View From The Hill
(04/15/10)

**Willie Taggart**

When the WKU football team plays its annual spring red/white game Saturday night….it will mark the debut of head coach Willie Taggart.

Amy Bingham talks to Coach Taggart about the Hilltopper’s new era in this week’s “ View from the Hill”.

Chasing Greatness and Catching Excellence….it’s a mantra the WKU football team is living by these days and new coach Willie Taggart is spreading the message to anyone who will listen!

He hasn’t coached his first game yet at WKU, but  Willie Taggart has already had a surreal moment.

“The first day I came out to practice back on Smith Stadium and on Feix Field.”  19:40ish “that’s when it really sunk in….man I’m back.”

For Taggart it’s good to be home.  The standout quarterback in the mid-90’s set eleven school records as a Hilltopper and is one of only four players in history to have his jersey retired.

But he says he doesn’t spend much time strolling down memory lane with the players.

“If anything I’ll bring up an old game or if a certain situation comes up in practice and I recall something I did in that situation I bring it up but not to to brag on myself.”

Coach “T” as he is often called…does plan to give fans something to brag about ..especially after the last few disappointing seasons.

“Western is in my DNA and I love it to death, I was upset and couldn’t brag on my university being out there and I understand how the fans feel but we’re gonna change that.”

“We have it all here you know the foundation is here, the foundation is here to build that mansion, don’t want to build a little apartment, we want to build a mansion.”

Taggart says it all goes back to “chasing greatness and catching excellence”…a saying  he brought with him from his job at Stanford and realized he had been doing his whole life.

“Getting the head coaching job now.  That’s another part of the little excellence I’ve been catching while I’m chasing greatness.  I tell people I’m not through.  I’m still chasing and I’m continuing to catch excellence on the way.”

THE WKU SPRING FOOTBALL GAME IS free THIS SATURDAY AT SIX PM.   The third annual WKU WOMEN’S FOOTBALL CLINIC WILL BE HELD PRIOR TO THE GAME with registration BEGINNING AT 8:30 SATURDAY MORNING.

WITH THIS WEEK’S VIEW FROM THE HILL, I’M AMY BINGHAM.