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HOOP HAPPENINGS ON THE HILL



January 15, 2006

1605 Avenue of Champions
Bowling Green, Kentucky 42101

Volume I, Issue III

HILLTOPPER HUDDLE-

We hope you and your families enjoyed the holidays and we hope that the year 2006 is off to a great start. We apologize for the delay in getting out the third issues of Hoop Happenings and appreciate the calls and emails regarding it.

Your Hilltoppers have posted a 12-4 record including a 4-0 start to begin conference play. After a tough overtime loss to a highly touted University of Arizona Wildcat team, Western Kentucky has managed to come together to win six straight games.

During the months of December and January your Hilltoppers have taken advantage of the extended winter break, which was made longer to allow the University to begin a Winter J Term that lasts three weeks. This extended break semester has allowed us to have individual workouts in the morning and practice in the afternoon. The morning individual instruction sessions were very beneficial in helping the younger Hilltoppers gain a better understanding of the game of basketball and improve their fundamentals. Their improvement has been an enjoyment to watch.

We would like to remind you to continue to get up to date information on your Hilltoppers by logging on to the following websites, www.darrinhorn.com and www.wkusports.com.

Go Hilltoppers,

SMALL THINGS.... BIG THINGS

It seems in today's society many people are content to simply show up, do their job, and are content to put in their 40 hours a week. At Western Kentucky we teach our players that simply showing up is unacceptable. To be successful on the basketball court and in life you have to bring a passion, or energy, to what you do.

Coach Horn is always saying there are two kinds of people energy givers and energy takers. We encourage you to make sure that you are an energy giver. Energy givers are the types of people that are successful and that others like to be around.

It's estimated that the average worker spends 60% of his time not thinking about what he is doing.

Ask yourself on a daily basis am I an energy giver or taker?

RECRUITING TO OUR FAMILY

2006 has brought a new student-athlete to the Western Kentucky University's Basketball Program. Eligible for the 2006-2007 season, Desire Gabou, a native of the Ivory Coast, has joined the team.

- **Desire Gabou** 6'2" 176 lbs Guard
Toulouse, France
*Desire is an excellent athlete with a great desire and passion to learn.

Desire has already entered Western Kentucky University. He begins class just two days after his arrival in Bowling Green. We know that the whole Hilltopper family will welcome him with open arms. He is eligible to practice with us this spring and will begin playing eligibility in the 2006-07 season

TIMEOUT TIPS

(Get a TO Baby)

2006 Camp Dates

Day Camp Session I

Boys Grades: 1st-8th

June 12 – 15

8:30-3:00

Day Camp Session II

Boys Grades: 1st-8th

July 17-20

8:30-3:00

Team Camp

High School Varsity/JV

June 16 – 18

J

KY vs. IN All-Star Weekend

Little Hilltopper Camp

Boys Ages: 4-7

July 17-20

8:30-11:30

For more information please call (270) 745-2131 or email
bryan.oneill@wku.edu

DID YOU KNOW?



After connecting on four three pointers against Arkansas Little-Rock, Senior guard Anthony Winchester set a new school record with 206 career three pointers made. Winchester broke the record with was formerly held by Michael Fraliex.

“PASSIONATE PEOPLE - PREMIER PROGRAM”

Many times the people that do a lot of the behind the scenes work in the Men's Basketball Program at Western Kentucky can get over looked. We like to make sure these people are well recognized for all the hard work they put in. Two of these people on our staff are Kevin Hulsman and Sam Ernst. Both are Sophomore Managers for the Hilltoppers.

Kevin Hulsman- Kevin is a Broadcasting major with an emphasis in Production. Kevin came to the Hill after graduating from St. Xavier High School in Louisville, KY in 2004. Kevin primarily works with the video operations of the Basketball Program. Filming all of the Hilltoppers games, helping with video exchange, and recording games, which are shown on t.v. Kevin is a vital piece to our Basketball Program.

Sam Ernst- Sam is a Biology major at Western Kentucky. Sam is a 2004 graduate of Meade County High School where he was a goalie on the soccer team and a manger for the basketball team. Sam is in charge of the daily basketball operation from setting up for practice to game set-up, he is also in charge of packing all the equipment for road games.

Both Sam and Kevin are vital to the organization of our basketball program. They are both extremely hard workers that take pride in their work and make the Western Kentucky Basketball Program better.

Big Red Review

- Mid-December meant a trip to Arizona for the Hilltoppers, to participate in the Fiesta Bowl Classic hosted by the University of Arizona.
- Western began the tournament by defeating Central Florida 73-68 after trailing the first half by 11. Courtney Lee had a game high 22 points and 9 rebounds.
- Advancing to face Arizona in the tournament final, the Hilltoppers were beat in overtime by the Wildcats 86-81. Both Courtney Lee and Anthony Winchester were named to the All-Tournament Team.
- Returning after a short Winter Break the Hilltoppers started again on their winning ways with an 87-71 victory over Kentucky State.
- The first opponent of the New Year brought a member of ACC to Diddle Arena in the University of Virginia. Senior Elgrace Wilborn had a phenomenal game posting a career high 14 points, 5 blocks, and 4 rebounds helping the Hilltoppers to a 78-68 win.
- To open conference play Western headed to Arkansas State, pulling out a 72-70 victory over the Indians. Junior transfer Benson Callier came off the bench to ignite the Hilltoppers with 17 points and 6 rebounds.
- Facing Middle Tennessee in their home conference opener Western only allowed Middle 17 points in the second half as the Hilltoppers blew out the Blue Raiders 80-48. Western played some of their best defense of the season not allowing a field goal for over 17 minutes in the second half.
- After being swept by Arkansas-Little Rock last season the Hilltoppers were able to hang-on to beat the Trojans 74-70 in Diddle Arena. Senior Anthony Winchester lead all scorers with 21 points, while Courtney Lee and Ty Rogers added 15 and 14 respectively.
- Just nine days after defeating Arkansas State in Jonesboro, the Hilltoppers faced them again in Diddle Arena. Benson Callier had another spectacular night scoring 21 points, while freshmen Daniel Emerson had his career first double-double with 10 points and 11 rebounds in just 18 minutes of play.