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Cats Travel To Charlotte For NAAs



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The Cats' Pause

"SPOTLIGHTING UNIVERSITY OF KENTUCKY AND SOUTHEASTERN CONFERENCE"

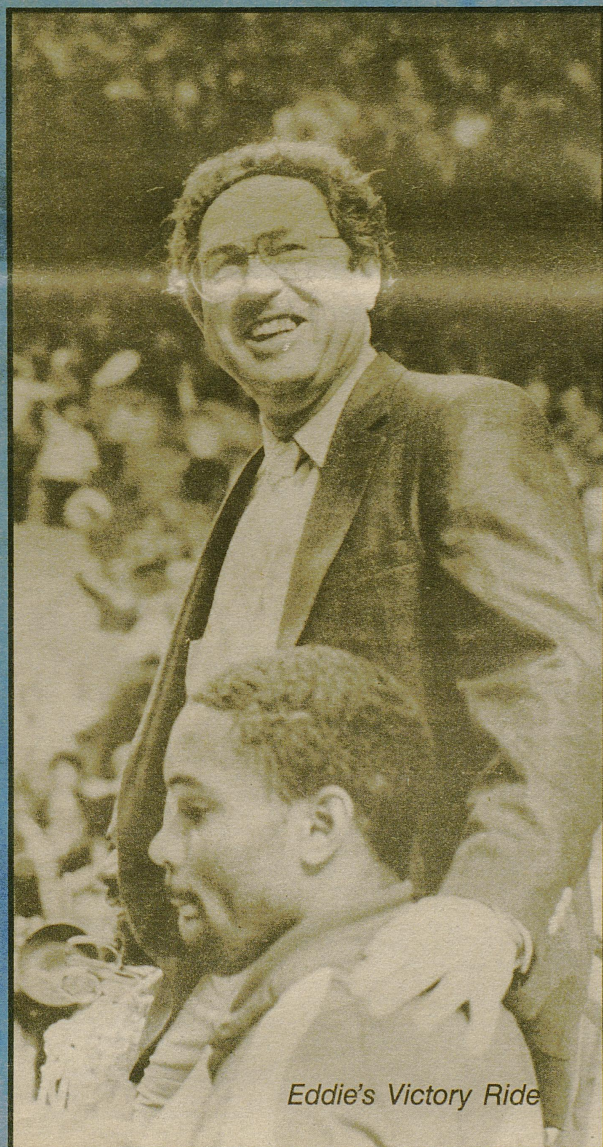


VOLUME 10 - NUMBER 27

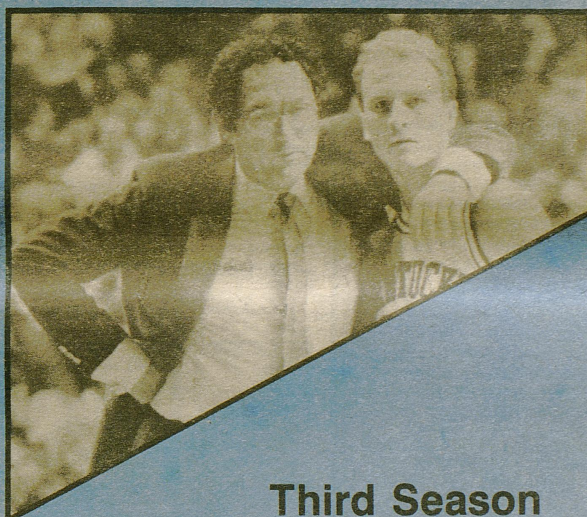
SATURDAY, MARCH 15, 1986

LEXINGTON, KENTUCKY

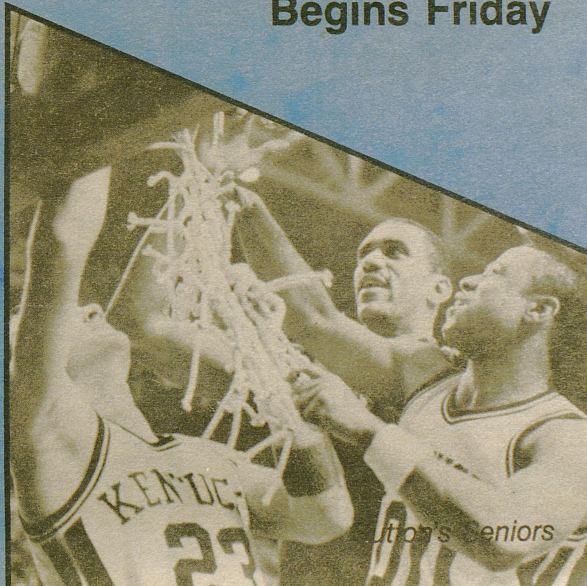
Hamilton Named Head Coach At Oklahoma State



Eddie's Victory Ride



Third Season
Begins Friday



It's Seniors

THE CATS' PAUSE



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

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Published Weekly: Sept. 14-April 12

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

Leonard Hamilton Named Head Coach At Oklahoma State

The Cats' Pause learned at presstime that UK assistant coach Leonard Hamilton has been selected as the new head coach at Oklahoma State University.

TCP learned that a press conference would be called for Wednesday to make the official announcement and introduce Hamilton to the news media in Oklahoma.

He will replace Paul Hansen whose contract was not renewed. That announcement came during the past season. Oklahoma State finished the season with a mark of 15-13, but upset arch-rival Oklahoma in the regular season finale at Stillwater.

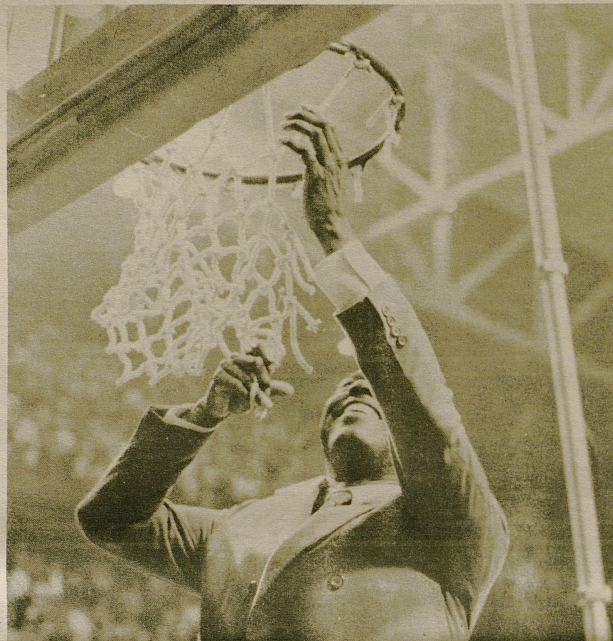
Hamilton has been an assistant coach at the University of Kentucky since 1974 when he joined Joe B. Hall's staff. Three years ago, he was elevated to the title of associate head coach at Kentucky.

Hamilton came to Kentucky from Austin Peay State College in Tennessee where he was an assistant under head coach Lake Kelly.

He has generally been regarded as one of the nation's top recruiters and frequently listed among the top five assistant coaches in the USA.

A native of Gastonia, North Carolina, Hamilton has been responsible for recruiting several Kentucky stars, including All-Americans Sam Bowie, Melvin Turpin and Kenny Walker among others over the past decade.

More details will appear in next week's edition of The Cats' Pause.



Leonard Hamilton

----- Player Season/Career Highs -----
UNIVERSITY OF KENTUCKY WILDCATS

	FG	FGA	FT	FTA	Reb	Ast	To	Blk	Stl	Dnk	Pts
WALKER, KENNY											
SH	12	21	16	18	14	5	5	4	3	1	33
CH	14	25	16	20	19	5	7	4	5	1	36
BENNETT, WINSTON											
SH	10	18	14	16	14	4	7	2	4	-	26
CH	10	18	14	16	14	4	7	2	7	-	26
BLACKMON, JAMES											
SH	11	16	5	8	7	6	4	1	6	1	22
CH	11	16	6	8	7	6	5	1	6	1	22
DAVENDER, ED											
SH	8	14	7	11	7	8	6	2	5	-	22
CH	9	15	9	11	7	8	6	2	5	-	27
HARDEN, ROGER											
SH	8	13	4	4	5	11	6	1	3	-	18
CH	8	13	5	6	5	12	8	1	5	-	18
JENKINS, CEDRIC											
SH	5	10	3	4	7	2	2	1	1	1	13
CH	5	10	3	4	7	2	2	2	1	1	13
MADISON, RICHARD											
SH	5	8	5	7	7	4	4	2	1	-	13
CH	7	12	6	7	8	4	4	2	1	-	16
LOCK, ROBERT											
SH	4	8	4	6	5	1	4	2	2	-	12
CH	4	8	4	6	6	1	4	2	2	-	12
ZIEGLER, TODD											
SH	4	8	2	3	3	1	2	1	1	-	8
CH	4	8	2	3	3	1	2	1	1	-	8
THOMAS, IRVING											
SH	2	3	3	6	3	2	3	2	1	-	7
CH	2	3	3	6	3	2	3	2	1	-	7
BYRD, LEROY											
SH	3	3	2	3	2	3	2	-	3	-	6
CH	3	3	2	3	2	3	2	-	3	-	6
ANDREWS, PAUL											
SH	3	6	2	2	4	3	3	-	1	-	6
CH	4	6	2	2	4	3	3	-	1	-	8



Oscar L. Combs

Cats' Pause Publisher



UK - A Cat With Nine Lives

Hey, Eddie! Stop this merry-go-round and let me off. Can't stand any more of this excitement.

Enough is enough!

Sure, it's fun, but a man could have the big one if he's not careful. Following this Kentucky team is like hitting the state fair midway every day for ten straight nights.

A man can take only so much tension and excitement. It's one thing to conquer the likes of Louisville and Indiana. Then you gave us those heart-stopping victories over LSU, Alabama and Tennessee on the road.

And then there was a teary-eyed senior farewell at Rupp Arena a couple weeks ago when the LSU Tigers fell victim.

Yeah, I was a little choked up, but I believe I spotted some blurry eyes behind those glasses you wear. Tough stuff, wasn't it? Ole Happy has a way of making you feel that way with his version of *My Old Kentucky Home*.

Eddie, I didn't have trouble with any of the LSU win. We've come to expect a win in that game, Kentucky has won its final regular season home game for the past twenty years. You've kept that tradition perfectly intact.

But Eddie, we had no idea you were going to keep us on the edge of our seats in the SEC Tournament. Quite frankly, no one would have complained if Kentucky had lost to either LSU or Alabama.

Kentucky has enjoyed a very good season. Super, to be more precise. And well, if you don't win a "National Coach of the Year" honor, we'll present our own. You deserve it. No ifs, buts or other excuses. You deserve the honor.

But this winning thing, well it's getting contagious. Why, some folks are beginning to expect a victory every time you step on the floor. And there are a few people who are beginning to believe that cocky little floor general you got.

People no longer are poking fun at Roger (loud and clear) Harden. Oh, everyone just laughed and joked about his prediction of making it to the Final Four. But that was back in October. And November. And December. And January. And February.

But now it's March and somehow you and your Wildcats have fashioned an impossible 29-3 record. You've won every way possible. You've won from start to finish, you've won by coming from behind. You've won at home, on the road and at neutral sites.

It's been done with the brilliance of All-American Kenny Walker, All-SEC performers Winston Bennett and Roger Harden. And it's been accomplished by the likes of reserves like Robert Lock and Cedric Jenkins.

Why, your record against LSU, Alabama, Tennessee, Louisville and Indiana is an incredible 10-0. Unheard of, man!

Now it's on to the NCAA at Charlotte.

Tempted to say luck will run out in ACC Country, that the end of the line will pop up somewhere between Charlotte and Atlanta.

It could happen, but it probably won't.

The toughest assignment will be keeping the Cats sharp for those early games in which Kentucky will be a sizeable favorite. Davidson is not a bad team or it wouldn't be in the NCAA.

But this Kentucky team has destiny written all over it.

Eddie, believe it or not, those Final Four predictions don't sound so crazy these days, even if you should have to beat Alabama a fourth time.

Kentucky's first round opponent Friday at Charlotte will be Davidson of the Southern Conference.

Tip-off for the game will be 9:38 p.m. Friday which will be the last of four first-round games at Greensboro Coliseum. The game will be carried by NCAA Productions which includes stations in both Lexington and Louisville (check local television listings for station list).

Other first round games that day at Charlotte will have Western taking on Nebraska, Alabama meeting Xavier of Ohio and Illinois playing Fairfield.

Davidson won its NCAA bid by winning the Southern Conference Tournament a week earlier in Asheville by defeating VMI 71-62, East Tennessee 74-65 and Tennessee-Chattanooga 42-40.

Davidson entered this year as a preseason favorite because it returned all five starters from the previous year.

Greensboro will be a definite homecourt advantage for Davidson since the school lists the Greensboro Coliseum as one of its two home playing facilities.

Davidson compiled a record of 20-10, but lost at Duke (69-52) and lost at home to South Carolina (63-49).

In last Friday's edition of *USA Today*, six of the national television sports personalities predicted how the NCAA field would shape up.

Guess who came closest to be accurate? If you say CBS' Brent Musburger, then you're right on target.

Musburger had 12 of 16 teams in the right regions while Dick Enberg of NBC-TV and Billy Packer of CBS had 11 correct predictions. ESPN's Dick Vitale had nine right while NBC's Bucky Waters had only four right.

Only one broadcaster had a perfect region and that was Packer who predicted correctly that Kentucky, Georgia Tech, Memphis State and Illinois would be the top four seeds, in that order, in the Southeast Region. Packer came close on the West, naming North Carolina, St. John's, Oklahoma and UNLV. Oklahoma didn't make it to the West and the correct four in order in the West are St. John's, Louisville, North Carolina and UNLV.

Overall, Enberg was most consistently accurate. He correctly picked three of the top four choices in three of the four regions. He had Duke, Syracuse, Memphis State and Indiana in the East; Kentucky, Georgia Tech, Louisville and Michigan State in the Southeast; Kansas, Michigan, Georgetown and Bradley in the Midwest and North Carolina, St. John's, UNLV and Notre Dame

in the West.

Waters had a perfect regional, but in the wrong region. Bucky predicted that Georgia Tech, Kentucky, Memphis State and Illinois all would be in the same region—the West. They are, but in the Southeast.

Everyone predicted that Duke, Kansas and North Carolina would be automatic No. 1 seeds. Only Duke and Kansas were. Carolina turned out to be a No. 3 seed after slumping near the season's end.

Kentucky was a No. 1 seed in the minds of everyone except Al McGuire and Waters. McGuire had UK No. 2 behind Georgia Tech in the Southeast while Waters predicted that Kentucky would be No. 2 behind Georgia Tech in the West.

Notre Dame was a Top Four regional seed by Enberg, McGuire, Musburger, Packer, Vitale, and Waters. When the NCAA selection committee concluded its work, the Irish was right on target, No. 3 in the Midwest region.

Louisville was the biggest surprise to the broadcasters. The Cards, on a rage in recent weeks and thumped Memphis State for the second time in a week, soared to the top in the seedings, taking the No. 2 spot in the West regional behind St. John's. Only Vitale and Musburger put Denny Crum's Cards that high prior to the Memphis State blowout Sunday.

Kansas, the class of the Midwest, was the only perfect prediction for all the broadcasters. Larry Brown's Jayhawks were the unanimous choice to be seeded No. 1 in the Midwest. And they were.

The biggest overall surprise, from start to finish this season, had to be Kentucky's No. 1 seed in the Southeast. At least five schools—Georgia Tech, Louisville, Memphis State, LSU, and Auburn figured to have a better shot at the top spot in preseason polls. Kentucky waded through its campaign with a nifty 29-3 mark and left the selection committee with little choice but to seed the Cats No. 1.

RECRUITING UPDATE. . . Superscout **Bill Cronauer** says his top Kentucky prep sleeper is Louisville Ballard's **Lionel Bacon** and that his *Mr. Unknown* is Owensboro's **Marcus Robinson**, a 6-2 senior. . . Cronauer also predicts *big-time* status for Louisville Seneca 6-4 sophomore **Junior Graves**, son of legendary ex-Central High coach Bob Graves. "Has fine lateral quicks, plays very hard, always active. . . his picturesque jump shot is devastating off the wing. . . still needs strength, but this soph is a sizzler," said Cronauer. . . Bill has this to say about 6-2 junior **Steve Schureman** of Clark County, "reminds us of a young Jeff Lamp, though that's a mouthful. . . went generally unnoticed at King of the Bluegrass, but we're excited (we hear Purdue is, too). . . fulltime pointman who'll grow to 6-4. . . real confidence with ball, has passing knack as very unselfish QB. . . good jumpshot."

Spotted in the crowds at Rupp Arena were several members of the 1975 NCAA runners-up, including former All-American **Kevin Grevey**, **Steve Lochmueller**, **Jimmy Dan Conner**, **Jack Givens** and **James Lee** among others. . . Comedian **Jerry Clower** of country music fame, was there for the entire tournament, along with his long-time minister, Rev. Jim Yates of Yazoo, Mississippi. Both Jerry and his preacher enjoyed a pretty good time. Clower, an ex-Mississippi State football player, enjoyed a pair of State upsets while his preacher, an avid Kentucky fan, witnessed the Cats' second tournament title in the past three years. . . Los Angeles Lakers general manager **Jerry West** took in part of the tournament.

He is a close friend of **Sonny Smith** and visited with Sonny and his wife during their stay in Lexington. Mrs. Smith, who missed Sonny's unbelievable SEC tourney comeback last season while recuperating from an illness, has made an unbelievable comeback of her own and appears to be doing extremely well. . . Also making the rounds and renewing old friendships was former Tennessee head coach **Ray Mears** who managed to recall a few of his old confrontations with the late **Adolph Rupp**. Said Mears, "there's no question in my mind that Bernard King was the greatest player to every play in the SEC." That's enough to start off World War III, not to mention what it did to poor ole Ray back in the seventies. Ray has an arguable point, but I wonder if he really believes it was all worth the trouble.

The Atlantic Coast Conference and the Big Ten were the conference winners once again, but I can't understand why the NCAA left three of four SEC teams in the same region when it appeared to divide other conference teams more evenly in different regions.

Kentucky, LSU and Alabama were all left in the Southeast. UK had to be the No. 1 seed either in the Southeast or the West. No problem there. And you could understand the logic of allowing LSU to stay at home in the first round.

But why keep Alabama there? For a possible fourth match with UK, even before the regional finals? Usually, the NCAA doesn't allow a conference champion to face a conference foe before the regional finals. One has to wonder why, especially after playing a cross-state school (Western) a game earlier.

Meanwhile, the committee did a great job of providing the ACC with an opportunity of sending conference teams to the Final Four from all four regions. Two each went West and East with one each to the Midwest and Southeast.

The Big 10 has three in the Midwest, two in the Southeast and one in the East.

Now for the real tearjerkers!

How about Texas, Texas A & M and TCU for starters. Those three tied for the Southwest Conference title. Along comes Texas Tech and wins the conference tourney with a 17-13 record and the automatic bid.

[Continued On Page 38]

Visitors making the SEC tourney last week.

Beat Bama For 3rd Straight Time

UK Bench, Harden Help Give 'Cats SEC Title

Kentucky's Eddie Sutton says his bench only plays well when the moon's full. Could it be that the moon, while not only being at a full stage, was also BLUE on the day of the SEC championship?

Could it be that it was his bench and not the moon that forced this certain red tide adrift?

Sutton's trio of sophomore reserves — Cedric Jenkins, Richard Madison and Robert Lock — teamed up with Wildcat starters to help subdue the Alabama Crimson Tide 83-72 to capture the SEC Tournament Championship.

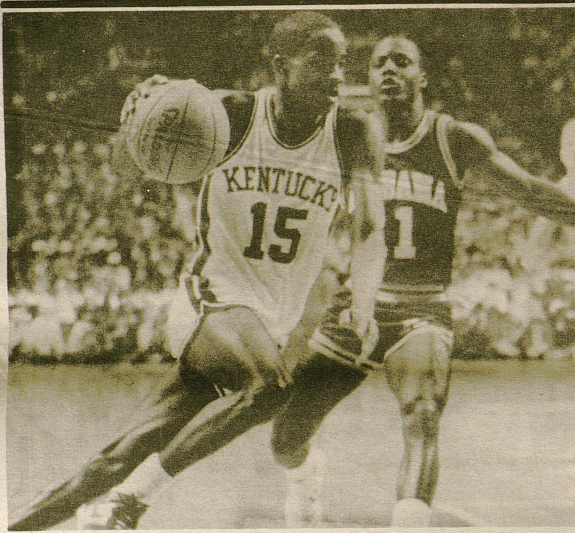
The three players combined for 23 points in 51 minutes of quality time.

However, starters Kenny Walker and Roger Harden netted 20 and 18 points, respectively, to power the Wildcats' attack.

Harden, who scored a career-high 18 points and dished out seven assists on this afternoon, was UK's only selection to the five-man all-tournament team.

Derrick McKey paced Alabama with 20 points and nine rebounds.

Walker's 12 of 12 accuracy from the charity stripe in the second half also dealt a damaging blow to the Tide's cause.



OFFICIAL SOUTHEASTERN CONFERENCE BASKETBALL BOX SCORE									
SEC TOURNAMENT CHAMPIONSHIP									
Date 3-8-86 Site Rupp Arena—Lexington, Ky Attendance 21,700									
No.	Alabama	FG	FGA	FT	FTA	O	D	T	PF
21	Farnes, J.	3	10	2	2	1	5	6	13
32	Johnson, B.	3	6	6	1	3	4	5	12
31	McKey, D.	6	11	8	9	5	4	9	4
23	Gottfried, M.	2	6	0	0	1	3	4	2
30	Coner, T.	2	5	2	9	0	2	2	5
11	Jackson, J.	4	7	1	2	0	2	2	5
24	Dudley, C.	1	3	0	0	0	0	0	2
45	Ansel, M.	3	3	5	6	1	2	3	4
TEAM REBOUNDS (Included in Totals)									
TOTALS		24	51	24	34	14	21	32	28
PERCENTAGES: 1st Half FG .471 FT .706 2nd Half FG .560 FT .833									
Technical Fouls: Kentucky, Bench									

In going down to defeat Alabama was hurt when:

* star performer Buck Johnson was plagued by foul trouble. Bama's 6-8 forward, who was held to 12 points in only 19 minutes of action, picked up his fifth foul with 5:36 remaining.

* and, with the team's miserable 38.5 percent performance from the field Alabama dug itself a hole it could never climb out of.

Sparked because of a technical foul Kentucky, meanwhile, took the reins and came back from a nine-point deficit in the first half.

UK Trilled at halftime for the second straight game. The Wildcats, though, outscored Wimp Sanderson's ballclub 43-29 in the final 20 minutes to preserve the title.

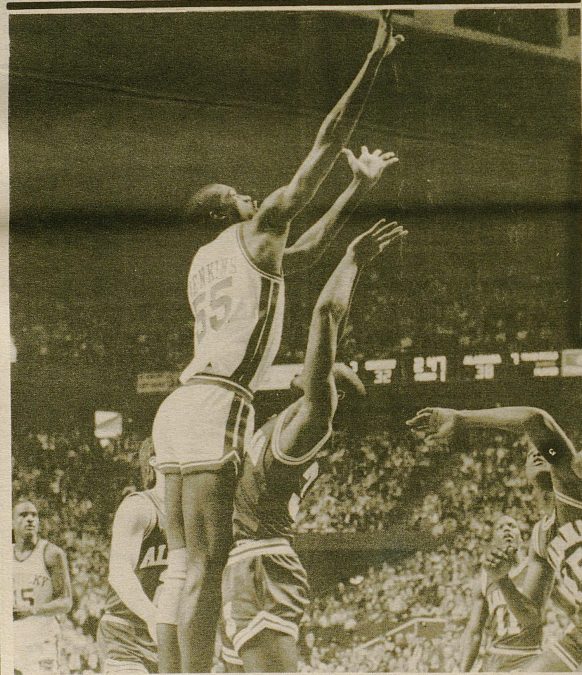
Kentucky owns a handsome 29-3 record while Alabama drops to 22-8.

"We got some valuable help off the bench," said winning coach Eddie Sutton. "That's one thing that has made this team special. It seems that somebody always steps forward when we need it. Sometimes a starter who doesn't score much will do it, and sometimes it's somebody off the wood."

Kentucky Gave It That Ole College Try

Playing 15 hours after beating a stingy LSU squad, Kentucky somehow took control of the Crimson Tide in the second half.

Early in the second period UK was in foul trouble of its own while staying within one point (42-43). Winston Bennett, who scored a team-high 15 points the night before, picked up his fourth foul with 17:06 remaining. On came the quiet but cool Jenkins.



Jenkins Nets Career High 13 Points

The Wildcats grabbed the lead for good when Harden pin-pointed a long distance assist to a runaway Walker. He then crammed it home lifting the Cats by one, 44-43. Sutton's crew continued its second half shutout while producing on the offensive end.

Posting up in the paint Jenkins took a pass from Ed Davender and canned a six-foot turnaround giving the Wildcats their biggest lead to date.

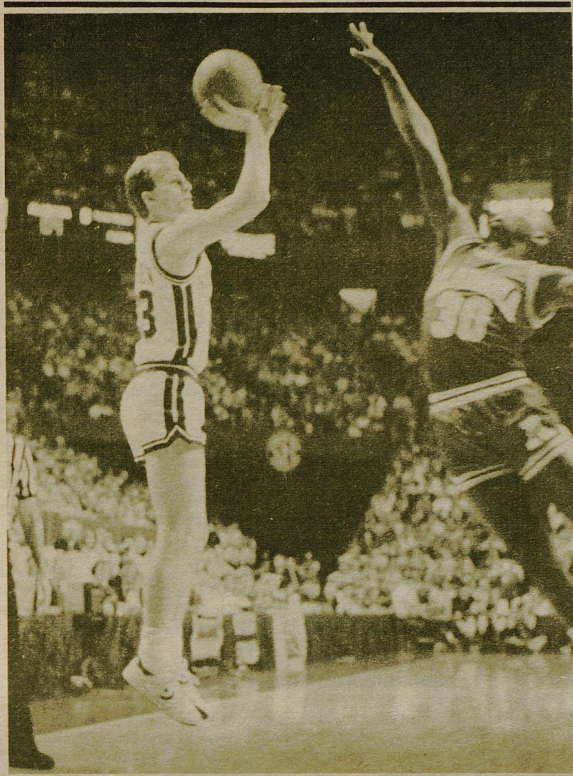
"Cedric Jenkins did a whale of a job during that stretch," said Walker of his teammate and friend. "He gave us a big boost with his jump-hook and some putbacks."

"Our big men have given us a little more depth. We have confidence in the job that they can do, and we know they can perform when they come into the game. Jenkins, Madison and Lock will be important factors as we continue play in giving us the depth for the tournament."

Jenkins 13 tallies was a career high for Dawson, Ga., product.

Still failing to score with more than four minutes expired from the second half clock, Alabama was whistled for a walking call at the 15:51 mark. (UA's first point came with 15:05 left when Terry Coner hit a free throw.)

Again, it was Jenkins positioning himself underneath. Guarding the sophomore Johnson picked up his fourth foul with 15:24 left. After taking a seat on the bench, the All-SEC performer didn't return until the 7:25 mark. When he checked back into the lineup UK led 59-53.



Bombing Away Was UK's Harden

His stay, though, was short-lived as he fouled out two minutes later. "When Buck got into foul trouble, we had to make some makeshift substitutions," said Sanderson, "and we didn't have the depth to stay in there." Both Johnson and McKey were named to the all-tournament team selected by the media in attendance.

Midway through the half 18-footers by Harden and James Blackmon and two layups by Jenkins curtailed field goals by Coner, Mark Ansley and a nifty alley-oop dunk by Derrick McKey. Kentucky was building momentum as it led 55-50 with more than 11 minutes to play.

It was the Master-Blaster's turn to go to war.

With UK ahead by six Madison outthrust McKey for a loose ball as he dove to the floor and flicked it back to one of his teammates. Madison then sank a 10-foot jumper from the baseline pushing the lead to eight with less than seven minutes to play.

On the afternoon Madison contributed eight points.

Like the caliber of player he is Kenny Walker put the game out of the Tide's reach. His 12 free throws in the final three minutes ended any hopes of an Alabama victory.

Sutton's T Helps Stir UK First Half Surge

It took awhile to take effect but Sutton's technical after a non-call and an out-of-bounds ruling may have added some incentive to his players.

With UK trailing 10-9, Walker went to the floor hard after having his shot altered. The result: no call and a Bama fast-break.

Alabama lost control of the ball as it trickled out of bounds. The call: UA's retained position.

By this time Sutton had stripped off his coat and was furiously waving his arms at the officials.

"I didn't say anything personal," Sutton claimed afterwards. "I just said something like, 'Did you guys get up early enough? Are you awake? I deserved the technical. I don't know if it had any effect on the rest of the game or not.'"

Jenkins was UK's main man in the last three minutes.

Kindly banking home a six-footer, Jenkins' goal brought UK within four, 38-34. Following a James Jackson two-pointer, Jenkins answered with two free throws, keeping the margin at four. Though what turned on the UK partisans was his hustle for a loose ball which he converted into a basket underneath (40-38).

Not since trailing 10-8 had the 'Cats been within a field goal.

For a while it seemed the technical had a reverse effect as Alabama opened a nine-point lead (18-9). After getting burned by McKey inside — resulting in a three-point play — Lock countered with a 12-foot turnaround. At this point Kentucky trailed 21-15.

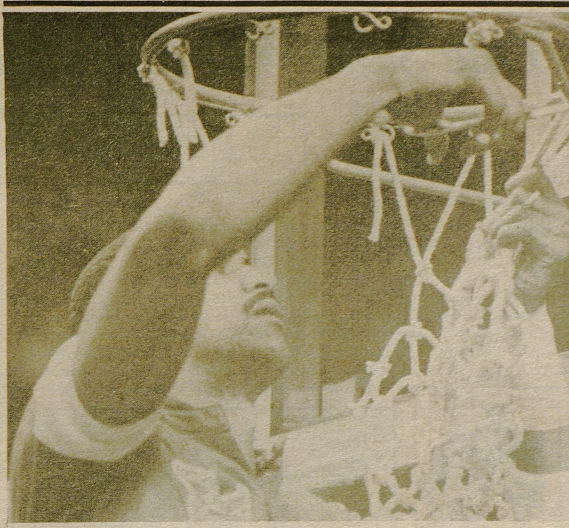
Though his stats weren't eye-catching — two points and two rebounds — his ten minutes of hustle and defense in the first half were of high value.

Harden almost single-handedly kept his team within striking distance. His six of seven shooting performance was greatly needed.

Behind 31-25 Harden zeroed in from 22, 20 and 18. Still, UK trailed by six.

Late in the half, Bama's Jackson was also unstoppable from the field. His 3-of-3 shooting in the final 6:19 was an added surprise for the Tide. During the season he averaged only 3.9 ppg while hitting on 47.9 percent from the floor.

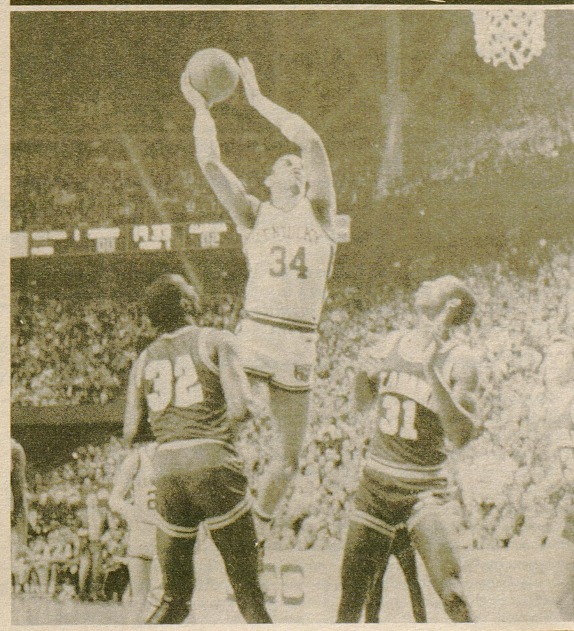
Against Kentucky the 5-foot-11 junior totaled nine points in a reserve role.



Sky In His Last Game At Rupp

Crimson Tide-Wildcat Tidbits

Kentucky becomes the first SEC team, since the tournys renewal in 1979, to win the championship twice. . . Here's what **Eddie Sutton** and assistant **James Dickey** had to say about Kentucky about **Cedric Jenkins** and the other reserves: "Cedric has played some very fine games for us before but I believe this is the best he's played for us this year," Sutton said. "He's always been a good defender, but he hasn't always scored a lot of points, and he had some big baskets for us. He played 19 minutes and had 13 points and seven rebounds. That's a pretty good effort. Maybe I ought to play him more, I don't know." Said Dickey of Jenkins and the reserves, "I think that's typical of the entire year — someone has always risen to the occasion to help us, whether it be a starter or someone coming off the bench. Paul Andrews helped us win the ballgame in Tuscaloosa. Richard (Madison) came off the bench at Ole Miss to score 13 points. Rob Lock and Leroy have played well off the bench. It's been indicative of the season we've had. We've got great competitors and someone always has risen to the occasion and have made the big play." . . . While the all-time single season assist leader **Roger Harden** also showed another side of his game Saturday. Harden's block of **Jim Farmer** in the first half was the seniors first of his Wildcat career. . . **John Williams** of LSU was named as the tournament's MVP. Other players selected to the five-man squad were: **Roger Harden** (Kentucky), **Buck Johnson** (Alabama), **Derrick McKey** (Alabama) and **Chauncey Robinson** (Mississippi State). . . In the tournament Kentucky trailed at halftime to both LSU and Alabama. UK is now 3-2 while behind at halftime. . . Kentucky and Alabama squared off in the 1982 SEC championship game. In that game, played at Rupp Arena, the Crimson Tide came away with a 48-46 victory. UK now owns a 7-2 record in tourney play against Alabama.



'Snip, Snip, Snip'

One State Will Recall SEC Tourney's 1st Round

Mississippi Had Reason To Be Proud

First night play in recent SEC tourneys tend to shy away from gaining respectability. The crowds are at their smallest, not to mention the quietest. This is a night where many ticket-holders 'eat' their cardboard admission and sit back at home or in a hotel room with Joe Dean's 'string musics' bellowing out of the television set.

But, after Wednesday night's session in Lexington it was a time for gaining SEC respect for one state. For another, however, the first round was a complete nightmare.

You might say... the magnolia flower of Mississippi was in full bloom during the first-round of the SEC Tournament last Wednesday night. And, for the fans from the state of Tennessee the night marked a disaster for two of their respective institutions.



Nick Nicholas

Cats' Pause Columnist

You might say... *Dixie* outlasted *Rocky Top*.
You might say... the 'Bulldog' snatched the bone of victory away from the favored Commodores on this night.

And, you might say... Jack Daniels was probably on the minds of many Tennessee travelers after seeing the Commodores and Volunteers go down to sober defeats.

A Night Of Highs And Lows

It was an evening of 'highs' and 'lows.'

The highs:

"Well, it was Mississippi (the state) night in Lexington, Kentucky," said Lee Hunt following his team's 73-56 thrashing of Tennessee.

"This group is getting more confident. We have a lot of these folks coming back next year, so we're looking forward to improving Ole Miss basketball and getting better each year."

And Coach Boyd?

"I wish I could be more aware of this last game in the history of your life coaching syndrome," said the retiring and sometimes comical Bob Boyd afterwards when asked if he had prepared for supposedly his last coaching assignment. Going into the game as a slight underdog, Mississippi State overcame a six-point halftime deficit on its way to a 62-54 win, sending Vandy back to Music City on a losing note.

"It's great that our team won this game and we get to play some more. I really enjoy coaching and I enjoy, seriously, these people that I deal with."

"In fact we hope to play again the next day."

The lows:

"We haven't played particularly well throughout the SEC (season)," said Don DeVoe, who cited no correlation with his team's poor play of late and the rumours of him taking the coaching vacancy at Ohio State. "We started off by losing at home and we've never really generated any consistency with this team that we wanted to. This team had a lot of promise back in December, but we lost it somewhere along the way."

UT's loss to Mississippi marked its seventh straight defeat. Overall, the Volunteers lost all nine of their road games.

"Certainly a lot of it was taking away with our inability to do two things," DeVoe pointed out of this year's problems. "One, was our inability to GET a lead in a game; and the second thing was to be able to MAINTAIN it."

Yup, that would cause some problems, especially since one requires the other's presence.

"It's very disappointing," said Commodores' skipper C.M. Newton. "Anytime you end the season with a loss, which is going to happen here to every team except one, you feel a deep sense of disappointment. It particularly relates to your seniors, because this ends a phase of their athletic career. As a coach you don't like to see it end that way."

SEC Tourney Gives Low Seeds A Chance To Grow

Though the seventh through tenth seeds entered the tournament with a combined 42-66 slate (19-53 in SEC play), there's always that 'Cinderella' possibility. Last season Sonny Smith came out of the No. 7 slot as tourney champs. It's like a team can shrug off an embarrassing campaign and start all over.

"This is a new season," said Ole Miss sophomore guard Roderick Barnes. "Everybody is 0-0 and if you lose you're out."

Mississippi and Mississippi State definitely took the right approach in the first round. Tennessee and Vanderbilt didn't.

Both the Rebels (4-14 in the SEC) and the Bulldogs (3-15) were seeded lower than their opponents. With a victory apiece both teams then advanced to the quarterfinals. That's where the similarities ended — one team really geared itself for next season while the other seemed to win one for its retiring coach, ala win one for Uncle Bob.

"We're here to play hard," said State's Raymond Brown following MSU's win over Vanderbilt. "We want to give him (Boyd) something before he leaves. Hopefully, an SEC Tournament."

Even though Brown and his teammates didn't claim the championship, they fought till their last chance expired. For that, plus with a win over Vanderbilt and Auburn, they're probably happier than they were after the season-ending loss to Florida.

The win definitely makes their season easier to live with.

In Oxford, Hunt is quietly building respectability. In '87 don't look past the Rebels.

Seniors Curtis Ritchwood (12.9 points per game) and Derek Horne (2.9 ppg) will be gone from a 12-17 squad, but there's signs indicating more wins than losses at Ole Miss' next year.

Next season Ole Miss returns third team (AP) all-SEC performer Eric Smith (17.8). Teaming up with Smith next season will be flashy point guard Roderick Barnes (9.8 ppg, 5.3 assists per game), forward Joe Ayers (7.9 ppg), guard Joe Coleman and 6-9 center Ronnie Sims (4.4).

Replacing injured Andre Laird, Barnes has been a pleasant surprise. With Laird out for the entire season because of an automobile accident, Hunt didn't know if Barnes could take over the 'point' and handle the leadership role against SEC competition.

Prior to the start of the season Hunt remembered that "after we finished practice I asked Rod, 'Do you think you can play at this level and play in the Southeastern Conference?' He looked at me like *Where have you been?* There was no doubt in his mind. He's playing with great confidence.

"We're looking forward to having Rod back for two more years. At the point guard position I think he's just going to get better and better."

Ayers (18 points), Barnes (17), and Smith (16), combined for 51 of the Rebels' 73 tallies Wednesday night. With a strong nucleus returning, along with a full season of playing together, Ole Miss' future can't help but look bright.

Sanderson Changes His Mind

Prior to Wednesday's first game Alabama head coach Wimp Sanderson declined the SEC Coach of the Year award, which was determined by all 10 coaches. Runner-up Eddie Sutton, who felt Sanderson was deserving of the trophy and was his No. 1 choice, wouldn't take the trophy either.

The final tally between the two men read like this: Wimp Sanderson, four first place votes, 24 points; and Eddie Sutton, five first place votes, 22 points.

So who got it?

The Knoxville News-Sentinel, the sponsor of the award, decided to stick with Sanderson.

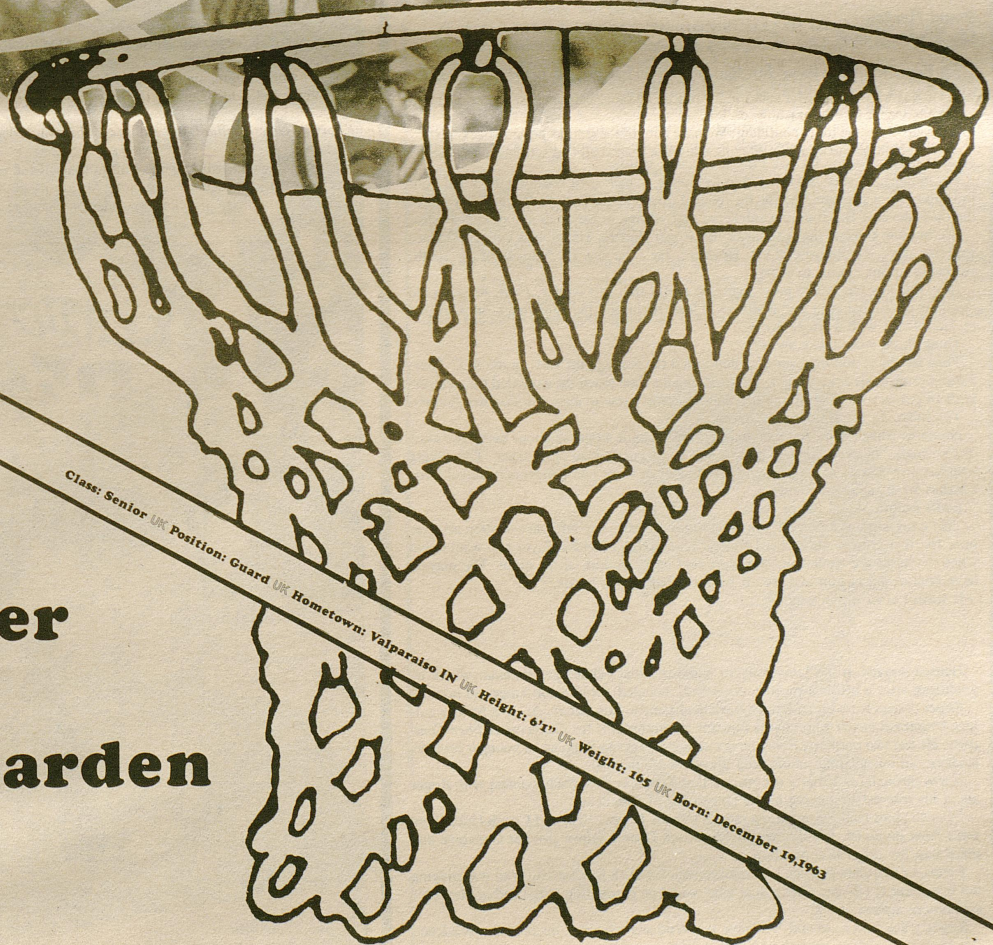
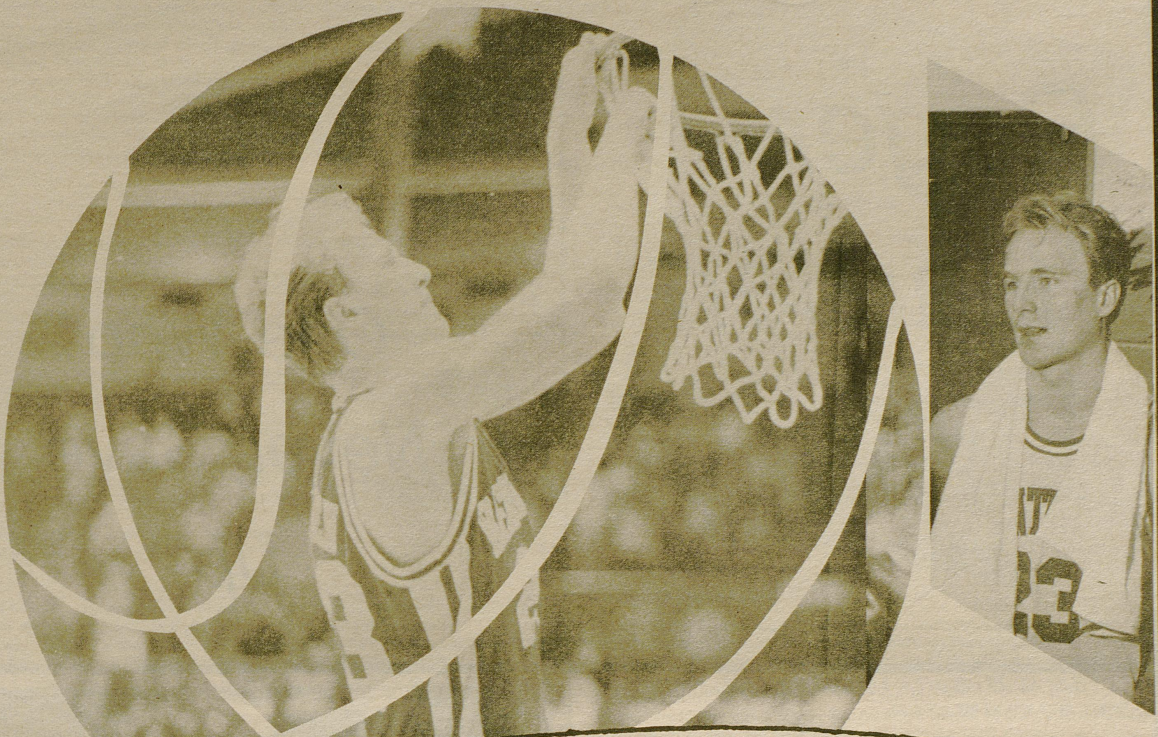
Wednesday, Sanderson, whose vote went to himself for the top spot, said his assistant sports information director was at fault. According to the Crimson Tide coach his assistant SID (J. D. Rutledge) penciled in Sanderson's name as the SEC's best the previous week. He marked Sutton as runner-up.



Lee Hunt



Raymond Brown



Roger

Harden

23

Class: Senior UK Position: Guard UK Hometown: Valparaiso IN UK Height: 6'1" UK Weight: 165 UK Born: December 19, 1963

Roger Harden

One Who
Never Gave
Up

"I'm really thankful I stayed here four years, that I never quit. There were times I thought there was no use going on."

Roger Harden
UK Senior Guard

For Roger Harden, a famed Mr. Basketball from Indiana, life in the fast lane at the University of Kentucky hasn't always been a pleasant one.

That's the bad news. The good news is that Harden is a great example of a nice guy not always finishing last. Bouncing back time after time, Harden rose to the occasion more than once and now finds himself on the threshold of achieving a great dream—playing in the NCAA Final Four as a senior.

For months, Harden has boasted of Kentucky's chances of reaching the Final Four in Dallas. He was promoting the far-fetched dream as far back as last fall when even the most devoted Big Blue fan snickered and winked at the such an outlandish idea. Ah, but few know of the faith inside one Roger Harden. He bubbles with confidence supreme. He's the opposite of Mr. Negative. He's the new Joe Namath of the South. He backs up his claims to fame.

Hey, this guy has nailed more than one coffin shut this winter. First, he slammed the door on Alabama in Baton Rouge. Then, he turned the same trick on Alabama in Tuscaloosa with a single arrow.

Think those were lucky shots?

Then for those non-believers, he duplicated the feat against LSU in the SEC Tournament semi-finals Friday night. While adding the final touch, he exploded for a career-high 18 points over Alabama in the championship game to earn All-Tourney honors.

Yes folks, Roger Harden has arrived.

No more whispers behind the back. No more snide remarks about being too slow or too small. No more complaints of being an inexperienced brick layer. This young man has proved a lot of people *wrong*. And some of those non-believers included some coaches we'd rather not name.

Eddie Sutton is not one of them.

"He's my kind of a player," says Sutton. "Roger has confidence written all over him. He likes critical situations. I compare him to the baseball player you want to bat when the bases are loaded and the score tied in the bottom of the ninth. The players have confidence in him and we all want the ball in his hands."

It wasn't always that way.

Harden arrived at the University of Kentucky via Valparaiso, Indiana, where he graduated after a brilliant prep career which included various All-American honors.

Roger comes from an athletically-oriented family. His father, Al, is a former college basketball coach who now is director of promotions for *Converse Rubber Company*. He has two brothers, Rob who is a senior at Nevada-Reno and a younger brother, Rodney, an outstanding junior prep player in Valparaiso.

It was through his father's occupation that Kentucky first made contact with Roger about his interest in playing at the University of Kentucky.

"Coach (Joe) Hall recruited me most," recalls Roger. "He and Coach (Joe) Dean were most involved. My dad works for Coach Dean's father (Joe) at Converse and there was the original connection."

Kentucky recruited Harden as a replacement for Dirk Minniefield who was playing out his career at UK and Dicky Beal who would be graduating at the end of Harden's sophomore season at UK.

Roger's decision to attend UK gave the Wildcats what has become the Wildcats' last recruiting victory over the Michigan Wolverines.

"I visited Notre Dame, Florida, Michigan and Kentucky," says Harden, "but if



I had not come to Kentucky, it would have been Michigan. Coach (Bill) Frieder showed a lot of interest in my. He realized I had a dream of playing pro ball and he seemed to enjoy helping people when they were down."

Harden was also impressed with North Carolina, but cancelled his visit after making an early commitment to UK.

Roger arrived on the UK campus with impressive credentials. He averaged 27.6 ppg, 8 rebounds and 5.1 assists his senior year at Valparaiso High. His junior year was just as impressive as he hit for 21.1 ppg and 14 ppg as a sophomore. He was a fancy ballhandler and could pass the ball with the best hoopsters in the country.

With the All-American laurels trailing him to Lexington, the word *pressure* was not far behind.

True to most former and current Kentucky Wildcats, the word "*pressure*" quickly became No. 1 in his dictionary.

Pressure has had its effects on Harden, but he denies his All-American prep status was the real culprit.

"I earned the All-American recognition I received," explains Harden matter-of-factly, "because I played against the best in high school. I didn't know how good I was until I went to the all-star summer camps.

"In Georgia, I played against Enis Whatley (Alabama) and other older players, that's where I got my reputation. I had a great game against Whatley and they were older than me."

Pressure first showed its ugly face during his final days at Valparaiso High after he had been elected *Mr. Basketball* over Scott Skiles who is a senior now at Michigan State.

"The biggest pressure is that of being *Mr. Basketball* in Indiana, that's where it started, particularly in the all-star games because everyone is looking for a great performance," says Harden.

Roger Harden had arrived, for better or worse.

At Kentucky, Harden enjoyed a freshman year where he averaged 6.3 minutes per game, appeared in 27 contests and had a season-high of five points.

It was a learning season, one he had expected. Dirk Minniefield was a senior while both Jim Master and Dicky Beal were juniors. His time would come.

As a sophomore, he moved up the ladder quickly, partly because of rapid improvement, but more so because Beal was injured and was slow to recover.

So when the season tipped off, sophomore Harden was in the starting line-up along side Jim Master. It should have been like heaven, but it wasn't. Rumors abounded that Harden was strictly a band-aid, that he would be replaced at mid-season by either Beal or freshman James Blackmon, a fellow Hoosier who chose to go South.

Roger started 21 of the first 22 games before Beal replaced him in the line-up at Vanderbilt after finally recovering from his knee injury. Being replaced by Beal, who was a key factor in the 1984 drive, didn't affect Harden. What did affect the sophomore guard was being knocked from starting guard to No. 4 guard in one game. During the next three games, Harden went from starter to zero minutes of playing time. Were the whispers true?

But that wasn't all. During the Christmas break two months earlier, Kentucky brought in LeRoy Byrd, a transfer from UNLV via Somerset Community College. It was no secret Byrd's sole position would be point guard, if any at all.

Another challenge for Harden?

Even the ever-confident Harden had to wonder.

Was the sophomore year his toughest and lowest moments at Kentucky?

"Yeah, it really was," says Harden. "When I look back on that year now, I think there were some good things to come out of it.



"First, Dicky Beal set a great example for me even though I wanted to start very much. Going into this year, my last, I remember how Dicky kept fighting and never gave up. He didn't start performing until the last 12 to 14 games. He showed how your whole career can turn around in such a short time. That was real encouraging to me and still is."

Harden could have chuckled it in. But he didn't. Instead he learned some valuable lessons which he says will be important to him in the years ahead.

"I found out a lot about people, about myself during that time," recalls Roger, "that year, I never felt comfortable. I had some good games, but I didn't have a lot of fun, not until midway through my junior year."

It was the middle of his sophomore year when Harden first flashed signs of greatness.

During his first two seasons, there were those who talked only of Harden's speed, or lack of; his limited shooting range (in other words he couldn't hit a lay-up) or his limited jumping ability. They rarely, if ever, talked about his assets, his ability to quarterback the club, his jumper which had been put off-limits at the launching pad.

Reporters, and even some members of the coaching staff question Harden's basketball talent, privately. Gossip has a way of making itself public knowledge. Some high school prospects were even hearing rumors they could play early at Kentucky because Harden wouldn't be around the following year.

No one bothered to check with Roger. He wasn't a quitter. Still isn't.

Harden was in the starting line-up the first fifteen games that season as UK fashioned a 13-2 mark. UK won eleven in a row, then lost a pair on the road at Auburn and Florida. Some claimed Harden's play was pivotal in those two losses, that he wasn't quick enough to hand opposing guards. But UK came back and clipped Vanderbilt 67-46.



Then the bomb dropped the next game.

It was *Super Sunday* on CBS-TV as a preliminary to the Super Bowl. Kentucky and Houston would light up the fireworks. Rupp Arena was rocking. Roger Harden's confidence was shattered just minutes before the tip-off.

In the pre-game locker room session, Coach Joe B. Hall turned and announced his starting line-up. Harden's name was missing. He was left speechless.

But Harden fought back, his trademark of "never giving up" surfacing for the first of many times.

Four minutes into the game, UK trailed the Cougars by 11-1 after Ricky Winslow slammed home a dunk. Could Kentucky get blown off the court at Rupp Arena? Hall pointed for Harden to enter the game.

Harden's floor play, aggressive defense on one end with flashy floor work and passing on the other ignited the Wildcats into a 35-31 halftime lead. By the game's end, Harden had hit three of five from the field, handed out six assists and even hauled in four rebounds.

His starting berth appeared safe once again.

His return to the starting line-up lasted only six games before his name was scratched prior to the Vandy game in Nashville. He would ride the pine for the remainder of the year.

And it would be a long, long summer.

As had been the situation with Harden throughout his entire life, Roger played basketball and more basketball and more basketball over the summer. He shot jumpers, 300 a day to be exact. He was determined to win his job back.

His hoop habits go back to his childhood days when brothers Rob and Rodney (although just a tot) would tag along to the gym with dad to get in a few jumpers before the big boys began practice at University of Denver.

He was determined to regain his starting spot, not so much to prove people wrong, but to prove his ability as a major college basketball player. Some might be more gifted than him, but no one would outwork him, be more dedicated to the game.

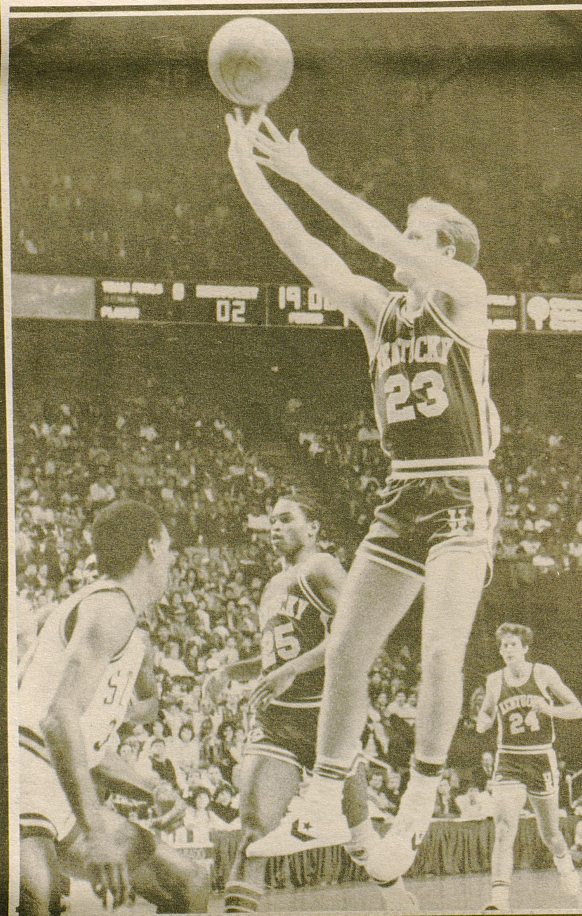
Yet, Harden faced another crisis, one which totally changed his life. One which even demoted basketball from No. 1 status in his life to No. 2, a distant second.

"That was the big change in my life," remembers Harden. "Until then basketball was always No. 1 and there really wasn't a No. 2."

Throughout his career at UK, he had overheard the negative remarks about his ability and he didn't like them.

But if there is one Harden trait his friends have come to respect it is his fighting spirit. He's at his best with his back to the wall.

Right, Roger?



"I think so," he says. "That's probably been my history as a basketball player. I knew I was a better player than I was showing."

"It got to the point where it was affecting my whole life, where I wasn't a real happy person because of basketball. I didn't want the game to control my life like that."

"I've got it more into perspective now. Basketball suddenly wasn't the most important thing in my life and I started performing a lot better. I just went out and played and let chips fall where they may."

Now, God and his religious faith have surpassed the game of basketball.

"My spiritual life started here at the University of Kentucky and that's what really pulled me through," says Roger. "I made God the No. 1 thing in my life, to serve Him the rest of my life here on earth. He's been very faithful to me all through my life and I hadn't even realized it."

"I can look back now and see where He has shed his grace on me at certain times in my life. That's really what I'm living my life for now."

"Basketball is still very important for me to succeed in. I want to use what he's blessed me with to the best of my ability."

Harden firmly believes his entire life, both on and off the court changed with his commitment to Christ.

"There's a direct correlation. I'd love to be a pro player and win a national championship, but if it's not in the Lord's will that it will happen, then that's what I want," says Roger. "I want whatever he wants for Roger Harden in his life. I'm certainly not serving Him for court success and the world."

Harden's faith is certainly not just skin deep.

In fact, Harden's most rewarding memories of UK are his treasured friendships with church members and pastors who have worked with him during his four years.

Roger has even preached at several Lexington churches. He relishes his weekly meetings with Lexington religious counselor Chuck Melcher when the two study the Bible and share personal feelings and thoughts about God.

"Most of my inspiration and joy has come from my relationship with God," emphasizes Roger. "I've been surrounded by great people all my life. I have the greatest parents in the world. The people from my church are just great. Chuck Melcher has been a great friend and Rev. Bill Mitchell (pastor from Williamsburg) has been so good. There are so many wonderful people I've met, it's so difficult to single out just one."

Harden's junior season seemed to be progressing well during the fall workouts, only to see some internal strife develop before the December snow had even hit.

Discontent had settled in and Harden was seriously thinking of transferring from Kentucky. Two games into the season and Harden saw only 19 minutes of action against Purdue. He decided to skip practice the next day and ponder his future.

Missing practice cost him a one-game suspension but he decided he wouldn't be labeled a quitter. He returned and started 26 of the last 28 games, averaging 25.3 minutes per contest. He finished the season with a team high 142 assists.

In the NCAA, Harden's play was exceptional. His floor play helped UK upset both Washington and UNLV in the West Regional before the fairy tale came to a halt at the hands of St. John's.

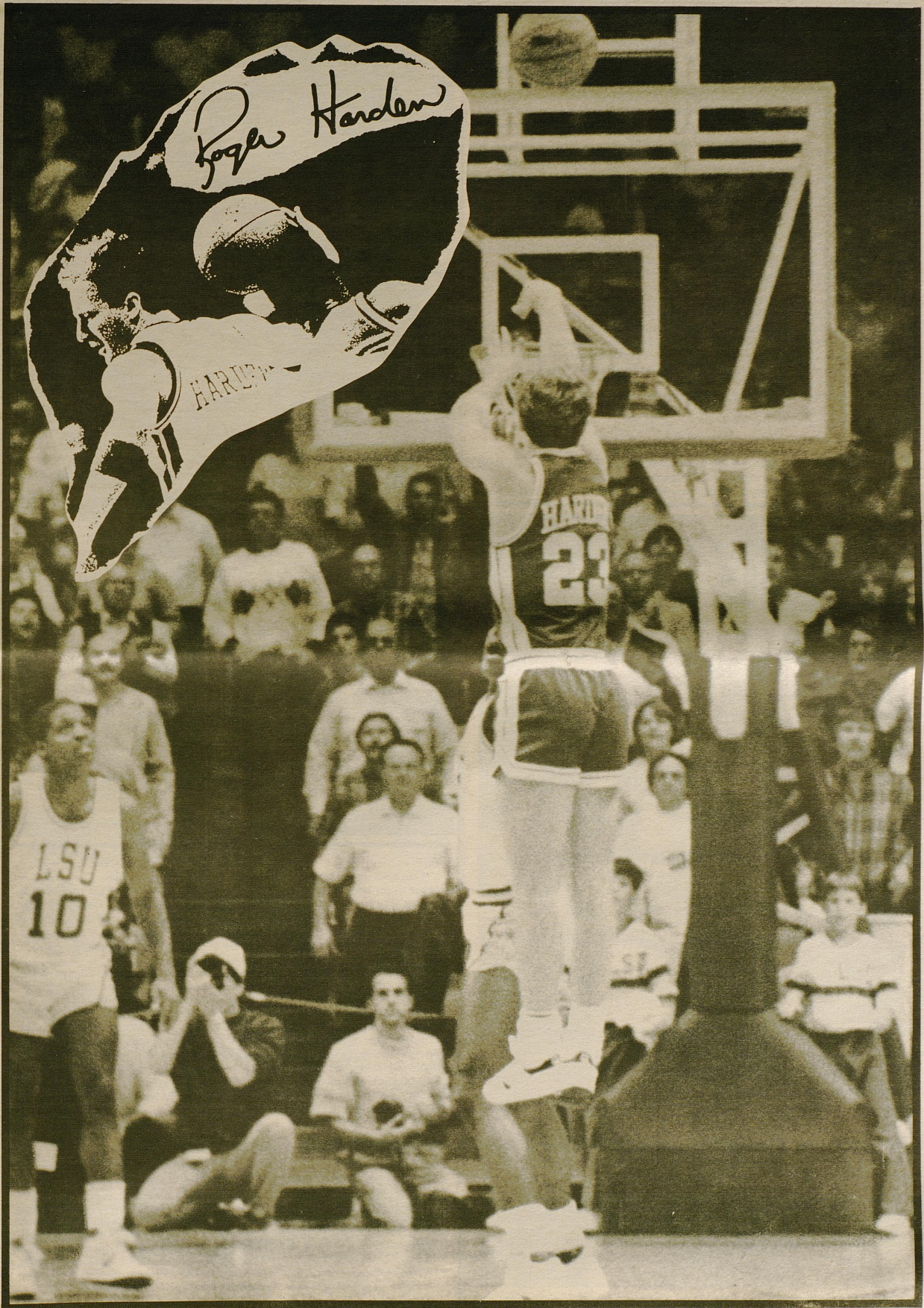
With his personal life in proper perspective, success reappearing on the hardwoods and a new coach on the block, the lad from Hoosierland set out to enjoy a full and exciting life his final season at UK.

Once again, media reports suggested Harden would not fit in as the Eddie Sutton-type point guard. He wasn't good enough or quick enough or fast enough. He wasn't sleek, whatever that means.

The experts were wrong again.

This final season has been some kind of a wonderful fairy tale for Kentucky, Eddie Sutton and last but not least Roger Harden.

"Most definitely it's been a real good year for me," agrees Harden, "but I'm hoping the NCAA will heighten it even more. I truly believe we've got several more games left."



Still, Harden had to overcome another round of unfounded rumors, that he wouldn't play long for the new coach, Sutton. Remember, most of the media said so.

"When I first came here as a freshman, I think I read every article about Kentucky basketball, every publication, ratings sheet and etc. I really got hung up on it," says Harden. "That really hurt me as a basketball player because I started believing them."

"Throughout my career here, I've understood the media has a job to do, but I didn't have to believe what they wrote. It really didn't affect me because I didn't feel either the media or the fans had seen the real Roger Harden."

Roger responded.

Harden won his starting berth, and became good enough to force Eddie Sutton to play a three-guard offense. It was either that, or some other guard had to go to the bench.

Time, some argued, would change that. The coaching line has it that you can't win in the big-time with three guards. All Kentucky did was to waltzed through a December schedule with just one defeat.

Critics acknowledged UK's early success but said Kentucky couldn't win the SEC with three guards. All UK did was to whiplash the opposition to the tune of a 17-1 mark and then captured the SEC tourney.

Fans are no longer talking about the three-guard offense. People are no longer saying Roger Harden is a stiff, a player who has no talent.

The test wasn't easy. He didn't convince the skeptics overnight.

But what a finish this young man has enjoyed.

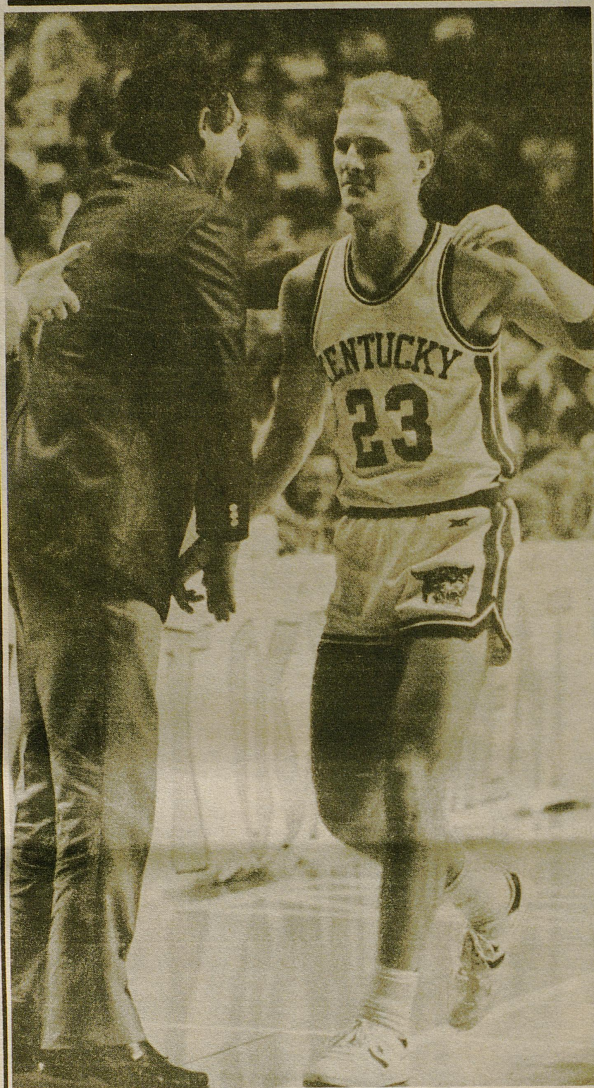
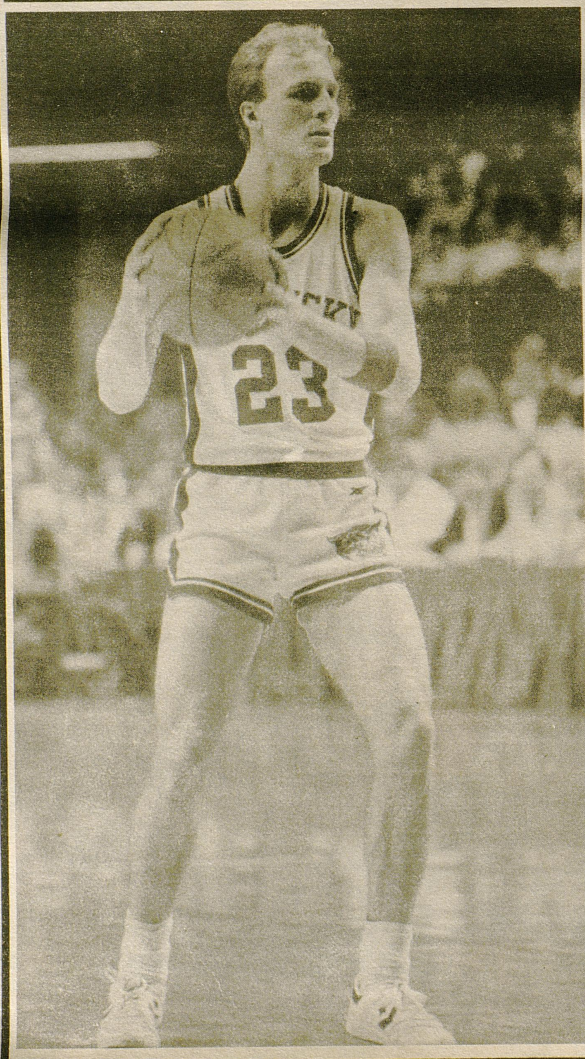
He's proven he's one of the finest point guards in all of the land.

When this past season started, the SEC was loaded with great guards. Guards like Andrew Moten and Vernon Maxwell of Florida, Frank Ford and Gerald White of Auburn, Donald Hartry of Georgia, Derrick Taylor and Don Redden of LSU, Tony White of Tennessee, and Derrick Taylor of LSU, not including UK's fine trio.

Yet, when all the dust settled last week during the SEC Tournament, it was a fellow by the name of Roger Harden who stood as the lone guard on the All-Tourney team.

Harden is modest when it comes to accepting the praise, preferring to pass along the accomplishments as a tribute to his teammates and coaches.

"This is a great team," says Roger, "hey, Kenny Walker is the greatest and the



others are super players. This is a great team. And Coach Sutton has been a big key.

"Coach Sutton has been understanding and has been encouraging. That's very important to any player. Coach Sutton is going to be Coach Sutton. That's why he's so uniquely qualified to be coach at Kentucky. He's very realistic and down to earth and I'm convinced he cares more about basketball players as an individual than in winning games. He treats us like we're his sons."

Sutton hasn't been stingy with his praise of this Kentucky team, either.

He likes to call the Wildcats a bunch of "overachievers."

"This isn't the greatest talent in the world," Sutton has been quoted often as saying,

"but they (the players) don't know it. They always find a way to win."

It's Sutton's way of paying the ultimate compliment to the Wildcats.

Harden certainly hasn't been left out, not even in the year when Kenny Walker has been named an All-American and Winston Bennett a first team All-SEC.

"Roger is our quarterback," says Sutton. "Our players have total confidence in him and they want the ball in his hands during the critical part of the game. That is a great tribute to him. He's a winner."

As the this season progressed, Sutton relied more and more on Harden's leadership qualities, particularly at running the Wildcat offense. Earlier in the season, Sutton experimented reguarly with different point guards. But as the campaign headed down the stretch, Harden found himself more and more at the helm, directing traffic and the Big Blue Machine.

Is Kentucky still ticketed for Dallas?

"I still believe that today," admits Harden. "Some people close to the (UK) program might say, 'we want to go to Dallas.' As time goes along, more people will begin to believe that."

"I guess it's unpopular to say we're going to be the national champions. I feel no pressure. Someone said, 'what if you don't win it?' Well, I really haven't thought about that. So what if we didn't, but I believe we are. If we don't, well, we've at least tried. There's nothing wrong with failing. Kentucky basketball is still going to be No. 1 whether we win it or not."

Who's to question Roger?

After all, it was Harden who seemed *Destined For Dallas* all along. And he never quit!

Cincy Writer Impressed With Sutton's Club

Bass In His First Year Of Covering UK

Have you ever wondered what an individual thinks about when he or she sees Lexington's Rupp Arena for the first time?

Cincinnati Post sports writer Mike Bass, who is covering the University of Kentucky for the first time this season, had such an experience when he walked into the spacious facility, which is the largest basketball arena in America.

"It was big," said Bass, who has seen more than his share of facilities in the country during his brief but well-travelled career.

"I was really impressed," Bass continued. "I remember all the faces that were painted blue, the 23,000 fans cheering. It was quite an experience."



Mel Holbrook

Cats' Pause Columnist

To impress Bass, you've got to be really something special. After all, the 26-year-old Chicago native has been to some of the premier sporting events in the nation.

"I really haven't done all that much," said Bass. "Most of my travelling has been in the past year. I went to cover the (Thomas) Hearns-Marvin Hagler fight in Las Vegas, as well as seeing Tom Seaver earn his 300th pitching victory at Yankee Stadium in New York City. I covered the U.S. Open Tennis Championships in New York and I've been to the PGA Golf Championships in Denver, the NFC Championship in Chicago and the Sugar Bowl in New Orleans. But that's not really all that much."

When he was growing up in Skokie, Ill., a suburb of Chicago, Bass remembers hearing a lot about the University of Kentucky's basketball program.

The Greats Would Leave A Good Taste In Your Mouth

"It was successful, always successful," Bass explained. "You'd hear about (Kevin) Grevey, (Dan) Issel, (Kyle) Macy and (Jack) Givens. To watch Givens do what he did in the (1978) NCAA Finals just leaves a good taste in your mouth. As well as Kentucky's done this season, if it doesn't make it to the Final Four, people shouldn't consider this a disastrous season."

Bass graduated from the University of Illinois four years ago and worked for the Orlando Sentinel-Star before taking a position at the Detroit News and then eventually the Post, which he joined in November of 1984. He's been in the newspaper business since he was 16, when he went to work for his high school paper.



Mike Bass, At Recent SEC Tourney

When Bass was in college, he worked for the college paper and was a stringer for the Associated Press and the Decatur paper.

In this, his first full season of covering Wildcats' sports, Bass has developed some interesting observations about the University of Kentucky basketball program.

"I came to the University of Georgia basketball game last season (1984-85)," said Bass. "But that was only one game and I got a better perspective about it all when I started coming down here on a regular basis."

Unfortunately, Bass' first reports dealt with the Lexington Herald-Leader's reports of alleged payoffs to UK basketball players.

"Some of the reactions to the Herald-Leader stories surprised me," Bass confessed. "People called in bomb threats and cancelled subscriptions. So many people were pointing their anger at the newspaper instead of at the university and the boosters. They take their basketball seriously here."

Credit Should Go Out To The Faithful Fans

Bass was surprised, too, by the way the fans cheered for the team at the annual Blue-White intra-squad scrimmage.

"Those fans are crazy," he said. "They really support their team."

But too much over-emphasis is placed on UK basketball, Bass believes.

"Kentucky basketball is Kentucky basketball," he says. "It shouldn't be bigger than life. Kentucky fans should accept Kentucky basketball for what it is. It's a consistent winner. It's got a great tradition. And now, under (first-year) head coach Eddie Sutton, it's exciting again."

Bass has covered around 12 to 15 of Kentucky's games this season, including the important road trips to Tuscaloosa, Ala., Baton Rouge, La., and Knoxville, Tenn.

"I think Coach Sutton's done a terrific job," he explained. "You just don't see many people come in and do what he's done. When he arrived, (James) Blackmon and (Roger) Harden were troubled. They both left and went home last season before returning. Look at them now. Blackmon is happy. He's starting to show signs of becoming the player everyone predicted he would be. At times, last year, he was miserable. Harden's performing extremely well. He's been consistent."

Sutton Manages To Find The Right Combination

"Sutton's gotten a lot out of his bench, which has been extremely inconsistent," Bass continued. "Yet, he's managed to find the right combination on certain nights and to get just enough out of them to win."

Bass added that if Sutton isn't chosen the national Coach of the Year, he's definitely one of the top three.

"But even if he doesn't get it, he shouldn't be too upset about it," Bass said. "What he's done with the team is probably more important to him than winning an award. This is not the best team in the nation, talent wise. But they're ranked third. He's doing something right."

Bass likes the way Sutton has opened the UK locker room to the media and closed it to the boosters. It's an entirely different atmosphere now.

"I remember last year that the locker room was closed," said Bass. "Joe Hall was cautious in his words. His players were a reflection of that and acted the same way. It seemed very impersonal, as though we were big and we know it and you just have to conform to what we do. We're not going to come out and help you. But this year everything is easier. The coaching staff and the players are more open. It seems to be on a more personal level and isn't quite so big business."

"This season, a reporter doesn't feel like he has to give up his first born child just to get something done," Bass continued. "Last year, there was virtually no help at all with obtaining useful information. It was ridiculous. That might not mean much to the general public. But if reporters aren't allowed to talk to the players then the general public misses out, too. But don't get me wrong. Covering the Kentucky basketball program is not as open as the CBA (Contential Basketball Association), where owners literally beg you to write stories about their players for that needed publicity. It's not to that point, but it's much better."

Bass Has Been With The Best Of Them

In the past, Bass has interviewed several big-name athletes or sports figures like Boris Becker, Cris Collinsworth, Dale Brown, Woody Hayes, Ernie Banks, Magic Johnson, Steve Garvey, Isiah Thomas, Rick Sutcliffe, Howard Cosell and Bob Costas, to name just a few, but admits he's never seen players idolized by the fans like UK's basketball athletes are.

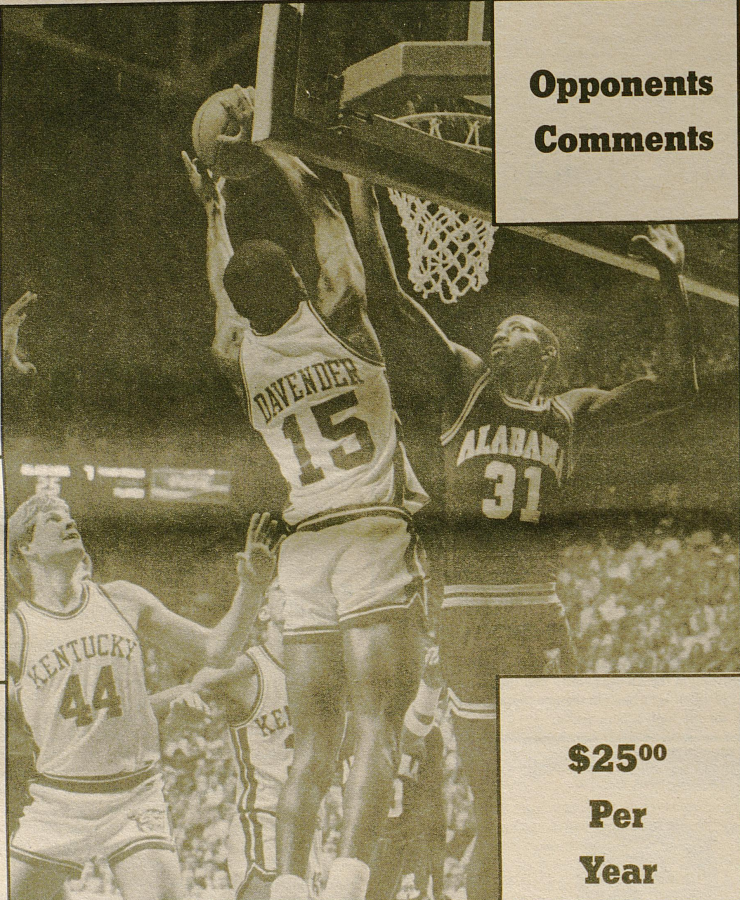
"It puts too much pressure on the kids, and that's what these players are, kids," he explained. "There's so much pressure to perform superbly on a consistent basis night after night after night. These kids have to deal with that. That's why people reacted so strongly to the Herald-Leader articles. Nobody wants to think that the hallowed program can make mistakes or do wrong. Who wants to be told that your heroes broke the rules? That's what happens when things get overblown. People shouldn't put so much pressure on the players here."

Bass said that if indeed the Kentucky program did have some rule breakers, it shouldn't happen because the program has a lot to offer.

"You've got the winning tradition," Bass stated. "You've got sell-out crowds game in and game out. You've got good coaching. You've got a good chance to get an education and if you play ball at Kentucky it helps you get a job in the business world after graduation."

[Continued On Page 38]

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But Most Important You Get

The Bottom Line On UK Basketball

Butch Plans 'Operation Payback' Next Season

Ready To Jump Into Spring Practice

For offensive guard George Butch Wilburn, the 1985 season is one that he (would like to forget) With expectations of attaining a third consecutive bowl appearance, Kentucky withered its way to a frustrating 5-6 record. In some ways, according to Wilburn, it was a season of unfulfilled opportunities that were not met.

"It was a disappointing season," said Wilburn. "We tried hard and just came up a little bit short. I think we were trying almost too hard."

One game that irritates Wilburn was the Wildcats 42-0 thrashing they endured to Tennessee.



Todd Hallum

Cats' Pause Columnist

"I remembered very much the Tennessee loss," remarked Wilburn. "That will burn within me until we get to play them again."

What Wilburn also will recall is four other Southeastern Conference losses: to LSU, Georgia, Vanderbilt, and Florida.

Wilburn Plans To Get Some Paybacks Next Season

"I think every SEC game next season there is gonna be a bitter hatred to win those ball games," said Wilburn. "We have a lot of paying back to do."

Wilburn would also prove to putting a few of those paybacks on opposing linebackers from his offensive guard slot. But, first he hopes to improve his foot quickness during the off-season months of the spring and summer.

"I have to work on my feet so I can track down linebackers," said Wilburn.

Though he's one of UK's strongest offensive linemen with a bench press mark of 375 pounds, Wilburn feels outside linebackers cause him the most difficulty with his blocking assignments.

"The inside linebackers I have some trouble with but I can get to their legs because they are busy reading the offense. Outside linebackers, give me problems because when you pull and come down the line they have that feeling you are coming, and are mostly able to dodge you."

Although four starters depart from last season's offensive line, Wilburn expects this year's unit to come into its own as the season progresses.

"I think everybody is going to come together quite well," said the UK junior-to-be. "We lost a lot of guys, but there are a lot of people that want to play."

Furthermore, he foresees this unit having more game experience than many are led to believe. He is referring to such returnee's as Joe Prince, Brad Myers, Dermontti Dawson, and Sam Rotella.

"We have all played and most of us are two-year lettermen or better. Every year they talk about our offensive line not coming up to par, but with some time we will become a good group."

Spring Practice Is Time For Proving Himself To All

With UK coming off the disappointing season last year, spring practice for the Cats should be quite interesting. After all, it's been two years since UK has come off a losing season going into spring drills.

"I am looking forward to getting into spring practice," said Wilburn. "Personally, I have some things to prove to myself, the team, and the coaching staff. I think the whole team has really come together these last couple of months during winter workouts. We are working as a unit like we did a couple of years ago."

As an Ohio All-state selection from West Chester, Wilburn was the first player at his school (Lakota) to earn this honor. Though his quickness was suspect, college recruiters came knocking on Wilburn's door because he possessed outstanding overall strength. N.C. State, Clemson, and Ohio State were interested, but Wilburn decided on Kentucky upon meeting Jerry Claiborne and his staff.

"Coach Claiborne and his staff really impressed me," said Wilburn. "He has a winning program and doesn't ask you to do anything he can't do."

In addition, Wilburn's parents were also delighted in their only son's decision.

"My parents were pleased that I signed down here," recalled Wilburn. "They are Ohio State fans but when they met Claiborne and the coaching staff they felt UK was the place to go."

Since Wilburn made his decision, his parents have been his biggest fans and have not missed a UK football game.

"My parents have really supported me," said Wilburn. "They didn't miss a game last year whether it was a home or an away game."

High School Can Give Great Expectations

However, when Wilburn arrived on the Lexington campus, he was in for a rude awaken-



Butch Wilburn

ing when he discovered the program was filled with athletes that matched up to his overall ability.

"I came down here thinking that since I was All-State I was gonna play and practically rule the place," said Wilburn, who was redshirted during his first year at UK. "But I found out that you got a lot to learn and a lot of waiting to do. It was a whole different game to me."

Butch Finds Refuge From Football Pressures In Fraternity

Off the field Wilburn is an easy going person who enjoys meeting people. Recently he along with senior tight ends Mark Wheeler and Matt Lucas, decided to pledge Pi Kappa Alpha fraternity.

"We are the world's oldest pledges," quipped Wilburn, who in his spare time listens to good music and, if the occasion arises, goes snow skiing or wind surfing. "We are older than most of the guys in the fraternity."

"I really find it fun. It's kind of a home away from home. I can go there to relax and get away from the pressures of football."

As a special education major, Wilburn hopes to work with terminally handicapped children when he graduates. For Wilburn it's the opportunity to provide his warmth and care to kids who are less fortunate than himself.

"I love handicapped children," said Wilburn. "We've got everything and they don't have anything. I really enjoy the kids."

What Wilburn would also like to enjoy is helping the Wildcats return to a post-season bowl. Last season Wilburn thought his teammates became complacent and took everything for granted. However, he just wants to contribute this season and help the Cats accomplish a rewarding season.

"I want to help the team get back on top," "I don't want to spend another December at home."

----- Player Season / Career Statistics -----

UNIVERSITY OF KENTUCKY WILDCATS

	G	GS	Min	Avg	FG	FGA	Pct	FT	FTA	Pct	Reb	Avg	PF	D	Ast	To	Blk	Stl	Dnk	Pts	Avg
WALKER, KENNY																					
Sea 32	32	1103	34.5	225	397	56.7	177	231	76.6	244	7.6	79	1	43	43	39	42	1	627	19.6	
Car 128	99	3928	30.7	730	1289	56.6	526	701	75.0	910	7.1	316	6	146	182	118	114	1	1986	15.5	
BENNETT, WINSTON																					
Sea 32	32	990	30.9	154	297	51.9	100	133	75.2	216	6.8	111	6	48	65	16	42	-	408	12.8	
Car 96	59	2523	26.3	303	644	47.0	240	336	71.4	505	5.3	326	21	95	178	29	79	-	846	8.8	
DAVENDER, ED																					
Sea 32	31	1025	32.0	143	321	44.5	90	113	79.6	85	2.7	78	1	113	64	2	54	-	376	11.8	
Car 63	43	1750	27.8	236	547	43.1	168	219	76.7	130	2.1	133	2	196	138	4	87	-	640	10.2	
BLACKMON, JAMES																					
Sea 32	32	875	27.3	133	272	48.9	39	64	60.9	126	3.9	78	2	75	38	2	47	1	305	9.5	
Car 95	52	2030	21.4	253	551	45.9	83	148	56.1	208	2.2	190	3	202	121	8	97	1	589	6.2	
HARDEN, ROGER																					
Sea 32	32	983	30.7	99	185	53.5	26	30	86.7	70	2.2	61	-	210	77	1	28	-	224	7.0	
Car 118	81	2374	20.1	197	443	44.5	64	80	80.0	171	1.4	195	-	476	213	1	76	-	458	3.9	
MADISON, RICHARD																					
Sea 31	-	480	15.5	62	108	57.4	33	50	66.0	81	2.6	38	-	23	36	7	10	-	157	5.1	
Car 54	-	882	16.3	108	226	47.8	64	88	72.7	153	2.8	71	1	37	65	11	16	-	280	5.2	
LOCK, ROBERT																					
Sea 25	-	191	7.6	29	51	56.9	22	46	47.8	46	1.8	33	-	3	22	12	4	-	80	3.2	
Car 52	4	387	7.4	41	92	44.6	29	63	46.0	100	1.9	77	1	8	34	20	6	-	111	2.1	
JENKINS, CEDRIC																					
Sea 32	-	341	10.7	36	79	45.6	22	32	68.8	69	2.2	45	1	5	9	5	7	1	94	2.9	
Car 51	-	428	8.4	41	93	44.1	26	39	66.7	97	1.9	56	1	5	16	7	9	1	108	2.1	
ZIEGLER, TODD																					
Sea 16	-	68	4.3	13	23	56.5	6	10	60.0	19	1.2	12	-	5	7	1	3	-	32	2.0	
Car 26	-	82	3.2	14	27	51.9	6	14	42.9	23	.9	12	-	5	7	1	3	-	34	1.3	
BYRD, LEROY																					
Sea 20	1	117	5.9	12	19	63.2	10	13	76.9	12	.6	11	-	19	10	-	14	-	34	1.7	
Car 36	1	141	3.9	14	23	60.9	10	16	62.5	15	.4	18	-	27	16	-	15	-	38	1.1	
ANDREWS, PAUL																					
Sea 22	-	154	7.0	15	37	40.5	6	6	100.0	16	.7	18	-	14	5	-	5	-	36	1.6	
Car 60	4	410	6.8	44	98	44.9	9	12	75.0	34	.6	49	-	36	15	-	7	-	97	1.6	
THOMAS, IRVING																					
Sea 17	-	74	4.4	7	15	46.7	8	14	57.1	16	.9	13	-	5	17	3	1	-	22	1.3	
Car 17	-	74	4.4	7	15	46.7	8	14	57.1	16	.9	13	-	5	17	3	1	-	22	1.3	



ESPN Will Carry Cats-Davidson

At 10 P.M. Friday

UNIVERSITY OF KENTUCKY SCHEDULE

Date	Record	UOFK Opp	Opponent	Margin	Top Scorer	Top Rebounder	Attendance
Nov. 22	1-0	77	58 NORTHWESTERN STATE	19	18 BENNETT WINSTON	7 BENNETT WINSTON	23,127 (H)
Nov. 26	2-0	89	57 CHAMINADE	32	22 WALKER, KENNY	5 WALKER, KENNY	1,508 (A)
Nov. 27	3-0	98	65 HAWAII	33	33 WALKER, KENNY	10 WALKER, KENNY	6,342 (A)
Dec. 03	4-0	84	54 CINCINNATI	30	26 WALKER, KENNY	7 BLACKMON, JAMES	23,330 (H)
Dec. 07	5-0	63	58 INDIANA	5	22 DAVENDER, ED	5 BLACKMON, JAMES	24,203 (H)
Dec. 14	5-1	66	83 KANSAS	-17	17 WALKER, KENNY	8 BENNETT WINSTON	15,122 (A)
Dec. 20	6-1	86	52 EAST CAROLINA	34	19 WALKER, KENNY	9 BENNETT WINSTON	22,416 (H)
Dec. 21	7-1	88	56 PEPPERDINE	32	21 WALKER, KENNY	10 WALKER, KENNY	22,840 (H)
Dec. 28	8-1	69	64 LOUISVILLE	5	23 BENNETT WINSTON	14 WALKER, KENNY	24,180 (H)
Dec. 30	9-1	93	55 VIRGINIA MILITARY IN	38	18 WALKER, KENNY	10 BENNETT WINSTON	19,450 (A)
Jan. 04	10-1	80	71 VANDERBILT	9	25 WALKER, KENNY	14 BENNETT WINSTON	15,626 (A)
Jan. 06	10-2	56	60 AUBURN	-4	22 WALKER, KENNY	6 WALKER, KENNY	11,873 (A)
Jan. 08	11-2	75	58 MISSISSIPPI	17	31 WALKER, KENNY	6 BENNETT WINSTON	22,645 (H)
Jan. 11	12-2	76	52 ALABAMA	24	24 WALKER, KENNY	9 WALKER, KENNY	23,345 (H)
Jan. 15	13-2	64	52 MISSISSIPPI STATE	12	15 WALKER, KENNY	8 BENNETT WINSTON	5,226 (A)
Jan. 18	14-2	72	55 FLORIDA	17	25 WALKER, KENNY	11 BENNETT WINSTON	11,914 (A)
Jan. 23	15-2	74	69 GEORGIA	5	15 DAVENDER, ED	10 WALKER, KENNY	22,810 (H)
Jan. 25	16-2	74	57 TENNESSEE	17	26 BENNETT WINSTON	7 MADISON RICHARD	23,069 (H)
Jan. 29	17-2	54	52 LSU	2	17 BENNETT WINSTON	8 WALKER, KENNY	12,477 (A)
Jan. 31	18-2	81	71 AUBURN	10	24 WALKER, KENNY	10 BENNETT WINSTON	23,320 (H)
Feb. 02	18-3	51	54 NORTH CAROLINA STATE	-3	16 DAVENDER, ED	8 WALKER, KENNY	12,400 (A)
Feb. 05	19-3	73	65 VANDERBILT	8	22 BLACKMON, JAMES	12 WALKER, KENNY	23,070 (H)
Feb. 08	20-3	62	58 OLE MISS	4	15 WALKER, KENNY	13 WALKER, KENNY	7,451 (A)
Feb. 13	21-3	73	71 ALABAMA	2	22 BLACKMON, JAMES	7 BLACKMON, JAMES	15,043 (A)
Feb. 15	22-3	88	62 MISSISSIPPI STATE	26	21 BENNETT WINSTON	7 BENNETT WINSTON	23,115 (H)
Feb. 19	23-3	80	69 FLORIDA	11	23 WALKER, KENNY	10 WALKER, KENNY	23,065 (H)
Feb. 22	24-3	80	75 GEORGIA	5	22 WALKER, KENNY	9 WALKER, KENNY	10,826 (A)
Feb. 27	25-3	62	60 TENNESSEE	2	32 WALKER, KENNY	9 WALKER, KENNY	12,700 (A)
Mar. 01	26-3	68	57 LSU	11	17 WALKER, KENNY	6 BENNETT WINSTON	23,610 (H)
Mar. 06	27-3	95	69 OLE MISS	26	28 WALKER, KENNY	7 BENNETT WINSTON	18,230 (H)
Mar. 07	28-3	61	58 Louisiana State	3	15 BENNETT WINSTON	13 BENNETT WINSTON	19,215 (H)
Mar. 08	29-3	83	72 ALABAMA	11	20 WALKER, KENNY	12 WALKER, KENNY	21,700 (H)

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Harden Ready To Venture To Dallas

"I Think We Are Going To Win It All", Says The Senior

Roger Harden doesn't believe Kentucky has pulled its final surprise of the 1985-86 season.

"I really think we are going to win it all, the national championship," says Harden, UK's senior point guard. "We aren't going to be satisfied with just the SEC (Southeastern Conference) championship."

Kentucky finished regular SEC play with a 17-1 regular season mark. Only two previous SEC teams — Kentucky in 1970 and LSU in 1981 — posted 17-1 records after the conference went to a double round robin scheduled in 1967. UK also matched the second longest single-season win streak in SEC history by winning its final 16 league games. The 1981 LSU squad went 17-0 before losing at Kentucky.



Larry Vaught

Cats' Pause Columnist

But the Wildcats don't think they are finished surprising cage experts across the country.

"No one in their wildest dreams could have thought we could have the record we do," says first-year UK Coach Eddie Sutton. "But we aren't ready to throw the towel in yet. We don't overpower teams but there is not any team in the country that we can't beat on a given night."

"The players understand this is not the most talented team UK has ever had. It's not the most talented team I've ever coached. We were fortunate not to have any major injuries and to have hit some game-winners on the road. But this team has also captured the imagination of fans across the Bluegrass. I've never enjoyed a year more than this one."

All-American forward Kenny Walker was the foundation Sutton used to build his conference championship team. And Walker says this is a different club from the 1984-85 squad that finished 18-13.

"We have much more togetherness this season," says Walker. "Last year injuries hurt us and we got off to a slow start."

"This team always goes out and plays hard. We don't have the talent like a Twin Towers (Sam Bowie and Melvin Turpin) team I was on as a sophomore but this team plays harder."



Sutton



Sanderson

"Coach Sutton is an outstanding coach, one of the best in America. But I have to give a lot of praise to this club, too. We got out and do what he tells us."

And when the Cats needed a hero, someone always stepped forward. "It seems like every game somebody different comes through," says Harden. "That's what it takes to win a national title."

Maybe Harden is too optimistic. But he has predicted from day one that the Cats would reach the Final Four in Dallas.

"Dallas is a dream," says Sutton. "Sixty-four teams have that dream but it is a lot harder to win a national championship than it once was."

"However, if this club does not win another game I will be as proud of them as any club I've coached in 28 years."

And he should be, too, because Kentucky has already accomplished more than anyone had a right to expect.

IF SUTTON could have his way the NCAA would go back to a 32-team tourney field and only take conference round robin winners.

Since that will never happen, the UK coach has another suggestion for the NCAA. Let the 32 top seeds in the 64-team field play their first game at home.

"Out of the 32 games you would probably get 28 winners that were the highest ranked team," says Sutton.

After that, Sutton feels teams should not be allowed to play at home.

"A true national champion ought to be determined at a neutral site," says the UK coach. "A lot of people are opposed to that because they want to go back to playing all the games on college campuses. I just don't feel a team should play a regional game on its home floor. It's too much of an advantage."

WHO DOES Sutton think is the best team entering NCAA play? His vote goes to Kansas.

"Kansas is not as deep as some teams in the ACC (Atlantic Coast Conference) but its starting five is very tough," says Sutton.

However, the UK coach would also like another chance to play Kansas or North Carolina State, two teams that beat the Wildcats.

"I would like to play N.C. State and Kansas again down in Dallas," says Sutton.

Of course, if that happens it would mean UK was playing for the national title.

FORWARD KENNY Walker received the first of many expected honors last week when he was named Southeastern Conference Player of the Year by The Associated Press. He was also one of five unanimous choices to the SEC coaches' all-conference team.

Joining Walker as unanimous picks on the coaches' team were Buck Johnson of Alabama, Chuck Person of Auburn, Tony White of Tennessee and John Williams of LSU. Also named to the 10-player team were Winston Bennett of Kentucky, Joe Ward of Georgia, Derrick McKey of Alabama, Vernon Maxwell of Florida and Terry Coner of Alabama.

"Basically that was the team we selected with one exception," says Sutton. "Roger (Harden) deserves to be on it."

"It's strange to me that a team that wins the conference by four games doesn't deserve three players on a 10-man roster."

Sutton won't argue that the five unanimous picks are the top players in the SEC based on the 18-game league schedule. But he feels Harden, who made the AP All-SEC third team, was slighted by the coaches.

"In some ways I've sensed in my 11 months at Kentucky that some petty jealousies exist," says Sutton. "Maybe some didn't judge the all-conference team in an objective manner. Too many wounds exist through the years. It hurt Roger in this situation."

ALABAMA COACH Wimp Sanderson took time to set the record straight about the true SEC Coach of the Year during last week's league tourney in Lexington.

He said Kentucky's Eddie Sutton, not himself, was the Southeastern Conference Coach of the Year.

League coaches, in a vote conducted by the Knoxville News-Sentinel, picked Sanderson over Sutton as Coach of the Year even though the Wildcats finished SEC play 17-1 to Alabama's 13-5.

Coaches were asked to list their top three choices and were allowed to vote for themselves. Sutton voted for Sanderson, Norm Sloan of Florida and C.M. Newton of Vanderbilt. Sanderson doesn't know who he voted for because Alabama assistant sports information director J.D. Rutledge filled out the ballot. Rutledge included Sanderson's name as one of the top coaches and signed the ballot for the Alabama mentor.

"I apologize for anything that was done on my behalf that hurt Eddie," said Sanderson. "He's very deserving of the Coach of the Year honor. He's a guy

[Continued On Page 38]

In SEC Quaterfinals

Kentucky Races Past Rebels, 95-69

Just after Mississippi State completed its upset punch by knocking out No. 2 seed Auburn, many of the folks on hand at Rupp Arena were probably wondering if Ole Miss could pull the same trick on Kentucky.

Could lightning strike again in the SEC Tournament... and on the same Thursday night?

For the 18,230 in attendance the answer came in the first half as the host Wildcats raced out to a stunning 31-9 advantage on their way to a 95-69 conquest of the Rebels.

The victory advanced the Wildcats into the semifinals against Louisiana State. Ole Miss, meanwhile, finished the season at 12-17.

"I don't think it was any surprise that Mississippi State came in and played an excellent game against Auburn," said Winston Bennett. "I really didn't feel like we could come in and overlook an Ole Miss because they also have a lot of talent. They have the ability to beat any team on any given night."

Inside the 10-minute mark Ole Miss closed the gap to 12 but that was as close as it would get.

"We really have great respect for this ballclub," Eddie Sutton said in reference to Mississippi. "Our defense was very active tonight. In the first 12 or 13 minutes of the ballgame, we can't play any better than that."

"We forced some turnovers and turned those into easy baskets. We'd play anybody well, including Duke, in that first few minutes of that ball game."

The Wildcat defense helped cough up nine turnovers in the first 20 minutes. With James Blackmon pouring in 14 of his 18 points in the first half, Kentucky led at intermission by a comfortable 40-23 count.

Blackmon, also tied Bennett for game-high rebound honors with seven, was credited with four steals and three assists in 25 minutes of work.

Playing only 26 minutes All-American Kenny Walker was the offensive star on the night. His 28-point performance gave the senior 1,995, which ranks him third on all-time UK list.

"I think we've gradually improved though we're not where I'd like us to be," said Lee Hunt when asked about the improvement of his program over the past three seasons. "But, we have made some progress."

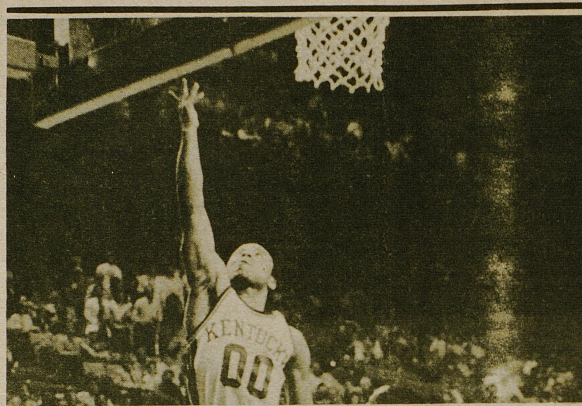
Rebels Came Up Empty Tracing Cat Tracks

Ole Miss' Joe Ayers coolly took the opening tap and quickly netted the first basket with a short jumper.

Mississippi 2, Kentucky 0. Time elapsed — five seconds.

BUT, it would be the last lead Hunt's club would own for the '86 season. Bennett's follow up after a Walker miss tied the score and started a binge that would send the scrappy and 'better than you think' Rebels back home.

First it was Roger Harden (a 16-footer following a 20-foot attempt which missed everything), then Walker (a dunk and a short turnaround jumper thanks in part to assists from Ed Davender and Blackmon), a Davender free throw, and finally ending with Blackmon (who laid it in following a Davender theft).



It's A Bird...It's A Plane...It's Leroy Byrd

Kentucky 11, Mississippi 2. Time elapsed — 3:59.

"We were not going to overlook anybody," said Walker. "We have a lot of respect for Ole Miss and they're a good ballclub."

"This is a new season; anybody's capable of winning. We just wanted to come into the game with the attitude that we were going to play hard and play good defense." Not satisfied with a nine-point cushion, Kentucky quickly increased the lead to 31-9 with 7:41 remaining in the half.

Following an Eric Smith layup, Blackmon soared to great heights to tap in a miss, which put Kentucky further in front 17-9.

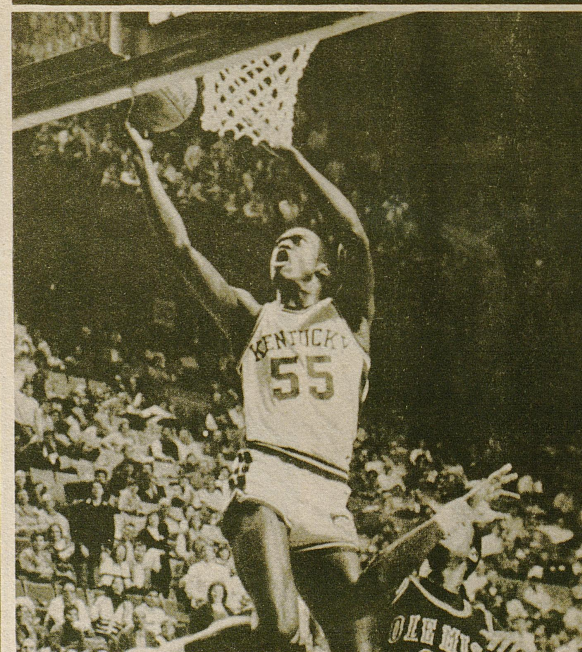
Sutton was able to use this time to insert many of his reserves. With Robert Lock, Richard Madison, Cedric Jenkins and Irving Thomas playing a combined 17 minutes in the first stanza, UK's starters were able to rest up. And with LSU awaiting, plus with other post-season possibilities coming up, a rest was well needed.

"We got in a hole early and had to play catch-up," Hunt said. "It's very difficult to play Kentucky in Rupp Arena and try to catch up."

From the field Mississippi ended the half with a poor 9 of 23 shooting performance (39.1 percent). Kentucky, on the other hand, drilled in 17 of 31 attempts for 54.8 percent.

Playing in his last game for the Rebels, senior Curtis Ritchwood led Mississippi with 19 points. Followed by Roderick Barnes and Joe Ayers with 16 and 14 points.

OFFICIAL NCAA BASKETBALL BOX SCORE														
Date: March 3, 1986 Site: RUPP ARENA, LEX., KY														
VISITORS (Last Name, First)														
No.	FG	FGA	FT	FTA	REB	PF	TP	MIN	A	TO	BLK	S		
21	9	12	1	2	7	2	19	37	1	2	1	0		
42	4	13	2	2	2	5	10	28	0	1	0	1		
34	0	1	0	0	1	4	0	25	1	2	0	0		
12	6	11	4	4	2	3	16	33	3	3	0	3		
31	5	11	4	5	3	4	14	24	2	3	1	0		
11	2	4	0	0	0	0	0	14	1	0	0	0		
20	3	0	0	0	1	0	0	1	0	1	0	0		
24	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	20	0	0	2	2		
35	3	3	6	3	3	5	5	9	0	0	0	0		
46	0	1	1	2	2	2	1	9	0	0	0	0		
TEAM REBOUNDS (Included in Totals)														
TOTALS	27	59	15	21	24	23	69	200	8	12	4	7		
HOME														
No.	FG	FGA	FT	FTA	REB	PF	TP	MIN	A	TO	BLK	S		
25	6	11	1	2	7	3	13	33	2	2	0	2		
34	12	16	4	4	3	3	28	26	1	0	1	1		
10	8	10	2	4	7	3	18	25	3	1	0	4		
15	0	5	3	4	2	1	3	25	5	0	0	1		
23	2	6	0	0	4	3	4	25	3	3	0	0		
30	3	3	0	0	1	2	0	12	3	0	0	0		
14	0	1	0	0	1	2	0	9	0	0	0	0		
30	2	3	3	6	3	1	7	7	0	1	2	0		
32	0	0	0	0	1	2	0	5	1	1	0	1		
42	3	6	2	2	5	0	8	12	0	0	1	0		
44	1	3	1	3	4	1	3	11	0	3	1	0		
55	2	4	1	1	4	0	5	10	0	1	0	1		
TEAM REBOUNDS (Included in Totals)														
TOTALS	39	68	17	26	45	20	95	200	18	12	5	10		
OFFICIALS: Reggie Copeland, Ben Dunn and Wally Tanner														
Technical Fouls: None														
Attendance: 18,230														

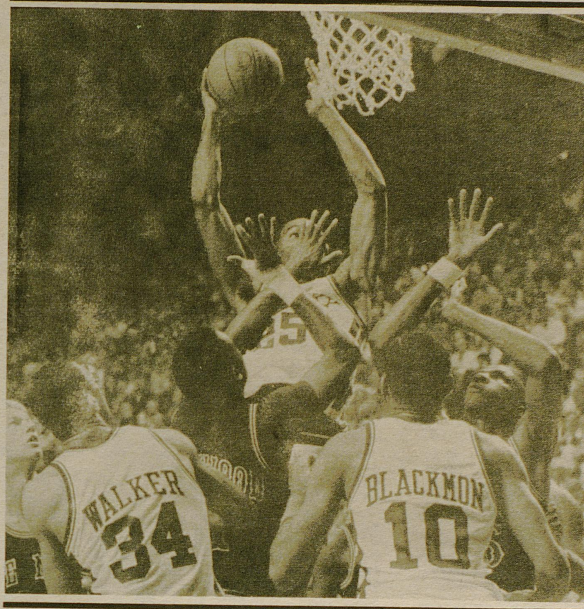


Cedric Becoming A Force

Led By Madison and Byrd UK Reserves Turn It On

Walker opened the second half by scoring six of the 'Cats' first 10 marks. Showing moves somewhat similar to his break-dancing gyrations, Walker side-stepped a Rebel defender and laid in a reverse layup.

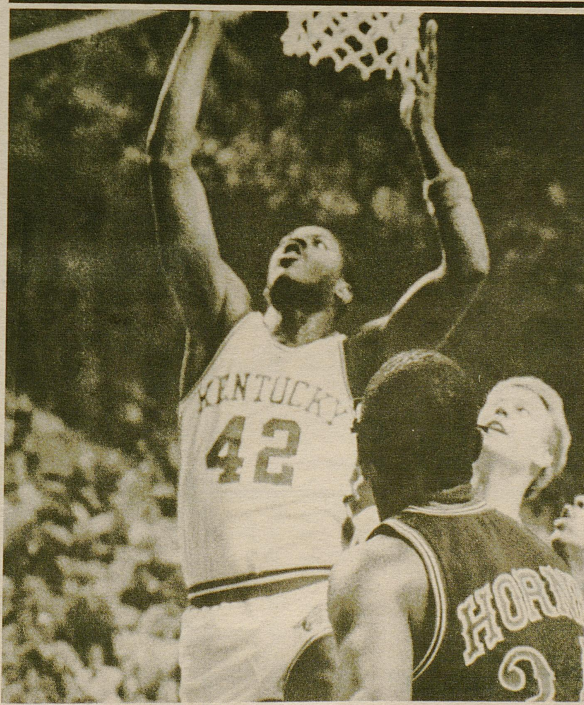
Harden then initiated a fast-break and passed off to his 6-8 senior teammate for the dunk. Walker's jam made the score 46-27 with only 1:02 elapsed.



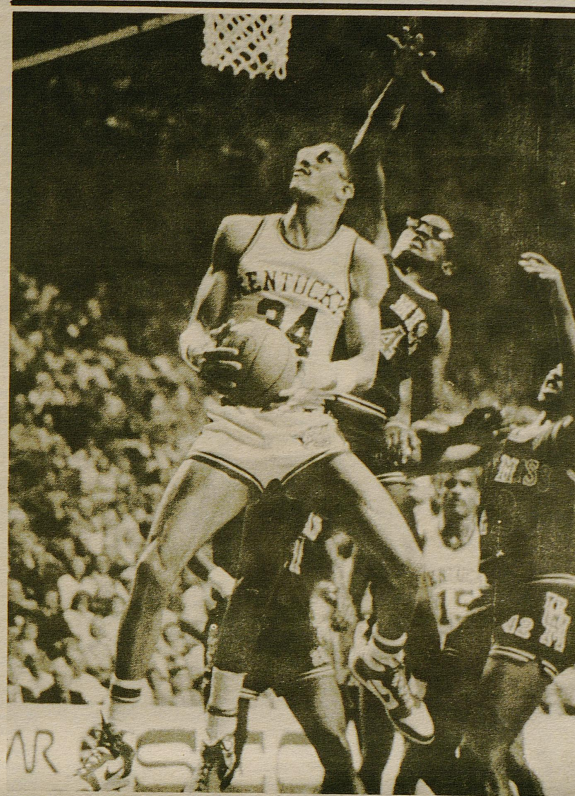
Bennett In A Crowd

Adding players in and out of the lineup Kentucky maintained a sizable lead throughout the rest of the game.

Mississippi, aided by Curtis Ritchwood and Roderick Barnes' offensive contributions, closed the gap to 12 (69-57) with 5:58 remaining. Ritchwood and Barnes chipped in with 14 and 11 points in the second half, respectively. Outscoring the home team 14-4 the Rebels pulled within 12. However, a layup and a free throw by Lock, two free throws and a layup by Madison, and a three-point play by Walker switched Mr. Mo back in UK's favor, 79-58.



Kentucky's Madison Eyes Two Points



Sky With Nowhere To Go

Madison finished the quarterfinal contest with eight points and five rebounds.

Wildcat reserve Leroy Byrd, who thrilled the crowd with six points and three assists, received high praise from Sutton afterwards.

"I probably would be remissed if I didn't really single out one of our three seniors, I thought Leroy Byrd was sensational. He did a marvelous job of running the ballclub while he was in there."

Byrd played 12 minutes, all in the second half.

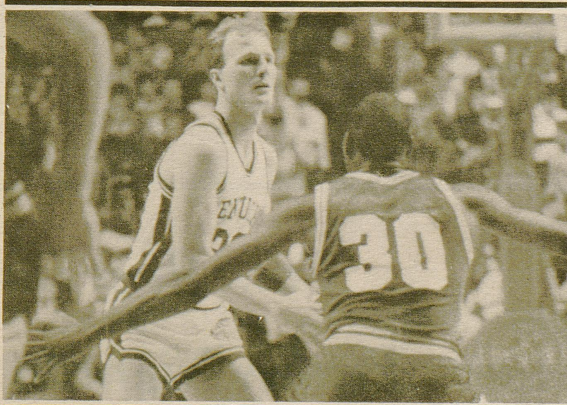
Hunt Impressed With Wildcats, Chances In NCAA

At the beginning of his postgame conference, Hunt told the SEC media not to be surprised if Kentucky earns a trip to Dallas.

"They (Kentucky) play pressure defense probably as well as anybody in America," said the Ole Miss mentor. "It's very difficult to establish an offensive set against them. They're an extremely talented group and they play extremely well together. I think they are going to be hard to beat."

"What amazes me is that they play so well together, very structured, and they're very disciplined. You usually don't find that when you get so many good players together, and I've observed this all year long. I marvel at the way they are playing right now. There's a certain chemistry on this Kentucky team and I wouldn't be surprised to see them in the Final Four."

"They have all the ingredients to get there and they're extremely well coached."



Roger Harden

NCAA

CHAMPIONSHIP RESULTS (FINAL FOUR)

Year	Champion	Score	Runner-up	Third Place	Fourth Place	Site of Finals	Coaches of Team Champions	Outstanding Player Award
1939	Oregon	46-33	Ohio State	Kansas	Villanova	Evanston, Ill.	Howard Hobson, Oregon	None Selected
1940	Indiana	60-42	Kansas	Duquesne	Southern Cal	Kansas City, Mo.	Branch McCracken, Indiana	Marvin Huffman, Indiana
1941	Wisconsin	39-34	Washington St.	Pittsburgh	Arkansas	Kansas City, Mo.	Harold Foster, Wisconsin	John Kotz, Wisconsin
1942	Stanford	53-38	Dartmouth	Kentucky	Colorado	Kansas City, Mo.	Everett Dean, Stanford	Howard Daimar, Stanford
1943	Wyoming	46-34	Georgetown	DePaul	Texas	New York City	Vadal Peterson, Wyoming	Ken Sailors, Wyoming
1944	Utah	42-40	Dartmouth	Iowa State	DePaul	New York City	Henry Iba, Oklahoma State	Arnold Ferrin, Utah
1945	Oklahoma St.	49-45	New York U.	Arkansas	Ohio State	New York City	Henry Iba, Oklahoma State	Bob Kurland, Okla. St.
1946	Oklahoma St.	43-40	North Carolina	Ohio State	California	New York City	Adolph Rupp, Kentucky	George Kaftan, Holy Cross
1947	Holy Cross	58-47	Oklahoma	Texas	CCNY	New York City	Adolph Rupp, Kentucky	Alex Groza, Kentucky
1948	Kentucky	58-42	Baylor	Holy Cross	Kansas State	New York City	Adolph Rupp, Kentucky	Alex Groza, Kentucky
1949	Kentucky	46-36	Oklahoma St.	Illinois	Oregon State	Seattle, Wash.	Nat Holman, CCNY	Irwin Dambrot, CCNY
1950	CCNY	71-68	Bradley	N.C. State	Baylor	New York City	Adolph Rupp, Kentucky	None Selected
1951	Kentucky	68-58	Kansas State	Illinois	Oklahoma St.	Minn., Minn.	Forrest Allen, Kansas	Clyde Lovelette, Kansas
1952	Kansas	80-63	St. John's	Illinois	Santa Clara	Seattle, Wash.	Branch McCracken, Indiana	B.H. Born, Kansas
1953	Indiana	69-68	Kansas	Washington	LSU	Kansas City, Mo.	Phil Woolpert, San Francisco	Tom Gola, LaSalle
1954	LaSalle	92-76	Bradley	Penn State	Southern Cal	Kansas City, Mo.	Phil Woolpert, San Francisco	Bill Russell, San Fran.
1955	San Francisco	77-63	LaSalle	Colorado	Iowa	Evanston, Ill.	Frank McGuire, N. Carolina	Hal Lear, Temple
1956	San Francisco	83-71	Iowa	Temple	Sou. Meth.	Kansas City, Mo.	Adolph Rupp, Kentucky	Wilt Chamberlain, Kan.
1957	N. Carolina	54-53	Kansas	San Francisco	Kansas State	Louisville, Ky.	Pete Newell, California	Elgin Baylor, Seattle
1958	Kentucky	84-72	Seattle	Temple	Louisville	Louisville, Ky.		Jerry West, West Virginia
1959	California	71-70	West Virginia	Cincinnati	Louisville	Louisville, Ky.		Jerry Lucas, Ohio State
1960	Ohio State	75-55	California	Cincinnati	New York U.	San Fran., Cal.	Fred Taylor, Ohio State	Jerry Lucas, Ohio State
1961	Cincinnati	70-65	Ohio State	Vacated	Kansas City	Kansas City, Mo.	Edwin Jucker, Cincinnati	Paul Hogue, Cincinnati
1962	Cincinnati	71-59	Ohio State	Wake Forest	UCLA	Louisville, Ky.	George Ireland, Loyola (Ill.)	Art Heyman, Duke
1963	Loyola (Ill.)	60-58	Cincinnati	Duke	Oregon State	Louisville, Ky.	John Wooden, UCLA	Walt Hazzard, UCLA
1964	UCLA	98-83	Duke	Michigan	Kansas State	Kansas City, Mo.	Don Haskins, Texas-El Paso	Bill Bradley, Princeton
1965	UCLA	91-80	Michigan	Princeton	Wichita State	Portland, Ore.	John Wooden, UCLA	Jerry Chambers, Utah
1966	Texas-El Paso	72-65	Kentucky	Duke	Utah	College Park, Md.	John Wooden, UCLA	Lew Alcindor, UCLA
1967	UCLA	79-64	Dayton	Houston	N. Carolina	Louisville, Ky.	John Wooden, UCLA	Lew Alcindor, UCLA
1968	UCLA	78-55	North Carolina	Ohio State	Houston	L.A., Calif.	John Wooden, UCLA	Lew Alcindor, UCLA
1969	UCLA	92-72	Purdue	Drake	N. Carolina	Louisville, Ky.	John Wooden, UCLA	Sidney Wicks, UCLA
1970	UCLA	80-69	Jacksonville	N. Mexico St.	St. Bonaventure	College Park, Md.	John Wooden, UCLA	Vacated
1971	UCLA	68-62	Vacated	Kansas	Kansas	Houston, Texas	John Wooden, UCLA	Bill Walton, UCLA
1972	UCLA	81-76	Florida State	N. Carolina	Louisville	Los Angeles, Cal.	John Wooden, UCLA	Bill Walton, UCLA
1973	UCLA	76-64	Memphis State	Indiana	Providence	St. Louis, Mo.	Norman Sloan, N.C. State	David Thompson, N.C. State
1974	N.C. State	75-64	Marquette	UCLA	Kansas	Greensboro, N.C.	John Wooden, UCLA	Richard Washington, UCLA
1975	UCLA	92-85	Kentucky	Louisville	Syracuse	San Diego, Calif.	Bob Knight, Indiana	Kent Benson, Indiana
1976	Indiana	86-68	Michigan	UCLA	Rutgers	Philadelphia, Pa.	Al McGuire, Marquette	Butch Lee, Marquette
1977	Marquette	67-59	North Carolina	Nev.-L. Vegas	N.C. Charlotte	Atlanta, Ga.	Joe Hall, Kentucky	Jack Givens, Kentucky
1978	Kentucky	94-88	Duke	Arkansas	Notre Dame	St. Louis, Mo.	Jud Heathcote, Michigan St.	Earvin Johnson, Mich. St.
1979	Mich. State	75-64	Indiana State	DePaul	Penn.	Salt Lake City, UT	Denny Crum, Louisville	Darrell Griffith, Louisville
1980	Louisville	59-54	Vacated	Purdue	Iowa	Indianapolis, Ind.	Bob Knight, Indiana	Isiah Thomas, Indiana
1981	Indiana	63-50	North Carolina	Virginia	LSU	Philadelphia, Pa.	Dean Smith, North Carolina	James Worthy, N. Carolina
1982	N. Carolina	63-62	Georgetown	Houston	Louisville	New Orleans, La.	Jim Valvano, NC State	Akeem Olajuwon, Houston
1983	N.C. State	54-52	Houston	Georgia	Louisville	Albuquerque, NM	John Thompson, G'town	Patrick Ewing, G'town
1984	Georgetown	84-75	Houston	Virginia	Albuquerque, NM	Seattle, WA	Rollie Massimino, Villanova	Ed Pickney, Villanova
1985	Villanova	66-64	Georgetown	St. John's	Memphis St.	Lexington, Ky.		

*Tied for third place. †Overtime. \$Three Overtimes.

**Student-athletes representing Villanova (1971), Western Kentucky (1971) and UCLA (1980) were declared ineligible subsequent to the tournament. Under NCAA rules, the teams' and ineligible student-athletes' records were deleted; and the teams' places in the standings were vacated. @ Howard Porter, Villanova.

NCAA TOURNAMENT WINNINGEST COACHES BY VICTORIES (TITLES)

John Wooden, UCLA (10)	47
Dean Smith, North Carolina (1)	31
Adolph Rupp, Kentucky (4)	30
Guy Lewis, Houston	26
Bob Knight, Indiana (2)	21
Denny Crum, Louisville (1)	21
Joe B. Hall, Kentucky (1)	20
Al McGuire, Marquette (1)	20
John Thompson, Georgetown (1)	17
Henry Iba, Oklahoma State (2)	15
Frank McGuire, No. Carolina, So. Carolina (1)	14
Ray Meyer, DePaul	14
Fred Taylor, Ohio State (1)	14
Digger Phelps, Notre Dame	14
Lefty Driesell, Davidson, Maryland	14
Phil Woolpert, San Francisco (2)	13
Gene Bartow, Memphis St., UCLA, UAB	13
Jack Gardner, Kansas State, Utah	12

NCAA CHAMPIONSHIPS

UCLA	10
Kentucky	5
Indiana	4
North Carolina	2
N.C. State	2
Oklahoma State	2
San Francisco	2

YEAR-BY-YEAR IN THE NCAA

1985	Won 2, Lost 1	Eliminated by St. John's in the West Region Semi-Finals
1984	Won 3, Lost 1	Eliminated by Georgetown in Final Four Semi-finals
1983	Won 2, Lost 1	Eliminated by Louisville in Mideast Regional Finals
1982	Won 0, Lost 1	Eliminated by Middle Tenn. in Mideast First Round
1981	Won 1, Lost 1	Eliminated by UAB in Mideast First Round
1980	Won 1, Lost 1	Eliminated by Duke in Mideast Semi-Finals
1978	Won 5, Lost 0	NATIONAL CHAMPIONS — Defeated Duke for title
1977	Won 2, Lost 1	Eliminated by North Carolina in East Regional Finals
1975	Won 4, Lost 1	RUNNER-UP — Lost to UCLA in Championship Game
1973	Won 1, Lost 1	Eliminated by Indiana in Mideast Regional Final
1972	Won 1, Lost 1	Eliminated by Florida State in Mideast Regional Final
1971	Won 0, Lost 2	Eliminated by Western Kentucky in Mideast First Round
1970	Won 1, Lost 1	Eliminated by Jacksonville in Mideast Final
1969	Won 1, Lost 1	Eliminated by Marquette in Mideast First Game
1968	Won 1, Lost 1	Eliminated by Ohio State in Mideast Regional Final
1966	Won 3, Lost 1	RUNNER-UP — Lost to Texas Western in Championship game
1964	Won 0, Lost 2	Eliminated by Ohio Univ. in Mideast First Game
1962	Won 1, Lost 1	Eliminated by Ohio State in Mideast Final
1961	Won 1, Lost 1	Eliminated by Ohio State in Mideast Final
1959	Won 1, Lost 1	Eliminated by Louisville in Mideast First Round
1958	Won 4, Lost 0	NATIONAL CHAMPIONS — Defeated Seattle for title
1957	Won 1, Lost 1	Eliminated by Michigan State in Midwest Final
1956	Won 1, Lost 1	Eliminated by Iowa in East Regional First Round
1955	Won 1, Lost 1	Eliminated by Marquette in East Regional First Round
1954		Withdrew after winning automatic berth as SEC champion
1952	Won 1, Lost 1	Eliminated by St. John's in East Regional Final
1951	Won 4, Lost 0	NATIONAL CHAMPIONS — Defeated Kansas State for title
1949	Won 3, Lost 0	NATIONAL CHAMPIONS — Defeated Oklahoma A&M for title
1948	Won 3, Lost 0	NATIONAL CHAMPIONS — Defeated Baylor for title
1945	Won 1, Lost 1	Eliminated by Ohio State in first round
1942	Won 1, Lost 1	Eliminated by Dartmouth in second game

Cats Meet Davidson

Friday Night In Charlotte

Defense, D



Kentucky Basketball Statistics

Date: 03-10-1986

32-GAME STATISTICS

(29-3 Overall; 17-1 SEC Champions)
(18-0 Home; 11-3 Away; 1-0 Neutral)

		UNIVERSITY OF KENTUCKY WILDCATS																	
G	GS	Min	Avg	FG	FGA	Pct	FT	FTA	Pct	Reb	Avg	PF	D	Ass	To	Blk	Stl	Pts	Avg
WALKER, KENNY	32	1103	34.5	225	397	56.7	177	231	76.6	244	7.6	79	1	43	43	39	42	627	19.6
BENNETT, WINSTON	32	990	30.9	154	297	51.9	100	133	75.2	216	6.8	111	6	48	65	16	42	408	12.8
DAVENDER, ED	32	1025	32.0	143	321	44.5	90	113	79.6	85	2.7	78	1	113	64	2	54	376	11.8
BLACKMON, JAMES	32	875	27.3	133	272	48.9	39	64	60.9	126	3.9	78	2	75	38	2	47	305	9.5
HARDEN, ROGER	32	982	30.7	99	185	53.5	26	30	86.7	70	2.2	61	-	210	77	1	28	224	7.0
MADISON, RICHARD	31	-	480	15.5	62	108	57.4	33	50	66.0	81	2.6	38	-	23	36	7	157	5.1
LOCK, ROBERT	25	-	191	7.6	29	51	56.9	22	46	47.8	46	1.8	33	-	3	22	12	80	3.2
JENKINS, CEDRIC	32	-	341	10.7	36	79	45.6	22	32	68.8	69	2.2	45	1	5	9	5	94	2.9
ZIEGLER, TODD	16	-	68	4.3	13	23	56.5	6	10	60.0	19	1.2	12	-	5	7	1	32	2.0
BYRD, LEROY	20	1	117	5.9	12	19	63.2	10	13	76.9	12	.6	11	-	19	10	-	34	1.7
ANDREWS, PAUL	22	-	154	7.0	15	37	40.5	6	6	100.0	16	.7	18	-	14	5	-	36	1.6
THOMAS, IRVING	17	-	74	4.4	7	15	46.7	8	14	57.1	16	.9	13	-	5	17	3	22	1.3
Team	32	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	55	1.7	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
WILDCATS	32	-	6400	200.	928	1804	51.4	539	742	72.6	1055	33.0	577	11	563	393	88	2395	74.8
Opponents	32	-	6400	200.	788	1689	46.7	387	544	71.1	910	28.4	675	26	403	507	78	1963	61.3

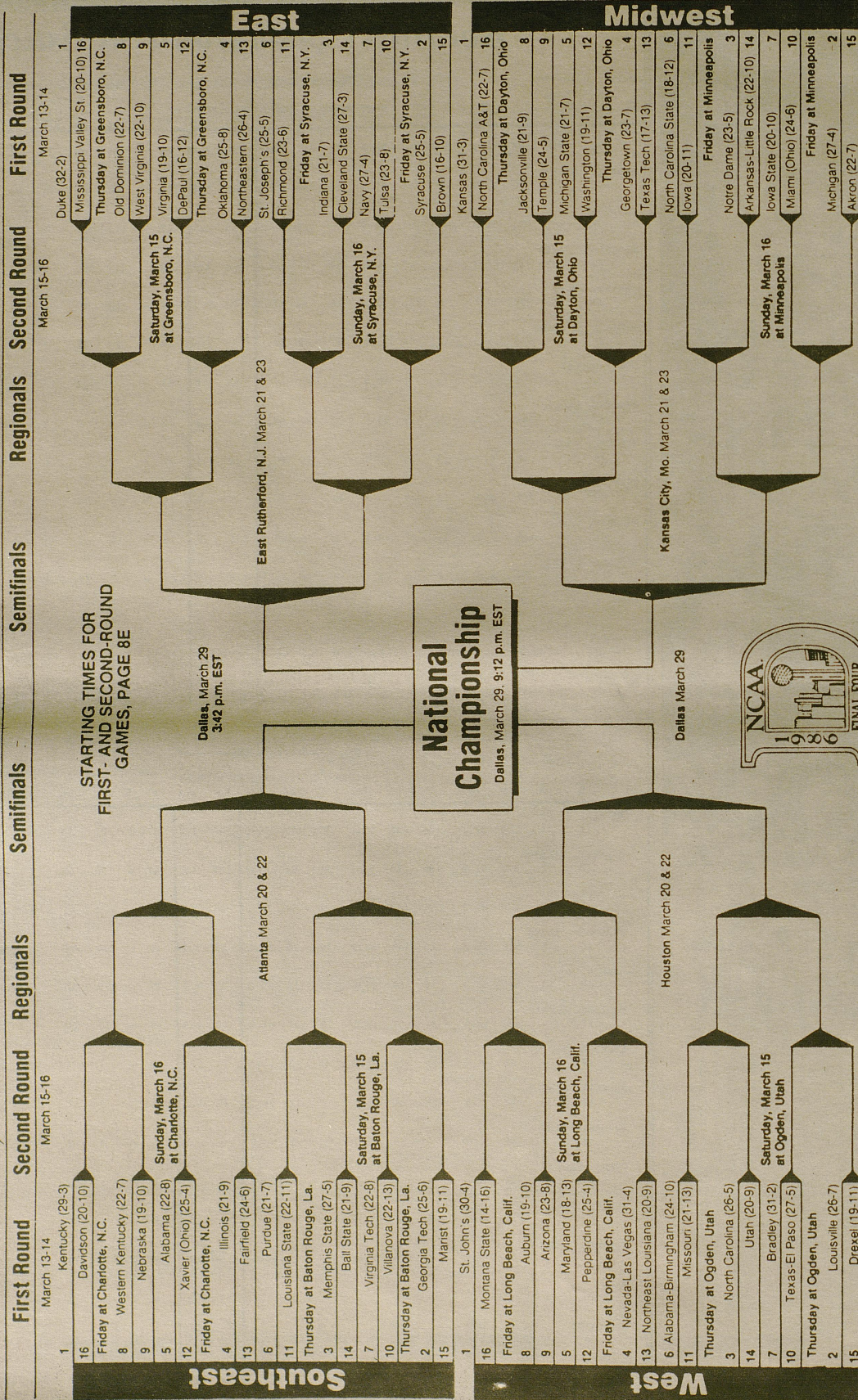
--- Conference Games ---

		UNIVERSITY OF KENTUCKY WILDCATS																	
G	GS	Min	Avg	FG	FGA	Pct	FT	FTA	Pct	Reb	Avg	PF	D	Ass	To	Blk	Stl	Pts	Avg
WALKER, KENNY	18	18	678	37.7	136	228	59.6	95	125	76.0	143	7.9	47	1	29	23	27	367	20.4
BENNETT, WINSTON	18	18	573	31.8	90	174	51.7	60	82	73.2	127	7.1	67	4	30	43	8	240	13.3
DAVENDER, ED	18	17	598	33.2	81	183	44.3	38	52	73.1	45	2.5	53	1	72	42	2	200	11.1
BLACKMON, JAMES	18	18	526	29.2	76	141	53.9	17	28	60.7	57	3.2	49	1	44	25	2	169	9.4
HARDEN, ROGER	18	18	581	32.3	58	104	55.8	17	19	89.5	35	1.9	39	-	119	50	-	133	7.4
MADISON, RICHARD	17	-	278	16.4	31	59	52.5	19	31	61.3	42	2.5	19	-	13	20	4	81	4.8
LOCK, ROBERT	13	-	62	4.8	11	16	68.8	8	13	61.5	14	1.1	11	-	1	4	3	30	2.3
JENKINS, CEDRIC	18	-	172	9.6	13	31	41.9	7	12	58.3	29	1.6	21	1	3	1	3	33	1.8
THOMAS, IRVING	8	-	14	1.8	4	5	80.0	2	5	40.0	4	.5	4	-	2	3	-	10	1.3
BYRD, LEROY	10	1	37	3.7	4	6	66.7	4	4	100.0	2	.2	1	-	6	5	-	12	1.2
ANDREWS, PAUL	12	-	72	6.0	7	16	43.8	-	-	-	5	.4	8	-	6	4	-	14	1.2
ZIEGLER, TODD	6	-	9	1.5	1	2	50.0	1	2	50.0	3	.5	2	-	1	4	-	3	.5
Team	18	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	33	1.8	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
WILDCATS	18	-	3600	200.	512	965	53.1	268	373	71.8	539	29.9	321	8	326	224	49	1292	71.8
Opponents	18	-	3600	200.	449	938	47.9	212	299	70.9	513	28.5	363	17	220	274	38	1110	61.7

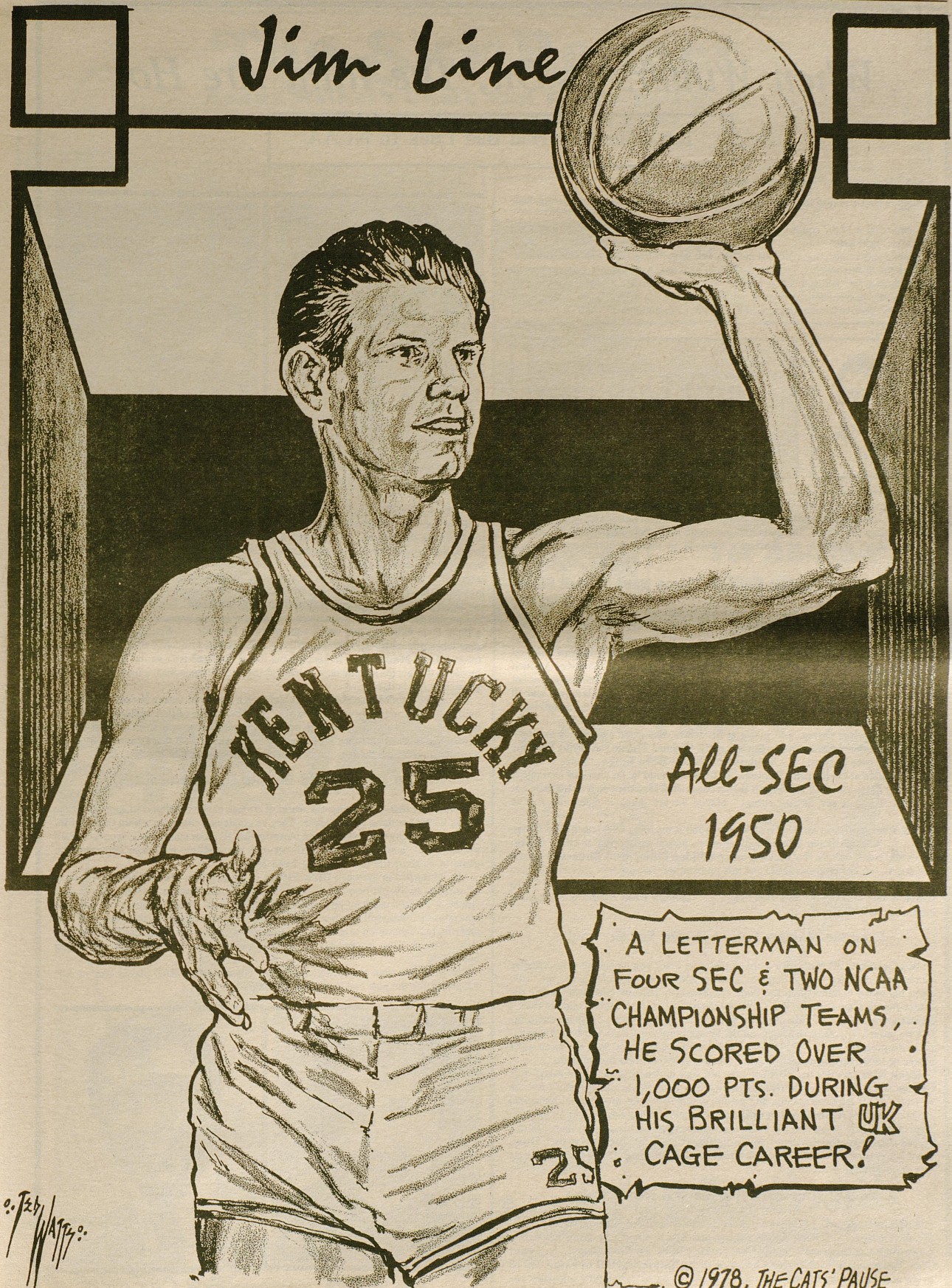
ense, Defense

YOUR GUIDE TO THE MEN'S TOURNAMENT

1986 NCAA DIVISION I MEN'S BASKETBALL CHAMPIONSHIP



Jim Line



All-SEC
1950

A LETTERMAN ON
FOUR SEC & TWO NCAA
CHAMPIONSHIP TEAMS,
HE SCORED OVER
1,000 PTS. DURING
HIS BRILLIANT UK
CAGE CAREER!

© 1978, THE CATS' PAUSE

When Winters Is On, The Illini Are Hot

Top Team Has Had Bad Luck In NCAA

Rupp, who had played for Allen in the early 1920's at Kansas, also edged Oregon State be gone from a 12-17 squad, but there's signs indicating more wins then losses for Ole Miss' next year.

Trouble is brewing once again for the **Big Ten** with its television contract. Lorimar, syndicators of this winter's Big Ten basketball package, is reportedly very upset with the conference for "failing to follow through with some promises it made" and is threatening to withhold payment. Two years ago the Big Ten was stifled by its football syndicator and received something considerably less than anticipated from its basketball



Larry Donald

Cats' Pause Columnist

syndicator which went bust during the season. At the very least it seems reasonable to assume **Lorimar** will not be back with the Big Ten next year. You have to wonder how long Big Ten athletic directors and presidents will continue permitting commissioner **Wayne Duke** to be constantly involved in these embarrassing television deals.....

Winters Talent Fizzled But Has Come Back In Full Force

Mentioning the Big Ten, that conference has turned out the team no one wants to play in the NCAA tournament: **Illinois**. Three years ago the Illini were a sprained ankle (**Efrem Winters**) away from making the Final Four and since then have been a real mystery. Typical of this team was a late season loss at home to **Indiana** followed by a road win at **Purdue** (which soundly whipped the Hoosiers in between.) Much of the Illini's erratic play can be traced to the 6-9 Winters. He was considered a hot pro prospect following his sophomore year, but disappeared most of last year and all of this season until recent weeks. When he plays well this is a team with enough talent to make the Final Four and if you have any doubt ask **Georgia Tech**.....

Privately **Walter Berry**, 6-10 junior at St. John's, has given indications that he'll return to complete his senior year. But it is early. Wayman Tisdale was saying the same thing at this time last year.....**Tisdale's** old coach, **Billy Tubbs**, figures if the big guy had stayed at **Oklahoma** this year, the Sooners would be far ahead of the college basketball field.....Ask **Michigan State** coach **Jud Heathcote** how his team has achieved so much and he just shrugs." Maybe we are doing it with mirrors," he says.....

One of the applicants for the **Florida State** job is outgoing **Pitt** coach **Roy Chipman**.....And the **Dave Bliss** bandwagon has picked up support at **Ohio State**. The **SMU** coach isn't the first choice to succeed **Eldon Miller** as the **Buckeyes** basketball coach, but it is doubtful **OSU** can lure number one because he's already coaching in the **Big Ten** (and it isn't **Bobby Knight**). The whole financial package at **Ohio State** is said to be in the \$250,000 range.....**Navy's Paul Evans** is the leading contender at **Pittsburgh**.....

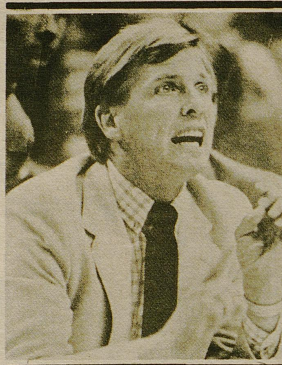
Douglas Making Future Bright For St. Louis

What separates **Al McGuire** from all the other color commentators is his creative mind, sense of humor and willingness to break television's code of dignity. Yes, I did catch his grand entrance onto the floor at **Cameron Indoor Stadium** before the **Duke-North Carolina** and that's why he's the best.....So what if he did say **Duke's Johnny Dawkins** and **Tommy Amaker** were, "the best guard combination in the last ten years.".....Keep an eye on the **St. Louis** program. Coach **Rich Grawer** has revived a program which was threatened with extinction a few years back and has a super player in freshman **Monroe Douglas** around which to build his program.....

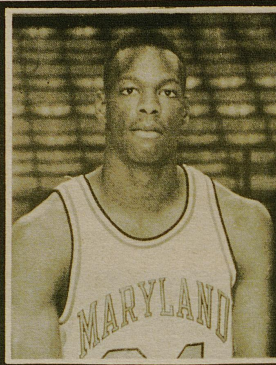
Dana Kirk says this has been his most fun year in coaching and when asked if he has any sense this year's **Memphis State** team might duplicate last year's run, he says no. "I just hope we're oiled and warm coming down the stretch.....Incidental statistic, since the **Associated Press** began its weekly college basketball poll the team rated number one going into the NCAA tournament has won it only 16 times. In this decade it has happened just once (North Carolina in 1982). As **Tar Heels** coach **Dean Smith** points out, "No one ever said the tournament produced the best team, at least they shouldn't say it".....

Walker And Bias May Be Top NBA Choice

William Bedford, 7-0 Memphis State, pivot say he'll not declare for NBA hard-ship this spring.....If **Berry** follows through and stays in school that means Kentucky's **Kenny Walker** or Maryland's **Len Bias** will probably be the top NBA choice.....Former **Ohio State** coach **Fred Taylor's** inclusion in the **Naismith Hall of Fame** will be a very popular choice. He was certainly successful as a coach, but more important has always impressed the basketball community as a class act.....



Dave Bliss



Len Bias

Here's a conclusion I have about officiating after 25 years watching this game: There will be five-to-eight horrible calls in each game, mistakes the officials will later concede among themselves. As a coach what you must hope for is a split (half for your team, half against) or than conscience will dictate a make-up or two. What you fear most is the timing of the call. If it's at a crucial time the game can be lost. And, as a coach, what you must avoid is over-reacting to the atrocious call because officials are much more likely to whistle a technical foul after making a call they know was wrong than after a tough call they feel strongly was right.....

I predict the NCAA will announce a minimum seating capacity in order to bid for a Final Four following this year's squeeze in at Dallas.....And, hey isn't **Texas** a state where the motto is, "Think big?".....This is just a hunch, but I believe the real trouble **Joey Meyer** faces in keeping his job at **DePaul** isn't so much the won-lost record as the fact the athletic department has included revenue from a first round NCAA game into the budget.....

It's probably unfortunate **UCLA** has had such a mediocre season because it will probably cost junior forward **Reggie Miller** some All-American votes he deserves.....Hopefully, if enough people continue to stay away from the post-season conference tournaments they'll become such a financial flop that administrators will move to discontinue them.....Television can't be paying that much.....

The Hoop World Should Commend ESPN

Mentioning that, isn't it time the world of college basketball stood to applaud all the things ESPN has done for our game. They've condensed the sport within the confines of everyone's home television screen meaning that all those teams and players you used to hear about, now you can see. This network has certainly had more impact on the game in its short life than anything I can recall.....

The job turned in by coach **Rick Pitino** in his first year a **Providence** comes as no surprise to his old boss, **New York Knicks** coach **Hubie Brown**. Pitino, says Hubie, is the best assistant he's ever had." It's not even close," he says.....Imagine how good the Friars will be when Pitino has some big time players on the roster.....And that program's elevation is coming at an important time for the **Big East** which aside from two or three teams has a lot of people either standing still or sliding backwards.....

Say what you what about him, but **Pearl Washington** HAS played like an All-American for the past two months.....Really.



Dana Kirk



Roy Chipman

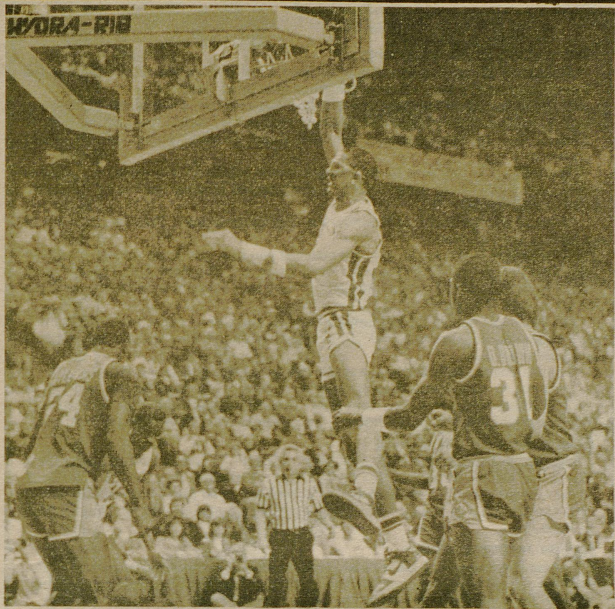
The Sky Report

Kenny Walker's Climb Past Kentucky's Elite

Kenny Walker's Climb Past Kentucky's Elite

Kenny Walker's Climb Past Kentucky's Elite

Photos by Gary Cromwell



Rank	Name	Points	Games	Years
1.	Dan Issel	2,138	83	3
2.	Jack Givens	2,038	123	4
3.	Kenny Walker	1,986	128	4
4.	Kevin Grevey	1,801	84	3
5.	Cotton Nash	1,770	78	3
6.	Alex Groza	1,744	120	4
7.	Louie Dampier	1,575	80	3
8.	Mike Casey	1,535	82	3
9.	Ralph Beard	1,517	138	4
10.	Melvin Turpin	1,509	123	4
11.	Cliff Hagan	1,475	77	3
12.	Pat Riley	1,464	80	3
13.	Johnny Cox	1,461	77	3
14.	Kyle Macy	1,411	98	3
15.	Rick Robey	1,395	105	4
16.	Mike Phillips	1,367	120	4
17.	Mike Pratt	1,359	81	3
18.	Frank Ramsey	1,344	91	3
19.	Jim Andrews	1,320	80	3
20.	Sam Bowie	1,285	94	3

**152 To Go
For All-Time
UK Record**

84WHAS - Covering the



country with Wildcat Basketball.

'G-r-r-r-e-a-t' And Other Worked Cliches

Scuttlebut At SEC Tourney



verworked cliches and things.

Some of the most beat to death terms in all of sports are these:

■ Great. Isn't anyone else tired of hearing sports analysts beat on your ears with that word?

Just for fun and for whatever therapeutic value there might be in it, next time you watch the Eddie Sutton Show...or the Denny Crum Show...or CBS...or NBC Television do a basketball game and Billy Packer or Al McGuire is talking, each time one of them uses the word *great* do a mind flip and substitute the word *baloney* and see if what they're saying makes just as much sense.

Until then, here's a personal salute to...

John Madden, NFL football analyst, who says: "The word *great* is thrown around so much, that any guy with shoulder pads on is called *great*."



Bob Watkins
Cats' Pause Columnist

Wimp Sanderson: "I don't ever use the word *great*. I might use the word *good* sometimes, but not *great*."

Thank heavens, Wimp.

G-r-r-r-e-a-t Billy Packer should have those five letters chiseled into his tomb stone. They've helped make him a fortune.

Comment: If everything is so *great* then what's the next level up?

Yes, right. *Super*. As in super play...super move...super game...super star...super tournament.

Super *baloney*.

"On the road (someplace)." This year...send me \$5, please, for every time Brent Musburger says, "On the road to Dallas."

"Nothing but the bottom of the net, Tom,"...and "no question about it, Tom..." and of course *strang music*."

Quick as a cat. During the NCAAAs count the number of times an announcer tells us that Johnny Dawkins, Pearl Washington and Ed Davender are.

Maybe Jim Valvano could invent a few new cliches by next season.

UK rolling on

About Kentucky, Mississippi Coach Lee Hunt was saying last week what we've witnessed all winter, "They play pressure defense as well as any team in America, but the thing that amazes me is that they play so well together and they're so structured. It's just a marvel the way they play together and we've seen it all year."

Eddie Ball.

"It's quite a chemistry this team has," Hunt added. "I won't be surprised to see this club make it to the Final Four."

Glowing words from Hunt make sweet music for the ears of Kentucky fans. But it is no exaggeration: The Wildcats are not only playing very well, but consistently so.

Eddie Sutton said of his team's defensive play for the first 13 minutes against Ole Miss, "That's about as well as we can play. I think no matter who we had played tonight even (No. 1 ranked) Duke, we'd have done well."

Scuttlebut

At the SEC Tournament last week a number of newsy items were floating...

■ To be announced probably this week: The U.S. Basketball Writers Association's national Coach of the Year is Duke's Mike Kryzewski; player of the year is Kentucky's Kenny Walker.

■ Eddie Sutton made another pitch to media types affiliated with The Associated Press who have not done so to "get out to vote" for college player of the year.

Word around Lexington was that Walter Berry of St. John's was leading Walker by 15 to 20 votes as of last Thursday.

■ Part of the entertainment value at any postseason tournament is the *Rumor Mill*, which was grinding very well last week at Rupp Arena. What follows is strictly fiction...for now. But next week...who knows?

- ✓ Don DeVoe takes the coaching job at Ohio State.
- ✓ Gene Bartow leaves Alabama-Birmingham to accept the Tennessee job.
- ✓ Lee Hunt leaves Ole Miss for Alabama-Birmingham, replacing Bartow.
- ✓ Roy Kramer, director of athletics at Vanderbilt, replaces Boyd McWhorter as SEC commissioner.
- ✓ Vandy Coach C.M. Newton replaces Kramer and hires Lee Rose to coach the Commodores.
- ✓ UK assistant coach Leonard Hamilton becomes head coach at Oklahoma State.
- ✓ Dwane Casey, assistant at Western Kentucky University, replaces Hamilton at UK.
- ✓ Alabama-Birmingham leaves the Sun Belt Conference to join the Metro Conference, replacing Tulane.
- ✓ Wimp Sanderson leaves Alabama to take the Florida State job vacated by Joe Williams.
- ✓ Bruce Stewart, coach at Middle Tennessee, takes the Mississippi State job vacated by Bob Boyd.
- ✓ Dana Kirk leaves Memphis State to replace Guy Lewis at Houston.

SEC coach of the year flap

Alabama's Wimp Sanderson said he would not accept the SEC Coach of the Year, traditionally presented by the Knoxville News Sentinel.

"I voted for Eddie (Sutton) and I called and told him I would not change my vote," the Alabama coach said. "The only reason I wanted it was getting to go to Atlanta (for the presentation) for the Rupp Trophy (player of the year) ceremony."

Sanderson was told that News-Sentinel sports editor Al Browning, who makes the Coach of the Year presentation, had suggested trading the trophy in for six slab of spare ribs.

"I would accept that," said Sanderson (barely grinning). Then he had a bit of a lecture for reporters.

"You people in the media vote for coaches you like, you know you do. You vote for a guy you like. A lot of you don't even know me. You think I'm a bleep. But I will say to the day they shovel dirt on my face that Eddie Sutton did the best job in our league this year."

The flap over Sanderson declining to accept the award came when Alabama's sports information director, J.D. Rutledge, voted for his boss without Sanderson's knowledge.

Georgia coach Hugh Durham got his two cents worth into the dispute.

"I'm not so sure Wimp doesn't deserve it anyway, because of the fine job he did," Durham said. "Hey, you want to bet Ronald Reagan didn't vote for himself? If Wimp changes his vote (to Sutton), hey, I might want to change my vote too."

Dale Brown on Sky Walker

LSU Coach Dale Brown on Kenny "Sky" Walker: "I have a real empathy for a player like Kenny, because he plays so hard every minute. He's the John Havlicek of the college game. Every elementary school kid (who plays basketball) should do it exactly the way Kenny does. There's not been a player ever who hustles like he does."

Walker remembrances

Having become one of UK's most popular players ever, and destined to be the school's second all-time leading scorer before the tournament trail ends, Kenny Walker was asked how he would like to be remembered?

"I don't care about being remembered as a player who scored a lot of points or one who got a lot of rebounds, but I would like to be remembered as a guy who gave 110 percent."

Harden's future?

"I expect to go someplace in one of the NBA's nine rounds (draft), and I'll go for a tryout. But I don't see a career for me in professional basketball."

"I plan to come back here and finish my degree and I'll be a graduate assistant here (for Sutton) next year."

McGuire, Enberg ham it up

When NBC-Television worked the North Carolina at Duke game Mar. 2 Al McGuire and Dick Enberg provided us some of the more entertaining segments in the college season.

The network's halftime segment featured McGuire—who had criticized Duke's student cheering section as being a zoo—came onto the floor and approached the students wearing a big game hunter (hard) hat, a whip and chair in hand.

What made the scene doubly funny was Enberg's role. Here was NBC's hottest sports property playing straight man to McGuire. Enberg was lugging a large sack of peanuts in one hand, a microphone in the other.

McGuire tossed peanuts at the students.

By this demonstration McGuire and Enberg showed they have no ego problems. But more than that, their gag put a bit of fun back into what has become too serious.

Footnote: I would wager a buck or two, however, that McGuire and Enberg's antics would not go over at Rupp Arena. The place is too serious.

Sky Walker? So what

A week ago I asked fans to send me their predictions on who they think will be in Dallas for the NCAA's Final Four next month. The sender of the first correct ballot received, I said, would receive a Kenny "Sky" Walker poster.

One fan telephoned with an "interesting" response.

"You asked for a Final Four prediction with the winner receiving a poster of Kenny Walker," one fellow said. "What makes you think *everybody* would want something about UK? I'd like to have a poster of Billy T. (Louisville's Billy Thompson)."

Fair question. Here's the answer: First, I have one. Second, Walker is a college player of the year candidate. Third, UL did not put out any promotional posters hyping either of its preseason All-American candidates — Billy Thompson or Milt Wagner — for all-anything.

The gentleman had one more thing to say, "If I picked the Final Four I'd rather have a picture of Robbie Valentine than a poster of Kenny Walker."

■ John Howard of Elizabethtown sent a letter with his Final Four picks, but didn't stop there. Howard cast a vote for coach and player of the year and his college All-American team

Coach of the year — Kentucky's Eddie Sutton.

Player of the year — Kenny Walker.

First team All-American — Walker and Len Bias (Maryland) at forward; Steve Alford (Indiana) at guard; Johnny Dawkins (Duke) and Mark Price (Georgia Tech) at guards.

"Three guards," Howard writes, "wouldn't Sutton love it?"

John included a category for "underdog teams I would like to see in the Final Four...Bradley (30-1), Indiana (20-6), Navy (25-4) and Maryland.

Comment: Your turn.

Top NBA prospects?

When the college basketball season ends next month the next date fans will be

[Continued On Page 38]

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Records And Tradition Go Hand In Hand

While Coach At UK Hall Added 297 National Records

Tradition in sports can be an amazing thing.

And, basketball tradition at the University of Kentucky has been absolutely amazing for decades.

The records compiled by the coaches over the years challenge any other schools, any other individuals.

Historians, basketball nuts, sportwriters, and even the national television guys credit legendary Adolph Rupp with being the cornerstone of UK's unparalleled success.

All Rupp did, as anyone who followed UK and basketball for any length of time knows, was win more games (874) than any other coach, ever, at the college level. (Red Auerbach of the pro-Boston Celtics won well over 1000 games, but the pros play much longer schedules.) He also set (then) records for national championships won, conference games won, titles won, on and on.



Jim Griesch

Cats' Pause Columnist

UK fans who are 30 or older probably can remember the exciting days of the 1969-70 season when Kentucky, Kansas and Oregon State were each poised to make a run for the honor of being the first college to win 1,000 college basketball games.

Can You Imagine Coaching Three Jobs At One Time

The fabled Amory "Slats" Gill was nearing the end of his career. Kansas already had Ted Owens on the bench as a replacement for the original great college basketball coach, Dr. Forest C. Phog Allen. He had won 761 games in a 40-year-plus span at Kansas, and, during the infancy of the sport, actually coached Baker College and one other at the same time he was coaching at Kansas.

That's sure to continue to be a feat no other college coach will ever attempt to equal, much less surpass!

Can you imagine, say, C. M. Newton coaching at Vandy at the same time he was coaching at two other Nashville schools, David Lipscomb and Belmont?

But, in 1969 and early 1970, shooting to be the first to win 1,000 games meant a lot to Rupp, Owens and Gill.

It meant enough to Kansas that Owens and his athletic director had loaded up the first semester of the Jayhawks' schedule so that Jo Jo White would be available for as many games as possible.

Because White had enrolled at Kansas at mid-year four years before, he was eligible to play only the first semester of the 1969-70 season. White played well, but Kentucky won its 1,000th game a night or two before Kansas did.

Rupp, who had played for Allen in the early 1920's at Kansas, also edged Oregon State by a handful of games. But, all were in the 990 plateau together. (Gill, by the way, wound up with 599 wins at Oregon State. The basketball arena used in Corvallis now is named for him.)

Adding an extra bit of drama and intrigue to the "battle for 1,000" was the fact that sports information directors and historians at all three schools were frantically searching for "additional" wins from long ago years.

Because record keeping and news reporting of many of the earliest games were inconsistent and spotty through World War I, all three schools wanted to make sure they had every legitimate win.

Rupp Was One To Keep Close Track Of His Many Milestones

Rupp had also led a campaign to have the NCAA allow UK to count five wins in a World University Tournament in Tel Aviv, Israel, in the summer of 1966.

The NCAA said no, but Rupp continued to count them for a number of years.

Because of this steadfast belief that they should count, UK eventually quit stressing milestone wins after that, until the past several years under former coach Joe B. Hall. For years, UK's "official" count was five wins higher than the NCAA's "official count".

Eventually, the furor died down, people quit worrying about the win column, etc. Then, UK officials quietly acceded to the official NCAA count, and for the past several years, the UK count has corresponded with the NCAA totals.

Actually, UK has never trailed any other college in the career total wins since passing the 1,000 mark.

For a time, UK forged well ahead of Kansas and Oregon State.

Since that January night in 1970, some 37 or so other schools have joined the 1,000 win club, including Villanova last year in its national championship season.

In recent years, North Carolina under Dean Smith (who'll be the next coaching "legend" when he retires sometime this century) has made the most serious run at UK's leading numbers.

For years, Carolina has seemingly played 32 to 37 games a year. Those numbers, coupled with a healthy winning percentage, has let the Tar Heels ease in behind UK.

Kentucky's Milestone Wins

No.	Opp.	Score	Site	Date
100	Chattanooga	42-10	Chattanooga, Tenn.	1-21-21
200	Centre College	47-11	Lexington (Alumni)	2-13-29
300	Creighton	63-42	Lexington (Alumni)	2-22-35
400	Florida	42-36	Louisville (SEC-T)	2-26-42
500	Wabash	96-24	Lexington (Alumni)	12-28-46
600	North Carolina	83-44	Lexington (Alumni)	1-9-50
700	Auburn	109-79	Montgomery, Ala.	2-27-54
800	Vanderbilt	76-59	Nashville, Tenn.	1-5-60
900	Florida	78-61	Lexington (Col.)	1-30-65
1000	Georgia	72-71	Athens, Ga.	1-12-70
1100	Georgia	99-86	Athens, Ga.	2-14-73
1200	Vanderbilt	72-59	Lexington (Rupp)	1-2-78
1300	Mississippi	56-49	Lexington (Rupp)	1-10-82
1400	Georgia	80-75	Athens, Ga.	2-22-86

Coaches

100 -- George C. Buchheit
 200 -- John Mauer
 300, 400, 500, 600, 700, 800, 900, 1000 -- Adolph Rupp
 1100, 1200, 1300 -- Joe B. Hall
 1400 -- Eddie Sutton

Only in 1983-84, when UK went to the Final Four and Carolina didn't, has UK won more games in a single year than has Carolina. In some recent seasons, UNC has made up a lot of games on UK. Last year, UNC made up 10, winning 28 to UK's 18. This year, at this writing, both schools have won 26 games (just before the conference tournaments).

Presently, UK has 1,402 wins, Carolina 1,370.

Only Kansas and St. John's have also won as many as 1,300 games. Oregon State is closing in with at 1,290.

It took UK 18 years before finally winning game 100, in 1921 over the University of Chattanooga (there). The school's name was changed within the last 15 years to University of Tennessee at Chattanooga.

Centre College is the only state school involved in any of UK's other milestone games, despite what fans at Louisville or Western may think. On Feb. 13, 1929, UK beat the Praying Colonels in Alumni Gym for win 200.

Georgia Was A Prime Target For UK's Historic Moments

Over the next 1,200 wins, several schools have been the "victim". But, UK and Georgia most certainly have a special relationship going.

Georgia was UK's victim for win 1,000.

That's ignominy enough for one school, perhaps. But, UK also picked on the Bulldogs for win 1,100, and win 1,400 late last month.

Three milestones among the last five! What's worse, all three milestones have come in Athens, Ga., on the Georgia home floor!

In fact, only half of the 14 milestone wins have come on the last three home floors for the Wildcats.

The other seven have come in Athens, Chattanooga, Louisville, Montgomery, Ala., and Nashville, Tenn.

Alumni Gym, home of UK's most famous, perhaps best-ever teams, the Fabulous Five, has been the most frequent site for these milestones. Wins 200, 300, 500, and 600 came there. Oddly enough, only one milestone, win 900 over Florida, came in Memorial Coliseum, which is still revered as THE place to play by the 35-to-55 age group fans.

Rupp Arena, in only 10 years of service, has already seen two of the milestones, wins 1,200 over Vanderbilt and 1,300 over Mississippi.

Hall Broke A Record With Every Win

Because of the on-going nature of keeping up with the wins, some unusual items highlight the periphery of the records.

Every one of Hall's 297 wins at UK constituted a new, national record.

That's right. UK was on win 1,079 when he replaced Rupp at the head of the program. He left at win 1,376. Since no other school passed UK after the 1,000 win mark was reached, each of Hall's wins automatically became a new record.

Heh, heh, heh. And, some critics claim Hall couldn't coach. Has any other coach established or set 297 national records.

Rupp's last 79 were each a new record, and every one of Eddie Sutton's UK wins this year has also been a new national record.

Of course, Sutton doesn't have anything close to 297 national records, but he does have time to try.

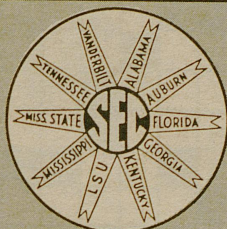
Each of the last 402-plus are also national records.

Big deal, you say?

[Continued On Page 38]

Cats' Pause Board Of Experts

(And Armchair Quarterbacks)



Readers
Choice



Oscar
Combs



Nick
Nicholas



Todd
Hallum



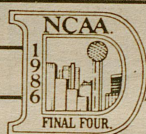
Gary
Cromwell



Don
Coffey



Hoop
Demon



21-4

18-7

18-7

19-6

18-7

19-6

303-72

293-82

299-76

287-88

287-88

289-86

PURDUE VS LSU	LSU	6	LSU	7	LSU	4	LSU	1	LSU	2	LSU	6
MEMPHIS STATE VS BALL STATE	STATE	10	STATE	16	STATE	18	STATE	10	STATE	3	STATE	12
VIRGINIA TECH VS VILLANOVA	TECH	3	NOVA	5	NOVA	8	TECH	7	NOVA	2	NOVA	4
GEORGIA TECH VS MARIST	TECH	18	TECH	22	TECH	27	TECH	12	TECH	6	TECH	14
KENTUCKY VS DAVIDSON	KENTUCKY	14	KENTUCKY	25	KENTUCKY	32	KENTUCKY	12	KENTUCKY	13	KENTUCKY	11
WESTERN KENTUCKY VS NEBRASKA	NEBRASKA	6	WKU	10	WKU	9	WKU	1	WKU	2	WKU	4
ALABAMA VS XAVIER	ALABAMA	10	ALABAMA	1	XAVIER	6	ALABAMA	6	XAVIER	2	ALABAMA	6
ILLINOIS VS FAIRFIELD	ILLINOIS	18	ILLINOIS	21	ILLINOIS	7	ILLINOIS	5	ILLINOIS	3	ILLINOIS	8
ALABAMA-BIRMINGHAM VS MISSOURI	UAB	6	UAB	11	UAB	10	UAB	6	UAB	6	UAB	4
NORTH CAROLINA VS UTAH	CAROLINA	18	CAROLINA	9	CAROLINA	12	CAROLINA	7	CAROLINA	14	CAROLINA	6
BRADLEY VS UTEP	UTEP	1	BRADLEY	7	BRADLEY	3	BRADLEY	5	BRADLEY	4	BRADLEY	2
LOUISVILLE VS DREXEL	U OF L	19	U OF L	30	U OF L	23	U OF L	11	U OF L	26	U OF L	15
ST. JOHN'S VS MONTANA STATE	ST. JOHN'S	24	ST. JOHN'S	15	ST. JOHN'S	29	ST. JOHN'S	12	ST. JOHN'S	20	ST. JOHN'S	8
AUBURN VS ARIZONA	AUBURN	3	AUBURN	3	ARIZONA	1	AUBURN	4	ARIZONA	1	AUBURN	1
MARYLAND VS PEPPERDINE	MARYLAND	6	MARYLAND	1	MARYLAND	7	MARYLAND	2	MA RYLAND	4	MARYLAND	10
NORTHEAST LOUISIANA VS UNLV	UNLV	6	UNLV	19	UNLV	23	UNLV	8	UNLV	16	UNLV	10
DUKE VS MISSISSIPPI VALLEY	DUKE	23	DUKE	32	DUKE	30	DUKE	8	DUKE	20	DUKE	18
OLD DOMINION VS WEST VIRGINIA	OLD DOM.	7	OLD DOM.	10	OLD DOM.	3	W. VA.	1	OLD DOM.	3	W. VA.	1
VIRGINIA VS DEPAUL	VIRGINIA	6	DEPAUL	3	VIRGINIA	6	VIRGINIA	1	VIRGINIA	4	VIRGINIA	2
OKLAHOMA VS NORTHEASTERN	OKLAHOMA	12	OKLAHOMA	5	N'EASTERN	2	OKLAHOMA	5	N'EASTERN	2	OKLAHOMA	8
ST. JOSEPH'S VS RICHMOND	ST. JOE	7	ST. JOE	1	ST. JOE	4	ST. JOE	6	ST. JOE	3	ST. JOE	8
INDIANA VS CLEVELAND STATE	INDIANA	14	INDIANA	10	INDIANA	10	INDIANA	7	INDIANA	6	INDIANA	4
NAVY VS TULSA	NAVY	3	NAVY	7	NAVY	1	NAVY	3	TULSA	8	NAVY	2
SYRACUSE VS BROWN	SYRACUSE	13	SYRACUSE	20	SYRACUSE	28	SYRACUSE	10	SYRACUSE	8	SYRACUSE	10
KANSAS VS N.C. A&T	KANSAS	15	KANSAS	29	KANSAS	24	KANSAS	8	KANSAS	3	KANSAS	12
JACKSONVILLE VS TEMPLE	J'VILLE	3	TEMPLE	1	TEMPLE	2	J'VILLE	2	TEMPLE	2	TEMPLE	2
MICHIGAN STATE VS WASHINGTON	STATE	7	STATE	4	STATE	6	STATE	2	STATE	4	STATE	4
GEORGETOWN VS TEXAS TECH	G'TOWN	14	G'TOWN	1	G'TOWN	12	G'TOWN	9	G'TOWN	6	G-TOWN	8
N.C. STATE VS IOWA	IOWA	3	STATE	16	STATE	7	STATE	4	STATE	4	STATE	4
NOTRE DAME VS ARK-L. ROCK	N. DAME	21	N. DAME	16	N. DAME	19	N. DAME	5	N. DAME	19	N. DAME	8
IOWA STATE VS MIAMI, OHIO	STATE	10	STATE	11	STATE	9	STATE	2	STATE	2	STATE	3
MICHIGAN VS AKRON	MICHIGAN	16	MICHIGAN	21	MICHIGAN	18	MICHIGAN	9	MICHIGAN	2	MICHIGAN	12

"Gave Us A Shot In The Arm" Sutton Commends Reserves After Win Over Bama

Following are Coach Eddie Sutton's postgame comments after UK won the SEC Tournament Championship with an 83-72 victory over the University of Alabama:

Question: Your comments on the game?

Sutton: Certainly this afternoon (Cedric) Jenkins and (Richard) Madison gave us a great shot in the arm; they scored 21 points. That's the most we've had off the bench from two players all season long. Alabama is to be congratulated. They're an outstanding basketball team; they represent the SEC quite well. They're one of the best teams we've seen all year. We've been extremely fortunate to beat them three times. They'll get an NCAA bid and I would not be surprised to see them go a long way.

Question: Did you think your technical foul had an impact on the Wildcats?

Sutton: I didn't say anything personal. I just said, 'Did you guys get up early enough this morning? Are you awake? I thought ear-

Sutton: If someone had told me we would have been 29-3, 17-1 in the league, and win the tournament I would have told them they had better go get a medical examination. I didn't think there was anyway possible that we could win this many ballgames. But, this is a very special group of people — they understand their roles, the chemistry is right, understand what it takes to win, and they win. We certainly are not in awe of anybody in college basketball but we certainly respect everyone. As long as you have that attitude then you have a chance to win a lot of ballgames. I've had a lot of ballclubs through the years but never one that I'm more proud of than this basketball team. I thank Joe Hall for giving me the opportunity to coach these players. They are quality human beings. I would have recruited them had I been at Kentucky before this year.

Question: Did you agree with John Williams being named MVP?

Sutton: I didn't see all the games, so I don't think I'm a good one to ask. I was disap-



Sutton

ly on we got some calls that went against us. But, maybe not to make an impact on the officials as much as coaches will sometimes will try to get their ballclub 'up'. Maybe we didn't get up early enough. I told John Guthrie (SEC Associate Commissioner) after the ballgame that the officials did a good job. I think they missed calls both ways. Early on we got the worst end of it. Maybe later they got the worst end of it. I don't know. . . Those three officials (Don Shea, Don Rutledge and John Clougherty), in my opinion, are three of the very best we have. I'll be very surprised if all three of them don't call somewhere in the NCAA. I don't know if the technical foul had any effect on the game or not.

Questions: Before the season began could you have envisioned the type of first-year campaign you've had?

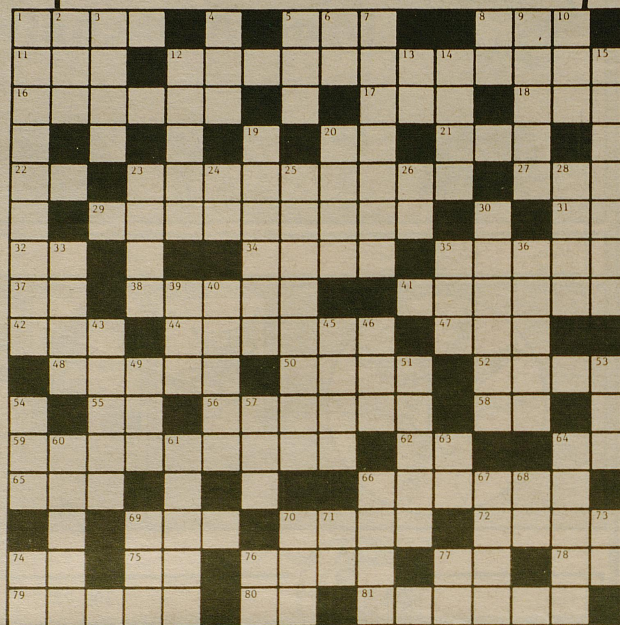
pointed that a team that wins a tournament did not have a couple of players on there. Roger was deserving, but I think Kenny Walker was deserving. He had 59 points, 24 rebounds, four assists, three blocked shots, three steals, and turned the ball over four times in three game. That's amazing as much attention as he draws.

Question: What about Roger Harden's improved shooting this season?

Sutton: We try to install confidence in all of the players that play for the University of Kentucky. We have a basic rule, when we run an offense, whether its against man or zone, we tell our players we want them to shoot the basketball when you can hit that shot 50 percent of the time. That's the only rule we have.

TCP Crossword Puzzle

By Dan Krueckeberg



THE "ALMOST IMPOSSIBLE" HOOP COACHES CROSSWORD (Present-Day)

ACROSS

- 1 Namesakes of ORD's Owens
- 5 Conference of coaches J.V., T.H. & B.S.
- 8 First name of 39 Down
- 11 Yours always increases
- 12 277-132 in 14 years
- 16 First name of 29 Across
- 17 Flightless bird
- 18 Abbr. for frequent game day
- 20 Initials of 43 Down
- 21 Abbr. for "Government Printing Office"
- 22 Initials of a first year Pac-10 coach
- 23 Among top five coaches in winning %age and total victories
- 27 NC-Charlotte's coach: Jeff Mullins
- 29 Pulled a surprise in '85
- 31 Abbr. for state of coach Tarrant
- 32 Abbr. for state of coach Falk
- 34 Masculine namesakes
- 35 In 2nd year as head coach
- 37 First two of the five
- 38 T.A., J.O. & P.H. coach in the Big
- 41 Leave
- 42 Bobcat coach Danny
- 44 Penter
- 47 Negative word
- 48 A top-notch SEC coach
- 50 boat
- 52 Camper's sleep station
- 55 Initials of coach Don with 450+ wins
- 56 First name of Big Ten coach formerly of the Pac-10
- 58 Initials of a 100+ win SEC coach
- 59 300th win came in '85
- 62 Abbr. for state of coach Yoder
- 64 Coach Newton
- 65 1st name of fine coach at Dayton
- 66 Winningest active Div. I coach
- 69 1st name of an active coach who won the National Championship
- 70 The poll
- 72 new coach is Tom Young
- 74 Initials of Lefty of LaSalle
- 75 Abbr. for state of coach Sullivan
- 76 Big 8 coach Hartman
- 77 Initials of Georgia St. coach Reinhart
- 78 Abbr. for state of coach Dutcher
- 79 Namesakes of the Hilltoppers' coach
- 80 Initials of SMC coach Dave
- 81 new team is Kentucky

DOWN

- 1 Has best winning %age among active Div. I coaches of 5 or more years
- 2 Very important for some
- 3 Moir's big scorer Curry
- 4 OT maker
- 5 " before beauty"
- 6 Initials of an ACC coach
- 7 Has done a top rebuilding job
- 8 "Give the ball!"
- 9 A Wildcat coach
- 10 Abbr. for a federal agency
- 12 Pulls up a chair
- 13 Evening abbr.
- 14 First name of an SEC coach
- 15 Winningest present-day Big 8 coach
- 19 Has 315 Div. I wins entering '85-'86
- 20 Masculine name
- 23 1st name of dean of SEC coaches
- 24 Like
- 25 In 8th year at his MVC school
- 26 "He tried tip it in"
- 28 Was Adolph Rupp the best coach?
- 30 Bus stations
- 33 Namesakes of Sun Belt coach Rose
- 35 Grown boys
- 36 Bearcat player and coach
- 39 A Big 8 coach
- 40 Disks producing resounding tone
- 43 1st name of a 10-year Big Ten coach
- 45 Sense organs
- 46 Oil drilling
- 49 Unit of electrical resistance
- 51 2nd to 66 Across in wins
- 53 Davis of the Pac-10
- 54 Abbr. for "estimated time of departure"
- 57 Many years
- 60 City sleep station
- 61 Namesakes of Loyola, Cal coach Westhead
- 63 Abbr. for state of coach Little
- 64 average is 24+ wins per season
- 66 Krzyzewski
- 67 Feminine name
- 68 Coach Tapscott of American U.
- 69 Boenheim
- 70 Bartow's latest school
- 71 Initials of dean of Ivy League coaches
- 73 Initials of Murray State's new coach
- 74 Initials of dean of Big East coaches
- 76 Barnett of Tulsa
- 77 Initials of Doneyd of the MVC



Last Week



SEC box scores



GEORGIA									
Name	min	fg-a	ft-a	rb	a	pf	tp		
Horace McMillan	38	0-5	2-3	6	0	0	2		
Joe Ward	22	4-8	0-1	4	2	4	8		
David Dunn	23	1-5	0-1	5	0	4	2		
Dennis Williams	23	1-2	0-2	1	2	2	2		
Donald Hartry	40	6-19	0-1	4	2	3	12		
Patrick Hamilton	12	1-2	0-0	0	1	2	2		
Chad Kessler	7	0-2	0-0	1	0	1	0		
Toney Mack	16	8-11	0-1	4	0	2	16		
Willie Anderson	19	6-10	3-3	4	2	4	15		
Team				4					
Totals	200	27-64	5-12	33	9	22	59		



ALABAMA									
Name	min	fg-a	ft-a	rb	a	pf	tp		
Jim Farmer	34	5-13	3-4	4	1	4	13		
Buck Johnson	38	8-12	5-7	11	0	2	21		
Derrick McKey	35	7-10	1-2	12	0	3	15		
Mark Gottfried	20	4-4	2-3	1	3	3	10		
Terry Coner	34	1-6	4-5	4	10	3	6		
Gary White	3	0-0	0-0	0	1	0	0		
James Jackson	22	2-3	2-2	3	0	5	6		
Craig Dudley	4	2-3	2-2	0	1	0	6		
Scott Pierce	1	0-0	0-0	0	0	0	0		
Michael Ansley	9	1-2	0-0	1	0	2	2		
Team				1					
Totals	200	30-53	19-25	37	16	22	79		

Georgia, 42.2; Alabama, 42.3-79.
Field-goal shooting: Georgia, 42.2; Alabama, 56.6. Free-throw shooting: Georgia, 41.7; Alabama, 76.0. Technicals: none. Turnovers: Georgia, 19; Alabama, 21. Officials: Mac Chauvin, Allie Prescott, Paul Galvan.



FLORIDA									
Name	min	fg-a	ft-a	rb	a	pf	tp		
Joe Lawrence	36	7-10	0-1	7	4	3	14		
Vernon Maxwell	40	8-23	6-8	3	3	3	22		
Kenny McClary	17	0-1	0-0	5	0	4	0		
Ronnie Montgomery	29	1-4	0-0	2	5	2	2		
Andrew Moten	28	7-16	1-2	3	1	3	15		
Pat Lawrence	15	2-3	2-2	2	0	0	6		
Clifford Lett	23	2-3	3-6	1	1	3	7		
Mark Saso	12	0-0	0-1	2	0	5	0		
Team				3					
Totals	200	27-60	12-20	28	14	23	66		

LOUISIANA STATE									
Name	min	fg-a	ft-a	rb	a	pf	tp		
John Williams	40	7-17	6-11	20	1	1	20		
Don Redden	15	1-3	5-6	2	2	3	7		
Ricky Blanton	37	2-5	1-2	12	0	4	5		
Derrick Taylor	34	10-15	7-8	3	3	4	27		
Anthony Wilson	38	4-13	0-0	7	1	1	8		
N. Bukumirovich	6	0-0	0-0	0	1	1	0		
Bernard Woodside	16	1-2	1-2	0	1	3	3		
Oliver Brown	11	1-2	0-2	1	0	2	2		
Jose Vargas	3	0-0	0-0	0	0	1	0		
Team				1					
Totals	200	26-57	20-31	46	9	20	72		

Florida, 36.3-66.
Louisiana State, 36.3-72.
Field-goal shooting: Florida, 45.0; LSU, 45.6. Free-throw shooting: Florida, 60.0; LSU, 64.5. Technicals: none. Turnovers: Florida, 8; LSU, 13. Officials: Luis Grillo, Charlie Vacca, John Clougherty. Attendance: 14,500 (est.).

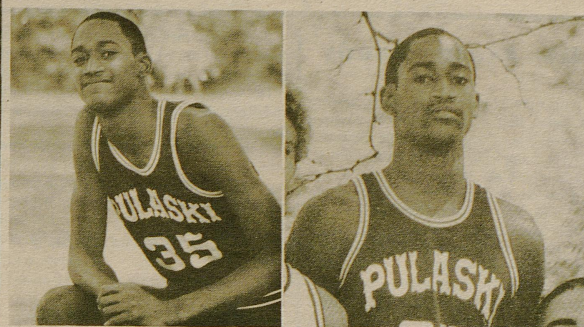


MISSISSIPPI STATE									
Name	min	fg-a	ft-a	rb	a	pf	tp		
Chauncey Robinson	40	10-16	5-7	9	4	3	25		
Ervin Dillon	6	0-1	0-0	1	1	1	0		
Raymond Brown	40	10-17	2-4	10	0	3	22		
Tracy Taylor	32	1-3	0-0	3	8	3	2		
Mark Peters	37	4-8	2-3	5	5	1	10		
Chris Hall	3	0-0	0-0	0	0	0	0		
Greg Lockhart	8	0-2	0-0	0	1	0	0		
Anthony Blakely	34	3-10	0-0	5	1	2	6		
Team				3					
Totals	200	28-57	9-14	36	20	13	65		

AUBURN									
Name	min	fg-a	ft-a	rb	a	pf	tp		
Chris Morris	37	5-7	4-6	8	1	0	14		
Chuck Person	38	7-18	0-0	8	0	5	14		
Jeff Moore	28	6-10	0-1	4	0	2	12		
Gerald White	32	1-6	0-0	4	9	2	2		
Frank Ford	37	6-9	1-2	4	1	5	13		
Terance Howard	11	1-4	0-0	0	1	0	2		
Mike Jones	17	2-7	2-2	3	0	2	6		
Team				3					
Totals	200	28-61	7-11	34	12	16	63		

Mississippi State, 31.34-63.
Auburn, 36.27-63.
Field-goal shooting: Miss. St., 49.1; Auburn, 45.9. Free-throw shooting: Miss. St., 64.3; Auburn, 63.6. Technicals: none. Turnovers: Miss. St., 9; Auburn, 11. Officials: Don Shea, Don Rutledge, Don Ferguson. Attendance: 15,836.

Tracking Future University Of Kentucky Wildcats



Reggie Hanson

Opponent	Score	FGM-FGA	PCT	FTM-FTA	PCT	TPS	OR	DR	TR	TO	S	A	BS	PF
Monticello	66-58	10-14	71.0	2-2	100.0	22	4	5	9	11	5	1	8	4
Danville	66-43	10-19	53.0	9-10	90.0	29	5	7	12	3	4	1	2	2
Corbin	71-48	8-11	73.0	5-5	100.0	21	2	8	10	2	1	0	3	0
Bryan Station	58-55	9-17	53.0	11-12	92.0	29	3	4	7	3	4	2	4	4
Lou. Seneca	60-62	3-6	38.0	1-1	100.0	7	6	3	9	1	3	1	3	5
Lou. Fairdale	70-58	12-18	67.0	13-15	87.0	37	3	6	9	6	5	1	2	4
Lou. Southern	68-51	11-18	61.0	11-12	92.0	33	4	10	14	3	4	1	0	2
Kirby (Tenn)	50-52	13-18	72.0	6-6	100.0	32	5	5	10	5	4	1	0	4
Monticello	80-61	14-18	78.0	6-7	86.0	34	3	9	12	3	6	1	4	4
Wolfe County	80-49	6-13	46.0	3-3	100.0	15	4	12	16	2	4	2	6	3
Somerset	80-48	8-13	62.0	5-7	71.0	21	2	12	14	5	4	1	3	3
Wayne County	60-35	6-12	50.0	5-6	83.0	17	6	6	12	1	6	0	2	3
Jackson Co.	46-33	9-12	75.0	5-6	100.0	24	3	9	12	1	3	0	11	3
Harrodsburg	69-50	11-21	52.0	7-9	78.0	29	7	4	11	3	3	1	6	2
Somerset	80-61	8-9	89.0	13-14	93.0	29	1	14	15	3	2	1	5	4
Tates Creek	72-70	3-6	50.0	9-9	100.0	15	2	7	9	2	5	0	5	2
Clay County	50-48	5-10	50.0	6-6	100.0	16	3	3	6	1	2	0	2	4
Monticello	63-55	5-10	50.0	0-2	0.0	10	3	6	11	3	3	1	4	4
Laurel County	72-70	12-18	66.0	8-10	80.0	32	6	5	11	2	1	2	2	3
Sheldon Clark	73-69	6-10	60	10-11	90.9	21	2	6	8	3	3	0	3	4
Mullins	66-48	10-11	90.9	1-1	100	21	6	5	11	2	6	0	8	3
Pulaski County Did Not Play This Week Because Of Snow														
Sheldon Clark	65-47	12-25	48.0	4-4	100.0	28	2	7	9	1	3	1	3	2
Mullins	76-50	5-8	63.0	5-6	83.0	15	1	6	7	2	5	1	4	4
Richard Madison	89-58	9-13	69.0	0-0	0.0	18	3	3	6	0	5	0	5	0
Henry Clay	74-60	11-19	58.0	10-12	83.0	32	5	5	10	4	2	0	2	3
Somerset	72-60	7-13	54.0	14-14	100.0	28	3	8	11	3	1	2	2	4
Casey County	74-57	5-8	63.0	9-10	90.0	19	1	5	6	2	3	0	6	4
Totals		228-372	61.2	179-190	90.4	634	95	182	277	77	94	21	104	85



Rex Chapman

Opponent	Score	FGM-FGA	PCT	FTM-FTA	PCT	REB	A	PF	TO	S	TPS
Madisonville	73-68	10-18	62.5	5-5	100.0	7	4	4	2	0	25
Henderson	98-83	7-19	36.8	14-15	93.3	7	5	1	3	1	28
Daviess County	62-49	9-19	47.4	7-7	100.0	5	3	1	2	0	25
Owensboro	64-62	11-22	50.0	8-10	80.0	7	5	1	1	2	30
O'boro Catholic	77-47	6-11	54.5	5-8	62.5	2	7	4	1	4	17
Lou. Southern	68-54	12-27	44.4	4-5	80.0	7	4	3	4	5	28
Lou. PRP	63-70	12-25	48.0	6-7	85.7	7	1	3	1	0	30
Clark County	54-49	6-10	60.0	0-0	---	4	6	3	1	0	12
Carson (Cal)	61-57	9-21	42.9	1-1	100.0	7	4	1	6	0	19
Bowling Green	70-49	10-15	66.7	5-5	100.0	1	5	1	4	2	25
Bullitt East	64-60	8-15	53.3	3-4	75.0	11	3	4	1	1	19
O'boro Catholic	73-38	8-15	53.3	3-4	75.0	11	3	4	1	1	19
Owensboro	65-75	8-21	38.1	3-8	37.5	11	6	3	3	0	19
Breckinridge	55-54	9-20	45.0	9-10	90.0	7	7	4	2	0	27
Central City	66-52	8-20	40.0	4-6	66.7	8	5	2	2	2	20
McLean County	78-58	8-15	53.3	1-2	50.0	7	6	3	1	2	17
Lou. Ballard	79-76	17-23	73.9	11-16	68.8	10	7	6	3	3	45
Lou. PRP	48-49	8-25	32.0	6-8	100.0	10	2	0	3	1	22
Owensboro	55-67	9-23	39.1	5-6	83.3	3	3	1	4	0	23
West Hopkins	69-66	Did Not Play (Flu)									
Bowling Green	59-42	9-21	40.9	8-9	88.8	8	3	0	3	4	26
Bullitt East	64-60	9-18	50.0	5-5	100.0	12	5	2	3	3	23
Ohio County	75-51	12-19	63.2	3-3	100.0	7	7	1	3	3	27
Daviess County	62-54	9-15	60.0	10-11	90.9	14	9	1	2	3	28
O'boro Catholic	92-53	7-19	36.8	8-8	88.9	13	3	3	2	2	22
Meade County	88-68	19-32	59.4	1-2	50.0	16	5	2	2	3	39
Union County	72-69	16-28	57	9-10	90.0	9	3	2	4	3	41
Henry Clay	68-67	16-31	51.6	5-5	100.0	13	4	1	2	4	37
Western Central	58-39	5-11	45.5	4-4	100.0	11	4	3	1	0	14
Bullitt County	78-74	8-23	34.8	5	71.4	7	7	4	2	2	22
Owensboro	50-52	16-31	51.6	0-1	0.0	7	0	2	0	2	32
Totals		294-595	49.6	156-177	80.8	238	134	66	60	48	740

SEC Tournament Recap

Miss. State - Vandy

It was suppose to be a night where Vanderbilt ended Bob Boyd's career. Mississippi State had other things on its mind, however.

Overcoming a six-point halftime deficit, Mississippi State turned back the Commodores 62-54 in first-round action of the SEC Tournament last Wednesday night.

MSU was led by sophomore Raymond Brown with 20 points and senior Chauncey Robinson chipping in 14.

Brown keyed the 41-27 spurt by scoring 15 points in the second period. At halftime Vanderbilt was in front, 27-21.

"Raymond Brown has really had a good touch with his shot in recent games," said Boyd. "At halftime, one of our assistant coaches, Larry Eustachy, pointed out that Brown needed to be shooting a little more in the second half."

"We were able to get the ball to him, and he stroked it."

Brown, who only took two shots from the field in the first 20 minutes, hit on 9 of 10 from the floor.

During the season Boyd announced that this would be his last at Mississippi State.

Vanderbilt was paced by Brett Burrow with 16 points and Jeff Gary with 15.

"This verifies what I felt all along," said Vanderbilt coach C.M. Newton, whose team ended its season with 13-15 record, "that Mississippi State is the best last place club in the years that I have been coaching in the Southeastern Conference."

State gained its first lead of the game with only 4:12 remaining when Robinson drilled in a 14-foot jumper. The basket put MSU in front 48-47.

After Gary's field goal regained the lead for the Commodores, Robinson gave his club the advantage for keeps with a 16 footer.

The win gives MSU a 7-21 slate and a spot opposite Auburn in the quarterfinals.

Ole Miss - Tenn.

With four players pouring in 16 or more points Mississippi easily handled Tennessee 73-56 in the first-round of the SEC Tourney last Wednesday night in Lexington.

Ole Miss, 12-16, was led by Curtis Ritchwood and Joe Ayers with 18 points apiece. Tennessee could never get on track offensively as the Volunteers fired a pathetic 23 of 59 from the field (39.0 percent).

On the other hand Mississippi connected on 24 of 47 shots for an impressive 51.1 percent.

"We're very grateful for the win," said a happy Lee Hunt in his post-game interview. "I'm proud of the way that we played with such great intensity. The 2-2-1 zone press helped us to get ahead early, and we maintained that intensity for the whole ballgame."

It was Ole Miss' free throw shooting down the stretch that sealed a spot opposite Kentucky Thursday night.

On the night the Rebels hit on 25 of 31 attempts while the Vols shot only 12 times connecting on 10.

"I can't explain anything right now," said UT sharpshooter Tony White. "We had great intensity earlier in the season, but it just died down. It's hard to say why."

Tennessee ends the season with a 12 16 record, including losing its last 9 of 10. The Vols also failed to win a game on the road this season.

White, the SEC's leading scorer this season, ended the night with a game-high 20 points.

Thanks to a 13-2 early in the first half Ole Miss was never in trouble. That run gave the Rebs a 20-12 lead with 6:30 remaining until halftime.

Hunt's team blew the game open with the help of a 9-0 run which enabled Mississippi to lead by 18, 46-28 with 12:15 remaining.

The win was Mississippi's 12th in 28 starts and places the Rebels against the Wildcats in the quarterfinals.

"I thought we played well tonight," Hunt proudly said. "Our press got our team going early in the game and it kept us going. We've had some adversity this year, but these kids have always come back and worked hard, and I think it is beginning to pay off. I'm proud of them."

Georgia - Bama

Thanks to a red-hot offensive performance from the floor, the Alabama Crimson Tide rolled to an easy 79-59 victory over the Georgia Bulldogs in the Southeastern Conference Tournament last Thursday at Rupp Arena.

The Tide shot a blistering 76.2 percent in the first half alone and never looked back in the second half.

The Tide's great 1-2 punch of Buck Johnson and Derrick McKey provided the muscle with 36 points and 23 rebounds to go with seven blocked shots.

The win advanced Alabama into the tourney semi-finals against Mississippi State which upset Vanderbilt. Georgia was sent home to await a call from NIT officials.

Sanderson, who normally complains, even after big wins, admitted his Tide played well.

"I thought our basketball team played extremely well today," said Sanderson, "before the game, I told our team that I thought we were going to have a great game and we did."

Alabama wasted no time in putting the Dogs in their house as the Tide scored on six of its first seven possessions.

The two teams split the earlier two meetings with the biggest margin being eight points in its 88-80 win in Athens back in January.

Georgia got within eight (44-36) early in the second half, but Bama spurted back and raced out to a 52-38 lead and that was the game.

Johnson was high for Alabama with 21 points followed by McKey with 15 points. High for Georgia was Toney Mack with 16 points. Willie Anderson added 15 points.

LSU - Florida

Thanks to a record-shattering performance by sophomore John Williams, the LSU Tigers edged the Florida Gators out of the SEC Tournament Thursday by turning back Norm Sloan's crew, 72-66.

Williams, the highly touted forward who missed some games earlier in the season because of chicken pox, scored a rare pair, 20 points and 20 rebounds.

His 20 rebounds shattered the previous mark of 17 set by Bobby Lee Hurt of Alabama in 1983 against Miss. State.

Williams' great performance completed a one-two punch for Dale Brown's Tigers who grabbed an early 26-15 lead in the first half, but had to hold on for dear life in the final ten minutes of the game.

LSU raced out to the 11-point advantage with Derrick Taylor's 20-foot jumper at 9:21 of the first half.

It was Taylor who poured home a game-high 27 points, including a sensational 10 of 15 outing from the field.

Florida, with Vernon Maxwell scoring 22 points despite a so-so 8 of 23 from the field, slowly pecked away at the lead and narrowed the deficit to six, 36-30 at the halfway point.

Florida got within one point three times in

the second half, but could never take the lead.

Two critical turnovers did the Gators in late as LSU went up by five (65-60) on a pair of Don Redden free throws.

"I thought that there were several things that helped us," said LSU's Brown. "After the Kentucky game John Williams came up and asked me to let the team play more man-to-man defense."

"Secondly, John's comment in a wire service story that he wasn't going to go hard-ship and that he wanted to play on the Olympic team helped us."

Florida's Norm Sloan said, "I can't comment much on how LSU played. They got the big baskets, the big rebounds and the big free throws. We worked hard and gave it our best shot. We had no inside help at all, and that's been a problem. I'm proud of this team. They've worked hard, and it has been a good year for them."

Miss. St. - Auburn

Give me just one more night, just one more night...

Mississippi State coach Bob Boyd was probably singing to himself this tune as his Bulldogs upset No. 2 seed Auburn 65-63 last Thursday night in the quarterfinals of the SEC tourney. The MSU coach, who is retiring at the end of the season, has seen his team pull off its second straight upset.

MSU was seeded No. 10 in the 10-team field.

Tied at 49 with 7:55 remaining Chauncey Robinson coolly hit two free throws.

Anthony Blakely then took a pass from Mark Peters and put the 'Dogs up by four with 10-foot jumper. Robinson's two free throws up the MSU advantage to six (55-49) with 4:13 left.

The game went to the final seconds as Auburn missed a chance to tie.

With Auburn behind by two (63-61) at the 11-second mark, Robinson failed to hit on the front end of the bonus. The Tigers grabbed the rebound and Frank Ford quickly raced the ball upcourt. His off-balance shot hit the side of the backboard as MSU's Peters grabbed the ball with only four seconds remaining.

Mississippi State, 8-21, will face Alabama in the semifinals of the tournament. The loss drops Auburn to 19-10.

"We beat a very good Auburn team," said Boyd. "We played well when you talk about the quality of basketball — field goal stats (50 percent), rebounding (36 to Auburn's 34), and few turnovers (nine). We made one turnover in the second half."

If not for Robinson and Raymond Brown's points in the first half, MSU would have been in deep, deep trouble. Trailing 36-31 at intermission, State was led by Brown with 15 tallies and Robinson with 14. Peters contributed the other two points.

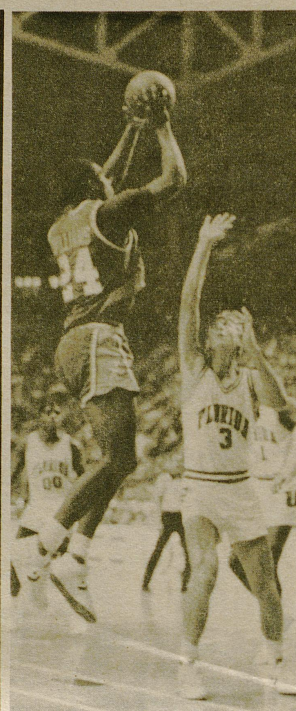
Robinson finished the game with 25 points while Brown added 22.

Asked if MSU was going through the same Cinderella sequence Auburn did last year for its coach, Smith replied, "It depends on what the Mississippi State players feel about Bob Boyd. I believe he has good rapport and a good relationship with them. If that's the case, it could put State in the same position we were in last year."

Miss. St. - Bama

Mississippi State's bid to become the eighth Southeastern Conference team to win the league tournament in eight years ended Friday night when powerful Alabama withstood a furious State rally and then collared the Bulldogs with a 77-65 loss.

The victory moved Alabama into the



John Williams

championship game against Kentucky which later defeated LSU in another semi-final game.

State, which had become the Cinderella team because of the Dogs' tenth place finish in the regular season, also had extra motive since Bob Boyd had announced his resignation earlier in the season, effective after the Dogs' final game.

Although Alabama expected much less opposition than it got, Bama coach Wimp Sanderson lavished praise toward the Dogs.

"Mississippi State is a fine basketball team," said Sanderson. "I wanted to play a 94-foot game. I didn't want to play a half-court game with them. They were able to make us do that quite a bit."

Chauncey Robinson, who was later voted to the all-tourney team, turned in a superb performance, hitting for 25 points as Alabama had to hit 62 percent from the field to hold off State.

Even at that, the game was tied at 53-53 late in the contest as Alabama hit 11 of its first 15 shots in the second half.

It was the rebounding game that gave State the most trouble, getting outboarded 27-18 on the night.

Buck Johnson was the big man for Alabama as he poured home 29 points to go with eight rebounds and four assists. Jim Farmer added 14 points.

Alabama broke the game open late in the half when Bama outscored State 8-0 over a two and half minute period.

Sanderson said he told his forces if they wanted to win the tournament, they had to win a close game, and this "is a very close game."

It was Boyd's farewell appearance in the SEC, but guard Mark Peters said the contest wasn't one of those "Win One for the Gipper" kind of deals.

"He's a very solid person. I hate to see him leave," said Peters.

State ended its season with a very disappointing 8-22 mark.

SEC Was Not Unpredictable In '86

Comparison Of '74 'Dores And '86 Cats

Would you forgive me if I said this has been a lack-luster basketball year for the SEC? Kentucky unexpectedly ran away with the league championship and the title race hasn't been competitive for weeks.

The All-Conference team was as cut and dried as it has been in years.

Several schools which were supposed to be good turned out to be bad.

Attendance figures proved again that unless you win big in basketball, this is still a football league.

A serious imbalance is developing in the SEC between the haves and the have nots and it is going to create some problems.

Finally, and this is outside of the Southeastern Conference, the powers that have found a new way to commit television murder -- bore people to death.



Stan Torgerson

Cats' Pause Columnist

Let's take things one at a time.

Kentucky was picked to finish third by a lot of people, including me. But under superb coaching by Eddie Sutton and a charisma between coach and players as well as between players and players, this Wildcat team has gotten everything out of themselves there is to get.

The 1986 Wildcats remind me of the 1974 Vanderbilt team. The Cats are small with Kenny Walker playing center at 6'8". So were the Commodores. Their center was Jan Van Breda Kolff, and he was only 6'7". Both teams, however, had a love of playing basketball that stood out above all else. Vandy finished 15-3 in the SEC, tied for first with Alabama. Kentucky wound up 17-1, tied with nobody.

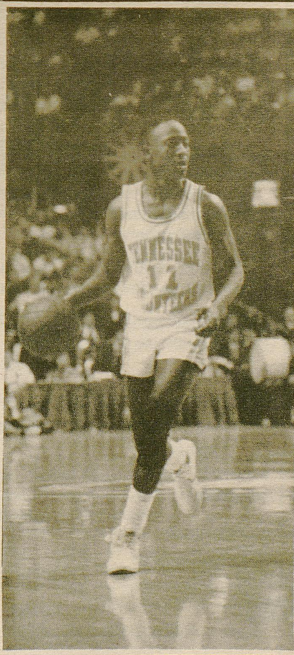
Not in my memory have five players spread-eagled the field as have Walker; Chuck Person, Auburn; Buck Johnson, Alabama; Tony White, Tennessee and John Williams, LSU.

You may get some mild argument from Kentucky people about Winston Bennett and there are those Florida folks who think Andrew Moten or Vernon Maxwell are better, and there's much to be said for Alabama's Derek McKey or Terry Coner.

But the facts are that Walker, Person, Johnson, White and Williams are clearly the best players in the league this year.



Buck Johnson



Tony White

Many Surprises In The SEC

It's been an odd season for accomplishment or lack thereof. Kentucky's performance has been, as we said, a surprise. The other extreme has been Tennessee. We picked them for second place which shows how far wrong a pre-season guess can be. Alabama has been a surprise on the plus side, too. LSU a major disappointment! The others played more or less the way they were expected to play.

Many of the crowds have been sorry. Kentucky will always sell out and Vanderbilt's attendance will hold up. Tennessee's bad year, however, has them playing in front of a lot of empty seats.

The situation at Ole Miss is almost desperate. In 1983 when they won 19 games, the average attendance per game was roughly 6,600. This year, with only 11 wins, attendance sagged to the 3,000 level and at \$6 per ticket we're not talking about small change.

The Rebels, more than any other school, shows the imbalance problem. Kentucky's 17 conference wins this season are more than Ole Miss has totaled in the last three years. Ole Miss won four conference games this year, five last season and three in 1984 for a total of only 12 league victories in three years. Twelve and forty-two is the overall SEC record.

Most amazing, in their last 30 SEC Conference road games, the Rebels have won one and lost 29. It may sound unbelievable, but the facts are the facts.

As the Rebel program has slumped, so has Mississippi State's. The Bulldogs have only 16 conference wins in their last 54 tries. No wonder Bob Boyd wants to get back to California.

Surprisingly, the once dominant Tennessee Volunteers have not done better than .500 in league play since 1982 and have not even reached that plateau since 1984.

Vanderbilt's average of just six leagues wins a year during the past three years also has them solidly in the second division.

The Fans Support The "Haves"

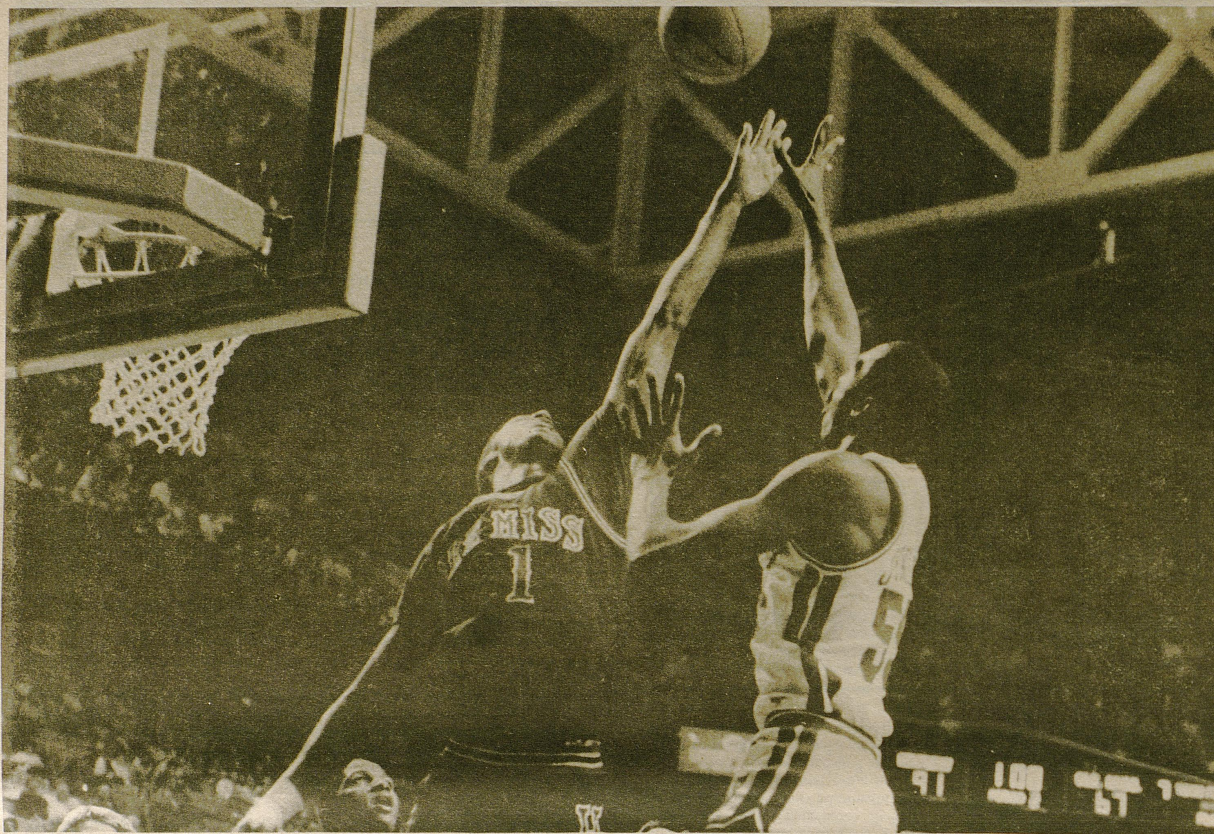
A league with six "haves" and four "have nots" cannot continue to increase fan interest or crowds. No one is going to pay money to watch the big guy beat up on the little man night after night.

And finally another shot, if you please at the TV people. I am so tired of seeing Louisville, Syracuse, Notre Dame, Georgetown and the whole damn ACC on the tube! week in and week out that they have driven me away from the set rather than toward it. U.S.A. Today, in one recent issue, showed 22 basketball games were being televised on a given Saturday in February. Eight of them were offered by my home town cable system, and if that's not overkill I don't know what is. There can't be anything about Denny Crum the TV announcers haven't told me. To use an old expression, they've told me more than I really care to know.

Thank goodness for tournament time. Maybe Louisville, Syracuse, Notre Dame and half the ACC will get knocked out early so that the networks will be forced to discover that coaches other than Crum also put their pants on one leg at a time out whenever Al McGuire thinks they should.

Not For Broadcast

Jan Kemp, who recently won her lawsuit against the **University of Georgia**, is getting some of the best press we have ever seen and conversely the Bulldogs are getting some of the worst. Quote the **Sporting News** recently, "It's probably a little early in 1986 to nominate a Sports Person of the Year. But unless Pete Rose wins the Masters or **Wayne Gretzky** takes the Indianapolis 500, we have a leader in the clubhouse. She's Jan Kemp, a courageous woman who scored heavily against corruption and deceit, two staples of intercollegiate athletics in the United States". Just keep watching the changes in college football TV. The glut of games that has watered down fan interest has already resulted in the networks canceling their arrangements to telecast three lesser bowl games and now **WTBS** in Atlanta has said thanks, but no thanks to another year of night college football on their station. They lost \$6 million on last year's football packages, most of it on their night game schedule against **ESPN**. Good coaches win anywhere. Examples, Eddie Sutton from **Arkansas** to an SEC Championship at Kentucky. Bob Weltlich, from an SEC tournament title in 1981 at Ole Miss to a tie for the Southwest Conference Championship this year at the **University of Texas**. NBA basketball experts say **Chuck Person** of Auburn will be picked before Kentucky's **Kenny Walker** in the upcoming draft. Both will be, however, first round picks. **Buck Johnson** of Alabama has an outside chance to be chosen in the first round, but that's it for top choices from the SEC this year. One of the statistics that the SEC sends to sports writers and broadcasters every week is "opponents free throw percentage". Anyone know's how to defend against a free throw? By the way, Tennessee is best. Their opponents make about 66 percent of their free throws. Ole Miss is 10th "giving up" a 74 percent success ration to the enemy. **Rob Jones** has set a new Tennessee record for most games played in a career. Jones has now participated in 128 games. The former mark was 127 held by Michael Brooks. More people watched a recent high school game at Kentucky's Memorial Coliseum than the largest crowd seen this season at any of four SEC schools. Eleven thousand people sat in for an Apollo-Henry Clay game surpassing any 1986 attendance figures at **Georgia, Florida, Mississippi State or Ole Miss**. The last word: (Jan) Kemp was penalized for nursing this deranged idea that jocks should leave college after four years with, if not high marks, at least some working knowledge of the alphabet beyond the letters X and O". The Sporting News.



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Baton Rouge To Host Next SEC Tourney?

The Inside Word

Although Southeastern Conference officials decided not to make a decision during the SEC Basketball Tournament last week while in Lexington, inside word has it that LSU and Assembly Center will play host to the 1987 event.

Tennessee, which was originally scheduled to host the event, had to turn the event down for the second consecutive year because UT's new 25,000-seat arena won't be ready in time.

Among those indicating a strong desire to host the event were Nashville, Baton Rouge, Birmingham, Atlanta and New Orleans.

Our sources indicate that LSU will be awarded the tourney in the near future. SEC officials said last week that they considered Tennessee to be the official site until the time that UT officials notified the SEC that it wouldn't be able to host the event.

People in Knoxville say it is physically impossible for the arena to be ready by next March.

In recent years, the SEC has reframed from announcing future tournament sites during the annual basketball tournament, to keep from taking attention away from the action on the floor.

LSU Coach Dale Brown said during his stay in Lexington that he believes the City of Baton Rouge will do a tremendous job of putting on the SEC classic if his city is chosen.

Brown also says he believes that the City of Atlanta should be given serious consideration as a site for future SEC tournaments.

There has been growing support for Atlanta in recent years, but certain officials within the SEC membership have long argued that Atlanta is Atlantic Coast Conference territory because of Georgia Tech.

Those supporting Atlanta say that is one of the reasons why Atlanta and The Omni should be selected.

"We've been conceding the South's biggest city, the largest media center, the South's only major international airport and the heart of Georgia to the ACC all these years instead of taking advantage of it," said one official from the University of Tennessee. "Georgia is SEC country, not ACC."

The same person also noted that Birmingham is occupied by UAB and the Sunbelt Conference, yet the SEC still has its league offices in that city.

Dwindling revenue from television and the softening of post season football bowl activity should have the SEC searching for ways to better promote its product.

Birmingham is anything but a hotbed for basketball. Attendance at the Sunbelt Conference a couple weeks ago was unbelievably poor. The once great sell-out of UAB-Auburn games the night before the annual Alabama-Auburn football classic turned into some 2,000 empty seats without the aid of the football game.

Sports fans would go to Atlanta to shop, dine out and enjoy entertainment as well as watch the hoops. In Birmingham, restaurants close down with the sunset.

There's no question which city could and would do the better job.

Nothing.

A couple weeks ago the All-SEC team of ten players was announced and although UK finished a full four games ahead of Alabama, it was 'Bama which placed three players on the team and only two players.

That same poll had Alabama's Wimp Sanderson being named "Coach of the Year" over Kentucky's Eddie Sutton. That selection was the topic of discussion the past two weeks and finally came to a head last week when Sanderson announced that he wouldn't accept the award.

Sanderson said he wasn't aware his sports information department was for him on

Sanderson's ballot. He said had he voted the ballot, he would have voted for Sutton first.

Nevertheless, the newspaper (*The Knoxville News-Sentinel*) which sponsored the contest (it is recognized as the official one by the SEC) said the honor would stand in Sanderson's favor.

Then came the media's vote of the All-SEC Tournament team Saturday night after Kentucky's win over Alabama in the championship game.

Again, two Alabama players were named to the five-man squad while only one from Kentucky.

Both Buck Johnson and Derrick McKey received the honor from the media which covered the event. UK's Roger Harden, along with Mississippi State's Chauncey Robinson and LSU's John Williams. Missing was UK All-American Kenny Walker who scored 59 points and hauled down — rebounds during the three games.

Walker scored 28 points in a sterling performance over Ole Miss on Thursday and came back with 20 points and 12 rebounds against Alabama in the title game.

What irked many was Williams' selection over Harden as the tourney's MVP. It was the first time since the SEC Tournament was revived eight years ago that a player not involved in the championship game was accorded the trophy.

"I thought Roger deserved the MVP," said Sutton after the game. "He was certainly most valuable to us and his play in the championship game was the big difference."

Harden scored a career-high 18 points against Alabama and his long-range bombing in the first half kept the UK close when other Wildcats were trying to get untrack.

Williams, who collected a record 20 rebounds against Florida in LSU's first game, came back for 28 points in a losing effort against Kentucky the following night.

Williams' stock could be attributed in part to his coach's crusade during the post game media conference on Friday night. Brown said he didn't believe in all-tourney selections and MVPs, but if there was one, that Williams should be the easy winner.

So what's new in the SEC these days?

Coaching changes should be headlines for the next several days around the country and the selections could start right here in Lexington.

By the time you read this, UK assistant Leonard Hamilton could be the head coach at Oklahoma State.

Hamilton, who has been an assistant at Kentucky since 1974, was reported to be the leading candidate for the head coaching job at Oklahoma State.

Hamilton has visited the campus at least twice and was officially interviewed last week. The North Carolina native has the reputation as being one of the nation's top recruiters.

He was one of the finalists for the Cincinnati job three years ago when UC hired Cincinnati alumn Tony Yates to rebuild the Bearcats program.

According to a report out of Kansas last week, Wichita State also was interested in landing Hamilton but apparently was too late in making contact.

Hamilton's bid to get the job was aided, according to some, by strong endorsements from Kentucky Coach Eddie Sutton, Iowa's George Raveling, Georgetown's John Thompson and North Carolina State's Jim Valvano.

OTHER COACHING NEWS . . . In the not too distant future, don't be surprised if there aren't even more coaching changes. Word is beginning to spread that Eastern's **Max Good** could be in trouble at Eastern Kentucky. If that happens, some names to



Wimp Was A Hot Item In Lexington

keep in mind are Morehead's **Wayne Martin**, former Mississippi State head coach and ex-UK assistant **Jim Hatfield**, current UK assistant **Doug Barnes**, former Eastern coach and current Clark County High boss **Guy Strong** and Cumberland's **Randy Vernon**. . . Vernon, who has guided his Indians to the national NAIA Tourney this week in Kansas City, may be the most overlooked coach in America . . . Martin could also be a candidate to join Hamilton at **Oklahoma State** if Hamilton wins that job. Martin was once an assistant to Austin Peay coach **Lake Kelly** when Kelly was head man at **Oral Roberts University**. . . An interesting note to the Oklahoma State situation. Guess who was head coach of the Cowboys back in mid-seventies? None other than **Guy Strong**. . . Speculation continues to mount in Tennessee that the Vols' **Don DeVoe** will leave the Big Orange to return to his alma mater **Ohio State**. Ironically, there are many in Knoxville who will shed no tears at such a departure, if one should actually occur. Tennessee has just suffered through its worst record since 1978 and the Vols never got untracked this season. It was also the fifth consecutive year that UT has lost more games than the year before. . . Should DeVoe leave, there will be plenty of candidates for the UT job. One inside source at UT says the school will go after a well-known national figure who has a proven track record as a big-time head coach. Assistants need not apply. And what do the Vols have to entice such a high-powered name? For starters, there is the new 25,000-seat arena which should be completed within the next two years. Secondly, said the source, money will be no object. UT knows it will have to show a full public commitment for the program in order to get a top coach who in turn would help fill those 25,000 seats. . . The first name to hit the

rumor circuit is UAB's **Gene Bartow** who was high on Kentucky's list this time a year ago. Bartow has privately said he would leave UAB only if he saw an opportunity to win a national championship at another school. . . Bartow's name has been joined by that of Auburn's **Sonny Smith**, but SEC followers have noted that Smith often criticized some football connections at Auburn. In Knoxville, that would be a disaster. . . Just as this column was being written, word comes that DeVoe has withdrawn his name from consideration at **Ohio State**. DeVoe announced over the weekend that "although he was never an applicant" for the job, he was withdrawing his name to clear the air because he had work to do at Tennessee. Immediately, there was wide speculation that it was Ohio State, not DeVoe, which had second thoughts of a marriage. Some OSU officials had come under fire around Columbus for even considering DeVoe because of his declining record at Tennessee in recent years and the Vols slump this season. . . Talk of the vacancy at Mississippi State was almost non-existent during the SEC Tournament last week, but best bets for the job appear to be former State coach **Ron Greene** of Indiana State, **Tvester Anderson**, an assistant at Auburn and **Murray Arnold**, a former State assistant who is now an assistant with the Chicago Bulls. . . When Kentucky defeated LSU Friday, it marked the fifth time in eight years that the Wildcats had advanced to the championship game of the SEC Tourney. When the Cats whipped Alabama, it was UK's second title since 1979, the first team to win the championship twice since the tourney was reinstated back in 1979. . . Alabama's appearance in the championship game was its fourth trip to the finals in the last five years, yet the Tide won it only once, back in 1982 at Rupp Arena.

It's That Harden Kid Again

Wildcats Sneak By Tigers In Semifinals

Stunning in no way describes it. Uncanny? . . . maybe.

Anyway, the kid from Valparaiso was at it again.

Senior Wildcat guard Roger Harden secured No. 3 Kentucky's 28th victory with another clutch jumper. And with it a step closer to the Wildcats' second SEC Tournament title in three seasons.

Let's turn back the clock to the final nail biting moments with UK ahead 59-58 over LSU.

With the shot clock showing four seconds remaining, in comparison to 10 seconds on the game clock, the 6-foot playmaker let loose an attempt from the left wing, 20 feet away.

When the Rupp Arena clock showed eight seconds remaining, and the shot clock down to two ticks, Harden's jumper had found its way through the twine.

And, when the clock displayed 0:00 Kentucky had earned a ticket to the SEC finals opposite Alabama. . . and LSU's dreams of upsetting the host 'Cats had come to a climactic end.

Kentucky 61, LSU 58.

"You want Roger to have the ball in the situation at the end," said Kentucky first-year coach Eddie Sutton. "You know he's going to do something, take the shot or get the ball to somebody who can."

Overall, 13 lead changes and five ties thrilled the 19,215 on hand.

"It was a situation where we wanted to put pressure on them and keep the ball away from Kenny (Walker)," said LSU's talented guard Derrick Taylor. "Roger pulled up and hit the shot."

Losing a game his team could have won, LSU mentor Dale Brown had all the praise in the world for the Tigers and Wildcats. In fact Brown was so happy that he told the media packed in the Rupp Arena press room something they had waited to hear throughout this season.

"I thought it was a great, great college game," said Brown before lowering the scoop on the media. "I know that sometimes I tend to overreact, and I'm starting my 30th year in coaching next year. There have been some memorable moments, but I have never coached a group of gentlemen with more guts than this team."

"We never gave up, and these fellows never even whimpered about the losses."

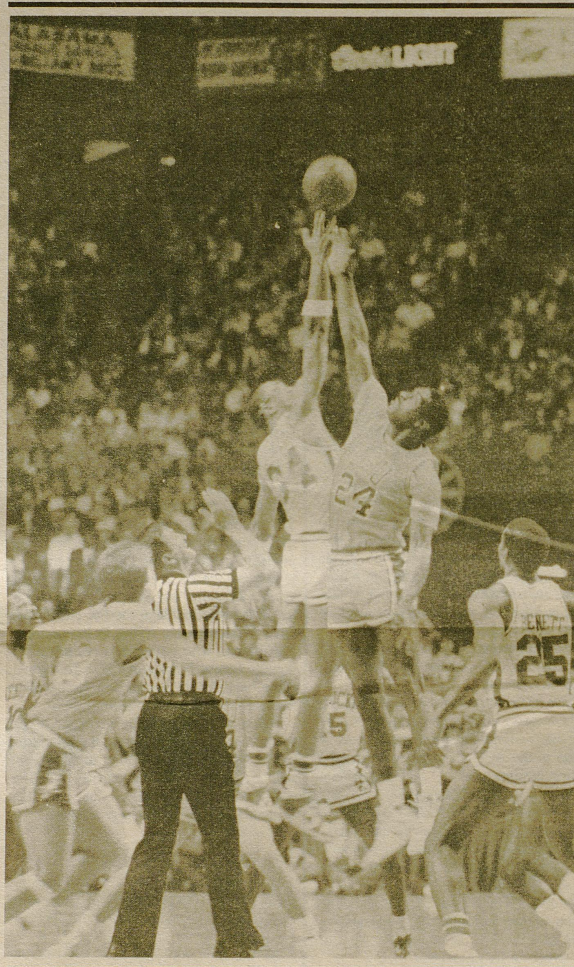
"It was a great win for Kentucky. They held on when they could have folded."

LSU, 22-11, had control of its own destiny with 4:07 remaining. With the Tigers holding a three-point lead and the ball, senior guard Derrick Taylor hit a 14-foot jumper to give LSU a 56-51 lead. The bucket brought Brown to his feet, pumping his fist in a 'that a way' manner.

Harden's Shot Wouldn't Have Mattered If . . .

IF not for Blackmon's alert follow up of a missed Walker free throw then Harden's clutch shot may have never happened. Blackmon outmaneuvered his man at the line and banked in Walker's miss. The basket enabled UK to trim the lead, 56-53.

OFFICIAL SOUTHEASTERN CONFERENCE BASKETBALL BOX SCORE														
Date: 3-7-86 Site: Rupp Arena--Lexington, Ky Attendance: 19,212														
No.	Player	FG	FGA	FT	FTA	O	D	T	PF	TP	A	TO	BLK	S
33	Blanton, R.	2	4	2	3	1	4	4	6		0	1	0	1
14	Hester, D.	2	7	2	2	0	3	3	4	6	2	4	0	1
24	Williams, J.	12	21	4	4	2	8	10	3	28	3	2	1	4
10	Taylor, D.	6	12	0	0	0	1	1	2	12	2	2	0	1
11	Wilson, A.	0	2	0	0	0	0	0	2	0	0	0	0	0
30	Woodside, B.	0	1	0	0	0	2	2	0	0	0	0	0	0
31	Brown, O.	1	1	0	0	0	1	1	2	2	1	0	0	0
23	Vargas, J.	1	1	2	2	1	1	2	2	4	0	1	0	0
TEAM REBOUNDS (Included in Totals)														
TOTALS														
Game FG .490 FT 1.000 2 Deadball Rebounds														
PERCENTAGES: 1st Half FG .440 FT 1.000														
2nd Half FG .542 FT 1.000														
No.	Player	FG	FGA	FT	FTA	O	D	T	PF	TP	A	TO	BLK	S
25	Bennett, W.	6	14	3	7	8	5	13	4	15	1	6	2	2
34	Walker, K.	4	10	3	6	5	4	9	2	11	2	2	0	0
10	Blackmon, J.	4	11	2	2	3	2	5	1	10	3	0	2	3
15	Davender, E.	3	6	4	4	2	1	3	4	10	4	0	0	2
23	Harden, R.	6	11	0	0	0	1	1	1	12	6	0	0	3
16	Andrews, P.	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	1	0	0	0
42	Madison, R.	0	1	0	0	0	0	0	1	0	0	1	0	0
44	Lock, R.	0	0	1	3	1	0	1	1	1	0	0	2	0
55	Jenkins, C.	1	2	0	0	0	1	1	2	2	0	0	0	0
TEAM REBOUNDS (Included in Totals)														
TOTALS														
Game FG .436 FT .591 2 Deadball Rebounds														
PERCENTAGES: 1st Half FG .375 FT .563														
2nd Half FG .484 FT .642														
OFFICIALS: B. Carroll, D. Shea, D. Rutledge														
SCORE BY PERIODS														
1st 2nd H. OT OT FINAL														
Louisiana State 28 30 0 0 58														
Kentucky 27 34 0 0 61														



Walker And Big John Williams

IF not for Bennett's steal, which allowed Blackmon to stroll in for an easy layup, Harden's shot wouldn't have mattered.

And . . . IF Bennett's long distance call, which was made possible by a Blackmon steal, from 18-feet in the right corner didn't connect then Harden's shot wouldn't have mattered.

All those ifs became realities, however. Like the pieces of a puzzle Harden's jumper fit nicely through the hoop capping off the contest.

"Not any one play won or lost this game," insisted Brown.

And what did Mr. Harden have to say about his impeccable touch?

"Anyone of my teammates would have liked to have taken the shot. I have been the right guy in the right place in taking those shots. I'm not any more of a clutch than anybody else. Winston Bennett had some fine plays late in the game, and the steal by Blackmon was big."

John Williams, who led all scorers with 28 points, hit a basket over the outstretched hands of Walker to cut the lead at 59-58 with 55 seconds remaining Brown and LSU then called timeout with 52 seconds left.

The Tigers' strategy was to let UK wind the clock down and hope for a Wildcat miss. But it wasn't to be as Sutton kept his perfect Rupp Arena record intact.

LSU And Williams Almost Spoil Winning Streak

For only the fourth time this season Kentucky trailed at intermission. Behind 28-27, Kentucky finally went ahead, 33-32, when Harden connected from 14 feet.

UK's All-American was limited to 11 points as he was troubled early with leg cramps and a bruised right knee. Turning the ball over five times and missing four free throws in the first half, Bennett came through down the stretch, however. He led the Wildcats in points (15) and rebounds (13).

"I did not have a particularly good first half, missing some shots and some free throws," said the Louisville Male product.

When things get tough for Bennett, he gets going. "The worst thing a shooter can do is to stop shooting."

He hit some 'big' buckets when needed and collected some 'big' rebounds.

By defeating the Tigers, Kentucky runs its home-court winning streak to 17.

UK And LSU Play See-Saw Game

With UK regaining the lead at the 17-minute mark LSU quickly took the upper hand on a driving layup by Don Redden. During the next four minutes seven lead changes followed.

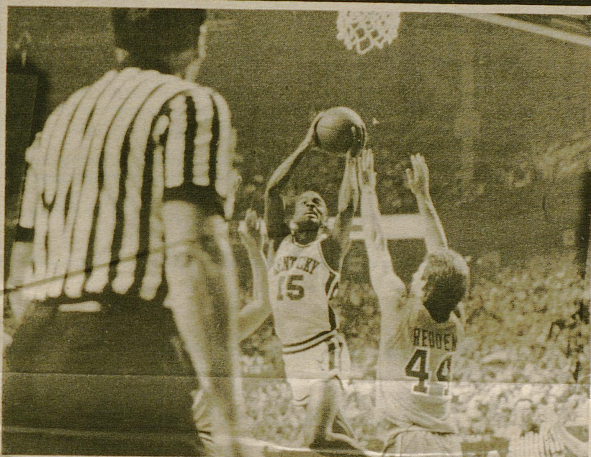
Facing situations made only for veterans Kentucky's lineup, at the 11:44 mark, consisted of four sophomores — Richard Madison, Robert Lock, Cedric Jenkins and Ed Davender — and Harden.

Jenkins gave his team a little breathing room — three points — with a four-foot banker.

Williams, however, drilled an 18-footer over UK's long-armed bandit (Jenkins) to cut the margin to one. With Walker now defending Williams, 'Big John' proceeded to score from inside, which gave the lead back to LSU (44-43).

Tigers Take Advantage Of 'Flat' Cats In First Half

The contest opened with ties at two, four, six and eight before Williams 12-foot jumper rolled and rolled and rolled around the rim before dropping. On the distributing end, Williams dished off to Redden for an easy layup.



Davender Slips By Don Redden

LSU was now in front, leading 12-8.

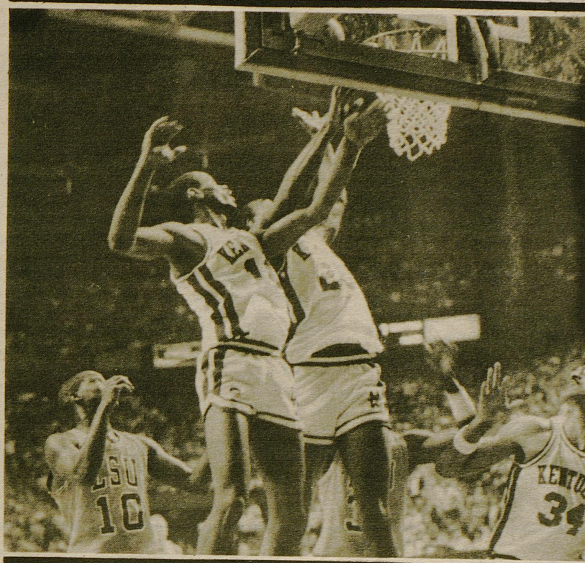
Three field goals by Williams and two free throws by Ricky Blanton increased the margin to six, 20-14 with 7:32 remaining.

At this point Kentucky couldn't find the basket. It's 30 percent shooting through the first 13-plus minutes of action (6 of 20) afflicted an offense which fired 50-plus marksmanship on the season.

Connecting only seven of its first 14 attempts from charity stripe didn't help matters either.



"And How Do You Get To Dallas?"



Blackmon And Bennett Control The Paint

While LSU's defense wasn't involved in UK's bad free throw performance, it did play havoc everywhere else.

"We started out in a man-to-man defense and really shut Kentucky down before they came back to win," Brown said. "Kentucky only had 10 points when we were using our man-to-man, and we got a great effort out of everyone."

Commented Sutton, "Our offense didn't play well the first 20 minutes, but our defense allowed us to stay close."

Stay close it did.

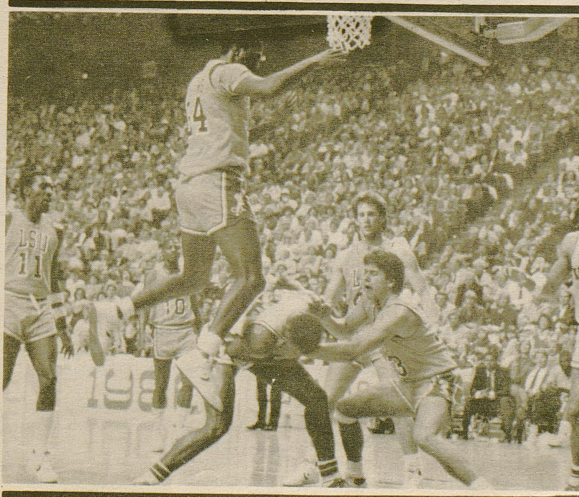
Following a nifty back door play from Williams to Oliver Brown, UK outscored the Baton Rouge Bengals 6-2 in the final 4:02 of the first half.

Harden gave a preview of things to come when his 20-foot jumper swished through the nets with only four ticks left.

Tiger-Wildcat Tiddbits

Kentucky's three-point victory over LSU was its 10th in 11 SEC Tourney tries.

While only scoring eight points and grabbing five boards against UK in the regular season finale John Williams led the Tigers with 28 points and 10 rebounds. Derrick Taylor was the only other LSU player in double figures, scoring 12. Adding 21 points a week ago against Kentucky, Anthony Wilson was 0 for 2 from the field for zero points. All five Wildcat starters hit for double figures. The 'Cats improved their shooting from the field after a miserable 37.5 percent first half effort. UK hit on 15 of 31 in the final 20 minutes. It was the first time this season Kentucky had won a contest after trailing at intermission. The two coaches praised the level of intensity of both teams. "Said Eddie Sutton, "I agree with Dale Brown that it was a great college game." Each coach was pleased with their season. "I love these guys," said Brown. "They have won 22 games, and this is truly a miracle team. We haven't read a lot about that, but we're fired up and ready to go (to the NCAA or NIT)." This team continues to amaze me," Sutton said. "I've never enjoyed a season like I have working with this group. They are playing with confidence. They think they can beat anybody they play."



Walker In Tiger Territory

Oscar L. Combs

[Continued From Page 3]

Meanwhile, the tri-champions are left at home for a possible NIT invitation.

And just how did DePaul receive an invitation? That one will keep us wondering all the way until next March.

Some parting shots: The early line from **Dick Vitale** has Duke, Georgia Tech, Kansas and North Carolina emerging as the Final Four participants. What was that I said about seeding those ACC teams? . . . The newest *CNN/USA Today* basketball poll has **Duke, Kansas, Kentucky, St. John's** and **Georgia Tech** in that order. **Alabama** moved up to No. 20 by finishing second in the SEC Tourney . . . St. John's **Walter Berry** was named winner of the *John Wooden*

Award Sunday as the Los Angeles Athletic Club's college basketball player of the year. Runner-up to Berry was Duke's **Johnny Dawkins**. UK's **Kenny Walker** was one of ten finalists for the award and finished fourth in the voting . . . When Kentucky takes on **Davidson** Friday night in Greensboro, seniors **Kenny Walker** and **Roger Harden** will be going for their 100th victory while playing in a Kentucky uniform. Senior **Leroy Byrd** transferred to Kentucky three years ago and did not play for the Cats when Walker and Harden were freshmen. The Cats' record since Walker and Harden arrived on campus is a fine 99-29. As frosh, they were 23-8 followed by 29-5 in 1984 and then 18-13 in the rebuilding season of a year ago.

Mel Holbrook

[Continued From Page 13]

"Kentucky players don't have a hard time getting a job," Bass continued. "Lexington is pretty much UK crazy. Kentucky basketball is Lexington. There are radio talk shows being broadcast from the halls of the Hyatt-Regency. The players are held in high esteem. It's easy to get a job in the state just because they played basketball at Kentucky."

But Bass doesn't feel Kentucky is the mecca of college basketball, as some have said. "I don't know if there is a 'mecca,'" Bass said. "There are a lot of states where college basketball means a lot. There are no major league or professional sports in Kentucky and that enables people from all areas of the state to get behind Kentucky. It's not the mecca, but it's one of them."

Overall, though, Bass is still impressed with the UK basketball program, but especially Rupp Arena, named for the late Baron of Basketball who coached at UK for 42 years. "You go to other places, you see other setups, but this one ranks right up there with the top," he said. "It's a bit awe-inspiring."

Bass and his wife, Debbie, live in a Cincinnati suburb and have two children, Shanna, 5, and Adam, 1.

Larry Vaught

[Continued From Page 17]

who took a club and won 17 of 18 league games. He did a great job and I plan to congratulate him in person.

"Our sports information department turned in the ballot with my name. I personally did not vote. With my name on our ballot it is not right for me to be Coach of the Year and I will not accept the award."

"Some people like me, some don't. All coaches, though, are on ego trips. I may be but it is not a very big one."

"I just want the record set straight and the right Coach of the Year honored. I'm just trying to be honest."

Sutton should be SEC Coach of the Year. No one can argue that. But don't condemn Sanderson for what was obviously an honest mistake.

"I just messed up," said Rutledge. "I filled out the ballot and voted for him. Somebody told me that a couple of years ago it was decided that coaches wouldn't vote for themselves. No one told me that."

Other SEC coaches felt the whole affair was blown out of proportion. "Lee Hunt of Mississippi has probably done as good of job as any coach in the conference this year yet his team finished ninth," said LSU Coach Dale Brown. "Who knows who should really be the Coach of the Year. It depends on a lot of things."

"When you pick a Coach of the Year there are generally two or three people you could give it to," said Florida Coach Norm Sloan. "People shouldn't be so upset over this. Eddie and Wimp are both good choices."

Then Sloan managed to get in his own dig at Kentucky. "There will always be somebody angry over something like this, just like when you are not one of the 64 teams picked for the NCAA," said Sloan, who felt his team should have received the NCAA bid Kentucky got in 1985.

Bob Watkins

[Continued From Page 26]

interested is June 29. The NBA draft.

In a recent edition of "Basketball Weekly" columnist Matt Marsom presented a list he believes will be the top 50 NBA prospects. Naturally, as it was intended to, Marsom's offering lends itself to conjecture.

1. Brad Daugherty, North Carolina, 2. Kenny Walker, Kentucky, 3. Roy Tarpley, Michigan, 4. Len Bias, Maryland, 5. Chuck Person, Auburn, 6. Dell Curry, Virginia Tech, 7. John Salley, Georgia Tech, 8. Johnny Dawkins, Duke, 9. Buck Johnson, Alabama, 10. Ron Harper, Miami, Oh., 11. Steve Mitchell, Alabama

Birmingham, 12. Kenny Gattison, Old Dominion.

■ Note that 10 of the first 12 players listed are from the south — five from the ACC, three from the SEC and two from the Sun Belt and one from the Metro.

■ Listed 18th is UL's Milt Wagner, 28th is Billy Thompson.

■ And, in the 47th spot Brett Burrow of Vanderbilt and Radcliff, Ky.

Parting shots

■ Florida Coach Norm Sloan got in a subtle dig at Kentucky last week. On Sutton not getting the SEC Coach of the Year award, Sloan said, "Anytime you pick one somebody's going to be angry. It's like the NCAA picking 64 teams, there's always somebody left out who thinks they should have been included."

A year ago Sloan made no secret about being unhappy when Florida was left out of the NCAA Tournament while Kentucky received a bid even though the Gators had a better won-lost record and beat UK twice.

■ Home run king Henry Aaron on how he would handle drug abuse in baseball. "On the first offense, knock 'em out of the game. There should be no second chance. You're talking about grown men. You're not talking about babies. Somewhere along the line those players have to learn you can't go around breaking the rules."

Comment: And lost someplace in the minds of fellows like Keith Hernandez is the reality that when he confessed (under immunity) that he had used cocaine, he was admitting he had committed a felony.

A crime for which a fellow on the street corner—especially if he were black—would go to jail.

And so it goes. ■

Jim Griesch

[Continued From Page 28]

Well, it is something like what Pete Rose accomplished last summer as player-manager of the Cincinnati Reds. When he finally broke Ty Cobb's hit mark of 4,191, each of his hits since has been a new, all-time, national baseball mark. If he plays enough this year, and well enough, he could pass the 4,300 mark by late August or early September.

Whatever your viewpoint, no one could take away the wins. Rupp won most of them. Hall continued the trend, and Sutton has made a remarkable beginning.

Non Other Than Kentucky Can Claim These Records

Of course, there are lots of other considerations to the tradition. UK still packs in crowds as large as anyone except Syracuse. What would it be like to have a 30,000-seat arena?

Fan support has made the program special to a lot of people.

Who else can get 15,000 or so watch them shoot for 30 minutes on another team's home floor.

Who else can get 10,000 to come out to watch a 45-minute practice at midnight?

Who can get 12,000 or so to watch an intra-squad scrimmage away from the home gym?

Who else has won 36 conference championships?

Who else has had a coach set a national record every time he won a game?

Another school may try, but until that time comes, then UK and its fans can still sit proudly in the glow of what has gone before.

Sure, such overwhelming numbers draw criticism. Some national telecasters have taken a hard line on such states. Even some reporters in this state, serving the interests of others, have taken shots at the tradition.

But, until someone else surpasses all of this, then it is UK's to claim.

And, as the players said after the win at Georgia last month, "We don't want anyone to ever catch us."

No other school has yet, but records are made to be broken.

**Western Takes
On Nebraska
At 7 P.M. Friday**

Back Thru The Wildcat Years

Six Years Ago

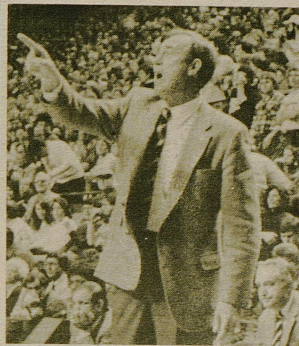
*A Kyle Macy jump shot from 17 feet out was off-target and Kentucky couldn't get another shot off as the Cats' NCAA hopes went down the drain in 55-54 Midwest Regionals. They lost to Duke in a game played in Rupp Arena. Kentucky dug itself in an early hole and trailed the Blue Devils by 37-23 at the half. Behind junior Fred Cowan, who scored a game-high 26 points, UK rallied back furiously. The Cats finally tied the score at 54-54 when Cowan scored. Duke's Gene Banks appeared to lose the ball out of bounds but a foul was called on UK's Derrick Hord. Banks hit one of two foul shots for what proved to be the winning margin. Kentucky hit only 40 percent of their shots and committed 17 turnovers. Cowan was the only Wildcat in double figures and center Sam Bowie was limited to only nine minutes

of action due to foul problems. Kentucky finished the season 29-6.

*Joe Barry Carroll's 26 points led Purdue to the Midwest Regional crown, sending the Boilermakers to the NCAA Final Four. Purdue defeated Duke 68-60 in the finale. The regional held at Rupp Arena was loaded with upsets. In the first round, Purdue upset Indiana and Duke upset Kentucky.

*In a week in which Kentucky was eliminated from NCAA play, the Wildcats received some good news as Indiana All-American prepster Jim Master announced he will attend Kentucky next year. Master said he chose Kentucky over Notre Dame in a decision which went down to the wire. The top candidate for Mr. Basketball honors in the Hoosier state, the 6-4½ Master averaged 27.8 points a game for Harding High School.

*The UK baseball team swept the Tennessee Vols behind the pitching of Jeff Keener. UK won by 4-3, 4-2 scores as Keener



C. M. Newton

pitched in relief in the first game and started the second, picking up wins in both contests. Tennessee came back to rip the Cats 11-4 in the Sunday game.

Ten Years Ago

*Kentucky's Jack Givens was one of five sophomores named to the All-SEC basketball team, conducted by the AP. Alabama's Leon Douglas and Vandy's Jeff Fosnes were the only seniors named to the team. Other members were Auburn's Eddie Johnson, Tennessee's Ernie Grunfeld, with sophomores Bernard King, Jacky Dorsey, Mike Mitchell and Kenny Higgs. Mississippi State guard Ray White is the only freshman named to the team. Alabama Coach C. M. Newton was selected by his colleagues as conference coach of the year.

*The UK football team closed out its first five days of spring practice with a one-hour and 20-minute scrimmage at Commonwealth Stadium. After the team returns from spring break, they will have 14 practice dates before the annual Blue-White game. The scrimmage pitted the number one and two units against each other, with quarterback Derrick Ramsey, Bill Tolston, Billy Williams, Mike Shutt and Vin Bruner taking turns directing the offense.

*Kentucky trailed Kansas State 63-51 in the second half but rallied back to win 81-78 in the first round of the National Invitational Tournament in New York. Mike Phillips scored all of his 17 points in the second half and hauled in 13 rebounds. James Lee scored 20 points and had 20 rebounds while Jack Givens and Larry Johnson each scored 15. Truman Claytor hit all five of his shots to score 10 points.

Fifteen Years Ago

*Tom Bannon hurled a no hitter as the UK baseball team swept Georgia State. UK won by 3-1, 22-4 scores.

*Three UK football players received All-American honors from the International Churchman's Sports Hall of Fame. The recipients are David Hunter, Al Goodwin and Wilbur Hackett.

*UK basketball Coach Adolph Rupp said if he is forced to retire at UK, that he might coach somewhere else.

*In the NCAA Midwest Regional tournament, Western Kentucky blasted UK 107-83 as the Cats lacked the poise, calmness and precision in their attack against the inspired Hilltoppers. All-American seven-footer Jim McDaniels led Western with 35 points while guard Jim Rose had 25 points. Forward Clarence Glover had 17 rebounds as the Hilltoppers came out running and never looked back. UK was led by Tom Parker's 23 points.

*Marquette whipped UK for third place in the Midwest Regional. A poor first half found UK behind 13 points. Dean Meminger led Marquette with 30 points with Jim Chones scoring 27 points. Larry Steele led UK with 20 points while Jim Andrews and Kent Hollenbeck each put in 14. Kentucky finished the season at 22-6.

Thirty Years Ago

*Three-time NCAA winner Kentucky will represent the SEC in the NCAA tournament. The Cats failed to win the SEC for the first time since 1943, but champion Alabama has starters ineligible for tourney play because they are fourth year players. Coach Johnny Dee and his players decided to let UK go to the NCAA. It will be the Cats' eighth appearance.

Wildcat Quiz

1. How many times has UK participated in the NCAA Tournament? (Does not include this season)

2. What team eliminated UK from the NCAA Tournament last season?

3. What was the site of the West Regional where UK was defeated last season?

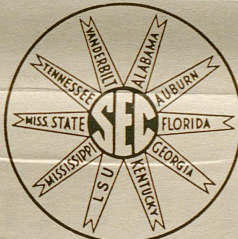
- a) San Diego, California
- b) Dayton, Ohio
- c) Salt Lake City, Utah
- d) Seattle, Washington

4. True or False? UK has made the Final Four one time during the decade of the 80's.

5. How many times has UK won 30 or more games in one season?

- a) Three
- b) Four
- c) Seven
- d) Nine

6. True or False? UK has made the Final Four one time during the decade of the 80's.



7. How many NCAA titles did the legendary Adolph Rupp capture while at Kentucky?

- a) Three
- b) Four
- c) Seven
- d) Nine

8. What team eliminated UK from the 1973 NCAA Tourney?

- a) Marquette
- b) Ohio State
- c) Indiana
- d) Jacksonville

9. How many times has UK appeared in the Final Four?

- a) three
- b) five
- c) seven
- d) nine

10. True or False? UK has finished as the runner-up for the NCAA championship only once.



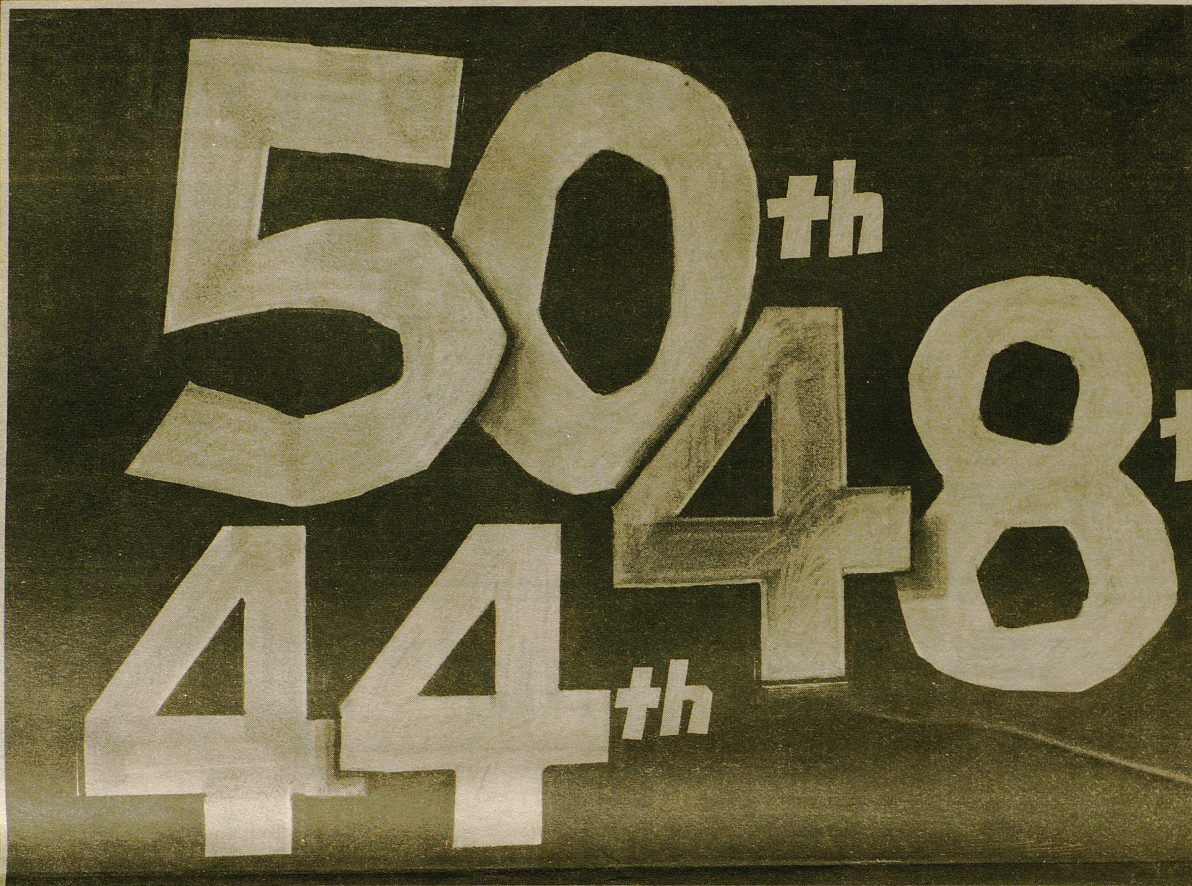
Goose Givens



Answers

- 10. False (twice)
- 9. Nine
- 8. Indiana
- 7. Four
- 6. True
- 5. Six
- 4. True
- 3. Salt Lake City, Utah
- 2. St. John's
- 1. 30





Higher Education in Kentucky

The Facts:

- Kentucky ranks 50th among the states in the percentage of adults who are high school graduates.
- Kentucky ranks 48th among the states in percentage of adults who have four or more years of college.
- Since 1984, the Kentucky legislature has increased funding for higher education 8 percent, compared to an average national increase of 19 percent. Kentucky ranks 44th among the states in this category.

The Future:

Significant improvements must be made to Kentucky's education system to make the future bright. Ashland Oil and other Kentucky-based companies need well-educated employees to lead the way into the next century. Governor Martha Layne Collins has said economic development and education go hand-in-hand. Ashland agrees.

The future will be better if we invest in quality education today. In particular, Kentucky's higher education system needs your support. Ashland Oil urges you to let your elected officials know that they have your support in making our schools better.



Ashland Oil, Inc.

^{HIGHER}
Quality education: an investment we've got to make.