

copy 1

UK Plays With Fire, But Burns Rebs & Sooners. . .



25590

SEVENTY-FIVE CENTS PER COPY

The Cats' Pause

"SPOTLIGHTING UNIVERSITY OF KENTUCKY AND SOUTHEASTERN CONFERENCE"



900 44338 8/24/37 40506
UK MARGARET KING LIBRARY
MERIDIAN CENTER
LEXINGTON KY 40506

Free Call

VOLUME 11 - NUMBER 26

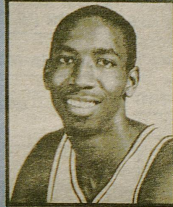
SATURDAY, MARCH 7, 1987

LEXINGTON, KENT

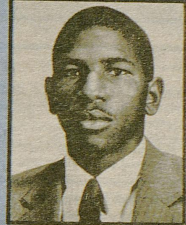
Dwayne Schintzius



Derrick McKey



Nikita Wilson



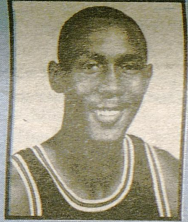
Rex Chapman



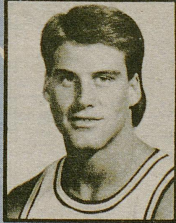
Will Perdue



Willie Anderson

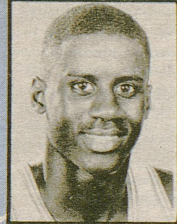


Jim Farmer

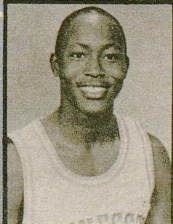


S.E.C.

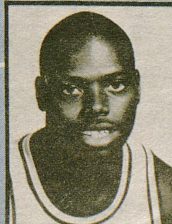
Vernon Maxwell



Tony White



Terry Coner



University Archives
Margaret I. King Library - North
University of Kentucky
Lexington, Kentucky 40506

. . . Tangles With Sonny Smith's Tigers On Friday

THE CATS' PAUSE



PUBLICATION NO. USPS 707340
 Published By
 WILDCAT NEWS COMPANY
 P.O. Box 7297
 Lexington, Kentucky 40522
 Second Class Postage Paid at
 Lexington, Kentucky 40511
 and additional Mailing offices

Editor and Publisher
 OSCAR L. COMBS

Staff Writer
 NICK NICHOLAS
Staff Writer
 MIKE ESTEP
Staff Writer
 TODD HALLUM

Composition Coordinator
 WINFRED JENNINGS

National Recruiting Columnist
 BOB GIBBONS

Columnist
 LARRY VAUGHT
State Columnist
 BOB WATKINS

National Basketball Columnist
 LARRY DONALD

Columnist
 MEL HOLBROOK
SEC Columnist
 STAN TORGERSON

Columnist
 DICKY BEAL
Kentucky Basketball Recruiting
 RICK BOLUS

Contributing Columnist
 JAMIE VAUGHT

Sport Hobby Columnist
 JACK MAIDEN

Business Manager
 DONNA COMBS

Staff Photographer
 GARY CROMWELL

Staff Photographer
 CLARENCE MILLER JR.

Circulation Coordinator
 WANDA HOOKER

Crossword Puzzle Editor
 DAN KRUECKEBERG

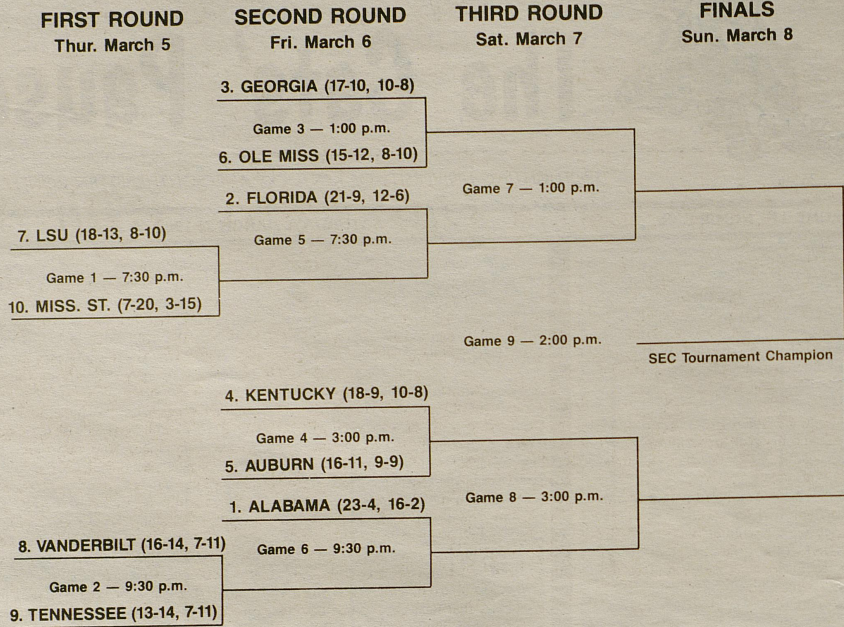
Published Weekly: Sept. 13-April 11
 Monthly: May, June, July, August

Advertising Representative
 WILDCAT NEWS COMPANY
 2625 Regency Road
 Lexington, Kentucky 40503

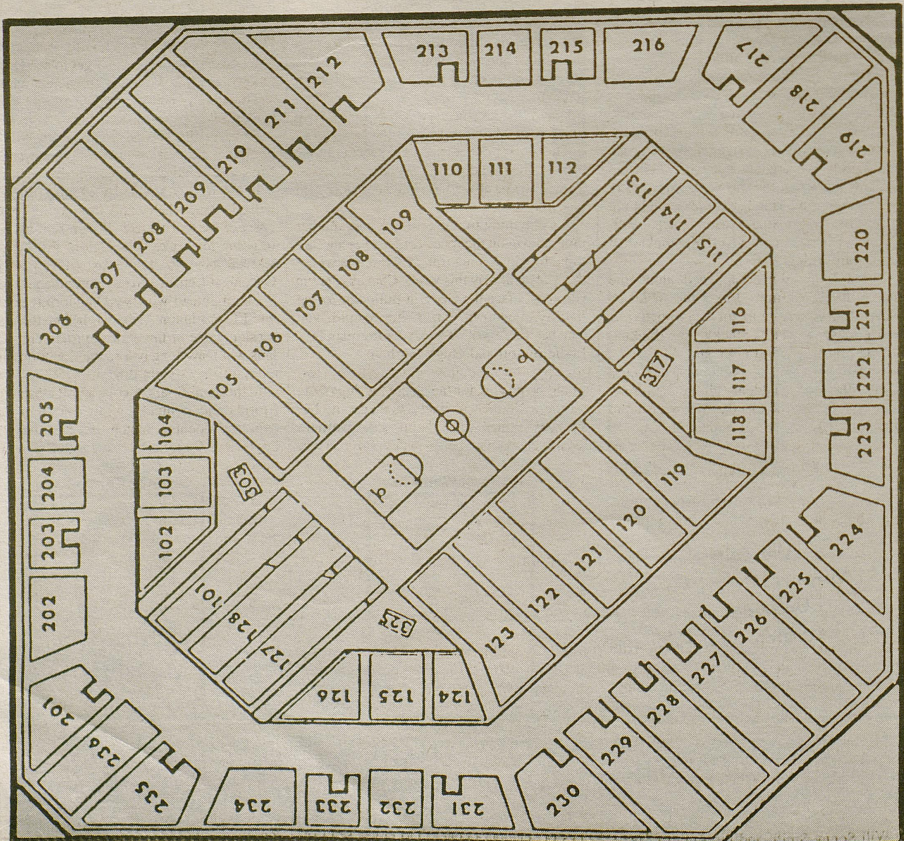
Subscription Price
 \$25.00 per year in USA
 \$35.00 per year in Canada
 Phone: (606)278-3474

Postmaster: Send Address Changes to
 THE CATS' PAUSE, P.O. Box 7297,
 Lexington, Kentucky 40522

1987 SEC Tournament Pairings



The Omni Seating Chart





Oscar L. Combs

Cats' Pause Publisher



'Cats Close Out Season With A Bang!

Wow! What a weekend! And what a lift for the Kentucky Wildcats.

Getting the 10-count after losing at Georgia last Wednesday, the Wildcats could have wilted on the vine, so to speak, during the final seconds Saturday as Ole Miss appeared to be on the verge of a major, major upset.

But the 'Cats had a couple of their nine lives left.

Thanks to freshman Rex "Prime Time" Chapman and his zeal for wanting the ball when the game is on the line, Kentucky escaped with a 64-63 victory.

And then the repeat performance Sunday when Richard Madison became a star of the day by scoring the winning bucket with just seconds left in the game.

Now, Kentucky enters the Southeastern Conference Tournament on a real uptick as it hopes to improve its seeding in next week's NCAA Tournament.

Oh sure, there are some who may claim that Kentucky doesn't have a bid locked up. I'm not the type person who bets on basketball games, but I've got some loose change which says there will be a martian in the white house before Kentucky stays home from the NCAAs next week.

Prior to the two big wins over the weekends, there were some in the Bluegrass who had judged this season to be one of total failure around these parts. Oh what a monster you've created Eddie Sutton.

Just prior to the season opener, those same fans would have voted you coach of the year if you would have assured them of a 19-10 mark. You knew you were going to be short-handed with Kenny Walker, Roger Harden and LeRoy Byrd gone, but when Winston Bennett went out for the year. Well, there were some wondering if Kentucky might not suffer its first losing season since...well, whenever it was the last time Kentucky lost more games than it won.

But a funny thing happened along the march to The Omni. First, the Wildcats played Indiana toe-to-toe in Bloomington. It was enough to get Kentucky fans thinking maybe you were God after all.

And then that 34-point laughter over Louisville. Well, suddenly all the doubt was removed. Forget the fact that you warned the fans that it was a freakish deal at best.

And then it began to crumble. The upset loss to Georgia on that same Freedom Hall court a few days later. The embarrassing 34-point loss to LSU at Rupp Arena (gosh, you could hear the cracks forming in the concrete).

All of a sudden, the world was coming to an end.

And then Kentucky stuns Auburn, only to lose at Ole Miss. Then you upset Alabama in Tuscaloosa only to lose at Georgia. Just when the fans were ready to start breaking ground for their new garden, you've teased them again with those spine-tingling come-from-behind wins over Ole Miss and Oklahoma.

The big question is, which team will show up at The Omni Friday when Kentucky tries to whip Auburn for a third straight time.

Will Sonny Smith and his Auburn Tigers

pull another Cinderella finish at the SEC Tournament this week?

Last year, the Tigers bombed out to Mississippi State in the second round, but the two years prior to that Auburn put on brilliant charges in the SEC tourney to impress NCAA officials.

In 1984, Auburn went right to the wire with Kentucky before Kenny Walker hit a shot at the buzzer to give the 'Cats the crown.

In 1985, with Smith's job on the line according to some, Auburn charged from nowhere to win the tournament by turning back Alabama in the championship game.

There are some who insist that Auburn supporters aren't very happy with the way things are going in Tigerland. There are others who say Smith isn't very happy with things around Auburn himself. And there are some who say that East Carolina is looking more and more inviting to the popular Auburn coach each day.

Just how attractive East Carolina is to Smith could be answered by the number of wins his team achieves in the SEC this week.

And there is the rumor making the rounds that Smith could wind up back in his nati-ved state of Tennessee as head coach of the Big Orange Vols if Don DeVoe should not be around in the not too distant future.

All those rumors and \$1 will get you a cheap cup of coffee this week in Atlanta.

Without question, you can bet a lot more rides on this opening round game for Auburn than for Kentucky.

Still, Kentucky needs a win or two to help build momentum for the big show next week.

The weekend victories were nice, but they came at the friendly confines of Rupp Arena. They won't be around Rupp again before next November.

It's one thing to win at home and another thing to win on the road. And it's yet another thing to win at a neutral site which is where the 'Cats will play this week. Chances are the Cats won't face the Georgia Bulldogs during the SEC hoedown, but if they should, you can bet there will be two happy people—Eddie Sutton and Hugh Durham.

Happy because it would mean the two would be playing for the championship of the tourney. Neither is likely to make it, but stranger things have happened. Durham would like nothing better than to meet a team he has already beaten twice. And you can rest assured Sutton would like to have a third short at the 'Dogs. But it won't happen.

And now to our fearless predictions this week.

Opening round games have LSU taking on Mississippi State and Tennessee going against Vanderbilt.

LSU should have no trouble in disposing of the least talented team in the league, but the Tigers have performed tank jobs before. In fact, it wasn't so long ago, like last Saturday in Auburn. The Tigers are still living off their two wins over Kentucky. Still, if LSU loses this one, our good friend Joe Dean is going to have to get real rough with his good friend Dale Brown.

The other first-round game has all the makings of sending a coach into either semi or

permanent retirement.

Don DeVoe has been on the hot seat the past few years in Knoxville and the temperature will rise this winter when Ole Miss beat the Vols twice in less than four days. His boss, AD Doug Dickey gave him a verbal vote of confidence but you know how much that is worth.

On the other hand, the diehards in Music City are becoming restless with the direction of the Commodore program and C.M. Newton's patience has been wearing thin with his players.

A Knoxville sportswriter quoted C.M. recently as saying he wasn't having fun anymore in coaching and that is why he quit the first time when he left the coaching scene at Alabama several years ago.

Vanderbilt got off to a torrid start in the preseason, even upset then-No. 1 ranked Indiana. Then, the SEC swoon season arrived. Upset losses at home and few victories on the road. A home-court upset over Notre Dame in February quieted the critics briefly, but Vandy lost to archrival Tennessee twice and that hasn't set too well.

So one of the two will close out a very, very disappointing campaign Thursday. It could be the death sentence for one, a 14-hour stay of execution for the other.

Newton's job isn't on the line this year, but DeVoe's could be. Here's hoping Vanderbilt's win doesn't mean we won't get to see DeVoe enjoy his new 25,000-seat arena next winter.

Thursday's action has Georgia going against Ole Miss with Kentucky challenging Auburn in the second game. Both will be decided in the final minute. Georgia over Ole Miss and Kentucky squeaking by Auburn.

In the first game Friday evening, Florida will challenge LSU and this could be the upset of the tournament. Brown is at his best in going for broke. The Gators still haven't learned how to win away from friendly O'Connell Center. LSU is tournament-tested.

The nightcap will have Vanderbilt taking on SEC champion Alabama. It'll be the most lopsided game of the entire tournament. The fans will leave long before the final horn and enjoy a fine Atlanta dinner.

In the semi-finals, Georgia will clash with Florida and Kentucky will meet Alabama.

In the opening match, Florida has the horses but Georgia has Hugh Durham. It'll be crunch time for Norm Sloan and his Gators who want to prove to the world they aren't "choke city."

Vernon Maxwell, Andrew Moten and company won't lose this time and will move to the championship battle with a double-digit victory.

Without question, Alabama is the class of the SEC. Forget the Crimson Tide's losses to Kentucky and Florida. The Tide has all the ingredients to become a Final Four entry, as in the NCAA, not the SEC.

No one in the league has greater inside talent than Derrick McKey, Jim Farmer, Michael Ansley. McKey is better than most teams' entire front line. And what hasn't been said about Terry Coner and Mark Gottfried?

Sure, Kentucky beat Alabama in Tuscaloosa. And once every century LSU might beat Kentucky 34 points in Lexington,

Kentucky will give it a good shot, but Alabama still hasn't forgotten those four losses last season, not to mention the upset loss last month at home. Alabama by 10.

In the title game, the two which are supposed to be there will be there. It'll be a dandy, but Florida is no match for the SEC's finest—the Alabama Crimson Tide.

And now to the honors department.

Wimp Sanderson is our coach of the year. It's not even a close race. The man did what he is supposed to do and he did it with ease, class and perfection.

Sure, 'Bama has some great talent. But talent alone doesn't win. His team played well right out of the gate (save the Florida State game when Coner was hurt) and the Tide won the league race going away.

Second-place honors go to Hugh Durham who did a fantastic job after losing numerous key players. You can argue a point in Durham's favor as coach of the year, but it's a lot different from coaching an underdog and a favorite. The pressure is always with No. 1.

And Ed Murphy certainly is a strong third with his first year job at Ole Miss. His Rebels have played remarkably well, but history reminds us that sometimes we put too much stock into first-year beginnings.

Still, Murphy's work was certainly magnificent in leading the Rebels to a winning record, their first in four years.

Our ten-man All-Southeastern Conference team was a tough one. After the first five or six players, it became extremely tough to round out just a 10-man squad. At least six other players could have qualified. We had to pick ten and no doubt we probably missed one one of your favorites. Our apologies.

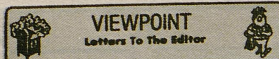
Here's a reminder to all the Kentucky fans who will be making the trip to Atlanta this weekend.

The Greater Atlanta-UK Alumni Club is sponsoring an SEC Hospitality Reception Friday, March 6 at the downtown Hyatt from 3:30 p.m. til 6:30 p.m. between the afternoon and evening sessions of the tournament.

Admission will be \$2 per person at the door.

Brad Loar of the Atlanta club says the club plans to schedule other activities, depending on the team's success. His phone number for information regarding such activities are (404) 979-8761 or (404) 7066 (daytime).

HITS AND MISSES . . . Former Kentucky coach **Joe B. Hall** will be attending the SEC Tournament this week and will be the ABC-TV color analyst for the championship game on Sunday. He'll be working with **Al Michaels** . . . Kentucky, which is still making a push to sign a top-quality point guard for next season, had 6-0 **Elliot Perry** of Memphis, Tenn., in for an official visit over the weekend. He is considered the state's top prospect and many believe he will decide between Memphis State and Kentucky. Also



XXX

Dear Sir:

If everyone who reads your fine publication was as disgusted as I was by Dale Brown and his microphone during the UK-LSU game Feb. 21, then I strongly suggest that one and all write a letter, as I have done, to NBC, c/o Sports Division, 30 Rockefeller Plaza, New York, N.Y.

If Brown was given a mike, why wasn't Sutton? If NBC believes that Brown is such an interesting "character," have mercy on them. If I had wanted to listen to him swear, scream at the officials one minute yet coddle them the next, I would have watched Bobby Knight (and Lord knows *he* doesn't ever need a mike to be heard!).

Sincerely,

Lisa Sands
Owensboro, Kentucky

(Editor's note: NBC did offer Kentucky coach Eddie Sutton the opportunity to be equipped with a mike on the sidelines during the LSU game, but he declined to do so.)

TV Referee

Dear Sir:

I have been a lifelong Kentucky basketball fan (as my friends, students and former players can attest to), but this is my first correspondence to your fine publication. I have waited for some commentary regarding the final :03 of the UK-Alabama game. I watched the game on TV and also taped it on my VCR. I thought the Crimson Tide committed a violation on the inbounds pass. (Rob Lock cut off the passing angles and it appeared to me that the Alabama player moved at least once and maybe twice to his left before passing in to Derrick McKey. The official handed the ball to a designated spot, and any movement is a violation. You can move with the ball after a basket, but Alabama got it to midcourt and both teams had timeouts. It certainly looks to me that the Alabama player moved, hence a violation.

Yours in sports,

Larry Slater
Marietta, Ohio

'Cats Sign Tight End Out Of Junior College; Eyeing SMU Players

With the signing of 6-foot-3, 222-pound tight end Charles Darrington, Kentucky added No. 25 to this season's recruiting crop.

Last season Darrington, a junior college performer for Northeast Oklahoma JC, hauled in 10 receptions for 148 yards and two touchdowns.

He's a native of Tifton, Ga.

According to UK assistant Jake Hallum, who recruited Darrington, the Wildcat staff felt they needed to "beef up" the tight end position. Mark Wheeler and Matt Lucas graduated, leaving Joe Curry, Martin Pennington and Rich Hadrych fighting for a starting spot.

Curry, a junior out of Madisonville High School, has been hampered with knee problems during his three seasons (one redshirt campaign), while Pennington, also a player whose time has been limited because of injuries, and Hadrych lack experience.

[Continued On Page 5]

NCAA Out To Get 'Tark The Shark'

Juco Team Could Win Sun Belt, SWC

Any day now, I'm told, a judge in Nevada will render a decision in the case of the NCAA versus **Jerry Tarkanian**. And, as happened in the first two trials, you can expect the Nevada Las Vegas coach to win and the NCAA to be embarrassed.

If you must ask why the NCAA persists in what has now become a 10-year effort to drive Tarkanian from the coaching ranks then you've not been paying attention to the Boys of Shawnee Mission in the past three decades. It is this case, above all others, which demonstrates just how politicized, vindictive and selective the NCAA's executive branch has become.



Larry Donald

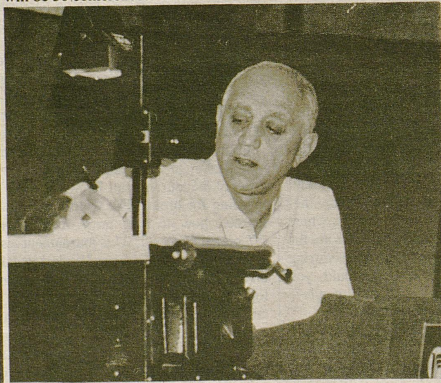
Cats' Pause Columnist

Long ago Tarkanian's guilt or innocence became a moot point. Instead, the people responsible for administering college athletics, the presidents, have been given a full view of a branch which is supposed to serve at their pleasure. Sadly, nothing's been done.

Not until the retirement of **Walter Byers** and the appointment of a new executive director can there be much hope for a change in the moral climate. To date, the smell at the top, as the Tarkanian case has exhibited twice, isn't very sweet.

Given that, you might well expect the following scenario. As president of the **United States Basketball Writer's Association** it was my responsibility to serve on an NCAA committee. Obviously, I was less than enthused about the assignment, but, then, I shouldn't have been worried. A few months after being named to the committee I received a form letter from Byers indicating the group had been disbanded. Ah, well.

One of the pressing problems facing the NCAA Tournament Committee is the matter of automatic berths. Within the next year there will be 30 conferences which meet the criteria to receive one ticket



Tarkanian To Get Last Laugh

(minimum) to the tournament and the committee has voted to freeze the automatics at that figure. The problem will come down the road when two or three more conferences become eligible under present legislation. What probably will happen is some sort of preliminary playoff system similar to that used when the NCAA tournament was at 52 teams. It is likely four to six of the smaller leagues would be forced into a one-game playoff to get into the tournament.

And if someone wants to complain, I would suggest a playoff is far better than an arbitrary decision by the committee. As it stands now the 30 automatic berths assure the 64 best teams will not have an opportunity to play for the national crown. To add more, simply deepens that factor. Also you can expect the tournament to stay at 64 teams for the foreseeable future. Because of the parity in college basketball there's been talk of opening the tournament to every Division I team, but that won't happen for a couple of reasons: 1) Television likes 64, and 2) To expand the NCAA tourney would mean eliminating the lucrative postseason conference tournaments.

A problem soon to face the NCAA Tournament Committee will

be what to do with all the new money from the CBS television contract. **Dick Schultz**, athletics director at Virginia and chairman of the committee, tells me he expects a new distribution setup. Teams in the Final Four this year will earn in excess of a million dollars each. He says the committee will probably put a cap right about there and then shotgun the monies among first- and second-round teams.

Recently, I had my first look at the best team in junior college basketball, the **San Jacinto Ravens**. In an era when everyone is talking about parity, San Jac is thinking dynasty. Coach **Ronnie Arrow's** team has won three of the last four National Juco championships and is favored to make it a record fifth time this year. Along the way the Ravens have run up a win streak of 63 (current) which eclipsed the previous mark of 49.

How good is this team, really? Well, with a solid backcourt of **Boo Harvey** and **Michael Porter** along with a smallish, but talented front line, I don't see many conferences (possibly the Big Ten) where San Jac wouldn't qualify for NCAA play. The Ravens



Michigan's Grant Lacking Consistency

probably could win conferences like the Mid-American, MCC (and easily), and the Sun Belt and SWC with a little more of a struggle. This is not a run and rip outfit. Arrow is a disciplinarian and all the parts work nicely. . . But if you want a comparison of worlds consider the million dollar payday for the NCAA champion and then realize the juco king gets a check for less than \$1,000.

Family statistic: **Alabama coach Wimp Sanderson's** oldest son **Jim** is the head basketball coach at **Faulkner University** in Montgomery, Ala. His other son, **Scott**, is an assistant at Faulkner. Family reunions must be interesting.

It's time to update the personal scorecard from the preseason:

Things I was wrong about:

- 1) **Reggie Williams** qualifications to be an All-American.
- 2) **Louisville's** capability of being a Top Ten team this year.
- 3) That **Tulsa** and **Western Kentucky** were ready to waltz with the big timers.

And, conversely, things about which I was correct:

- 1) **UNLV's** qualifications as a Top Ten team.
- 2) **Alabama's Derrick McKey** as a legit All-American performer.
- 3) That the three-point shot would be the most impactful rule change in the history of college basketball.

A slice of philosophy from **DePaul's Joey Meyer**, whose team certainly ranks as one of the major surprises this year: "I feel some rules are necessary, but I don't have to go to practice every day and try to show them who's boss." . . . I like the Blue Demons, but their inability to shoot free throws will catch up early in NCAA play. . . Let's give the man credit, **Digger Phelps** has done an outstanding coaching job with very ordinary talent at **Notre Dame**.

I realize **Ohio State's Dennis Hopson** won't be the Big Ten's Player of the Year, but don't be shocked if he's the NBA Rookie of the Year in 1988. . . With a second straight losing season assured, I don't know how much longer **Bobby Nichols** can hold on at **Toledo**. . . One other thing I called early: **North Carolina** would be a better team in March than December. Such a bright lad, eh? . . .

You must be careful about getting oversold on college players just because announcers talk constantly about them. There is air space which must be filled, you understand. But there's no question **Duke's Tommy Amaker** is one of the toughest and quickest defenders to come along in many, many years. . . I find it interesting that **Michigan's Gary Grant** just can't become consistently outstanding. . . What happened to **North Carolina State**? Unless a lot of recruiting experts are wrong, the bottom shouldn't have fallen out on the Wolfpack.

Those One-Liners, Don't You Love 'em?

Switzer May Have Been Too Confident

Quote And Unquote.

"Reducing basketball scholarships to 13 is ridiculous. They give 15 scholarships for volleyball and you could take all the revenue that's generated by volleyball for an entire season and maybe buy lunch. It's not going to save money. What it is going to do is knock 20 kids in this conference alone out of the opportunity to go to school on a basketball scholarship and get a free education."

—Wimp Sanderson, basketball coach at Alabama.

"If I was going to resign again this would certainly be the week



Stan Torgerson

Cats' Pause Columnist

to do it. I don't know if I've ever faced a more challenging schedule."

—Auburn basketball coach Sonny Smith, before sending his team against LSU, Florida and UNLV within a five-day period.

"What I want more than anything is for LSU to get the right man, someone who can bring together all these factions. I told Jim Wharton (LSU's chancellor) that if I'm not the right man I'd help find the guy that everyone can support and I'd support him."

—Joe Dean, prior to being named athletics director at LSU.

"Some of them (college recruiters) I'm scared to be in the same room with them. I think they're going to offer me money so I tell coach Hank (his high school coach), 'Why don't you come and sit in here with us? This guy is not going to say anything you can't hear.'"

—Mickey Joseph from New Orleans (La.) Shaw HS, rated the country's No. 1 prep quarterback prospect.

"Let me say this. We're going to be at least 10-1, contend for the national championship and play in the Orange Bowl if you come to the University of Oklahoma. And we're going to be 10-1, contend for the national championship and play in the Orange Bowl if you don't come to the University of Oklahoma."

—Oklahoma football coach Barry Switzer to Mickey Joseph while trying to convince him to come to OU.

"Coach (Tom) Osborne (Nebraska's head coach) was the only one (recruiter) who did not lie to us."

—Joseph's father after his son signed to play with Nebraska.

"We've had two more cases of gonorrhea," Forzano told the team. "About time," said running back Lawrence Gaines, "I'm tired of Gatorade."

—New Orleans Saints kicker Benny Ricardo remembering his days with the Detroit Lions and a lecture by then coach Rick Forzano about off the field conduct.

"Penalties for any violations of NCAA rules are just starting to have an impact and that impact will grow over time. I believe over the next decade you will see the cleaning up of intercollegiate athletics."

—Eamon Kelly, President of Tulane University.

"Damn, I'm good!!"

—Necklace worn by Butler guard Darrin Fitzgerald, who leads the nation in three-pointers with an average of five per game.

"If there was a bright side it was improved free throw shooting by UK."

—Kentucky press release after 35-point loss to LSU.

"I'd like to be the referee in a game that (Billy) Packer and (Dick) Vitale were coaching. Then write the story and talk about how dumb they are as coaches."

—Abe Lemons, basketball coach at Oklahoma City.

"I've never had a team like this. We couldn't throw the ball from

one person to another."

—Louisville coach Denny Crum on this year's team.

"You've got to be a different kind of person. Like I've said so often, you've got to have good judgement—but that's stupid because if you had good judgement you wouldn't be a referee."

—Lafayette coach Butch Van Breda Kolff, about referees.

"Generally they're booing shirts, not people."

—Hank Nichols, the nation's leading basketball referee commenting on the attitude of cage crowds toward the officials.

"I'm not adverse to getting out and asking for money."

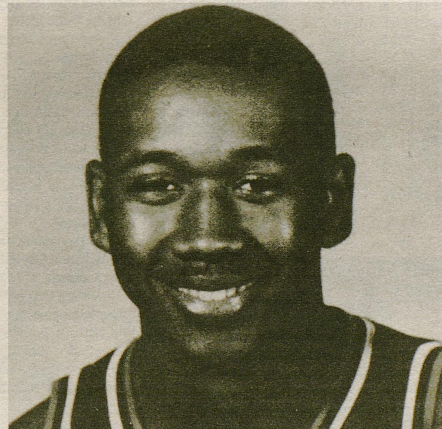
—LSU's new athletics director Joe Dean about the Tigers' financial problems.

"Traditionally Vegas players have been known to talk better than they play. But today they backed up every word."

—Auburn's coach Sonny Smith after his coaching strategy was criticized by UNLV players following the Running Rebels' 104-85 win over the Tigers.

Not For Broadcast

The Sporting News published a story about the Las Vegas-Auburn game which said, "The Rebels attended a reception with the Auburn players at a motel. 'We saw 'em there,' (Freddie) Banks (who scored 36 points for Vegas) said. 'We said, 'They're all drunk. We'll take 'em out tomorrow.' Said Auburn's (Mike) Jones: 'That's Banks' problem. Our whole team wasn't even there. A couple of us were (drinking) but it was nothing major.' Said Auburn's Frank Ford: 'No, no, no. There was no drinking going on.' " At this point who really knows what happened, if anything! . . . Tennessee is expected to be paid between \$500,000 and \$600,000 for playing Iowa in this fall's season-opening Chase Kickoff Classic at Shea Stadium Aug. 31. . . The Miami Herald reports that Vinny Testaverde, despite five years at the University of Miami, is at least 30 hours, or two full semesters, short of graduation. He also is no longer at-



Frank Ford Says Tigers Did Nothing Wrong

tending any classes. . . Tickets may be in short supply for the Southeastern Conference Tournament. Kentucky, Georgia, Tennessee and Vanderbilt sold out early and by now Auburn, Alabama and Florida have probably sold their allotments. These schools have turned to LSU, Mississippi State and Ole Miss to buy any unsold tickets from their allotments. . . The dropoff in basketball interest at LSU remains a mystery to me. Certainly times are hard in Louisiana, but that still doesn't explain the dramatic decrease in attendance at the Assembly Center and the failure of LSU fans to follow their team to Atlanta. . . If any school has a classier program in any sport than Kentucky has in basketball we've never seen it. . . How good is this year's Florida team? Here's what LSU coach Dale Brown had to say about them: "Once a year no matter how good, average or poor your team, you can look forward to getting beat alongside the head. This is the best Florida

[Continued On Page 22]

UK Now Has 25 Recruits

[Continued From Page 4]

During the '87 recruiting campaign UK has signed three tight ends—Darrington, Shawn Evans (Richmond) and Daniel Lee (Cottondale, Fla.).

Kentucky also had hoped to sign two of the nation's top tight end prospects, which just happen to live in the Wildcats' backyard. But Frank Jacobs (Newport) chose Notre Dame and Jeff Ellis (Louisville) picked Ohio State.

Hallum hopes that Darrington can come in next season and contribute right away.

"He's two years older," Hallum told TCP, in comparing Darrington to the incoming freshman group. "He runs a 40 (-yard dash) in 4.7, has good hands and is also a good blocker."

According to Hallum, Darrington recently signed with Tulsa. However, his mother hadn't signed the letter-of-intent, making the letter non-binding with the Golden Hurricane. Darrington then changed his mind and decided he wanted to attend UK.

Hallum noted that he watched Darrington play last season for NE Oklahoma.

It was last year when Darrington caught a touchdown pass in the Mid-American Bowl, helping his team capture the National Junior College championship.

Only hours after the Southern Methodist football program was given the "death penalty," UK assistant Chip Garber was headed to Dallas.

You see, Garber, a former SMU assistant, ventured to the Big "D" to try and recruit "eight to 10" Mustang players. Garber wasn't alone, however. According to a story in a Lexington newspaper, about 80 schools asked the NCAA last Wednesday to see if they



Jake Hallum Lands No. 25

could recruit SMU gridiron players. This is due to SMU's program being terminated for the entire 1987 season.

Kentucky has only one remaining scholarship to offer.

SMU is allowed to play an abbreviated seven-game slate in 1988. All games, though, are to be on the road. The most recent infraction marks the schools seventh in the last 28 seasons and fifth in 12 years.

Overall, 125 coaches were on the SMU campus trying to lure a player or players to their respective institutions. Under NCAA guidelines, in this instance if a player decides to transfer he will be allowed to participate during the upcoming season.

Things were expected to be less chaotic following Saturday (Feb. 28) because that's when off-campus recruiting ends. Supposedly, Garber had a couple of SMU defensive backs on his shopping list.

Besides Kentucky, some of the other schools invading SMU were all the Southwest Conference representatives, Ohio State, Alabama, UCLA, Southern Cal and LSU.

Dawg Power!

Georgia's Dennis Williams Produces 29 Points Giving Hosts 79-71 Win; UGA Sews Up Third Seed For Upcoming SEC Tournament In Atlanta

With the third place seeding in the upcoming Southeastern Conference Basketball Tournament firmly at stake, Georgia's Bulldogs built a 10-point lead midway in the second half and then held off a furious rally at the end to hand Kentucky a 79-71 defeat in Athens last Wednesday.

The victory assured Georgia of at least a 10-8 conference record and a third place seed if it should end the regular season in a tie with Kentucky. Three days later, Kentucky beat Ole Miss to finish 10-8 and Georgia lost to Tennessee to wind up league play with a 10-8 mark also. By virtue of two wins over UK, Georgia was seeded in the third position.

Georgia needed a splendid performance from guard Dennis Williams who toyed with Kentucky's crepe-paper defense to the tune of 29 points on a perfect nine-of-nine evening from the field and 11 of 13 from the line.

Williams wasn't the only Bulldog which enjoyed an evening with the 'Cats as the 'Dogs hit a blazing 61.7 percentage from the field and 21 of 26 from the free throw line for a hot 80.8 percent.

To say Georgia coach Hugh Durham was pleased would be an understatement.

"Our guys played well tonight," said Durham. "Kentucky makes you do some things that you usually don't do because they play such aggressive man-to-man defense. Our

Georgia's efforts.

"Georgia is a good ballclub," explained Sutton during his postgame press conference. "They know their roles well and play them well. They executed that old delay game to perfection down the stretch."

"I think Georgia played well the whole game and we played well only at times. We got back in the game at one point when (Derrick) Miller missed a shot from the top of the key and (Richard) Madison rebounded but missed an easy shot. That hurt us."

Georgia sprinted out to an early lead, taking a 10-5 lead at 15:34 of the first half on Chad Kessler's short jumper, but Kentucky stormed back with one of its two hot streaks.

Creating some transition with its defense, Kentucky reeled off 10 unanswered points to take a 15-10 advantage at 12:41 when James Blackmon grabbed an offensive rebound and put it back.

Cedric Jenkins got the streak going with a putback off the offensive boards. Madison hit a jumper from the left of the lane and then Eddie Davender scored a layup after making a steal. Forty seconds later, Davender scored another layup and Blackmon's score had the 'Cats rolling.

Durham called a timeout at 12:36 and four minutes later Georgia caught Kentucky at 19-all on another Kessler layup.

Williams, who scored at will by posting up Kentucky's guards low and either hitting the jumper or getting fouled, put Georgia in front at 4:03 with a pair of charity tosses at 29-27. At the half, Georgia led 33-32 and Williams had already cashed in 15 chips on a five-of-five from the field and five of six from the line.

Meanwhile, Kentucky's only major offense came from Davender, who had hit the Georgia defense for 13 points on five of eight from the field and two of three from the line.

Both Lock and Madison were a perfect two-of-two from the field and UK enjoyed a hot 54.2 percent from the field and the stats were as close as the score.

Bulldogs Dash Away From 'Cats Early In First Quarter

Georgia broke the game open early in the second half when the 'Dogs outscored UK 10-2, thanks to a Willie Anderson baseline jumper, two Eric Burdette free throws and a pair of baskets from Kessler, the first coming on a steal and thunderous dunk and then followed that up with a tip-in.

Suddenly, Georgia led 49-39 with 14:44 left and it was enough to cause Sutton to signal an immediate timeout.

But the 'Cats weren't dead just yet.

That's when Georgia peach Derrick Miller came off the Kentucky bench, sparked new life into the Big Blue and almost had the 'Cats thinking of a big, big comeback.

Miller, the gifted long-range bomber from Savannah, didn't even score in the first half, but found the range for 14 points in the second half, including four-of-five three-point bombs which melted Georgia's lead like a snowball in Africa.

By the time Miller had tickled the nets with his third long-range bomb, Kentucky had narrowed the margin to two (59-57) with 8:06 left in the game and it appeared the game would go down to the wire.

But Georgia had other thoughts.

Thanks to Williams' hot hand, the 'Dogs enjoyed six-point leads five times the next few minutes and each time Kentucky sliced into the margin, Williams would answer with either a layup or a free throw.

Kentucky's last golden opportunity came after Chapman hit a short jumper at 1:14 to cut the score to 73-69.

Anderson came back with a jumper and after a Kentucky miss, Georgia called a timeout and then started milking the clock. A pair of free throws from Anderson at :25 gave Georgia a 77-69 lead and the game was history.

Chapman scored a layup at 0:19 for a 77-71 score and Irving Thomas briefly intercepted a pass but threw a bad pass to Miller who was waiting outside the three-point line with 0:17 left.

Kentucky cooled off in the second half, hitting 45.5 percent and finished the game at 49.1 percent. Georgia, which hit 56 percent the first 20 minutes, really blistered the nets in the second half at a 68.2 percent clip and finished the game at 61.7 percent.

Wildcat-Bulldog Tidbits

Over 11,200 fans filled the **Georgia Coliseum** for the game, which was the first sellout of the season for the Bulldogs . . . In pulling off the victory, **Georgia** became only the second SEC team to sweep the season series with UK this year. **LSU** turned the trick earlier in the month . . . Yes sports fans, students at the University of Georgia have been guilty of watching **Big East Conference** basketball. You see, Georgia fans now dump all the toilet paper on the floor after the Bulldogs' first basket of the game. It'll be interesting to see if they're crazy enough to pull a similar stunt **Between The Hedges** next fall and risk a 15-yard penalty against **Vince Dooley's** gridders . . . Both **Cedric Jenkins** and **Derrick Miller** had large groups of local fans milling around the Kentucky locker room after the game. It was one of Miller's finest outings of the season . . . Rumors around Athens had it that Hugh Durham is very high on Lexington Lafayette guard **Prince Stewart** who was suspended from the team last week, but was reinstated a few days later. Georgia assistant **Larry Gay**, who has been following Stewart's career, is very impressed with the senior guard . . . Many basketball experts felt the Georgia win assured the Bulldogs a berth in the NCAA Tournament. The worst that Georgia can finish is 17-11, even if the 'Dogs lose in the first round of the SEC Tournament. A third-place tie in the nation's toughest conference should be enough for an invitation. However, Georgia's success in the SEC tourney this week could go a long way toward determining if it will be allowed to stay near home and play at The Omni next week in the first round in the NCAAs.

Georgia		79, KENTUCKY		71	
02/25/87 at Athens, Ga.					
Georgia	79				
	MIN	FGFGA	FTFTA	R	A PF TP
Kessler, C.	39	10 15	0 0	6	0 1 20
Kirce, D.	40	3 8	1 4	6	2 3 7
Burdette, E.	21	0 2	2 2	1	0 3 2
Williams, D.	40	9 9	11 13	3	3 2 29
Anderson, W.	36	6 12	4 4	2	8 2 16
Harron, M.	4	0 0	0 0	0	0 1 0
Kessler, A.	20	1 1	3 3	1	1 0 5
TEAM	0	0 0	0 0	5	0 0 0
TOTALS	200	29 47	21 26	24	14 12 79

KENTUCKY		71			
	MIN	FGFGA	FTFTA	R	A PF TP
MADISON, RICHARD	30	3 4	1 4	7	1 0 7
LOCK, ROB	17	4 5	3 3	5	0 4 11
CHAPMAN, REX	31	5 15	0 0	1	5 4 11
BLACKMON, JAMES	30	3 5	0 0	5	0 1 8
DAVENDER, ED	32	6 12	2 3	3	2 1 15
MILLER, DERRICK	15	5 9	0 0	0	0 3 14
ANDREWS, PAUL	12	0 0	0 0	0	0 1 0
THOMAS, IRVING	10	1 3	0 0	0	0 2 2
JENKINS, CEDRIC	23	1 4	1 2	5	0 2 3
TEAM	0	0 0	0 0	2	0 0 0
TOTALS	200	28 57	7 12	28	8 18 71
Georgia	33	46	---	79	
KENTUCKY	32	39	---	71	

SHOOTING PERCENTAGES -	
Georgia	61.7
KENTUCKY	49.1
TURNOVERS -	
Georgia	8
KENTUCKY	9
TECHNICAL FOULS -	
Georgia	0
KENTUCKY	0

ATTENDANCE - 11,200
THREE POINT GOALS = CHAPMAN, REX (1) BLACKMON, JAMES (2)
DAVENDER, ED (1) MILLER, DERRICK (4)

Georgia Had 29 Field Goals, But 16 Were Layups

team reacted and played really well this evening."

He gets no argument from this corner.

The 'Dogs scored at will, ran offensive drills around the Kentuckians like they were store-bought mannequins. The Cats' man-to-man defense couldn't have stopped a Division II team, much less Durham's monsters of the midway.

Rather than berate his own team though, Kentucky coach Eddie Sutton praised

ALL THOSE IN FAVOR OF BETTER EDUCATION, RAISE YOUR HAND.



If you think better education starts with better teachers, you're not alone. The Commonwealth Institute for Teachers is working hard to make the quality of teaching in Kentucky better than ever. And Kentucky's teachers couldn't be happier about it.

The Institute gives them the opportunity to attend special lectures and seminars on important topics in education. And to broaden and perfect their teaching skills at special workshops conducted throughout the state.

The Institute also supports efforts to raise the qualifications of newly hired teachers in Kentucky. A timely initiative that could affect the quality of teaching in our state for years to come.

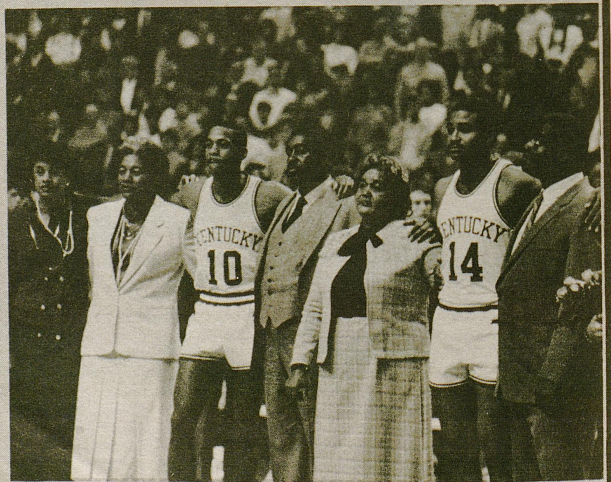
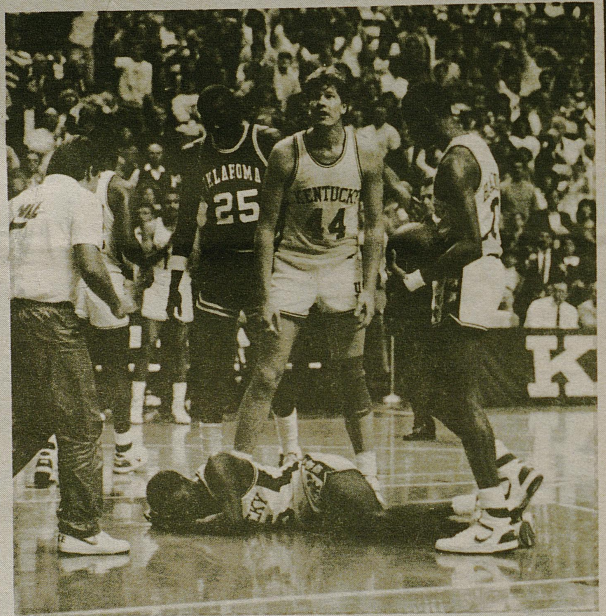
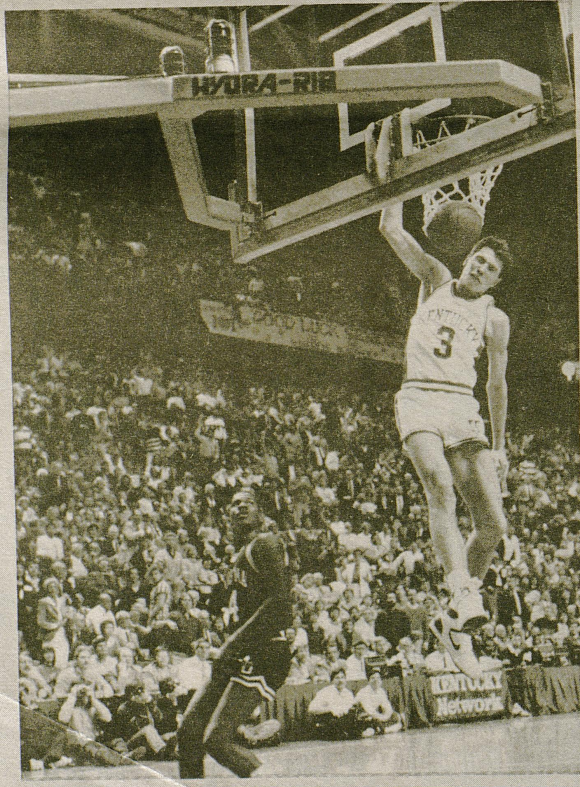
Ashland Oil supports the efforts of the Commonwealth Institute for Teachers. If you want to lend a hand to education in Kentucky, start by supporting our most valuable educational resource.

Contact: The Commonwealth Institute for Teachers, Kentucky Educational Foundation, Inc., 333 W. Vine Street, Lexington, KY 40507. Or, call 606-259-9342.

Kentucky's teachers. They're the best chance our children have for a better education.

IN ASHLAND'S AMERICA,
WE CARE ABOUT YOU
IN EVERYTHING WE DO.





Photos By Gary Cromwell

Looking Back, Andrews Glad He Chose UK

Sutton: 'Paul Does All We Ask'

He never got to play as much as he hoped but if he had it all to do over again, Paul Andrews would still come to Kentucky to play basketball.

"If you grow up in Kentucky, this is where you dream of playing basketball," said Andrews. "I'll always cherish memories of my four years here."

Coaches, players and fans said farewell to seniors James Blackmon and Andrews Sunday when Kentucky faced Oklahoma. As Andrews stood at midcourt, it was impossible not to think about his other big moment in the spotlight at



Larry Vaught

Cats' Pause Columnist

Rupp Arena.

Four years ago Andrews hit the shot heard around Kentucky when his desperation half-court shot at the buzzer went in to give Laurel County its first state championship.

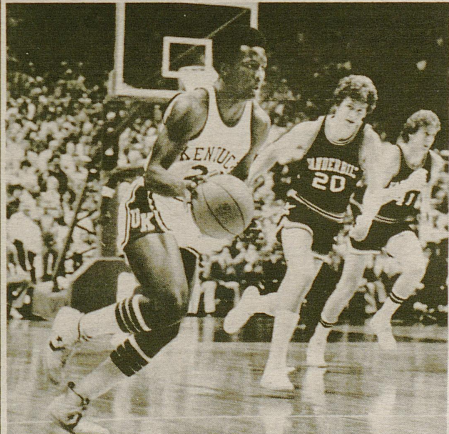
"That's probably still my biggest thrill," said Andrews.

Andrews played behind some outstanding guards during his UK career. Jim Master, Dicky Beal and Roger Harden were already at Kentucky when Andrews came. Blackmon arrived the same season as Andrews. Ed Davender came a year later and this season UK added Rex Chapman.

That didn't leave many opportunities for the 6-3 Andrews, an All-State selection his final year in high school when he averaged 21 points per game and finished second to teammate Winston Bennett in the voting for Mr. Basketball.

"Paul Andrews always does a super defensive job and does all that we ask," said UK coach Eddie Sutton. "He always grades out well when we check films and he is one of the hardest workers we have in practice."

"I haven't had the opportunity to play all I wanted but I have been behind some great players," said Andrews. "I



Casey Says Paul Has Bright Future Ahead

understood that but I never stopped working."

Every team needs players to do that. Andrews always pushes UK's other guards in practices. He's the first player to arrive for team meetings and one of the first to make curfew.

UK assistant coach Dwane Casey probably sympathizes with Andrews' role more than any other person at Kentucky. Casey was in the same position during his career when UK had Larry Johnson, Truman Claytor, Kyle Macy and Jay Shidler.

"Paul does remind me a lot of myself," said Casey. "He's a role player but he's always enthusiastic. He sacrifices scoring and glory to do the little things it takes to help a team win."

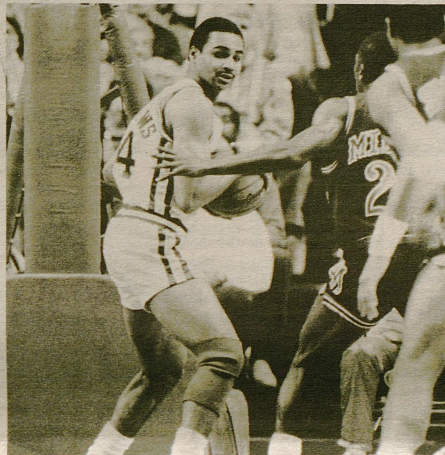
He didn't worry about scoring. Even though he is a

capable outside shooter he normally passed up his shot to look for an open teammate.

Andrews was happy to play defense, take a charge, grab a rebound, make a steal or do anything else to help Kentucky win.

Only once did he lose his intensity and self-confidence at Kentucky. He became discouraged midway of his sophomore year and thought of leaving UK. However, he stayed and has never complained about playing time since then.

"Paul has stuck in there when a lot of guys would have got discouraged," said Casey. "I know what that takes because I



Paul Andrews

had to do the same thing. It's not easy.

"The key to a guy like Paul, though, is that he is always ready to play. When he gets his chances, he makes the most of it. He responds to any situation that we ask him to and does his best."

Not every Wildcat does that. Kentucky has been up and down like a yo-yo all season because not every player always comes mentally prepared to play. That attitude has cost UK several wins this season.

Andrews, though, always came prepared. If he got a chance to play, the dedicated senior was always ready. If he didn't get to play, he made sure he was ready for the next game.

Casey thinks Andrews will be just as prepared after basketball ends when it is time for him to start another phase of his life.

"He's a clean-living citizen from a good family," said Casey. "He is the type guy I would hire in a heartbeat and any executive should want him in his corporation."

"Cream always rises to the top and Paul will be a success no matter what he decides to do with his life."

If the business world does get tough, Andrews can use the same advice he has for future Wildcats.

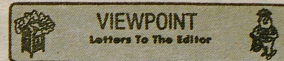
"I would just tell any player coming here to keep his head up, play hard and give all he can any time he goes on the floor," said Andrews. "If you do that, you'll be successful no matter what the statistics show."

JUST TRYING to answer fan mail could become a full-time job for UK's basketball coaches.

"Coach or one of us tries to answer every piece of mail," said UK assistant coach Doug Barnes. "In the morning the first thing I do is work on the mail. You have to stay caught up and I probably do eight to 10 letters per day. It's a problem but it is a nice problem to have."

Sutton delegates out different types of mail to each coach.

"Dwane (Casey) usually gets the recruiting mail," said Barnes. "James (Dickey) gets the toughest questions or comments. Coach Sutton also takes some of the tough ones himself. I get the easy ones to answer. Seriously, though, we



(Wild)Cat Tale

Dear Sir:

There are very few small children in western Kentucky that have not heard about the Wildcats of Kentucky. Many fathers have been known to put a basketball in their son's hands the minute they get home from the hospital.

I was taking my young grandson, Jared Tanner Forrester, who has just had his 5th birthday, to town. Getting in the car and noticing the dirty cat's paws on the hood, up the windshield and the top of the car, I said, "It looks like that cat has been on our car again." Jared said, "What kind of cat is it, Grandmommie?" I said, "I really don't know—it must be a wild cat, though, because I have never seen him." Then Jared replied, "Well, I couldn't tell you what he looks like, but I do know the color of 'em—they're blue!"

Yours truly,

Mrs. Bill Howle
Wickliffe, Kentucky

WLW Listener In N.M.

Dear Sir:

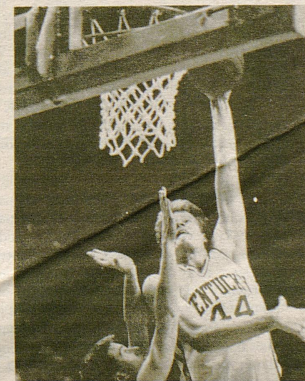
I wanted to congratulate all of you associated with *The Cats' Pause* for producing such a fine sports magazine. Despite the criticism voiced by many readers regarding some of the writers, I find each one interesting and enjoyable in his own way, even when I (infrequently) disagree with what they say.

I've been amazed to discover (and I want to alert other displaced Kentuckians residing in the West) that WLW (radio 700 of Cincinnati) broadcasts can be heard all the way out here in New Mexico! Interference from other stations and fade-outs occur, but on the whole the transmission quality is remarkable considering the distance.

The criticism I've read in *TCP* about Joe B. Hall's TV broadcast performance and qualifications certainly surprises me. He has been excellent so far (infinitely better than many others, especially Dick Vitale) and I hope he continues to do well. A broadcast with Joe B., Tom Hammond and Ralph Hacker would be utterly spectacular if only it could occur. The only difficulty would be in NOT turning down the sound of the TV to be able to listen to the best radio announcer in the country, Cawood Ledford.

Go Blue,

Jeffrey Neil Burch
Albuquerque, New Mexico



Lock's Slam Jam

Cats' Pause Board Of Experts

(And Armchair Quarterbacks)



Readers
Choice

Oscar
Combs

Nick
Nicholas

Mike
Estep

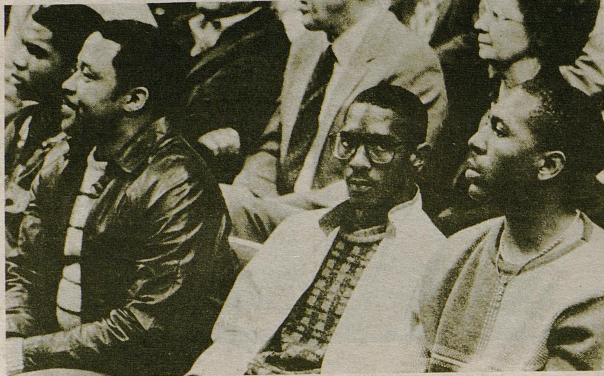
Todd
Hallum

Gary
Cromwell

Hoop
Demon

Two Weeks Ago	14-11	12-13	11-14	8-17	12-13	14-11
Total	233-92	223-102	234-91	221-104	228-97	233-92
AUBURN vs KENTUCKY (SEC—Atlanta)	KENTUCKY 3	KENTUCKY 1	KENTUCKY 3	KENTUCKY 1	KENTUCKY 4	AUBURN 4
TENNESSEE vs VANDERBILT	VANDY 6	TENNESSEE 3	TENNESSEE 8	TENNESSEE 2	TENNESSEE 1	VANDY 4
LSU vs MISSISSIPPI ST.	LSU 7	LSU 6	LSU 10	LSU 6	LSU 6	LSU 8
GEORGIA vs MISSISSIPPI	GEORGIA 2	OLE MISS 2	GEORGIA 1	GEORGIA 3	GEORGIA 8	GEORGIA 4
PITT vs SETON HALL (BIG EAST—NY)	PITT 6	PITT 3	PITT 12	PITT 10	PITT 6	PITT 4
BOSTON COLLEGE vs CONNECTICUT	BOSTON C. 7	BOSTON C. 2	BOSTON C. 2	BOSTON 3	BOSTON 3	BOSTON 1
SYRACUSE vs VILLANOVA	SYRACUSE 8	SYRACUSE 2	SYRACUSE 3	SYRACUSE 5	SYRACUSE 5	SYRACUSE 3
ST. JOHN'S vs PROVIDENCE	ST JOHN'S 6	ST. JOHN'S 1	PROV. 1	ST JOHN'S 4	ST. JOHN'S 4	ST. JOHN'S 4
UNC vs MARYLAND (ACC—Landover)	UNC 15	UNC 11	UNC 17	UNC 19	UNC 11	UNC 8
CLEMSON vs WAKE FOREST	CLEMSON 10	CLEMSON 4	CLEMSON 4	CLEMSON 7	CLEMSON 5	CLEMSON 6
GEORGIA TECH vs VIRGINIA	GA. TECH 4	GA. TECH 1	GA. TECH 8	VIRGINIA 3	GA. TECH 6	VIRGINIA 2
DUKE vs NORTH CAROLINA ST.	DUKE 8	DUKE 7	DUKE 15	DUKE 3	DUKE 1	DUKE 4
NEBRASKA vs KAN. ST. (BIG 8—Kan. City)	NEBRASKA 8	NEBRASKA 2	KANSAS ST. 1	KANSAS ST. 7	KANSAS 2	NEBRASKA 2
OKLAHOMA vs IOWA ST.	OKLAHOMA 14	OKLAHOMA 11	OKLAHOMA 7	OKLAHOMA 10	OKLAHOMA 1	OKLAHOMA 8
MISSOURI vs COLORADO	MISSOURI 7	MISSOURI 14	MISSOURI 8	MISSOURI 9	MISSOURI 6	MISSOURI 4
KANSAS vs OKLAHOMA ST.	KANSAS 6	KANSAS 10	KANSAS 16	KANSAS 5	KANSAS 5	KANSAS 6
IOWA at WISCONSIN	IOWA 7	IOWA 2	IOWA 11	IOWA 14	IOWA 9	IOWA 10
PURDUE at MICHIGAN ST.	PURDUE 3	PURDUE 8	PURDUE 7	PURDUE 6	PURDUE 3	PURDUE 8
OHIO ST. at INDIANA	INDIANA 14	INDIANA 8	INDIANA 13	INDIANA 9	INDIANA 7	INDIANA 10
PURDUE at MICHIGAN	PURDUE 1	PURDUE 2	PURDUE 1	PURDUE 7	PURDUE 1	PURDUE 4
NOTRE DAME at DAYTON	N. DAME 4	N. DAME 1	N. DAME 6	N. DAME 1	N. DAME 8	N. DAME 2
MARQUETTE at DEPAUL	DEPAUL 10	DEPAUL 12	DEPAUL 12	DEPAUL 8	DEPAUL 10	DEPAUL 3
SEC TOURNAMENT WINNER	ALABAMA	ALABAMA	FLORIDA	ALABAMA	ALABAMA	FLORIDA
ACC TOURNAMENT WINNER	UNC	UNC	UNC	UNC	UNC	UNC
BIG EAST TOURNAMENT WINNER	G-TOWN	ST JOHN'S	G-TOWN	PITT	G-TOWN	G-TOWN

[Continued From Page 3]



Elliot Perry (glasses) With Dicky Beal (right)

visiting at Rupp Arena over the weekend was hotshot junior guard prospect **Sean Woods** of Indiana. . . . For the first time in history, the SEC is aligning itself with corporate sponsors and fans will see to first evidence this week during the tournament. Corporate sponsors for the tourney include firms such as **Converse** and **Pepsi Cola**. . . . Our sources in Winchester say Clark County star **Steve Schureman** is drawing the attention of **Duke University** not to mention **Eastern, Morehead** and **Marshall**. Steve is averaging 18 points and seven rebounds per game. Duke assistants have reportedly made at least three visits to Winchester lately. . . . Look for **Alabama** and **Georgia** to get NCAA Southeast Region bids next week. Georgia may need at least one win in the SEC, but the NCAA will probably want to keep the Bulldogs in Atlanta for the first round to help the attendance. Meanwhile, Alabama will probably be allowed to play in Birmingham.

The question everyone is now asking surrounds whether or not the NCAA will pair Alabama with **UAB** in the first round since UAB won the Sunbelt Conference Tournament last week. If they do, then the Crimson Tide will have to play the Blazers on UAB's home floor. If these two selections occur, look for Florida to get to either the Midwest or East. And you gotta believe that **Kentucky**, unless the 'Cats win at least two games in the SEC, will head off to the west again like they did two years ago. I still believe the SEC will get five NCAA bids. Either Auburn or LSU will get the fifth one, in my opinion. . . . For years I've advocated that the SEC tournament should be held in Atlanta, not just once in a while, but on a permanent basis. It is centrally located as far as air travel is concerned. It is the media center of the South and it's the most active city in the south. Hope the city doesn't prove me wrong. See you in Atlanta.

Oops!

Alabama's record against the Kentucky Wildcats this season is 1-1, not 0-2 as reported in TCP last week.

Kentucky is 2-0 against Auburn, but a combined 2-2 against the league's two top teams—Alabama and Florida.

The Wildcats have won five of their six meetings with the Tide, having lost to Alabama at Rupp Arena back in January.

Kentucky has now lost three straight to LSU dating back to the championship game of the NCAA Southeast Regional in Atlanta last March.

The Wildcats hope to make it five in a row over Auburn when UK meets the Tigers. UK lost its first meeting to Auburn last season, then bounced back to take the second meeting before winning both games this year.

Kyle Macy's Eighth Annual Basketball Camp

Kyle Macy Basketball Camp
c/o Nolan Barger
3514 Birkenhead Court
Lexington, Kentucky 40503

1987 CAMP SESSIONS

June 14-19 — Overnight Camp
Georgetown College—Boys 10-17

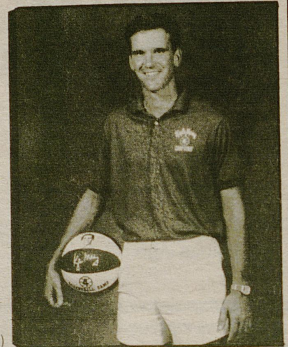
June 21-26 — Overnight Camp
Georgetown College—Boys 10-17

July 6-10 — Day Camp
Lexington Sports World Athletic Club
Boys and Girls—7-12

July 13-17 — Day Camp
Lexington Sports World Athletic Club
Boys and Girls — 7-12

July 20-24 — Day Camp
Prestonsburg High School
Boys and Girls — 7-12

CAMP DIRECTORS
Kyle Macy and Nolan Barger
(Lexington Tates Creek Varsity Coach)
Telephone (606) 223-1371



FIRST ANNUAL

BIG BLUE CRUISE

May 16 — 23, 1987

Ports of Call - Cozumel, Grand Cayman, Ocho Rios



Dear Big Blue Fan,

This is your invitation to join Cawood Ledford, Ralph Hacker and I aboard Carnival Cruise Lines' HOLIDAY sailing from Miami on May 16, 1987 for a fun-filled week. We will visit the exciting and beautiful ports of Cozumel, Grand Cayman and Ocho Rios.

This cruise includes almost everything imaginable. Eight meals and snacks a day, full range of entertainment including two different nightclub shows each evening at sea, 3 bands and orchestras, and a full gambling casino.

In addition to the dozens of activities aboard, we have planned 2 special Wildcat briefings, and a cocktail party for the fans.

This promises to be a vacation you won't soon forget. Space is limited. . . . So, call today to guarantee your reservation.

Sincerely,

Eddie Sutton
Head Basketball Coach
University of Kentucky

Join UK Head Basketball Coach Eddie Sutton and Wildcat Announcers Cawood Ledford and Ralph Hacker for a fun-filled week aboard the "Fun Ship" HOLIDAY.

Inclusives

- Round-trip airfare, free from Lexington, Louisville or Cincinnati and from most major U.S. cities
- Round-trip transportation from the airport to the HOLIDAY
- Eight meals and snacks a day
- Full Gambling Casino (not just slots, but also blackjack, craps and roulette)
- Port Charges
- Dozens of activities and many other extras

FREE Airfare From Most Major Cities

FOR MORE INFORMATION ON OUR SPECIAL GROUP RATES CALL TOLL FREE TODAY . . .

IN LEXINGTON
(606) 276-4407

IN KENTUCKY
1 (800) 432-0923

OUTSIDE KENTUCKY
1 (800) 323-2345

SPACE IS LIMITED. FINAL PAYMENT MUST BE RECEIVED BY MARCH 16, 1987

Carnival Cruise Lines
Global Travel
2263 Nicholasville Road
Lexington, Kentucky 40503

NCAA Hoop(la) Hits Its Peak Sunday

Tourney Draw Features Wild Possibilities

With Sunday's announcement of the 64-team field for the 1987 NCAA Tournament, hoop excitement is definitely at its peak. Interestingly enough, not only to me but to a lot of college basketball followers, it's the draw itself which captures the colorful basketball imagination of zealous roundball fans.

Will ole State U. get in the tournament? Where will they go? Who will they play? What's their chances to make the Final Four? So many possibilities!

This year's show hosted by CBS' Tim Brant will begin at 5:30 p.m. (EST) and last for 30 minutes. Thus, ignition and the beginn-



Nick Nicholas
Cats' Pause Columnist

ing of the road to New Orleans.

"I don't want to say it's the most exciting thing," said CBS sports information director Mark Carlson, "but it's certainly a day all college basketball fans wait for."

What really whets a basketball fans' appetite is to get that initial glance at the pairings. Some of greatest trans-American matchups you never thought possible are now a reality.

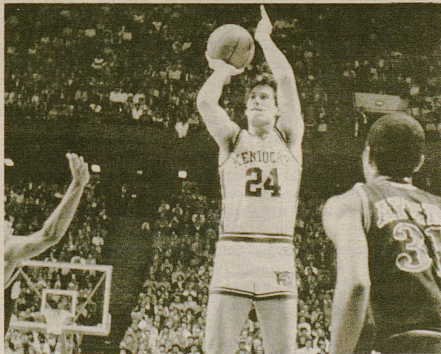
For example, *what if* . . . if Nevada Las Vegas beats so-and-so they'll play the winner of the Syracuse-Florida matchup. If North Carolina wins its first contest they'll play the Iowa State-UCLA victor.

Such possibilities!

Rivalries, too, are as much a part of the NCAA pairings. You possibly could see Indiana and Purdue square off against one another. How 'bout Alabama and Alabama-Birmingham. Wouldn't Wimp Sanderson love to draw the Blazers as a first-round opponent? And . . . an oldie but a goodie, *what if* . . . if Kentucky survives its first-round game it will play the winner of Virginia and, get this, LOUISVILLE!!!

Anything's possible when it comes NCAA tourney time!

Usually, for Kentucky fans this is a day to see where and who their beloved Wildcats will play. Not too fast, Big Blue buffs. Prior to the Ole Miss game UK wasn't sending out its SOS signal (select



Bearup Felt UK Wouldn't Receive '85 Bid

our squad), but if the 'Cats get knocked out in the first round of the SEC Tournament then it might have to. Kentucky might find itself in a similar pickle like it was in '85 following a first-round disaster handed out by Florida.

After being upset by the Gators, UK's record was a not-so-pretty 16-12. Things looked bad for the Wildcats after eighth-seed Auburn won the tournament, which the winner is automatically extended a bid.

If you'll remember, the feeling was that Auburn, Alabama, LSU, and Georgia would be the SEC representatives in the tournament. And if the selection committee would take a fifth SEC school it would be Florida, which at the time had defeated UK twice and owned a better record than the 'Cats (18-11 compared to 16-12).

In the selection committee's eyes, however, UK's difficulty of schedule played in its favor and the Wildcats were issued a bid to the West Regionals. And Florida? Well, an upset bunch of Gators lost in the NIT's first round to Southwestern Louisiana.

Right after Auburn claimed the SEC tournament title, almost everyone had written off Kentucky's chances of earning a bid.

Only hours after the Wildcats surprisingly heard of their unexpected invitation, it was as if new life had been pumped into the players.

Said senior Bret Bearup when it was learned Kentucky would play opposite Washington in the West Regionals: "After Auburn won the SEC Tournament, I wouldn't have given a nickel for our chances."

"I just was sitting around the TV waiting for it to come on with a lot of fellas," said Roger Harden during this memorable day. "It (the West Regional) was the first one flashed and it was just amazing. "I really thought we weren't going to get in."

Similar to 1985, Kentucky again finds itself hoping to be one of the lucky 64 teams invited. But I still say to Wildcat fans—if Kentucky has 18 wins by March 8th—don't ruin a Sunday afternoon by constant pacing, wearing a 10-foot trail in your blue carpet. Go ahead, take it easy. Play a round of golf or something. Just make sure you're back by 5:30 p.m. to see where the NCAA selection committee has placed the 'Cats.

Contacted last week, Harden remembered, "Our reaction after we found out was that we went straight to the coliseum, and we were real fired up."

"When you get that type of opportunity or break you have to make the best of it. We didn't feel guilty about it."

As I stated before, there could be a bunch of postseason barn burners prior to this year's Final Four in New Orleans. Here's some of those possibilities — (*Note—this is based on three of the four teams which in all likelihood will receive No. 1 seeds. So, Nevada Las Vegas, North Carolina and Purdue couldn't play each other until the Final Four):

Traditional Possibilities

Louisville versus Kentucky—Kentucky's 34-point onslaught could come back to haunt Eddie Sutton's troops. The regular season Metro champions, however, still haven't found a starting five which can consistently produce Ws on its ledger sheet. If another Dream Game pops up this season, look for the 'Cats to win again. This time by a somewhat closer margin, however.

Georgia Tech versus Georgia—Earlier this season Georgia dropped a 72-66 decision in Atlanta. Hugh Durham's club stayed with its Peach State rivals despite shooting 43 percent from the field. And if Willie Anderson, Dennis Williams and Chad Kessler continue to carry the 'Dogs, this mismatch on paper could be a downright fight to the finish.

Indiana versus Purdue—What a matchup this could be. Already, the Hoosiers and Boilermakers have split their two regular season meetings. It's a possible matchup of two of the nation's finest squads, although this time it could be for a trip to the Final Four.

LSU versus New Orleans—Like Georgia, another SEC team also has some 'paying back' to do. In early December, New Orleans defeated LSU in Baton Rouge by a count of 81-72. Even more damaging was New Orleans' win allowed it to bring home the LSU Invitational trophy. New Orleans, which will probably be this year's Cinderella entrant, is a team on the upswing. On the other hand, for the Tigers even to be considered for NCAA play, they'll have to prove it in this week's SEC tourney.

Illinois versus DePaul—DePaul, led by Dallas Comegys and Rod Strickland, appeared to be a lock for one of the four top seeds. But that was before the Blue Demons were upset 73-62 by an unpredictable Notre Dame club. Over at Champaign, Lou Henson's team can be as tough as any squad in the nation. . . for about 30 minutes, then the roof always seems to cave in. The basketball fans in Illinois would love to 'showcase' to the nation its two best teams.

Alabama Birmingham versus Alabama—The Blazers against the Crimson Tide. . . Gene Bartow against Wimp Sanderson. . . Birmingham against Tuscaloosa. Enough said.

Interesting Possibilities

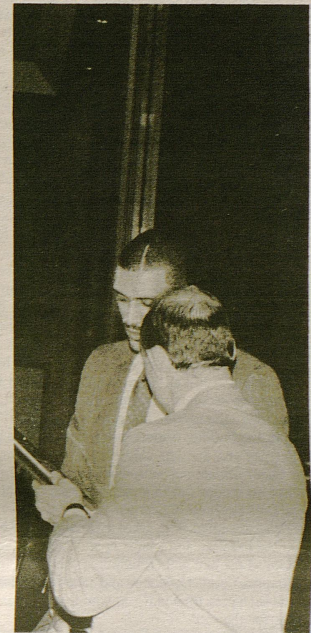
Western Kentucky versus Auburn—Meat versus meat. Last season 9,000 fans in Bowling Green witnessed the Hilltoppers bullie around the Tigers 71-58. And what an interesting matchup it was. Just think about if the two teams happen to square off again, this time NCAA-style. In one corner you have Chris Morris (6-foot-7, 210 pounds), Mike Jones (6-7, 220 pounds) and Jeff Moore (6-7, 230 pounds), while in the other corner staring the Tigers in the face would be 6-8, 225-pound Clarence Martin (status unknown—back problems), 6-9, 220-pound Kannard Johnson and 6-10, 225-pound Tellis Frank. The World Wrestling Federation (WWF) would love this possible grudge match. Can you imagine the introduction. "In this corner weighing in at 660 pounds the Terrible Tigers with their manager Sonny Smith. In the other corner in red

[Continued On Page 22]

Basketball Banquet Set For April 3rd; Katko Hired As Academic Advisor

The University of Kentucky's annual postseason basketball awards banquet is set for April 3, 1987, at 6:45 p.m. in the Lexington Hyatt Regency's Patterson Ballroom.

Tickets for the event, which will be emceed by the popular Rev. Wayne Smith, are \$20



'86 UK Banquet

each and are available at UK's Memorial Coliseum ticket office. Tickets may also be ordered by writing to:

Committee of 101
P.O. Box 22
Lexington, Ky. 40501

In addition to dinner, the event will include awards presentations to the players and a slide show highlighting the 1986-87 season.

Nick Katko has been named an assistant in the University of Kentucky Athletics Association Academic Advising Office, according to Wildcat athletics director Cliff Hagan. He replaces Phil Hughes, who recently left UK to accept a position at Tulane.

Katko is a 1981 UK graduate who was a Wildcat basketball manager from 1978-1981. The Sayreville, N.J., native worked after graduation as an academic graduate assistant at UK while earning his master's degree in 1983. In 1985, Katko became a full-time academic counselor at the University of Alabama and stayed with the Crimson Tide until returning to UK this week.

"Nick Katko has experience in the field of academic advising with athletes," Hagan said. "We are very lucky to have him back with the UK Athletics Association."



One More Time!

'Cats Again Get Last-Second Heroics, This Time From Richard Madison, As They Down Oklahoma 75-74 In Rupp Arena Finale For UK Seniors

By Mike Estep

Ho-ho-hum. These exciting finishes, these last-second heroics, they're almost becoming predictable.

First there was Ed Davender's pressure-shot with time winding down that gave Kentucky a 70-69 win over Alabama in Tuscaloosa. Then the next time out, it was Davender's backcourt partner Rex Chapman that went coast-to-coast and threw in a bank shot over the outstretched arms of Tennessee's Doug Roth to cap a rally and send the game into overtime, which Kentucky eventually won going away 91-84. And then there was last Saturday's game with Ole Miss. The Rebels took a 63-62 lead with less than a minute to play, only to have Chapman toss in a miraculous, double-pump jumper with the shot clock and the game clock dwindling dangerously close to expiration.

Last Sunday against Oklahoma, it was more of the same.

With time running down and Oklahoma in front 74-72, Davender launched a 15-footer from the right baseline. When the shot was off the mark, it looked as though the Sooners would hold on and throw a damper on UK's Senior Day. But as the ball hit the floor, Kentucky's Richard Madison and Oklahoma's Richie Grace emerged from the pack under the basket. Madison grabbed the ball but fell to the ground for what appeared to be a walking violation. Big Eight official Ron Spitzer called a foul on Grace, however, and Madison stepped to the line with 15 seconds left and a chance to tie the score.

Madison, who had made one of two from the line for the day and was shooting just a shade over 63 percent from the line for the season, hit the front end of the bonus to draw Kentucky within one at 74-73. When his second attempt kicked off the rim, it set off a mad scramble underneath the UK bucket. When the bodies unplied, Wildcat Cedric Jenkins had possession of the ball, but he was quickly tied up by an OU player to force a held-ball situation. It was UK's turn to take the alternate possession, and with nine seconds remaining in the game, UK coach Eddie Sutton called a timeout to map his strategy for the game's final shot.

In the huddle, Sutton said he called one play in case Tubbs decided to use a zone defense and another play if the Sooners came out in a man-to-man.

After Oklahoma prolonged the chess game by calling a timeout of its own, Tubbs sent his troops out in a man defense, probably out of respect for the outside shooting of Davender and Chapman.

Play resumed with Chapman taking the ball out of bounds, Davender and Jenkins on the baseline and Madison and James Blackmon standing at the foul line. Chapman slapped the ball and Davender sprinted out into the right corner and called for the ball. Chapman eyed Davender and faked the pass. Meanwhile, Jenkins cut across the lane and set a pick for Madison, who lost his man on the screen and cut down the lane looking for the lob.

But instead of taking the lob, Madison crossed through the paint, took a no-look pass from Chapman and made a wide-open layup for what would be the game winner.

"It's a new inbounds play we've been working on, we had run it for Ed against Ole Miss," Chapman said. "But there were so many big people in there (for Oklahoma) we thought we ought to put a big man on the back side, and it was Richard today.

"Richard is supposed to come down and really be an actor, yelling for the ball while Ed pops out. At the same time (Cedric) is coming across and screening Richard's man. It's really a good inbounds play because they think we're looking for the lob to Richard, and all of the sudden he just busts open underneath."

The play worked so well that no one was near Madison when he took the pass and kissed it off the glass.

"(I was) wide open, really wide open," Madison said. "I thought about it a lot before I shot it. I thought, 'God, please help me.' I thought it would be tougher getting the ball in. I guess they were looking for another play.

"I'm not a good actor," Madison insisted with a straight face when questioned about the fake he was supposed to carry out on the play, "I looked at Ed."

But he was good enough. His bucket put Kentucky ahead 75-74 with :06 left to play. OU's David Johnson inbounded the ball to Grace, who raced the length of the floor and put up a 10-foot bank shot.

"I think they were trying to penetrate and then pitch it off to (Tim) McCalister," said Davender, who was hounding Grace on the shot. "But Rex did a good job of cutting McCalister off, so there was nowhere for (Grace) to go but take it to the hole. I just tried to make him shoot an off-balance shot, which he did. If he would have hit that shot... they would have deserved to win, if he would have hit that one."

But the shot rimmed out. Still, Oklahoma had a chance to win as Johnson tipped the ball in, but Spitzer ruled that the basket had come after the clock had reached :00. "That ain't the horn is it?" an irate Tubbs protested. "I thought it was good, but keep in mind I haven't looked at a replay."

To no one's surprise, Johnson also contended his tip had come before the buzzer. "I heard the horn when I hit the floor (after the shot)," he said. "The game's not over 'til the horn sounds. I thought we won the game."

Sutton said he thought the win moved his team closer to earning a bid to the NCAA tournament.

"As I look across the country at the other ballclubs and the different leagues," Sutton said, "I would have to believe at this point that the University of Kentucky is on that priority list as an at-large team, if we do not win (the SEC tourney and an automatic invitation) down in Atlanta."

'Cats Take One-Point Advantage At Halftime

Behind 15 first-half points by Chapman, Kentucky led for most of the period and took a 35-34 lead into intermission. With the score knotted at eight, Chapman hit a running 12-footer in the lane to give Kentucky a two-point lead. OU's Harvey Grant—who signed to play at UK before getting into trouble with the law—then converted the last of an eight-shot Oklahoma volleyball-like possession to tie the game at 10 with 15:35

left in the half.

Two minutes later Chapman keyed the start of a 13-4 run to give the 'Cats a 10-point bulge with just over eight minutes to play until the break.

Chapman started the streak with by connecting on a three-point bomb from the top of the key, despite pressure from OU's Darryl Kennedy. After a pair of short jumpers from Madison, Chapman ended the spurt with two more long range bonus shots to put stretch the lead to 27-17 with 8:20 left in the half.

But the Oklahoma put on a surge of its own, erasing the lead with 10 unanswered points. Grant sandwiched a six-foot jumper and a two-handed stuff around two baskets by Kennedy to close the gap to 27-25, and then Grace went around Irv Thomas for a layup to draw the Sooners even.

Kentucky reeled off five straight points when Derrick Miller came off the bench and buried a three-pointer, followed by a steal and dunk by Chapman, and then got free throws from Madison and Rob Lock to take the 35-34 lead into the dressing room.

Davender Keeps 'Cats Within Striking Distance In 2nd Half

It was close nearly all the way in the second half. The teams traded baskets for the first nine minutes before Oklahoma took a five-point lead at 52-47 with 11:01 to play.

That's when Davender brought Kentucky back. He hit two jumpers—one from beyond the three-point line and one from just inside it—to tie the game at 52. The junior guard scored 19 of his game-high 21 points in the second half, and scored 14 of UK's 17 points during one eight-minute span.

And after OU jumped out to a 74-70 lead with under a minute to go it was Davender that converted two free throws to cut the margin to two and set the stage for Madison's game-winning performance.

"Well, the opportunity was there for me, and I just tried to take advantage of what they gave me," Davender said. "But this wasn't an individual effort, this was a team effort. Everybody played their little part—Cedric diving on the floor at the end getting the loose ball, James helping him out on the floor and Richard getting the big basket. So this was an overall team effort. Everything worked out for us as a team today."

Sooner-Wildcat Tidbits

The exciting come-from-behind ending was only fitting, because the Oklahoma game marked the last time seniors **Paul Andrews** and **James Blackmon** will take the court in Rupp Arena. Both players, of course, joined their parents in pregame ceremonies at midcourt, while former Gov. **A.B. "Happy" Chandler** gave his rendition of My Old Kentucky home. . . Andrews made his second start of the season and scored four points, dished out three assists and swiped a steal in 13 minutes of action. Blackmon played 27 minutes, scored five points and handed out four assists. . . With the win, Kentucky finished the regular season with a 18-9 record. UK's 10-8 conference mark allowed them to finish in a third-place tie with Georgia. But because the Dawgs defeated the 'Cats twice in head-to-head competition, **Hugh Durham's** ballclub will get the No. 3 seed in Atlanta for the tournament. Kentucky is seeded fourth and will collide with **Sonny Smith's** Auburn club. Just hours after the UK-OU game was concluded, Auburn earned the fifth seed in the tourney by pasting LSU 100-62 down on the Plains. . . UK coach **Eddie Sutton** said he called a staff meeting prior to the LSU-Auburn game, and one of the topics which came up during the meeting was which of the two teams the coaches would rather play in the tourney. Sutton did not vote in the matter, and the four remaining coaches were divided on who they would rather play—two coaches said they would rather take on Auburn, the other two favored playing LSU. . . Junior guard **Ed Davender** poured in 19 second-half points to lead Kentucky in scoring with 21. Davender was eight for 18 from the field and four for five from the line. . . The game was the first that freshman **Rex Chapman** was not in the starting lineup, as he started the game on the bench in favor of Andrews. Chapman came off the bench, though, and scored 15 first-half points. OU slowed Chapman down in the second half by putting a chaser on him all over the court, but he still finished with 20 points in 33 minutes. . . **Richard Madison**, whose bucket with :06 proved to be the game-winner, was the other Kentuckian in double figures with 12 points. Madison also pulled in 12 rebounds, which tied him for game-high honors with OU's **Harvey Grant**. It was also the second straight game that Madison failed to commit a turnover. The Memphis, Tenn., native has now played 73 consecutive minutes without a miscue. . . Oklahoma placed four players in double digits, led by Grant with 20. **Darryl Kennedy** had 18, **David Johnson** had 14 and **Ricky Grace** had 13 for the losing Sooners. . . The 'Cats were outscored on two-point field goals (33-28), but converted seven of 21 three-point attempts to only two of five for Oklahoma. . . The announced crowd of **23,991** was the largest gathering to see a game in Rupp this season. The previous high had been 23,275 against Navy.



'Cats Beat Sooners At Their Own Game—Three-Pointers

Kentucky Hoop Statistics

OFFICIAL NCAA BASKETBALL BOX SCORE

Date March 1/87 Site Lexington, Ky.

VISITORS (Last Name, First)

No.	OKLAHOMA	Team FG				3-point		FT		Rebounds			PF	TP	A	TO	BLK	S	MIN						
		FG	FGA	FG	FGA	FT	FTA	Off	Def	Total															
55	Johnson, David	f	5	9	0	0	2	2	3	4	7	3	14	1	3	0	0	32							
30	Kennedy, Darryl	f	8	16	0	0	2	3	3	7	10	2	18	0	0	0	1	40							
25	Grant, Harvey	c	9	17	0	0	2	2	6	6	12	4	20	1	1	0	1	37							
14	Grace, Ricky	g	6	10	1	2	0	1	3	2	5	4	13	4	5	0	1	40							
32	McCalister, Tim	g	2	12	1	3	0	0	0	4	4	2	5	5	1	0	2	33							
33	King, Stacey	f	1	3	0	0	0	2	0	1	1	1	2	0	1	1	0	11							
44	Sieger, Dave		1	1	0	0	0	0	0	1	1	1	2	0	1	0	0	7							
TEAM REBOUNDS (included in Totals)										3	1	4													
TOTALS										33	68	2	5	6	10	18	26	44	17	74	11	12	1	5	200

TOTAL FG %: 1st Half 16-35, 45.7% 2nd Half 17-33m 51.5% Game 33-68, 48.5%
 3-PT. FG %: 1st Half 0-1, 00.0% 2nd Half 2-9, 50.0% Game 2-5, 40.0%
 FT %: 1st Half 2-5, 40.0% 2nd Half 4-5, 80.0% Game 6-10, 60.0%

HOME (Last Name, First)

No.	KENTUCKY	Team FG				3-point		FT		Rebounds			PF	TP	A	TO	BLK	S	MIN						
		FG	FGA	FG	FGA	FT	FTA	Off	Def	Total															
42	Madison, Richard	f	5	13	0	0	2	4	8	4	12	2	12	2	0	0	0	36							
44	Lock, Rob	c	2	5	0	0	3	5	6	2	8	5	7	1	1	2	1	23							
10	Blackmon, James	g	2	8	1	5	0	0	0	2	2	1	5	4	3	1	0	27							
14	Andrews, Paul	g	1	3	0	0	2	2	0	1	1	0	4	3	2	0	1	13							
15	Davender, Ed	g	8	18	1	5	4	5	1	2	3	2	21	1	0	0	2	36							
3	Chapman, Rex		8	12	3	5	1	1	1	2	3	1	20	3	2	1	1	33							
4	Miller, Derrick		2	9	2	6	0	0	0	0	0	2	6	1	0	0	0	11							
55	Jenkins, Cedric		0	3	0	0	0	0	3	4	7	2	0	1	0	0	0	17							
30	Thomas, Irvinn		0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	1	0	0	0	0	0	4							
TEAM REBOUNDS (included in Totals)										0	1	1													
TOTALS										28	71	7	21	12	17	19	18	37	16	75	16	8	4	5	200

TOTAL FG %: 1st Half 13-33, 39.4% 2nd Half 15-38, 39.5% Game 28-71, 39.4%
 3-PT. FG %: 1st Half 4-10, 40.0% 2nd Half 3-11, 27.3% Game 7-21, 33.3%
 FT %: 1st Half 5-7, 71.4% 2nd Half 7-10, 70.0% Game 12-17, 70.6%

OFFICIALS: Don Rutledge, Charles Watkins, Ron Saltier

Technical Fouls: None

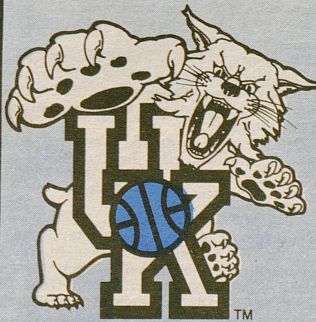
Attendance: 23,991

		SCORE BY PERIODS		1st H.	2nd H.	OT	OT	FINAL
OKLAHOMA	34	40	XX	XX	74			
KENTUCKY	35	40	XX	XX	75			

Date	Record UK	Opp	Opponent
Nov. 29	1-0	71	69 Austin Peay
Dec. 02	2-0	66	60 Texas Tech
Dec. 06	2-1	66	71 Indiana
Dec. 13	3-1	71	56 Lamar
Dec. 19	4-1	75	59 Iona
Dec. 20	5-1	81	69 Boston
Dec. 27	6-1	85	51 Louisville
Dec. 30	6-2	65	69 Georgia
Jan. 03	7-2	63	60 Auburn
Jan. 07	7-3	55	69 Alabama
Jan. 10	7-4	68	75 Tennessee
Jan. 12	8-4	57	49 Mississippi State
Jan. 14	9-4	67	62 Florida
Jan. 18	9-5	41	76 LSU
Jan. 21	10-5	71	65 Vanderbilt
Jan. 25	11-5	80	69 Navy
Jan. 29	11-6	65	76 Ole Miss
Jan. 31	12-6	50	36 Mississippi State
Feb. 04	13-6	75	71 Auburn
Feb. 07	14-6	70	69 Alabama
Feb. 11	15-6	91	84 Tennessee
Feb. 14	15-7	56	74 Florida
Feb. 19	16-7	65	54 Vanderbilt
Feb. 21	16-8	52	65 Louisiana State
Feb. 25	16-9	71	79 Georgia
Feb. 28	17-9	64	63 Ole Miss
Mar. 01	18-9	75	74 Oklahoma

Modern SEC Tournament Composite Box (Team vs. Team)

	Ala.	Aub.	Ga.	UK	LSU	Miss.	MSU	Tenn.	Vandy	
Alabama	x-x	1-1	1-0	3-2	2-3	1-1	0-0	4-0	1-0	0-0
Auburn	1-1	x-x	1-1	2-0	0-3	1-0	1-0	1-1	1-1	2-0
Florida	0-1	1-1	x-x	0-0	1-0	0-3	0-0	0-0	0-2	1-1
Georgia	2-3	0-2	0-0	x-x	0-1	1-0	1-1	2-0	2-0	0-0
Kentucky	3-2	3-0	0-1	1-0	x-x	2-1	4-0	0-0	0-1	0-1
La. State	1-1	0-1	3-0	0-1	1-2	x-x	0-1	0-0	0-1	0-0
Mississippi	0-0	0-1	0-0	1-1	0-4	1-0	x-x	0-0	3-0	1-1
Miss. St.	0-4	1-1	0-0	0-2	0-0	0-0	0-0	x-x	0-0	2-1
Tennessee	0-1	1-1	2-0	0-2	1-0	1-0	0-3	0-0	x-x	2-0
Vanderbilt	0-0	0-2	1-1	0-0	1-0	0-0	1-2	0-2	x-x	



Modern Standings

Kentucky	13-6
Alabama	13-7
Auburn	10-7
Georgia	8-7
Tennessee	7-7
Mississippi	6-7
Louisiana State	5-7
Vanderbilt	4-8
Florida	3-8
Mississippi State	3-8
Total	72-72



WILDCATS

All-Time SEC Composite Box (Team vs. Team)

	W/L	Ala.	Aub.	Fla.	Ga.	Ky.	LSU	Miss.	MSU	Tenn	Vandy	Tech	Tulane	Sew.
Alabama	(29-24)	x-x	3-1	2-0	3-4	2-7	4-2	1-1	5-1	4-3	0-2	3-2	1-1	1-0
Auburn	(14-24)	1-3	x-x	1-1	3-1	0-8	1-4	1-0	1-1	1-5	3-0	0-0	2-1	0-0
Florida	(7-21)	0-2	1-1	x-x	0-0	2-6	0-6	0-0	0-0	0-4	4-1	0-0	0-1	0-0
Georgia	(17-26)	4-3	1-3	0-0	x-x	0-5	1-2	4-1	3-0	2-4	0-3	2-2	0-3	0-0
Kentucky	(70-12)	7-2	8-0	6-2	5-0	x-x	10-1	8-0	5-0	8-4	2-2	5-0	6-1	0-0
Louisiana State	(26-26)	2-4	4-1	6-0	2-1	1-10	x-x	4-2	1-0	1-4	1-2	1-0	2-2	1-0
Mississippi	(10-23)	1-1	0-1	0-0	1-4	0-8	2-4	x-x	0-0	4-3	1-1	1-1	0-0	0-0
Mississippi State	(7-26)	1-5	1-1	0-0	0-3	0-5	0-1	0-0	x-x	0-5	3-3	1-3	1-0	0-0
Tennessee	(42-22)	3-4	5-1	4-0	4-2	4-8	4-1	3-4	5-0	x-x	6-1	4-0	0-1	0-0
Vanderbilt	(16-24)	2-0	0-3	1-4	3-0	2-2	2-1	1-2	3-2	1-6	x-x	0-3	1-1	0-0
Georgia Tech	(14-18)	2-3	0-0	0-0	2-2	0-5	0-1	1-1	3-1	0-4	3-0	x-x	3-1	0-0
Tulane	(12-16)	1-1	1-2	1-0	3-0	1-6	2-2	0-0	0-1	1-0	1-1	1-3	x-x	0-0
Sewanee	(0-2)	0-1	0-0	0-0	0-0	0-0	0-1	0-0	0-0	0-0	0-0	0-0	0-0	x-x

SEC Tourney Heads Back To Original Site

This year's tournament will be held at The Omni in Atlanta, Ga., after having been played at Rupp Arena in Lexington last year. The Wildcats won last year, becoming the first team to win a second tournament title since the renewal.

The basketball tournament was the first championship event of the 53-year-old Southeastern Conference. The first two were held in Atlanta; Kentucky won the first and Alabama the second.

No tourney was held in 1935 but it was renewed and hosted in Knoxville the next two years. It went to Baton Rouge in 1938 and back to Knoxville for two more years before moving to Louisville, where it stayed until 1952.

Birmingham was the tournament site from 1979-81, with Tennessee, LSU and Mississippi taking the crowns. In 1982 the tournament was held in Lexington with Alabama capturing the title. Georgia won the 1983 affair in Birmingham, UK took it in Nashville in 1984 and Auburn won in Birmingham in 1985.

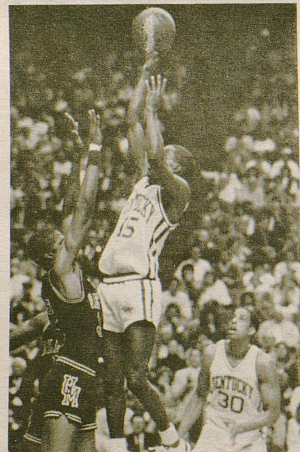
Overall, Kentucky was dominating, winning 15 titles. Tennessee has won four, Alabama two, Vanderbilt, LSU, Ole Miss, Georgia Tech, Georgia and Auburn one apiece.

'Cat Facts - UK 17-1 When Ahead At Intermission

Here's some figures which might interest some Big Blue fans.

This season when the Wildcats were ahead at halftime their record was 17-1. When behind—0-8.

When UK outrebound its opponent its win-loss record was 8-2; outrebounded—9-7; even



UK 17-1 With Halftime Lead

board play—1-0; shot 50 percent or better—9-1; shot less than 50 percent—9-8; opponent shot 50 percent or better—5-8; and when the opponent shot less than 50 percent—13-1.

If a poll was taken to determine the greatest fan in college basketball, Lexington's Steve Rardin would have to rank right at the top. The Wildcats' "Super Fan" has now seen 564, that's right 564, straight Kentucky games in person, home and away. The last time he

[Continued On Page 25]

High & Low Points Follow '87 Season

What Happend To 'Dan Issel' Night?

Mostly highs, but some lows...and things **HIGH.** Joe Dean's appointment as director of athletics at Louisiana State University is a stroke of genius. Not only will Dean add to the dignity of the school and Southeastern Conference, but he and basketball Coach Dale Brown might become known as The Bookend Boys since the affable and folksy Dean ought to be a perfect balance opposite the kooky sometimes perplexing Preacher Brown. **LOW.** UK director of athletics Cliff Hagan letting another season go by without honoring Dan Issel at halftime of a game at Rupp Arena.



Bob Watkins

Cats' Pause Columnist

HIGH. Utah Jazz Coach Frank Layden and "American patriot" on David Robinson's tour with the U.S. Navy being shortened to two years from five: "You mean to tell me, after all the money that's been spent on this guy (by the U.S. taxpayer), and all the time that's been spent, now, suddenly, he's too tall? Too tall for what? There are an awful lot of jobs in the Navy."

HIGH. There are few personalities in sports with more pizzazz than LSU Coach Dale Brown and the people at NBC-TV know it. Commentator Bucky Waters set the stage nicely in the LSU-Kentucky game Feb. 21 when, during first-half action, he told us that Brown "has really settled down. At one time he was weird. Now he's just eccentric."

Footnote NBC "miked" Brown for the UK game Saturday and—if one can get past the obscenities—the inside (audio) view of a college coach and his team, can be fascinating. At halftime Brown told referee Paul Galvan that he was "very disappointed with the officiating. Very disappointed."

The seed was planted. LSU got several "friendly calls" in the second 20 minutes and the rest is history.

LOW. Rex Chapman's shot selection at LSU and Georgia. Through 24 games the freshman's field goal percentage was down to 44.3 overall, 39.5 from the three-point line.

HIGH. John Feinstein, author of *A Season On The Brink* with Indiana Coach Bob Knight, was asked Saturday if he looked forward to another meeting with the cantankerous IU coach.

"Sure," Feinstein said. "Why not? I think it'll be fun."

Comment Fun for whom?

LOW. Louisville Coach Denny Crum's timing when he said Memphis State did not deserve to be in the Metro Tournament. The remarks came moments after the Cardinals had a 2-point lead and the basketball with 40 seconds left at Memphis State. And lost the game.

HIGH. A color postcard I received with Coach Jerry Tarkanian and the UNLV Runnin' Rebels on the front and words on the back that said: "Wishing you Happy Valentine's Day from *The Team You've Gotta Love.*"

Readers (write) right

■ Jeff Walker, of Greensburg wrote: "I can't believe you are not on the NCAA's selection committee. You know almost as much about college basketball as Dick Vitale and Joe Dean." "In a recent column you said, 'the (Louisville) Cards don't deserve an (NCAA) bid even if they win the Metro Tournament.'"

"And after an 18-point drubbing at the hands of Florida, Kentucky 'remains on course to an NCAA at-large bid.'"

"This shows your biased point of view against the Louisville Cardinals. After all, they only won the Metro Conference championship. A conference that stands five wins, two losses against the almighty SEC, including Florida State's victory over SEC leaders Alabama and Florida."

"You are a perfect example of Kentucky's 'holier than thou' attitude. It is a pity someone can feel so threatened."

■ Chris Corder of Elizabethtown wrote last week to offer his choices for college basketball's best this season (as of Feb. 18).

"First team All-American: Guards — Steve Alford, Indiana and Mark Wade, UNLV; forwards — Jerome Lane, Pitt and Armon Gilliam, UNLV, center — David Robinson, Navy."

"Player of the year: David Robinson; SEC player of the year: Derrick McKey; Freshman of the year: Rex Chapman."

Corder asks: "Has (J.R.) Reid faced anyone? The ACC is weak!"

"All freshmen team: Rex Chapman, UK and Mark Tillmon, Georgetown at guards; Alaa Adelnaby, Duke at center; Derrick Coleman, Syracuse and J.R. Reid, North Carolina."

"Final four: North Carolina, Indiana, UNLV and Oklahoma."

"Darkhorses: Michigan, St. John's, Kentucky and Illinois." ■ James Beesley of Huff, Ky. writes to offer some of his selections.

"Best team — Indiana, then North Carolina; best freshmen J.R. Reid, then Rex Chapman; Best player — (SEC) Tony White, Tennessee; Best in the country — David Robinson, Navy."

"Final Four — UNLV, North Carolina, Indiana and DePaul. "Coach of the year — Joey Meyer, DePaul."

"Best Conference — Big Ten easily. Most overrated conference — Big East; Most underrated team — Temple; Most underrated team — Western Kentucky."

"Cinderella team — Duke."

"All America — (first team) Steve Alford, Indiana; Kenny Smith, North Carolina; David Robinson, Navy; Danny Manning, Kansas; and Reggie Williams, Georgetown. Second team — Tony White, Tennessee; Fred Banks, UNLV; Horace Grant, Clemson; Reggie Miller, UCLA and Reggie Lewis, Northeastern."

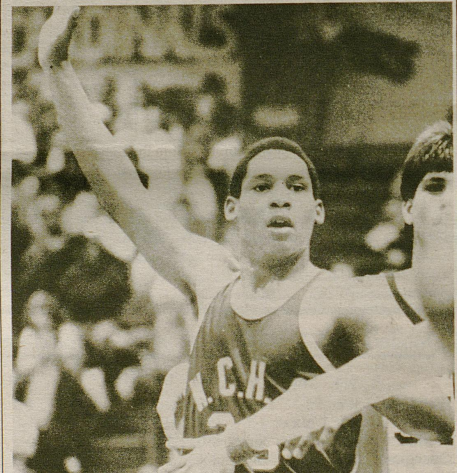
Comment Hard to argue with any of those. How about yours?

Kevin Ellery

Washington County High's Kevin Ellery committed to Notre Dame University last week. He was ready to sign with the Irish after a visit to South Bend Feb. 15 for the Duke game.

"I thought it over after I got back from my visit and I feel it's the best place for me," Ellery said. "I think I can play there and (assistant) coach (John) Shumate thinks I can too."

So, can Ellery play big time hoops at Notre Dame? Or will he become a "nice sub?" An official at the school, who asked not



Kevin Ellery To Play For Digger Phelps

to be identified of course, because of NCAA rules on discussing unsigned prospects, had no hesitation. "We don't have anybody right now who can do the kind of things Kevin can do for us."

Ellery averaged 29 points and nine rebounds per game this season.

Mr. Basketball

A check on balloting for Kentucky's Mr. Basketball last week revealed only that the voting so far is "very close." The deadline for ballots to be in was Feb. 25.

The top contenders has not changed — John Pelphrey (Paintsville), Deron Feldhaus (Mason Co.), Sean Sutton (Henry Clay) and Kevin Ellery (Washington Co.).

Kentucky Juniors tour

Five players have been chosen for the Kentucky Junior team that will tour Europe June 10-27 — 6-0 Richie Farmer (Clay Co.); 6-8 Scott Boley (LaRue Co.); 6-5 Mike Gray (Caldwell Co.); 6-3 James Brewer and 6-6 Doug Johnson (both of Bardstown).

SMU's 'death penalty'

Singer Jerry Reed's latest rendering seems appropriate for the hand dealt SMU last week. Reed's song is about a divorce settlement in which a man's ex-wife "got the gold mine and I got the shaft."

In the NCAA versus SMU case, the Southwest Conference seems to have gotten the gold mine — television money and ticket sales profits SMU might have gotten; blue chip recruits SMU might have signed; and an open date on the schedule that member schools can now make into a home date to make more

[Continued On Page 22]

Time For The SEC Carnival In Atlanta

'Big Bad Wolff' Takes Swipe At UK

Now that the SEC regular season has been completed and all eyes are turning toward the free-for-all in Atlanta, let's take a timeout to discuss the tournament and a few other things that relate to Kentucky basketball.

If you thought the conference race was unpredictable, just try your hand at handicapping what will transpire in the Omni this week. The opening contest of Thursday night's preliminary round should go pretty much as expected—I look for LSU to down Mississippi State, but after that it should be no holds barred.

In Thursday's nightcap you've got Tennessee taking on Vander-



Mike Estep
Cats' Pause Columnist

bilt. The Vols have been much better than their 13-14 record indicates, and just when everybody gave Vandy up for dead, the Commodores upset second-seeded Florida in Nashville last week.

Foreseeing the outcome of Friday's games doesn't get any easier. The league's two big surprises this season—Georgia and Ole Miss—square off at 1 p.m. Friday to earn the right to advance to face the winner of Florida and either LSU or Mississippi State. This one is almost too close to call. Both teams—Hugh Durham's Bulldogs and Ed Murphy's Rebels have been playing well of late. Keep a close watch on these two teams, whoever survives this battle of Cinderellas could well be playing in the championship game on Sunday.

That brings us to the matchup of interest in the Bluegrass State—Kentucky-Auburn. You never can tell which bunch of Eddie Sutton's Wildcats will show up, the ones which defeated Louisville, Florida, Navy, Alabama and Oklahoma; or the ones which lost to Tennessee and were swept by both Georgia and LSU. If last weekend's results (two gutty, last-second, come-from-behind wins over Ole Miss and Oklahoma) are any indication, though, Kentucky could be ready to make its move.

Sonny Smith's Auburn quintet has been a curious crew as well. Picked as one of the conference favorites and rated highly in the national polls in the preseason, the Tigers have battled inconsistency and injuries (sound familiar?) in struggling to a 9-9 SEC mark, 16-11 overall. The Plainsmen have had trouble giving a solid 40-minute performance, but last Sunday they completely dominated LSU 100-62 in what might have been their best effort of the year.

One thing in the Wildcats' (or is that Auburn's) favor, is that Kentucky has beaten the Tigers both times they've played this far. Can Kentucky continue its dominance in the season series, or will the third time be the charm for Auburn? I like the 'Cats in a squeaker.

Whoever prevails, will in all likelihood have a date with Alabama, who breezed through the SEC round robin schedule with a 16-2 slate.

To make a long story short, I'm gonna really go out on a limb and say that (gasp!) favorites Alabama and Florida, who split their games with each other this year, will be playing for the automatic NCAA berth Sunday afternoon.

And don't ask me why, but I just have a hunch the Gators will win their first tourney title and qualify for their first trip ever to the NCAA extravaganza.

Now for a couple of sidestories which developed this week and involve Kentucky:

Wolff in sheep's clothing: That's right, Wolff, as in Alexander (The Grate) Wolff, a senior writer for *Sports Illustrated*. Got a look at the March 2 edition of *SI* yet? Well, if you're a Wildcat fan, or even a stickler for journalistic accuracy, chances are you won't be overjoyed by Wolff's article entitled, "Oh, What A Sorry State," which is a curious attempt to throw a little salt in the wounds of the commonwealth's two foremost basketball powers.

When he's not taking wholesale potshots at both Kentucky and Louisville—sarcastically suggesting Bellarmine is the "real power" in the state for example, or busy getting his facts scrambled up—he erroneously stated that Sutton made his players off-limits to the press following the Jan. 18 loss to LSU—Wolff is busy trying to revive yellow journalism in its worst form:

"Kentucky's abysmal lows have only provided grist for Lexington's ever-lively rumor mill," Wolff writes. "After one game, (Rex) Chapman, the freshman, asked a reporter to linger so he could deny reports that teammates like Davender and Blackmon were jealous of his celebrity.

"Racial tension isn't likely to be a problem," he continues. "Chapman rooms with (Winston) Bennett, who's black; he also likes the Fat Boys, has dated black coeds and wears so much gold that when he walked into the dining hall recently, a Wildcat football player was heard to crack, 'Here comes Rex in his Mr. T starter's kit.'"

Hey, who signs this guy's check, *Sports Illustrated* or *The National Enquirer*? I mean here's a 19-year-old kid who's trying to play basketball at the most stress-induced basketball program in America and keep his head above water in the classroom at the same time, and along comes *SI*—who only a short time ago was hailing Chapman as the best thing since sliced bread—and prints a bunch of alleged garbage about his personal life in black-and-white for millions to read.

Sadly to say, as if that wasn't enough, there's more. Wolff also saw his way clear to take a swipe at Sutton.

"Sutton himself has been the subject of enough rumors about a drinking problem," Wolff says in his article, "that he thanked a caller to his Big Blue Line phone-in show for pointedly bringing up the issue. 'I'm glad you asked,' he (Sutton) said, 'because I too have heard that rumor, and it's a very false rumor and a very vicious rumor.'"

I agree with Sutton, it is a very vicious rumor. And to my way of thinking, neither it, the one about Chapman or any other tall tale merits mention in one of the world's most respected magazines.

Whatever happened to objective reporting? To covering what happens on the court and leaving the gossip to the tabloid boys?

For the big finish, the grande finale, Wolff ponders what kind of team could be formed if Kentucky's backcourt and Louisville's front line could be merged together, forming a squad he calls the "Wildcards."

He quotes Chapman as saying the idea would be "awesome," and that "there might not be enough balls to go around, but the coaches



Auburn's Michael Jones

would solve that problem." Then Wolff closes by saying, "That certainly would be a more pleasant problem than the ones (Denny) Crum and Sutton are dealing with now."

From where I sit, as long as writers like Alexander Wolff are running around on the loose, coaches like Crum and Sutton and players like Chapman are in for more problems than they bargained for.

Practice what you preach: As long as I'm being critical, why not a few words on Oklahoma coach Billy Tubbs? Always a free-spirit, the OU coach came into Lexington complaining that the contest between his 12th-ranked Sooners and Kentucky was being hyped too much by the media and that too much importance had been attached to the non-conference tilt.

"Hell, let's take it as a fun game," Tubbs was quoted as saying prior to the matchup. "There's no conference involved. I understand the winner of this game will be invited to the Kremlin."

After his team had dropped a controversial 75-74 decision, though, Tubbs' did an about face. He failed to show up for the postgame press conference, and then reluctantly agreed to speak to reporters outside the OU lockerroom. After fielding two brief questions while heading toward the team bus, Tubbs was asked for his reaction to the game's final six seconds—which saw his Sooners lose the lead, and their third consecutive ballgame—to which the coach snapped, "Would you be a guy that after a crash, you would ask somebody how he feels because his wife's laying over there bleeding? Huh? What kind of question is that?"

With that brief tirade, Tubbs broke off the interview session.

Sounds like Tubbs ought to take a dose of his own medicine and start practicing what he preaches. You did say it was just a fun game, didn't you Billy?

Since '79 Renewal, 7 'Cats Have Been On All-Tourney Team

Through the years, Kentucky players have been selected to the first-team all-Tournament team 48 times. Since the renewal of the event, seven Wildcats have been tabbed with the honor:

- 1979—Kyle Macy (MVP) and Truman Claytor
- 1980—Sam Bowie and Kyle Macy
- 1982—Dirk Minniefield (MVP)
- 1984—Melvin Turpin
- 1986—Roger Harden

In the eight years since the tournament was renewed, Wildcat players have been the leading scorers of the event on three occa-



Melvin Turpin

sions: 1979 (Kyle Macy); 1982 (Dirk Minniefield) and 1984 (Melvin Turpin).

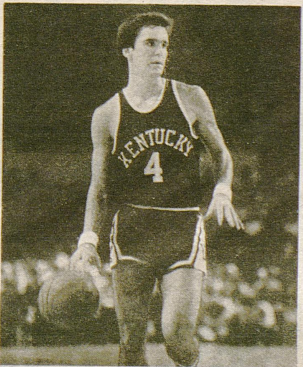
In the history of the tournament, Kentucky holds 35 individual or team records.

Speaking of records, the largest crowd to ever watch an SEC Tournament game was 21,981, which showed up at the championship game between Alabama and Kentucky at Rupp Arena in 1982.

The Wildcats have enjoyed an equal amount of success in the league's postseason tournament. In the 27 years the event has been held, Kentucky has captured 15 titles and has won 85.9 percent of its games in the tourney. Next in line among the teams in tournament titles is Tennessee, with fourth.


Even in the eight years since the renewal of the tournament in 1979, Kentucky has continued to lead the way, although seven different schools have captured the title.

Kentucky is the only team that has won two titles since the renewal of the event, having won it in 1984 and 1986. Only Florida, Mississippi State and Vanderbilt have failed to win the event since 1979.



Kyle Macy

When You Order: THE CATS' PAUSE You Get

		Opponents Comments	
Game Statistics			Recruiting Updates
Complete Wildcat Coverage			Schedules And TV Times
In Depth Features		\$25⁰⁰ Per Year	Letters To The Editor
	35 Issues A Year	<small>Yes, I am subscribing to The Cats' Pause! My check is enclosed, sales tax included.</small> NAME _____ STREET, BOX, OR ROUTE NO. _____ CITY _____ STATE _____ ZIP _____ PLEASE INCLUDE YOUR CUSTOMER NUMBER _____ FROM YOUR ADDRESS LABEL IF THIS IS A RENEWAL SUBSCRIPTION. 35 ISSUES - \$25.00 PER SUBSCRIPTION NEW _____ RENEWAL _____	<small>MAIL TO: THE CATS' PAUSE P.O. Box 7297 Lexington, KY 40522</small>

But Most Important You Get

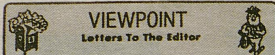
The Bottom Line On UK Basketball

Shelby Linville



All-SEC 1951

A 6'-6" FORWARD FROM MIDDLETOWN, OHIO, LINVILLE (A JUNIOR COLLEGE TRANSFER) WAS THE SECOND LEADING SCORER ON KENTUCKY'S 1951 NATIONAL CHAMPIONS!



Stand By Your Team

Dear Sir:

After reading the letter from Alan James (Feb. 21 issue—...Them That's Not) I'd like to make a few comments. First of all, anyone who is ashamed to watch these Wildcats play deserves to be in Minnesota. That's where Barry E. Fields (Feb. 7 issue—Play Ball, Eddie!) should be also.

Mr. James stated that these guys had no poise and were "free-lancing with no direction." Well, I've only watched on TV or listened on the radio to 23 games so far (thru Feb. 20), so I've missed most of those games Mr. James mentioned, I guess.

What I've seen is a young team that has improved by leaps and bounds. True, we won't have a 30-win season. But anyone who says they expected a 30-win season last year is simply not telling the truth.

As for the defense, Mr. James must have slept through most of the games. And does anyone remember the 1984-85 season? Through Feb. 20 that year their record was 15-9 and they finished the regular season 16-11 and still got an NCAA bid. And they lost the first game of the SEC Tournament.

So in closing, I just want to say I'm proud of this team. Oh, I sure get mad and upset when they lose. **Nobody** hates losing worse than I do. But I am a Wildcat fan and I'll never be ashamed of this team.

Sincerely yours,

Lanny Asbridge
Lawrenceville, Ga.

(P.S. I was born and raised in Kentucky)

Expel The Professor

Dear Sir:

Who in the world did you (Dicky Beal) play basketball for that had anything to do with grading players? Probably some mid-term coach.

How depressing it must be to sit on the sidelines after playing for the 'Cats.

Well, the so-called Professor of Basketball once again shows his true feelings. I wonder how you would have graded U of L last year at this time? Please, don't answer that.

What I am trying to get across is, let the coach coach, and the players play! Don't make it any harder than it is for either one. If you write about jealousy and dissention on a team, that's just what you get.

Please, Professor "B" Ball go back to writing about yourself and all the good things you did as a so-called player and leave the team alone!

Sincerely yours,

Michael H. Smith
Kettering, Ohio

Bowie Report: Big Sam Out For Rest Of '87 Season

Former Kentucky center/forward Sam Bowie, who broke a shinbone last fall against the Dallas Mavericks, will definitely miss the remainder of the 1986-87 season, team physician Dr. Robert Cook said last week.

There was a possibility Bowie could come back in time for the NBA playoffs. Now, the slim seven-footer must wait until next season.

"We're still not anticipating anything that will alter his ability to play next fall," said Portland's team physician.

Will 'Cats, Cards Be Invited To NCAAs?

Regional Sites Within 100 Miles Of UK, UL

It is ironic that the one year in which the NCAA is holding two basketball tournament regionals within 100 miles of each other, two major college powers in that area are having difficult seasons.

This year's tournament regional sites are in Seattle, Wash. (West), East Rutherford, N.J. (East), and where else but Cincinnati (Midwest) and Louisville (Southeast).

The Final Four is in New Orleans.

With those two tournaments so close, it seems the state's fans would get a chance to see the universities of Kentucky and



Mel Holbrook

Cats' Pause Columnist

Louisville playing for a trip to the Final Four. But, right now, that's only a dream, because both teams are having difficult campaigns and aren't even assured of getting berths to the 64-team tournament later this month.

Entering last weeks games, of course, the Wildcats were 16-8, 9-7 in the Southeastern Conference. The Cardinals were 16-12, 8-3 in the Metro Conference. Each had important games, with the Wildcats taking on the Georgia Bulldogs in Athens on Wednesday before coming home last weekend to face the University of Mississippi Bulldogs and the 12th-ranked Oklahoma University Sooners in Rupp Arena. The Cardinals, meanwhile, took on the University of Cincinnati Bearcats last Wednesday before playing the UCLA Bruins at Pauley Pavilion in Los Angeles on Saturday.

Seasons Uncharacteristic For Both Schools

Those records are uncharacteristic for both programs, with each school usually having a national contender every season. Both were ranked in the top 10 in the pre-season polls, but both have been unranked since early this year.

Last season, that wasn't the case. Louisville won the national championship for the second time in six years by trudging through Ogden, Utah, and Houston and Dallas, Texas. Kentucky went to Charlotte, N.C., and Atlanta, Ga., before finally losing in the Southeast Regional finale to arch-rival Louisiana State University.

Both teams were ranked in the top 10 entering the tournament and drew great crowds wherever they played. Both have histories of playing well in the tourney, with Louisville sporting



Rex Is Team's Leading Scorer...

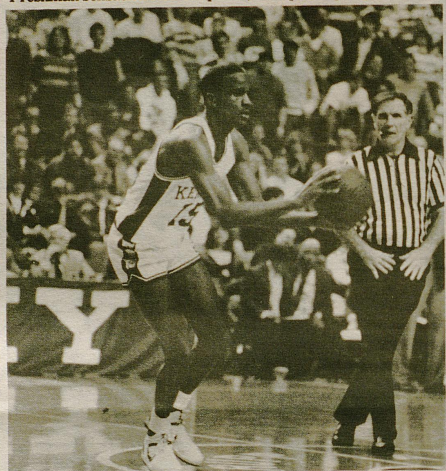
an overall 27-12 record and six Final Four appearances, including four in the last seven years, under head coach Denny Crum. Kentucky, of course, has made more appearances in the NCAA tournament, 31, than any other school. It is 53-28 overall and has won the championship five times. UK has appeared in the tourney seven consecutive seasons.

But this season has been one of the more trying ones for both schools. They have suffered from injury and inexperience. Kentucky's eight losses (so far) are a far contrast from last year's 32-4 record, as is Louisville's (so far) from the 32-7 mark in 1986. Both have suffered humiliating homecourt losses, Kentucky los-

ing to LSU, 76-41, and U of L falling to UK, 85-51, at Freedom Hall. Those were the worst losses ever on their current home floors.

The Wildcats, with the loss of All-American Kenny Walker to graduation, have been struggling with their inside people all season long. Richard Madison, who averages nine points and seven rebounds per game, and Rob Lock, seven points and five rebounds, just haven't made up for Walker's absence. The critical early-season loss of All-SEC forward Winston Bennett to a knee injury and the stress fracture of Cedric Jenkins, who hasn't yet fully recovered, has hurt the team. Transfer Mike Scott is still trying to recover his skills after sitting out a year.

All season long, Kentucky has lived and died from the outside. Freshman sensation Rex Chapman, at 16 points per game, is the



...Ed Right On His Heels

team's leading scorer while Ed Davender, 14 ppg., is next. UK's guards have been the leading scorers in all but two games this season.

The Cardinals lost All-American Billy Thompson, Milt Wagner and Jeff Hall off last season's championship club, and while it has a strong inside game with Pervis Ellison, Tony Kimbro and Herbert Crook, it has no outside game to speak of. Ellison is averaging 15 points and eight rebounds, while Crook is at 15 points and eight rebounds and Kimbro at 11 points and four rebounds. Their current starting guards, Keith Williams and Chris West, are collectively averaging six points and three rebounds.

Some have suggested that if Louisville had Kentucky's inside players and if UK had U of L's inside folks, that would be one tremendous team. But, unfortunately, that's not the case for either school.

So both have been trying to get their acts together in time to hopefully receive a tournament bid. With the successful tradition of Kentucky and Louisville, it's unlikely either will not receive a bid no matter how they fare in their respective conference tournaments this week, unless both just collapsed last week.

But whether or not the bids are received, it would seem probable neither school will be put in one of the two closer regional brackets. That would be the smart thing for the NCAA to do, just to assure good attendance at either site, Riverfront Coliseum or Freedom Hall. Whether or not the NCAA, which has been lacking in judgement on many issues in the past, is capable of intelligent thinking is anyone's guess. But it would seem that bracketing UK and U of L, with a chance to play closer to home would be the wise choice.

Since Kentucky won the Mideast Regional in 1984 with wins over Louisville and Illinois at Rupp Arena, the NCAA has ruled that no team can play a regional final on its homecourt. That being the case, it would be nice for the NCAA to put UK in the position to possibly play at Freedom Hall and Louisville to post up at Riverfront Coliseum.

Any other year, including the last, that would be very likely. Remember 1985, when the Final Four was held in Lexington? UK had a tough season then, too, going 18-13 the season after making the Final Four in Seattle. This year, it may turn out about the same way. And that's very ironic indeed.

You're On The Air With:

Cats' Pause Sports Hot Line

Every Monday Night

7:00-8:00 p.m.

On

- WVLK Lexington
- WAVG Louisville
- WSFC-AM Somerset
- WCMI Ashland
- WMOR Morehead
- WOKH-FM Bardstown
- WCYN Cynthiana
- WHIR Danville
- WIEL Elizabethtown
- WIOK-FM Falmouth
- WKED Frankfort
- WFXY Middlesboro
- WMSK AM-FM Morganfield
- WEKY Richmond
- WOMI Owensboro
- WKCB AM-FM Hindman
- WDHR-FM Pikeville
- WSGS-FM Hazard
- WSON Henderson
- WFKN Franklin

Monday Night Join Publisher

Oscar Combs And Earl Cox

Call Us With Your
Questions & Comments
And Let's Talk

Call: (606)
253
5959



TS TS
WID WID
TS TS
WID WID
TS TS
WID WID

Larry Vaught

[Continued From Page 9]

do try to get back with each fan because they are all important to us."

THIS WEEK'S SEC Tournament could be the best ever because of the league's balance.

"Alabama could be upset and so could Florida," said Sutton. "This league is so balanced that just about anybody could win."

"I'd probably still have to pick Alabama but if Florida gets to the final it will have an advantage because of its depth. But I think the tournament will produce some great games and I'm sure we will have some upsets."

JOHN PELPHREY of Paintsville won't be playing basketball at the University of Kentucky next year even though the 6-7 forward made it clear from the start that UK was his first choice.

The Wildcats decided to sign **Deron Feldhaus** of Mason County instead of Pelphrey. It wasn't a decision Pelphrey liked but the talented youngster, who could join the Kentucky connection at Vanderbilt, at least accepted it.

"I've been a Big Blue fan all my life, so I was disappointed," said Pelphrey in a recent interview with Mike Fields of the Lexington Herald-Leader. "But I was honored just to be thought of by them and to have gotten a visit there. They've got to do what they think is right and I respect that."

"UK basketball is big and I'll always love it, but maybe I can help win a NCAA title somewhere else."

UK 64, Ole Miss 63

[Continued From Page 10]

in Lexington, their only win coming in 1927. . . After the game **Eddie Sutton** was asked if he thought **Rex Chapman** got his winning shot-off prior to the expiration of the 45-second clock. To no one's surprise he said that the Owensboro freshman did indeed get the shot off in time. When the same question was asked to **Ed Murphy**, the Ole Miss coach couldn't say for sure as the noise of the crowd was louder than the shot clock's buzzer. . . Ole Miss had four starters in double figures. Besides **Ronnie Sim's** team-high 18 points, **Roderick Barnes** had 12 and **Joe Ayers** and **Charles Prater** had 10 apiece. . . Kentucky, had three starters in double digits—**Ed Davender**, 19; **Chapman**, 12; and **Richard Madison**, 11. . . Kentucky's bench was outscored seven to six. . . UK president **Dr. Otis A. Singletary** and his wife **Gloria** formed the "Y" at mid-court during the traditional Kentucky cheer. The game marked the second-to-last Rupp Arena appearance which Singletary will preside as acting president. He's to retire from that position June 30 of this year. . . CBS commentator **Brent Musburger** was on hand to watch Mississippi and Kentucky in action. Musburger was scheduled to do the play-by-play the next day as Oklahoma and UK hooked horns. . . Murphy on his first appearance of coaching against Kentucky in Lexington. "I thought it was great; it (Rupp Arena) is a great place to play. Once the ball gets pitched up, though, it's just a court and it's just a game. But walking around here this morning, looking at everything yesterday, thinking about the great players who have been here, and the great coaches you'd have to be legally dead not to react to that. It's the best basketball program in America. If something were to happen to me tomorrow, I could say I coached a game here." . . In the first half all of Kentucky's players shot at least 50 percent from the field. . . Ole Miss' free throw shooting kept it in the game—15 of 17. . . During the team's first meeting, which was won by the Rebels in Oxford 76-65, Ole Miss had 20 offensive boards. This time Ole Miss had only 10. That was the key to UK's 17th win according to Sutton. Overall, UK and UM had 25 rebounds apiece. . . Kentucky center **Rob Lock** led the way with a game-high three blocked shots. His season total is now at 25.

Bob Watkins

[Continued From Page 16]

money. And Southern Methodist University gets the shaft. But is the school the villain here?

In (small) part yes, since vigilance over the athletic department is part of a University president's or board of governors' responsibility. But what about the coaches and well-to-do boosters who were involved in these blatant rules violations? Where is their punishment? What have they lost?

Nothing, it seems to me. It's like executing Jesse James' mother.

Parting shot

⊙ A referee in the Big East Conference on the three-point shot in college basketball: "I hate it. The guy goes up and you say, 'Oops, where were his feet?' At least 40 percent of the calls on three-pointers are absolute guesswork."

And so it goes. ■

Nick Nicholas

[Continued From Page 13]

trunks totaling 670 pounds the WKU Beefcakes led by manager Murray Arnold."

Navy versus Kansas—I can see the pre-game hype already: *This year's Player of the Year to battle next year's Player of the Year.* CBS would feast over this matchup. I might even pay a couple of bucks to see David Robinson and Danny Manning play a one-on-one battle. While I believe Robinson would win the battle, the Jayhawks would win the game. Kevin Pritchard and Cedric Hunter would be too much for the rest of the Midshipmen to handle.

Nevada Las Vegas versus Oklahoma—A second meeting of the *Runnin' Rebs* and *Boomer Sooners* would be fun to watch. Since then-No. 1 UNLV lost 89-88 in Norman, Okla., not to mention the three-point controversy at the end of the first half, it would be poetic justice if Vegas could get a second chance at Billy Tubbs' team.

North Carolina versus Georgetown—Certainly two of the nation's top programs of this decade. That alone is reason enough to pull for these two teams to get together on the court.

Florida versus North Carolina—Here's one for you ACC or SEC rooters. This one would settle plenty of Southern bar room arguments—who has the best backcourt in the country? Vernon Maxwell against Kenny Smith. . . Andrew Moten locking horns with Jeff Lebo. Plus, Norm Sloan, whose North Carolina State squad in 1974 captured the national championship, matching wits with Dean Smith. A v-e-r-y interesting possibility if I say so myself.

Weird And Bizarre Possibilities

Pittsburgh versus North Carolina—Let's see, Pittsburgh has Charles Smith while the Tar Heels have Kenny Smith, Ranzino Smith and Dean Smith. Sounds like a commercial for Smith Brothers' coughdrops?

Oklahoma versus Clemson—Speaking of brothers, a Grant-Harvey and Horace—reunion would be an eye-catcher. After 27 games OU's Harvey averaged 16.1 points per game, while Horace netted 21.4 ppg, helping the Tigers score 20 wins in 23 outings.

DePaul versus Providence—Here's a nickname battle for ya—the Blue Demons and taking on the Friars. The bad against the good?

George Washington versus James Madison—Another possible nickname encounter. The winner might even lay claim to: which President was better? Our nation's first President—Washington—or our fourth—Madison?

UCLA versus the NBA's Sacramento Kings—I know, I know it's starting to get ridiculous. But instead of taking on the Los Angeles Lakers, a team which recently led the Kings at the end of the first quarter 40-4, Sacramento might want to bypass the LA Clippers and play UCLA instead. This way they could possibly save some face in Dodgertown. Notice I said *possibly*.

Stan Torgerson

[Continued From Page 5]

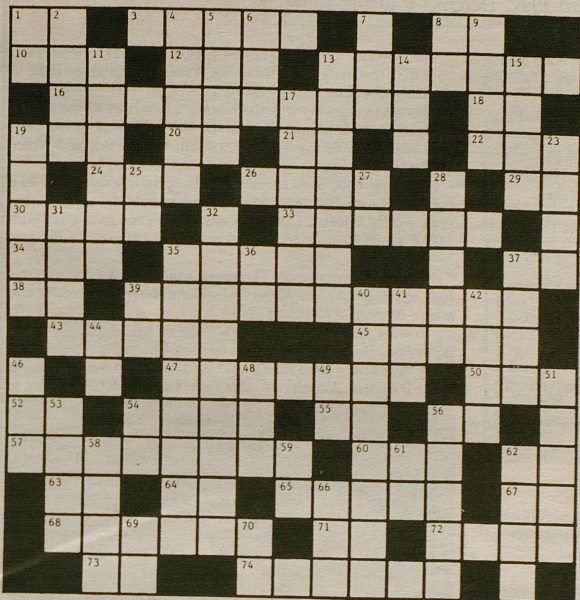
team I have seen in my years of coaching against them." Amen, Dale. This is the best Florida team I have seen in my 20 years of covering SEC basketball. It also is the greatest crowd response I've ever seen in Gator Town. . . Alabama forward **Michael Ansley** said after the Tide's game in Gainesville: "I ain't ever played in a gym that loud before. We took the crowd out of it at (Kentucky's) Rupp (Arena) but you can't do that here." Gator fans are, indeed, **Norm Sloan's** Sixth Man—and isn't it fun? . . . If you'd like to see a practical demonstration of the motion offense watch **Ole Miss**. They are constantly moving with or without the ball and, as a result, drive the opposing defense crazy. I've never seen it done better and that includes the motion offense team of 1981 that won the SEC tournament and played in the NCAA. Coach **Ed Murphy** is some kind of teacher. . . Vanderbilt center **Will Perdue** got a compliment from opposing center **Hubert Henderson** of Mississippi State. Said Henderson after Perdue got 16 points and nine rebounds against him: "He's one long dude. Once he gets it down low he can do pretty much whatever he wants." . . Kentucky coach **Eddie Sutton** after Navy's **David Robinson** scored 45 points, pulled down 14 rebounds and blocked 10 shots against the 'Cats: "That was the best individual performance I have ever witnessed in my years of coaching." The crowd gave Robinson a standing ovation when he left the game. Sutton stood up and joined in. . . **The Last Word**: Has there ever been a coach who admitted they had a bad recruiting year? I've never seen one. If they didn't get the ones they wanted they hide behind the line—"We recruited to our needs." **Pat Dye** told it honestly and best when recruiting ended this year. Dye said:

"We feel like we had a good recruiting year but so did everybody else. In this day and time, with the scholarship limitation and the number of quality athletes in our area, every school will have a good recruiting year. From this point on it's what we do with them that counts."



TCP Crossword Puzzle

By Dan Krueckeberg



MY OLD KENTUCKY WILDCATS: THE HEROES OF OUR YOUTH

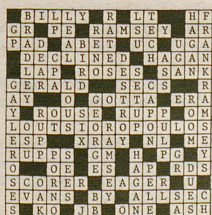
ACROSS

- 1 Initials of 17 Down
- 3 45-year-old Cat fans have no doubt followed his fine sports career
- 8 Initials of 10 Across
- 10 Any kid in '60, who loved the Cats, still remembers Mills
- 12 One of the family
- 13 50-year-olds recall Kenny
- 16 Cat star for youngsters of the '30s
- 18 Phog Allen's school: _____nas
- 19 Hall of Famer Mel
- 20 Abbr. for "Fright"
- 21 Initials of '30 Cat McBrayer
- 22 Special sense?
- 24 It is
- 26 "Don't _____ the big game!"
- 29 Abbr. for "hectare"
- 30 Cream
- 33 40-year-olds remember Hatton
- 34 Before
- 35 Kids during Rupp's later years will remember him
- 37 Initials of a Cat coach
- 38 Initials of 35 Down
- 39 Retirement-aged folks remember him well
- 43 _____ville: an SEC site
- 45 Shows you your place
- 47 Bill was hero for early-'60s kids
- 50 Pistol Pete's school
- 52 Initials of '30s Cat star Johnson
- 54 50-year-olds have fine memories of Jim on the court
- 55 Like
- 56 Abbr. for "recording secretary"
- 57 Cat idol for kids of the late-'60s
- 60 Roman numeral for All-American years for Croza or Beard
- 62 Initials of Cat Tingle of the '40s
- 63 Abbr. for "Virgin Islands"
- 64 Used to call attention; biblical
- 65 Real bad
- 67 _____l: Texas gold?
- 68 Ermal _____ Cat play was viewed by youngsters of the '40s
- 71 Abbr. for Tubbs' present-day school
- 72 Fencing sword
- 73 Double vowel
- 74 One of several Cat heroes for kids growing up in the '60s

DOWN

- 1 Initials of Cat Davis; remembered by 65-year-old Cat fans
- 2 "A _____ hook from the side"
- 4 Kids of the early '40s can recall Cat Marvin
- 5 Main point of the matter
- 6 Hill builder
- 7 The sun
- 8 Initials of Lawrence; standout Cat 50+ years ago
- 9 First name of 35 Across
- 11 12-year-old Cat fans in the mid '60s could not help but _____ L. Dampier
- 13 The 40+ folks remember _____' great floor leadership
- 14 Star Huber of early-'40s Cat fans
- 15 If you're 30-35, he was your idol
- 17 As 10-year-old in early-'50s you probably thought he was a giant
- 19 60-year-olds remember Bernard
- 23 Namesakes of 56 Down
- 25 Initials of Tommy of the '60s
- 27 Abbr. for a collegiate class
- 28 Only the very young do not remember the _____ who brought national acclaim
- 31 Circle parts
- 32 Cat fans aged 50+ remember Jack
- 35 Cat Ralph played 50 years ago
- 36 Compass abbr. for Cats' conference
- 37 Makes mistake
- 39 Pac-10 state abbr.
- 40 Larry was standout 25 years ago
- 41 Noun suffix
- 42 Fish
- 44 Initials of mid-'60s Cat Jaracz
- 46 30+ Cat fans recall seeing Deeken
- 48 Third of the 26
- 49 Initials of 68 Across
- 51 Do with a knot
- 53 Coffee
- 54 Abbr. for an NY island
- 56 Kids of the '60s have seen him move from Cat star to winning coach
- 58 Big river
- 59 Abbr. for a Pac-10 city
- 61 Abbr. for the chair throwers school
- 62 Namesakes of '40s Cat Holland
- 66 50-year-olds can recall when the "Fab Five" _____ it all
- 69 Initials of Edwards; Cat star to kids of the '30s
- 70 ACC state abbr.

Last Week's Answers



Meet The Press

Sutton Says Lack Of A Team Leader, Missed Practice Time Hurting 'Cats; Likes Sanderson For Coach Of The Year

By Mike Estep

As Kentucky headed into the last week of the regular season riding a two-game losing streak, everyone around Wildcat Lodge was cautiously eyeing the final homestand of the season. Here are some leftover tidbits from UK coach Eddie Sutton's weekly press conference which was held just prior to the two-game weekend set with Ole Miss and Oklahoma.



Hard to figure: As has been the case for most of the season, it's been almost impossible to figure from one game to the next just how this Kentucky team will play. Following the loss to LSU, Sutton said the club performed well in practice leading up to last Wednesday's game with Georgia. But when the 'Cats took the court in Athens, presto, they were the same inconsistent bunch we've seen all year.

Sutton said he thinks part of the reason for this is a lack of a true team leader out on the floor that can keep the team playing on an even keel.

"On Monday and Tuesday (before the Georgia game) I felt that we had the best practice sessions that we had had in maybe 10 days," Sutton said. "And if we can continue to have those type of practice sessions maybe we can improve."

"I didn't like what I saw last night (in the 79-71 loss to the Bulldogs). Maybe we fully do not appreciate a player like Roger Harden a year ago. He really ran the ballclub out on the court. Our coaching staff did, but I often felt that maybe our fans did not appreciate him and what he gave to the basketball team."

"We really don't have a general out there on the floor like we had in Harden. Ed (Davener) is not. His personality is not (suited to being a rah-rah type leader). He is not vocal as maybe you would like to see."

Sutton said that because UK doesn't have anyone out on the floor, like a Harden, to push the rest of the players, the team has trouble putting opponents away, doesn't have the killer instinct.

"This ballclub does not seize opportunities to get ahead of a ballclub by double figures. I cite an example from last night, when we were up 15-10 and had momentum. And what one must always remember is if you have momentum you want to sustain it and ride it out as long as you can. And when momentum is going against you, then you have to curtail it, try to stop as quickly as possible."

But Kentucky lost the momentum, lost the lead and eventually lost the game.

"That seems to be what happens to this basketball team at times. We certainly spend hours trying to teach them the importance of seizing the opportunity, reading the momentum, and we didn't do a very good job of that last evening."

Bad stats: As he looked down the statistic sheet, Sutton said he saw some things that he hasn't seen in his 13 years of coaching on the major college level.

"When you look at our stats for conference play, it's amazing that we've won nine games," Sutton said. "This is the lowest shooting percentage (44.7) that I've ever had a team shoot."

"And one statistic that just jumps out at you is the number of free throws attempted (258 for UK, 320 for the opponents). In all those years that I've coached, we've always shot more free throws than the other team. Well, there's a reason for that. If you get the ball inside and you've got any kind of an inside

game, then you're gonna get fouled much more than when you shoot perimeter shots like we've been forced to do a great part of the season."

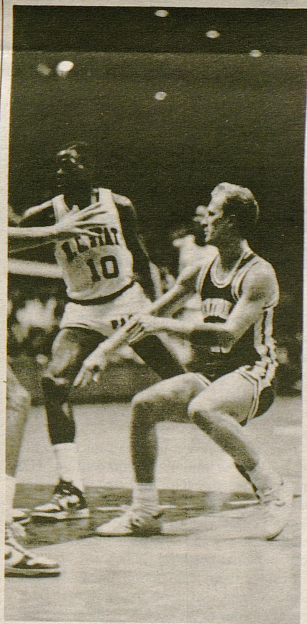
But that wasn't all. "We're being outscored (1,028-1133)," he continued. "Personal fouls (UK—307, opponents—292), this is another stat I've never seen before. We're fouling more than the opposition. Turnovers, we haven't turned the ball over quite as many times (UK—248, opponents—261), but it's a wash. And then steals (UK—103, opponents—107). I've never had a ballclub during that period of time where we didn't steal the ball more often than the other team. And we're getting outscored three points per game."

"This team has disappointed the coaching staff, and I know they're disappointed in themselves. We haven't been able to put a 40-minute game together."

What goes around, comes around: Because Georgia has lost three key players over the course of the season—leading scorer Toney Mack, leading rebounder David Dunn and Patrick Hamilton, the Dogs' best defensive guard—coach Hugh Durham has had to install a slowdown offense.

And in that game versus Kentucky, Wildcat used the deliberate offense to pick the Georgia defense apart.

But the clincher is, the offense Durham is



'Cats Miss Harden

now using is the same offense that was first employed by Henry Iba at Oklahoma State, the same offense that Sutton was taught when he played for Iba, and the same offense that Sutton himself taught to his players before he came to Kentucky.

"In the second half, I thought Georgia executed extremely well," Sutton said. "And they ran our delay game that I used to run at Tulsa Central, Creighton and Arkansas. When they put the 45-second clock in, we abandoned the spread offense and went to four corners because of the clock."

"I asked Hugh after the game, I said,

[Continued On Page 12]

Hahn Becomes 1st 'Cat To Win National Tennis Tournament

Recently the University of Kentucky tennis program was once again put into the national spotlight as Lady Kat Sonia Hahn captured the women's singles title at the Rolex National Indoor Collegiate Tennis Championships at Richmond, Va.

Hahn, who entered the tournament with an at-large bid, became the first player in Wildcat tennis history to win a national tournament.

In route to the championship she defeated Chris Gilles (Wisconsin), Cathy Hofer (Clemson), Karen Shin (California-Berkeley), SEC champion Jill Hetherington (Florida), and in the final Anne Groubeck of Texas, by the score of 3-6, 6-4, 6-4. The baseline struggle to the two unseeded players took nearly two hours.

The Rolex Tournament invited 32 of the top 50 players in the nation to participate. By winning the tournament Hahn nearly guarantees herself the nation's No. 1 ranking when they appear again March 3.

Groubeck took a 4-0 lead in the first set before Hahn got on track.

"The way she hits, she's so overpowering," Hahn said. "I think more in the first set, I was watching to see how hard she was hitting it, instead of concentrating on the ball. It's so easy to take your eye off the ball when someone hits it that hard."

She added, "In the second set I just bore down and tried to concentrate on hitting the ball and not watch Anne. It helped a lot."

Head coach Susan Rudd was overwhelmed with Sonia's outstanding play.

"It's incredible to say the least," said Rudd. "Ed (Schultz, assistant coach) and I knew Sonia could win the first two rounds just because she's playing so well at the present time. If anyone could come out of the pack to win it we knew Sonia could be the one. She's just that mentally tough not to let seedings, etc., bother her."

UK Gymnasts Turn In Best Performance Of The Season In Purina Cat Classic

Kentucky's 178.65 team score at the Purina Cat Classic in Columbia, Mo., on Feb. 13 was its best mark of the season. Fourth-ranked Arizona captured the classic with a 185.1 count. Penn State finished second.

It was the first time in the seven-year history of the event that the Lady Lions had not taken the team title.

Five Kentucky gymnasts advanced to the second day of individual competition. UK freshman Heather Kirk took first place in the balance beam with a 9.2. Lady Kat junior Robin Leggett earned a sixth place finish on vault with a 9.25. Leggett also established four personal bests for 1987.

Besides their team score, the Lady Kats also set team marks on the vault and floor exercise. Four of the six UK vaulters set 1987 personal bests. UK's 176.44 average after five meets is more than two points higher than last year's regional-qualifying team after five meets.

Kentucky took only six all-arounders to Columbia as senior Cindy Denker underwent orthoscopic knee surgery (Feb. 12) and junior Jocelyn Armstrong was battling a case of strep throat.



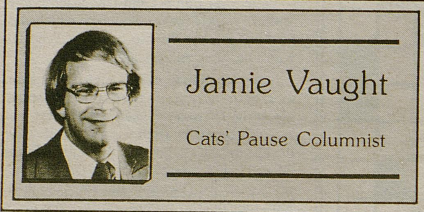
Smith Insists He's Staying At Auburn

Says Guard Play, Defense Causing Slide

On Valentine's Night in Knoxville, Tenn., Auburn hoop mentor Sonny Smith, probably the most popular coach in the SEC, was not in the best of humor.

His War Eagle squad had just lost to Tennessee 103-84, dropping its SEC mark to the .500 level (7-7 at the time). Smith saw Tennessee's explosive Tony White turn it loose, gunning in a school-record 51 points from his guard position. The coach also received a technical foul for arguing with an official.

So, as you can tell, it certainly wasn't a night to remember for Smith. Surely not like the night before—Friday the 13th—when



Jamie Vaught

Cats' Pause Columnist

Smith became a grandfather for the first time.

Anyhow, after the game, the 50-year-old Smith was courteous and granted a brief interview with this columnist. Smith, whose disappointing team was highly-ranked earlier in the season, discussed various topics.

Here's the taped interview:

The Cats' Pause: Who has been the most surprising player you have seen in the SEC this season?

Smith: The most surprising player? That's very difficult to answer. I would think Dyron Nix (Tennessee's sophomore forward who was leading the SEC in rebounding) has probably shown greatness. I didn't anticipate that this early but he's very good.

TCP: Have you changed your mind about the three-point field goal? Is the distance too short or just right?

Smith: No. I think it's too short and it needs to be moved back. I think it's made a shambles of the game. It's made it too easy. It is exciting for the fans but I think it will be moved back. There's too much opposition (among the coaches) to it.

TCP: Who are some of the Kentucky high school players you are recruiting?

Smith: We're not recruiting anybody in Kentucky right now. We've looked at two people up there, but I think they are too far ahead with other schools which are recruiting. We're doing most of our recruiting in Georgia, Alabama, Florida and Mississippi, and some other areas.

TCP: Are you planning to stay in coaching for awhile?

Smith: Well, I've never done anything else and I plan to (stay in coaching). . . You have to win to do that. We're not doing a real good job of that right now. But I think so, yes.

TCP: There was a published report that you are interested in a coaching position at East Carolina. Is that true? If so, why?

Smith: No, I haven't even been contacted by the East Carolina people. That's just. . . they picked me out as one of the people they liked to have coach their team. And to be honest with you, their athletic department has not even contacted me.

TCP: How's your wife Janice doing now after she had that serious stroke almost two years ago?

Smith: She's better and doing everything normal. She drives a car. She cooks and does everything. She's so much better. It's unbelievable.

TCP: Your team has been up and down lately. If you have any idea, what is the problem?

Smith: I think it's because of shaky point guard play. Because of losing one (Gerald White, the school's all-time assist leader) and having to play two that hadn't played as much. And one of those two has lost a little bit of his confidence. The other reason is that our inside defense is weak. But they are getting a little better.

TCP: I heard you became a grandfather.

Smith: Yes, I'm a grandfather as of last night at 11:45. It's a girl! (Smith was obviously pleased about that.)

Kentucky Not Only School To Lose Key Recruit

Meanwhile, in football circles, Tennessee coach Johnny Majors recently received a big blow when he lost the services of a hometown running back who was listed as the country's No. 1 prospect by the *Dallas Morning News*. Knoxville high school sensation Leroy Thompson, who is considered the best college prospect the state of Tennessee has produced in the last 10 years, picked national champion Penn State over Tennessee and Miami (Fla.).

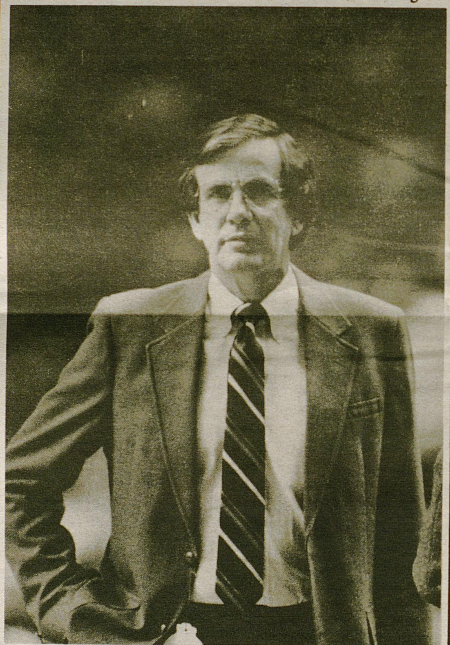
This past fall, Thompson ran for 1,980 yards in 217 attempts and scored 32 touchdowns for Knoxville Austin-East High en route to the Class 2A state championship.

Thompson's signing with the Nittany Lions marked the second straight year that Majors has lost the No. 1 prepster in the state. Last year the Vols lost linebacker Brent Collins to coach Vince Dooley and Georgia.

So, losing Thompson ended the Vols' recruiting campaign on a bittersweet note. But Tennessee did have an outstanding recruiting year, signing at least 28 quality players. Had Thompson inked with UT, it would have made Majors' recruiting crop one of the best in the nation.

A couple of hours before Thompson announced his decision, his high school coach, Sam Anderson, said the player wasn't really sure where he wanted to go.

"When I talked to him at 2:30, I sort of felt like he wanted to go to Penn State, but he felt like he would be going against what everybody else wanted him to do," Anderson told Steve Williams of the *Knoxville Journal*. "At that time, I told him, 'You've got to



Sonny Denies Rumor He's Going To ECU

live your life and nobody else can live it for you.' I said, 'I appreciate that you're doing that, but don't think I won't be supporting you if you decide to go to Penn State because I really don't see how I cannot support you the way you have been supportive of me.'

"I sort of felt like that maybe he was wavering at that time but I didn't want him to stay indecisive because the pressure was getting to him and I saw him change. I think it was best that he go ahead and make the decision today. I think the stress was getting to him and he wanted to go ahead and get it off his back."

Anderson admitted that he would have liked to have seen Thompson play for the Vols.

"But other than not being in Knoxville," he said, "what faults can you find in Penn State's football program. . . what could you say? They wear black shoes, they're dull, but they win and they're class all the way."

"When it really came down to Penn State and Tennessee, there was no loser. Leroy was in a situation where he couldn't lose. Either Tennessee would lose or Penn State would lose. But both of them would survive without him."

Quote of the week: Speaking to a crowd of more than 500 financial executives in Louisville, Notre Dame football coach **Lou Holtz** recently said:

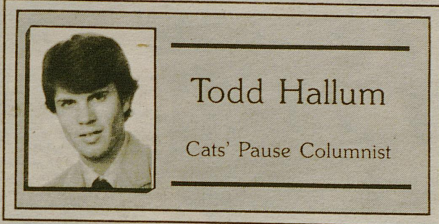
"When I was at Arkansas, we beat Oklahoma in the Orange Bowl and they made a commemorative stamp honoring Lou Holtz. Then the next year, we lost to Texas and they had to do away with the stamp because people kept spitting on the wrong side."

Hill Dreamed Of Playing Center For UK

But That Was Basketball, Not Football

When Jim Hill was growing up in the suburb of Clinton, Ohio, just outside of Akron, he envisioned himself playing for the University of Kentucky. But he always dreamed of playing for the basketball Wildcats, not the football team. In fact, coming out of high school, a lot of people were comparing Hill to Mike Phillips, the former UK pivotman who played at the same Manchester High School as Hill. However, instead of manning the middle for the basketball 'Cats, Hill is now trying to earn a starting spot at a different center position—on Jerry Claiborne's offensive line.

"I was 6-foot-4 in eighth grade and everybody thought that basket-



Todd Hallum

Cats' Pause Columnist

ball was going to be my sport," remembers Hill. "Everyone thought I was going to be the next Mike Phillips. But I never grew any more.

"When I went to UK's basketball camp, (former UK associate coach) Leonard Hamilton said he would keep an eye on me. Both years I was there (when he was in eighth and ninth grade) I won the best rebounder award for my division."

It wasn't until he began his freshman season at Manchester High that he realized that a major college football scholarship could be earned. As an all-district post player at the small 2A school, Hill did have offers to play basketball at some small colleges. But he thought he had a better future on the football field.

"I really didn't think I was good in football until all these letters started to pour in from bigger football schools," Hill said. "I then started to move with the flow and developed a love for football over time."

Was Four-Year, Three-Sport High School Star

During his high school career, Hill was a four-year, three-sport letterman in football, basketball and track. Although now an offensive center at Kentucky, Hill earned all-district honors his last two years as a tailback and defensive back. What college recruiters saw was an athlete with good height and deceptive quickness. Although he was recruited by Maryland, West Virginia and Vanderbilt, Hill decided on the Wildcat program because of former UK assistant John Devlin, and the friendly atmosphere of the Bluegrass state.

"There was no set thing that made me come to Kentucky," Hill said. "Coach Devlin was a big plus. (The UK coaching staff) seemed to be a lot fairer to me. The other schools were trying to paint a prettier picture than was actually there, UK never did that. I thought UK was an up and coming program. My gut reaction said this was the best place for me."

When he arrived to the UK camp three years ago, the Wildcat coaching staff projected Hill as a defensive tackle but then moved him to tight end. While he was used to playing a position off the line of scrimmage, Hill liked the idea of getting the opportunity to catch the football. But he soon found out that tight end might not be the position he was best suited for.

"At the time they were hurting for tight ends," he said. "They said my hands and speed weren't quite good enough. But I don't regret the move even though I would have had more fun at tight end."

Hill At Home In Middle Of Offensive Line

Granted, the move to tight end didn't work out, but the UK staff finally found the right position for Hill at center. The final move was made during last year's spring practice. Now with the graduation of Ken Lange and his backup Conrad Carney, the UK sophomore finds himself fighting for the wide-open spot as the starting center. Hill is battling three other inexperienced players, sophomores Brian Cralle and Gardner Sorrell, along with junior Mark Brock, for playing time.

"It's going to be real tight," Hill said. "Cralle by far is the strongest, but Brock and I have been here the longest. Plus, Gardner will be in the hunt. The position is up for grabs."

What makes the situation all the more interesting is that Hill and Brock are roommates. The two share a room at the Kirwan I complex on the UK campus, and their friendship has been tested because both play the same position.

"At first it looked like it might cause some problems," Hill said. "But we sat down and talked about it. We decided that we were

going to push each other and hope one of us gets the starting role. So, we're working like a team instead of fighting among ourselves."

The best way to describe the offensive line for the Wildcats is that it's shaped like a doughnut—there's talent and experience at the outside spots, the guards and the tackles, but a big hole in the middle, at center. Linemen such as Dermontti Dawson, Brad Myers, Mike Pfeifer, Butch Wilburn and Greg Kunkel all have the valuable game experience. On paper, it looks like the best one during the Jerry Claiborne regime, with all five now able to bench press over 400 pounds.

"It will definitely be a good one," Hill said of UK's offensive line. "We have a lot of players with experience and good strength."

Then he added, "But the center spot is obviously questionable."

Since the switch to center, Hill has had to make some major adjustments. Although he spent most of his football playing career as a tailback and safety, Hill has begun to face the reality of playing in the trenches.

"I have to get a lot stronger and get used to staying low coming off the ball," explained Hill, who is an in-law of UK athletic director Cliff Hagan. "I've always been a two-point (standing up) player—until I came here. You can't see everything down along the offensive line. It's a lot tougher playing in the trenches."

Hill Says Team Attitude Is Better Than In '86

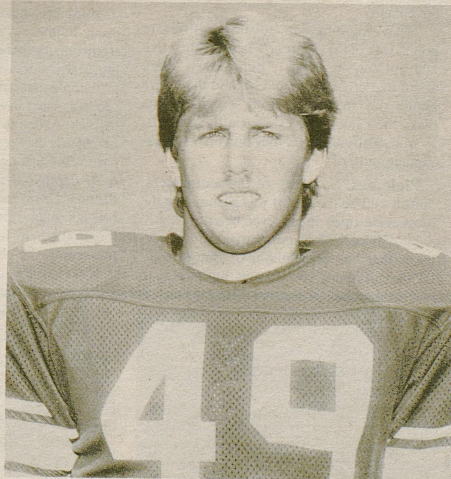
Nowadays, Hill, along with the rest of his UK teammates, are undergoing rigorous winter workouts directed by Wildcat strength coach Pat Etcheberry. With hopes of rectifying a disappointing 5-5-1 record from last year, Hill believes the overall attitude of the team during the workouts has been inspired because of a new idea Etcheberry came up with.

"This year 'Etch' has divided the team into four groups. Each group competes against each other and the group that wins gets the next Wednesday off," Hill said. "It's been a great idea for the team because everybody in each group is pulling for each other. The attitude during the workouts has been better than last year."

Consequently, as the winter workouts drag on in preparation for spring drills, Hill has also been intently concentrating on earning a marketing degree at UK. Currently he is ahead of schedule, and should receive his diploma with a semester to spare.

"If everything goes as planned I can graduate in three and half years," said the Wildcat sophomore. "Then I'm almost positive I want to get my masters in marketing. I enjoy marketing because it's more creative than say financing or accounting."

But like many college athletes who'll be seeking professional



UK Sophomore Center Jim Hill

careers in football, Hill realizes that the real world lies ahead after his eligibility is used up. After all, that's why student athletes are in college in the first place, to get a good education. As for Hill, he says he wants to be the best he can—both on and off the field.

"When I get out I realize the pro's won't be in the picture for me," Hill said. "So I'll be looking for a job. But the main thing is to feel I did the best I could while I was here."

"I definitely want to feel satisfied that I did the best that I could. Right now I have that feeling and that's what I want to feel when I graduate."

[Continued From Page 16]

missed a UK game was on New Year's Eve, 1968, when his wife would not let him miss a planned New Year's Eve party.

Fans watching the Wildcats also will have a chance to see the national champion cheerleading squad when the UK cheerleaders take the floor. The Wildcat squad captured the Ford College Cheerleading National Championship this past January in San Diego, Calif.

The win marks the second time in the last three years the UK squad has been crowned the best in college cheerleading.

More than 80 squads entered the competition conducted by the Universal Cheerleaders Association, with the six finalists invited to San Diego for the finals. Joining Kentucky were: second-place North Carolina State, third-place Texas, Temple, Cincinnati and Arkansas.

A quick check of the records shows that Kentucky has earned its place among college basketball's elites during the 1980s. In the seven seasons of the 80s (1979-80 through 1985-86), the Wildcats have finished in the final Associated Press Top 10 four times.

The only team that has appeared in the final Top 10 more times than Kentucky is North Carolina, with an amazing six appearances. Tying Kentucky with four appearances are Georgetown and DePaul.

Here are the teams which have appeared three-or-more times in the AP final Top 10: North Carolina (6), Kentucky (4), Georgetown (4), DePaul (4), Indiana (3), Louisville (3), Virginia (3), St. John's (3).

Of course, Kentucky will not appear in this season's final Top 10, while North Carolina, Georgetown, DePaul and Indiana will likely add to their totals.

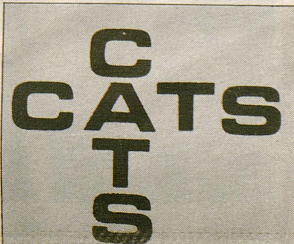
When the 'Cats play Auburn in The Omni Friday afternoon, it will mark the fourth time UK has played in that facility.

The Wildcats defeated Georgia, 95-69, in a regular season game during the 1978-79 season, then returned for the Southeast Regional, beating Alabama, 68-63, and losing to LSU, 59-57. That gives UK a 2-1 record at The Omni.

Kentucky has once again been an attractive team for the television networks. Only three of the Wildcats' 27 games this season were not on some type of television network.

When playing before the cameras of the Big Three (CBS, NBC or ABC), the Wildcats compiled a 4-2 record, defeating Louisville, Navy, Alabama and Oklahoma. The losses were both to LSU.

Kentucky has played Auburn eight times in the SEC Tournament and has won all eight games. Since the renewal of the event in 1979, the Wildcats have defeated the Tigers three times, including a 51-49 win in 1984 to capture the title.



Meet The Press

[Continued From Page 23]

"Where'd you get that?" He said. "Well, (former assistant) coach (Don) Beasley brought that back after he had seen Arkansas play a couple of times and we put it in."
"Mr. Iba I know would have been proud of the way it looked last night against us."

Offensive defense: That's offensive as in el stinko. Mr. Iba may have been proud of Georgia's offense, but he wouldn't have been too revved up with the Kentucky defense. The 'Cats allowed Georgia to get a ton of layoffs; and most of the Bulldogs points came on shots inside 15 feet.

"Any time you give up 16 layoffs out of 29 field goals, you're not gonna beat very many people," Sutton said. "And they also did a great job of isolating (Dennis) Williams, their fine guard."

"So the thing that has carried the ballclub, perhaps, in some games is the thing that beat us last night, and that was poor defense. We looked like a sieve out there, and that doesn't please me at all."

Vote for Wimp . . . I would: No, that's not Wimp Sanderson talking, and it's not even J.D. Rutledge, Alabama's associate sports information director who cast the deciding vote which gave Sanderson the edge over Sutton in last year's balloting for Coach of the Year honors in the conference. Believe it or not, it was Sutton that was drumming up support for Sanderson.

"I don't have a vote," Sutton said, "but if I were voting for Coach of the Year I would vote for Wimp Sanderson. I think he's done an outstanding job. Second, I think I'd vote for Hugh Durham. And third, Ed Murphy. I really believe those three guys have done the best job of coaching in the SEC this season. And that's not to slight Norm Sloan, because his team finished second."

"But the way a coach would evaluate who should be Coach of the Year, is to look at talent, and sometimes you have good talent like Alabama but sometimes you don't win. And Wimp has taken his ballclub all the way to the throne room."

Manpower shortage: Sutton said that all the injuries that plagued Kentucky in the early going are still taking their toll. Because the squad was down to seven scholarship players at one time, practice sessions weren't as competitive as they needed to be. As a result, the coach said the whole team has suffered, and Davender in particular.

"Ed has had a fine season, he's scored well, but defensively, I'm not sure he's playing quite as well right now (as he has in the past)," Sutton said. "And there's a reason for that. Ed and I talked the other day. Last year, Ed would have to cover Roger and Leroy (Byrd)

And Leroy really pushed him in practice. Well, this year, you know he's working against a couple of walk-ons. He's working against Derrick (Miller) and even Rex occasionally. And in our opinion, he's developed some bad defensive habits in that he tries to strip guards at times, which last year he was playing containment defense all the time. And the guards in this league are so good that you're not gonna strip very many of 'em, the ones that he has to cover. And when he does go for the gamble and it's not there and he doesn't make the play, it breaks our defense down."

But Davender isn't the only player who has been hurt by the situation. Sutton said that because Kentucky often had to work four-on-four in drills for the first two months of the season, the squad hasn't come together like it should have.

"I thought they would develop a little quicker and be a better basketball team at this stage of the season," Sutton said in reference to his club. "Going clear back to the fall, there's no doubt that we were hurt during that period when we were having to play four-on-four. At the time, I didn't think it would hurt us. When we were out there and had coach (Dwane) Casey suited up, I knew we were in trouble. And (team manager) Arch Jones and some of those people just to have five-on-five. Competition in practice, I think, makes you a better basketball team."

Homestate advantage?: One final note on Georgia. A writer from South Carolina asked Sutton if the thought playing the SEC tournament in Atlanta would help Durham's ballclub.

"I don't think they have a big advantage because every school was allowed the same number of tickets," Sutton said. "Of course there are gonna be a lot of local people that live in Atlanta that will support the Bulldogs. But we have a lot of alumni in the Atlanta area and so do the other institutions. So, from that standpoint I don't think they have an advantage."

"They might have an advantage if they're gonna stay in the dorm or wherever they live and not stay in a hotel. But I asked Hugh about that other night and he said they were gonna stay in Atlanta, they weren't gonna make their home base there on the campus, so from that standpoint they don't have an advantage either."

Pick 'em: Speaking of the tournament, Sutton said he thought it was going to be the most wide open it has ever been.

"It will be the best tournament, in my opinion (that has been played)," Sutton said. "This will be my second one, but talking to

the other coaches around the league, it's the most balanced you've ever seen it. Alabama—who won the round robin, and I do believe they're the best team and I've said that for a long time—might be upset by one of these other teams. Florida certainly could be upset. The thing that could keep Georgia perhaps from winning the tournament would

Good decision: When Oklahoma rolled into town last Sunday, one of their key players was forward Harvey Grant, the junior college transfer who had signed to play with Kentucky this season. When Grant ran into trouble with the law, Sutton and his staff got together and decided it would be best if Grant played his college basketball elsewhere. Grant



Before The Game, Eddie And Ed Have A Sideline Chat

be the fact that they're very thin off the bench and if they get any of their key players in foul trouble it does weaken their ballclub. And they're gonna have to win three games in a row against three quality opponents in order to get to the championship."

But despite his contention that the teams in third through ninth place are virtually even, Sutton says he still believes the two frontrunners—Alabama and Florida—have the best chance of winning the tourney.

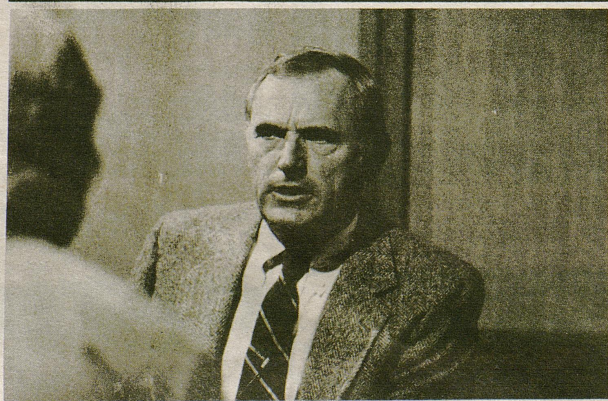
"People that have any kind of a bench will probably have an advantage. I would still have to pick Alabama because they're very experienced, they're well-coached and they play hard. But the one team that probably has more depth than anyone is the University of Florida. Norm has no reservations about putting his second five on the court and leaving them out there for several minutes. And if they get to the championship game, fatigue will always play a part in a game like that."

eventually wound up in Norman with the Sooners.

Sutton was asked if in light of all the problems with the 'Cats inside attack, if he wishes he had allowed Grant to play for UK.

"There's no doubt that Harvey Grant would have made an impact on our basketball team, and he certainly has at the University of Oklahoma," Sutton said. "At the time we felt like we made the right decision and I still feel like we made the right decision. Because I think it's most important, the image that is created by our student athletes here at the University of Kentucky, not that it's not important at Oklahoma. And that doesn't mean that Kentucky hasn't had problems in the past."

"There's no doubt that Harvey Grant would have made a lot of difference with this basketball team. But we feel like we made the right decision."



Wimp Sanderson



Hugh Durham

Back Thru The Wildcat Years

Four Years Ago

In an intense and well-played game, the Alabama-Crimson Tide eliminated the Kentucky Wildcats 64-59 in the second round of the SEC tournament. UK received a first-round bye for finishing atop of the SEC regular-season standings. Kentucky lost the game at the foul line, making only six of 15 shots, compared to the Tide's 23 of 36. UK held a 14-point lead with 4:52 to go in the first half, but turnovers and the failure to execute led to only one field goal for the remainder of the half. The Tide trailed by only six at the break. The second half resulted in an exchange of baskets until a couple of turnovers led to Bama baskets and a Bama lead at 57-55 with 11:08 remaining in the game. The Tide never trailed again. Jim Master led Kentucky with 20 points, Melvin Turpin grabbed 11 rebounds. The Tide advanced to the finals where they were defeated

by a hot Georgia team 86-71.

*The NCAA pairings were announced and Kentucky will play the winner of the Illinois State-Ohio University game at the Sun Dome in Tampa, Fla. The Wildcats drew a first-round bye and are seeded third in the region. A total of four SEC teams received bids. In addition to Kentucky, Georgia, Tennessee and Alabama were selected.

Five Years Ago

*The Wildcats defeated Auburn 89-66 and Ole Miss 62-58, but were beaten by Alabama 58-56 in the finals of the SEC tournament which was held in Lexington. Many thought it would be impossible to beat Kentucky on its own floor, but the Tide, behind Eddie Phillips, Mike Davis and Ennis Whatley showed that no one was invincible. The game was nip-and-tuck all the way with Alabama leading much of the way. The game went right down to the final seconds with the score tied

at 56. It was then that Whatley worked to the right side of the floor against Kentucky's Dicky Beal, who soon received help from Dirk Minniefield. With seven seconds remaining Whatley let loose of a short jumper. It came off the rim and was slapped around, but Whatley alertly retrieved the ball and let another shot fly. It was an air ball, but Phillips had position and gingerly put back a follow shot to give the Tide the win. Kentucky got the ball with three seconds left, but Melvin Turpin's bid to send the game into overtime came up short.

*The all-tournament team for the SEC included Carlos Clark of Mississippi, Dale Ellis of Tennessee, Eddie Phillips and Ennis Whatley of Alabama and Dirk Minniefield of Kentucky. Minniefield was named the tournament MVP.

*The pairings for the NCAA basketball tournament were announced. Kentucky was paired in the first round against Middle Tennessee State University of the Ohio Valley Conference. The winner of that game was scheduled to play Louisville in Memorial Gym in Nashville, Tenn.

Six Years Ago

*The NCAA tournament pairings were announced and Kentucky will play the winner of the Western Kentucky-Alabama Birmingham game in the Mideast Regional in Tuscaloosa, Ala.

*As Kentucky was able to hit only nine of 16 free throws, Vanderbilt converted 22 of 28 from the stripe and eliminated the Wildcats from the SEC tournament in Birmingham. The game featured what has to be one of the most dramatic turnarounds ever. Kentucky came out playing a tenacious man-to-man defense, with Sam Bowie patrolling the inside. Bowie blocked three early shots, Charles Hurt scored six straight points and Kentucky led 10-0. After that, however, it was all Vandy as the Commodores tied the score at 27 at halftime and went on to win the game 60-55. Hurt and Bowie shared Kentucky scoring honors with 12 points apiece.

*Ole Miss won the SEC tournament, the first time ever for the Oxford, Miss., school. The Rebels defeated Georgia in the finals 66-62 and earned the conference's automatic bid to the NCAA tournament.

Seven Years Ago

*Some costly Kentucky turnovers in the final minutes, and 19 Wildcat miscues for the game, allowed LSU to defeat UK 80-78 in Birmingham in the finals of the SEC tournament. The 'Cats had defeated the Tigers just one week earlier for the regular-season league championship. LSU led by three at the half, but UK came back to take the lead. Then the 'Cats made crucial turnovers in the final two minutes when the teams were virtually trading baskets. DeWayne Scales was spectacular for LSU, hitting 13 of 19 shots and scoring 26 points, many of them coming down the stretch. Sam Bowie and Kyle Macy had great nights for UK. Macy fought back from an illness which had hampered him earlier in the tourney to hit seven straight second-half shots, and nine of 12 for the game, for 20 points. Bowie made nine of 13 field goal attempts while claiming 12 rebounds. Dirk Minniefield scored 12 points.

*Despite 29 points from forward John Stroud, UK was able to down Ole Miss 70-67 and advance to the SEC tournament finals. Ole Miss led by six points six minutes into the second half, and trailed by just one with 2:18 left in the game. Chuck Verderber, Dirk Minniefield and an ailing Kyle Macy all hit clutch free throws in the late stages to

preserve the Kentucky win. Freshman Sam Bowie led UK with a career-high 27 points. Minniefield added 10.

*Led by Sam Bowie, who played the second half with a bandage on his leg as a result of a first-half injury, UK defeated Auburn 69-61 in the first round of the SEC tournament. The 'Cats took the lead at 6-4 and never trailed, although they could never blow the Tigers out. Bowie scored 19 points and had 10 boards. Fred Cowan scored 11 points for Kentucky and Kyle Macy pitched in with 10.

Nine Years Ago

*The slam dunking seniors played their last game at Rupp Arena as the 'Cats ripped Nevada-Las Vegas 92-70. In front of the largest crowd ever at Rupp, some 23,698, the four UK seniors—Jack Givens, James Lee, Mike Phillips and Rick Robey—said their farewells to the hometown crowd in Lexington before a national television audience. Robey played one of the best games of his career, hitting on 10 of 13 from the field and six of seven from the charity stripe to lead Kentucky with 26 points. Givens turned in another velvet-smooth performance with 24 points, while Lee added 13. Phillips had seven points.

*Kentucky's second all-time leading scorer, Jack Givens, and teammate Rick Robey were named to the Associated Press three-team All-America squad. Givens was on the second team and Robey was named to the third five. Givens was also named to the United States Basketball Writers' All-American team which consists of 15 players.

*United Press International named Jack Givens, Rick Robey and Kyle Macy to its All-American squad. Givens and Robey were selected to the second team, and Macy, who is just a sophomore, was named to the third team.

Fourteen Years Ago

*UK broke into the Associated Press Top Twenty for the first time since the season began. The 'Cats were able to earn a 19th place tie with San Francisco.

*By whipping Tennessee 86-81 in Lexington to close out their SEC schedule, the Kentucky Wildcats clinched the league championship in coach Joe B. Hall's first year at the helm. The game was tied 17 times, 10 time in a first half which saw Kentucky mount a 46-43 advantage. After the 'Cats forged a 71-67 lead on a Jimmy Dan Conner 23-footer, Tennessee could come no closer than two points the rest of the way. Kentucky led by as many as eight in the last three minutes of the contest. Kevin Grevey once again led UK, scoring 28 points. Conner had 23 points and 10 rebounds. Jim Andrews scored 17 points and grabbed 13 rebounds. The win gave UK a 14-4 SEC slate and a 19-7 mark overall.

*By winning the SEC crown, the Kentucky Wildcats earned a berth in the NCAA tournament. They drew a bye in the first round and were scheduled to play Austin Peay after the OVC team defeated Jacksonville 77-75 in the first round. The game was scheduled to be played in Nashville, Tenn.

Thirty Two Years Ago

*UK captain Billy Evans will not be eligible for the NCAA tournament. NCAA rules state a player can take as long as he wants to graduate and still be eligible. Evans, a five-year student with a straight A average, holds a college degree. He is only in his third year of basketball, but went along with the regular course of study rather than spread his classes out.

Wildcat Quiz

1. True or False? Since the renewal of the SEC tournament in 1979, Kentucky is the only team to win back-to-back titles.

2. Kentucky has the most victories in the history of the tourney. What team is second?
a) LSU
b) Tennessee
c) Alabama
d) Vanderbilt

3. What team holds the record for the most points scored in a single tourney game?
a) Alabama
b) Kentucky
c) Georgia
d) Auburn

4. What former UK player set the tournament mark for most free throws attempted?
a) Alex Groza
b) Kenny Walker
c) Cliff Hagan
d) Sam Bowie

5. True or False? Kentucky has never been seeded lower than sixth for any SEC tournament.

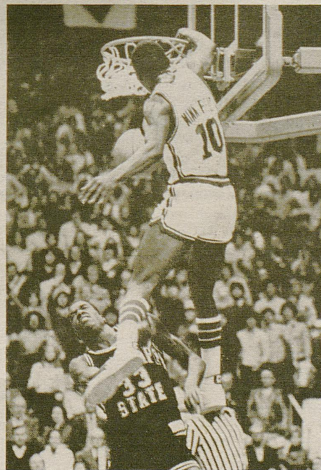
6. Who was the MVP of the 1982 tourney?
a) Dirk Minniefield
b) Dominique Wilkins
c) Ennis Whatley
d) Carlos Clark

7. Who was the only Wildcat represented on last year's all-tournament team?
a) Kenny Walker
b) Winston Bennett
c) Roger Harden
d) James Blackmon

8. What player was the leading scorer (total points) in last year's tournament?
a) Buck Johnson
b) Roger Harden
c) John Williams
d) Chauncey Robinson

9. Who was the MVP of the 1986 tournament in Rupp Arena?
a) Roger Harden
b) John Williams
c) Terry Coner
d) Kenny Walker

10. True or False? Florida's only tournament title came in the 1965-66 season.

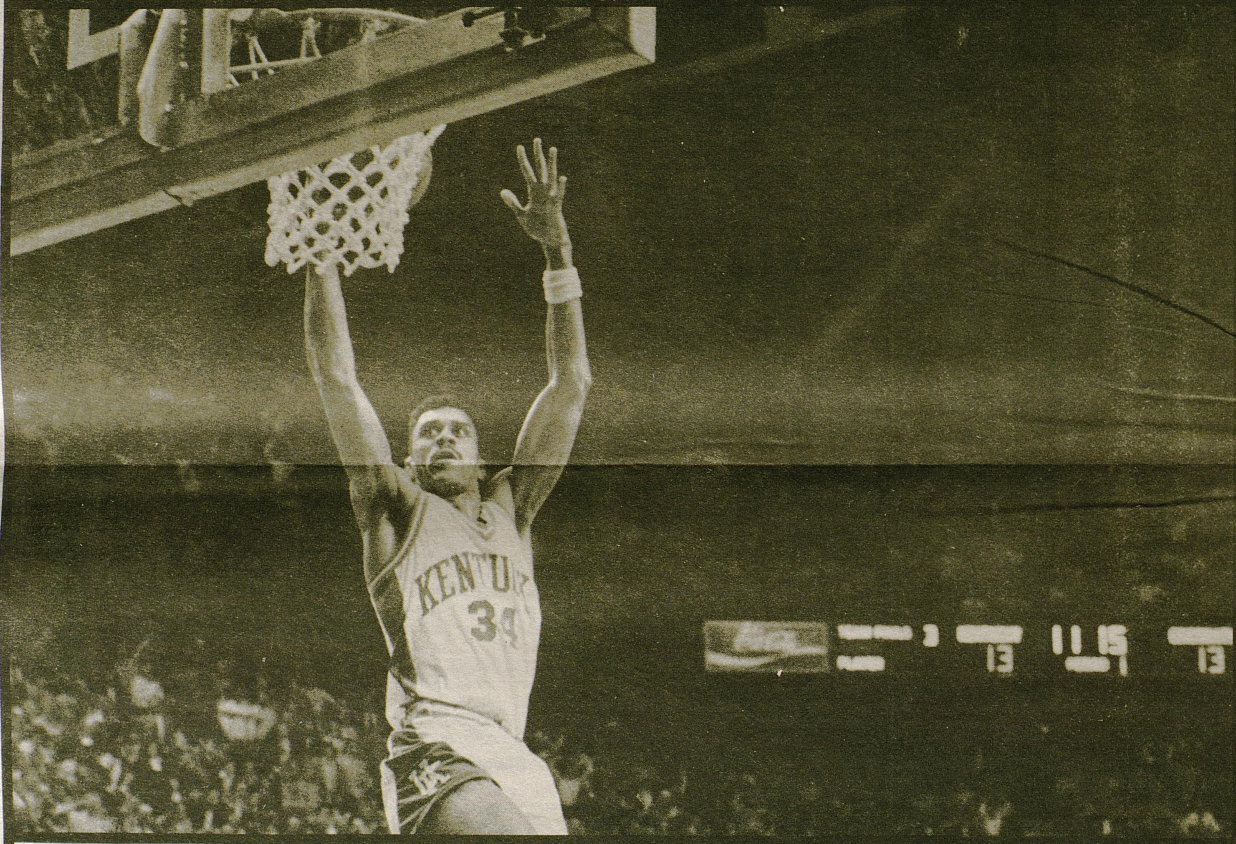


Dirk Minniefield

Answers

1. False. (No team has won two consecutive titles)
2. Tennessee. (42 tourney wins)
3. Kentucky. (101 pts. vs. Alabama in '79)
4. Cliff Hagan. (56 free throw attempts)
5. True
6. Dirk Minniefield
7. Roger Harden
8. Chauncey Robinson. (64 pts.)
9. John Williams
10. False. (Florida has never won the tournament)

For The Wildcat Fan Who Never Gets Enough Of The Big Blue. . .



Here's Something New!

Introducing **Oscar Combs' Big Blue Basketball**, an exciting new monthly magazine devoted entirely to covering University of Kentucky basketball.

If you like to follow the Big Blue on the court, you won't want to miss any of our 10 full-color issues which are published monthly except for combined issues for May-June and July-August.

Be the first in your neighborhood to subscribe to this unique monthly magazine that gives you an unparalleled look at University of Kentucky basketball.

Go Big Blue!

YES, I want to start my subscription to Oscar Combs' Big Blue Basketball. I have enclosed \$20 per order for 10 full-color magazines.

Amt. enclosed _____ for _____ subscriptions

*Overseas residents add \$5.00.

*Kentucky residents add \$1.00 for state sales tax.

PLEASE PRINT

Name _____

Street _____

City _____ State _____ Zip _____

Make check payable to:

Oscar Combs' Big Blue Basketball
P.O. Box 21809
Lexington, Ky. 40522

GIFT FROM

Name _____

Street _____

City _____ State _____ Zip _____

GIFT TO

Name _____

Street _____

City _____ State _____ Zip _____