November, 1962, he advanced as high as San Diego in the Class AAA Pacific Coast League before retiring from pro baseball in August, 1965, because of chronic tendinitis.

His coaching career has been marked by his ability to develop outstanding pitchers and top-flight won-loss records. His pitching staff at Middle Georgia, for example, had a composite earned run average of only 1.57. His combined coaching record over 11 seasons is 218-93, a .701 percentage.

Shollenberger is married to the former Renee Royals and they have two daughters, Kimberly 11, and Julie, almost 2.
HILLTOPPER STANDOUTS

BOB BRISTOW
A senior with a wealth of experience, Bristow could serve as prototype for the kind of defensive centerfielder every team needs—plenty of speed and a strong accurate throwing arm. He is also a solid base-stealing threat.

GEORGE BROOKS
As the only pitcher staff, Brooks ranks as the team’s “crayti veteran,” challenging hitters with an assortment of fastballs, curves and off-speed pitches, usually on the “black” part of the plate.

GARY LARIMORE
Larimore is a great left to hold down the cleanup spot in the batting order after proving himself as a power hitter over the past two seasons. He is a highly capable fielder with a strong arm from his right field spot.

WALLY MOSS
Moss is a veteran catcher expected to have an outstanding season. How much he is used behind the plate and how often he will be used as the designated hitter will likely be determined by how well he has recovered from a shoulder injury suffered last fall.

PAUL ORBERSON
A hard-throwing left hander, Orberson was voted the squad’s outstanding pitcher at the end of fall practice. Only a junior, he could become the team’s “big game” pitcher this spring.

STEVE ROBERTSON
This junior outfielder is bouncing back from a fall practice injury that limited him for two months. Prior to that, his consistent contact at the plate and all-around defensive ability marked him as a prime contender for the left field position.

TERRY TEDDER
Tedder, a first baseman, is a complete player and a quality hitter. He batted above .300 in both his freshman and sophomore seasons. He runs exceptionally well and has a strong throwing arm.

HILLTOPPER DEPTH CHART

CF
Bristow
Doan
Combest

2B
Owens
House

RF
Larimore
Hawes

LF
Robertson
Hughes
Cave

SS
Ray

3B
Atkinson
Kuzman
Brnan

HALL OF FAMERS

Name: Pos.  Bt. Wt. K/7  Class  Hometown (High School)
Jim Atkinson, SB 6-1  190  R-R So. Auburn, N.Y. (Auburn)
Rick Baker, P 6-1  175  R-R Fr. Beslerstown, Md. (Franklin)
Mark Biven, P 5-11  190  R-R So. Covington, Ky. (Henderson)
Bill Branstetter, P 5-11  195  R-R Fr. Mt. Washington, Ky. (Bullitt Central)
George Brooks, P 5-0  185  R-R Fr. Owensboro, Ky. (St. Joseph)
Larry Cave, IF-OF 5-8  165  L-R Jr. Benton Harbor, Mich. (Elizabethton)
Mike Collier, 1B 5-10  165  L-L Fr. Benton Harbor, Mich. (Elizabethton)
Rick Combest, OF 5-8  185  L-R Fr. Henderson, Ky. (Henderson Co.)
Greg Doan, OF 6-0  190  R-R Fr. Shepherdsville, Ky. (Bullitt Central)
Mike Green, C 6-0  185  L-R So. Gainsville, Ga. (Johnson)
Terry Hackett, P 6-0  185  R-R Fr. Merriville, Ind.
Wendell Hartley, P 5-8  170  R-R Fr. Paducah, Texas (Cleveland)
David Hawes, IF-OF 5-10  145  R-R Fr. Owensboro, Ky. (Paducah, Texas (Cleveland))
Ronald Hughes, SS 5-8  140  R-R Jr. Reisterstown, Md. (Bullitt East)
Tim Kellum, P 6-3  170  R-R Fr. Fairfield, Ohio (Fairfield)
Gary Larimore, OF 6-0  175  R-R Sr. Bowling Green, Ky. (Evansville, Ind.)
Jerry Kuzma, SB 5-8  205  R-R So. Merriville, Ind.
Gary Larimore, OF 6-0  175  R-R Sr. Bowling Green, Ky. (Evansville, Ind.)
Terry Tedder, 1B 5-9  170  L-R Jr. Bowling Green, Ky. (Evansville, Ind.)

1977 ROSTER

Name. Pos.  Bt. Wt. K/T  Class  Hometown (High School)
Jim Atkinson, SB 6-1  190 R-R So. Auburn, N.Y. (Auburn)
Rick Baker, P 6-1  175 R-R Fr. Beslerstown, Md. (Franklin)
Mark Biven, P 5-11  190 R-R So. Covington, Ky. (Henderson)
Bill Branstetter, P 5-11  195 R-R Fr. Mt. Washington, Ky. (Bullitt Central)
George Brooks, P 5-0  185 R-R Fr. Owensboro, Ky. (St. Joseph)
Larry Cave, OF-OF 5-8  165 L-R Jr. Benton Harbor, Mich. (Elizabethton)
Mike Collier, 1B 5-10  165 L-L Fr. Benton Harbor, Mich. (Elizabethton)
Rick Combest, OF 5-8  185 L-R Fr. Henderson, Ky. (Henderson Co.)
Greg Doan, OF 6-0  190 R-R Fr. Shepherdsville, Ky. (Bullitt Central)
Mike Green, C 6-0  185 L-R So. Gainsville, Ga. (Johnson)
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David Hawes, IF-OF 5-10  145 R-R Fr. Owensboro, Ky. (Paducah, Texas (Cleveland))
Ronald Hughes, SS 5-8  140 R-R Jr. Reisterstown, Md. (Bullitt East)
Tim Kellum, P 6-3  170 R-R Fr. Fairfield, Ohio (Fairfield)
Gary Larimore, OF 6-0  175 R-R Sr. Bowling Green, Ky. (Evansville, Ind.)
Jerry Kuzma, SB 5-8  205 R-R So. Merriville, Ind.
Gary Larimore, OF 6-0  175 R-R Sr. Bowling Green, Ky. (Evansville, Ind.)
Terry Tedder, 1B 5-9  170 L-R Jr. Bowling Green, Ky. (Evansville, Ind.)

1978 STATISTICS

BATTING

Player  R   BB  3B  2B  H  R  A  BB  AVG
Harold Craft 93  31  12  5  3  0  2  0 .337
Terry Tedder 55  23  10  11  5  5  3  0 .361
Gary Larimore 86  25  13  10  7  7  1  1 .291
Mark Biven 72  37  3  1  0  0  1  0 .265
Jim Atkinson 73  17  12  6  4  0  3 .333
Steve Robertson 27  6  3  2  2  0  0 .222
Steve Rock 38  19  12  7  1  1  2 .218
Steve Patton 24  5  5  5  1  0  1  0 .208
Larry Case 44  7  8  7  2  0  0 .200
Wally Moss 39  8  3  2  5  0  0 .200
Jeff Baker 16  9  1  2  0  0  0 .188
David Kendall 11  2  2  2  0  0 .182
Richard Hoffman 33  2  2  0  1 .150
Darrell Stevenson 47  6  8  5  3  0  1 .177
Jerry Kuzma 17  7  2  1 .118
Others 32  9  9  0  1  0  0 .281

TOTALS 731  174 114  61  33  6  11 .241

PITCHERS

Baker  Kellum
Biven  Larimore
Brooks  McKinley  (L)
Brown  Orberston  (L)
Hartley  Riggs  Ryder  (L)

C Moss
Kendall  Green  Russell

1978 LEADERS

Pitching

Player  G  IP  ER  HR  BB  SO  W  L  ERA
Robertson 9  36  14  34  17  92  18  0  5.50
Bob Kirke 9  30  14  19  8  52  7  2 .287
Tom Baker 12  33  17  20  13  2  9  2 .227
Jim Cox 5  17  12  7  14  1  0  2  3.57
Jeff McKinley 6  18  12  10  3  4  3  0  3.00
Bill Shenks 9  18  11  15  15  8  1  2 .570

2017-2018 LEADERS