

WMU BASKETBALL IS ...



The Western Michigan basketball team has enjoyed its most successful stretch in school history with head coach Steve Hawkins leading the way. The Broncos have won 20 or more games in three of his six seasons and have won or finished second in the Mid-American Conference West Division every year, with division championships coming in 2003-04, 2004-05, 2007-08 and 2008-09.

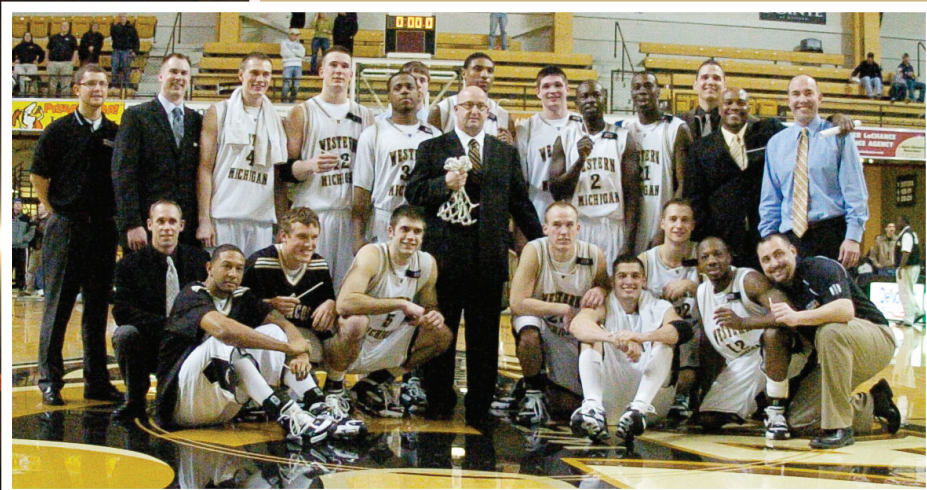
The Broncos won the MAC regular season and tournament championship in 2004 to advance to the NCAA Tournament. They followed with an appearance in the Postseason NIT in 2005.



Over the past seven seasons, WMU ranks among the best teams in the MAC with 126 overall wins and 74 conference victories.

The Broncos have also been dominant in the state, winning the Michigan MAC Men's Basketball Championship all four years of its existence, going a combined 12-4 vs. their in-state conference rivals.





... **WINNING**

WMU BASKETBALL IS ...





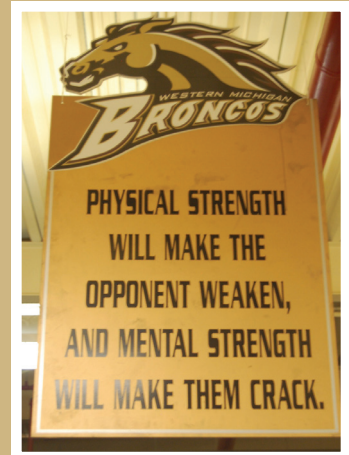
...GEARED UP

WMU BASKETBALL IS ...



WESTERN MICHIGAN UNIVERSITY VOLLEYBALL STRENGTH AND CONDITIONING PHILOSOPHY

The Western Michigan University Basketball Strength and Conditioning Program is a year round effort to maintain a championship level of strength, power, speed and conditioning. The program is built to help each athlete play at their optimal level during practice and games, stay healthy and improve performance by incorporating explosiveness and intensity in each workout. Using a combination of Olympic exercises, functional training and basketball-specific speed and agility training, each Bronco Basketball athlete will be physically ready to make that championship run.





WESTERN MICHIGAN UNIVERSITY ATHLETIC TRAINING

The focus of the WMU athletic training staff is to prevent student-athlete injuries and facilitate an effective post-injury rehabilitation to ensure a safe return to competition.

Five full-time athletic trainers oversee three graduate athletic trainers in providing comprehensive medical care to all of Western Michigan's 16 varsity sports. In addition to its eight-person athletic training staff, the WMU athletic training staff is assisted by three full-time physicians and a sports medicine fellow.



... STRONG

WMU BASKETBALL IS ...



WESTERN MICHIGAN FIGHT SONG

*Fight on, fight on for Western;
take the ball, make a score, win the game.*

*Onward for the Brown and Gold;
push 'em back,
push 'em back;
bring us fame.*

*Fight on, fight on for Western;
over one, over all we will reign.*

*Fight, Broncos, fight,
fight with all your might.*

Western win this game!



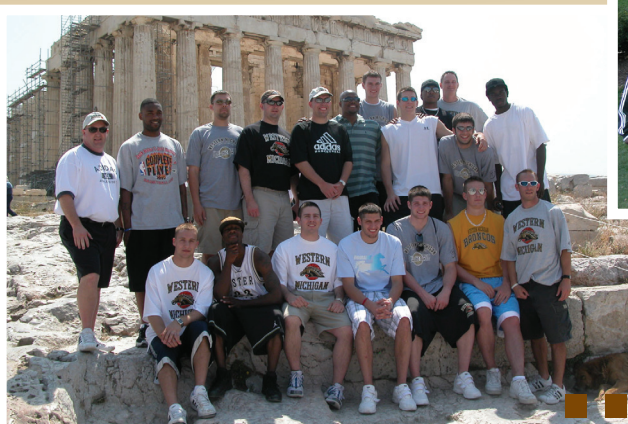
The Western Michigan basketball experience features travel on not just a national, but global scale.

In the summer of 2006, the Broncos went overseas to visit Rome, Italy, and Athens, Greece. Four years prior, the Broncos visited France and Switzerland.

Western Michigan also has traveled throughout the United States to find the best competition. The Bronco Experience is about more than just basketball, as Hawkins and his staff make sure the Broncos visit some of the most important historical sites and fun places in the United States.

In Hawkins' six years as head coach, the Broncos have visited Honolulu, Los Angeles, Orlando, Philadelphia, Alaska, San Diego, New York City, Las Vegas, the United States Military Academy and Niagara Falls, among others. This year, WMU will travel to Hawai'i for the second time in program history.

On those trips, the Broncos have visited Pearl Harbor, the Liberty Bell, Times Square, Universal Studios and Disney World.



... AN EXPERIENCE

WMU BASKETBALL IS ...

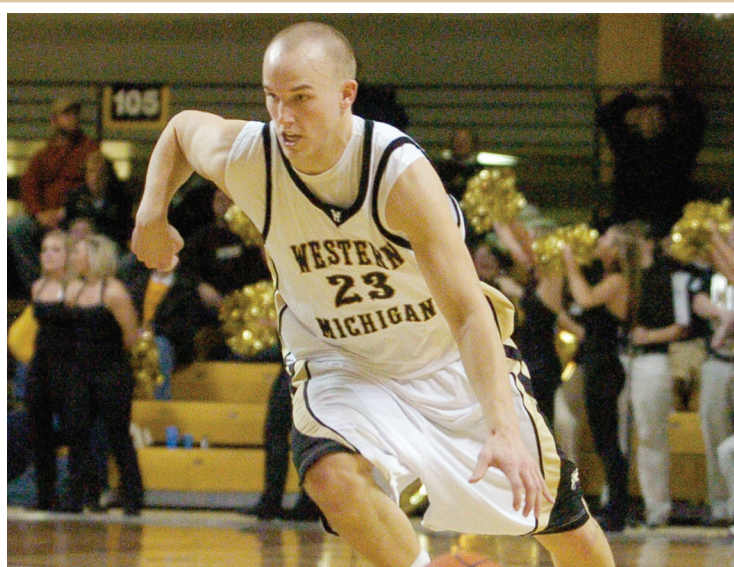
Ellis Athletic Academic Advising Center is located on the second floor of Read Fieldhouse. The athletic academic services program exists to provide a comfortable and supportive environment in which student-athletes can strive to achieve academic success. The Ellis Center houses the academic services staff, computer labs, tutoring program, composition specialists, study table and the CHAMPS/Life Skills program. The mission of this athletic academic service program is to assist student-athletes in reaching their full potential by providing them with the necessary tools and skills to achieve academic success.



The court is not the only arena Western Michigan basketball has shown rising success during head coach Steve Hawkins' tenure. The Broncos are getting it done in the classroom as well. Over the past three years WMU basketball student-athletes have posted a 3.0 GPA or higher in four-straight semesters and five of the last six. Hawkins' attention to detail in all areas of the student-athletes' experience has helped the program's Academic Progress Rate (APR) score, resulting in recognition from the NCAA during the 2006-07 season as being ranked in the top-10 percent of all Division I men's basketball programs.



This past season, guard David Kool was named to the *ESPN the Magazine* Academic All-America Team after center Joe Reitz became a two-time *ESPN the Magazine* Academic All-American the prior two seasons after finishing his career with a 3.72 grade point average and a degree in finance. Reitz became the third two-time Academic All-American in WMU history and just the seventh in MAC history. The Broncos lead the MAC in multiple men's basketball Academic All-Americans with three. Three straight years with an Academic All-American has only happened three times in conference history and WMU's accomplishment is the first time since 1991-93.



Not only have the Broncos been recognized on a national scale, but no other school in the MAC has been more successful in the classroom over Steve Hawkins' six-year tenure as head coach. Over that span, WMU has claimed 12 Academic All-MAC spots, including 10-of-21 over the last four seasons. Brian Snider, Joe Reitz and Andrew Hershberger have all been three-time Academic All-MAC picks under Hawkins.

... **PREPARED**

WMU BASKETBALL IS...



WESTERN MICHIGAN UNIVERSITY

GARY FUND

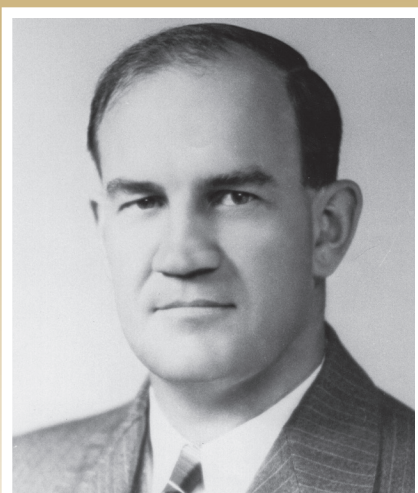
In its 53 years of existence, the Mike Gary Athletic Fund has been the official fundraising arm of the WMU Athletic Department, raising over \$4 million through annual gifts and major contributions. The Gary Fund has raised more than \$1 million in each of the last two seasons.

OUR MISSION

To support the student-athletes of Western Michigan University in their pursuit of championships, academic excellence and personal growth as representatives of WMU, its alumni, fans and community members.

"I want to personally thank all the members of the Mike Gary Athletic Fund who have contributed to the enhancement of our student-athletes. The Gary Fund and all its volunteers have helped us travel around the country to play the best competition available. The generosity and support of everyone associated with the Gary Fund is one of the most important factors in our team's success."

— WMU Head Basketball Coach Steve Hawkins



MIKE GARY ATHLETIC FUND

Founded in 1956 by a group of area businessmen and dedicated Broncos, the Mike Gary Athletic Fund was established to provide direct financial support to the athletic programs of Western Michigan University.

The fund is named in honor of long-time athletic director, Bronco football coach and WMU Hall of Fame inductee, Mr. Mitchell "Mike" Gary.

The Broncos would like to thank the following Car Coaches for their support of WMU Athletics:

Cole Century - Tom Cole (owner)

DeNooyer Chevrolet - Bill DeNooyer (owner)

Harold Zeigler Auto Group - Harold & Aaron Zeigler (owner)

John Tapper Automotive - John Tapper (owner)

Maple Hill Auto Group - Jim Vandenberg (owner)

Metro Toyota - Jeff DeNooyer (owner)

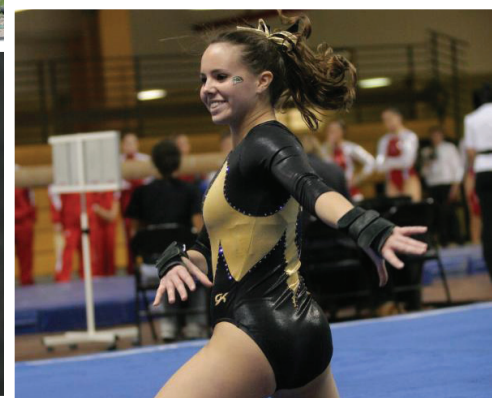


GARY FUND EXCEEDS \$1 MILLION FOR SECOND-STRAIGHT YEAR
Gary Fund had another record-setting year with an overall goal of \$1.0 million for the 2009 campaign.

The Mike Gary Athletic Fund announced a two percent increase in donations with a total of \$1,022,045. Last year's record total was \$1,002,749. The Gary Fund volunteers surpassed their calling period goal of \$475,000 with a total of \$477,962.

The announcement was made at the Mike Gary Athletic Fund Celebration held at the Gilmore House hosted by Dr. and Mrs. Dunn. In attendance were the Gary Fund volunteers, the WMU Head Coaches and athletic staff.

The chair for the 2009 campaign was Jim Hall and the Vice Chair was Jim Everts.



The Gary Fund supports all WMU athletic programs from basketball to volleyball to tennis and each and every student-athlete's experience.

The WMU student-athletes and teams are grateful to the Gary Fund donors and the volunteers.

... **SUPPORTED**

WMU BASKETBALL IS...



Western Michigan basketball is a staple on television during hoops season. In Hawkins' six years as head coach, the Broncos have been featured on regional or national television 52 times. The lights have shown brightest over the past few years as the Broncos have been on national TV eight times over the last three seasons. In 2007-08, the Broncos hosted ESPN2 at University Arena for wins over Central Michigan and Eastern Michigan, marking the first national TV broadcast to originate from Kalamazoo since 2004. During the 2006-07 season, the Broncos were featured in primetime on ESPN2 on Thanksgiving Day in a 71-68 victory over Virginia Tech, a team that reached the second round of the 2007 NCAA Tournament.



STAR WATCH	
	42 - JOE REITZ C WESTERN MICHIGAN Old Spice Classic (2 games): 11.0 points, 7.0 rebounds
	25 - JARED JORDAN G MARIST Old Spice Classic (2 games): 16.0 points, 9.0 assists



Men's Basketball

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Whitfield says yes to Western Michigan hoops, no to big-time football



By Dana O'Neil
ESPN.com
(archive)

Updated: September 9, 2008

Comment Email Print

Flenard Whitfield inked his letter of intent to play basketball at Western Michigan on Nov. 15, 2007.

As news events go, it didn't even register on the sports radar. Whitfield, after all, had given his verbal promise to the Broncos months before and while considered a good prospect, he was never on the stratosphere of say, Memphis' Tyreke Evans.

Eight days after he signed, Whitfield

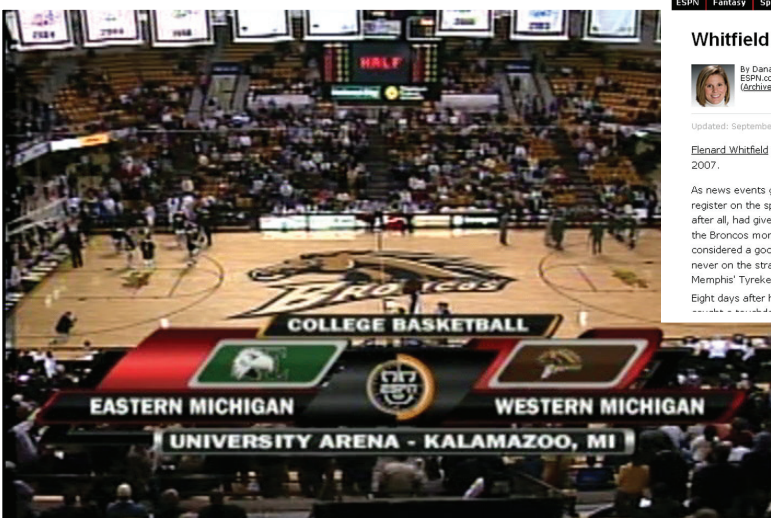
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More Men's College Basketball Headlines

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- Richmond assistants quit over recruiting violations
- Former Gator Duany bound over for rape charge
- Former O.U. Oklahoma State coach Parrack dies
- Philadelphia twins cleared to play for Jayhawks

Register to vote
for a strong economy.



Sophomore Flenard Whitfield was featured on ESPN.com prior to his freshman season. ESPN.com's Andy Katz has regularly called Western Michigan's University Arena one of the toughest mid-major venues in the country in his "Daily Word."

When the Broncos are on TV, they make the highlight reel. Shawntés Gary's one-handed dunk over Central Michigan's Marcus Van (pictured right) was the No. 1 Play of the Day on SportsCenter on Jan. 22, 2008 and ranked as one of the Top 10 Plays of the Week. The year before, Andre Ricks wicked crossover and reverse layup against Virginia Tech was the No. 5 Play of the Day on the Nov. 23, 2006 episode of SportsCenter.



... GETTING NOTICED

WMU BASKETBALL IS...



On August 22, 2005, legendary coach John Wooden visited Western Michigan for an "Evening With John Wooden." A dinner and reception was held before Wooden spoke at WMU's Miller Auditorium. During his trip, Wooden also had a chance to talk to Bronco student-athletes in University Arena. Wooden's visit was made possible by his 25-year relationship with Broncos' head coach Steve Hawkins.



STEVE HAWKINS COACHING PHILOSOPHY



Our program philosophy is based on legendary coach John Wooden's definition of success.

His definition states, "Success is peace of mind, which is a direct result of self-satisfaction in knowing you did your best to become the best that you are capable of becoming."

"Success is all about being at peace with yourself. The only way to attain that is through your best effort. After all, what more can you give than your all?"

We feel this is important in any endeavor. Whether it is practice, the weight room, a game, the classroom or simply setting aside time with family and friends, there should be maximum focus and attention given to that activity.



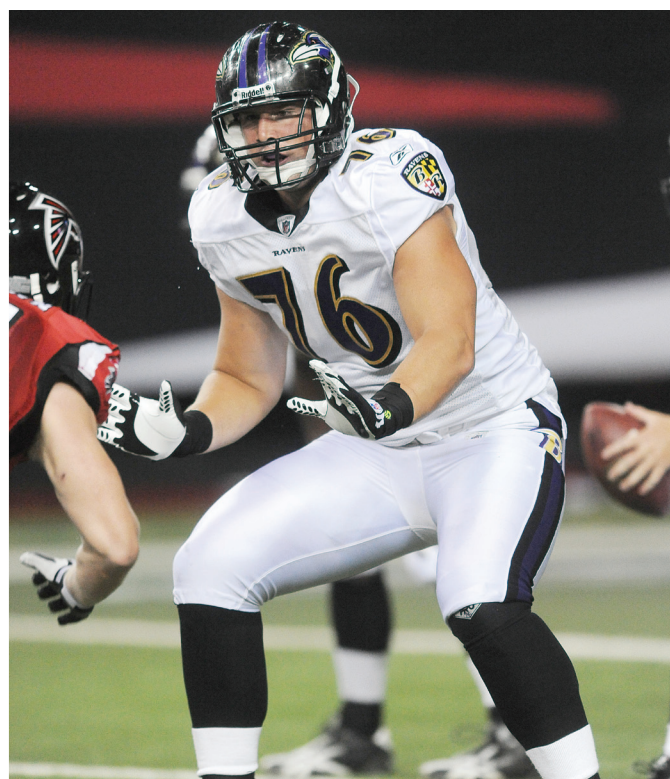
The bottom line is if you can look in the mirror at the end of day and know that you did everything you could possibly do to make that day your masterpiece, then you are a success regardless of what any scoreboard may say.

At Western Michigan, our goals are higher than 10 feet!"

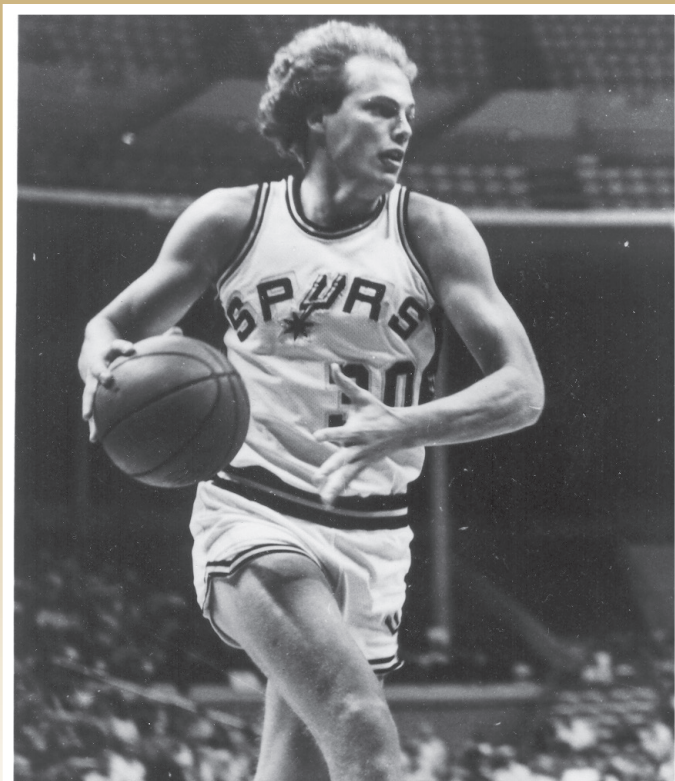


... JOHN WOODEN

WMU BASKETBALL IS...



Joe Reitz (above left) is in his second season with the NFL's Baltimore Ravens, while Ben Handlogten (above right) averaged 4.3 ppg and 3.2 rpg for the Utah Jazz. Walker D. Russell (below left) played 155 games for the Detroit Pistons, Atlanta Hawks and Indiana Pacers, while Paul Griffin had the longest NBA career with 480 games with the New Orleans Jazz and San Antonio Spurs.





STEVE HAWKINS DEVELOPS PROFESSIONALS

Ten players that have played for head coach Steve Hawkins have advanced to professional careers in international basketball with Bobby Madison, Ben Reed and Levi Rost in Portugal, Mike Williams and Anthony Kann in Spain, Reggie Berry, Stane's Bufford and Brian Snider in Germany, Silver Laku in Iceland and Robby Collum in Uruguay.



... GOING PRO