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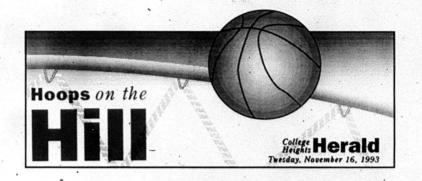
UA12/2/1 Hoops on the Hill

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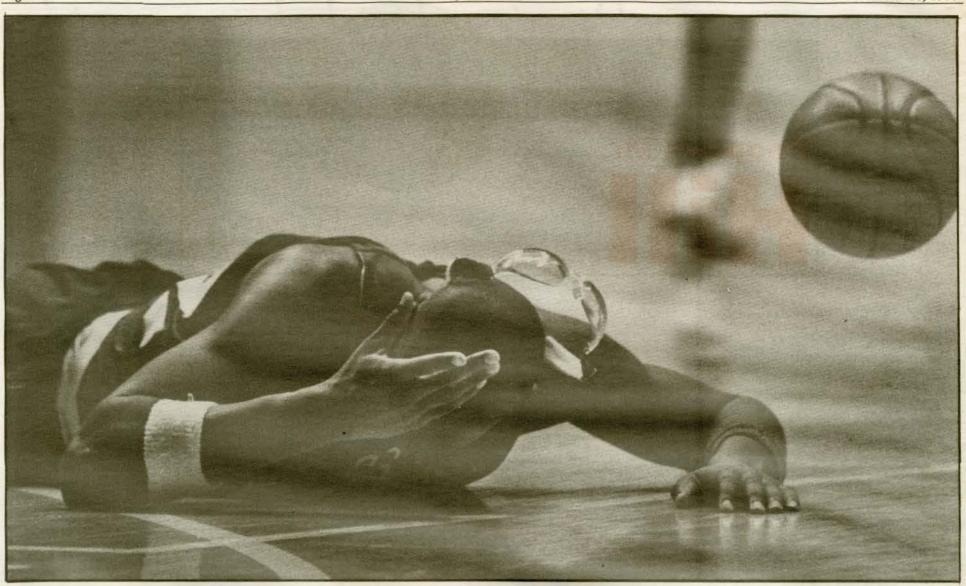
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A New Attitude



Teak Phillips/Herald

Western center Darius Hall scored 22 points and grabbed 11 rebounds for the red team in Friday's Red/White scrimmage at Diddle Arena. The squads tied 90-90. Hall started at forward last year, averaging 9.4 points and 6.1 rebounds per game. Some preseason magazines have him on their All-Sun Belt Conference team.

The three Qs: Quickness, quickness, quickness

◆ Coach Ralph Willard and his players say the team may not have the height, but it sure has the speed. And, come tourney time, it will pay off. Willard says the team may be bumpy at first, but in March everything will come together.

ick out one of Coach Ralph Willard's Hilltoppers, any Topper, and ask him what the key to this year's team is, and the "Q" word will likely be the first response you hear.

"Everybody we play against, we'll use our quickness to our advantage," said junior forward Greg Glass.

"Quickness — I don't think there's any question that we're more gifted athletically than we

were last year," said junior guard Darrin Horn.

To match the success of last year's squad, this year's version of the Hilltoppers had better be

Gone from last year's 26-6 team are Darnell Mee and Mark Bell, the Topper's two leading scorers. Center Bryan Brown, who used up his eligibility, leaves another hole to fill in the lineup.

Into the breach step seven new players, a recruiting class ranked in the top 20 by many publications. Freshmen Brad Cirino, Andre Lewis, Danyell Macklin, and Kevin Willard join junior college transfers Steve Holley, Deon Jackson, and Jeff Rogers in putting on the Topper red and white for the first time.

All of those new faces inevitably lead to breakdowns in practice, Willard said. "I understood going in it was going to take time," he said. "We got spoiled last year."

Willard said he expects this to be a transitional year at the start of the season, but the team should be competitive at the end. "We may be a little bumpy early on," he said. "We're going to be a good team in January and a very good team in February."

The burden of carrying the team early rests on the shoulders of Western's other veteran players.

Forward Cypheus Bunton, the team captain and the only senior, said it's a weight he and the others are happy to carry. In his role as captain, Bunton said he's had to get on some of the newer players in practice. "I try to talk to them, give them confidence," he said. "I know what the new guys are going through, that's for sure."

"Normally a team that loses three starters, including two the caliber of 6-4 Darnell Mee and 5-9 Mark Bell, might be expected to encounter some turbulence. Not so with Ralph Willard's fourth Hilltopper outfit."

— Street and Smith's College/Prep Basketball magazine

Sole senior: Bunton leads by example

When Cypheus Bunton twisted his ankle in preseason practice, it brought back some bad memories for the Louisville senior

"I injured myself on the ninth (Nov. 9), and last year I injured myself on the ninth, so it was kind of a deja vu thing.

Last year's injury was costly for Bunton. He fell and broke his wrist before the season started, and missed most of the first half of the season.

This year's injury, in which Bunton chipped a bone in his right ankle, was relatively minor, so he only missed a few practices.

Bunton wasn't the only one relieved that the injury wasn't severe. Coach Ralph Willard is counting on Bunton, this year's only senior and the team captain, to provide leadership.

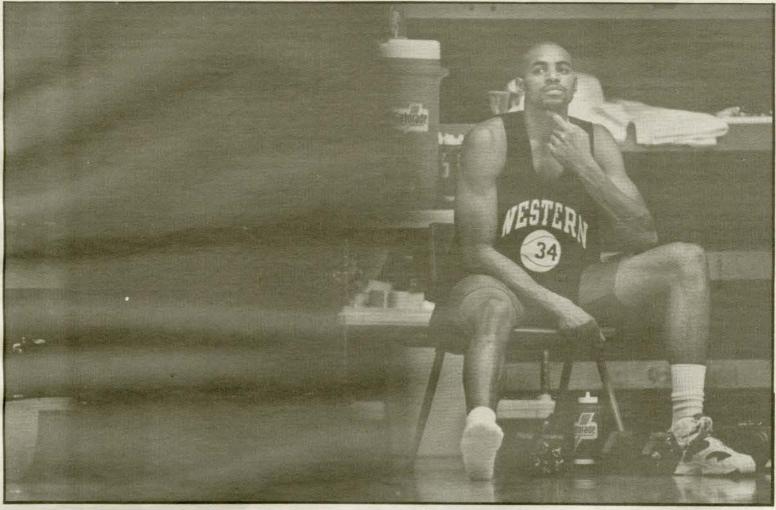
"He's very important," Willard said. "He's a defensive stopper, first and foremost, and he's our leader on the floor. You need someone like that out there."

Bunton said he tries to lead more by example, but don't think he's just the strong, silent type in practice. "At some point you've got to get on the new guys, but it really hasn't been much of a problem with this team.

Sophomore guard/forward Chris Robinson said the younger players have tried to follow Bunton's lead in practice. "He's not really an outspoken leader, he said. "We go by his example because we know what he's doing, but when something needs to be said, he'll say it."
Off the court, Bunton is also

getting recognition for his senior status. Two Western supporters, Tom Baker and Darell Pierce, have printed a poster prominently featuring Bunton.

"Tom came up with the idea last year at the NCAA regionals of Cypheus busting through the roof of Diddle Arena, since he



Marc Piscotty/Herald

Team captain Cypheus Bunton, the only senior on the Topper team, watches from the sidelines during practice last week after injuring his ankle. "He's very important," Coach Ralph Willard said. "He's a defensive stopper, first and foremost, and he's our leader on the floor. You need someone like that out there."

can jump so high," Pierce said.
The posters, which are available at several Bowling Green stores, cost \$5. Pierce said all profits would be given to Western basketball.

Bunton said he likes the poster. But Bunton has higher goals than being featured on a college poster. What he would really like is to be featured on a poster in an NBA uniform.

Bunton, who called playing professionally "a lifelong dream," said he learned a lot by watching current NBA player Darnell Mee

in workouts last year.

But for now, Bunton has more immediate goals. They include staying healthy and averaging double figures in scoring. As for the team, Bunton said he'd like to see the Toppers win every game and a national champi-

onship, but he isn't ready to predict that just yet.

"We're going to get 20 wins for sure," he said. "And I know for sure we'll win the Sun Belt Conference championship. And after that, we'll just have to wait

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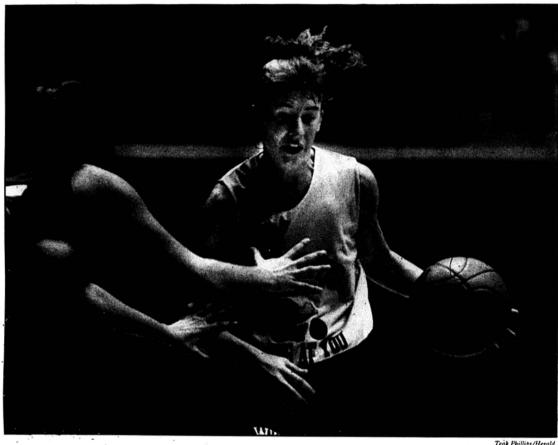
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Teak Phillips/Herald

Sophomore point guard Dawn Warner drives into the lane during the Hilltopper Red/White scrimmage Sunday in Diddle Arena.

pressure ◆ The Lady Toppers have a new aggressive style of offense.

They say they'll pressure other teams right off the floor, but it's going to take some time to put it all together.

f you go to a Lady Topper practice this season, you'll probably see 15 players who are drained both mentally and physically. Coach Paul Sanderford said rough practices will be the key to a successful season.

"We beat a lot of people in our practices," he said. "We don't accept anything halfway done. I tell the players to 'push yourself and play through the fatigue factor."

The players have done that so far, and sophomore guard Dawn Warner said the practices will benefit the team throughout the season.

"Coach Sanderford is a reasonable person and his goals can be achieved," she said. "We'll run people off the floor and we'll push the ball up the court."

The team hopes its up and down the floor and pressuring style of play will produce a lot of wins.

"We're ahead of progress in a lot of ways, but in other ways we are lacking," Warner said. "We're learning each other's moves and who to look for to be a leader, all the little things that build a great program."

story by Dennis Varney



After sitting out a season, Doyle ready for action

"It's going to be

- Gwen Doyle

junior forward

different — the

whole town is behind us."

Lady Topper forward Gwen Doyle has crossed two tough Doyle has crossed two tough bridges in her basketball career before coming to Western. After problems with the ages, ing staff at the University of Louisville, which ended

her two-year stint as a Lady Cardinal, a brush with the law during the summer put things into per-spective for

just wasn't happy at Louisville any-more," she said. "The coach and i didn't see eye to eye. I also wanted to play in the NCAA

tournament and we couldn't even

get out of the Metro."

After being chosen Metro Conference Player of the Year as a sophomore, Doyle spent last year at Western practicing with the team and waiting for her turn

to play in a game.

Becoming a Lady Topper was a smooth transition for her until she was charged with shoplifting during the summer.

"It was just something that

"It was just something that unfortunately happened, but it's behind me now," she said. "People make mistakes and that's part of life. I just want to bygones to be bygones

Coach Paul Sanderford said Doyle has grown up a lot in the past year and that her troubles should be behind her now.

"She realizes what it means to be in the limelight as a basketball player where everyone is watch-ing her," he said. "Gwen is a good person and she wants people to Now, Doyle is expected to con-

tinue to put up the numbers she did at Louisville.

She averaged 16.5 points and 9.7 rebounds during her sophomore year with the Lady Cardinals and scored more than 1,000 points in two years.

"A lot of people said I should

have went here in the first place, but I don't regret going to Louisville," she said. "I set a lot of records and had some memorable experiences

there. She She said doing that at Western could be tough. "I haven't played in two years if you include the summers," she said. "It's been a major adjust-ment, but I've

made it so far Doyle said she knows much is expected of her. Sander-ford said she is

a potential All-American. He also said she could be another Lillie Mason, Clemette Haskins or Kim Pehlke, three of the best players in Lady Topper "I like to be under pressure at

but it was too much pressure at Louisville," Doyle said. "Everyone looked to Gwen to carry the team

She said she won't feel too much pressure here.

"We have 15 good players on this team," Doyle said. "We've got players to complement me and we've got a deep bench." Sanderford said much of the

Sanderford said much of the team's success will depend on what Doyle does this year. Teammate Denise Hill agreed, "She's a great player and she can go into any program and play," Hill said, "She's got a lot of tal-

Sanderford said Doyle has the

Sanderford said Doyle has the ability to be in a class by herself. She was on pace to do that at Louisville, and Doyle said she wants to continue that at Western. "It's going to be different—the whole town is behind the Lady Toppers," she said, "I think we can win a national championsh it's going to be very competitive



Gwen Doyle came to Western after playing for the University of Louisville for two years. "I just wasn't happy at Louisville anymore," she said. "The coach and I didn't see eye to eye. I also wanted to playin the NCAA tournament and we couldn't get out of the Metro." Coach Paul Sanderford and Says Doyle could be another Lillie Mason or Clemette Haskins, two great former Lady Toppers.

TOPPER TRIVIA

Q: What is the Lady Topper's longest winning streak in a season?

A: 21 games (1990-91)

Q: The Lady Toppers placed second in the 1992 NCAA tournament to what team? A: Stanford (78-62)

Q: What team did the Lady Toppers defeat to win the women's college basketball state championship in

A: Kentucky (27-19; Western was coached by Ed Diddle; UK was coached by A.B. "Happy" Chandler)

Q: What team defeated the Lady Toppers in the 1992 NCAA Championship game?

A: Stanford (78-62 at the Sports Arena, Los Angeles)

Q: Who is the only Lady Topper to earn first-team Kodak All-American honors? A: Lillie Mason (1985)

Q: What was the nickname of Lillie Mason A: "Magic"



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Rogers: JUCO All-American feeling the pressure

Preseason hype. Coaches hate it, fans love it and the press makes its living off

of Western's new basketball players is now going to have to learn to adjust to it

Junior college transfer Jeff Rogers has been named the Sun Belt Conference's "Newcomer of the Year" in nearly every preseason basketball publication, including Sporting News and Street & Smith's

Smith's

Now Rogers' job is to prove
that he is worthy of the billing.

"It's a lot of pressure on me,"
the junior point guard said. "I
don't want to let myself down or anybody else down But the coaches told me not to worry about it and just to worry about my job on the court."

Junior forward Deon Jackson. Rogers' roommate, said he hasn't noticed the pressure getting to Rogers

"He knew what he had to do when he came here," he said "Now, he has to work toward-that goal." that goal

If past performances are any indication, Rogers shouldn't

have any problems

As a sophomore at Kaskaskia (III.) College last season, he was the fourth-leading scorer in the junior college ranks, averaging 29.7 points per game. He shot an impressive 61 percent from the floor, including 38 percent from three point range, and still found time to dish off eight assists per

For his efforts, Rogers was named a second team All-American by the junior college coaches association

"I was real excited about that," Rogers said "I got to travel to Colorado in May and

play with the other 11 All-Americans. We got to play against some other college and o stars. Sean Rooks and Joey pro stars. Sean Ro Wright were there.

Rooks is a former University of Arizona star. Wright played for the University of Texas.

Out of Cincinnati's Withrow High School, Rogers was lightly recruited and decided to go to a junior college in order to gain

experience and playing time.

After his stellar season last
year, things changed for Rogers, and the recruiters were beating down his doors

Rogers hometown school, the niversity of Cincinnati, was one of those recruiting him.

of those recruiting him.

"I wasn't really a Cincinnati
fan," he said. "They really didn't
recruit me hard out of high
school, and it made me mad."

However, Western recruited
him differently.

"They recruited me the whole

"They recruited me the whole year," Rogers said. "Coach (Tom) Crean and Coach (Ralph) Willard were real interested in me the whole year. They sent me a lot of postcards just to keep in touch. That impressed me and had a lot

to do with my coming here."
Willard thinks Rogers can be impact player right away for the Toppers

"He's a junior and a point guard, so he's got to be a floor leader," he said. "He's very quick, especially off the dribble. He gives us a lot of quickness on defense and offense, but he's ctil learning expertises.

Now that Rogers is on the Hill, he realizes that his role will be different than it was in junior

college.
"I was basically an offensive player and a scorer in junior college," he said. "Here, I'll have to penetrate and get everybody involved. It doesn't bother me, though. I've got a lot of great



Guard Jeff Rogers, a junior college transfer, scored 13 points in Friday's scrimmage game.

players around me, and that will make me a better player."

make me a better player."

That attitude may have been different were it not for his high school coach, George Jackson, who Rogers calls his "second

"I almost got cut my senior year," Rogers said. "Me and him

were getting into a lot* of disagreements. I was doing a lot of shooting, and he taught me that you can't win with just one

person."

Just like every other college player, Rogers dreams of playing professionally. But now, he is focusing on this year's goals.

"I want to win the Sun Beit and go to the Final Four," he said. "All the guys that were here last year have been showing me their rings. It makes me mad that I couldn't enjoy what they went through last year. But hopefully before I leave, I'll have two rings."



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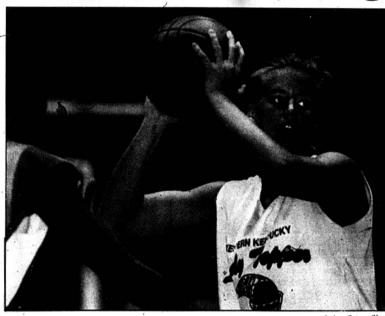
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Foreign player adjusting to Western



Andrew Cutraro/Herald

Jaana Heikkila, a freshman guard from Espoo, Finland, says her goal this year is to score five points and get five assists a game. "I'm going to be disappointed if I get zero points.

OPPER TRIVIA

Q: What is the Toppers' largest single-game margin of victory? A: 96 points (103-7 over Adairville Independents in Coach Diddle's first game as Western coach, Jan. 20, 1923)

Q: What was the name of Western's original basketball.facility?

A: "Little Red Barn'

Q: What was the seating capacity of the Red Barn?

A: 4,500 (Western played there from 1931-63)

Q: What is the single-game attendance record at Diddle Arena? A: 14,277 (versus Murray State, Feb. 27, 1971; Western won, 73-59)

Q: What state school has the largest on-campus basketball facility? A: Western (Diddle Arena holds 11,300 people)

A teammate called her a basketball junkie. Coach Paul Sanderford said she is one of the few players who would ask to play another hour after one of his strenuous practices.

Jaana Heikkila, a freshman guard from Espoo, Finland, said she loves basketball and she loves

estern.
She said it hasn't been difficult adjusting to

She said it hasn't been difficult adjusting to living in a different country, but it has been hard for her figure out what everyone was saying at first. "Sometimes they laugh when I don't understand them," she said. "Sometimes in my classes I don't understand and I have to look through my dictionary."

Heikkila said she hasn't had any problem adjusting to the Lady Toppers' style of play.

"Most of the drills are like the ones we ran in Finland," she

said. "There's a lot more detail here. but I've fit in well."

Sanderford said she hasn't had any problems so far. "She's a lot of fun to coach because she listens and wants to learn." Heikkila

said passing and shooting has improved so far. Shoot

"Sometimes they laugh when I don't understand them."

> - Jaana Heikkila

freshman guard

improved so far. She said she can't wait to use her skills in a game.

"Every minute of the game I'll be glad to play," Heikikila said. "I'm going to be disappointed if I get zero points. My goal is five points and five assists per game." per game."

She almost decided to try putting those numbers

She almost decided to try putting those numbers up at a different school.

"At first I was going to UK, but then I came to camp here and realized how good they were," she said. "I think I made a good choice. I love the coaches and trust the program."

Heikkila said she is considering staying in the United States after she graduates.

"I'm not homesick at all," she said. "If I find someone. I wish take where I like American.

someone, I might stay here. I like American lifestyle; it's a lot easier." Teammate Dawn Warner said it is obvious Heikkila likes it here.

"She's already made an impact right from the start," Warner said. "When she got here she always wanted to know what was going on and why we didn't want to play all the time."

Sanderford said that attitude will make her a

Sanderiord said that attitude will make her a great player.

"She likes everything that goes along with basketball," he said. "She's so honest and genuine, it's contagious to the other players. If it can be done physically, she'll get it done."

Heikkila said that at first she thought it would be difficult to each bear the said.

be difficult to play here

"I told my Mom that maybe they would expect too much of me, but she told me to try my best and just be myself. I'm going to play and try to not take

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Western. **UNO** top Sun Belt polls

NCAA Preview

- South Alabama
- Arkansas State Southwestern Louisiana
- Lamar
- 7 Arkansas Little Rock 8 Jacksonville
- 9 Louisiana Tech 10 Texas-Pan American

Preseason All-SBC G Michael Allen, USL

- G Greg Guy, Texas Pan
- American F Jeff Clifton, Arkansas State
- Meivin Simon, New Orleans Darius Hall, Western

Kentucky Preseason Player of the Year

Melvin Simon, New Orleans Preseason Newcomer of the Year Jeff Rogers, Western Kentucky

COLLEGE SPORTS MAGAZINE Predicted Order of SBC Finish

- Western Southwestern Louisiana
- Arkansas State
- New Orleans South Alabama
- Louisiana Tech Arkansas Little Rock
- Jacksonville
- 10 Texas Pan American

Preseasen All-SBC Team

- Jeff Clifton, Arkansas State Melsin Simon, New Orleans Barry Brown, Jacksonville
- 6 Michael Allen, USL
- G Darrin Horn, Western
- Kentucky

Preseason Player of the Year Melvin Simon, New Orleans

STREET & SMITH'S Predicted Order of SBC Finish

- New Orleans
- Western
- 3 South Alabama 4 Southwestern Louisiana
- Arkansas State Jacksonville
- Lamar
- Texas Pan American
- Arkansas Little Rock 10 Louisiana Tech

Preseason All-SBC Team Greg Guy, Texas Pan American Michael Allen, USL Michael Allen, USL Melvin Simon, New Orleans Jeff Clifton, Arkansas State Charlie Burke, South Alabama Preseason Outstanding Player Greg Guy, Texas Pan American Preseason Top Newcomer Jeff Rogers, Western Kentucky

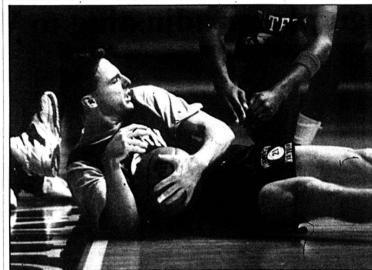
THE SPORTING NEWS

Predicted Order of SBC Finish

- New Orleans
- Western
- Southwestern Louisiana South Alabama
- Lamar Arkansas State
- Arkansas Little Rock
- Jacksonville
- 9 Louisiana Tech
- 10 Texas Pan American

Preseason All-SBC 1st Team

- G-Michael Allen, USL
- G Atiim Browne, Lamar
- F Jeff Clifton, Arkansas State F Melvin Simon, New Orleans
- C-Dartus Hall, Western
- Kentucky Preseason Player of the Year Michael Allen, USL Preseason Newcomer of the Year Jeff Rogers, Western Kentucky



It's mine:

During a Wednesday afternoon practice in Diddle Arena. junior guard Darrin Hom pulls in a loose ball. Horn, who will start at shooting guard for the Toppers averaged 9.4 points per game last year. He and sophomore forward Chris Robinson will be expected to shoulder much of the scoring load this season.

Marc Piscotty/Herald

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addition to the above.

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MEN'S SCHEDULE

	November								
Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thur	Fri	Sat			
14	15	16	NIT 17 Chapel Hill, N.C. 6:30pm (1st round)	18	NT 19 at opponent a arena (st finals)	20			
21	22	23	NIT 24 Nerw York City	25	MT 26	27			
28	Samere 29 (Russia) Ipm Exhibition	30							

December							
Sun	Mon	Tue	Węd	Thur	Fri	Sat	
	,		1	2 .	3	4	
Latayette 5 Huatlers 3pm Exhibition	6	7	8 North Florida	9.	10	□¹ 11 Ball State 4pm	
12	13	14	15	16	17	South Alabama 7:35pm	
19	20	21	E 2 22 Louisville 5:30pm	23	24	25	
26	Classes C	28	29	30	31		

		Já	anuai	ry		
Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thur	Fri	Sat
,						1
				h		
. 2	Alabama Birmingham 7:30pm	4	5	South Alabems 7pm	7	Arkamasa State 7pm
9	Arkamese: Liste Rock 7pm	11	12	© 2 13 New Orleans 7:35pm	14	©3 15 Jecksonville 6pm
16	17	18	19	20 Louisiana Tech 7pm	21	Tesse- Pan American 7:30pm
2330	24 ₃₁ Southwestern Louisiere \$30pm	25	26	27	28	29 Lamar 7pm

February								
Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thur ,	Fri	Sat		
	,	Oral Roberta	2	3	4	Southwestern Louisiana 7.05pm		
6	7	8	9	10 Louisiana Tech Tech	11	Jacksonville 7pm		
13	14	15 Karneas State 7pm	16	Arkeness Little Rock 7:05pm	18	Arkansas State 3:35pm		
20	21	22	23	24	25	Mew Orleans		
27	28							

March							
Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thur	Fri	Sat	
		Texas- Pan American 7pm	2	3	Sun Belli Conterence Tournament	Sun Belt Conterence Tournament	
Sun Bett Conference Tournament	7	Sun Beit Conference Tournement	9	10	11	. 12	



1993-94 Western Rosters (Lady Toppers)



WOMEN'S SCHEDULE

	oppers			No	vemb	er		
	The state of the s	Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thur	Fri	Sat
son		14	15	Athletes 16 in Action 7pm Exhibition	17	18	. ,	20
er for	VO.	Lateve 21 (Utturnia) 2pm Exhibition	22	23	24	25	26 Utah 7pm	27
	国际	28	29	30				

December									
Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thur	Fri	Sat			
			1	2	3	UCLA /			
5	6 Othio University 6:30j.m	7	8	9	□3 10 'Kentucky 7pm	11			
12	13	14	15	16	©3 17 Wright State 7pm	18			
19	San Juan Shapetout 20 WKU vs Inter Americ on University Spm	21 Sen Juan Shootoul	22 Sen Juan Shootout	23	24	25			
26	27	28	29	30	31				

 Bowting	Green	Bank	Clas

January									
Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed ·	Thur	Fri .	Sat			
						1			
2	3 Boise State 7pm	4	5	fernessee fech 7:30pm	7	8			
© 2 9 Southwestern Louisians Zpm	10	11	12	South Alabama 7pm	14	15			
16 Missouri Kanase City 2pm	17	18	19	20 Lamer 7pm	21	22 Louisiene Tech 7pm			
© 2 ²³ 30 Evensville žprii	2431	25	26	27 lexas Pan American 7:30pm	28	29			

		Fe	brua	ry		
\Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thur	Fri	Sat
-		1	2	New Orleans 7:30pm	. 4	Southwestern Loussans 4 45pm
6	7	8 DePaul 7pm	9	. 10	Texas- Pan American 7pm	12
©2 13 Lamar 2pm	14	15	16	Vanderbilt 7pm	18	©² 19
Mariana Arkarana State 7pm	21	. 22	23	24	Louisiana Tech 10pm	26
27 South Alabama Ipm	28					

March							
Sun	Mon [*]	Tue	Wed	Thur	Fri	Sat	
		1	□3 2 Here Orleans Spm	3	4	Arkansas State 7pm .	
6	7	8	9	10 Sun Belt Conference Tournament	11 Sun Bell Conference Tournament	12 Sun Bett Conference Tournament	

10 Jeff Rogers

Year: Junior Position: 6-1 Point Guard

Role: Will challenge Fraliex for

Career: Was fourth in the nation in JUCO scoring last year with 29.7 ppg. Also had 8 assists a game for Kaskaskia JC. 13 Kevin Willard

Role: As a walk-on, he will help fill minutes at the guard position.

21 Darrin Horn

Year: Junior Position: 6-4 Shooting Guard Home: Lexington, Ky.

averaged 9.4 points, 3.3 rebounds and 2.9 assists during sophomore season. Career: Started last year and

24 Brad Cirino

Year: Freshman Position: 6-6 Guard/ Forward

scoring ability off the bench.

Career: Averaged 30.3 points, 14.7 rebounds and 7.2 assists

30 Danyell Macklin

Role: Will push veteran players

Carper: Was candidate for Mr.

Home: Louisville, Ky

Home: Old Westbury, N.Y. Role: Will contribute excellent

Role: Will start and provide

scoring and leadership

Year: Freshman Position: 6-0 Guard Home: Bowling Green



-

12 Deon Jackson

Year: Junior Position: 6-6 Forward Home: South River, N.J.

Role: Will give Toppers some scoring punch off the bench.

14 Michael Fraliex



00 Dawn Warner

Year: Sophomore Position: 5-7 Point Guard

Role: Expected to start at the point guard position.

Career: The nuggeer and ranked player in jichigani two years ago. Avoi bid 3.2 points last year in a backup role.

11 Jaana Heikkila

Role: Will help out at both guard

Career: Played on Finland's national team. Averaged 14 points and 10 rebounds for her dub team last year.

Year: Freshman Position: 5-10 Guard

tome: Espoo. Finland



Year: Sophomore Position: 5-6 Point Guard Role: Will challenge Warn a starting position.

10 Missy Jack

Career: Played in the U.S Sports Festival this summer. Average 2.4 points in limited action during her freshman year.



12 Veronica Cook

Year: Junio Position: 6-0 Small Forward

Role: Should start at one of the

Career: Started at the shooting guard position most of the season. Averaged 7.7 points and had a strong finish last year.



21 Denise Hill,

Role: Will contribute both eadership and scoring.

Career: is the team's leading



23 Michelle Reed Year: Sophomore Position: 5-11 Forward

Role: Will come off the bench and give team added scoring.

Career: Played in the U.S. Sports Festival, Averaged 16.1 points and 7.4 rebounds for Sullivan JC last season.



25 Debbie Houk

Year: Schior + Position: 6-0 Forward Home: Greensburg, Ky.

Role: Will give the Lady Toppers experience and dership.

Career: She is a three-time member of the the Sun Belt Conference Academic Honor Averaged 3 points per game.



Position: 5.11 Fooward

Role: Will share captain's role with Hill and Houk.





Year: Sophomore Position: 5-8 Guard

Role: Will serve as a backup at shooting guard.

Career: Transferred from Georgia State where she averaged 5.6 points and earned a reputation as a good scorer.



43 Gwen Doyle

Year: Junior Position: 6-0 Forward

Role: Will fight to start at the small forward position.

Career: Averaged 16.5 points and 9.7 robounds for U of L and was named Metro Conference Player of the Year two years ago.



Year: Twelfth Postlon: Head Coach Record at Western: 272-84

Role: To guide team to another





Career: Averaged 14.9 points and 6.7 rebounds per game last year at Vincennes JC. His quick-ness will help team defensively.

Year: Sophomore Position: 6-1 Point Guard Home: Fredonia, Ky.

Rote: Should start at point guard after backing up Mark Bell last year.

Career: Averaged 3.5 points and one assist per game last season. Was perfect at the free-throw line in nine of 14 games.

22 Andre Lewis

and play both guard positions.

Career: Averaged 8 points and 5

assists during senior season at Wastover HS.

25 Greg Glass

Role: Will give team experience

Career: Averaged 4.3 points and 1.8 rebounds last year. Scored 28 points in the Nov. 12 Red/White scrimmage game.

32 Darius Hall

Year: Junior Position: 6-7 Center/Forward Home: Detroit, Mich.

provide vocal leadership

Career: Started at center last

season and is the leading return-ing scorer (9.4) and rebounder (6.1).

34 Cypheus Bunton

Role: Will start in the middle and

Year: Junior Position: 6-7 Forward

Home: Elkton, Ky

Year: Freshman Position: 6-6 Guard Home: Albany, Ga



20 Tara Cosby

Year: Junior Position: 6,3 Forward Home: Springfield, Ohio

Role: Will give the team some Career: Averaged 19 points and

last year. Led Georgia in rebounding as a freshman.

22 Ida Bowen

Year: Junior Position: 6-2 Shooting Guard Home: Inez, Ky Role: Should start and give the

Career: Started at the



24 Brandi Ashby

on: 6-2 Forward osition: 6-2 Forwa lome: Sebree, Ky.

Role: Will help out at the power

Career: Was Kentucky's Miss Roskethall last year after Basketball last year after iveraging 21 points and 14 ebounds for Webster County.



30 Lea Robinson



Year: Freshman Position: 5-11 Guard/Forward

Role: Should get some playing time at shooting guard



Career: Averaged 18 points and 5 rebounds at Russellville HS First player to sign with Lady Toppers last fall.



Paul Sanderford

Career: Has made it to nine straight NCAA tournaments, including the championship game two years ago.



ESPN D

WKYU 🖾 🤉

ESPN (2)

WBKO (32

WKYU (3)

Basketball. Averaged 21.3 points and 12.7 rebounds for Pleasure Ridge Park HS. 33 Chris Robinson

Year: Sophomore Position: 6-5 Forward Home: Macon, Ga Role: Start at small forward and provide perimeter scoring

Career: Averaged 7.3 points and 3.4 rebounds as a backup. Started one game and got 9 points and 7 rebounds.

Year: Junior Position: 6-7 Forward/Center

Role: To give team bench

experience in the frontcourt

Career: Averaged 2.9 points play per game last year

Ralph Willard

Record at Western: 61-31

Career: Led Toppers to the

Sweet Sixteen last year with wins over Memphis State and Seton Hall

Rote: Keep the Toppers playing at the level they did last year

Year: Fourth Position: Head Coach

Home: Dothar, Ala

40 Derek Flowers

Year: Senio Position: 6-6 Forward fome: Louisville, Ky Role: To start and provide much of the team's leadership.

Career: Was one of the best sixth men in the nation while averaging 7.5 points and 5.3 rebounds. A super shot blocker

44 Steve Holley

Year: Junior Position: 6-8 Forward Home: Washington, N.C.

Year: Fourteenth Position: Team Mascot

lome: Diddle Arena



Role: Will challenge for playing time at power forward.

Career: Averaged 17 7 points, 9.2 rebounds and one assist per game at Hiwassee JC in North Carolina





Year: Junior Position: 6-4 Forward/Center Home: Louisville, Ky. Role: Will provide experience and stability at center

Career: Averaged 3.7 points and 2.2 rebounds in a reserve role. Has ability to score and great hands for a player her size.









LADY TOPS: Two polls place team in top five

College Sports

- 2. Iowa
- 3. Tennessee 4. Louisiana Tech
- 5. Auburn
- 6. Penn State 7. Virginia

- 8. Ohio State 9. USC
- 10. Western
- 11. Stanford 12. George Washington
- 13. Alabama 14. North Carolina
- 15. Stephen F. Austin 16. Connecticut
- 17. Kansas
- 18. Texas Tech 19. Purdue*
- 20. Mississippi*
- Dick Vitale's
- 1. Van .erbilt
- 2. Ten iessee 3. Iowa
- 4. Auburn
- 5. Western
- 6. Louisiana Tech*
- 7. George Washington
- 9. Mississippi 10. Penn State
- 11. Stanford 12. Stephen F. Austin
- North Carolina
- 14. Texas Tech
- Virginia
- 16. Colorado 17. Alabama
- 18. Northwestern
- 19. Connecticut
- 20. UCLA*

Street and Smith's

- 1. Vanderbilt*
- 2. Tennessee
- Louisiana Tech*
- Auburn Penn State
- 6. Iowa
- Stephen F. Austin
- Stanford 9. North Carolina
- 10. SW Missouri State*
- 11. Virginia 12. Ohio State
- 13 USC
- 14. Kansas
- 15. Texas Tech
- 16. Colorado
- 17. George Washington
- 18 Alabama 19. Oklahoma State
- 20. Connecticut
- 21. Western
- 22. Georgia
- 23. Mississippi
- Northwestern Vermont

Women's

Basketball News

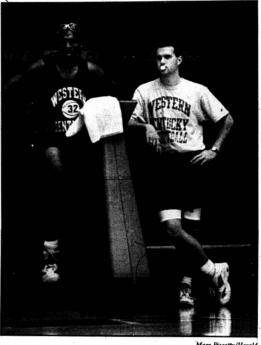
Service

- Vanderbilt 2. Tennessee
- 4. Auburn 5. Western
- 6. Louisiana Tech* George Washington
- USC
- 9. Mississippi 10. Penn State
- 11. Stanford

- 12. Stephen F. Austin
- North Carolina
- 14. Texas Tech
- Virginia
- 16. Colorado
- 17. Alabama
- 18. Northwestern
- 19. Connecticut 20. UCLA

Host's Fan's

- Guide Tennessee
- Vanderbilt*
- 3. Stanford
- 4. Ohio State
- 5. lowa 6. Virginia
- 7. Auburn 8. Louisiana Tech
- 9. Georgia
- 10 Colorado
- 11.Penn State
- 12. USC 13. Maryland
- 14. Western
- 15. Texas Tech 16. Stephen F. Austin
- 17. Texas
- 18. North Carolina
- 19. Purdue
- 20. Connecticut
- 21. Kansas
- 22. Alabama
- 23. SW Missouri State*
- 24. George Washington 25. Washington
- Western's regular season opponents



Marc Piscotty/Herald

Pedal pusher: Darius Hall and strength coach John Stephanski of Lexington watch the rest of the team practice last week in Diddle Arena. Hall injured his eye earlier in the week and wasn't participating in the on-the-court drills.

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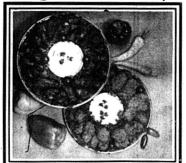
Large \$3399 Serves 20-25 People

Party Platters

"Best of the Buffalos" Hot & Spicy Buffalo Wings

Small \$14⁹⁹ Serves 4-6 People 99 Serves 10-12 People Medium \$2

Large \$37



Honey Roasted Buffalo Wings

Small \$16⁹⁹ Medium \$29⁹⁹

Large

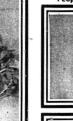
Serves 16-18 People Party Platters

"2 Bite **Sunriser Biscuits**

Apple, Blackberry, Sausage & Cheese, Bacon, Egg & Cheese, Ham & Mozzarella, Country Ham Medium

Small \$2499 Serves 10-24 People

\$3699



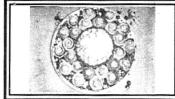


Small \$18⁹⁹ Serves 5-10 People

Medium \$2699 Serves

Large \$3299 Serves 20-25 People





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MEN's: Willard is confident

Bunton is penciled in to Bunton is penciled in to begin the season as Western's starting power forward, if his ankle holds up. He twisted his right ankle during preseason practice two weeks ago and was given the OR to resume playing a few days later.

a few days later

Another expected to have an impact this season is sophomore thris Robinson, who should start at the small forward/Ahree guard spot "My time came up quick," he said. "I didn't think my time would come up until at least my union year. least my junior year.

Robinson said he expects to help fill the scoring gap left by the departed players "I think I will have to be," he said. "We lost two of our leading scorers, so I feel like I'll have to step up and score in double figures, at

Junior Derek Flowers and Glass add experienced depth to the forward position Newcomers Holley, Jackson and Macklin also figure to see playing time at forward The always vocal Darius Hall,

who started at power forward for the Toppers last year, has bulked up and has inherited the center job

Hall said the Toppers don't Hall said the Toppers don't really have a true center "We have more individual talent this year," he said "Coach Willard's recruiting guys that can run the floor and really want to play." His lack of size the's a small center at 6.73 should be more than made up for by his leaping ability. Flowers can also play-the center nosition.

the center position

TOPPER

TRIVIA

Q: What was Western's

basketball teams known

Q: Who was the first Topper to score 1,000

A: Carlyle Towery

(1940, 1,010 career

A: "Teachers"

points?

points)

as before they were called the "Hilltoppers?"

Darrin Horn, a junior, is the only Topper returning to his starting position. He'll start at shooting guard, and will likely improve on his 94-point scoring average from a year ago. Cirino and Lewis should also see time

the off-guard spot.

If the Toppers truly have any question marks, it's at the point

"We're on the map now, and more teams are

looking out for us. We're not just that little Cinderella team čnymore."

- Chris Robinson sophomore guard

guard position. Replacing Mark Bell, Western's flery point guard for two seasons, should be Michael Fraliex, a sophomore who backed up Bell last season. But the Toppers landed a

first-class prospect in juco transfer Rogers, who most publications pick as the Sun Bell Conference newcomer of

impressive in practice, which makes Coach Willard's job of

picking a starter even tougher. Willard said Fraliex has improved significantly and is ahead of the others at this point.

So, the starting five for tomorrow's season opener against top-ranked North Carolina should be Horn, Fraliex, Hall, Bunton and

Robinson.

The Toppers will be facing a tough schedule this year, Horn said. "I think it's a good schedule to test exactly what kind of team we are."

Besides the visit to Chapel lift to the state of the test the Toppel the Toppel

Hili to meet the Tarheels in a first round Preseason NIT game, the Toppers can look forward to trips to Indiana (Hoosier Classic) and Louisville, as well as home games with Ball State and Kansas State, making Ralph Willard's job a little tougher

Willard's job a little fougher
Han last year.
But don't suggest that the
Toppers won't be as good or do
as well as last year's team.
"We're going to win. Horn
said. "We're going to miprove
every time we go out, and
hopefully we'll have a very good
team by March."

Robinson is if anything away.

Robinson is, if anything, even more confident. "We're on the map now, and more teams are looking out for us," he said. "We're not just that little Cinderella team anymore.

"Hopefully, we'll be able to get back to where we were last year, and maybe go a little further this year."

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St. Thomas Aquinas Catholic Church (Newman Center)

Q: Who is the voice of Hilltopper basketball? A: Wes Strader Q: Who served as assistant coach to Ed Diddle from 1939-64?

Q: Who followed Johnny Oldham as Topper coach?

A: Ted Hornback

A: Jim Richards, who is currently interim athletics director

Q: What member of the 1971 Topper Final Four team was nicknamed "Big C?" A: Clarence Glover

Q: Which Hilltopper was the Boston Celtics' number one draft choice in 1971? A: Clarence Glover



Good Luck Toppers!



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Women's: Team still has a lot to learn

CONTINUED FROM PAGE 4

The Lady Toppers have seven new players, a new coach, Evelyn Thompson, and a new offense. Sanderford said he doesn't have enough time to put everything together the way he wants it before the first game,

when they host Utah on Nov. 27.
"I can still tell we have a lot of new players out there," he said. "We'Il'take things one step at a time. We have the capabilities to be a good team, but it will take some time."

Besides the new faces, Lady Topper fans will notice the absence of last year's seniors. Paulette Monroe, Trina

Paulette Monroe, Trina Wilson, Kristie Jordan and Renee Westmoreland were the nucleus of a team that made It he Sweet Sixteen. Monroe and Wilson's height and Jordan and Westmoreland's experience at the guard position will be missed this year.

Senior forward Denise Hill said the Lady Toppers will use quickness to make up for the team's lack of size

"No one our size can catch up with us, and everybody here can play," Hill said. Sanderford said this team is

Sanderford said this team is the quickest he has ever had. That should help the Lady Toppers in their new aggressive offense.

offense.

"Last year, we got into a halfcourt game," Sanderford said.
"We're emphasizing scoring off
our defense; we want to tire
some people down."

Hill should begin the season as the power forward and be the focus of the offense early in the season. She started there last year and is the team's top returning scorer and rebounder. Senior Lea Robinson and junior Veronica Cook and Gwen Doyle will fight for the other forward position.

position.

The center position is unsure and could possibly be held by another forward. 6-3 junior transfer Tara Cosby and 6-4 junior Lori Abell are the tallest Lady Toppers but may not start at the beginning of the season.

Freshmen Brandi Ashby and Stacie Gamble will also see time at the forward position.

Ida Bowen was in the lead for the starting two-guard position,

"As a team,

we're not there yet, but we can go to the Final Fow."

— Denise Hill

senior forward

but a preseason shoulder injury has limited her practice time. If she isn't ready, Cook may move to the guard position as she did last year when Bowen had the flu

i. Freshman Jaana Heikkila has

practice and sophomore transfers Christie Taylor and Michelle Reed will also play. Warner and sophomore Missy Jackson are fighting to start at

Warner and sophomore Missy Jackson are fighting to start at point guard. Warner is said to be in the lead, but Sanderford said the player who wins with have a tough task ahead of her. Filling the shoes of Westmoreland won't be easy.

Sanderford said this year's team can be very good if everything comes together at the end of the season. "A lot of it will be about how quickly we mature. The people we play will know they've been in a battle every night we come out on the court."

Hill said the team has to "step it up a little bit" if it wants to make it very far in the NCAA tournament.

tournament.

"As a team we're not there
yet, but we can go to the Final
Four," she said.

Sanderford said the team's tough schedule could help it get into the tournament.

"Even though we don't want to, we could fail to win the Sun Belt (conference tournament) and still get into the NCAA tournament," he said "Our schedule is going to rank in the top 10 in the country. I feel beefing up our schedule has got to help us."

Doyle said the strength of the regular season will help the team when it comes time for the postseason

Sanderford said more fans in Diddle Arena would also help the team play better. He said he has plans to try to create a different atmosphere for this year's Lady Topper games. "We're going to try to come up

"We're going to try to come up with a song that relates to our team and play it at games," he said. "We want to spice our introductions up and work on a halftime show. "I think the students create

"I think the students create the atmosphere. They're the ones that make noise and give us the home court advantage, and we want more of them in the stands."

TOPPER TRIVIA

Q: When was Western's first season of women's college basketball? A: 1914-15 (1-0 record)



Teak Phillips/Herald

Sophomore guard Missy Jackson leads the Topper offense during a scrimmage Sunday at Diddle Arena. Jackson is challenging sophomore guard Dawn Wamer for starting point guard.

Fight song

Stand up and cheer,
stand up and cheer for dear old Western,
for today we raise
the red and white above the rest,
Rah, Rah, Rah
Our team is fighting,
and we are bound to win this game,
we've got the team,
we've got the steam,
for this is dear old Western's day.





B G R E

For Fall 1993, Polo Ball By Ralph Lauren is inspired by urban schoolyards and city parks, created with an appreciation for the history and legacy of court games.

Good luck in the season opener against University of North Carolina First Round N.I.T.

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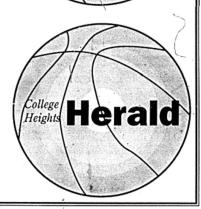
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Sanderford teaches more than basketball

It happened somewhere between Louisburg and Chapel Hill, N.C., as he drove 80 miles in the middle of the night to seehis wife Yvette, who was in the hospital critically ill with

meningitis derford discovered just how strong a person he

He women's basketball coach Louisburg Junior College,

where he had Sanderford

ional championship the year would work full time,

teach three classes, guide his teams through practice and then make the long, lonely drive to be with his wife.

"I found out that people can do more than they think they're capable of," he said. "I don't feel sorry for anyone and I don't take excuses when people don't try their best."

Sanderford has carried that lesson with him to become one of the most successful women's basketball coaches in the coun-

try.
The Lady Toppers have reached the NCAA Final Four three times and have never had a losing season in his 11 years

Yvette wasn't surprised that her husband built a program

her husband built a program that was almost nonexistent when he came to Western. "He works very-hard, sometimes too hard," she said. "Sometimes when he cames home, I wonder who the stranger is walking tribugh the door."

But there is me to Sanderford than the competitive fiery.

ford than the competitive, fiery eyed guy on the sidelines bark-ing at officials and jumping out

of his chair to call a play.
"He's a lot more compassion ate than people give him credit for," Yvette said. "Not too many guys would drive 80 miles every day for a year to see their wife when they also had an 11-month-old son (Aaron) to take care of."

Assistant Coach Steve Small. who has been with him since 1984, said Sanderford is special because he has much more than

winning on his mind.
"He wins basketball games. but that's not theonly reason why he's a winner," Small said. The kids that stick it out become better people. That's a reflection of what kind of person

Sanderford said he cares

more about what his players do after basketball than what they do in Diddle Arena.

"As freshmen and sopho-mores, they probably think I'm a little crazy," he said. "As juniors and seniors, they start to realize what I'm trying to do for them. After they graduate, I hope they

"He wins basketball games, but that's not the only reason why he's a winner."

 Steve Small Lady Topper assistant

learned more than basketball."

Most of them do. The walls of his office have photos of former players, some with their children, others with notes written on the back. He's proud to tell a story about each

Even players that weren't stars, even the ones who sat on

the bench for most of their playing days, still keep in touch

The program is bigger than any one person in it," Sanderford said. "We put in a lot of sweat and blood into it, and it

pays off in the long run."

But the pictures on the wall that he loves to talk about are the ones that show the impact he has had on the program in 12

Just three years after taking the job, he walked out of the tun-nel into Diddle Arena and saw 12,951 fans in the stands before a game against Old Dominion.

The fire marshals had to "The fire marshals had to turn people away at the door," he said. "When I came here in 1882, they couldn't even draw 500 fans. It was one of my biggest thrills — to see so many people come watch us piay."

And there is the black-and white photo of Lillie Mason tak hug a shol' the hall is in mid.

ing a shot; the ball is in mid-flight.

He calls it "the shot heard

Tound the world."

The year was 1986. Western was playing Texas, the number-one ranked team in the nation at 31-0, in the Midwest Regional of the NCAA Tournament, Nobody gave the Lady Toppers a fighting chance.

But Mason's shot went through the net with one second

left and Western won 92-90. "Steve (Small) went to watch Texas play and came back say ing we didn't have a chance in the world," he said. "We ran four corners for 40 minutes and scored 90 points. I still don't know how that happened."

But the times haven't always been good

· Last year, when the Lady Toppers advanced to the NCAA Regional in Richmond, Va., Sanderford watched them from a

bed in Greenview Hospital The double pneumonia that had plagued him for two weeks

had finally caught up with him.
"It was the worst moment of my career," he said. "I felt like I had run a race and could see the finish line, but couldn't finish."

The Lady Toppers lost to Ohio State 84-76. "You have to know me." Sanderford said. "I just put being sick out of my mind and tried to coach any way I could This year I just want to get back to coaching and put last year behind me

You can bet that's what he will do.

This year, he has been focused right from the start and doesn't want to let anything stand in the way of his team's success.

"From May 1 to May 15, he was in a good mood," Small said, joking "IU's been all business after that.

Q: What Lady Topper set a school record by hitting all 13 of her free throws in a 1988 game?

A: Tandreia Green (vs. Ohio)

Q: What former Western coach and player is now coaching at the University of Minnesota?

Q: What two Lady Toppers hit 10 or more field goals in a single game without missing?

TOPPER TRIVIA

A: Clem Haskins

A: Jane Lockin (13-13) and Lillie Mason (10-10)

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the Toppers successful seasons

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Tops will be better this year OUBTERS BEWARE:

About this time last year, bas ketball conversations could be heard all around campus' Most of the talk centered around the women's team, that had ad vanced to the finals of the NCAA tournament in the spring before falling to Stanford in the champi onship game

Oh sure the men's team had played in the postseason as well They won 20 games and played in the NIT, and lost a first round game at Kansas State

But the Toppers had lost the two leading scorers from that team, Jack Jennings and team captain Harold Thompkins

The Tops were bound to have a down year after that, right?

Wrong Not only did Coach Ralph Willard's team do better than expected (they wery picked as low as fourth in the Sun-Belt Conference in some publica it did a lot better

Better as in more wins than the previous team (26)

Better as in a spot in the field if 64 in the big tournament, the NCAA classic

Better as in a first-round w over Memphis State and its All-American guard, Anfernee Hardaway, And a second-round victory over Seton Hall, the No. 2 seed in the region

This season, the Toppers find themselves in a similar situation Western's two main guns, diminutive point guard Mark Bell and honorable mention All-Ameri-can guard/forward Darnell Mee have departed from the Hill. Mee has gone on to join the ranks of professional basketball.

Are the doubters already writing off the Toppers again this year? Not a chance

Most publications have Western picked either first or second in the Sun Belt Confer ence This is despite the loss of Bell and Mee, Western's (you uessed it) two leading scorers

Basketball gurus pick the

Toppers to prevail despite the fact that seven new faces have entered the program, and only one senior, forward Cypheus



Jeff Nations Commentary

Bunton, returns to provide lead-

It seems those nasty, cynical sports writers have conceded to what Willard was trying to tell son — his program has arrived, and Western basketball is back into national prominence. Now that Willard has con-

vinced the writers, he only has his opponents left to convince.

Heading up that list is every-ody's preseason pick for the best team in the country, North Carolina. The Toppers were given the honor of playing the first game of the basketball sea-son when they were paired with the Tarheels in the Preseason NIT to play before a national television audience.

Western faces a huge chal lenge in this first game. A 7-1 challenge named Eric Montross, possibly the most dominant play er in the land

And let's face it, his team mates aren't bad either, and most of them have returned from last season's national champi onship team

As if that weren't bad enough.

the Toppers also get to travel to Indianapolis to take part in the Iloosier Classic, where they'll play pesky Princeton in the first round, and if they win, probably Indiana in the championship

Throw in road games at Louisville and Alabama-Birmingham, home games with Ball State and Kansas State, plus the usual rugged battles in the Sun Belt, and you've got the mak

ings of a pretty rough schedule.
It would be understandable if Willard took refuge behind that imposing array of games and sounded a word of caution to the Topper faithful. But Willard has done the opposite.

"We have a good team, and I think that by the end of the sea-son we'll have a chance to be better than last year."
That's pretty heady stuff, con

sidering what the Toppers face this season.
But am I doubting him?

Not for a minute

Keep on top of Topper/basketball. Read Herald sports.

Basketball greats

Mee the latest in a long line of Hilltopper stars

Here is a list of players who achieved national honors during their time on the Hill

1938 - William "Red" McCrocklin, Center (Chuck Taylor)

1940 Carlyle Towery, Center (Chuck Taylor)

1941 Carlyle Towery, Center (Chuck Taylor)

1943 Oran McKinngy, Center (Helms Foundation)

Dee Gibson, Guard (Associated Press, Honorable Mention) Don Ray, Forward (Helms Foundation, Second Team) Odie Spears, Forward (Associated Press, Honorable Mention)

Bob Lavey, Center (Associated Press, Honorable Mention)

John Oldham, Guard (United Press, Second Team, Associated Press, Hanorable Mention

1950 - Buddy Cate, Forward (Associated Press, Honorable Mention) Bob Lavoy, Center (Chuck Taylor, Second Team; Associated Press. Honorable Mention

Rip Gish, Forward Center

1953 - Tem Marshall, Forward (Look Magazine, Third Team, Associated Press, Honorable Mention

Art Specistra, Center (Associated Press, Honorable Mention) 1954 - Tom Marshall, Forward (Look Magazine, Second Team,

Associated Press, Honorable Mention, United Press, Second Team

1958 Ralph Crosthwaite, Center

1962 Bobby Rascoe, Guard

1964 Darel Carrier, Guard (Helms Foundation)

Clem Haskins, Forward (Associated Press, Honorable Mention. United Press, Honorable Mention.

Clem Haskins, Forward (Associated Press, First Team, United Press, First Team, Converse, Second Team)

Clem Haskins, Forward (Associated Press, First Team United Press, First Team, Helms Foundation)

Jim McDaniels, Center (Helms Foundation; Associated Press, Honorable Mention: United Press, Honorable Mention: Converse, Honorable Mention)

1970 - Jim McDaniels, Center (Helms Foundation, Associated Press, Honorable Mention, United Press, Honorable Mention, Converse, Second Team)

1971 - Jim McDaniels, Center (Associated Press, First Team Sporting News, First Team; United Press, First Team; NBA)

1976 - Johnny Britt, Guard (Associated Press, Honorable Mention) 1982 - Craig McCormick, Center (Associated Press, Honorable Mention)

1984 - Kannard Johnson, Forward (Sporting News, All-Freshman) 1987 — Tellis Frank, Forward (Associated Press, Honorable

Mention; Sporting News, Honorable Mention) Brett McNeal, Guard (Associated Press, Honorable Mention. Basketball Times, Honorable Mention)

1993 - Darnell Mee, Guard/Forward (Associated Press, Honorable Mention)





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Hill, Doyle should guide Lady Tops to tourney

Great potential and high expectations are two factors that the Lady Topper teams have to consider every year.

After going to the NCAA

After going to the NCAA chappionship game two years ago, most fans seemed let down with a Sweet Sixteen finish last year.

year.

This year's team has the potential to go further than both those squads. But what will it have that the others didn't?

High-profile players who can take control of a game

take control of a game Junior forward Lense Hill has had a year o adjust to Division I play a she showed signs that she can be a great player. She ended the season last year as the Lady Toppers second-leading rebounder (6.9) and fourth-leading score (8.9).

Judging from the way she has played in practice, Hill and Louisville transfer Gwen Doyle both should guide Western to a Sun Belt Conference tournament championship in March. Doyle, who was the nucleus of Louisville's teams when she played there for two seasons, averaged 16.5 points and 9.7 rebounds per game as a sopho-

Doyle and Hill have been named among the nation's best players in various preseason magazines.

But this is not to say they will lead the team by themselves. That is not the type of team Coach Paul Sanderford is accustomed to putting together and he hasn't changed that philosophy this year.

A fast-paced, up and down the floor, team-oriented game will out-distance the Lady Toppers from their opponents.

from their opponents.

If you've seen the team practice, you'll know what I mean. Sanderford has little merey on the team, but that's the key. He pushes them to the limit. Just watching them will make you tired.

By the end of the season, no

team will be more physically and mentally conditioned than Western. Their new offensive scheme will simply run the other team's players off the court.



Dennis Varney Commentary

Who else on the team has the potential to put some excitement in the season?

All of them, but look for

Veronica Cook, Ida Bowen and Dawn Warner to be major sparkplugs. All have experience and can be great players.

Cook was a major contributor down the stretch last year and Bowen played well until the flu sidelined her for part of the season

season.

Warner will probably start at point guard so a lot of pressure will lie on her shoulders, something she will be able to handle in stride by the end of the season.

The only thing this team doesn't have now and won't be able to gain by tournament time is size, but that shouldn't matter. Their quickness makes up for the size they lost and it will be key against such tough teams as Vanderbill, Kentucky and UCLA.

But none of those teams will be as big a thorn in Western's side as Louisiana Tech Sanderford said he isn't worried about the regular season, he wants to

win the conference tournament The Lady Techsters are the only Sun Belt team that can even dream of beating Western in such a pressure situation as it will encounter if it faces Western in Diddle during the Sun Belt Conference tournament.

Ironically, the Lady Toppers did just that last year. They beat the Lady Techsters in Ruston, La., to secure a NCAA tournament bid. Don't expect a repeat of such an occurrence.

Western undoubtedly has the players, the coaches and the fans to keep that from happening in the "Den of Doom," as Diddle has been called.

Come tournament time in March, Western should be a top seed in one of the four regions. And you can book a flight to Charlotte, N.C. again, but this year it will be the finals for the women instead of the regionals for the men.

Long term dedication and patience is all the Lady Toppers need to have another super season. That shouldn't be any problem for a team of their cather.

Hoops on the Hill

a special section of the

College Herald

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Page 1 illustration by Jamal Wilson. Pictured are Veronica Cook and Andre Lewis.

Sports desk: 745-6290 Business office: 745-2653 Herald newsroom: 745-2655 © 1993, College Heights Herald 122 Garrett Conference Center Western Kentucky University Bowling Green, KY 42101

TOPPER TRIVIA

Q: In Paul Sanderford's first 10 seasons at Western (1983-92) the Lady Toppers won what percentage of their games in Diddle Arena?

A: 92 percent (144-12)

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