

Joe B. Hall

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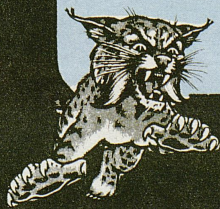
THE CATS' PAUSE

"SPOTLIGHTING UNIVERSITY OF KENTUCKY AND SOUTHEASTERN CONFERENCE"

VOLUME 1 - NUMBER 26

SATURDAY, MARCH 5, 1977

LEXINGTON, KENTUCKY



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Per Copy*

Joe B. Hall

UK Head Basketball Coach



We've Got To Shoot Better Against Vols

Question - This has to be one of Kentucky's biggest wins, especially when you're fighting for the SEC title down the stretch. How do you evaluate the win over Alabama?

Coach Hall - It was a very aggressive game. We played tough all forty minutes and Alabama played a great game. We just kept at it. I don't see how the score moved out there to fifteen points at the end. Robey had a real fine first half and Phillips played well. Larry Johnson had a super night, offensively and defensively. Jay Shidler found his shooting eye. LaVon, Dwayne and Merion all came in and played well. I wished we could have played them even more but it was one of those kind of games where the pressure was constantly on us.

Question - Does this win sew you up an NCAA bid?

Coach Hall - No, the way we figure it we still have to win one more. We definitely want to be in the NCAA. Maybe we'll just play a little harder the next time out and we'll worry about the rest of them later.

Question - What's the difference in the 15-point win over Alabama here and the two-point win down at Alabama a month ago?

Coach Hall - We played harder up here. Both games we had a lot of errors and a lot of turnovers. Our defense was better here. We've made some adjustments from the game down there. We dropped our point man a little bit and tried to bring our post man out a little more.

Question - You must be pleased with your shooting and the fact that six players scored in double figures against Alabama.

Coach Hall - We shot awfully well the first half and we must have continued that the second half. Jack (Givens) was the only one who was off in his shooting and I'm not worried about that. Their zone was watching him pretty close.

Question - It was a close game the first half, but you slowly pulled away in the second period. What did you change at intermission?

Coach Hall - We've been playing a little better the second half in recent games and that may have been the reason. We just continued to play hard. I don't know if other teams want to continue at that pace all night, but we did. We really did play hard that second half.

Question - Kentucky had several turnovers in the first half, in fact eight more than Alabama. What do you attribute that to?

Coach Hall - We were tense. There was a lot of tension. We could feel it

when we came out on the floor. The crowd was really up for the game. Our players were up, being on television. Both teams were tense, but we just let the ball sail when we turned it loose. This was a real big win for us this time of year, for us to beat the No. 8 team in the country by 15 points, that really means something. It's a good show of power and we need to demonstrate that this time of year.

Question - You weren't too happy with the overall performance on the road the past two games.

Coach Hall - There were a lot of things we could have improved on tonight, especially the turnovers in the first half. But we went to the boards hard. We just played hard. We couldn't ask for any greater effort than we played with. We made some mistakes, some of them correctable but you just can't complain when you get that kind of an effort.

Question - You're the first coach in SEC to win 100 games during his first five seasons. You just won 101 tonight. This must make you a happy man.

Coach Hall - I didn't know that. It's a tribute to my staff, to Dick Parsons, Leonard Hamilton, Jim Long, and Jim

Andrews. It's a greater tribute to our players. If they didn't play with the tremendous aggressiveness they've shown, that wouldn't be possible.

Question - Kentucky wasn't the same team which easily defeated Mississippi State a month ago nor was it the same one which rolled by the Alabama Crimson Tide Saturday. What happened?

Coach Hall - I've probably got less to say tonight than after any game we've had in a long time. I can't say very much good about the way we played. We were erratic in our passing and it took a lot of luck to win.

Question - Could your players have been looking ahead to the big game with Tennessee this weekend?

Coach Hall - I couldn't really say that. It was a bad thing if we were looking ahead. I had no idea we could play as badly as we did tonight and I don't mean to take anything away from Mississippi State. They had something to do with it with their aggressive defense and their toughness. Although I thought their aggressiveness got them into foul trouble early.

Question - State was hurt when it lost Ricky Brown with some six minutes to go and Kentucky trailing at the time. Was that the difference in

the game?

Coach Hall - He hit about three in a row from the top of the key when they made that run. It certainly was a break to get him out. We could have lost several players had we not protected them early by substituting for them.

Question - Several of the Kentucky players said they were physically exhausted after the tough game with Alabama on television last Saturday. Do you think that could have carried over to tonight?

Coach Hall - It could have, I just don't know.

Question - The Tennessee game is now before you. What does Kentucky have to do differently from the game a month ago to defeat the Vols for the SEC championship?

Coach Hall - We have to shoot better for one thing. We only hit 32.9 percent before. If we could play just the same and hit one more basket, we'd be all right. When we shot the 32 percent, the rest of our game wasn't that bad. We rebounded well, our defense was good. We do have to do a better job inside. We have to stop them from going inside as much as they did before. We'll try to prevent that with both our zone and man-to-man. Mainly, we can pick up our slack if we can just shoot better.

Question - Many people say you have to stop Reggie Johnson to beat Tennessee, but Georgia also stopped Ernie Grunfeld in the Bulldogs' upset of the Vols last week.

Coach Hall - Well, they also stopped Johnson with only two points. Of course, Grunfeld was in foul trouble. It would be mighty nice if we could get him in foul trouble.

Question - Even though it wasn't one of Kentucky's finer games, you had to be happy with the win. It was better than an upset loss.

Coach Hall - Sure, we're pleased with any win, but not necessarily satisfied. Anytime you win, you have to be happy and our boys seem to do what's necessary to win. They also play well enough to take care of the situation. That's one good thing about this bunch.



THE CATS' PAUSE

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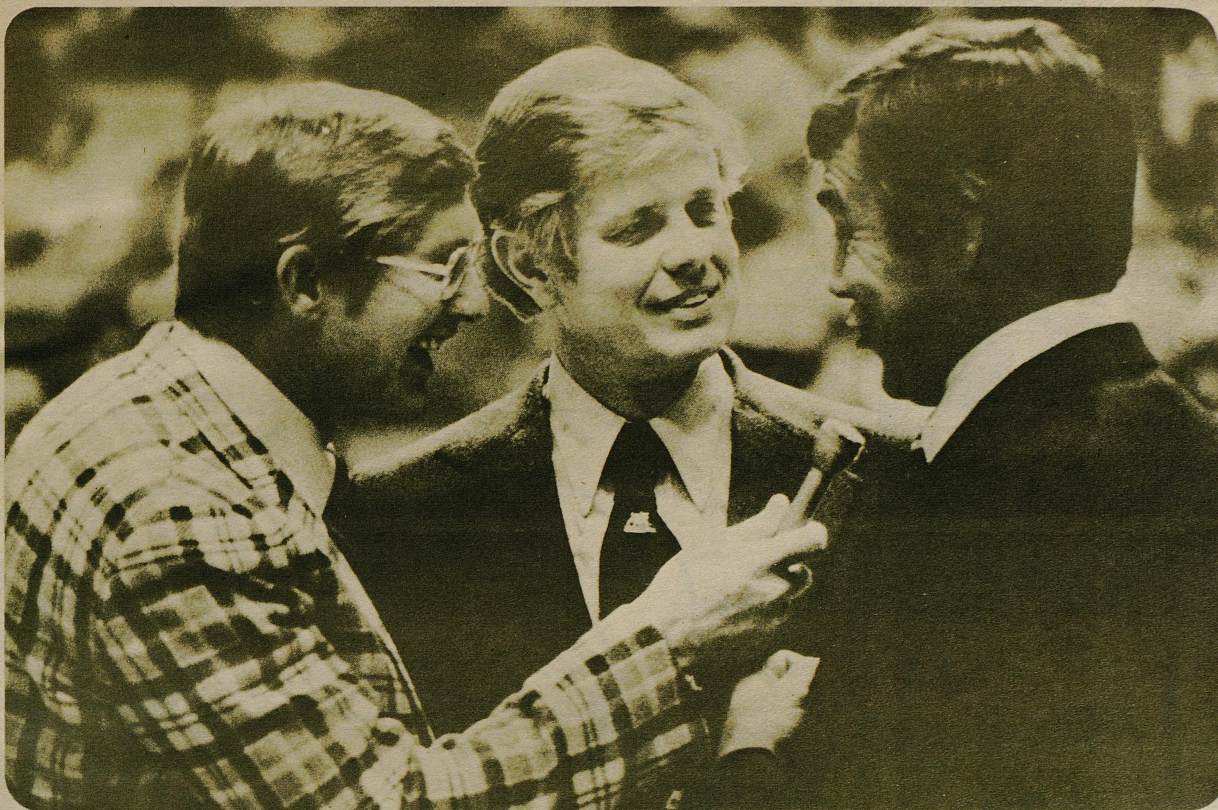
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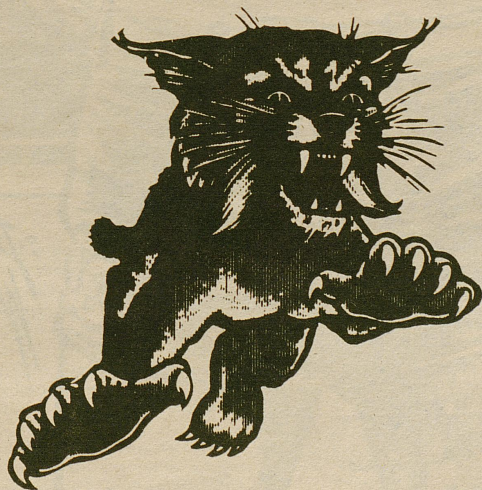
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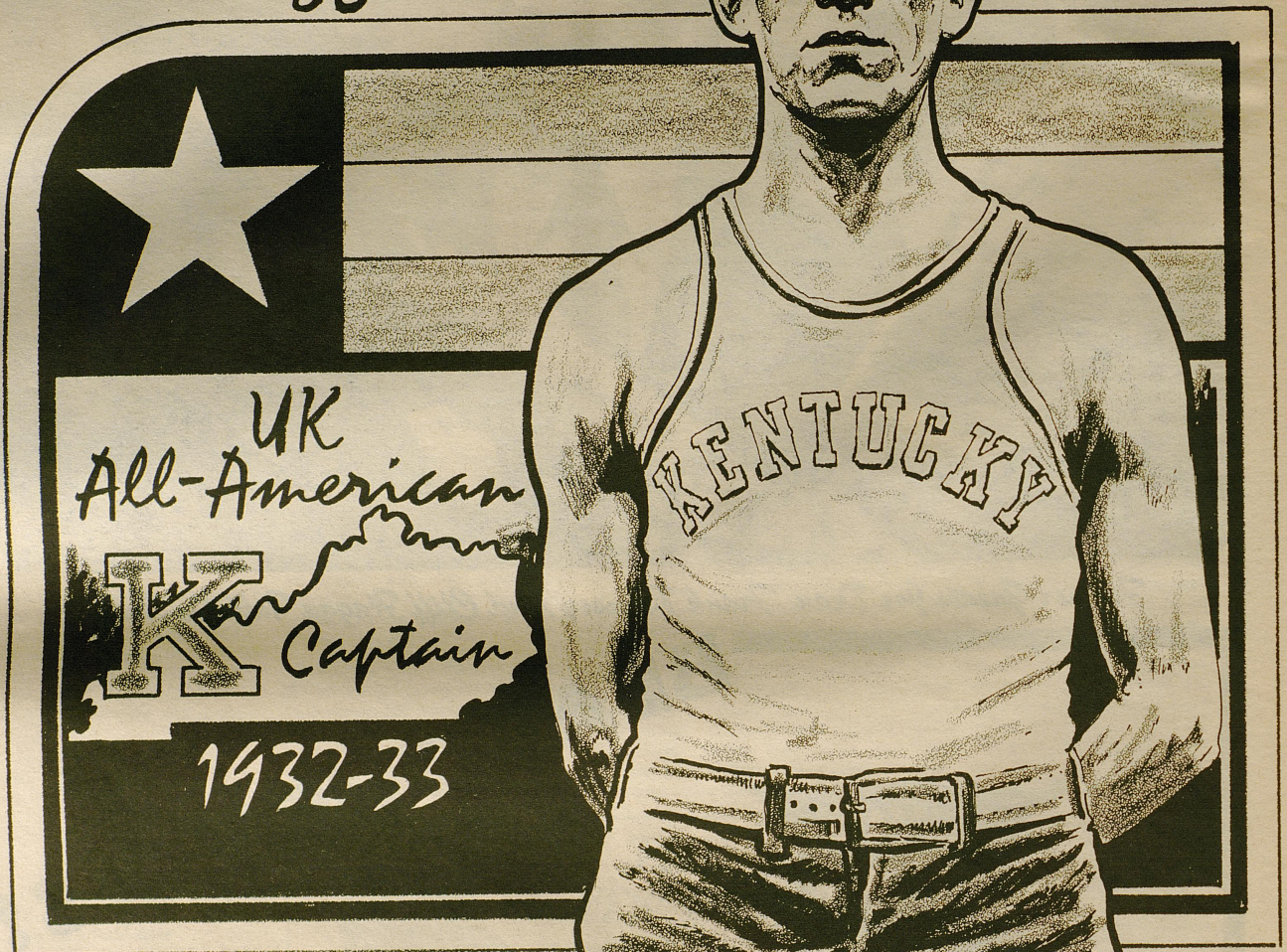
BEAT THE VOLS!

**"Good Luck
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Feb
1977



Oscar L. Combs

Cats' Pause Publisher



WILDCATS

How About A Football Repeat In Knoxville!

Sixteen of the eighteen SEC basketball games have gone by the board this season, but it's a whole new game as far as the Kentucky Wildcats and the Tennessee Vols are concerned. The issue will be settled once and for all Saturday at 4 p.m. on NBC-TV in Knoxville.

Kentucky, 23-2 on the season and ranked second in the nation, fell victim to Tennessee earlier in the year at Rupp Arena by a 71-67 count in overtime.

It was one of the Cats' poorest shooting games of the campaign but that is not to take anything away from Coach Ray Mears' Vols. Tennessee has the most explosive offense in the nation with premier All-Americans Ernie Grunfeld and Bernard King.

All eyes will be on Knoxville and the winner will emerge as the SEC's official representative to the NCAA which will probably include a stop at Rupp Arena for the Midcast Regional semi-finals and finals.

Our prediction? Too close to call.

+ + +

Spring is just around the corner and the Wildcats hit the diamond next week as Coach Tuffy Horne has been sending his charges through indoor practices for some time.

Kentucky has the nucleus to better even last season's record when the Cats were SEC divisional champs. A big addition was the signing of pitcher Tim Branderburg who was offered a lucrative pro contract with Kansas City Royals, but turned it down for the Cats and an education.

+ + +

Football spring practice begins on the grid-iron Monday and Fran Curci hopes to find some replacements for several talented offensive linemen who have played out their four years.

By the way, March 8 will be the date for the third annual Superior Scholar Athlete Luncheon at UK which honors all athletes with high academic standings.

The event will be held at the Student Center at 11:30 a.m. with former National Football League super official Tommy Bell as the speaker. Local sportscaster Denny Trease will be master of ceremonies.

+ + +

A decision will be made in the next few months where the NCAA finals will be held in 1981 and the two finalists are Rupp Arena and the Superdome in Louisiana.

The NCAA likes to stay with university playing arenas and the word is out that Kentucky stands an excellent chance of being the selection. A big factor could be how smooth things are handled at the Midcast Regional here later in the month.

Jim Host & Associates of Lexington, the firm which has broadcasting rights to all University of Kentucky football and basketball games for radio, has also been awarded radio rights for all games of the NCAA tournament this year.

+ + +

Just a note to say we appreciate everyone's understanding of our situation the past few weeks. Things seem to be getting back to normal and we plan to provide you with top coverage of the Wildcats on the road to a fifth NCAA championship.

We've been handicapped in providing the coverage you're entitled to in the past three issues, but we hope to make it up to you now.

Also, our popular weekly UK sports quiz by Dewey Bentley will return to its regular schedule next week. Several of his quizzes were destroyed during the great rainmaker and we have just received a new series.

+ + +

HITS AND MISSES . . . "This is the cake-eat-inest team I've ever seen," quipped Louisville sports columnist Dave Kindred in the Kentucky dressing room after the Cats' 85-70 win over Alabama when coaches, players and friends took part in a cake from the Committee of 101. The cake was presented minutes after Joe B. Hall had collected coaching win number 101 as head master of the Wildcats . . .

Also around was Kentucky booster Tombstone Johnny Owen all the way from Algona, Iowa, with his son. Prior to the Alabama game, Tombstone Johnny predicted a 10-point Kentucky win . . . Remember Mickey Gibson, the Hazard whiz who many thought would become an All-American at UK before he was dismissed from the squad his junior year? Mickey now resides in Lexington and according to an Associated Press story, Gibson hopes, someday, that his son might be able to play for the Big Blue . . . Freshman Tim Stephens came out of surgery with flying colors Friday and doctors termed the operation a success. He is expected to fully recover and be ready to go full steam next season once the injured knee is healed . . . Even former UK cagers David Miller and Danny Hall may not be enough to save Bob Daniels' job at Marshall University. The Thundering Herd is experiencing one of their worst seasons and the alumni are getting restless with the former coach at Kentucky Wesleyan. A wire story out of the West Virginia community says this may be Daniels' last go-around . . . People in the media business around the state were shocked at the sudden "demotion" of Louisville Courier-Journal & Times executive sports editor Earl Cox to the position of a columnist. In a tune completely opposite to that which it preaches, the CJ & T provided readers with no explanation for the change and indicated that Cox had not asked for the new assignment. It was particularly shocking since the CJ & T sports coverage is generally regarded as one of the best in America. According to some, the demotion came after others in the sports department had complained repeatedly of low morale and lack of understanding by Cox. That

may be true, but you couldn't tell by reading the sports pages of the papers. The "putdown" of Cox certainly won't rank as one of the all-time favorite Barry Bingham moves . . . Another local favorite is in deep trouble with the natives and Dr. Bob Davis may have his days numbered at Auburn University. The Tigers are in danger of compiling a losing record and this comes just a few months after many had predicted Auburn would be a challenger to the SEC title. Three-time All-SEC guard Eddie Johnson has not performed up to projected standards. The press is after the Davis program in Alabama while morale and discipline have been problems this season according to people close to the scene. A case in point was Auburn's disappointing home loss to LSU Saturday. Only 2,826 fans showed up for the game . . . Despite Kentucky's strong football showing in 1976 and the 21-0 Peach Bowl win over North Carolina, the weekly Football News lists Kentucky as only No. 26 for next season. It lists Tennessee as No. 23, has a two-page spread on new Vols coach Johnny Majors, then makes excuses for Majors by saying he has three road games "but they'll all be SEC toughies against Alabama, Kentucky and Florida." The other eight games will all be played in the state of Tennessee. Pity poor Johnny . . . Football News also lists Art Still as a third team pre-season choice on its All-America defensive team, but both Rod Stewart and Jim Kovach are missing . . . Kentucky's football club will go through Pro Day this week. That's when representatives of the National Football League comes to town to clock times on all the UK Wildcats as well as weighing the players and checking their height. The annual affair takes away the problems of listing statistics to suit everyone's wishes . . . If you like to follow predictions, you'll love the picks of Basketball Weekly's expert staff for the Kentucky-Tennessee game this Saturday. The five-man board is split 3-2 in favor of Kentucky defeating the Vols. Those favoring Kentucky predict the Cats by 2, 3 and 4 points respectively. The two liking Tennessee think the Vols will win by three points. All five like Kentucky and Tennessee in their season finales against Georgia and Vanderbilt respectively Monday night . . . There were some great signs in Rupp Arena Saturday for television during the Kentucky-Alabama battle. One of the best was the imitation of a national hot dog fast food outlet, Weiner King. Complete with the logo, the UK students' sign read: "Bernard King, King of Hot Dogs, USA."

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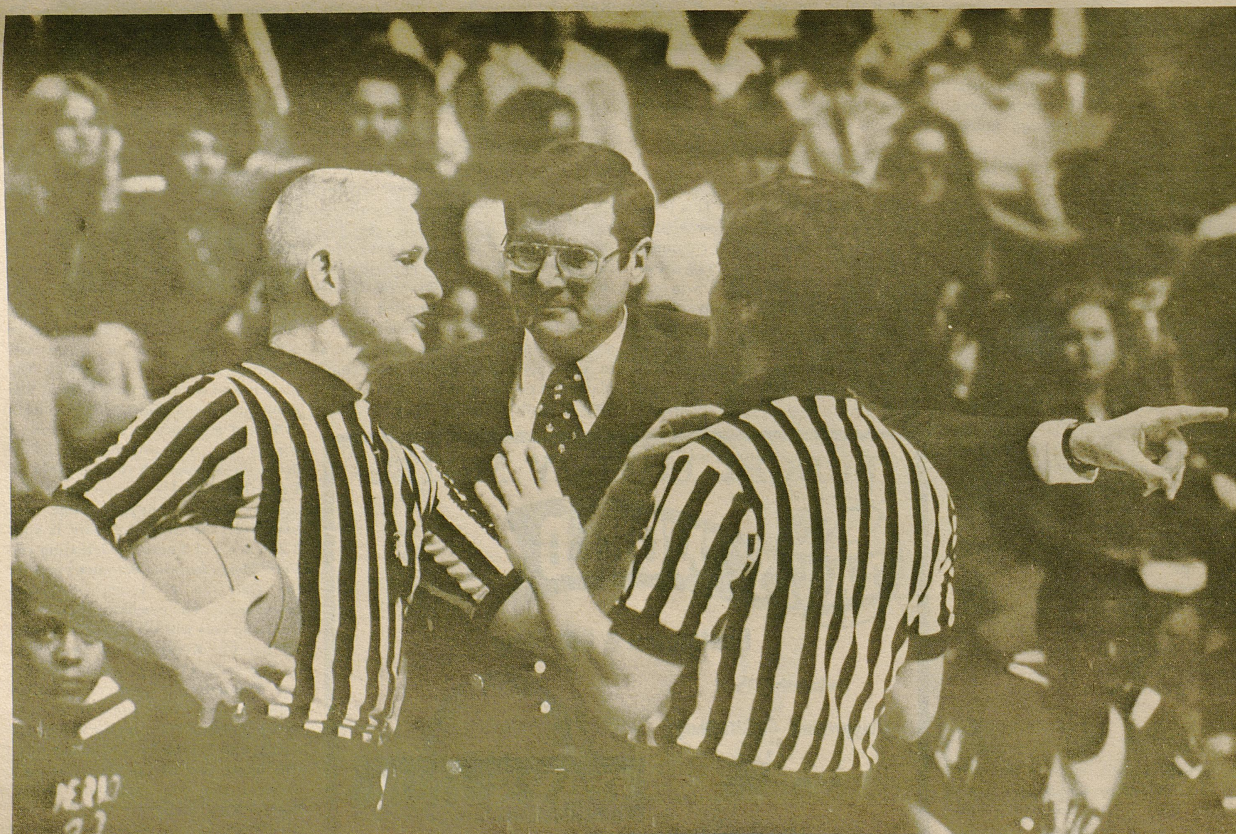


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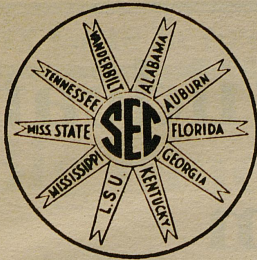
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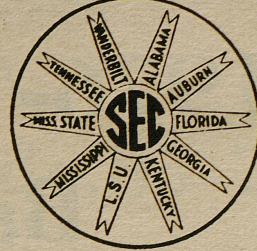


Wait Now, Let Me Have This One



Around The SEC

With Bill Straub



Kentucky, Tennessee All Set For NCAA Trip

Regardless of WHAT Tennessee did at Georgia Saturday night and regardless of WHAT Kentucky is going to do in Knoxville March 5, the writing is pretty much already on the Southeastern Conference wall.

The question is no longer who will represent the SEC, but where. If there was ever any doubt of the outcome, it was more than taken care of last Saturday.

Here's the scenario. Going into games of February 26, there were three teams vying for post-season NCAA slots. Kentucky and Tennessee had one conference loss apiece. Alabama had three.

Saturday the Cats and Bama faced off at Rupp Arena. A Tide victory would have totally clouded the SEC picture for at least another week. A Kentucky win would have pretty well decided things.

The reasoning is simple. Tennessee was very much favored to beat the ever-lasting asperations out of Georgia Saturday. That would have given them one conference loss to Florida.

Now if Kentucky did, in fact, lose to the Tide, it would have placed them in sole possession of second place with two losses. A victory would have kept coach C. M. Newton's club in third with three setbacks.

That would have made next Saturday's match-up between the Vols and the Cats unbelievably important. Although Tennessee—no matter what happened—would have had an airtight lock on an NCAA spot, Kentucky would have been forced to win. Another loss would have set the Big Blue in a third place tie with Alabama. No telling what would have happened then.

If Bama had won and Tennessee had lost, things would have been even more cryptic. Coach Ray Mears' crew and the Cats would have been in a first place tie with two losses apiece. Bama would have been in second but only one game back.

That would have meant the loser of the Kentucky-Tennessee tilt would have been tied for second place instead of maintaining sole ownership. That, friends, would have been trouble in River City.

But as things turned out, the preceding paragraphs were just an exercise in mental futility. Tennessee lost. Alabama lost. Kentucky won. The

race for the berths is all but over.

This is how it shapes up. Coach Joe Hall's Kentucky squad has three games left—against Mississippi State (already played as of this reading), Tennessee and Georgia. Even if they lose all three, the worst the Cats can do is wind up in a second place tie with Alabama. With two victories against the Tide under its belt, Kentucky appears to be a shoo-in.

Tennessee, on the other hand, has only two more games—against the Wildcats and Vanderbilt. If they lose both, they likewise can do no worse than a tie for second. The vols have also taken the measure of Bama twice. If two plus two does equal four, Kentucky and Tennessee should be the SEC's representatives.

That means only the outstanding question is where each team will play. The SEC champ starts off in the friendly confines of Baton Rouge—the home of LSU—before moving onto Rupp Arena—the home of Kentucky. That means if Kentucky can beat Tennessee and then go on to win its opening round match in the NCAAs, it will have a homecourt advantage heading towards the Final Four in Atlanta. Otherwise, a loss would send them to either North Carolina, Idaho, Arizona or some exotic berg like that.

The Cats would like the homecourt advantage. Tennessee would like to have the unfettered conference tilt. Although they are both almost guaranteed a spot, it should be quite a battle this Saturday. Stokely "Palace" is a difficult place for any visiting squad to win but Tennessee has been playing rather poorly as of late. Kentucky, on the other hand, is surging.

Still, make it [groan] Tennessee by three.

What does the future hold for Alabama? Probably a trip to New York's National Invitational Tournament—if it's held and they accept. It wouldn't be any surprise at all to find the Tide coming out on top in Madison Square Garden. After all, only two teams have beaten them all year long. Unfortunately, they can both be found in the same conference.

Both important weekend games came as something of a surprise. Although Hall's crew led by only three at halftime, it gradually pulled away during the final twenty minutes of

action to record an 85-70 victory. It was the Tide's worst loss since falling to North Carolina in the NCAA tourney of 1975.

But the biggest shock—and the biggest upset of the 1976-77 SEC season—came late Saturday night. Georgia is the conference cellar dweller. It has been all season long. For awhile it looked like coach John Guthrie's Dogs wouldn't win a Southeastern Conference game this season.

Well, they have won three. One of those victories sets them up as the spoiler and they get a crack at Kentucky in the season finale Monday.

"We had too many people who weren't concerned," Vols coach Ray Mears moaned after the affair. "The coaching staff was the only one concerned about this game tonight. It was an important game for us. We now have to be Kentucky and beat them to tie. Georgia was ready and we weren't."

Georgia led 46-39 at halftime and extended it to 70-58 midway through the final period.

But then Bernard King went to work. The Vols All-American forward—who poured in a game-high 41 points—led a surge that produced 10 unanswered Volunteer points and made it a two-point game.

Then the Dogs exploded. Center LaVon Mercer sank a free throw. Walter Daniels banged home two straight lay-ups before Curtis Jackson added the crowning touch.

Ernie Grunfeld, the front half of the famed Ernie and Bernie Show, connected for only 12 points in the game. I wonder who Mears was referring to when he said some of his people weren't ready?

ALABAMA—Tennessee wasn't the only SEC powerhouse to experience trouble with Georgia last week. The Tide got off to a shaky start February 21 and needed 21 points from center Ricky Brown to grab a 78-68 verdict.

The game was tied at 66-66 with 3:27 remaining. The Dogs tired, however, and Bama took over from there.

AUBURN—The War Eagles won a rare Wednesday night encounter but continued their losing ways with an 86-76 loss to LSU Saturday.

Coach Dale Brown's Tigers trailed 44-43 at the half but grabbed a 68-60 advantaged with six minutes left after

the Plainsmen went stone cold from the floor. Auburn cut the lead to four several times but behind Kenny Higgs' 30 points and 24 more from freshman forward Greg Cook, LSU hung on.

FLORIDA—The Gators maintained their air-tight hold on fourth place in the conference with an 84-78 victory over Ole Miss in Gainesville Saturday.

As one of four teams over .500 in the conference, Florida used 20 points out of guard Richard Glasper to come from behind.

The two teams were even through most of the first half although Ole Miss held several leads. A 15-foot jumper by forward Rick Clarson handed the Gators a 34-33 advantage with 1:29 to go in the first half. The Rebels of coach Bob Weltlich never regained the lead.

GEORGIA—Hail the great conquering hero.

LSU—The Tigers took it easy before whipping Auburn. LSU has been a surprise in the conference holding down the fifth spot.

OLE MISS—The Rebs fell twice—to Kentucky February 21 and, of course, to Florida Saturday. They should have stayed in bed.

MISSISSIPPI STATE—Coach Kermit Davis' club continues to slump even though they probably have more talent than any other team except Kentucky and Tennessee.

Last Monday it was Tennessee's turn to belt the Maroons. The Vols worked up a whopping 39-25 halftime lead but starting taking it easy in the second stanza. State came out and scored the first ten points of the half to close within four.

Reserve guard Terry Crosby finally broke the Vol cold spell and brought his club back to life. Ernie Grunfeld helped after finding his shooting eye and before you knew it the score was 55-41. So much for that.

Then Saturday, Vanderbilt guard Dicky Keffer hit four free throws in the final 1:24 to upset the Dogs 68-66.

The Maroons led the entire first half but went into the lockerroom up only 35-33. Keffer and Greg Fuller led the second half surge and took the lead for good with 13:27 left.

After that it was gone, forget it, good-bye even though State did manage to stay close. It wouldn't be at all surprising to see the Dogs go coach hunting at the end of this campaign.

Cats Journey To Knoxville Saturday With Title On Line

1976-77 Kentucky Wildcat Basketball Album



Asst. Coach Dick Parsons

Six Cats Score In Double Figures

Big Blue Blasts Crimson Tide, 85-70

By MARK BRADLEY

For the first twenty minutes last Saturday, the Kentucky-Alabama tilt was a tight, pulse-pounding drama. Both teams battled each other up and down the Rupp Arena floor before a record 23,412 crowd with neither able to break the game open. The second half, it seemed, surely would be more of the same.

But it wasn't.

The thrilling regionally-televized battle between two of the nation's finest basketball teams turned into a showcase for the Kentucky Wildcats who rode an early second half surge all the way to a crucial 85-70 victory.

Although the game was a match-up of Bama's quickness versus UK's inside strength, the outcome was determined by the most important of basketball skills—shooting.

The Wildcats riddled the Crimson Tide with 57.8 per cent shooting from the field, while Alabama was able to connect on but 34.6 percent of its field goal attempts. Much of the Tide's shooting difficulty can be traced back to the tenacious defense thrown up by Kentucky. UK employed both a man-to-man and a zone defense. The Cats' 1-3-1 zone forced Bama players to settle for outside shots, and they simply could not hit during the first five minutes of the second half, when Kentucky opened up a 12-point lead. Kentucky had led 38-35 at the half.

James Lee, the Wildcats' burly sixth man, served as a catalyst for the Cats' breakout after the intermission.

Lee started the second half after playing only a minute in the first period. He scored three baskets in a three-minute span, two coming on shattering slam dunks after the UK junior drove through virtually the entire Alabama team.

While Lee was putting on his act, the Bama players were giving a fine impression of five fellows shooting at a moving target. The Tide scored only one field goal in the first five and half minutes of the second stanza.

And, although Bama refused to roll over and die, the closest they could come to UK was seven points, 68-56.

Kentucky was led in the second half by Lee, and guards Jay Shidler and Larry Johnson. It was the shooting of the two back court men that kept Alabama from mounting a charge late in the game.

Shidler scored three baskets, all at key moments, in the second half and finished the game with 13 points.

For Johnson, the Alabama game was yet another in a series of outstanding performances by the UK co-captain this season. Larry hit seven of nine attempts from the field in the game and led Wildcat scorers with 16 points, 12 of which came in the final twenty minutes.

The Cats' two big men, Rick Robey and Mike Phillips, also performed

well, as the pair combined for 26 points and 16 rebounds, and generally made things tough inside for the Tide's splendid Reginald King.

In a way, it was a shame that Kentucky's excellence in the second half broke the game open (from a neutral viewer's standpoint), because the first half was a thing of beauty, a pitched battle between two fine teams, both with hopes of post season play uppermost in their minds. Neither team led by more than five points in the first half, as the score was tied three times and the lead changed

hands ten times.

Both teams started off tight. Bama began by throwing up several wild, off-balance shots. UK wasn't any better as the Cats failed to hit the rim on their first three trips downcourt.

The action picked up after that, and soon reached a furious plateau. UK and Bama were playing rugged defense, both were going to the boards well, and both played as if the national championship was on the line.

"We just went out and played hard—the whole way," said UK coach Joe B. Hall. "It was a real aggressive

basketball game and I thought Alabama gave a great effort."

"Everything seemed to fall in place in the second half," Mike Phillips said. "James slammed a couple and that really got us going."

Robey, Phillips' partner inside, called the win "one of our biggest of the year. They're a good ball club."

For the most part, the Alabama players were generous in their praise of Kentucky. T. R. Dunn said it best, "We played a real fine game, but Kentucky just played tougher."

King, who finished with a game-high 21 points, said the game was "one of the roughest of the year. I'd much rather play against a forward (than Robey and Phillips) because those guys are bigger and outweigh me."

Tide coach C. M. Newton said, "The key thing was James Lee in the second half. He played super at both ends of the court. He did an outstanding job on the boards, played well defensively, and took the ball to the basket well. I felt like he did a great job on Rickey Brown. He denied him the ball several times."

"The significant thing was the way Lee played on the boards," continued Newton. "I don't know how many rebounds he had, but he also kept the ball alive on the offensive boards. His play was probably the spark Kentucky needed to win."

Newton also said, "we played very well, everyone played hard. We just got beat by a tough, outstanding basketball team. I suppose the big difference in this and the first game (won by Kentucky 87-85 at Tuscaloosa) was that we didn't shoot well. We had pretty much the same shots we got the first time, but we weren't hitting."

And so, providing Kentucky gets by Mississippi State Monday, the conference chase will come to a head Saturday when Kentucky journeys to Knoxville with the Cats holding a game edge.

The Alabama players, who have lost only four games this season and all four to Tennessee and Kentucky, were reluctant to pick a winner in that game.

Anthony Murray, the Tide's lightning quick guard, said, "both teams beat us. I couldn't say one is better than the other."

"It's going to be a real, real, real fine game between the two. Both are very fine clubs," Dunn said.

Rickey Brown said it would be a great game, "but I'd have to go with Tennessee because of the game being at Knoxville. They have awfully great shooters down there."

Newton refused to compare UK and UT, and said it would be like "comparing apples with oranges. They're totally different teams."



Kentucky
Basketball

ALABAMA - 70

Player	FG	FT	REB	PF	TPS	AS	TO	MIN
T. R. Dunn	7-14	4-6	13	1	18	2	2	37
R. King	7-17	7-8	9	2	21	0	3	36
R. Brown	5-19	2-3	8	4	12	1	2	33
R. Scott	0-5	0-0	2	3	0	4	0	23
A. Murray	2-7	1-2	2	3	5	2	5	28
L. Russell	0-1	0-0	0	0	0	0	1	1
K. Looney	1-4	0-0	0	1	2	4	1	17
K. McCord	4-8	0-0	2	2	8	0	0	13
D. Bowerman	1-3	0-0	0	1	2	1	0	10
T. Bonds	0-0	2-2	0	0	2	0	0	1
C. Bragwell	0-0	0-0	0	0	0	0	0	1
Team Rebounds			4					

TOTALS 27-78 16-21 40 17 70 14 14 200

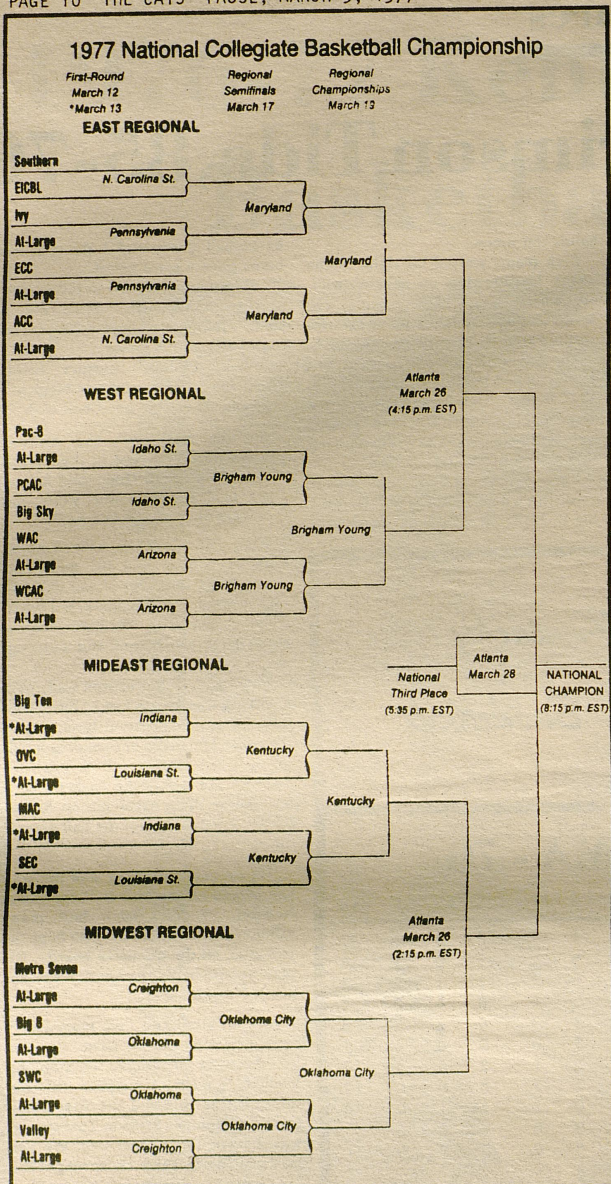
KENTUCKY - 85

Player	FG	FT	REB	PF	TPS	AS	TO	MIN
J. Givens	4-13	2-3	7	2	10	2	3	36
R. Robey	6-8	1-2	9	5	13	3	4	23
M. Phillips	6-11	1-2	7	3	13	1	4	25
L. Johnson	7-9	2-3	6	2	16	7	4	36
J. Shidler	6-8	1-3	4	2	13	3	3	27
D. Casey	1-2	2-2	1	1	4	0	0	8
T. Claytor	0-2	0-0	0	1	0	0	2	9
M. Haskins	1-2	0-0	0	2	2	1	0	8
J. Lee	6-9	2-2	4	4	14	0	0	20
L. Williams	0-0	0-0	0	0	0	0	0	8
Team Rebounds			4					

TOTALS 37-64 11-17 42 22 85 17 20 200

UNIVERSITY OF ALABAMA 35 35 ---- 70
UNIVERSITY OF KENTUCKY 38 47 ---- 85

Attendance: 23,412 (New Rupp Arena Record)
Officials: Jack Manton and Red Strauthers



Subscribe To The Cats' Pause

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Jack McKay's In Depth Look At Kentuckiana

Looking At More Kentuckians

Curtis Parker 6'2 senior Hopkinsville Christian Co. Coach Lyle Dunbar. Weight 175 pounds - strengths: good shooter with range, good spring in his legs and known as a hard worker- college scouts see him as a guard.

Jim Harkins 6'4 senior Ashland Paul Blazer. Coach Paul Patterson - weight a solid 180 pounds - Strengths: very aggressive, intelligent player, hard nose competitor and excellent driver- college scouts see him as a swingman, between forward and wing guard.

Jerry Eaves 6'3 junior Louisville Ballard coach Richard Schmidt. Weight 170 pounds. Strengths: smooth, quick, fine shooter and good playmaker. colleges will have to wait another year.

Keith Parker 6'5 senior Louisville Central. Coach Bob Graves. Weight 190 pounds. Strengths: smooth, quick, fine shooter and jumper. College position will be at forward.

Dirk Minniefield 6'3 sophomore Lexington Lafayette. Coach Jock Sutherland. Weight 170 pounds. Strengths: desire, quickness and scorer- colleges will have to wait two more years.

Charlie Jackson 6'7 senior Louisville P.R.P. Coach Gary Schaffer - weight 235 pounds. Strengths: plays hard, good driver and passer- college position. Must be at forward.

Billy Custard 6'2 senior Cynthiana Harrison Co. Coach Woody Crum. Weight 175 pounds. Strengths: team player and reliable in the clutch. billy will play guard in college.

Fred Cowan 6'8 senior Morganfield Union Co. Coach Ernie Simpson. Weight 185 pounds. Strengths: long arms for hitting the boards and sound shooter in his range. College position, forward.

Doug Schloemer 6'2 junior Covington Holmes. Coach Reynolds Flynn. Weight 185 pounds. Strengths: desire, good build and shooting eye. Colleges will have to wait another year.

Lee Raker 6'5 senior Louisville Ballard Coach Richard Schmidt. Weight 190 pounds. Strengths: intelligent, good under pressure and a nose for the ball-forward is his natural position for the future.

Micharel Searce 6'5 Junior Lexington Henry Clay. Coach Al Prewitt - weight 205 . Strengths: a natural talent for the game- needs to concentrate mentally and physically to develop his skills. Colleges have one year to watch and wait.

Bruce Coles 6'1 senior Lexington Bryan Station .coach Bob Barlow- Weight 170- strengths: shooting ability, adequate quickness and strong- college position, guard.

David Tompkins 6'2 senior Lexington Bates Creek. Coach Nolan Barger. Weight 180 pounds. Strengths: works well with team mates and knows how to score points- must be a guard in college.

College scouts are looking closely at: Greg Goldiron, 6'5 Cawood. Ray Bryon, 6'4, Louisville Trinity; Terry Mullins, 6'3 Louisville Western; Jeff Kovach, 6'6 Ashland Blazer; Jeff Riley, 6'4 Wheelwright.

A Look At More Hoosiers

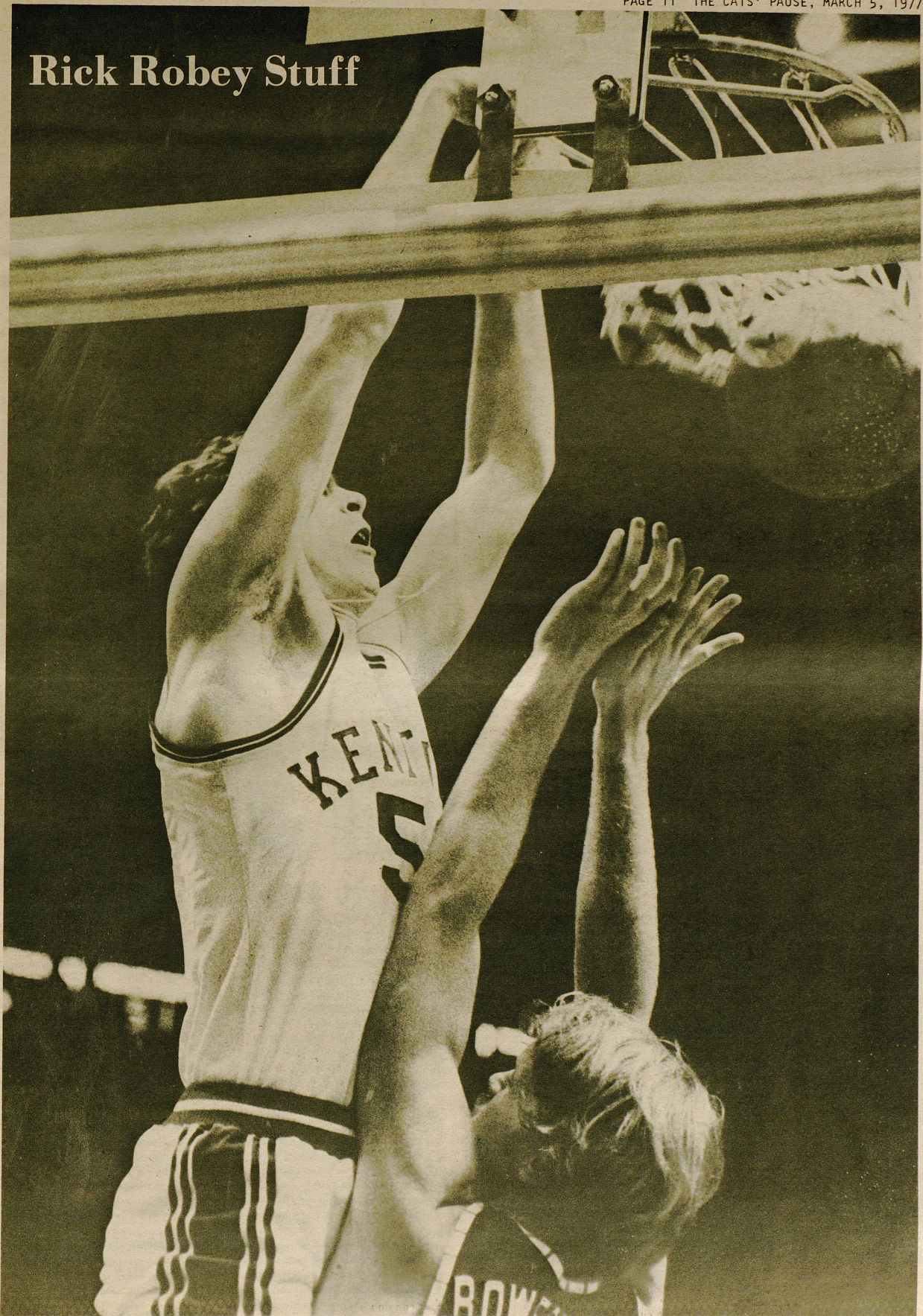
Tommy Baker 6'1 senior Jeffersonville. Coach George Marshall. Weight 175 pounds. Strengths: excellent speed, ballhandling ability and defensive player. College position, guard.

Ray Tolbert 6'7 senior Anderson Madison coach Phil Buck. Weight 205. Strengths: good scorer within range and nice speed for his size. Must play forward in college.

David Wright 6'5 Junior Indianapolis Marshall Coach Roger Schroder. Weight 205 pounds. Strengths: good boardman and very muscular. Colleges have another year to wait.

College scouts also looking closely at: Jeff Williams 6'2 Logans Port; Max Perry 6'2 Hanover Southwestern; Don Cox 6'5 Indianapolis Broad ripple; Ron Webb 6'6 North Judson; Dave Maglet 6'7 South Bend LaSalle; Rob Willis 5'10 Richmond.

Rick Robey Stuff



A True, Blue Wildcat Fan

Billy Thompson

By MARK BRADLEY

There are certain names which readily spring to mind when thinking about the Blue Grass region's leading personalities.

Names such as Adolph Rupp and Happy Chandler. Seth Hancock and Anita Madden, Foster Petit and Dr. Otis Singletary.

And Billy Thompson.

To have lived in the Lexington area over the past few decades is to have felt the influence of Billy Thompson in one way or another, either the print or broadcast media.

Thompson, in serving as sports editor of The Lexington Herald and as news director of WLEX-TV, has become a familiar household name indeed in the Bluegrass.

Certainly, Thompson has been successful in areas outside the realm of sports, but it was sportswriting that launched Thompson's career in journalism, and, even today it's difficult to think of Billy Thompson without thinking of the University of Kentucky Wildcats and former Coach Adolph Rupp.

As one person recently said, "If you lived around Lexington and followed UK basketball, Billy Thompson was THE sportswriter."

Last week, "THE sportswriter" took time to talk with The Cats' Pause about his experiences as a scribe, and also about his life in general.

"My first byline article appeared in The Herald when I was still in high school, in February of 1936," remembered Thompson. "I spent four years writing for The Nashville Banner, but after that I returned to the Herald."

In all, Thompson spent 27 years on the Herald staff, six as assistant sports editor, and six as sports editor. According to Thompson, baseball and not basketball was his first love.

"I went to spring training with the Cincinnati Reds 15 years in a row," said the likeable Thompson.

"Babe Ruth gave me my first big scoop," he continued. "I was the ripe old age of 22 and working in Nashville in 1943. The Babe was on his way down to Mexico, where most people thought he was going to sign with the Mexican League. I interviewed him and he told me, 'Kid, I'm not going to sign with them. What I'm going to do is go down there and spend some of the Pascal brothers' money.' (The Pascals were the financial backers of the Mexican League.) So I wrote the story, saying Ruth wasn't going to sign."

"The big papers in New York wrote that my story was wrong, that Ruth was going to sign. But two weeks later, Ruth came back from Mexico. He didn't sign."

Thompson remembered one other thing about the incident. "Ruth said to me, 'Hey kid, don't you want your

picture taken with the Babe?' I told him I did, but I didn't want him to have to go out in the rain to get it taken. He said, 'That's all right,' so we had our picture taken at the airport in the rain. I've still got it, and it's one of my most cherished possessions."

In his capacity as a sportswriter, Thompson had the opportunity to view such legendary performers as Ty Cobb, Ted Williams, and Casey Stengel. "Every year at the World Series," Thompson recalled, "I'd see Casey and he'd say to me, 'How's it going, Lexington?' He always remembered me and called me 'Lexington.'"

There's a passage in Dave Kindred's marvelous sports book, *Basketball: The Dream Game In Kentucky*, concerning the 1956 State High School Basketball Tournament. Kindred writes about "King" Kelly Coleman, the scorer supreme from Wayland, and tells of the incident after Coleman's team lost in the semi-finals.

According to Kindred, Coleman, who had been soundly booed during the tournament and constantly criticized by much of the press, "sat on the floor in a corner [of the locker room], weeping. A Lexington sportswriter, Billy Thompson approached and then turned away. 'Don't go, Billy, you're the only guy who's stood by me,' Coleman said."

Thompson recollected that scene this way: "I started to go over to King Kelly, but I saw he was crying and I thought this was no place for me. But Kelly saw me and said that I was the only guy that had stood beside him. He said, 'I'm going to go get 60 points for 'em, and I want you to tell that crowd to drop dead for me.'"

"So King Kelly went out and scored 68 points in the consolation game against Bell County. When he came out of the game, he received the biggest ovation in the history of Memorial Coliseum," said Thompson. "He had left the building by the time the All-Tournament team was announced. He wasn't even a unanimous selection to the team because some clown didn't vote for him. I remember his sister, Linda Carol, had to accept his trophy for him."

"I wrote back then that Kelly Coleman was the greatest thing to come out of the mountains since coal," Thompson went on. "He averaged 33 points a game for almost 130 games in his high school career, and got 75 points in the regional finals in 1956."

But Babe Ruth and Kelly Coleman notwithstanding, Thompson's greatest notoriety was achieved as a result of his years covering the UK Wildcats and Adolph Rupp.

"The greatest thrill in my life," Thompson emphasized, "was being associated with Coach Rupp."

"Coach Rupp always impressed me in the way he handled the press. He'd invited us into his team meetings and



Billy Thompson - Mr. Nice Guy

his chalk talks. I guess he sort of took me under his wing."

Looking back on his years of traveling with the UK squad, Thompson said that he remembered most the way the Baron of Basketball handled his Kentucky players."

"We'd go into a hotel to eat after a game, and there would never be a word said. I don't know how many times the waitresses would come up to me and say that they had never seen a better-mannered team," Thompson said.

Of Rupp himself, Thompson summed up, "I would rank him with Stengel and Knute Rockne as memorable figures. Some people would say Johnny Wooden belongs in there, but I'll take Stengel, Rockne and Coach Rupp."

Of course, UK fans will remember that Thompson served as Rupp's co-host on the Baron's weekly television show for several years. Thompson added, "I was looking at some of those tapes the other day, the ones with the

Bear [Bryant] and the one where [Fran] Curci came to Kentucky."

Now in his 42nd year as a newsman, Thompson is known as the "Dean of Kentucky's Active Reporters."

"All that means is that I'm the oldest one still around," Billy laughed.

The man is being modest. Thompson was selected Kentucky's Sports-writer of the Year in 1965 by his peers. "I always tried to keep the human touch in my writing," Thompson recalled.

"I tried to write the little tidbits, the inside stuff that people would want to read. I remember when Billy Reed left The Herald, he told me, 'I'm going to follow your style and give people the human interest angle.' (Reed is now a well known columnist for the Louisville Courier-Journal.)

Thompson left the Herald in 1966 to become news director at WLEX-TV. "I was on the air for ten years, Jim Stephens and I, until I had to step

(Continued On Page 21)



*AD Hagan And Dr. Singletary Present Peach Bowl Watch
To Governor Carroll As Coach Curci Looks On*

Spring Football Practice Begins Monday For Wildcats And Curci

University of Kentucky football coach Fran Curci will be seeking to fill several spots on offense while the defense returns pretty well intact when the Peach Bowl champion Wildcats begin spring drills Monday, March 7.

The Wildcats will work four days a week, taking a spring break March 14-18 before finishing out the drills with the annual spring game April 15 in Commonwealth Stadium.

Hardest hit by graduation is the offensive line, which will be minus All-American tackle Warren Bryant, guards Steve Slates and Ed Smolder, splid end Randy Burke, the team's leading receiver who tied a Senior Bowl record of eleven receptions in all-star play, and Charlie Dickerson, who caught a touchdown pass against Maryland.

Greg Woods, an outstanding blocker who switched to offense after three years in the defensive backfield, also played out his eligibility. He caught ten passes for 142 yards and two

touchdowns, including a 62-yard scoring play that beat Tennessee 7-0, did earned the Cats a Peach Bowl bid.

On the bright side, Rod Stewart is coming off a fine sophomore season in which he gained 711 yards in 146 carries, scored five touchdowns rushing and caught six passes for 50 yards. In addition, he tied a Peach Bowl record of three touchdowns scored and was named the Most Valuable Offensive Player in the game.

The hard-running fullback will be with familiar company as Derrick Ramsey returns as quarterback and Chris Hill and Randy Brooks at running backs. Ramsey carried the ball 187 times for 771 yards and ten touchdowns. He also completed 51 of 103 passes (49.5 percent) for 577 yards and seven touchdowns, becoming the eighth player in UK history to gove over the 1,000-yard mark for a season.

Hill carried 124 times for 606 yards and three touchdowns and caught ten passes for 93 yards and a touchdown. Brooks had a fine freshman year,

carrying 27 times for 117 yards and catching two passes, both for touchdowns. He carried eight times for 66 yards in the Peach Bowl.

Brooks is expected to making the starting lineup while Joe Dipre, a senior-to-be, will again back up Stewart. Pete Gemmill, who backed up Greg Woods and was the team's No. 1 punter (48 for 1,847 yds.-38.5 avg.) will be replaced in the kicking department by Rick Hayden, who punted 22 times for 700 yards, a 36.3 average, last year.

Joe Bryant, who kicked off last season, is expected to step into John Pierce's shoes as field goal and extra point specialist.

Cornerback Ray Carr is the only starter lost from a defensive unit that held North Carolina to 108 yards net (84 rushing, 24 passing) in the Peach Bowl. Returning at linebacker are starters Jim Kovach, who led the team in tackles (94 solos, 49 assists), Mike Martin (44 and 44), who was the Most Valuable Defensive Player in the

Peach Bowl, and Kelly Kirchbaum (48 and 33), along with front line substitutes Dave Fadrowski (30 and 20) and Lester Boyd (19 and 5).

Art Still, second leading tackler with 76 solos and 26 assists, returns after playing both defensive end and tight end last season. Such double-duty earned him "Lineman of the Week" honors in the South for his performance against LSU.

The third and fourth leading tacklers, noseguard Jerry Blanton (62 and 38) and tackle Bob Winkel (65 and 32), and starting end Bud Diehl also return.

The secondary will feature such fine performers as cornerback Mike Siganos, a three-year starter who was fifth leading tackler (51 and 15) last season and whose three interceptions were second to team-leader Rick Hayden, who had five.

Dallas Owens, who two interceptions included a 56-yard touchdown return against LSU, will be back for his final year.



Kats In Action



Coach Debbie Yow

LadyKats Prepare For State Tourney This Week And TV Game

By MARK BRADLEY

Ending their regular season with a flourish, the University of Kentucky Lady Kats won three games last week and established themselves as the team to beat in this week's state tournament.

The UK women downed Mt. Saint Joseph 85-64 on Monday, Morehead 84-73 Tuesday, and in a revenge-filled contest, clobbered Louisville 92-73 Thursday. All three games were played at Memorial Coliseum.

The three victories raised the Kats' record to 17-6, and probably enabled the UK team to vault back into the nation's top twenty. [UK had previously been rated as high as 19th in the nation.]

None of the games was particularly close, as the Lady Kats employed a variety of defenses and relied on

center Pam Browning and forward Janet Timperman for offense and rebounding.

Browning was her usual devastating self in all three games, scoring 26, 30 and 29 points as she led UK in scoring each night.

Timperman was especially effective against Louisville, as her outside shooting enabled the UK women to break the game open late in the first half. She finished with 17 points and 10 rebounds for the evening and was in large part responsible for the runaway win, a sweet one for the UK players who remembered the 60-45 loss suffered to the Lady Cardinals in January.

But the "biggest" player for UK last week was mini-guard Debbie Mack, who quickness, ballhandling and defense sparked the Lady Kats in all three contests.

Mack had five steals against Morehead, and Mickey Wells, the MSU coach, said after the game, "I told my players we had just suffered a 'little Mack attack.'"

UK coach Debbie Yow, although pleased with the three wins, was still concerned with the upcoming state tournament.

"We're definitely in the toughest bracket," Yow said. "We've got to turn around and play Louisville again, and if we get by them, we have to play Western in the semi-finals. But we're playing our best ball of the year right now, and I'm not as worried as I was earlier in the week."

In the tournament, which will be played at the Coliseum, Morehead and Murray will play Thursday at 6:15 p.m., followed by UK versus Louisville at 9:00 p.m. On Friday, the winner of the Morehead-Murray contest will face

Eastern Kentucky in the opener, with Western Kentucky taking on the UK-UL winner in the nightcap.

The finals will be played Saturday night at 9 p.m. Both the finals and the UK-UL first round match-up will be televised on Channel 27 in Lexington, a first for UK women's basketball. "I just hope we make a good showing," Yow said.

Yow really shouldn't have much to fret about, because Kentucky is, when it is on its game, the best team in the state. UK has played five times this year against other tournament teams, winning four.

The Lady Kats should defeat Louisville easily, squeak by Western in the semis, and beat Morehead in the finals for the state championship. And then it's on to the Southern Regional in Memphis...

SOUTHEASTERN CONFERENCE

SCORING - Top Twenty

Player & School	G	FGs	FTs	Pts	Aver
1. Bernard King, Tenn.	22	228	92	548	24.9
2. Ernie Grunfeld, Tenn.	24	222	134	578	24.1
3. Jack Givens, Ky.	23	191	71	453	19.7
4. Rickey Brown, M.St.	23	191	59	441	19.2
5. Mike Mitchell, Aub.	22	190	41	421	19.1
6. Reginald King, Ala.	23	165	93	423	18.4
7. Kenny Higgs, LSU	24	138	141	417	17.4
8. Ray White, M.St.	21	149	61	359	17.1
9. Rickey Brown, Ala.	23	150	76	376	16.3
10. Eddie Johnson, Aub.	22	137	80	354	16.1
11. Mike Jackson, Tenn.	24	156	70	382	15.9
12. John Billips, Miss.	24	165	49	379	15.8
13. Durand Macklin, LSU	23	150	58	358	15.6
14. Charles Davis, Vandy	22	143	53	339	15.4
15. Bob Smyth, Fla.	22	143	51	337	15.3
16. Gary Hooker, M.St.	23	131	87	349	15.2
17. Al Bonner, Fla.	22	127	72	326	14.8
18. John Stroud, Miss.	23	133	73	339	14.7
19. Curtis Jackson, Ga.	22	141	34	316	14.4
20. David Reavis, Ga.	21	116	68	300	14.3

FREE THROW SHOOTING - Top Ten

Player & School	G	FTM	FTA	Pct.
1. Al Bonner, Fla.	22	72	83	86.8%
2. Mike Jackson, Tenn.	24	70	82	85.4
3. Jack Givens, Ky.	23	71	84	84.5
4. Robert Scott, Ala.	23	68	81	84.0
5. Ernie Grunfeld, Tenn.	24	134	163	82.2
6. Dicky Keffer, Vandy	22	57	71	80.3
7. Gary Hooker, M.St.	23	87	110	79.1
8. Kenny Higgs, LSU	24	141	182	77.5
9. Myles Patrick, Aub.	22	54	70	77.1
10. Eddie Johnson, Aub.	22	80	104	76.9

FIELD GOAL SHOOTING - Top Ten

Player & School	G	FGM	FGA	Pct.
1. Reggie Johnson, Tenn.	24	117	180	65.0%
2. Bob Smyth, Fla.	22	143	239	59.8
3. Lavon Mercer, Ga.	24	117	198	59.1
4. Bernard King, Tenn.	22	228	392	58.2
5. Al Bonner, Fla.	22	127	220	57.7
6. Reginald King, Ala.	23	165	289	57.1
7. Ernie Grunfeld, Tenn.	24	222	400	55.5
8. James Lee, Ky.	23	80	145	55.2
9. Mike Phillips, Ky.	21	115	210	54.8
10. Durand Macklin, LSU	23	150	277	54.2
11. Rick Robey, Ky.	23	119	220	54.1

REBOUNDING - Top Ten

Player & School	G	RBs	Aver
1. Bernard King, Tenn.	22	313	14.2
2. Durand Macklin, LSU	23	278	12.1
3. Rickey Brown, M.St.	23	260	11.3
4. Reginald King, Ala.	23	250	10.9
5. John Billips, Miss.	24	232	9.7
6. Wiley Peck, M.St.	23	220	9.6
7. Rick Robey, Ky.	23	210	9.13
8. Greg Cook, LSU	24	219	9.12
9. Bob Smyth, Fla.	22	199	9.05
10. Pepto Bolden, Aub.	22	197	8.95

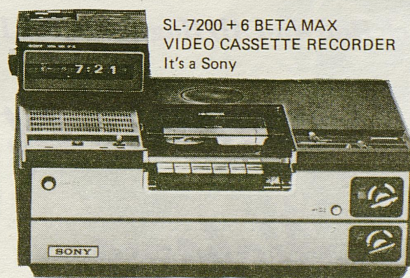
ASSISTS - First Five

Player & School	G	No.	Aver
1. Kenny Higgs, LSU	24	215	8.9
2. Johnny Darden, Tenn.	23	183	8.0
3. Al Perry, M.St.	23	172	7.5
4. Eddie Johnson, Aub.	22	122	5.5
5. Larry Johnson, Ky.	23	109	4.7

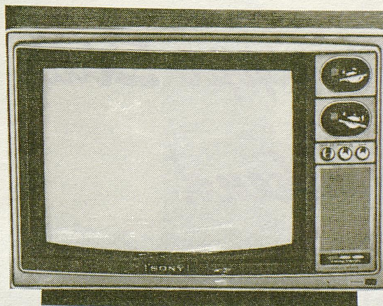


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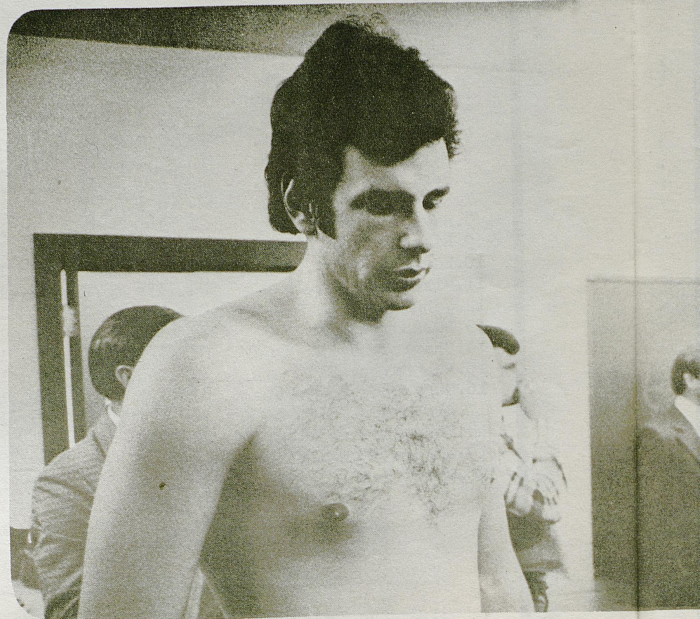
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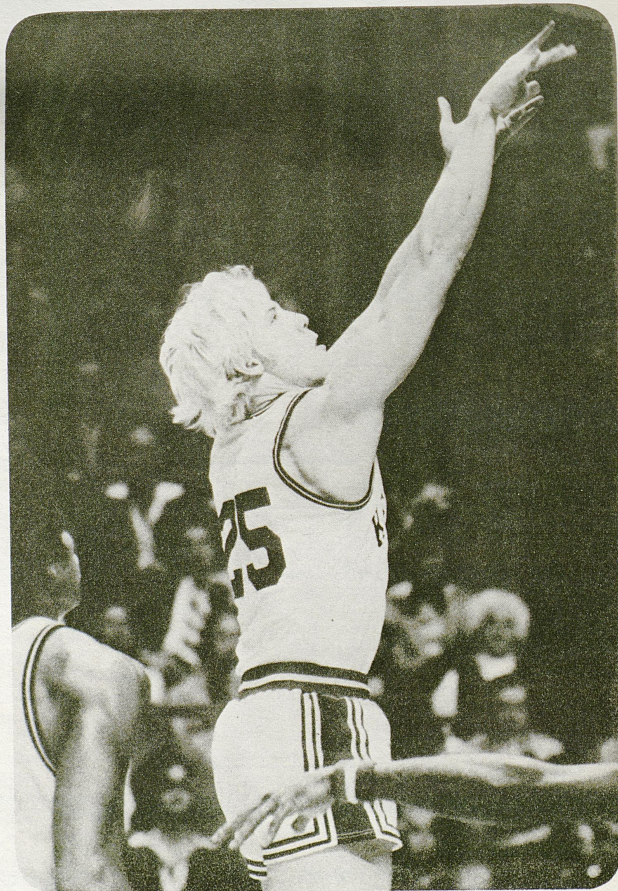
Coach Hall And AD Hagan Enjoys 101 Cake

*Highlights Of
Alabama
Mississippi State
Weekend*

**Staff Photos By
Bill Kight And Ken Weaver**



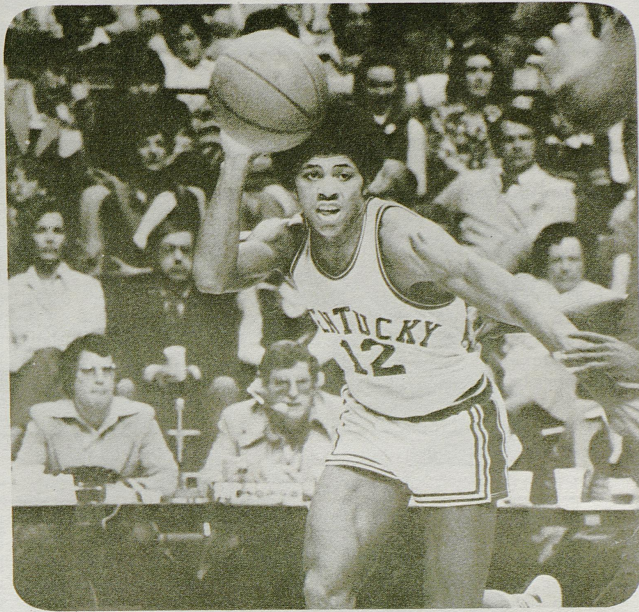
Mike Phillips Interviewed By Colum



Shidler Leads Attack



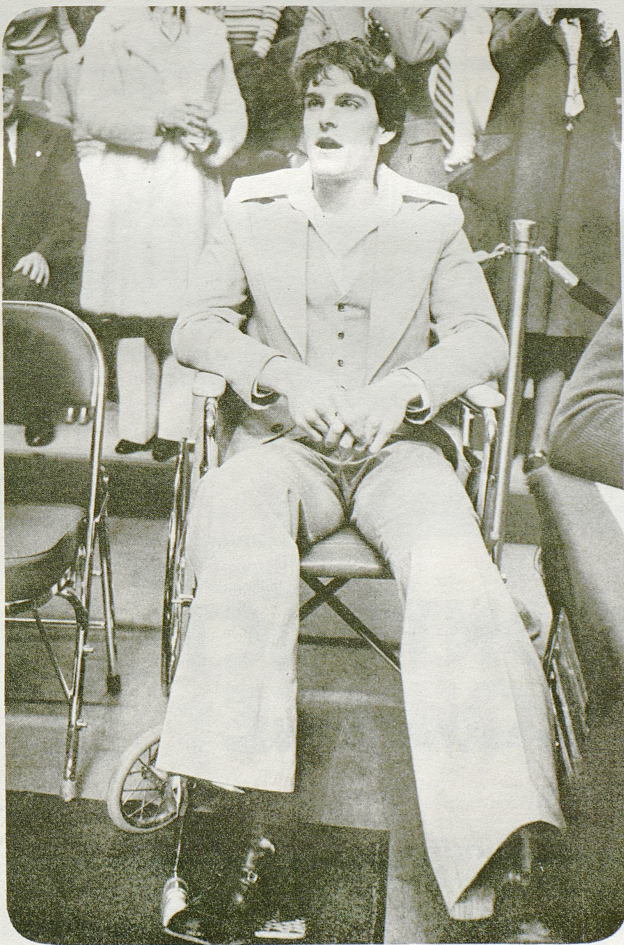
ed By Columnist Dave Kindred



Johnson Leads Attack



Gov. Chandler And Dr. Singletary Chat



Injured Tim Stephens Watches State Action

Southeastern Conference Statistics

OFFENSIVE STATISTICS (Own Team Averages and Percentages)

REBOUNDS				FIELD GOALS				FREE THROWS			
School	G	RBs	Aver	School	FGM	FGA	Pct.	School	FTM	FTA	Pct.
1. Miss. State	23	1110	48.3	1. Tennessee	853	1564	54.5%	1. Tennessee	383	515	74.4%
2. LSU	24	1098	45.8	2. Florida	703	1369	51.4	2. Auburn	309	427	72.4
3. Auburn	22	991	45.0	3. Kentucky	790	1601	49.3	3. Alabama	419	582	72.0
4. Kentucky	23	1004	43.7	4. Auburn	729	1509	48.3	4. Vanderbilt	298	419	71.1
5. Alabama	23	961	41.8	5. Alabama	751	1575	47.7	5. LSU	393	563	69.8
6. Tennessee	24	955	39.8	6. Georgia	726	1551	46.8	6. Florida	395	568	69.5
7. Ole Miss	24	948	39.5	7. Ole Miss	730	1590	45.9	7. Kentucky	379	556	68.2
8. Florida	22	862	39.2	8. LSU	768	1685	45.6	8. Miss. State	381	566	67.3
9. Vanderbilt	22	817	37.1	9. Miss. State	745	1665	44.7	9. Ole Miss	293	457	64.1
10. Georgia	24	887	37.0	10. Vanderbilt	631	1423	44.3	10. Georgia	276	451	61.2

DEFENSIVE STATISTICS (Averages and Percentages of Opponents)

REBOUNDS				FIELD GOALS				FREE THROWS			
School	G	RBs	Aver	School	FGM	FGA	Pct.	School	FTM	FTA	Pct.
1. Tennessee	24	831	34.6	1. Miss. State	671	1560	43.0%	1. Auburn	233	360	64.7%
2. Kentucky	23	814	35.4	2. Kentucky	634	1415	44.8	2. Tennessee	260	401	64.8
3. Auburn	22	785	35.7	3. LSU	738	1641	44.9	3. Florida	396	592	66.9
4. Florida	22	817	37.1	4. Auburn	690	1510	45.7	4. Miss. State	372	555	67.0
5. Ole Miss	24	939	39.1	5. Georgia	739	1610	45.9	5. Alabama	300	433	69.3
6. Alabama	23	911	39.6	6. Florida	636	1369	46.46	6. Kentucky	318	454	70.0
7. Vanderbilt	22	889	40.4	7. Alabama	706	1517	46.54	7. LSU	423	602	70.3
8. LSU	24	998	41.6	8. Ole Miss	715	1522	47.0	8. Ole Miss	391	552	70.8
9. Miss. State	23	975	42.4	9. Tennessee	817	1700	48.1	9. Georgia	400	551	72.6
10. Georgia	24	1030	42.9	10. Vanderbilt	684	1372	49.9	10. Vanderbilt	324	441	73.5

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VIEWPOINT

Letters To The Editor



Mail All Letters To: VIEWPOINT, The Cats' Pause, Box 7297, Lexington, Ky. 40502

Big Cats Fan

Dear Sir:

I recently received a courtesy copy of The Cats' Pause from my brother in Atlanta. Being a Kentucky fan for over 30 years I thoroughly enjoyed the publication and am enclosing my check for one years subscription. Keep up the good work.

Sincerely
Chris L. Butler
Montgomery, Alabama 36109

About Recruits

Dear Sir:

Tell me if Kentucky is after the boys I list below:

Rick Frazier, 6-5, 20.0 points and 20 rebounds per game this year and Missouri's No. 1 college prospect.

Kevin Williams, 6-10, 20 points and 15 rebounds a game and nine blocks per game. In one game he was 13 of 13 from the field.

John Crawford, 6-8, 25.6 points a game this year from Kansas City.

Todd Bahken, 6-7, North Dakota.

Tell me if Kentucky is after these players, please.

Ernie Hall
Lexington, Kentucky

[Editor's note: The Kentucky staff is well aware of several of those you mentioned above. Of course Kentucky has only three scholarships available this time so the Wildcats couldn't sign them all if they wanted to. Frazier is fast becoming known as a gem around the country.]

Knight Country

Dear Sir:

I am enclosing payment for the renewal of my subscription to The Cats Pause.

Also I want to take this opportunity to congratulate you on such an outstanding publication.

As a Kentuckian living in Bobby Knight country "yuk". I would simply be lost without Cawood and Ralph and WHAS radio, and the Cats Pause.

For the last several years I have been fortunate enough to get tickets to the games at Louisville. That helps a little in relieving the pain of living in

enemy territory and unable to see the beloved Cats on a regular basis.

I am extremely proud of all the Kentucky colleges (I'm extremely proud of Kentucky period). But UK is the most dearest to my heart. U.K. is the greatest of all college basketball schools. No one can argue with 1.180 wins against only 374 losses. And hopefully a 5th NCAA championship.

I want to congratulate Fran and the fellas on a great Peach Bowl win. And to wish Joe and the fellas the best of luck the remainder of this season.

Sincerely
James Mullins
Hartford City, Indiana

A Long Time Coming

Dear Sir:

Sign me up. I've been needing something like this for a long time. Keep it up and start it a-coming.

Sincerely
Chip Clarke
Ohio University
Athens, Ohio

Passes CP Around

Dear Sir:

As an ole Kentucky man I sure have enjoyed reading your information on what the Cats are doing. I turn Cats' Pause over to my neighbor Doug Parrish, who can't wait until I have finished it, as he is on the Athletic Board at UK. He sure likes it.

Hope my friend Fran Curci comes up with some good football boys. We are good friends.

Heres hoping Coach Hall can go all

the way this year. I get the games pretty good on radio.

Sincerely
Floyd McCauley
Naples, Florida

Wants Back Issues

Dear Sir:

After reading a borrowed issue of The Cats' Pause, I realized this is the paper I have long been searching for. I would also like to know how I may obtain back issues.

Thank you, from a life-long Kentucky fan originally from the mining areas of Harlan County.

Sincerely
Ray E. Carnes
Clinton, Tennessee

Diehard UK Fan

Dear Sir:

I've been a diehard Kentucky fan ever since I lived near Cynthiana and my father and I pulled for Groza, Jones and Beard in those early NITs.

The Cats' Pause fills a need for us out-of-state Wildcat fans. With your fine paper and some newspaper clippings from my mom, I can truly follow the Wildcats again.

I've found Californians don't live and die with their basketball like the Kentuckians in spite of the success that UCLA or USF may have had.

Sincerely,
Floyd Criswell
Los Altos, California

Phillips Fan

Dear Sir:

I'm a twelve-year-old girl who was raised on Kentucky basketball. I love the Big Blue and never miss a game. And since I live in Louisville, I've lost many friends who are U of L fans, over who is better, U of L or Kentucky.

I also love your magazine and always look forward to Wednesdays when we receive it. But I have one request, remember the issues in which you run articles on Rick Robey and Larry Johnson? Well, I love both but my favorite of all is Mike Phillips! Could you please run an article on him?

Keep up the good work!

Louisville fan No. 1 of The Blue
Robin Smith
Louisville, Kentucky

[Editor's note: A special feature on Mike Phillips will be published soon in The Cats' Pause.]

Likes Cawood

Dear Sir:

I was glad to read in my February 19 issue of The Cats' Pause that you plan a feature article on Cawood Ledford in the near future. I am a high school classmate of Cawood, both graduating from Hall High in Gray's Knox, Kentucky (Harlan County) in 1943.

Since coming back from the Army in 1945, I've followed the Big Blue on WHAS. I enjoy every minute of it and certainly admire the way Cawood calls the games. Pass on my personal hello to Cawood and tell him to continue the good work.

Thanks,
W. C. (Rody) Forrester
High Point, North Carolina

NOTICE

We ask each of you to examine the address on this issue of The Cats' Pause and notify us immediately of ANY error in your address. Although you may have received this issue with an error in your address, you cannot be guaranteed that future issues will be delivered unless the address is corrected.

Also, if you know of any friend who is a subscriber to The Cats' Pause and did not receive his copy, please ask him to contact us immediately. His name may have been lost entirely.

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Billy Thompson

(Continued From Page 12)

down from being anchorman because of illness. That was in April of last year," said Thompson.

That illness developed while Thompson and his wife were vacationing in Hawaii. "I caught pneumonia as a result of being tear-gassed on a news assignment," he said.

Three days later, Thompson's doctors discovered a tumor. That was the beginning of a continuing two-year ordeal for Thompson and his family. During that time, he contracted pneumonia six times, developed a brain tumor and had to undergo the painful chemotherapy treatments.

They told me 19 months ago I had a thirty percent chance to live," the popular newsman related. "I lost a lot of weight, and I lost my hair as a result of chemotherapy. There were eleven other men on the same program as I was in the hospital. They're all gone."

"You know, I didn't know I had any friends until I got sick. But I got 62 potted plants and baskets of flowers when I was in the hospital. I received over 600 personal notes, too. That made me feel that it was all worthwhile," thanked Billy.

He has received several letters of encouragement from the Reds' Pete Rose since his illness. Former Governor Happy Chandler sat with Thompson's family while Billy underwent surgery. And Coach Rupp, whom Thompson calls "The sparkplug of my life," calls twice a week to see how his old compatriot is doing.

"I've gained back 31 pounds," said Thompson, "and I've gone back to working almost full time at WLEX. I don't mean to get sentimental, but it seems like the Good Man Upstairs has been looking out for me."

And that's good news for Billy Thompson's legion of friends, and the people of Kentucky in general. More than one journalist has remarked in print how good it is to see Billy Thompson back at his customary seat along press row at UK games.

That was another reason his to give up. Billy Thompson longed to sit at courtside for the first UK game at the new 23,000-seat Rupp Arena.

"I wanted to see Rupp Arena," Thompson said, "my wife had to help me in the first time, but tears came down my face when I saw the Arena."

+ + +

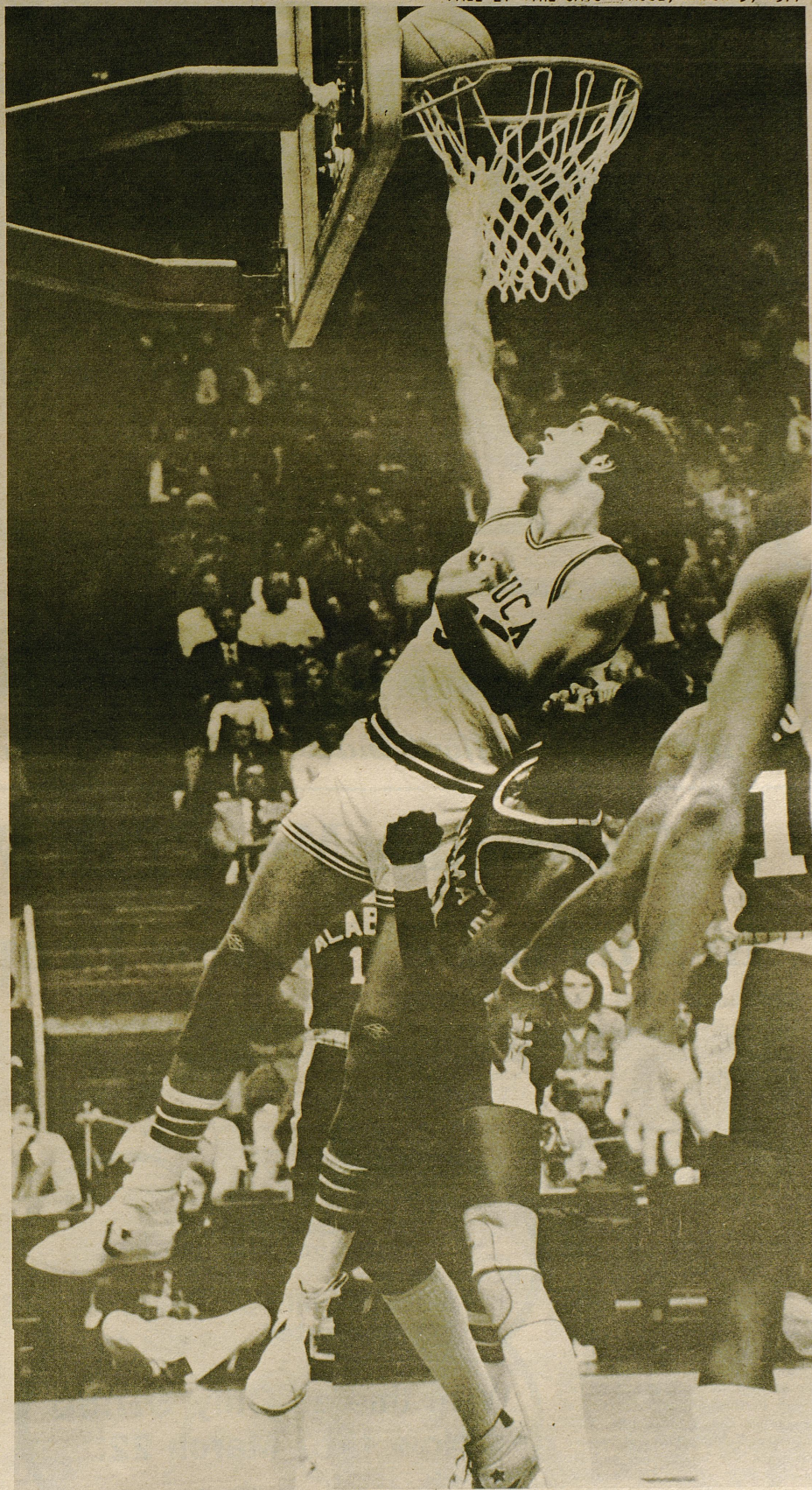
And with that, the young writer thanked Billy Thompson for being such a pleasant interview, and he hung up the telephone.

Then, the young writer wondered, as he reviewed his notes, if his life would be as full and as rich as Billy Thompson's is.

He wondered if he would be able to undergo such hardship, and come up smiling.

He wondered if he would be as full of life as he approached 60 as Billy Thompson is.

He also wonder why he had a lump in his throat.



Mike Phillips Drives for Basket



Jim Host, Cawood Ledford And Ralph Hacker Broadcasting UK Game

SEC Officials Meet This Week In Nashville On New Proposals

Birmingham, Ala. - At the spring semi-annual meeting of the Southeastern Conference this week, the membership will consider more proposals than usual.

In this 45th year of operation the administrators of athletics at the ten SEC schools will deliberate about a dozen proposals to alter the by-laws or the rules and regulations before passing along a majority of them to the presidents for a vote.

The meeting is being held at the Hyatt Regency Hotel in Nashville. Officials which will be meeting are the presidents of the SEC schools, the faculty athletic committee chairmen, the athletic directors, the business managers and the sports information directors.

The president of the University of Georgia, Dr. Fred Davison, is also president of the conference, with Dr. Porter Fortune of the University of Mississippi the vice-president. Vice-chancellor Rob Roy Purdy of Vanderbilt University is secretary and Dr. Charley Scott of the University of Alabama is chairman for the faculty group. Carl Maddox of LSU chairs the athletic directors, Kermit Perry of

Georgia the business managers and Lew Harris of Vanderbilt the information directors.

Legislative proposals to be considered at this meeting are:

1. To allow institutions participating in the Cotton, Orange and Sugar Bowls to retain \$200,000 from the receipts

rather than \$175,000.

2. To allow Senior Bowl football players to retain eligibility in other sports.

3. To adopt the NCAA rules for junior college transfers.

4. To limit class absences for in-season sports participation to 20

percent of scheduled classes.

5. To determine the baseball champion via a double-elimination tournament involving the first two teams in each division.

6. To permit live telecasts of three basketball games prior to January 1 each year.

7. To determine football champion via the six required games only.

8. To give the Committee of Directors of Athletics responsibility and authority for establishing the rotating football schedule, and for taking action on any appeals resulting from the schedule.

9. To extend for two years the experimental period of closed circuit football telecasts.

10. Adopt NCAA 400-mile exception telecast provision for away football games.

11. To establish an indoor championship in the sport of tennis.

Other items to be discussed, but not to be proposed, include: Review of the Sugar Bowl tie-up, organization of CFA and the results of the recent NCAA meeting, crowd control and an SEC basketball tournament.

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JACK McKAY's

Mid-Winter Prep Recruiting

The four premeir scholastic All-Star games are the Kentucky Derby Festival, the D.C. McDonald's Capital Classic, the Pittsburgh Dapper Dan Roundball Classic and the Kutsher's Seanco All-American game in New York. There are others, that I list annually in Street & Smith's magazine. The capable talent scouts Max Rein of Louisville, Kentucky - Bob Geoghan of Rockville, Maryland - Sonny Vacarro of Trafford, Pennsylvania-Howard Garfinkel of Sunnyside, New York - Dave Bones of Toledo, Ohio - Bill Cronauer of St. Petersburg, Florida- college coaches everywhere-and others, are keeping a sharp eye on the outstanding prospects. State tournament time will add a few more names to the elite list:

Our Dandy Dozen from the December 4 issue Albert King (UCLA, Maryland lead Kentucky, N. Carolina State, Kansas State, Arizona St.) Gene Banks (Duke), James Ratliff (Virginia Tech battles Michigan, Maryland, Tennessee, North Carolina, Marquette, Notre Dame) Earvin Johnson (Michigan or Michigan State) Wayne McKoy (N.C. State leads the "pack") Darnell Valentine (North Carolina vs. Kansas) Tom Freeman (UCLA way in front) Al Wood (North Carolina the leader) Jeff Ruland (Kentucky, Maryland, Wake Forest battle Syracuse, North Carolina, as Notre Dame and Indiana stay in race) Pete Budko (North Carolina, Virginia, Duke, Maryland) Herb Williams (Ohio State, Ohio State and Ohio State) Drake Morris (Louisville in command)

These early guesses on college selection make for interesting conversation.

Larry Petty 6'10 senior New York (Power Memorial) New York overcame home tragedy with pride and attitude. Nutshell: 245 pounds - college position, center (mid or low postman)- graceful - excels on defense and always seems to be in the right place at the right time - average student -Wisconsin, Kentucky, fordham battle St. John's, Ohio State, UCLA* Arizona St., Columbia, Michigan St. and Clemson.

Sam Clancy 6'6 senior Pittsburgh (Brashear) Pennsylvania all man! Nutshell: 220 pounds - college position, power forward - strong - shot blocker who must stay within 15 feet on offense to score well - average student- will suit up for Pitt or N.C. State next season.

Artie Green 6'1 senior Bronx (Taft) New York tagged, "can be as good as he wants to be." Nutshell: 175 pounds - college position, pointman guard - jet who makes things happen - good feel for the game and lacks long range shot only - grades are a problem- the top Junior colleges and hoop prep schools are after his services.

Jeff Lamp 6'5 senior Louisville (Ballard) Kentucky competitor! Nutshell: 175 pounds - college position, scoring guard or forward - rebounds well for frame and comfortable all over the court - good student- word is Duke, Kentucky, Indiana or Michigan.

Oliver Lee 6'6 senior Deland, Florida shooter and driver. Nutshell: 190 pounds - college position, forward- has all the tools but needs to control

attitude- right college coach is imperative - John Lotz or George Raveling may get the chance.

Ken Matthews 6'2 senior Washington (Dunbar) D.C. deadeye! Nutshell: 180 pounds - college position, scoring gurad- great jump shot off the dribble - ballhandling improving - skipped a grade - being heavily recruited.

Dan Vranes 6'7 senior Salt Lake City (Skyline) Utah can really "sky". Nutshell: 190 pounds- college position, forward - will be a three time all-stater and plays with much desire - good student- BYU, Duke or Kentucky.

Eddie Johnson 6'6 senior Chicago (Westinghouse) Ill. Prolific scorer- Nutshell: 200 pounds - college position, forward-good boardman and plays against good competition- vocational student-Marquette, Louisville in the running.

Lionel Harvey 6'4 seniorMalverne, New York very smooth -Nutshell: 210 pounds - college position, forward - guard swing- likes to play defense and a real fine person -good student- Cincy-Notre Dame-Penn-North Carolina the leaders.

Bobby Cattage 6'9 senior Huntsville (Johnson) Ala. Boardman - Nutshell: 220 pounds - college position, center-physical player with good outlet pass after rebound- low "C" student - sought by many.

Ernest Graham 6'7 senior Baltimore Lake Clifton Maryland Swish! Nutshell: 190 pounds - college position, forward- guard swing-sppedster with good jumping ability too- my, can he shoot. . .

Steve Risley 6'8 senior Lawrence (Central) Indiana extremely confident performer -Nutshell: 200 pounds - does it all- leadership qualities - good student- going to Indiana.

Earl Banks 6'6 senior Birmingham (Holy Family) Alabama powerfull Nutshell: 210 pounds - college position, forward- comes to play and has good moves- average student- the Crimson Tide in the drivers seat.

Art Jones 6'7 senior Hampton, Virginia. Quick. Nutshell: 185 pounds - college position, finesse forward- fine shooter and explosive type performer- popular with class mates -Lefty leading all, so far.

Others To Watch

Scott Courts 6'10 senior Arvada (West) Colorado.

Willie Simms 6'2 senior Long Island(city) N.Y.

Reggie Hannah 6'8 senior Titusville, Florida.

Kelly Tripucka 6'6 senior Bloomfield, New Jersey

Wes Matthews 6'0 Senior Bridgeport (Harding) Conn.

Gil Salinas 6'10 senior San Antonio (Burbank) Texas.

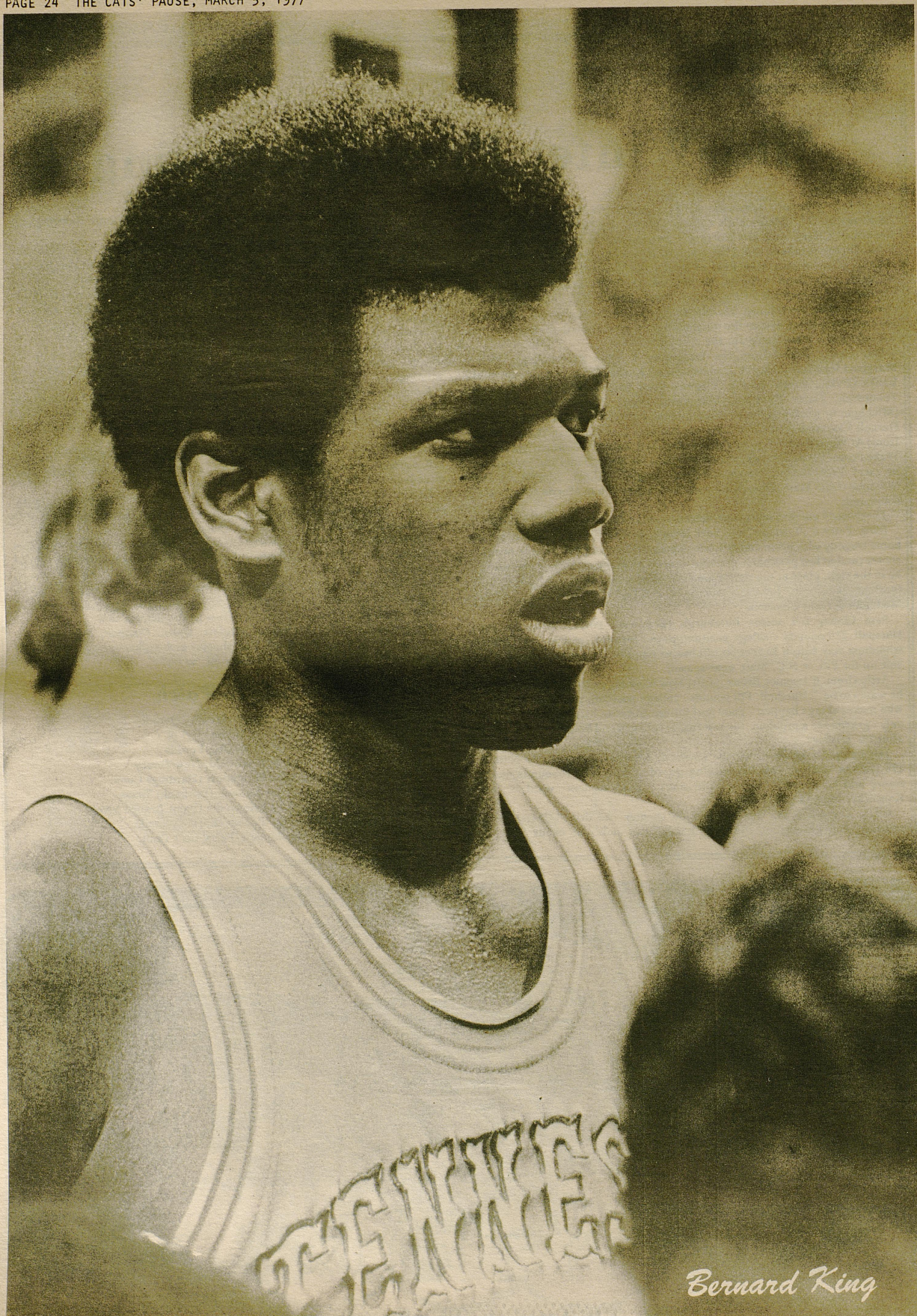
Tracy Jackson 6'4 senior Burtonsville (Paint Branch) Md.

Dave Netherton 6'0 senior Pueblo (East) Colorado

Mike Rhodes 6'5 senior Linden (Perry Co.) Tenn.



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Bernard King

Kentucky Wildcat Basketball

(Twenty-Four Games)

PLAYER	G	MIN	FG-FGA	PCT.	FT-FTA	PCT.	REB-AVE	A	PF-D	PTS	AVE	TO
GIVENS	24	824	195-380	51.3	73- 87	83.9	178-7.4	67	50-0	463	19.3	43
ROBEY	24	547	125-228	54.8	80-127	63.0	219-9.1	42	80-2	330	13.8	60
PHILLIPS	22	502	121-221	54.8	49- 81	60.5	162-7.4	20	58-2	291	13.2	53
JOHNSON	24	823	113-230	49.1	51- 74	68.9	102-4.3	116	65-1	277	11.5	52
LEE	24	594	86-154	55.8	58- 84	69.1	128-5.3	34	81-4	230	9.6	57
SHIDLER	22	566	87-207	42.0	17- 23	73.9	45-2.1	62	63-0	191	8.7	44
CLAYTOR	20	301	43- 90	47.8	23- 30	76.7	21-1.1	38	37-0	109	5.5	31
CASEY	21	167	15- 47	31.9	17- 25	68.0	8-0.4	18	19-0	47	2.2	17
WILLIAMS, L.	20	158	17- 43	39.5	9- 16	56.3	34-1.7	3	30-0	43	2.3	19
HASKINS	23	151	11- 20	55.0	11- 19	57.9	31-1.4	9	18-0	33	1.4	8
STEPHENS	12	109	14- 44	31.8	2- 7	28.6	15-1.3	12	14-0	30	2.5	7
WILLIAMS, S.	1	1	0- 1	----	0- 0	----	0-0.0	0	0-0	0	---	0
LAWLESS	1	1	0- 0	----	0- 0	----	0-0.0	0	2-0	0	---	0

REBOUNDS

KY TEAM 103

Deadball - Ky-Opp 43-51

KY TOTALS	24	827-1665	49.7	390-573	68.1	1046-43.6	421	517- 9	2044	85.2	391
OPP TOTALS	24	661-1493	44.3	334-475	70.3	854-35.6	352	557-33	1656	69.0	506

SEASON RECORD: 22-2; SEC: 14-1; HOME: 11-2; AWAY: 9-0; NEUTRAL: 2-0

OPPONENT	SITE-CROWD	KY	OPP	INDIVIDUAL HIGHS - POINTS, REBOUNDS
Marathon Oil AAU (EX)	(MC-6,988)	110	93	Givens 19, Robey 10
Wisconsin	(H-23,357)	72	64	Robey 13, Robey 13
Texas Christian	(H-22,245)	103	53	Robey 21, Robey 15
Indiana	(A-17,632)	66	51	Johnson, Shidler 20, Johnson 7
Kansas	(H-23,382)	90	63	Givens 15, Lee 7
South Carolina	(A-10,987)	98	67	Givens 28, Phillips 12
Bowling Green	(UKIT-17,893)	77	59	Givens 28, Robey 14
Utah	(UKIT-19,404)	68	70	Robey 19, Lee 13
Notre Dame	* (N-16,613)	102	78	Givens 30, Robey 8
Georgia	(H-23,392)	64+	59	Givens 17, Lee 7
Vanderbilt	(A-15,626)	64	62	Robey 21, Robey 9
Tennessee	(H-23,392)	67+	71	Givens 23, Lee 12
Auburn	(A-11,902)	75	68	Givens 20, Givens 13
Florida	(A- 5,712)	73	71	Givens 19, Givens 7
LSU	(H-23,392)	87	72	Phillips 24, Phillips 19
Mississippi	(H-19,221)	100	73	Givens 19, Phillips 9
Alabama	(A-15,043)	87	85	Givens 23, Givens 12
Mississippi State	(A- 8,312)	92	85	Givens 26, Robey 16
Vanderbilt	(H-23,386)	113	73	Phillips 24, Phillips 12
Florida State	* (N-16,615)	97	57	Givens 28, Phillips 14
Auburn	(H-23,257)	89	82	Givens 24, Robey 15
Florida	(H-23,392)	104	78	Claytor 22, Robey 15
LSU	(A-10,621)	90	76	Givens 21, Givens 12
Mississippi	(A- 7,086)	81	69	Phillips 20, Robey 14
Alabama	(H-23,412)	85	70	Johnson 16, Robey 9

* Freedom Hall, Louisville, Ky.

+ Overtime

BLOCKED SHOTS - STEALS, BY INITIALS IN ABOVE PLAYER ORDER

JG	RR	MP	LJ	JL	JS	TC	DC	LW	MH	TS	SW	BL
22-32	3-21	17-11	4-41	5-22	0-34	1-12	1-7	2-9	0-4	1-2	0-1	0-0

1977 SEC Baseball Schedule

SUNDAY	MONDAY	TUESDAY	WEDNESDAY	THURSDAY	FRIDAY	SATURDAY
FEBRUARY						
20 South Ala. at Alabama	21 LSU at New Orleans	22	23	24 Auburn at Jacksonville	25 Auburn at Jacksonville Florida at Miami Davidson at Georgia	19 South Ala. at Alabama 2 Texas A&M at LSU 2 26 Montevallo at Alabama 2 Auburn at Valdosta State Florida at Miami Davidson at Georgia Houston at LSU Nicholls St. at LSU
27 Bham Sou. at Alabama Rollins at Florida Houston at LSU Nicholls St. at LSU Vandy at Hawaii 2	28 Vandy at Hawaii 2	1 Florida at Rollins Berry at Georgia Delta St. at Ole Miss 2	2 Vanderbilt at Hawaii 2	3 Auburn at Mercer Clemson at Georgia Ole Miss at Memp. St. 2 Vanderbilt at Hawaii 2	4 Furman at Florida Livingston at Ole Miss	5 Alabama at Auburn 2 Furman at Florida Georgia at West Ga. Miss State at LSU 2 Livingston at Ole Miss
6 Alabama at Auburn Florida at Fla. State Madison Coll. at Georgia Louisville at Kentucky 2 Miss State at LSU	7 Florida at Fla. State Miami at LSU Ole Miss at Delta St. 2 Indiana St. at Miss State	8 Old Dominion at Georgia Miami at LSU Indiana St. at Miss State	9 Delta St. at Alabama Middle Tenn. at Auburn USC Aiken at Georgia Tennessee at C. Newman	10 Marshall at Auburn St. Leo at Florida Indiana St. at Ole Miss	11	12 LSU at Alabama 2 Vanderbilt at Florida 2 Kentucky at Tennessee 2 Miss State at Ole Miss 2
13 LSU at Alabama Vanderbilt at Florida Kentucky at Tennessee Miss State at Ole Miss	14 Huntington at Alabama Appalachian at Tennessee	15 Alabama at Sou. Miss. 2 Kentucky vs. S. Carolina at Tampa Illinois at LSU Ole Miss vs. La. Tech Mid Tenn. at Vanderbilt	16 Kentucky at Eckerd Illinois at LSU 2 Ole Miss at Sou. Miss. 2 Tennessee at UT. Chatt.	17 Louisville at Alabama 2 Austin Peay at Auburn Aquadinas at Florida Virginia at Georgia Kentucky at Fla. State 2 Ole Miss at William Carey Tennessee at Columbus	18 Aquadinas at Valdosta Tennessee at Valdosta	19 Ohio State at Alabama 2 Auburn at Miss State 2 Tennessee at Florida 2 Kentucky at Georgia 2 Ole Miss at LSU 2 Ohio Univ. at Vanderbilt 2
20 Ohio St. at Alabama 2 Auburn at Miss State Tennessee at Florida Kentucky at Georgia Ole Miss at LSU Ohio Univ. at Vanderbilt	21 Ohio at Auburn Florida at Fla. Sou. Ohio State at Miss State Tennessee at Rollins	22 Ohio at Auburn 2 Cleveland St. at Georgia Iowa at Ole Miss Ohio St. at Miss State Tenn./N.Western at W. Park Tennessee at Stetson Vanderbilt at Aus. Peay	23 Ohio Univ. at Auburn Ohio St. at Ole Miss 2 Tennessee vs. Yale at Winter Park	24 Florida at Ga. Southern Cleveland St. at Georgia Ohio St. at Ole Miss Tennessee at Rollins	25 Miss State at Sou. Miss. Tennessee Northwestern at Winter Park	26 Alabama at Ole Miss 2 LSU at Auburn 2 Florida at Georgia 2 Miss State at Sou. Miss. Tenn./Yale at Winter Park Kentucky at Vanderbilt
27 Alabama at Ole Miss LSU at Auburn Florida at Vanderbilt Kentucky at South Ala.	28 Colby at Florida Miss State at South Ala.	29 Valdosta St. at Florida Milukam at Georgia W. Michigan at Kentucky 2 St. Olaf at Miss State Aus. Peay at Tennessee 2	30 Jacksonville at Alabama Florida at South Fla. Ga. S. Western at Georgia W. Michigan at Kentucky New Orleans at LSU St. Olaf at Miss State Trevecca at Vanderbilt	31 Detroit at Tennessee Belmont at Vanderbilt	APRIL Kentucky at Florida 2 Lipscomb at Vanderbilt	2 Alabama at Auburn 2 Ole Miss at Auburn 2 Kentucky at Georgia 2 Georgia at Tennessee 2 Wisconsin at LSU 2 Xavier at Vanderbilt and Milukin at Vanderbilt
3 Alabama at Miss State Ole Miss at Auburn Georgia at Tennessee LSU at Tulane Vanderbilt at S. Illinois	4 Vanderbilt at Western Ky.	5 Auburn at Bham Sou. Florida at Stetson Vanderbilt at Kentucky 2 Illinois St. at LSU 2 Ark. State at Ole Miss 2 Miss. Coll. at Miss. St. 2	6 Livingston at Auburn Georgia at Clemson Vanderbilt at Kentucky Wisconsin at LSU Memp. St. at Ole Miss 2 Miss State at La. Tech UT. Chatt. at Tennessee	7 Furman at Georgia Wisconsin at LSU Miss State at La. Tech	8 Florida at Tennessee 2	9 Auburn at Alabama 2 Florida at Tennessee Vanderbilt at Georgia 2 Kentucky at Bellarmine 2 LSU at Miss State 2 Illinois St. at Ole Miss 2
10 Auburn at Alabama Vanderbilt at Georgia LSU at Miss State	11 Mercer at Auburn Vanderbilt at Mid. Tenn.	12 Fla. Tech at Florida Elmhurst at Georgia Miss St. at Jackson St. 2 Tennessee vs. C. Newman at Oak Ridge Vanderbilt at Trevecca	13 North Ala. at Alabama 2 Georgia at Auburn South Fla. at Florida Kentucky at Louisville Tulane at LSU Bham. Sou. at Miss State Liberty Bapt. at Tenn. Vanderbilt at Lipscomb	14 Tennessee at Lincoln Mem.	15 Auburn at South Ala.	16 Alabama at LSU 2 Auburn at South Ala. Fla. State at Florida Georgia at Kentucky 2 Ole Miss at Miss State 2 Tennessee at Vandy 2
17 Alabama at LSU Fla. State at Florida Georgia at Kentucky Ole Miss at Miss State Tennessee at Vanderbilt	18 Troy State at Auburn Sou. Miss. at Ole Miss 2 Western Ky. at Vanderbilt	19 Stetson at Florida Georgia at Ga. Southern Kentucky at Indiana 2 Delta St. at Miss State Tenn. at Tenn. Tech 2 Vanderbilt at Belmont	20 Livingston at Alabama 2 Bham. Sou. at Auburn Fla. Sou. at Florida Ga. Tech at Georgia Louisville at Kentucky	21 Valdosta St. at Auburn Kentucky at Eastern Ky.	22 Florida at Kentucky 2 Tennessee at S. Carolina	23 Sou. Miss. at Alabama 2 Miss State at Auburn 2 Florida at Kentucky Georgia at Vanderbilt 2 LSU at Ole Miss 2 Tennessee at S. Carolina
24 Alabama at Huntington Miss State at Auburn Georgia at Vanderbilt Bellarmine at Kentucky 2 LSU at Ole Miss	25 Jax State at Auburn Aus. Peay at Vanderbilt	26 Jacksonville at Florida Ga. College at Georgia Tennessee at Kentucky 2 Miss State at Ark. State 2	27 Alabama at Bham. Sou. Columbus at Auburn Fla. Intl. at Florida Georgia at Kentucky Tennessee at Kentucky Northwestern at LSU	28 Georgia at W. Carolina Troy State at Ole Miss Memphis St. at Miss State Lincoln Mem. at Tennessee	29 Sou. Illinois at Kentucky Memphis St. at Miss State	30 Ole Miss at Alabama 2 Auburn at LSU 2 Florida at Vanderbilt 2 Tennessee at Georgia 2 S. Illinois at Kentucky 2 Wm. Carey at Miss State 2
1 Ole Miss at Alabama Auburn at LSU Florida at Vanderbilt Tennessee at Georgia	2 Auburn at Columbus	3 South Ala. at Auburn Georgia at Ga. Tech	4 South Ala. at Auburn Florida at Jacksonville Augusta Coll. at Georgia Tennessee vs. Va. Tech at Kingsport	5 S. Carolina at Georgia Maryville at Tennessee	6 Vandy at Tennessee 2	7 Miss State at Alabama 2 Auburn at Ole Miss 2 Georgia at Florida 2 South Ala. at LSU Vanderbilt at Tennessee
8 Miss State at Alabama Auburn at Ole Miss Georgia at Florida South Ala. at LSU	9	10 Georgia vs. Ga. Tech at Macon	11 SEC Playoff (West)	12	13 SEC Playoff (East)	14 SEC Playoff (East)
15	16	17 Aub. / Ga. T. at Americus				



My Gosh, Fellas, Do Something



Bama Coach C. M. Newton Congratulates Hall

Six Score In Double Figures

Kentucky Sputters But Gains 77-64 Over State Bulldogs Monday

Thanks to a record 83 percent last half shooting percentage, Kentucky's Wildcats averted a major upset Monday night and turned back Mississippi State 77-64 before 23,402 customers at Rupp Arena.

It wasn't until State stars Ricky Brown and Ray White fouled out late in the game that Kentucky was assured of its 23 win in 25 outings this season.

The Cats played poor, that's for sure. Some thought they were looking ahead to the showdown date with Tennessee this Saturday in Knoxville.

No one has to worry about looking ahead now. Tennessee is right on target.

The win improved the Wildcats' conference slate to 15-1, tops in the league and one game ahead of Tennessee's 14-2 mark. With only two games left, Kentucky can do no worse than second since Alabama is out of the race with four conference setbacks.

The see-saw battle had Mississippi State in the lead at 57-56 with 6:12 left when freshman star Ricky Brown committed his fifth foul for State.

He had a fine game with 17 points but spent 23 minutes on the bench in foul trouble.

When he left, Kentucky rolled on. Junior Rick Robey hit a pair of free throws for a 58-57 lead and State was never to catch up.

In fact, the Wildcats reeled off 12 consecutive points and led by 68-57 on Truman Claytor's jumper with 2:56 left.

"Down the stretch, we lost Ricky and Ray (White), made floor errors and didn't do the job necessary to go down to the wire with Kentucky," said losing coach Kermit Davis. "It was a tremendous blow to us when Rickey fouled out. After the turnover, we couldn't get any momentum."

Kentucky also had something else going for it. Like hitting 15 of 18 shots from the field the last half for an 83.3 percent. That's better than the previous

mark of 72.4 percent against Florida last year.

"Any record we set tonight would surprise me," lamented coach Joe Hall. "I didn't think we did much of

anything right."

Jack Givens, who hit on five of nine and 12 points but seven below his scoring average, said, "we were playing real conservative. I just don't

know if we were thinking that we couldn't lose or what. We weren't getting out on the break and the tempo was below par for us."

Rick Robey admitted the thought of playing Tennessee might have been on some people's mind.

"Everybody in town was talking about Tennessee," said Robey, "nobody was talking about Mississippi State. Maybe that affected us a little too."

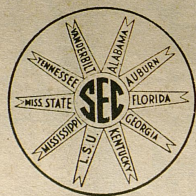
But what about Tennessee now?

"I've been looking forward to this week," said Robey. "I know I'm going to be ready. I'm sure they're going to be ready, too. It's going to be a great game for college sports. I'm looking forward to it even though it is at Tennessee."

Robey was the game's top scorer over State with 19 points and eight rebounds. James Lee came off the bench and flipped home 15 in another fine exhibition while the Cats got 13 from Larry Johnson, 12 from Givens and 10 from Mike Phillips.

Overall, Kentucky shot 53.1 percent on 26 of 49 for the game while State had a hot 51.1 percent on 24 of 47 for the contest.

Kentucky outrebounded the visitors 33-22, but the Cats were even hotter at the free throw line, canning 25 of 31 for an 80.6 clip.



Kentucky Basketball

MISSISSIPPI STATE - 64

Player	FG	FT	REB	PF	TPS	AS	TO	MIN
G. Hooker	4-9	5-6	1	3	13	1	2	29
W. Peck	5-7	3-4	4	4	13	1	2	25
R. Brown	7-11	3-4	2	5	17	1	4	21
R. White	5-9	1-2	6	5	11	1	4	33
A. Perry	2-4	0-0	2	2	4	9	3	39
L. Fitzgerald	0-1	0-0	0	2	0	0	1	6
W. Wright	0-2	2-3	1	3	2	3	3	30
J. Mundie	0-0	0-0	0	0	0	0	0	1
R. Moss	1-4	2-2	2	3	4	1	1	14
D. Coleman	0-0	0-0	0	0	0	1	0	1
L. Hall	0-0	0-0	0	0	0	0	0	1
Team Rebounds			4				1	

TOTALS 24-47 16-21 22 27 64 18 21 200

KENTUCKY - 77

Player	FG	FT	REB	PF	TPS	AS	TO	MIN
J. Givens	5-9	2-2	4	5	12	3	2	22
R. Robey	4-7	11-11	8	4	19	2	5	38
M. Phillips	4-9	2-2	3	3	10	1	2	15
L. Johnson	5-7	3-4	3	1	13	7	5	38
J. Shidler	1-4	0-0	1	2	2	0	2	14
D. Casey	0-0	0-0	0	0	0	0	1	4
T. Claytor	1-4	2-3	2	3	4	2	1	24
M. Haskins	1-1	0-1	0	0	2	1	0	7
J. Lee	5-5	5-8	5	3	15	3	3	27
L. Williams	0-3	0-0	2	1	0	0	1	11
Team Rebounds			5					

TOTALS 26-49 25-31 33 22 77 19 22 200

MISSISSIPPI STATE UNIVERSITY 27 37 --- 64
UNIVERSITY OF KENTUCKY 31 46 --- 77

Attendance: 23,402
Officials: Dale Kelly and Art White

SEC Standings

	Conference	All Games				
	W	L	Pct.	W	L	Pct.
Kentucky	13	1	.938	23	2	.920
Tennessee	12	2	.857	20	5	.800
Alabama	12	4	.750	21	4	.840
Florida	9	7	.563	16	8	.667
LSU	8	9	.471	15	11	.577
Auburn	6	10	.375	13	11	.542
Miss. St.	5	11	.313	13	12	.520
Vanderbilt	5	11	.313	9	15	.375
Mississippi	4	13	.235	10	16	.385
Georgia	3	13	.188	9	16	.360

Monday's Results
Alabama 78, Vanderbilt 77
Auburn 97, Mississippi 84
Kentucky 77, Mississippi 64
Louisiana State 79, Florida 74
Only games scheduled

UPI Top Twenty

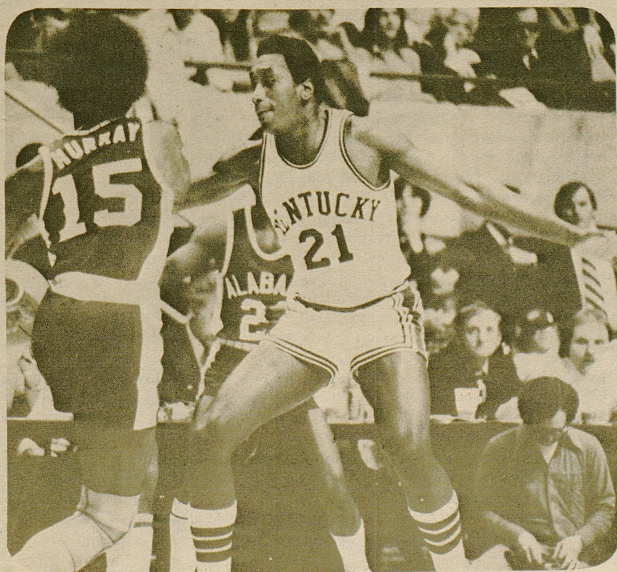
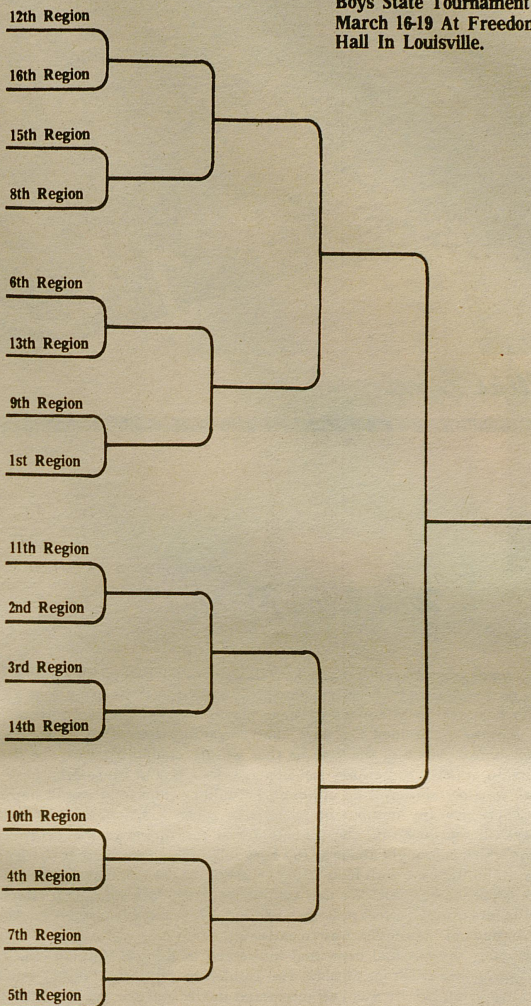
Team	Points
1. San Francisco (34) (29-0)	384
2. Kentucky (4) (22-2)	325
3. Michigan (1) (21-3)	294
4. UCLA (22-4)	224
5. North Carolina (21-4)	193
6. Nevada-Las Vegas (23-2)	184
7. Arkansas (25-1)	140
8. Providence (24-3)	64
9. Louisville (21-4)	63
10. Tennessee (20-5)	57
11. Syracuse (23-3)	34
12. Alabama (20-4)	30
13. Minnesota (22-3)	28
14. Wake Forest (20-4)	26
15. Arizona (21-4)	18
16. Indiana St. (23-2)	13
17. Detroit (24-2)	12
18. Houston (24-4)	10
19. Oral Roberts (21-5)	10
20. Cincinnati (22-4)	8

AP Top Twenty

Team	Points
1. San Francisco (50)	29-0 1,120
2. Kentucky (7)	22-2 994
3. Michigan	21-3 790
4. UCLA	22-4 671
5. Nevada-Las Vegas	23-2 667
6. North Carolina	22-4 616
7. Arkansas	25-1 562
8. Providence	23-3 300
9. Minnesota	22-3 259
10. Louisville	21-5 252
11. Tennessee	20-5 250
12. Alabama	20-4 205
13. Syracuse	23-3 188
14. Cincinnati	22-4 181
15. Detroit	24-2 169
16. Wake Forest	20-6 82
17. Arizona	21-4 51
18. Clemson	21-5 40
19. Marquette	18-6 36
20. Utah	20-6 25

State Tournament Pairings

Boys State Tournament
March 16-19 At Freedom
Hall In Louisville.



Kentucky On Defense

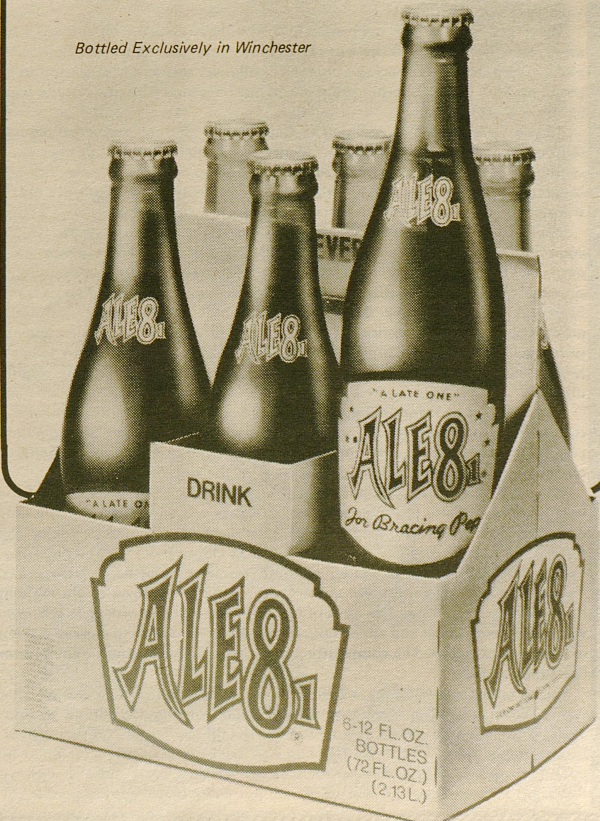
Little Deposit ! Big Return.

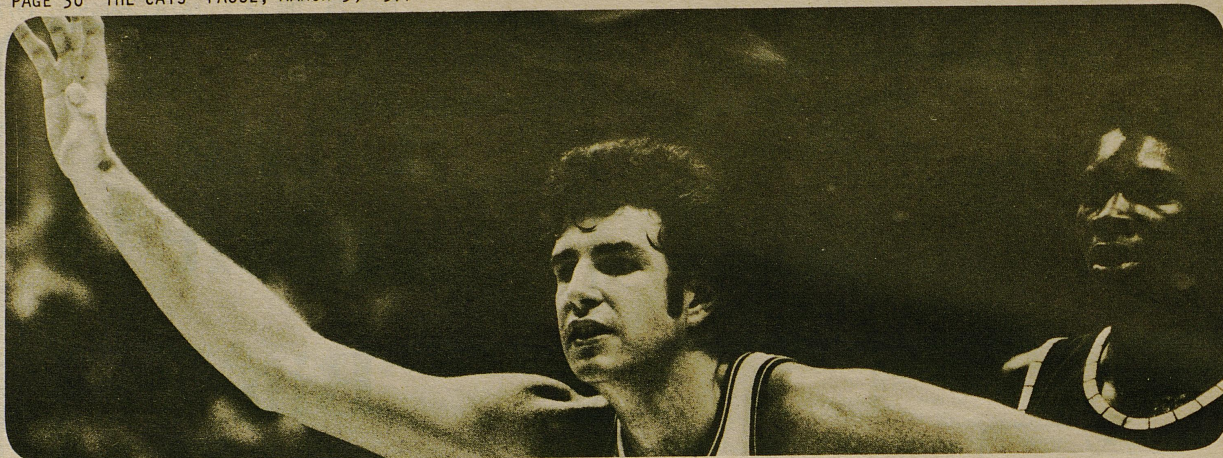
Unlike others, we have not raised our deposit charge on returnable bottles. For the familiar green 12-ounce Ale 8 bottle, the deposit is only a nickle, not a dime.

We may be small compared to the big boys bottling national brands, but that doesn't mean we can't have the best soft drink in the world, and at the same time give your pocketbook some consideration!

Yep. Little deposit, big value—that's Ale 8 One.

Bottled Exclusively in Winchester





The Mike Phillips Effect

Recruiting

With Dean Perkins

Kentucky is in the process of winding up a really fine season. Having just defeated Florida soundly and coming off 40-points wins over Vanderbilt and Florida State, not to mention the win over Alabama, the Wildcats are playing tremendous basketball. A record of 22 and 2 at the time this column was being written and ranked No. 2 in the country with three games to go in the regular season is quite an accomplishment.

What remains for the 1976-77 edition of the Kentucky Wildcats I don't know but this much is certain . . . I'm really pleased with this group for the things they've done so far. By Coach Joe B. Hall's own feelings, this group is about a year ahead of schedule.

The next few weeks will determine how well these Cats do. Of course, we are hoping they will go all the way. Dangerous games remain with Tennessee and Georgia. However, barring a complete collapse, this will be a season to be proud of. Still, there are other problems to be concerned with and not the least of these is recruiting.

As you have noted by reading The Cats' Pause and any and every source that is available to the UK fan, Kentucky is not going to publicize its recruiting list for the whole world to see. You can be sure of this however, UK is going after quality people. The super stars, the really top athletes are musts if a school is to remain competitive at the major college level.

Some of the top high school prospects have already given verbal commitments to various schools and UK might have been given such assurances by some of the top stars but to announce any such commitments previous to the actual signings is something UK had always shied away from. Even the National Letter didn't save us Poodles Willoughby. Although announcing a verbal commitment from a super prospect would make many of us happy for now, what happens if the young man changes his mind? What if he is stringing us along? It happens . . . and then a lot of people are mighty unhappy.

So the UK policy is for the best I believe. Then too, with Kentucky only have three athletic grants in aid to give this year, they have to be very selective and careful how they handle each prospect. Rest assured the Cats are in the thick of things and are going all out to keep UK at the top.

Howard M. Garfinkel, a super scout of high school talent puts out one of the best scouting reports in the country. His reports are really superb. The only drawback being that Howard's reports only cover the states along the Eastern seaboard. Another top talent scout is Dave Bones of Toledo, Ohio. The BC Report by Bill Cronauer of St. Petersburg, Florida, is also great. There are others and these are subscribed to by the universities throughout the country. . . . They make the task of finding the talent a lot easier. UK knows where the good, great and super talents are, the task now is to convince them to come to Lexington. The competition is really tough when you're going after the super stars.

You'll notice many times when a super star signs with a school that Kentucky was one of the final two or three schools being considered by him. This, at first glance doesn't mean much as we still lost him to another school. It does mean thought that the UK name in basketball is still a factor to be dealt with. Joe B. Hall and his associates are working hard and although we don't get everybody we go after, UK will get some really quality people.

The names of some real fine basketball players have been showing up in letters to the editor of The Cats' Pause. Usually questions are asked as to whether Kentucky is interested in these players or not. UK is interested in many of those mentioned I'm sure, but corraling these fine prospects is another matter. Some of the schools that we are competing with for these scholarship athletes sometimes tell lies against UK and cause Kentucky to lose out on a certain boy . . . although I wouldn't think that would happen often. There are any number of reasons to cause a school to lose a top prospect. In the long run, the schools are at the mercy of the prospect's decision which is brought about by the best selling job done by that particular school. As in the case with Kyle Macy, sometimes the original choice of the athlete is not the best one. We can assume we'll also lose some real talented basketballers through offers made by some indiscreet schools or their backers.

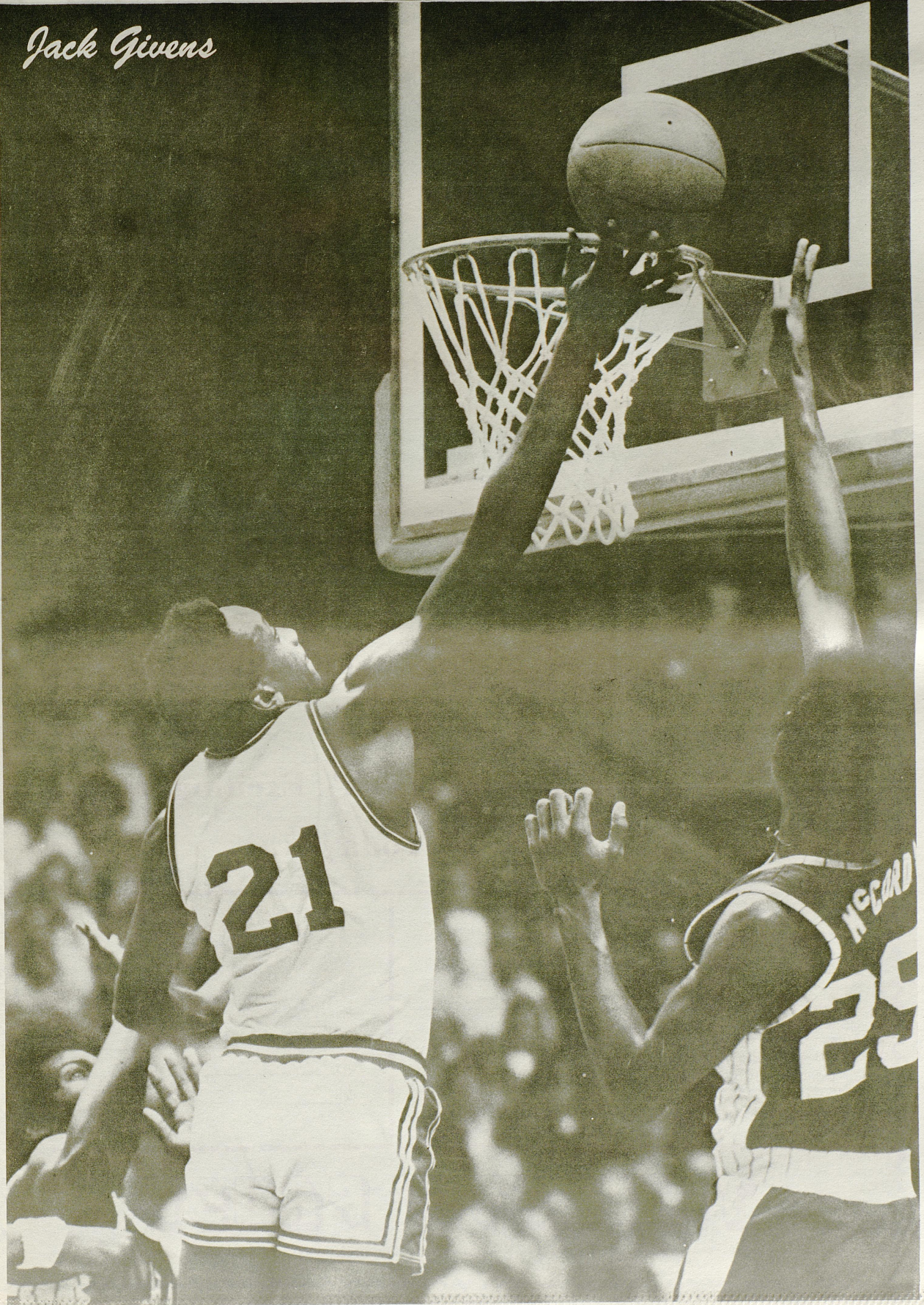
"Stringing out" is another way to cause a team to lose some good players. For instance, say UK had been real interested in Reggie Hannah, the big super power forward from Florida. He decided to sign with Florida but he could have acted like he was still interested in UK and not made public his true feelings. If this had happened it might have kept UK from getting some other good player. As it is, Kentucky can now concentrate elsewhere.

This writer is not above thinking other coaches can use this plan in a devious manner to hurt Kentucky's chances with a prospect. Look back to when UK was after Kent Benson and Tom LaGarde. In my tours around the many high school all-star games that year, all I ever heard was that Indiana had Benson sewed up and that LaGarde was going to North Carolina for sure. Kentucky tried very hard on both of these big men. Had they known that Benson or LaGarde was not coming to UK, Joe Hall could have concentrated his recruiting elsewhere and maybe got someone 6-9 or 6-10 to play center the following year. You remember the following year was the only bad season Kentucky had under Joe Hall. With two small forwards that year, UK had a up-hill battle all season. Maybe Dean Smith and Bobby Knight should get credit for 13 defeats on the UK record that season instead of just two. Joe Hall had to go after them when they said they were still interested but were they really? I wonder!

With only three scholarships available and knowing the 1976-77 Wildcats will lose only two players, what three high school prospects would you want? Are they in this list? 6-10 Larry Petty of New York, 6-10 Jeff Ruland of New York, 6-6 Jeff Lamp of Kentucky, 6-7 Kovach of Ashland, Kentucky, 6-11 Kevin Nash of Michigan, 6-6 Albert King of New York, 6-10 Herb Williams of Ohio, 6-2 Ed Crow of Ohio, 6-8 Earvin Johnson of Michigan, 6-9 Wayne McKay of New York, 6-9 Fred Cowan of Kentucky, 6-9 Pete Budko of Maryland, 6-5 Lionel Harvey of New York.

I'm not saying this is UK's recruiting list (heaven forbid) but I'm sure the quality of those on their list is every bit as good. You'll notice not a whole lot of guards are mentioned above. With Shidler, Claytor, Macy and Casey back next year, guard play should be in good hands. Some depth at forward and center is needed badly to play our type game. And if a ready super like Albert King wanted to come to UK . . . I'd make room . . . somewhere. Get him Leonard. Then look out for a Kentucky dynasty.

Jack Givens

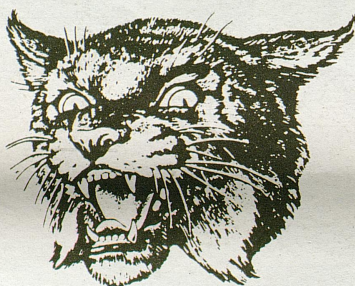


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