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THE CATS' PAUSE

"SPOTLIGHTING UNIVERSITY OF KENTUCKY AND SOUTHEASTERN CONFERENCE"

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SOUTHEASTERN CONFERENCE

SCORING - TOP TWENTY

Player & School	G	FGM	FTS	TPS	AVE.
1. Mike Mitchell, Auburn	27	283	105	671	24.9
2. Reggie Johnson, Tennessee	27	229	115	573	21.2
3. Reggie King, Alabama	27	218	136	572	21.2
4. Stan Pietkiewicz, Auburn	27	194	128	516	19.1
5. Durand Macklin, LSU	27	217	79	513	19.0
6. Terry Crosby, Tennessee	25	198	79	475	19.0
7. Mike Rhodes, Vanderbilt	27	202	103	509	18.8
8. John Stroud, Mississippi	27	207	74	488	18.1
9. Jack Givens, Kentucky	30	210	94	514	17.1
10. Charles Davis, Vanderbilt	25	178	63	419	16.8
11. Walter Daniels, Georgia	27	184	76	444	16.4
12. Ray White, Miss. State	26	151	76	378	14.5
13. Rick Robey, Kentucky	30	156	120	432	14.4
14. Joe Kyles, Mississippi	27	161	54	376	13.9
15. Kenny Higgs, LSU	27	129	112	370	13.7
16. Reggie Hannah, Florida	22	109	81	299	13.6
17. Ricky Brown, Miss. State	26	140	69	349	13.4
18. Richard Glasper, Florida	27	146	58	350	12.9
19. Kyle Macy, Kentucky	30	138	109	385	12.8
20. Al Bonner, Florida	27	138	60	336	12.4

FIELD GOAL SHOOTING - TOP TEN

Player & School	G	FGM	FGA	AVE.
1. Rick Robey, Kentucky	30	156	246	63.4
2. Durand Macklin, LSU	27	217	349	62.0
3. Mike Phillips, Kentucky	29	123	200	61.5
4. Larry Brewster, Florida	27	104	175	59.4
5. Reggie King, Alabama	27	218	371	59.0
6. James Lee, Kentucky	29	128	223	57.4
7. Wiley Peck, Miss. State	27	98	171	57.3
8. Reggie Hannah, Florida	23	109	191	57.1
9. Lavon Mercer, Georgia	27	124	218	56.9
10. Gary Hooker, Miss. State	27	120	214	56.1

REBOUNDING - TOP TEN

Player & School	G	REBS	AVE.
1. Reggie King, Alabama	27	354	13.3
2. Durand Macklin, LSU	27	286	10.6
3. Reggie Johnson, Tennessee	27	258	9.6
4. DeWayne Scales, LSU	26	244	9.4
5. Reggie Hannah, Florida	22	203	9.2
6. Mike Mitchell, Auburn	27	241	8.9
7. Lavon Mercer, Georgia	27	231	8.6
8. John Stroud, Mississippi	27	230	8.5
9. Lucius Foster, Georgia	26	221	8.5
10. Wiley Peck, Miss. State	27	228	8.4

ASSISTS - TOP TEN

Player & School	G	NO.	AVE.
1. Johnny Darden, Tennessee	23	192	8.3
2. Kyle Macy, Kentucky	30	167	5.6
3. Stan Pietkiewicz, Auburn	27	128	4.7
4. Anthony Murray, Alabama	27	123	4.6
5. Ethan Martin, LSU	26	108	4.5
6. Henry Jackson, Mississippi	27	117	4.3
7. Bubba Price, Auburn	26	109	4.2
8. Richard Glasper, Florida	27	109	4.0
9. Kenny Higgs, LSU	27	108	4.0
10. Ray White, Miss. State	26	97	3.7

FREE THROW SHOOTING - TOP TEN

Player & School	G	FTM	FTA	AVE.
1. Kyle Macy, Kentucky	30	109	121	90.1
2. Stan Pietkiewicz, Auburn	27	128	146	87.7
3. Myles Patrick, Auburn	27	65	79	82.2
4. Mike Rhodes, Vanderbilt	27	103	127	81.1
5. Larry Brewster, Florida	27	91	114	79.8
6. Ethan Martin, LSU	26	66	84	79.0
7. Mike Mitchell, Auburn	27	105	135	77.8
8. Jack Givens, Kentucky	30	94	122	77.0
9. John Stroud, Mississippi	27	74	98	75.5
10. Mike Phillips, Kentucky	29	61	81	75.3



Oscar L. Combs

Cats' Pause Publisher



WILDCATS

It's Hog-Rooting Time In St. Looie

Suddenly, writers and sportscasters across the country are talking about kids like Kyle Macy and Rich Branning, not to mention the "Three Basketeers" of Arkansas and Duke's Jim Spanarkel.

Three weeks ago, all you could hear about were such performers as Butch Lee of Marquette and Phil Ford of North Carolina. To hear the national media representatives talk, you could all but wrap up a final spot for the two schools because Ford and Lee are so great.

Suddenly, they're on the sidelines and look who's in the Final Four.

This should be a good lesson for the experts. Maybe they should keep their eyes open more often. Just because a team was in the Final Four a year ago doesn't guarantee a high spot the following year.

It will be interesting to see the pre-season predictions next season. Of course, names like Macy and Branning will be at the top of the list. Both are underclassmen. But it is unfair to recognize only those who make it to the big event.

The current Final Four is a good example of this. Yes, Kentucky has been ranked No. 1 most of the season, but Macy has been virtually ignored on all the all-star clubs. Surely, he didn't blossom the last three weeks.

This should be the most exciting finish in the NCAA in many years. All four clubs are very close to being equal. The games should be high-scoring and close, right to the buzzer.

It wouldn't be surprising to find Kentucky and Notre Dame squaring off again Monday night (it could be for either the championship or consolation honors). Should those two meet, look for one of the wildest hoop contests in history.

If Dale Brown doesn't want to watch physical play, then he'd better flick off his set if those two clubs match up. This one will put some NBA games to shame.

#

Kentucky coach Joe B. Hall believes the Wildcats will have to play at the top of their game if they're to have a chance of defeating the Arkansas Razorbacks Saturday in the NCAA semi-finals.

"Boy, they look tougher and tougher every time you watch them on film," said Hall. "Those 'Three Basketeers' are just super. They're so quick and can leap out of the gym. And can they shoot!" exclaimed Hall. "They present problems for us that we haven't been faced with this year."

Earlier in the season, LSU coach

Dale Brown predicted Arkansas is the one team which can beat Kentucky in the NCAA this year. Brown said Kentucky wouldn't be able to do things against Arkansas that Kentucky does against other clubs.

The big three for Eddie Sutton's Razorbacks are Ron Brewer, Sidney Moncrief and Marvin Delph.

If Arkansas has a weakness, it's the bench -- where coach Eddie Sutton rarely goes for help. Against Fullerton State, Arkansas starters played 198 of the 200 minutes.

Arkansas is the second club in the history of the NCAA to reach the Final Four after being selected as the No. 2 team from a conference. In 1976, Michigan won an at-large spot and advanced to the title game before falling to its Big Ten rival Indiana in the final game.

#

All-star games are coming up by the dozens and several Kentucky players will be competing. The most recent selection is that of Mike Phillips and James Lee to an all-star game of top players from the Southeast Region against the Atlantic Coast region in Charlotte, North Carolina.

The game will be played April 1 and proceeds will go to a charity. The game is being televised regionally in some parts of the South.

Kentucky's seniors were high in the running for the Pizza Hut Basketball Classic early, but all four have fallen from the leading spots in the latest tabulations released. Rick Robey is No. 13 in vote-getting for the East while Jack Givens is No. 15 and Mike Phillips No. 21.

A spokesman for Pizza Hut said the voting is completed but that some one million ballots are yet to be tabulated. Some 1.6 million votes have been counted.

It's unlikely either Robey or Givens would have played in the classic anyway. There are reports the two will play only in the World Invitational Tourney after the season is over.

According to reports, both have been advised not to risk any potential injury with the pro basketball draft coming up this spring.

The top eight-vote-getters automatically win a spot on the Pizza Hut team. The leading vote-getter in the most recent results was Indiana State's Harry Morgan. Only seniors qualify for the game.

#

HITS AND MISSES . . . "Tombstone"

Johnny Owens has to rate as one of the, if not the, top Wildcat Boosters in the country. Johnny, who gets his name from being in the memorial stone business, says he has failed to reach coach Joe B. Hall by telephone on game days only twice this season, to wish him luck. "And both of those times we lost," said Johnny. He aims to be in St. Louis when the Cats meet Arkansas this Saturday. "I'll be there," said Johnny from his home in Algoma, Iowa, Sunday. "But if I ain't you can count on me getting hold of Coach Hall before the game." . . . You wouldn't believe the telephone calls we received from Wildcat boosters around the country Sunday. Fans from Ohio, Michigan, Iowa, Indiana, Tennessee, New York, Texas, Illinois and Idaho all phoned, wanting to congratulate the Wildcats or seeking tickets for the Final Four. We gladly passed along their congrats and just plain passed on the ticket requests; none to be had around these parts, either . . .

The best joke line heard around Dayton last week was the one which had NBC sending Curt Gowdy to Dayton a week early so he could learn all the players' names by Saturday. It may have worked Saturday, but during Sunday's game between Duke and Villanova, Gowdy had Kentucky playing Arizona instead of Arkansas before he was corrected. It's time someone at NBC review the network's own productions. NCAA college basketball deserves announcers with halfway decent knowledge of the game and its participants. Gowdy doesn't fit that category . . . Ironically, most Kentucky fans said they turned the television volume off and the television screen on. That way, they could watch the action and listen to Cawood Ledford. One fan in the Midwest said he used the same trick, only the radio play-by-play was about five seconds behind the screen. Why? Because he was listening to the Armed Forces Network, which picked up the game . . . Kentucky's two wins in the Mideast Regional last week gave the SEC a 61-32 record against outside opposition, for a 65.6 winning percentage this season . . . Strange, isn't it, that three of the final four teams in the NCAA tourney also finished in the Top Ten in football? All but Duke finished high in the Top Ten in the grid sport as well. In fact, Kentucky, Arkansas and Notre Dame all finished with identical 10-1 regular season records; while the Hogs and the Irish won big in the Orange and Cotton Bowls, respectively . . . The semifinals and finals will be played on Indiana University's home floor. The NCAA

decided to use the IU portable floor after dead spots were discovered in the floor normally used at St. Louis' Checkerdome. They were detected back a couple of years ago during other collegiate basketball games. The IU floor was trucked to St. Louis earlier this week. . . . Although Kentucky was allotted 1,200 tickets for the finals, as were the other three schools, UK athletics director Cliff Hagan said he believes each of the four participating schools should receive at least 2,000 tickets each. There was no public sale of the tickets at UK. Approximately thirty percent went to the students, while the others were taken up by the band, players, coaches, athletic personnel and university officials . . . UK's headquarters during its stay in St. Louis will be Stouffer's Inn in downtown St. Louis. The team was expected to arrive in St. Louis either late Thursday or early Friday morning by plane . . . It was a repeat performance of those great Northern Kentucky Wildcat fans when the Cats motored down I-75 Saturday evening after winning the Mideast Regional. Fans, young and old, poor and rich, white collar and blue collar, gathered on the over-passes, along the side roads and held banners high, welcoming the players back to the Bluegrass State . . . Our good friend Dr. Gary Hayes of Lebanon, Ohio, called Sunday to say a lot of transplanted Kentuckians had wet eyes after the UK band struck up "My Old Kentucky Home" in the Dayton Arena after the Cats' thrilling 52-49 decision over Michigan State . . . Some people may forget their home country, but that complaint can never be leveled against a native Kentuckian. And there were about 9,000 at Dayton Arena for the two games. One Michigan State supporter was wanting to know how so many Wildcat fans got tickets. Let's just say where there's a will, there's a way . . . Remember back in the winter when Sports Illustrated ran a story saying a basketball recruit was offered a racehorse to attend UK? Well, we pointed out that the incident proved to involve football and not basketball. Now, Larry Keith of Sports Illustrated told us last week that Notre Dame's Dave Batton told him personally he was offered the horse to attend UK . . . Of course, everyone knows Notre Dame decided to take Batton over UK's Rick Robey that year during the recruiting race, and Robey hasn't allowed Irish coach Digger Phelps to forget. Robey could get one last chance to prove his worth during the Final Four while Phelps and Batton, no

(Continued On Page 34)



James Lee On The Dunk



VIEWPOINT

Letters To The Editor



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

Another Goose

Dear Sir:

Just thought I'd drop a line and let you all know there is another "Goose" over here in Southern Indiana. That's right, Jack Givens' cousin, Tony Givens, plays for Mount Vernon High School.

It just so happens they are also Wildcats. My wife and I went to watch him last Friday and you would have thought you were at a UK game. When they introduce him you hear everyone yell "Goose, Goose." Tony has a touch just like Jack: deadly. He also had some impressive stats: 13-22 from the field, 2-3 from the line and 9 rebounds for 28 points. He likes the same kind of shot Jack does. They both are deadly from the side. Don't know if Tony could play division one ball. He a little slower than Jack.

Keep up the good work and your outstanding paper.

P.S. He hit the winning shot with one second left to give his team a 70-68 win.

Sincerely,
Mike Stephan
Evansville, Indiana

On Women's Sports

Dear Sir:

Having seen Coach Debbie Yow appear on TV's religious talk show, THE 700 CLUB, I have nothing but the highest respect for her. She is undoubtedly a devout Christian, a fine young lady, and I wish her well.

But, personally, I wouldn't give two hoots for all the women's basketball in the country.

The whole idea of being big, hard, fast, aggressive and athletic does nothing but degrade women -- it distinctly diminishes their femininity, something without which a woman is sadly lacking. Scholarships for needy girls are fine; but intensifying efforts to achieve excellence in the aforementioned "qualities" with all the accompanying pressures and skyrocketing budgets borders on lunacy.

Men's intercollegiate sports are based upon the principle of devotion to all-out excellence -- that is, becoming as good as you can get and playing as hard as you can. And in the process it isn't all fun. It can be extremely demanding. Yet this is precisely the direction the women are heading. In a couple of years they'll demand equal TV time.

Administrators of women's sports should stress participation and should emphasize the fun factor. Athletics should be treated as mere games -- not a life or death win, win, win at any cost

with money and more money the goal. I hate to see games become programs, for when that occurs emphasis is placed on the wrong things: chiefly becoming coarse, muscular, graceless amazons out practicing driving the baseline. Isn't it easy to see that the values are all upside down?

Terrence Tucker knows whereof he speaks. And there are a lot of us who agree with him.

Sincerely,
Virgil B. Trapnell
Chattanooga, Tennessee

Spring Football

Dear Sir:

I am a subscriber to The Cats' Pause and I am hopeful you can provide me with some information.

1) How can I obtain the Kentucky spring football preview?

2) Who is the publisher and what year was Cawood Ledford's book published. Is it still available anywhere?

Very truly yours,
Donald Mankin
Oak Park, Illinois

[Editor's Note: Write UK Sports Information for football preview.

Anyone have the info on Ledford's book?]

Kyle Is Favorite

Dear Sir:

I think Coach Joe B. Hall is the best coach UK has had besides Coach Rupp. I have been reading Viewpoint and I think it is good, but I hate to read it when people are cutting down Joe B. Hall. UK has the best coach in the whole NCAA. I hope coach Hall thinks nothing of the people who cut him down. My dad and I keep up with the Cats in all sports. My favorite player is the one and only Kyle Macy. My other player is Jack Givens. I will miss him, along with the other seniors. The best of luck goes to the Big Blue.

Sincerely,
Terry Cain
Berea, Kentucky

Four Good Years

Dear Sir:

I think it's time I expressed my viewpoints about Coach Hall and the team. I have read The Cats' Pause for a year and have read the pros and the cons. Regardless of what people say, Hall has done a super job of coaching. And this is the greatest team I've seen since Rupp and his Runts. I have

listened and watched every game this year except one and they gave given me a lot of enjoyable hours. I am looking forward to their going all the way in the NCAA. If they don't go all the way, what the heck... they've had four good years.

Sincerely,
Ronald Ison
Pickerington, Ohio

Talking To Myself

Dear Sir:

The SEC and Boyd McWhorter have me talking to myself. Now we need a tournament to cure our ills. McWhorter feels this way the SEC can get two representatives in the NCAA tourney. After all, didn't everyone else? He is burying his head in the sand and the SEC members are going along with him.

What the SEC needs is a commissioner who when confronted with a situation such as the player from Georgia who struck the Florida player, will do more than wring his hands and say, oh my. We do need someone to announce the SEC Game of the Week other than "Jackass and Jingle Bells," the comedy team now assigned and we need a top-notch publicity program for the league.

What is going to happen to the other schools when the regular season winner also wins the tourney? I feel for Mississippi State and believe they or LSU either for that matter would have done an admirable job of representing our league in the NCAA tourney.

Now the talk is, even though money is what the tournament is all about, maybe a smaller arena would be better than giving Kentucky a home-court advantage by holding it at Rupp Arena. I, too, would like to bury his head in the sand.

Sincerely,
Harold R. Miller
Russell, Kentucky

Shocked

Dear Sir:

I have just finished reading The Cats Pause dated March 4, 1978. I am truly shocked and dismayed to see that sexism has crept into this otherwise fine publication.

I refer specifically to the article "On the Rebound..." with Terrence Tucker. Did the editor need this poor column as a filler? Does Mr. Tucker have a sizable investment in The Cats' Pause? What sensible reason can you give for allowing boorishness of this magnitude to offend the devoted fans of the athletic teams of the University

of Kentucky, both male and female?

Under the title of the magazine is: "Spotlighting University of Kentucky and Southeastern Conference." This simple description of what goes on within the publication indicates that all sports at the University will be covered. As we all know, they are not. This is an example of what Coach Yow incomplain about; the lack of support from the media and the lack of objectivity from those of us who support the men's programs. If the finer qualities of women's sports are emphasized and the efforts of such capable coaches as Debbie Yow are simply reported to the fans, the following of the women's basketball team will increase.

However, the negative machismo which Mr. Tucker exudes can only intimidate those fans who might wish to become more involved with what happens to female sports team, especially when it is sanctioned by The Cats' Pause. I therefore call upon you to require Mr. Tucker to apologize to the readers who were offended by his unhealthy attitude. Name-calling such as "...knotted and rockhard...wouldbe amazons" does not belong in an objective magazine.

In conclusion, I respectfully suggest that the editor of The Cats Pause return the magazine to the high standards we are so familiar with, and not resort to sensational editorializing to keep us interested. The activities of the Wildcats will do that.

Sincerely yours,
Vernon G. Goins
S. Glastonbury, Connecticut

[Editor's Note: This publication was and is designed basically for UK men's football and basketball. Other sports are covered on a very limited basis. Anyone subscribing because of other presumptions is requested to contact us for a refund and we'll gladly oblige.

Mr. Tucker has no investment in The Cats' Pause. Everyone's views, including Mr. Tucker's and Mr. Goins', are welcomed. The content of CP columns represent the columnist's views and not necessarily the publication's stand, just like letters in Viewpoint.]

Thanks Seniors

Dear Sir:

I would like to thank the fine seniors on this year's football and basketball squads for making this a memorable year in UK athletics -- Messrs. Ramsey, Martin, Still, Blanton, Owens, Kovach, Siganos, Robey, Phillips, Givens, Lee, et al. May you find success in all your future endeavors.

Sincerely,
Leonard Hardy
Ashland, Kentucky

KENTUCKY BASKETBALL NO. 1 FOR 50-YEAR PERIOD (1926-75)

It comes as no surprise to Kentucky basketball fans that the Wildcats are "NO. 1"—but proving it to your contemporaries may end in the usual sports hassle—no absolute proof.

Look no more, our friends. Steve Boda of the NCAA Statistical Bureau has come up with the clincher—a 50-year record of the nation's winningest collegiate teams which shows Kentucky perched firmly at the top with no other team in sight. Here is how the top ten stack up.

Team	Years	Won	Lost	Winning Percentage
1. Kentucky	50*	991	246	.801
2. St. John's	50	899	330	.731
3. North Carolina	50	922	361	.719
4. Western Kentucky	50	932	371	.715
5. Duquesne	47	754	319	.703
6. Kansas	50	800	367	.686
7. North Carolina State	50	815	386	.679
8. Notre Dame	50	815	391	.675
9. UCLA	49	841	411	.672
10. St. Bonaventure	49	669	329	.670

*—49 Seasons

WHO WERE THE 'FABULOUS FIVE'?

The most frequently asked question tossed at basketball historians and sports authorities is "Who were the 'Fabulous Five' of Kentucky?" The answer is Alex Groza (center), Ralph Beard and Kenny Rollins (guards), Wah Wah Jones and Cliff Barker (forwards). This famous 1948 team, captained by Rollins, won 36 and lost 3 while sweeping to Kentucky's first NCAA title and went on to participate as a unit in the Olympic Games—helping the USA team capture the world championship. Rollins graduated after the '48 season, but the remaining foursome continued to play havoc with collegiate basketball and copped another NCAA title for Kentucky in 1949 on a record of 36-2.



Kentucky

N.C.A.A. TOURNAMENT

(Record 23 Appearances—4 championships)

(Not Including Current Tourney)

1977	Won 2, Lost 1.	Lost to North Carolina in East Regional Finals.
1975	Won 4, Lost 1.	Lost to UCLA in Championship Game.
1973	Won 1, Lost 1.	Eliminated by Indiana in Mideast Regional Finals.
1972	Won 1, Lost 1.	Eliminated by Florida State in Mideast Regional Finals.
1971	Won 0, Lost 2.	Lost to Western Kentucky in Mideast Regional first game.
1970	Won 1, Lost 1.	Eliminated by Jacksonville in Mideast Regional finals.
1969	Won 1, Lost 1.	Lost to Marquette in Mideast Regional first game.
1968	Won 1, Lost 1.	Eliminated by Ohio State in Regional finals.
1966	Won 3, Lost 1.	Lost to Texas Western in championship game.
1964	Won 0, Lost 2.	Lost to Ohio University in Mideast Regional first game.
1962	Won 1, Lost 1.	Eliminated by Ohio State in Mideast Regional finals.
1961	Won 1, Lost 1.	Eliminated by Ohio State in Mideast Regional finals.
1959	Won 1, Lost 1.	Eliminated by Louisville in Mideast Regional first round.
1958	NATIONAL CHAMPIONS.	
	Won 4, Lost 0.	Defeated Seattle for title.
1957	Won 1, Lost 1.	Eliminated by Michigan State in Midwest Regional finals.
1956	Won 1, Lost 1.	Eliminated by Iowa in Eastern Regional finals.
1955	Won 1, Lost 1.	Eliminated by Marquette in Eastern Regional first round.
1954	Withdrawn after winning automatic berth as SEC champion.	
1952	Won 1, Lost 1.	Eliminated by St. Johns in Eastern Regional finals.
1951	NATIONAL CHAMPIONS.	
	Won 4, Lost 0.	Defeated Kansas State for title.
1949	NATIONAL CHAMPIONS.	
	Won 3, Lost 0.	Defeated Oklahoma A&M for title.
1948	NATIONAL CHAMPIONS.	
	Won 3, Lost 0.	Defeated Baylor for title.
1945	Won 1, Lost 1.	Eliminated by Ohio State in first round.
1942	Won 1, Lost 1.	Eliminated by Dartmouth in second game.



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Kentucky's Wildcats: basketball powerhouse

By Phil Elderkin

The University of Kentucky basketball team seems to be on a marvelous timetable of its own!

When Kentucky's current seniors were freshmen, the Wildcats were NCAA runners-up to UCLA; as sophomores they won the NIT; and last year they were often rated as high as second in both press association polls.

With no place to go but to the moon this season, Kentucky has responded with a

Change of pace

blend of firepower, defense, aggressiveness, and balance that a lot of pro teams would like to have.

This combination has kept the Wildcats (19-2) at or near the top of the polls for most of the current campaign. They held the No. 1 spot for several weeks, and even after an upset loss to LSU last weekend they are still a close second to Marquette in the latest UPI rankings and third behind Arkansas and the Warriors in the AP balloting.

The 1977-78 team is also constantly being criticized for being too muscular, particularly on the boards. But whether that accusation is more sour grapes than real, the Wildcats have a coach who is the very opposite of their personalities — a man named Joe Hall, who probably would forget to wear his six-gun to a real shootout. Certainly he does not come across as an officer who would be hired to train mercenaries.

But Hall does start two 6ft., 10in. monsters up front in center Mike Phillips and forward Rick Robey, plus Jack Givens, whose shooting accuracy suggests that he may be concealing a bow and arrow. Joe can also get instant points from his bench in 6-5 James Lee, who some pro scouts

see as a possible first round draft pick.

Also waiting in the wings are 6-10 freshmen Chuck Alaksanis and Scott Courts, who could probably start for a lot of teams and who will never require police escorts to get from the top of the key to the basket.

The Wildcats' floor leader is Kyle Macy, a sophomore transfer from Purdue who sat out last year while Larry Johnson (who has since graduated) ran the show. But even if there were some way of bringing Johnson back, the job would still be long to Macy.

Offensively Kyle does not score that many points. But when it comes to pushing the ball up court, hitting the open man, and making sure that plays are run to their conclusion, Macy is in a class by himself.

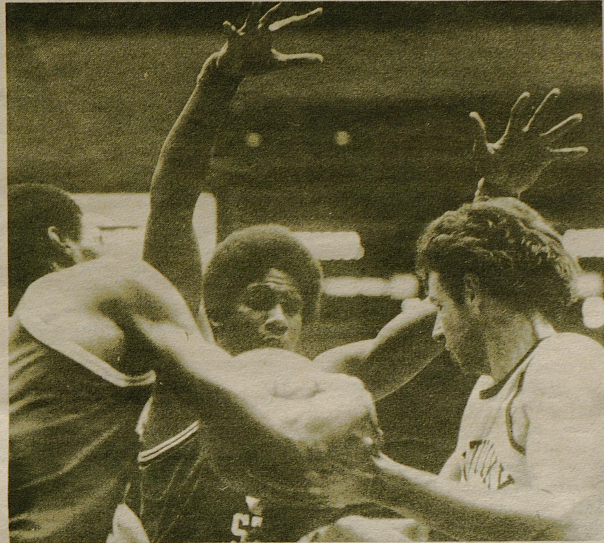
He also works well with Kentucky's two other guards — Truman Claytor (who starts) and Jay Shidler (who comes off the bench yet often logs as much playing time).

Pulling the Wildcats' strings like a puppet master is Hall, whose personality is more banker than politician. Joe is much like you'd expect a man to be who played for, was an assistant coach under, and then succeeded a legend named Adolph Rupp.

Hall is smart enough to know he can never be something he isn't, so he doesn't try. He just coaches winning basketball programs and lets the record speak for itself.

However, nobody should be allowed to get the idea that Joe is just another good coach. He is much more than that. But so far his ability to teach defense and employ some of the best trap-zone in the business hasn't gotten him the recognition he deserves.

People also forget that Hall had to endure some early sniping from Kentucky fans back in 1972, when he first took over



Physical Play

from Rupp. Most of them expected a national championship overnight, and when they didn't get it, they brooded and wrote complaining letters to the newspapers.

But oh, how things have changed! One visiting writer claims the first thing Kentucky players do now when they reach the locker room is grab for an empty score-sheet, fill in what looks good in the way of points, and then go out and score them.

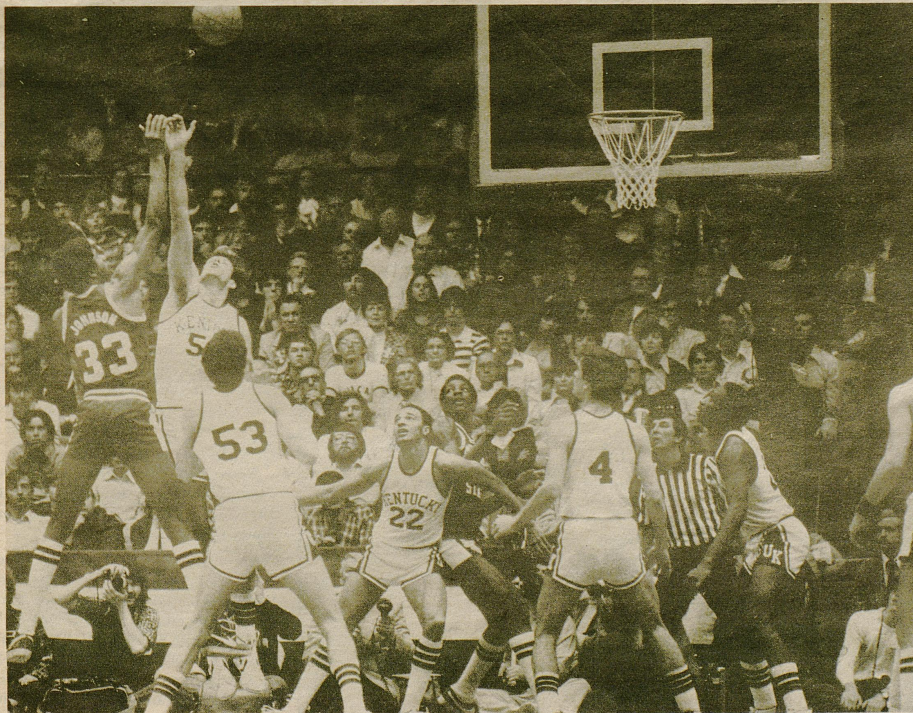
Actually, the Wildcats have relied more on a superb defense for their continued success. Basically it's a John Wooden concept where you upset the tempo and style of your opponents by running them so

much that they become disorganized.

Kentucky is also very good at harassing the man with the ball; making him give it up before he's ready; and then eliminating any second shots by controlling the backboard.

Even though being awarded an NCAA championship in the newspapers in February is no different than winning a pennant in August, the Wildcats are so good that they have sometimes won this year without playing all that well.

In the upcoming NCAA playoffs, Kentucky should regard that fact as both a comfort and a warning.



Phillips Defending The Magician

Player Of The Year

Balloting by the Associated Press

player, team	votes
Butch Lee, Marquette	121
Phil Ford, North Carolina	62
Larry Bird, Indiana State	44
Mychal Thompson, Michigan State	33
Freeman Williams, Portland State	13
Others receiving votes: Jack Givens of Kentucky; Ron Brewer of Arkansas; Rod Griffin of Wake Forest; Reggie King of Alabama; Bradley's Roger Phegley; Duke's Jim Spanarkel; David Greenwood of UCLA; Kentucky's Rick Robey; Sidney Moncrief of Arkansas; Earvin Johnson of Michigan State and Michael Ray Richardson of Montana.	

Rupp Award winner

The award is presented annually by The AP and the Commonwealth Athletic Club of Kentucky.

Final AP top 20 poll

Team	Record	Pts.
1. Kentucky (29)	26-2	828
2. UCLA (11)	26-2	790
3. DePaul (1)	26-2	597
4. Michigan State (11)	24-4	519
5. Arkansas	29-3	488
6. Notre Dame	21-6	421
7. Duke	24-6	387
8. Marquette	24-4	354
9. Louisville	23-6	313
10. Kansas	24-5	241
11. San Francisco	23-5	214
12. New Mexico	24-4	164
13. Indiana	21-7	97
14. Utah (1)	23-5	94
15. Florida State	23-6	81
16. North Carolina	23-8	73
17. Texas	23-5	69
18. Detroit	25-3	44
19. Miami, Ohio	18-9	32
20. Pennsylvania	20-3	20
Others receiving votes: In alphabetical order: Arizona, Dayton, Fullerton State, Georgetown, D.C., Houston, Illinois State, Indiana State, New Orleans, Pan American, Rhode Island, Syracuse, Villanova, Virginia, Wake Forest, Western Kentucky.		

THE FINAL

FOUR

NCAAAction!

And now it's only four!

Yes, the National Collegiate Athletic Association basketball race is now down to the best four clubs in American and they'll battle it out this weekend for the top spot.

Arkansas, Kentucky, Notre Dame and Duke have survived the rigors one of the strongest and most upset-minded NCAA tourneys in history has produced.

And another of the two highest rated teams will fall by the wayside in the second game Saturday afternoon in St. Louis' Checkerdome. That's when top-ranked Kentucky will collide with Arkansas, ranked second most of the season. Tip-off is approximately 4:15 p.m.

In the opener, it will be Duke of the Atlantic Coast Conference tangling with powerful independent Notre Dame at 2 p.m. Both games will be televised nationally over NBC-TV.

Monday night's action pits the two losers in a consolation game followed by the title game at 9 p.m. Only the championship game will be telecast live nationally, according to officials.

Arkansas and Kentucky had the roughest rows to play to make the Final Four while Duke enjoyed the easiest and Notre Dame's path was somewhere in between.

Eddie Sutton's Razorbacks had to beat such toughies as UCLA and upset-minded Fullerton State, plus Weber State to reach the Final Four from possibly the strongest of all four regions.

Arkansas, with its "Three Basket-eers," did have an easy first round in

State 85-76 in Knoxville. After Miami shocked second-ranked Marquette 84-81 in overtime, Kentucky raced up to Dayton and quickly killed any Miami hopes of a second explosion. The Cats won easily, 91-69.

Again in the title game, Kentucky was trailing at halftime, 27-22, but

score of 90-72.

Notre Dame certainly looked most impressive in the regionals, as far as the Final Four are concerned. The Fighting Irish and controversial coach Digger Phelps plowed their way through the Midwest Region like they were on a Sunday afternoon ride in the countryside.

The Irish bombed a supposedly good Houston team 100-77 in the first round game before mopping up on another rugged team, Utah, 69-56 in the Midwest semi-finals.

And after toying around with highly-ranked DePaul most of the game, the Irish exploded in the final minutes and bombed their sectional neighbors 84-64 in the title contest Sunday at Lawrence, Kansas.

That's how the Big Four got to St. Louis. It should be a great blowout as most experts feel this is the most wide-open Final Four in many, many years.

#

How will Kentucky match up against the other three finalists this weekend? Well, there are some interesting comparisons among common foes throughout the past season.

Fist of all, everyone knows Kentucky defeated Notre Dame 73-68 in late December at Louisville's Freedom Hall. Since Louisville is almost like home for the Cats, you can label the Cats and Irish virtually a dead-heat.

Kentucky and Arkansas have faced each other only three times on the hardwoods, but that's been more than 27 years ago. Kentucky won all three contests played between the two schools from 1946 to 1950. The scores were 67-42 at home in 1945, 76-39 at home in 1948 and 57-53 on the road on January 2, 1950.

This season, there have been four common foes for the Cats and Hogs. Arkansas walloped Mississippi State 94-61 and Kansas 78-72 at home and LSU 67-62 on the road. Arkansas also defeated SMU, 72-65 and 86-75.

Kentucky beat Mississippi State twice, 75-65 and 58-56, SMU 110-86, Kansas on the road 73-66 and split with LSU, winning 96-76 at home before being upset 95-94 in overtime in Baton Rouge.

Notre Dame and Duke have played three common opponents during the 1977-78 campaign, North Carolina State, LaSalle and Maryland.

Notre Dame defeated N.C. State 70-59 and Maryland 69-54 in South Bend and LaSalle 95-90 on the road. Duke whipped Maryland twice, 81-70 at home and 88-78 in College Park. The Blue Devils defeated LaSalle 91-81 on foreign ground and split a pair with N.C. State, winning the home game

(Continued On Page 10)

SATURDAY
Duke (26-6) vs. Notre Dame (23-6), 2:15 p.m.
Kentucky (28-2) vs. Arkansas (31-3), 4:15 p.m.
NEXT MONDAY
Championship game, 9:15 p.m.

getting by Weber State 73-52 while UCLA was fighting for its life with Kansas. The Hogs took UCLA 74-70 and then derailed Fullerton State in the West finale 61-58.

Kentucky had a rougher road, but thanks to Miami of Ohio, the Wildcats' path to St. Louis was a little easier than it might have been.

The Wildcats opened with one of the toughest opening round assignments and were forced to pull out all stops to come-from-behind and beat Florida

coach Joe B. Hall regrouped his forces and came on strong to edge Earvin "Magic" Johnson and Michigan State 52-59.

Duke, champs of the ACC, had what you might call a free ticket to St. Louis, but made it look tough until the championship game in the East Regional against Villnova.

The Blue Devils edged Rhode Island 63-62 in the final seconds, held off up and coming Pennsylvania 84-80, then blew out Villanova in the finals by a

NCAA Championship Results

Year	Site of Finals	Champion	Coach	Runner-Up
1939	Evanston, Ill.	Oregon	Howard Hobson	Ohio State
1940	Kansas City, Mo.	Indiana	Branch McCracken	Kansas
1941	Kansas City, Mo.	Wisconsin	Harold Foster	Washington State
1942	Kansas City, Mo.	Stanford	Everett Dean	Dartmouth
1943	New York City	Wyoming	Everett Shelton	Georgetown
1944	New York City	Utah	Vadal Peterson	Dartmouth
1945	New York City	Oklahoma State	Henry Iba	New York University
1946	New York City	Oklahoma State	Henry Iba	North Carolina
1947	New York City	Holy Cross	Alvin Julian	Oklahoma
1948	New York City	Kentucky	Adolph Rupp	Baylor
1949	Seattle, Wash.	Kentucky	Adolph Rupp	Oklahoma State
1950	New York City	CCNY	Nat Holman	Bradley
1951	Minneapolis, Minn.	Kentucky	Adolph Rupp	Kansas State
1952	Seattle, Wash.	Kansas	Forrest Allen	St. John's
1953	Kansas City, Mo.	Indiana	Branch McCracken	Kansas
1954	Kansas City, Mo.	LaSalle	Kenneth Loeffler	Bradley
1955	Kansas City, Mo.	San Francisco	Phil Woolpert	LaSalle
1956	Evanston, Ill.	San Francisco	Phil Woolpert	Iowa
1957	Kansas City, Mo.	North Carolina	Frank McGuire	Kansas
1958	Louisville, Ky.	Kentucky	Adolph Rupp	Seattle
1959	Louisville, Ky.	California	Pete Newell	West Virginia
1960	San Francisco, Calif.	Ohio State	Fred Taylor	California
1961	Kansas City, Mo.	Cincinnati	Edwin Jucker	Ohio State
1962	Louisville, Ky.	Cincinnati	Edwin Jucker	Ohio State
1963	Louisville, Ky.	Loyola (Ill.)	George Ireland	Cincinnati
1964	Kansas City, Mo.	UCLA	John Wooden	Duke
1965	Portland, Ore.	UCLA	John Wooden	Michigan
1966	College Park, Md.	Texas-El Paso	Don Haskins	Kentucky
1967	Louisville, Ky.	UCLA	John Wooden	Dayton
1968	Los Angeles, Calif.	UCLA	John Wooden	North Carolina
1969	Louisville, Ky.	UCLA	John Wooden	Purdue
1970	College Park, Md.	UCLA	John Wooden	Jacksonville
1971	Houston, Texas	UCLA	John Wooden	Vacated
1972	Los Angeles, Calif.	UCLA	John Wooden	Florida State
1973	St. Louis, Mo.	UCLA	John Wooden	Memphis State
1974	Greensboro, N.C.	North Carolina State	Norm Sloan	Marquette
1975	San Diego, Calif.	UCLA	John Wooden	Kentucky
1976	Philadelphia, Pa.	Indiana	Bob Knight	Michigan
1977	Atlanta, Ga.	Marquette	Al McGuire	North Carolina



Phillips And Williams Controlling The Boards

VIEWPOINT

Dear Sir:

I'm just one of many people who have gone above and beyond the call of duty to hear a Wildcat basketball game. Once, when I was stationed in Albuquerque, New Mexico, I had so many radio antenna wires strung around my house trying to pick up a signal from WHAS that my neighbors started to shy away from me -- they thought I was an agent for the CIA.

I did the same thing when I was stationed in California and one night when the Cats were playing a late-night game I picked them up pretty clearly. So I called a good friend of mine from Harlan (Chief Master Sergeant Findlay Wooten) who was stationed there and put the radio near the phone and before I could hang up, he and his family were at my house. It was like being at the finals of the NCAA for us.

A lot of times in Michigan I would get a weak signal on my radio at home, so I would get in my car and drive to a spot where the reception was better.

Once, while stationed in South East Asia, I and a good friend from Middlesboro (Master Sergeant Joe Frank Richardson) picked up the Cats on the Armed Forces Network and you would have thought we were being shipped back home that night the way we cut up.

I would also like to say that Coach

Joe Hall has done a wonderful job. Many, many coaches would love to have his record and although like all good Wildcat fans I die each time they lose my admiration for Coach Hall will never die for he erased any doubts I had about his ability to handle outstanding talent last year in the UKIT when he benched Truman, Mike and Jay for curfew violations.

A person asked what Bobby Knight would do with all the basketball talent that Coach Hall has. Well, he would send one to Duke, one to Indiana State, one to Mississippi, etc. etc.

Don't suppose you will want to print all of this, maybe none of it, but as a Kentucky like most others my first love is for the Wildcats. But I'm always happy to see the other Kentucky schools do well in sports. I believe The Cats' Pause would outsell any other paper in Kentucky if you would publish a run-down on the other Kentucky teams, players, won-loss records, new recruits, schedules, etc. I bet your circulation would double in no time.

Sir, many thanks to you for The Cats' Pause. Just wish it had been available for the 21 years I spent in the military service where news of the Cats is often hard to come by.

Sincerely,
Ralph A. Webb (M. Sgt., Ret.)
Fairborn, Ohio

Wildcats Near Two Records



Givens

Givens And Lee



Lee

Two records could be set this weekend in St. Louis by the Kentucky Wildcats. Jack "Goose" Givens needs only 26 points to reach the 2,000-point mark in his career and become only the fifth Southeastern Conference player to achieve that plateau.

LSU's Pete Maravich heads the all-time scoring list with 3,667 points, while Ernie Grunfeld of Tennessee is second with 2,249 points, Dan Issel of

Kentucky third with 2,138 points and Bailey Howell of Mississippi State fourth with 2,030 points.

James Lee in only 25 points shy of the 1,000-point mark in his career and such a feat would make him the fourth Wildcat senior on this year's club to make the 1,000-point club, a first in the history of the school and maybe even the conference. Other members are Givens, Rick Robey and Mike Phillips.

Since Kentucky is assured of playing two games in St. Louis, both players have a good shot at breaking the marks.

Should Kentucky win the national championship, the Wildcats would finish with a 30-2 mark and that would be the best winning percentage in the SEC since the late Babe McCarthy's Mississippi State Bulldogs went 24-1 during the 1961-62 season.

But the Dogs missed a national title because they refused an invitation to play in the NCAA tourney.

The 28 victories already chalked up by the current Wildcats is the largest number of wins by an SEC team since Kentucky won 29 during the 1951-52 season as Cliff Hagan, Frank Ramsey & Company compiled a 29-3 mark.

NCAA Tourney

(Continued From Page 8)

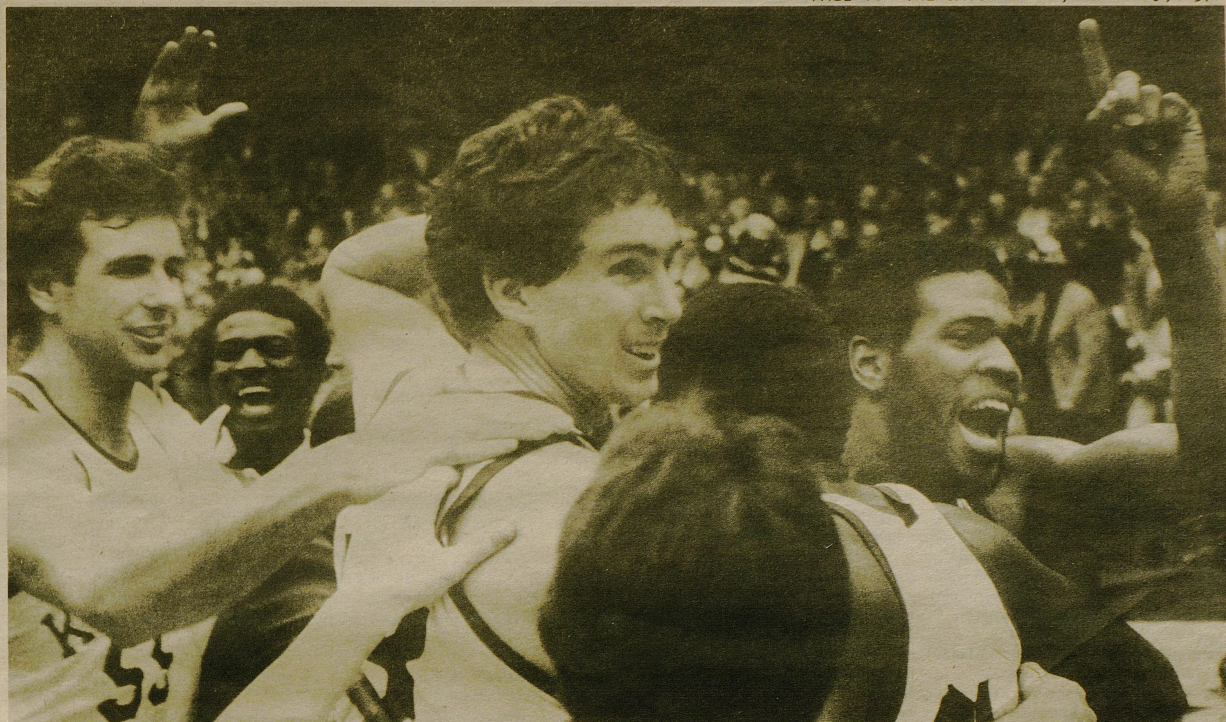
76-64 and getting bombed 74-50 on the road.

#

The last time Kentucky and Duke squared off was in the finals of the University of Kentucky Invitation Tournament on Dec. 20, 1969. The Wildcats won the title game by a score of 98-76. One of the most memorable Kentucky-Duke games was in the semi-finals of the 1966 NCAA at College Park, Maryland, where the Cats won a thriller, 83-79.



A Magical Slam-Dunk



James Lee Shows Who's Number One

Cites Numerous Tourney Upsets

Big Ten Commissioner Defends NCAA Selection Of Tournament

DAYTON -- Sportswriters were having a field day in this NCAA Basketball Tournament as favorite after favorite tumbled to the underdogs, causing widespread criticism of the NCAA selection committee which picked at-large teams and were responsible for the tourney seeding.

One such official braved the mighty poison pens last Friday here and talked with members of the press about the various problems involved with the tourney pairings.

Wayne Duke, commissioner of the Big Ten Conference, had earlier come in for heavy criticism for allegedly protecting his conference when runner-up Indiana was selected while other second-place conference [hint: SEC] clubs were left at home.

Criticism increased when the East Regional emerged with an exceedingly weak field, one which included Indiana.

Duke insists the committee was not only impartial, but gave hours and hours of study to various teams' won-loss records and the caliber of their opposition before the field was selected.

Numerous tourney upsets were pinpoints as a main reason for the imbalance of regional fields, according to Duke.

"We had no choice in many situations," Duke said. "Like when Kansas, Arkansas and Texas lost, we had to ship them to the opposit bracket because of an NCAA rule which states two members from the same conference cannot meet until the championship game."

Another handicap, according to Duke, was the many automatic berths guaranteed East Coast teams. That, he pointed out, will ease when the new rule becomes effective next season.

The new rule simply states that only the sixteen conferences with the best overall NCAA tourney won-loss records over the previous five years will have an automatic berth in the NCAA.

That means many of the East Coast teams won't have a free ride next season. That also means small conferences, like the Ohio Valley Conference, will loser their automatic berths and a team will have to win an at-large berth. That's not too likely.

Duke emphasized many of the top-flight independents omitted from

this year's tourney will probably gain a spot in the future because of the new rule.

Despite that rule, the NCAA tourney will continue to be chaotic because of the ever-increasing post-season tourneys. NCAA rules require a league to use its play-off champion to represent the conference if a tourney is held.

That's the reason Houston represented the Southwest Conference, Arkansas was forced to go West and Texas had to settle for the NIT. Ditto for Missouri representing the Big Eight instead of Kansas and Duke the home spot instead of North Carolina in the Atlantic Coast Conference.

One reporter asked Commissioner Duke why the NCAA doesn't change the rules and allow the conferences to send its regular season king.

"Because there would be no incentive for the tourney, with the exception of the money," answered Duke. "There just wouldn't be any incentive for say, Missouri, had there not benn a tourney spot awaiting it."

Then what about the Ohio Valley Conference, which will not be guaranteed a spot next season because of the new Top 16 rule? You'll have a tourney

there and probably nobody will be given at at-large bid!

Silence.

What all this means, really, is that basketball is learning rapidly from big brother football. The rich get richer and the poor get poorer.

Conferences like the Ohio Valley will have an almost impossible task of winning themselves back inside the top 16. Meanwhile, the upsets will continue in post-season tourney play while the independents will be frozen out.

Independents may not realize it, but their insistence on more at-large spots may be their doom. The Top 16 regulation created more spots and the big-time conferences caught on very quickly. Not only can the conferences get two teams in the NCAA with the post-season tourney, but they can make an extra trip to the bank on the way.

As the card says, "Advance token to Boardwalk, and if you pass Go, collect \$200 (how about a million?)." And the small schools hear, "Go directly to jail. Do no pass go and do not collect \$200."

Hits 10 Straight Free Throws

Macy Saves Day As Cats Win

Mideast Regional 52 - 49

Thanks to a young man by the name of Kyle Macy and a sticky second half zone defense, the Kentucky Wildcats will be colliding with the Arkansas Razorbacks in a semi-final game of the NCAA National Finals Saturday in St. Louis.

For a team to be ranked No. 1 in the nation, Kentucky's entry into the Final Four was anything but easy.

In fact, had it not been for poise and determination, the Wildcats would well be watching from their Lexington rooms by television instead of viewing the contest for the title from the floor.

"It's all concentration and rhythm," beamed a happy Kyle Macy, who insured the Cats a trip to St. Louis when he hit ten straight free throws in the second half to pace the Cats to a come-from-behind 52-49 victory over Michigan State in the Mideast Regional title game Saturday in Dayton, Ohio.

Macy, who scored 18 points (14 in the second half), engineered the victory with cool, calm leadership on the floor and some pin-point outside shooting. However, State insisted on making the Cats win it at the free throw line.

The Spartans made one big mistake. They picked the wrong man to foul and then they compounded the error by calling time-out each time before allowing Macy to shoot his free throws, trying to put added pressure on him.

Michigan State apparently didn't know Kyle Macy's veins run with ice water. He calmly sank ten in a row to insure the victory after the Cats rallied from a 27-22 halftime deficit.

That, along with a switch from the man-to-man defense to the zone, spelled the end for the Magic Show of Michigan State.

And then those last, frantic seconds when Macy was sent to the line time after time to protect the narrowest of leads, one point. The final trip came with only eight ticks of the clock separating a trip to St. Louis from a loss. Kentucky held a 50-49 edge.

A missed shot and State would have the fling at sidelining the nation's top-ranked team. State even called its final time-out in hopes of rattling the young sophomore transfer from Purdue University.

"If it was to rattle me, they messed up," Macy said quietly in the UK locker room. "In fact, I used it to get my breath back and relax and I needed that."

And amidst the roar of thousands of Kentuckians, the first attempt swished through the net. Kentucky had a two-point lead. The second toss was anti-climactic, although it also found its true destination.

State rushed down the floor and pushed up a shot, but the game had

already been decided with a three-point lead.

Players, coaches and fans swarmed the floor. It was a sight for sore eyes. After four years of hard work, Kentucky seniors had earned one final shot at the national title.

Kentucky won the right to the Final Four by turning in a super defensive job on Earvin "Magic" Johnson, called the most exciting player in the country by Coach Joe Hall.

"I went to Jack before the game and gave the challenge to him," said Hall. "It's always a great challenge to stop a player like Johnson."

So when Givens and Kyle Macy teamed up to shut down the Magician, few gave the pair a chance of stopping him. By the end of the game, Johnson wound up with six points, hitting only two of ten attempts.

"They did a great job," said Hall, "but the other players also played good defense and closed up the passing lanes Johnson had Thursday against Western Kentucky."

The big change came when Kentucky decided to junk its man-to-man defense for a 1-3-1 zone in the second

half and also decided to free Macy around the top of the circle for some long jumpers.

"We knew we had to get the ball to Macy out front," said Hall. "I told my assistants we wanted to get the ball to Macy for the jumper, and Leonard (Hamilton) said, 'Why not pick for him?'"

So Hall motioned Macy and Robey to the side to set up the play with Robey to set the pick. It worked to perfection, enabling Macy to complete two three-point plays in the process.

As Kentucky gained the momentum you could see Michigan State beginning to lose the confidence the Spartans played with during the first twenty minutes.

"We were in control probably until the final ten minutes," said Greg Kelsner, who was the game's top scorer and rebounder with 19 and 13 respectively. "Then the tide turned and we couldn't get momentum our way again."

Kentucky finally took the lead with 7:08 left as Mike Phillips calmly hit a pair of free throws for a 41-39 score. After Johnson tied the game with one

of his only two field goals, Macy put Kentucky in front for good on a three-point play which gave Kentucky the advantage of a 44-41 score.

The victory was especially pleasing to the Kentucky staff because the Wildcats were able to win, despite hitting on 46.2 percent of their shots, well below their record-breaking percentage of more than 52 percent.

With all the accusation of Kentucky being brutal and physical, Johnson had nothing but praise for the Wildcats.

"I don't know what those people are talking about," said the Magician. "Sure they're physical, just like I like to play, but they don't do any cheap stuff and shove or that kind of a thing. They play hard, aggressive basketball, the way you're supposed to."

"Our win probably should be credited to our adjustments in the second half," said Hall, "and Kyle Macy's free throw shooting. Those ten straight were a clutch performance, but that's not unusual for Kyle. He's a great clutch performer."

And State coach Jud Heathcote echoed the praise of Miami coach Darrell Hedrick a couple of days earlier.

"We told our kids whoever won this game would win the national championship," he recalled. "Maybe we're stupid, but we included ourselves in that. We could have won it. Now, I believe Kentucky will win the national championship."

Nobody in the room was about to dispute that prediction.

While Kentucky was hitting only 46.2 percent, Michigan State was red-hot, making good on 22 of 41 for 53.7 percent. With the turnovers even at 14 each, the edge came in the rebounding department where the Wildcats held a 24-20 advantage.

Macy was high for the Cats with 18 followed by Jack Givens with 14 and he had a great night on the boards with 7 rebounds. Mike Phillips played another terrific game while scoring ten points and leading the Cats in rebounding with eight.

Because of the patience employed by both teams, it was a rather low-scoring affair as Kentucky's 39 field goal attempts was the second lowest of the season, second only to the 37 attempts against Mississippi State when Kentucky hit 25 for a torrid 67.6 percent.

Despite the slowdown, State got in foul trouble late in the game after Kentucky took the lead. Both Bob Chapman and Terry Donnelly fouled out trying to stop the uncanny Macy.

Michigan State bowed out of tourney competition with a sparkling 25-5 record while Kentucky's mark improved to 28-2 entering the final four this weekend in St. Louis.

MICHIGAN STATE—49

PLAYER	FG	FT	REB	PF	TPS	A	TO	MIN
Earvin Johnson	2-10	2-2	4	4	6	5	6	39
Greg Kelsner	9-12	1-3	13	3	19	1	2	40
Jay Vincent	4-7	0-0	1	1	8	2	1	38
Terry Donnelly	0-0	2-2	0	5	2	5	2	34
Bob Chapman	5-9	0-0	1	5	10	1	2	32
Ronald Charles	2-3	0-0	0	0	4	0	1	16
Michael Brkovich	0-0	0-0	0	0	0	0	0	1
Team Rebounds			0					
TOTALS	22-41	5-7	20	18	49	14	14	200

KENTUCKY—52

PLAYER	FG	FT	REB	PF	TPS	A	TO	MIN
Jack Givens	6-12	2-3	7	3	14	0	2	34
Rick Robey	3-4	0-0	4	1	6	1	2	30
Mike Phillips	3-5	4-4	8	1	10	1	3	30
Kyle Macy	4-10	10-11	1	2	18	3	0	40
Truman Claytor	0-5	0-0	0	2	0	3	2	30
James Lee	1-1	0-0	1	4	2	2	3	20
Jay Shidler	1-2	0-0	1	2	2	0	0	10
LaVon Williams	0-0	0-0	1	1	0	0	2	6
Team Rebounds			0					
TOTALS	18-39	16-18	24	16	52	10	14	200

MICHIGAN STATE UNIVERSITY

UNIVERSITY OF KENTUCKY

OFFICIALS: Roy Glymer (Big 8) & Dennis Bishop (Metro 7)

ATTENDANCE: 13,458 (Sell-Out)



Wildcats Welcomed Back Home After Mideast Championship

Macy Gives Chris Gettelfinger Credit For Big Win Over Michigan State

Kyle Macy, the sharp-shooting sophomore guard, revealed Saturday night how a Kentucky walk-on was instrumental in Kentucky 52-49 comeback win over Michigan State in Dayton, Ohio, Saturday.

Speaking to some 6,000 roaring Wildcat fans on the Cats' return to Lexington Saturday evening at a welcome home celebration, Macy said

he was especially prepared for his free throws.

"Most people probably don't know it," said Macy, "but I had this free throw shooting contest with Chris Gettelfinger [a UK walk-on] after practice yesterday and he may have been the one responsible for our win today."

Kyle, who was coached by his father

in high school, says the reason for his 90 percent free throw shooting the past season is concentration.

"I think concentration is the main thing," he told reporters after the finale which saw him miss his first attempt, then hit ten in a row. "I have a ritual I go through each time at the line to relax myself. I usually wipe my hands on my hips and then stretch

down and touch my socks. It really relaxes me."

And what about those time-outs Michigan State used just before your last three times at the line? Did they bother you?

"If that's what they were for, it worked against them," answered Macy. "It actually gave me time to get my breath back, and I needed it."



Kentucky Fans Swarm Players For Autographs



Bob Watkins

Commentary

Where Are All The Pretenders?

The Final Four: Three survivors or three surprises (choose one) and the Kentucky Wildcats!

While The Cats' Pause has received prophecy mail postscripted "See you in St. Looie" ever since Dean Smith signaled North Carolina into its 'four corner offense' more than a year ago, the other three teams on the way to St. Louis this weekend are as surprising as Digger Phelps showing up for a TV game with five o'clock shadow. It couldn't happen. It won't.

For substantive proof of our shock over seeing the three unlikeliest -- Duke, Arkansas and Notre Dame -- we turn our attention to the prodigal Garfinkel of college basketball: Street and Smith BASKETBALL 1977-78.

Editor Jim O'Brien and staff told us on its cover that the Final Four would be North Carolina, Nevada Las Vegas, San Francisco and Kentucky. Stop laughing. Of course, Vegas is on probation and out of it, regardless of record.

To press the point and further redden some faces, we were told that such names as DePaul, Duke, Villanova and Fullerton State would stay down there with the two-hand set shot and Naismith's peach basket. None was among the nation's top 25. It couldn't happen. Uh huh.

Now we come to what may be the zaniest Final Four in NCAA history. Kentucky and the survivors.

Arkansas and somebody's (?) coach of the year Eddie Sutton will bring a natural (for sports writers) to St. Louis this week. Can you believe: Soie in St. Looie? Al McGuire thinks its supah!

Notre Dame is only a surprise because the Irish normally play in the NCAA's heavyweight division -- the Mideast Regional. Duke is a surprise because somebody had to survive the powder puff regional.

All of which brings us back to UK's Saturday foe, Arkansas. The Hogs stunned UCLA and got lots of help from Cal Fullerton when the Titans bumped off New Mexico and San Francisco, a team that had upset North Carolina.

Sutton's Razorbacks are mercury quick and take a 31-3 record against Kentucky. It is a team of short people who, as the illustrious Mr. McGuire tells us, can jump high enough to change arena light bulbs.

But can they play basketball, Al? The answer is yes. Arkansas is a team that may have only one gear. It's called RUN. The Hogs can shoot (oooh!) and they have shown they can play out of control basketball and win at it.

Aside from its shortness, this Arkansas team is the nearest thing to Texas Western since the Miners rode out of the southwest to gun down Kentucky in the 1966 version of The Little Big Horn.

The Kentucky vs. Arkansas game should be as strategically interesting to basketball students as it will be a contrast. UK coach Joe Bainbridge Hall will get another opportunity to do his 'X & O' magic routine in front of a national television audience that will include Bobby Knight, Gary Cunningham, Denny Crum, Hank Reynolds and yes, Dean Smith, and all the other members of the three-piece-suit set . . . on the sidelines. Heh, Heh, heh.

Arkansas and its legions must be concerned this week with certain gloomy realities. How to get a floor pass for a pig in the Checkerdome, how to best use a flood of advice from Billy Packer, Al McGuire, Curt Gowdy and Dick Enberg.

And the other 'how to' is how to contend with Kentucky's machine at 94 feet for 40 minutes, give or take a

commercial break.

For smilin' Eddie Sutton Kentucky's basketball team is not a mere Goliath against which it must play 'supah' to win. Arkansas will be taking on a machine that is an intelligent, moving, driving, unflappable apparatus that apparently has 467 heartbeats per minute.

Sutton must know for sure by now that Kentucky is a team capable of operating at near maximum efficiency whether the tempo be at overdrive or in bulldog.

UK has become a perservering and diligent team that works for however long it takes to solve and vanquish enemy defenses. Later, led by indomitable Kyle Macy, there are smiles and collective handshakes and the words -- "Nice game, fellas. Good luck next year."

NCAA Ins and outs from TV watchers:

Following Kentucky's win over Florida State last weekend, one sportswriter posed this bit of prophecy: "By the time he's a senior Kyle Macy will be the best guard in America."

Really. What's the matter with this year? Unless I missed something, both Butch Lee (Marquette) and Phil Ford (North Carolina) will be watching Macy on TV this weekend. This is a team game, isn't it? Could either Lee or Ford have contributed more to their team's success than has Macy?

In the final seconds of Kentucky's win over Michigan State, Rick Robey rebounded Earvin Johnson's midcourt shot with :02 left and was fouled by Greg Kelser. Why didn't one of the

officials have Robey shoot his free throws? Didn't matter, you say? Wonder how those who established the betting line felt about it?

Most Kentucky basketball fans who didn't make it to Dayton probably watched the game on television and listened to Cawood Ledford. Those UK fans who opted for Curt Gowdy and Billy Packer must have been furious by game's end.

NBC Sports should be slapped on the wrist for the way Gowdy and Packer conducted themselves. Neither could contain himself from 'rooting' for Michigan State. Packer was particularly guilty of poor broadcast journalism. He had no objectivity. One likes to believe it was Packer's affinity for the underdog more than animosity for Kentucky. Still, it was a poor showing.

Finally this tribute to UK coach Joe B. Hall. He has proven himself beyond any shadow of doubt to be the finest college coach in America this season.

Digger Phelps, Eddie Sutton and many other college coaches across the country may make better copy for sportswriters and TV-types, but Hall has done a magnificent job and should be publicly commended by University of Kentucky president Otis Singletary and Governor Julian Carroll when the NCAA Tournament is over with.

Singletary could best show his appreciation on behalf of the University of Kentucky community and alumni by formally naming UK's new basketball dormitory Joe B. Hall Manor.

Renewed Your Subscription?

Have you let your subscription to The Cats' Pause expire? We hope not because you won't want to miss out on the action-packed coverage of the NCAA tournament in St. Louis.

Hundreds of subscription expiration notices were mailed out two weeks ago and most have already renewed. If you've forgotten, be sure to get your renewal in today.

Because of the greatly expanded interest in the Wildcats in recent weeks, we have been running out of

copies each week and won't be able to fill back orders. So don't let your subscription expire!

And if you've moved or are planning to move, we MUST have at least three weeks advance notice to guarantee you uninterrupted service to your new address. A subscription notice for change of address is published each week in The Cats' Pause. Be sure to include your old mailing address along with your new address.

Next Week's NCAA Issue To Be Delayed Two Days

Due to the NCAA national championship being played next Monday night, the April 1 edition will go to press a couple of days late next week so we will be able to include all the coverage of this weekend's events in St. Louis. (No, no April Fool's joke)

With that in mind, mail subscribers will receive next week's edition of The Cats' Pause about two days later than

normal.

We do this because we feel you would rather wait a couple of days and receive all the action-packed NCAA tourney coverage in one issue instead of waiting an extra week for the coverage of Monday night's finals.

The Cats' Pause will return to its regular publishing schedule with the issue of April 8.



Rick Robey And Chuck Aleksinas Enjoy Special Moment...



...UK Fans Roar Their Approval

Recalls Loss To North Carolina

UK's Macy Roars Back To Lead Wildcat Express

Room 833, Stouffer's Dayton Inn.

Sitting on the corner of a bed, a young man stripped from his practice togs and reminisced about the events 12 months earlier, when the University of Kentucky basketball Wildcats suffered a 79-72 loss to North Carolina in the East Regional finals at College Park, Maryland.

He talked of the loss remorsefully because he was in jail, so to speak, at the time -- not permitted to don a Big Blue uniform and rush to the rescue of the Big Blue Machine which sputtered out of the NCAA tourney.

That was a year ago, when 6-3 Peru, Indiana, native Kyle Macy watched from the stands with mixed emotions which only a classy and completely honest young man would admit.

"After the game I was sad for the team because they had worked so hard," said Macy in an exclusive interview with The Cats' Pause on the eve of the Mideast Regional championship contest with Michigan State.

"I think if they (the Cats) had gotten one or two breaks in that game, the outcome would have been different."

But the young man who any kid would love to call big brother offered the other half of his feelings about that somber day in Maryland.

"Although it doesn't sound very good, I was a little pleased the year was over with," admitted the soft-speaking sophomore. "It meant I could once again play."

His year in the "jailhouse" is the requirement imposed by the NCAA on transfer students. Macy spent his freshman year at Purdue University, averaging more than 13 points per game, but became disenchanted and decided to leave.

Actually, Macy wanted to attend Kentucky all along but during the all-out recruiting war his senior year at Peru, hometown folks put a lot of pressure on Kyle to remain in his home state.

Kentucky Coach Joe B. Hall recalled the recruiting race of three years ago, saying the Wildcats sought Macy heavily. It came down to Macy and Truman Claytor for the final Wildcat scholarship that year and the UK staff informed them the scholarship would go to the first one to step forward.

"I could understand UK's thinking," Macy said. "But I always liked Kentucky."

Why did Macy decide to leave Purdue? Mostly, because of Purdue's reckless style of play. And he wanted to play for a national contender.

Apparently, he chose the right team.

So as the Wildcats struggled at times through the 1976-77 season and a co-championship with Tennessee, it became evident that the one possible weakness in the UK offense was the

inconsistency at the guard position.

It did improve during the year, again, thanks to Macy's practice play [which is permitted by the NCAA during the sit-out year]. Larry Johnson had been the key. He was tremendous on defense, a phase which the current Wildcats may be just a shade less

potent this year. But the offense just wasn't there every night.

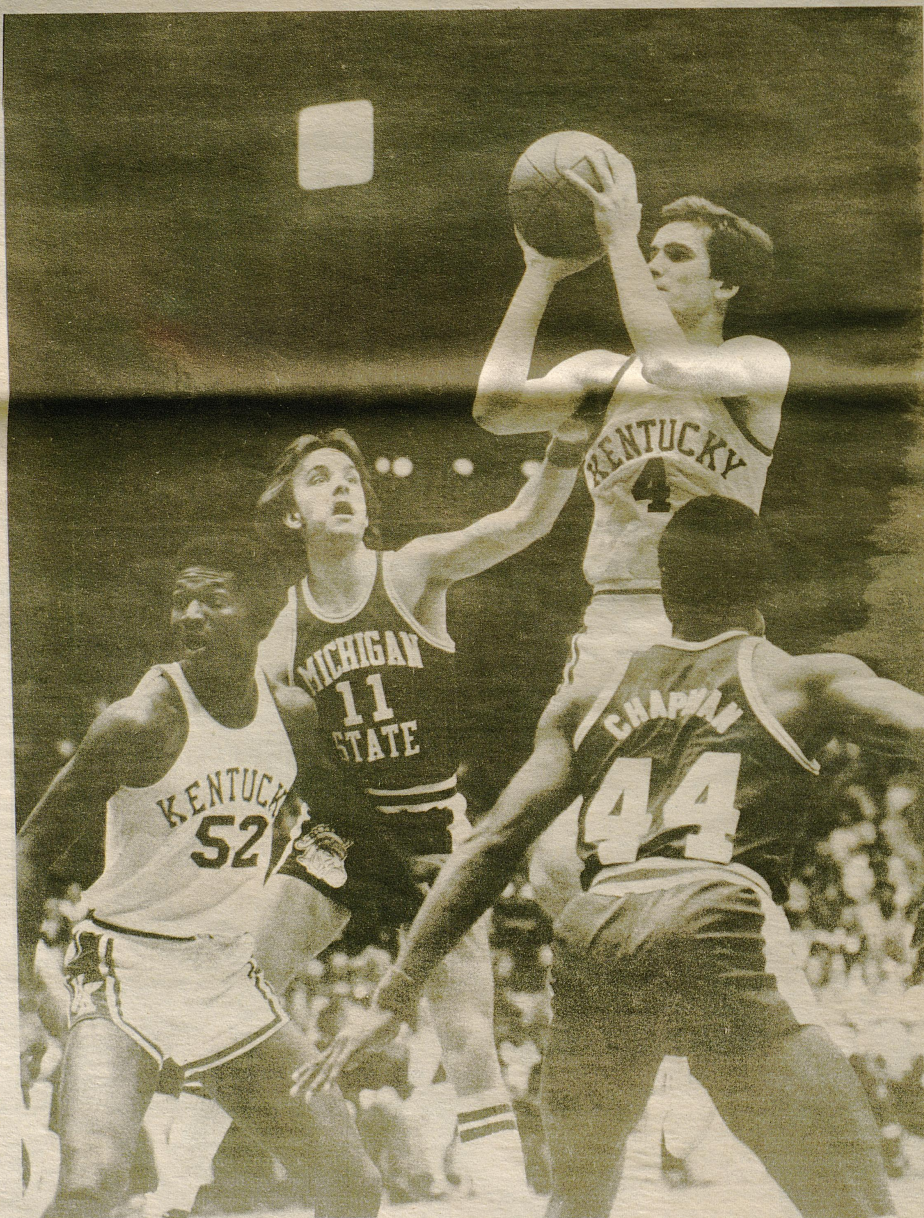
Kentucky ripped through Princeton and VMI during the East Regional but ran up against eventual national runner-up North Carolina in the finals. The guards were unable to hit from the outside, allowing North Carolina to

built up a huge lead, then hung on with that four corners offense.

You know the rest. It was a long ride home to the Bluegrass.

For Kyle Macy, it was a time of soul-searching and meditation.

(Continued On Page 21)



Kyle Macy Pumping A Jumper



UK Basketball

PLAYER	G-ST	MIN	FG-FGA	PCT.	FT-FTA	PCT.	REB-AVE	A	PF-D	PTS	AVE	TO
GIVENS	30-30	953	210-387	54.3	94-122	77.0	200-6.7	77	89-3	514	17.1	49
ROBEY	30-30	849	156-246	63.4	120-167	71.9	242-8.1	62	79-4	432	14.4	62
MACY	30-29	1026	138-256	53.9	109-121	90.1	73-2.4	167	70-1	385	12.8	62
LEE	29- 2	647	128-223	57.4	73-100	73.0	153-5.3	35	86-2	329	11.3	81
PHILLIPS	29-28	575	123-200	61.5	61- 81	75.3	141-4.9	25	81-5	307	10.6	70
CLAYTOR	29-26	733	86-186	46.2	39- 48	81.3	28-1.0	69	69-0	211	7.3	61
ALEKSINAS	26- 0	215	37- 65	56.9	25- 36	69.4	60-2.3	4	36-0	99	3.8	24
SHIDLER	27- 2	386	38- 92	41.3	23- 26	88.5	20-0.7	36	45-0	99	3.7	37
WILLIAMS	29- 1	259	20- 53	37.7	17- 28	60.7	59-2.0	11	56-1	57	2.0	25
COWAN	17- 0	77	15- 28	53.6	6- 9	66.7	15-0.9	2	15-0	36	2.1	8
CASEY	24- 0	174	13- 34	38.2	6- 10	60.0	17-0.7	21	28-1	32	1.3	15
STEPHENS	17- 1	103	8- 24	33.3	6- 7	85.7	11-0.7	14	20-0	22	1.3	12
COURTS	12- 0	29	4- 6	66.7	2- 6	33.3	11-0.9	0	7-0	10	0.8	5
GETTELFINGER	8- 0	11	1- 3	33.3	0- 2	----	1-0.1	1	0-0	2	0.3	2
TEAM							76	KY-OPP	Deadball	68-79		3
KY TOTALS	30		977-1803	54.2	581-763	76.2	1108-36.9	524	681-17	2535	84.5	516
OPP TOTALS	30		828-1786	46.4	431-658	65.5	939-31.3	494	712-48	2087	69.6	537

SEASON RECORD: 28-2; SEC: 16-2; HOME: 16-0; AWAY: 8-2; NEUTRAL: 4-0

OPPONENT	SITE-CROWD	KY	OPP	INDIVIDUAL HIGHS - POINTS, REBOUNDS
Soviet Union (EX)	(MC-11,897)	109	75	Lee 19, Phillips 14
SMU	(H-23,472)	110	86	Givens 30, Phillips 18
Indiana	(H-23,421)	78	64	Givens 22, Robey 13
Kansas	(A-15,620)	73	66	Macy 15, Robey 10
South Carolina	(H-23,472)	84	65	Robey 19, Robey 11
Portland State	(UKIT-23,472)	114	88	Givens 26, Robey 10
St. John's	(UKIT-23,472)	102	72	Phillips 20, Phillips, Robey 8
Inoa	(H-23,472)	104	65	Givens 18, Lee 9
Notre Dame	(N-16,869) +	73	68	Givens, Macy 18, Givens, Robey 10
Vanderbilt	(H-23,464)	72	59	Lee 17, Robey 15
Florida	(A- 5,549)	86	67	Macy 20, Robey 8
Auburn	(A-12,571)	101	77	Givens 29, Givens 10
Louisiana State	(H-23,466)	96	76	Phillips 23, Lee 9
Mississippi	(H-21,195)	76	56	Lee 15, Givens 9
Mississippi State	(A- 8,487)	75	65	Givens 21, Givens 8
Alabama	(A-15,043)	62	78	Robey 28, Robey, Givens 7
Georgia	(H-23,360)	90	73	Givens 19, Robey 14
Florida	(H-23,472)	88	61	Macy 30, Phillips 10
Auburn	(H-23,472)	104	81	Lee 25, Givens 9
Louisiana State	(A-14,551)	94 @	95	Robey 18, Robey 11
Mississippi	(A- 8,809)	64	52	Givens 18, Robey 10
Tennessee	(H-23,472)	90	77	Lee 17, Robey 8
Mississippi State	(H-23,472)	58	56	Givens, Macy 14, Lee 6
Alabama	(H-23,497)	97	84	Givens 22, Lee 9
Tennessee	(A-12,700)	68	57	Givens 18, Robey 8
Georgia	(A-10,000)	78	67	Givens, Robey 15, Robey 9
Nevada, Las Vegas	(H-23,608)	92	70	Robey 26, Phillips 9
Vanderbilt	(A-15,626)	78	68	Macy 22, Givens 8
Florida State	(NCAA-12,700) *	85	76	Claytor 16, Phillips 6
Miami (O.)	(NCAA-13,458) **	91	69	Phillips 24, Givens 9
Michigan State	(NCAA-13,458) **	52	49	Macy 18, Phillips 8

+ Louisville, Ky. @ Overtime * Knoxville, TN ** Dayton, OH

Kentucky Wildcats Basketball Album



Cawood Ledford Congratulates Joe Hall



Robey Picking For The Hot-Shooting Guard

Macy Has No Regrets In Transfer

(Continued From Page 16)

Had he chosen the wrong place to transfer? Many Kentucky fans were bitter, one irresponsible sportscaster even said Kentucky would fire Coach Joe B. Hall because his team had blown the game to North Carolina.

The national media wondered if Hall would stay, in their words, because Kentucky demands winning. That statement was absurd when you consider Kentucky hasn't won a national championship in 20 years, including the final 13 seasons under the late Adolph Rupp.

Kyle Macy never doubted. He would surely come to the rescue.

Chatting in the privacy of his Dayton hotel room Friday evening, Macy spoke of those events in a solemn tone, a trait his teammates and friends have become accustomed to.

"I've thought about it some. People said I was going to make such a big difference," Kyle mumbled. "I was conscious of people saying that. I would hope, by beating Michigan State tomorrow, it would prove we're a little better team than we were last year."

But what can you supply the Wildcats that was lacking this time a

year ago?

"I thought we might have lost our patience a little in that game against North Carolina, maybe tried to hurry things up," explained Macy. "Maybe I can come in and supply a little more control and maybe a little outside shooting."

You're well aware what occurred the next afternoon before a packed house of more than 13,000 fans at the University of Dayton Arena and millions more on live national television. When the going got tough, Kyle Macy got going.

It was his 18 points, including ten straight crucial free throws, which enabled Kentucky to erase a seven point deficit and win the Mid-east Regional title with a 52-49 decision over Michigan State.

While his pressure-packed free throws attracted most attention, it was his calm, cool leadership on the floor which prevented the Wildcats from being blown out earlier in the game.

Then in the second half he took charge when UK coaches decided to provide him with a high post pick to break him free for some long jumpers.

As assistant Dick Parsons said later,

we just told them at halftime we didn't know how they were going to win it, but "we're sure you all will find a way."

That the Wildcats did, and it came as no surprise when the 200-plus sportswriters and sportscasters voted Kyle Macy the MVP of the Mid-east Regional Tournament. A more appropriate title would have been Johnny Carson's "Soothsayer of the Year."

But Macy wasn't finished with his soothsaying on the eve of the Dayton final.

There's more than just winning the Mid-east, he was saying.

What about the upset jinx in the NCAA this season? Is Kentucky next, as one Dayton sportscaster suggested?

"In the tournament, anything can happen. That's been proven each night," said Macy. "We're aware of that when we go out on the floor. We just have to play our hardest."

And he figures the game plan is right on target for Kentucky to win its fifth national championship this weekend in St. Louis. He predicts that without being cocky, just good common sense and the great unselfish team play that appears to be gaining

both momentum and perfection game by game.

"I think the tournament has lot to do with that," observed Macy. "Because we know if we lose now, it's all over. It comes to a do-or-die situation. If you're going to survive, you have to kinda come together more than during the season."

What are Kentucky's chances of winning it all?

"If we go out and work hard and are ready for each game, don't rush things and play with a lot of patience and under control at all times, we'll be all right."

With a fellow like Macy, you kinda believe what he has to say.

Oh, by the way, was the year's layoff worth the wait here at Kentucky?

"Yes, definitely. I don't have any second thoughts about that at all, no regrets whatsoever," Macy said.

With that, Macy rolled across the bed and headed for a shower with "That was a good practice today and we have to be ready for Michigan State."

And just think, he's only a sophomore.



Phillips And Givens Love The Victory...



... And The Fans Love It



NCAA LINE SCORES



CAL STATE - FULLERTON [58]

Bunch 3 3-4 9, Heenan 5 1-2 11, Shaw 1 0-0 2, Anderson 11 1-1 23, Linden 1 0-0 2, Niles 4 3-4 11, Palm 0 0-0 0. Totals 25 8-11 58.

ARKANSAS [61]

Counce 2 0-2 4, Delph 7 0-0 14, Schall 5 0-0 10, Brewer 11 0-0 22, Moncrief 4 3-4 11, Reed 0 0-0 0. Totals 29 3-6 61.

Halftime—Arkansas 39, California State Fullerton 24. Fouled out—nine. Total fouls—California State - Fullerton 13, Arkansas 16. A—18,144.

WESTERN KENTUCKY [69]

Johnson 5 2-5 12, Jackson 8 5-10 21, Bryant 5 2-2 12, Turner 6 0-0 12, Ashby 0 0-0 0, Prince 2 0-0 4, Burbach 0 0-0 0, Reese 3 0-3 6, Rohn 1 0-0 2, Thomas 0 0-0 0. Totals 30 9-20 69.

MICHIGAN STATE [90]

Johnson 3 7-11 13, Kelsner 11 1-2 23, Vincent 6 0-0 12, Chapman 10 3-6 23, Donnelly 0 0-0 0, Charles 4 5-6 13, Erkovich 1 0-0 2, Feidreich 0 0-0 0, Brown 1 0-0 2, Riewald 0 0-0 0, Flowers 1 0-0 2. Totals 37 16-25 90.

Halftime—Michigan State 39, Western Kentucky 29. Total fouls—Western Kentucky 22, Michigan State 21. Fouled out—Johnson, Bryant and Turner, Kelsner. A—13,458.

UCLA [70]

Greenwood 8 1-4 17, Wilkes 3 0-0 6, Sims 0 0-0 0, Townsend 1 0-0 2, Hamilton 9 1-2 19, Holland 4 0-0 8, Allums 6 0-2 12, Thomas 1 0-0 2, Vandeweghe 2 0-0 4. Totals 34 2-8 70.

ARKANSAS [74]

Counce 0 2-2 2, Delph 11 1-1 23, Schall 4 0-0 8, Brewer 5 8-10 18, Moncrief 7 7-13 21, Zahn 1 0-0 2, Reed 0 0-0 0. Totals 28 18-28 74.

Halftime—Arkansas 42, UCLA 29. Fouled out—Greenwood, Wilkes. Total fouls—UCLA 24, Arkansas 12.

SAN FRANCISCO [72]

Boynes 8 1-2 17, Jemison 5 3-4 13, Cartwright 9 9-15 27, R. Williams 0 0-0 0, Cox 2 0-0 4, S. Williams 2 0-0 4, Hardy 3 1-2 7. Totals 29 14-23 72.

CAL STATE - FULLERTON [75]

Bunch 11 2-2 24, Heenan 7 1-1 15, Shaw 3 0-0 6, Anderson 6 0-2 12, Linden 3 1-2 7, Niles 3 1-3 7, Palm 2 0-0 4. Totals 35 5-10 75.

Halftime—San Francisco 44, Cal State 32. Fouled Out—Niles. Total Fouls—San Francisco 16, Cal State 18. Technical Fouls—San Francisco team. A—17,750.

LOUISVILLE [89]

Turner 9 5-5 23, Williams 6 1-2 13, Gallon 5 2-4 12, Griffith 9 1-3 19, ½ilson 9 2-3 20, Smith 0 0-0 0, Branch 1 0-0 2, Burkman 0 0-0 0. Totals 39 11-17 89.

DePAUL [90]

Watkins 6 4-5 16, Ponsetto 4 0-0 8, Cozine 18 10-10 46, Ramsey 1 4-5 6, Garland 3 4-4 10, Bradshaw 0 0-1 0, Dise 2 0-0 4, Wydar 0 0-0 0. Totals 34 22-25 90.

Halftime—DePaul 36-35. Fouled out—Griffith. Total fouls—Louisville 23, DePaul 16.

UTAH [56]

Jeff Judkins 7 2-2 16, Vranes 6 2-3 14, Matheny 4 0-0 8, Williams 2 0-0 4, Grey 1 0-0 2, Deane 1 6-7 8, Chambers 2 0-1 4, Martin 0 0-0 0, Bankowski 0 0-0 0, Jay Judkins 0 0-0 0, Leavitt 0 0-0 0. Totals 23 10-13 56.

NOTRE DAME [69]

Trippucka 8 4-5 20, Batton 6 3-5 14, Flowers 0 0-1 0, Branning 3 5-7 11, Williams 5 0-1 10, Laimbeer 1 2-5 4, Hanzlik 2 3-3 7, Wilcox 0 0-0 0, Jackson 1 0-0 2, Woolridge 0 0-0 0, Carpenter 0 0-0 0, Haefner 0 0-0 0, Salinas 0 0-0 0, Healy 0 0-0 0. Totals 26 17-27 69.

Halftime—Notre Dame 28-26. Fouled out—Matheny, Grey and Flowers. Total Fouls—Utah 26, Notre Dame 21. A—10,300.

DUKE [84]

Spanarkel 6 9-9 21, Harrell 2 2-3 6, Gminski 6 2-3 14, Dennard 4 0-1 8, Banks 8 5-6 21, Bender 3 2-5 8, Gray 0 0-0 0, Morrison 0 2-2 2, Sudbaph 10-0 2, Goetsch 1 0-0 2. Totals 31 22-29 84.

PENNSYLVANIA [80]

Greene 2 2-2 6, Willis 7 2-3 16, White 3 0-2 6, Price 6 5-6 17, McDonald 5 0-1 10, Crowley 5 2-4 12, Smith 6 1-2 13, Salters 0 0-0 0. Totals 34 12-20 80.

Halftime—Duke 44, Pennsylvania 40. Fouled out—Greene. Total fouls—Duke 17, Pennsylvania 29. A—10,689.

INDIANA [60]

Wisman 1 4-4 6, Carter 0 0-0 0, Tolbert 4 0-2 8, Woodson 11 2-2 24,

Radford 8 6-8 22, Baker 0 0-0 0, Risley 0 0-1 0, Roberson 0 0-0 0. Totals 24 12-17 60.

VILLANOVA [61]

Rigsby 2 0-1 4, Sparrow 5 2-4 12, Bradley 1 4-4 6, Herron 11 1-2 23, Robinson 5 2-2 12, Lincoln 2 0-0 4, Caron 0 0-0 0, Underman 0 0-0 0. Totals 26 9-13 61.

Halftime—Indiana 43, Villanova 35. Fouled out—Tolbert. Total Fouls—Indiana 17, Villanova 20.



DePAUL [64]

Watkins 4 0-0 8, Ponsetto 4 0-0 8, Corzine 6 5-7 17, Ramsey 1 0-0 2, Garland 8 2-2 18, Bradshaw 3 0-0 6, Dise 2 1-2 5, Hook 0 0-0 0, Wydra 0 0-0 0. Totals 23 8-11 64.

NOTRE DAME [84]

Trippucka 9 0-0 18, Batton 1 5-6 7, Flowers 2 3-3 15, Branning 6 3-3 15, Williams 5 4-4 14, Jackson 2 1-3 5, Hanzlik 2 0-0 4, Wilcox 0 0-0 0, Laimbeer 4 4-7 12, Carpenter 1 0-0 2, Haefner 0 0-0 0, Slainas 0 0-0 0, Woolridge 0 0-0 0. Totals 32 20-24 84.

Halftime—Notre Dame 37, DePaul 33. Fouled out—Ponsetto, Farland. Total fouls—DePaul 21, Notre Dame 16. A—10,400.

Free Cats' Pause In St. Louis

To all our good friends in the Midwest, free copies of this issue of The Cats' Pause will be available to Wildcat supporters this weekend in St. Louis.

Complimentary copies will be available at Stouffer's Inns, headquarters of the official Kentucky party and tea, at Breckinridge Pavilion (official headquarters for some 500-plus members of the press covering the tourney) and at the UK alumni receptions.

Pick up a copy and give it to a friend and maybe we'll convert a few Hogs and Blue Devils as well as an Irishman or two.



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Joe B. Hall

UK Head Basketball Coach



Enjoys The Pressure Of Kentucky Basketball

Question: What kind of pressure does a coach at Kentucky feel, especially when the standards are so high in Kentucky?

Coach Hall: "It's a whole different atmosphere. I'd say in the history of sports, there have been a couple of schools during a certain period that go through what we go through at Kentucky. We are expected to win and to me that's a good thing. It's a good pressure. I wouldn't want to be at some school where fans didn't care whether they won or loss. Our fans are going to insist that Kentucky has a good program. They're going to keep pressure on the program and if the coach can't produce that type of team, then he can just last so long and they'll keep revolving it until someone comes in who can do it. It's a great atmosphere and it's conducive to self-sacrifice by your players. It makes their efforts worthwhile and it makes them give more of themselves."

Question: How does this affect an individual player when he decides to attend Kentucky?

Coach Hall: "It helps players to develop. They come in as freshmen, they don't really identify with your spirit and they've still got some of their high school spirit left in them. They're still thinking about their past days. They come in at Kentucky and don't catch on until about the middle of their

sophomore year and then they really see what the grass roots interest is in our program, and how much it means to the people not only in Kentucky but to Kentuckians why have moved out of the state."

Question: What do you mean grassroots interest?

Coach Hall: "Our players more and more are reminded of this through a multitude of ways -- through correspondence, the media, the personal contacts, the most bizarre incidents you can think of. Like a lady who passed away down in Hopkinsville, Kentucky, and left UK \$42,000 for the basketball program. No one here had ever known her and no one knew of her connection with Kentucky basketball. There's the 109-year-old man down in Western Kentucky who was interviewed and asked what he received his pleasure from at that age, and he said, "Listening to Cawood Ledford broadcasting Kentucky basketball." It's stories like this which make Kentucky basketball what it is and it's the 23,600 people who buy season tickets and fill up your gym game after game. Even on snowy, icy nights when a man would put off taking his wife to the delivery room, he'd still turn out for the UK game. It's a place where divorced couples have two season tickets to the ball games but in the settlement, they split the tickets and

them remarry but return to sit be each other years later at the games. Once all this filters down to the players, it becomes a stimulant to them and they feel the pressure of the program themselves. They feel the intense interest of the public and they work a little harder, stick a little closer to the job. It's also easier to get them to maintain an attitude which represents our university. They have a lot of pride in satisfying those people who have just a great interest in our program. It's a tremendous tool for whoever coaches at Kentucky."

Question: Do you feel like the Kentucky situation is a Green Bay, Boston Celtics, Yankee kind of thing?

Coach Hall: "I don't really know of those other situations. This is the only program I've ever known myself and they're very fortunate if they have that type of situation."

Question: Do you like the freshman rule which allows freshman to play varsity ball the first year?

Coach Hall: "No, I don't like the freshman rule. It's good in some ways and bad in others. In the case of Earvin Johnson, I think it's great, because people get to see this player play an extra year of college ball. It would be a shame to have him on a freshman team. However, on the other side, those of us in coaching know what a tremendous adjustment those kids are

making. Boy, we're exploiting them a little too much! The freshman ineligible program allowed those kids to slide back into obscurity, adjust to the academic side of school, adjust to the social life without the pressures and demands of competition on the varsity level. It gave coaches an opportunity to work more fundamentally with them, to develop them as more complete players and it'd probably lead to a little better brand of basketball than by running them in there as freshmen. We, as coaches, have to limit the final making of a ballclub to adjust to the year that is on our squad. You never reach the perfection of efficiency either offensively or defensively when you're lowering your program doesn't let that freshman catch up. It's put that young player under extreme pressure and I'm against freshman eligibility for that reason."

Question: What does the memory of the Indiana victory in Dayton three years ago mean to you?

Coach Hall: "It would take an NCAA championship, a winning effort, to offset the Indiana victory as being the outstanding one that we've had since I've been at Kentucky. It was a great day here in Dayton. All of those Kentucky fans that I was talking about earlier made the celebration great going back to Lexington. Kentucky State Police met us across the bridge in Cincinnati and escorted us back to Lexington with about a five-mile motorcade. All the residents along I-75 were along the roads and bridges welcoming us back. Even farmers on their tractors were stopping to wave at us. There were little kids with signs, people working in the fields. That is a great memory for me."

Question: Is that your fondest memory since you've been coaching?

Coach Hall: "Yes, very definitely."

★★★★★★★★★★

Seniors'

Frosh Year

1974-75 SEASON—Won 26, Lost 5
SEC Co-Champions (15-3)

UKIT Champions
National Runner-Up in NCAA
Ranked 4th UPI and 2nd AP

— Leading Scorers —

Kevin Grevey (6-5 Sr. F)	23.6
Jimmy Dan Conner (6-4 Sr. G)	12.4
Rick Robey (6-10 Fr. C)	10.4
Jack Givens (6-4 Fr. F)	9.4
Mike Flynn (6-3 Sr. G)	9.0
Bob Guyette (6-9 Sr. F)	8.6

★★★★★★★★★★



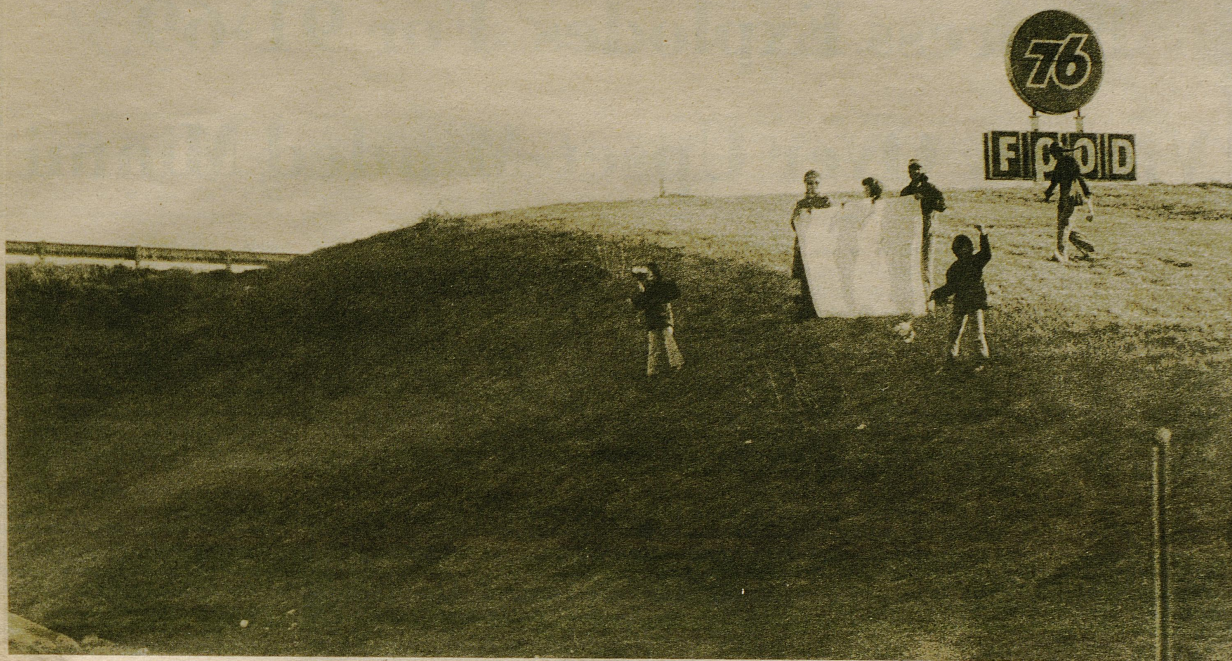
To soothe tired nerves and back,
I sleep on and recommend the

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BY **THER·A·PEDIC®**

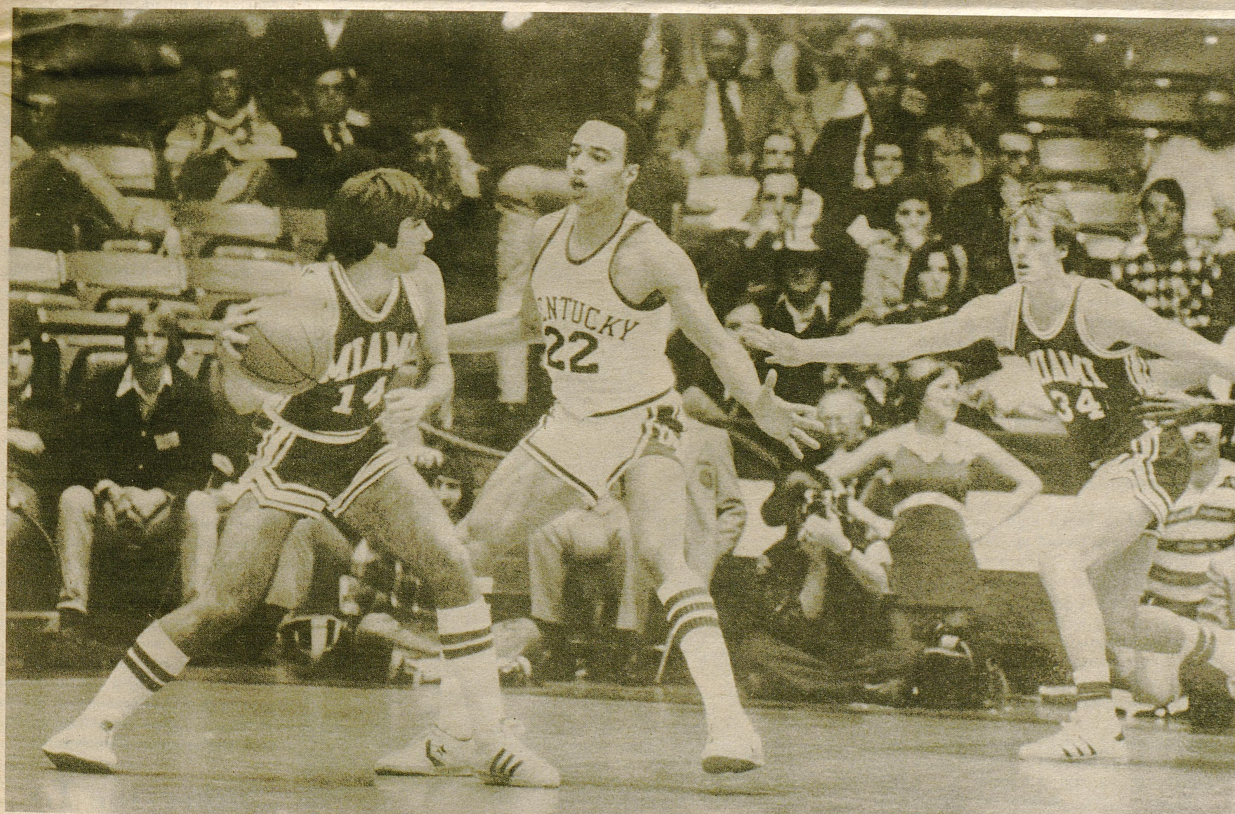
"A college basketball coach doesn't get much time to rest. Take it from me, Joe Hall. I burn the midnight oil every night then bounce out of bed every morning. That's why I sleep on the Kentucky Wildcat Sleep Set from Therapeutic."

HOOVER FURNITURE

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I-75 Fans Welcoming Cats Back Home



Truman Claytor On Defense

Mike Phillips Leads The Way

Express Explodes For 91-69 Victory Over Upset-Minded Miami

"They're awesome. We couldn't beat that team if we played them 100 times."

Those were the words of wisdom offered by Miami University coach Darrell Hedric after he watched his Redskins lose a 91-69 decision to the University of Kentucky Thursday evening in the NCAA Mid-east Regional semi-finals.

Awesome, the Cats were. Once again looking like the No. 1 team in the country. Kentucky used very effectively, its great inside game and unselfish teamwork to earn a spot against Michigan State in the regional finals.

It was senior center Mike Phillips of Akron, Ohio, who ripped the Miami defense apart inside with 24 points and it was senior forward Rick Robey who kept the private line open to Phillips.

When Miami came out to stop the New Orleans 6-10 giant, he flipped it inside to the other half of the Mason-Dixon tandem.

Although Miami stayed close for most of the first half, it was only a matter of time. After six minutes of play, Miami was shooting sixty percent of its shots and still trailed by six. You knew the Cats were scratching.

Hitting a torrid 61.1 percent for the game, Kentucky used an 11-0 spurt late in the opening half to send the Wildcats in with a bulging 46-30 lead at the mid-point break. It was all over but the final score.

There were three ties, at 2, 4 and 6, and then Kentucky took over for good when Phillips polished off a back door dunk and then swished the nets with a sweeping hook.

After gradually building up a nine-point lead at 31-22 with 6:27 left in the half, thanks to James Lee's three-point play, the cats let Miami cut the lead to seven. And then the biggie erupted.

Miami had to bench high scoring Randy Ayers, who picked up his third foul of the game. The Wildcats zipped to a 46-28 lead in the next three and a half minutes before John Shoemaker melted the margin to 16 with a pair of free throws with two ticks on the clock.

Kentucky increased the lead to 22 points during the opening minutes of the second half, and there was never any doubt.

The impressive performance led Joe Hall to proclaim his seniors "are out of the doghouse, but still on a leash."

Hall was visibly shaken by the seniors' play in the opening NCAA win over Florida State last week.

"Phillips played a great game and Robey and Lee also turned in good

performances," Hall said. "Our first half shooting was the early difference and our defense was better than it has been in the last half of the season."

"I'm very pleased that our defensive aggressiveness came back," continued the UK boss. "With this type of intensity we can give anyone in the country a good game."

From the outset, the Cats were demons both on defense and the boards. Jack Givens was a terror on loose balls and flying like a goose in pulling missed balls from the boards.

In fact, he was the game's top rebounder with nine -- although he stands only 6-4 in the Land of the Giants.

What else could Hendric say?

"We got beat by a mighty fine team," he said. "Kentucky is just too big and physical and to describe them in a word, awesome."

"They are the best team we've played this year," continued the Redskin chief. "I can see how they are ranked No. 1. We knew we had to stop their second and third shots and we

couldn't. We were able to stay close until late in the first half when they outscored us 11-0. That put us down 16 at the half and we just couldn't recover."

Hall was a bit miffed at everyone's suggestion that Kentucky was too physical.

"I don't understand people who keep saying we are a physical team. Sure, we're big. Sure, we're strong -- but this is a game for athletes, not ballet dancers," said Hall. "If ballet dancers played basketball, I would want them to lift weights like we do. We have big people and play hard, but to refer to us as 'physical' is an attempt to undermine our game with the officials. People say, 'If the referees let them play physical, you can't beat them.' Well, that is just an attempt to bring attention to our style of play."

Phillips led the point parade for the Cats with 24 points in a super effort before his home state folks as he hit 11 of 13 attempts from the field and two of three from the line.

Robey followed with 14 points and another Ohio product, Truman Claytor, fired in 13 points while Jack Givens and James Lee added 12 points each.

All the starters could have scored more but Hall practically emptied his bench in the second half.

One of the bright spots from the pine was Freddie Cowan, the young freshman from Union County who scored six points in eight minutes of play.

Ayers led Miami with 18 points before fouling out, while Rick Goins added 12 points and Archie Aldridge scored 11 for the losers.

Kentucky hit 41 of 66 attempts for the 61.8 percent while Miami connected on 28 of 57 for 49.1 percent from the floor.

The Wildcats hit 75 percent from the free throw line, 9 of 12 while Miami was better, 81.3 percent on 13 of 16.

On the boards, Kentucky held a commanding 37-28 edge and the early offensive board work was a big factor in the Wildcats' win.

The victory improved Kentucky's overall record to 27-2 while Miami dropped out of post-season play with a 19-9 record, after upsetting highly regarded Marquette a week earlier.

KENTUCKY-91

PLAYER	FG	FT	REB	PF	TPS	A	TO	MIN
Jack Givens	6-13	0-1	9	4	12	5	1	31
Rick Robey	6-8	2-2	7	1	14	5	4	29
Mike Phillips	11-13	2-3	4	2	24	1	5	21
Kyle Macy	1-3	0-0	0	1	2	2	1	33
Truman Claytor	6-7	1-1	1	3	13	3	0	30
James Lee	4-9	4-5	8	1	12	3	1	20
Jay Shidler	0-1	0-0	0	2	0	4	2	15
LaVon Williams	1-1	0-0	0	1	2	1	0	5
Freddie Cowan	3-5	0-0	1	3	6	0	0	8
Chuck Aleksinas	1-4	0-0	3	1	2	0	1	5
Dwane Casey	1-1	0-0	0	0	2	0	0	1
Tim Stephens	0-0	0-0	2	1	0	1	2	1
Scott Courts	1-1	0-0	1	1	2	0	0	1
Team Rebounds			1					
TOTALS	41-66	9-12	37	21	91	25	17	200

MIAMI OF OHIO-69

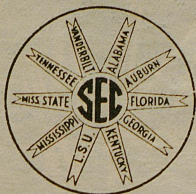
PLAYER	FG	FT	REB	PF	TPS	A	TO	MIN
Randy Ayers	9-11	0-0	8	5	18	3	2	29
Archie Aldridge	4-10	3-4	3	2	11	2	3	34
Bill Lake	2-4	2-2	0	2	6	1	3	12
John Shoemaker	2-8	6-6	0	1	10	4	2	38
Rick Goins	6-10	0-0	2	1	12	1	4	31
Tom Dunn	2-3	0-0	1	1	4	3	0	25
Terry Brady	1-4	0-0	4	1	2	0	1	8
Todd Jones	1-1	0-0	0	2	2	0	2	13
Jim Harkins	0-0	2-3	1	1	2	0	0	4
Rich Babcock	0-2	0-0	0	1	0	0	0	1
Brian Bays	0-0	0-1	0	0	0	0	0	2
Rick Lantz	1-3	0-0	2	0	2	0	0	2
Phil Greisinger	0-1	0-0	0	0	0	0	0	1
Team Rebounds			2					
TOTALS	28-57	13-16	23	17	69	14	17	200

UNIVERSITY OF KENTUCKY	46	45	---	91
MIAMI OF OHIO UNIVERSITY	30	39	---	69

OFFICIALS: Vincent Jacob (Tri-State) Dennis Bishop (Metro 7)
ATTENDANCE: 13,458 (Sell-Out)

Subscribe To

Cats' Pause



The Inside Word

With Oscar L. Combs



While the Southeastern Conference has long been known for its football tradition, the good ole SEC wasn't about to waste an opportunity to get plenty of ink during the NCAA Mideast Regional Tournament in Dayton.

What, you say? How's this:

*The University of Tennessee offers former Virginia Tech head coach Don DeVoe a five-year pact to head the Vols basketball program following the retirement of Ray Mears, who has been ill. One day later, DeVoe accepts the post after the University of Wyoming agrees to release DeVoe from his five-year contract -- which had two years remaining.

DeVoe built a powerhouse at Tech and even won an NIT championship, but made the mistake of admitting he was interested in the Ohio State job two years ago. When Tech officials discovered he was applying for the Buckeye post, he was fired at Tech.

DeVoe's two Wyoming clubs compiled records of 17-10 and 12-15, respectively, after his clubs posted an overall record of 88-45 at Virginia Tech.

According to Tennessee sources, the Vols were earlier interested in Hugh Durham of Florida State, but Durham offered no interest toward the post.

*Auburn University fired former Georgetown (Ky.) coach Bob Davis after a disappointing 13-14 record and amidst much controversy. Alumni unrest had surfaced a couple of years ago at Auburn, where Davis has been head mentor for the past five seasons.

Auburn officials said Thursday Davis resigned "upon mutual agreement," but Davis said he was fired because of the losing record.

Davis, a strong disciplinarian who was never truly accepted at Auburn -- where one must be a home-grown product to succeed -- watched his second club post a fine 18-8 mark, but the contending role in the SEC never arrived.

Auburn had one of the finest recruiting drives in the SEC last year, but the Tigers struggled to a 13-14 mark this time and that was it.

According to the Louisville Courier-Journal, the university has been investigating a recent disclosure that numerous unauthorized calls had been made on Davis' telephone credit card. No findings have been released, but Davis said the investigation had no bearing on his job.

"It was strictly a matter of the won-loss record," said Davis. "It had nothing to do with the credit card or anything else. As far as the credit card was concerned, I've been absolutely vindicated of that."

Some insiders near the program claim Davis was never able to get control of his players, especially in recent years when he publicly berated some, including star Eddie Johnson a

year ago.

Davis had a brilliant career at Georgetown before accepting the job at Auburn. At Auburn, his teams compiled a record of 70-61. No successor was named immediately.

*And then there was Mississippi State coach Ron Greene, who turned the tables on the administration. He became the "Associated Press Coach of the Year" in the SEC, then promptly resigned.

Resigned for what? To accept a similar post at Murray (Ky.) State University in the Ohio Valley Conference.

But before Greene could pack his bags and sneak out of Starkville, Mississippi, State athletics director Bob Tyler led a fight to keep the "Miracle Man" by offering him a \$7,500 pay raise.

"Thans, but no thanks," responded Greene.

It's no secret that Greene wasn't completely satisfied with the State operation, especially having to answer to head football coach Tyler, who also is the athletics director.

So when State offered to match the Murray State salary of \$26,500, Greene nodded negative.

"I'm glad to be going home," said Greene -- who is a graduate of Murray State. "This is a big day for me. It's just great to be back in My Old Kentucky Home. You want to me to sing a couple of verses?"

Green replaces Fred Overton, who resigned after Murray compiled an 8-17 record this past season.

Greene said he expects some rebuilding before Murray can expect success. "But we're just going to get in there and dig, dig and dig."

Greene said the tough part of his decision to leave Starkville was because of the squad which will be re

turning at Starkville next season. State is expected to duel LSU for the title which is currently held by Kentucky.

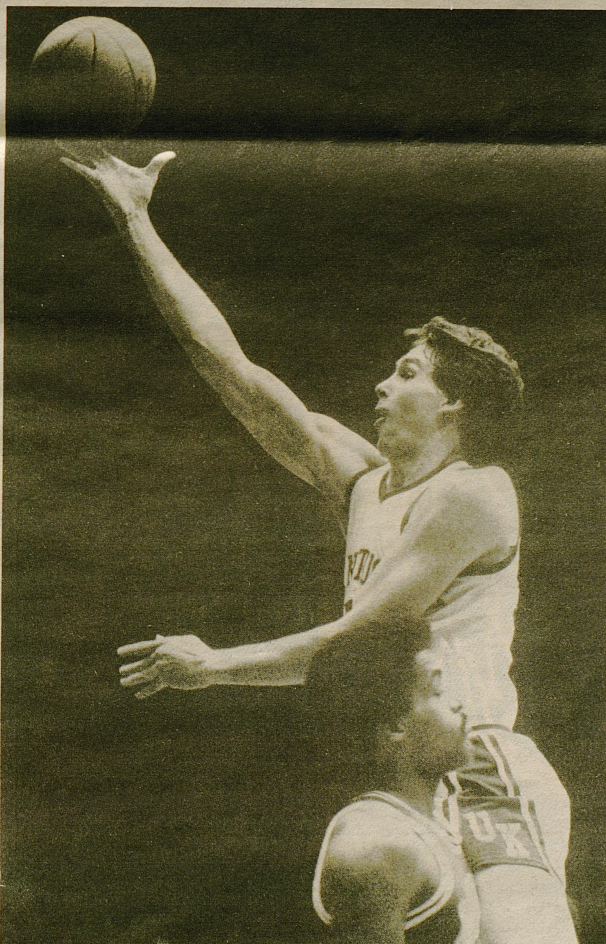
The Terre Haute, Indiana, native performed the miracle at State this season, his rookie one in the SEC after arriving from the University of New Orleans.

His first Bulldog team compiled an 18-9 record and second spot in the SEC race, although his club was ignored by both the NCAA and the NIT for a post-season tourney bid.

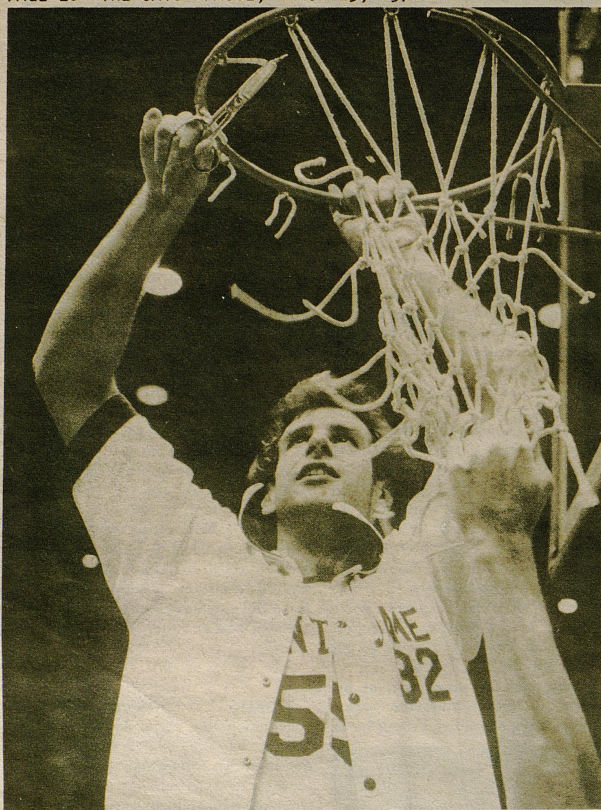
Greene's clubs have recorded an overall mark of 192-97 since he became a head coach. Greene said he has offered assistant positions to both Mike Dill and Steve Newton, who have assisted him at State.

#

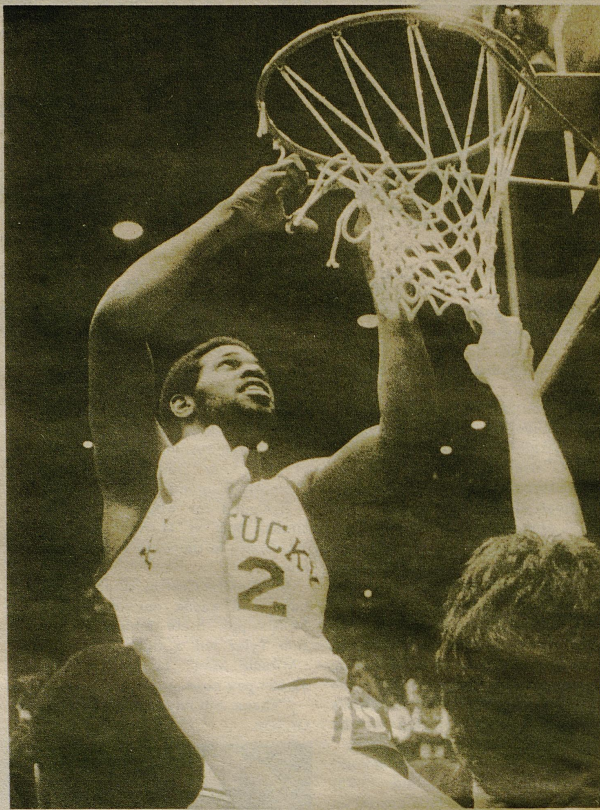
TIDBITS . . . There's growing speculation that Rupp Arena will be chosen as the site for the first Southeastern Conference post-season tourney next March. At Least, that would be a token gesture that the SEC is only 99 and forty-four hundredths percent Birmingham . . . Sources in Nashville, Tennessee, figure coach Wayne Dobbs will have to produce a winning record next season or he could be the first one in 1979 to get the hoopla axe . . . It'll be interesting to see who are named for the Georgia, Auburn and Mississippi State jobs. Those aren't exactly the most lucrative programs in the world. And if John Lotz doesn't turn in a great campaign next year, he could begin to feel the heat. But the SEC coaches figure it, the new post-season tourney will save a job or two when a team can get hot. Only trouble with that theory is that the hot team could be either Alabama or Kentucky, both of whom should be rebuilding . . . SEC officials were counting on Kentucky winning the Mideast Regional in Dayton last weekend. Representing the SEC in Dayton were assistant commissioner Cliff Harper and assistant sports information director Steve Townsend. No. 1 assistant Hootie Ingram (considered by most to be the basketball figure of SEC) and Sid Scoop Hudgins are scheduled to attend the national finals in St. Louis . . . If you think you recognize the voice on the NCAA promotions aired during the NCAA tourney, you're right. It's the Voice of the Wildcats, Cawood Leford, promoting the basketball finals of Division II and III. Cawood was persuaded to do the promos by NCAA public relations director Dave Cawood, who happens to be a cousin . . . Jim Host & Associates of Lexington, which holds the radio broadcast rights to UK basketball and football, has been awarded a new three-year contract by the NCAA for its nationwide radio tournament network.



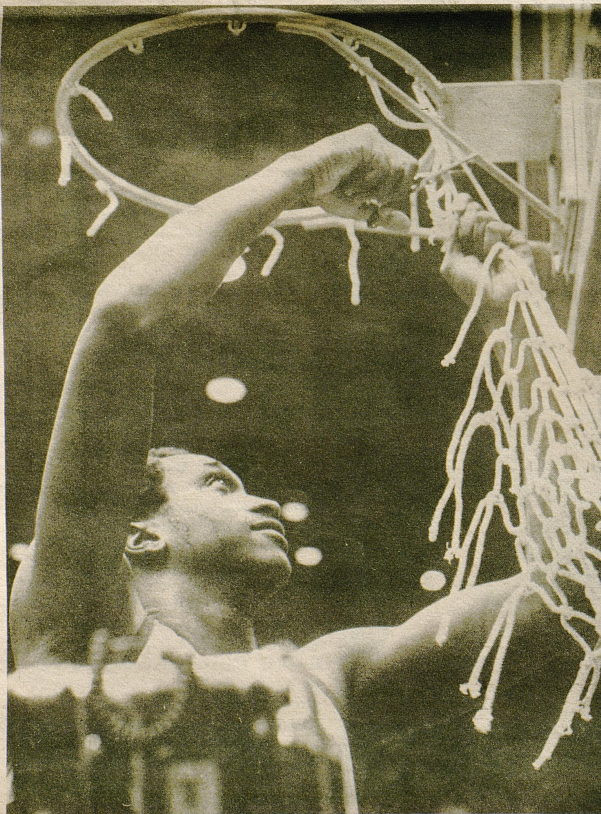
Robey Fires One Up



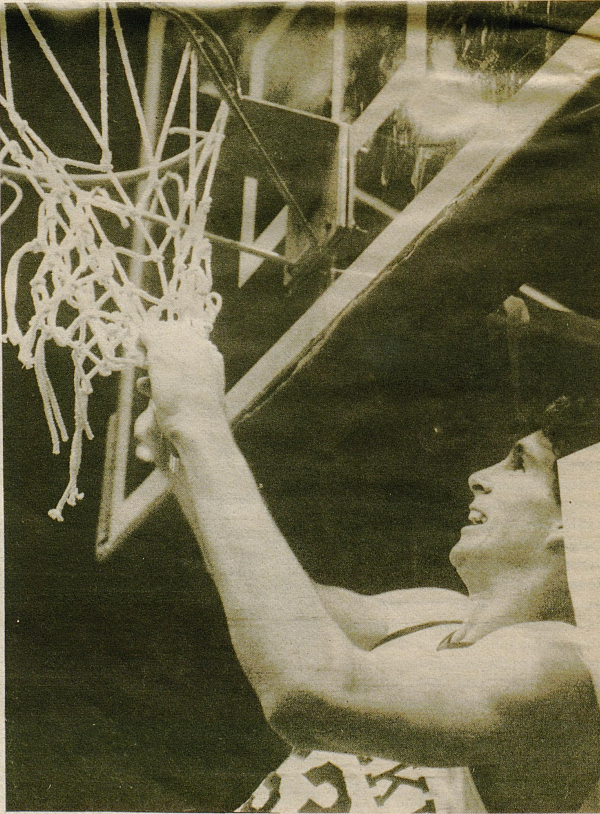
Mike Phillips



James Lee



Jack Givens



Rick Robey

Mike Pratt



All-SEC 1969-70

A 1970 'CAT CO-CAPTAIN, THE 6'-4" FORWARD FROM DAYTON, OHIO IS A "1,000 PT. CLUB" MEMBER WITH 1,359 CAREER PTS. (16.8 AVE.), TWIN DIGIT SCORING AVE. EACH OF HIS 3 YRS!

©Ted Watts

©1978 THE CATS' PAUSE



Who's Number One?

UK Honors

The annual UK basketball banquet for the Kentucky Wildcats will be held on April 11 at the Hyatt Regency Hotel in downtown Lexington, according to Committee of 101 president Bob Crawley.

Attendance at the banquet will be limited to 800 this year and a limited number of tickets were still available earlier this week from members of the boosters' club.

#

The Lexington Wildcat Club is sponsoring a special "Buckshot Underwood Appreciation Night" on Friday, April 7, at the Hyatt Regency Hotel.

The event will take the form of a roast, with some of the best-known sports figures in the country attending. Club officials say Tommy Bell will serve as master of ceremonies for the event.

Those to roast Buckshot include Alabama football coach Paul "Bear" Bryant, LSU coach Charlie McClendon, Kentucky coach Fran Curci, former NFL great George Blanda, UK president Otis Singletary, UK athletics director Cliff Hagan and former Kentucky Governor Happy Chandler.

A limited number of tickets at \$15 each can be purchased by mail by

writing: The Lexington Wildcat Club, P.O. Box 11668, Lexington, Kentucky 40577. Checks should be made payable to: Buckshot Underwood Night.

A reception will begin at 6 p.m.

Underwood has served as an assistant football coach at Kentucky for more than twenty years and will retire as the football squad's equipment manager this summer.

Supports Hall

Dear Sir:

I want to take this opportunity to express my personal opinion in stating that I think Joe B. Hall has done an outstanding job as coach of the Big Blue and I think it is a shame that many of the Wildcat fans have not given him the credit he deserves. I think his fine record since he assumed the position from Coach Rupp speaks for itself and he doesn't have to take a back seat to anyone. His assistants are also to be commended.

We are very fortunate to have the finest basketball coach and football coach of any university in the country and I know they are backed by a well-organized athletic department and a wonderful college president, Dr. Singletary.

It is so good to see Coach Hall and Coach Curci as very good friends who are aware that one program is good for the other which in turn benefits the whole state.

Sincerely,
Jack Terrill Jr.
President, Wildcat Club
Lexington, Kentucky

Mideast

Players named to the All-Tournament Team were Kentucky's Jack Givens, Mike Phillips and Kyle Macy, along with Michigan State's Earvin Johnson and Greg Kelser.

Congratulations To Coach Joe B. Hall

And The Wildcats

Good Luck In St. Louis

"Tombstone" Johnny & Barbara

Abe - Johnny - Pat

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Mike O'Koren (North Carolina) Sidney Moncrief (Arkansas)

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Amateur Basketball Association — USA



VIEWPOINT

Letters To The Editor



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

In Las Vegas

Dear Sir:

I'd like to echo the comments of many transplanted UK fans who would not be informed of UK sports if it weren't for your fine publication. I am one of those fans and have enjoyed your paper from its inception. Please accept the enclosed check for my subscription renewal.

Living in Las Vegas made for some interesting reading last weekend when UNLV tangled with the Cats. Enclosed is a clipping from a local newspaper here that I thought you might find interesting or perhaps worth printing. Fans here love their Runnin' Rebels but most of them took their hats off to Kentucky and the fine facilities of Rupp Arena. I can assure you it was a proud moment for me that following Monday morning at the office.

So here's to a most successful season and many more in the future. You have made me proud to be a UK alumnus.

Sincerely,
Kenny R. Jones
Las Vegas, Nevada

Mike Phillips Fan

Dear Sir:

I am writing this hoping Mike Phillips will read this little note. I would like to take a few moments and tell him how much I'm going to miss him when he graduates. Mike has had a wonderful year. He has played excellent ball and I'd just like for him to remember a lot of fans (including myself) will never forget him.

Go Big Mike,
Carroll Lockard
Bronston, Kentucky

Behind Joe Hall

Dear Sir:

I wasn't going to say anything about the Hall matter because its just one guy's opinion against another but now I am.

There are some fans who are upset with Hall for getting on his players. Well, does any fan out there really know what's going on? You're not in practice every day are you? You're not there to hear and see everything that goes on, are you? Well, why don't we stop getting so upset and blaming Hall because the Big Blue lost two games. Even the best teams can't go undefeated all the time.

Let's get behind the Wildcats. We've got such an excellent chance at the title. Why lose faith now? Maybe

Hall got on his team a little too much, but no one knows everything that has gone on like Coach Hall does. Come on, UK fans, get behind your team and Coach. If not, we sure don't need your kind of support.

UK's playing good ball now so thanks Joe Hall for helping them out. We couldn't have done it without the players and the coach and for all the fans who disagree there are 1,000 more who agree. So don't let them bother you! I have faith in Hall and our team. I also have a lot of faith in Phillips and Shidler's playing ability, although Rick Robey's my favorite.

Maybe once you stop putting pressure on Hall and get behind him we'll get something done, like an NCAA Championship. You're not helping one bit by complaining. Any fan knows he's doing the best he can. Why would he be? Again, this is just a lot of people's opinions against some other but at least some don't give up. I wish the fans (if that's what they are) who have to make mean remarks about the coach with a 123 wins and only 42 loss record would just shut up. You just add to the unneeded pressure.

Sincerely,
Leenetta Edmondson
Glencoe, Kentucky

Answers Mr. Harris

Dear Sir:

To Mr. Art Harris of Bowling Green, Kentucky:

I have several questions for you. #1 -- How does it feel to have a mouse in your pocket? You must have one, because you use the plural possessive quite a bit, and no one that is a true Kentucky fan could be connected with your ilk. When did God give you the right to say "We got out-coached" or "We won a loser's tournament"? I saw the '75 NCAA and went to that loser's tournament, and for the life of me, I don't remember your having made any of the decision from the UK bench. I've been to the Kentucky Athletic Department numerous times and I can't remember ever having seen you there, nor have I seen you come home long enough to change clothes and either drive or fly all night, trying to get a prospect signed for the Kentucky choke program.

#2 -- How have you managed to write your latest attempt at humor, since you have "Lived and died with Kentucky basketball for the past 30 years"? Alas, that is the answer, one's brain can only last so long without oxygen, and you must have been in the death state for 26 of those thirty years. Maybe I should send flowers instead of this letter.

You ask "What is a Coach Joe B. Hall?" Well he is the man that took over the basketball program from a

man that won five major tournaments in 41 years. That is once every 8.2 years. One of these was that loser's tournament of which you spoke ('46). A man than ran enough talent to have won several more. How many national championships did UK win with Spivy or Hagan or Burrow, or Lickert of Nash or Issel, or Paye? Were all of these team made up of lesser quality players, or was UK out-coached in those years also? If the players weren't any good, what were they doing at Kentucky? If the players were of major college quality, which they were, how did Joe B. Hall manage to get out-coached in those years before he even arrived as "head Coach"?

Speaking of "Head Coach," and his record, let's take a quick look at that record: Twice SEC Coach of the Year, Coach of the Year in his high school conference, and on and on and on. Of course, you'll look at the record at Regis College, and see 57 wins and 50 losses. Looking at those figures one would say "He is just a so-so coach," but when you find out that he won over 50% of the games he played against division one schools, beating the #4 team in the nation (at that time), serving as athletic director, etc. -- **doing this on a \$400 recruiting budget** -- you get a different picture, unless you are completely blind. I have found that there are people in the world that live on condemnation and pettiness, simply because they have so much self-doubt.

The point that I'm trying to make to you, Mr. Harris, is: There isn't now, and never has been a coach at a major college, that couldn't be torn completely apart by some clown with a pen. That pen can be held in the hand of some yahoo from Bowling Green, Kentucky, or some sportswriter in Lexington, Louisville or Los Angeles.

When I was a youngster, living in Carrollton, Kentucky, I used to listen to a program over WHAS radio. The fellow closed every program by saying, "If you can't say something good about someone, then don't say anything." There are a lot of people who should practice that way of life, because opinions are just like rectums -- everybody has one.

Sincerely,
W.L. "Jack" Maiden
Hixson, Tennessee

I Like Joe

Dear Sir:

On the matter of Coach Hall -- well, I like him. So do many others who have written in and expressed what they feel about his coaching. I think he's a great coach, and I thought there was no doubt about it. I guess I was wrong. Some don't want it mentioned about his record the last three years -- Why

not? Maybe they're embarrassed. He has such a nice record. Just take the games one by one.

It seems that in this world, you think you've gone all the way and you're No. 1, then somebody comes along and beats you. Somebody who wanted to get to the top more than you did. Well, getting back to the main subject, you mustn't blame the losses entirely on Hall. Say we lose because four of our players broke their legs in practice and four more got the flu. Then who would you blame the loss on? I reckon the players have to be praised and cheered for because they try, they really do try. I bet they put their best into everything they do. But somebody's got to point out their mistakes and everybody makes mistakes. And I think Coach Joe B. Hall does just, don't you?

I'd rent out Rupp Arena to see Mr. Harris get out there and coach the cats to a win over somebody like LSU or Notre Dame. A coach has a lot on his shoulders. Maybe you Hall-haters would realize this and use your heads.

I've just about made my point, and I'm interested to see how many people write to The Cats' Pause and try to tell me how bad Coach Hall is. Hee Hee.

Thanks,
Shelly Skeens
Nicholasville, Kentucky

Makes Nice Posters

Dear Sir:

Enclosed please find my check in the amount of \$14.50 for one year's subscription to The Cats' Pause. I really enjoy The Cats' Pause, and am looking forward to receiving another year of your fine paper.

My two little girls, Tammy age 10 and Tina age 8, enjoy all the fine pictures of the players. In fact, they have them on their wall in their room. They make real nice posters.

Thanks for all the hard work that goes into the paper. It shows . . .

Sincerely,
Ray Brandenburg
Asst. Police Chief
Berea, Kentucky

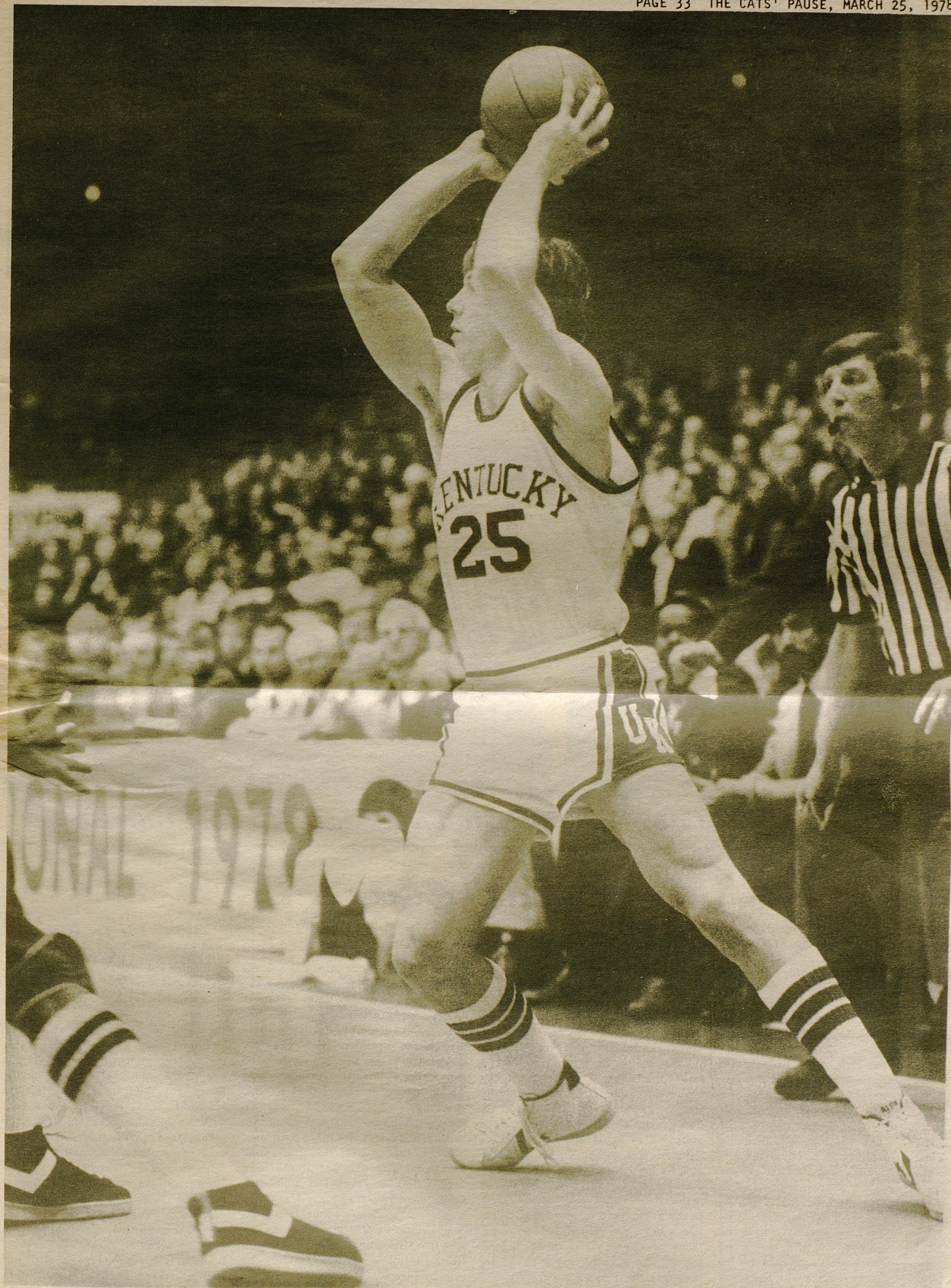
Awfully Shallow

Dear Sir:

I read where Joe Hall was recently booed by UK fans.

What do they want? The man has won 61 and lost only 6 since losing to Vandy on Feb. 14, 1976. That type of conduct seems awfully shallow from supposedly well-informed, loyal fans.

Sincerely,
Tommy Byrd
Nashville, Tennessee



Jay Shidler

UK's Four NCAA Champs

1947-48 SEASON—Won 36, Lost 3

World Champions (Olympic Games)
SEC Champions (Tournament)
National Champions
(NCAA Tournament)

— Leading Scorers —

Alex Groza (6-7 Jr. C) 12.5
(488 TP in 39 Games)
Ralph Beard (5-10½ Jr. G) 12.5
(476 TP in 38 Games)
Wallace Jones (6-4 Jr. F-C) 9.3
James Line (6-2 Soph. F) 6.9
Kenneth Rollins (6-0 Sr. G) 6.6



1948-49 SEASON—Won 32, Lost 2

National Champions
(NCAA Tournament)
SEC Champions (Tournament)
Ranked 1st Nationally AP
Runner-up Sugar Bowl
Loser NIT in Attempted "Grand Slam"

— Leading Scorers —

Alex Groza (6-7 Sr. C) 20.5
Ralph Beard (5-10½ Sr. G) 10.8
Wallace Jones (6-4 Sr. F-C) 9.6
Cliff Barker (6-2 Sr. G-F) 7.3
Dale Barnstable (6-3 Jr. F-G) 6.1



1950-51 SEASON—Won 32, Lost 2

National Champions
(NCAA Tournament)
SEC Champions
Ranked 1st Nationally AP-UP
Third Sugar Bowl Tournament

— Leading Scorers —

Bill Spivey (7-0 Jr. C) 19.2
Shelby Linville (6-5 Jr. F) 10.4
Bobby Watson (5-10 Jr. G) 10.4
Frank Ramsey (6-3 Soph. G) 10.1
Walt Hirsch (6-3 Sr. F) 9.1

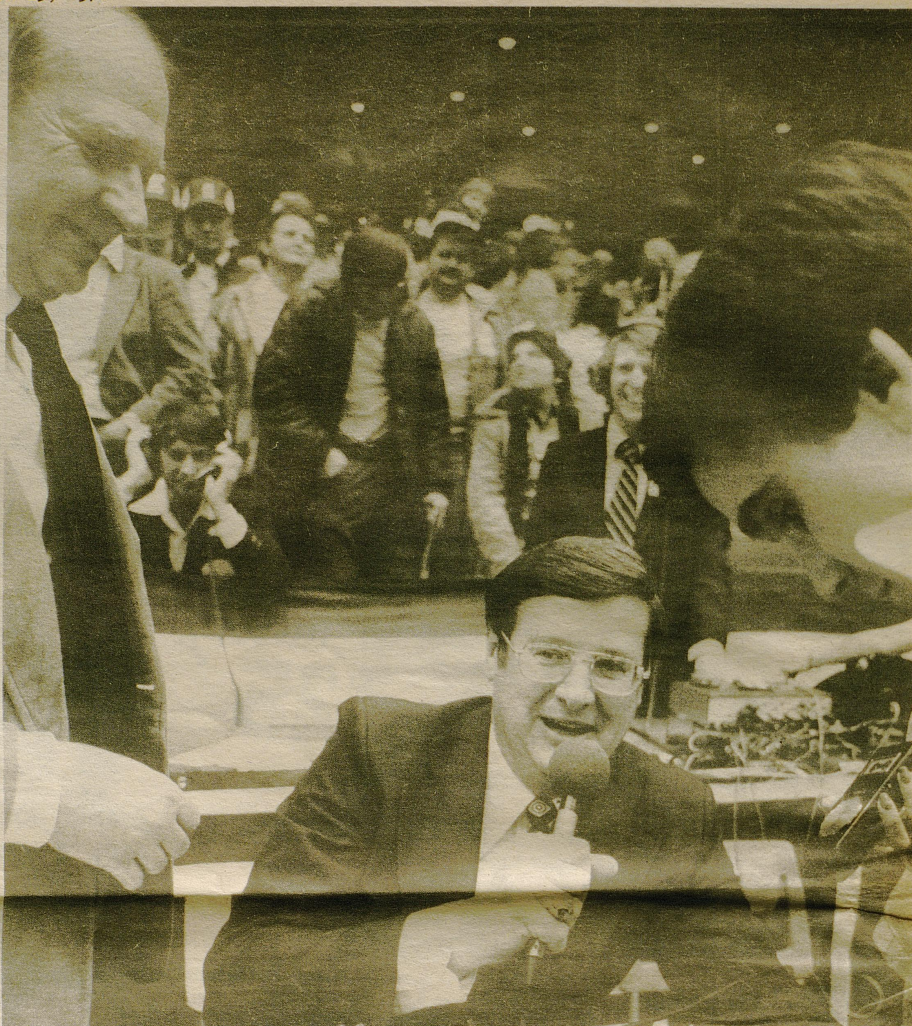


1957-58 SEASON—Won 23, Lost 6

National Champions
(NCAA Tournament)
SEC Champions (12-2)
Ranked 9th Nationally AP, 14th UPI
UKIT Participant (1-1)

— Leading Scorers —

Vernon Hatton (6-3 Sr. G) 17.1
Johnny Cox (6-4 Jr. F) 14.9
John Carter (6-3 Sr. F) 13.6
Adrian Smith (6-0 Sr. G) 12.4
Ed Beck (6-7 Sr. C) 5.6



Cawood, Coach Hall And Macy On Post-Game Show

Oscar L. Combs

(Continued From Page 3)

doubt, would be out to prove Robey is not the better of the two . . . Speaking of Phelps, Dave Kindred, in his book, "A Year With The Cats," quoted Phelps as shouting at Hall, "Where's my horse, Joe?" Phelps restated the demand, but Hall kept a fixed smile. Later, according to Kindred's book, Hall commented to a friend, "I almost said, 'Digger, I'll get you the front half of a horse. You've already got the back half.'" The conversation allegedly came at a luncheon in Louisville just before Kentucky and Notre Dame tangled in their annual affair in 1976. According to insiders, that reported incident was never documented by the NCAA and it wasn't referred to in the NCAA findings . . . There's no mystery who Notre Dame fans are for when Kentucky tangles with Arkansas this Saturday. Irish fans were holding up "Go Hogs Go" banners toward the end of Notre Dame's game with DePaul Sunday on national television.

Should Kentucky and Notre Dame meet in either game next Monday, the Irish probably will have the odds with them. Digger Phelps is only 1-6 against Kentucky since taking the Notre Dame job and the current Wildcat seniors have never suffered a loss to the Irish . . . Western Kentucky University athletics director Johnny Oldham gave a pretty good reason for Ron Greene's quitting the Mississippi State job in favor of Murray State. "Would you rather try to compete against the Kentuckys and Alabamas each year in the SEC, or against school in the Ohio Valley Conference?" asked Oldham. He has a good point. Greene told a news conference in Murray he plans to recruit local talent before leaving the area for his material to resurrect the Racer's program . . . Coach Joe B. Hall and his Wildcats were presented a victory cake by the Committee of 101 after winning the Mideast Regional last Saturday in

Dayton. Did the group have great vision or quick thinking in having the cake ready by the time Kentucky arrived back in Lexington? "We had this cake made yesterday," said Committee president Bob Crawley. "And, you know, we've never lost one yet, either." With that in mind, how about having another baked by this morning? . . . Kentucky has an eleven-game winning streak going into the game against Arkansas Saturday, and that's the longest among the final four teams. Arkansas has won three in a row after losing in the Southwest Conference Tourney, Notre Dame has won four in a row after losing its road finale to Dayton, and Duke has won five straight games since losing to North Carolina 87-83 late in the regular season . . . This will be the first trip ever to the Final Four for both Arkansas and Notre Dame while Kentucky last visited the finals in 1975, losing to UCLA in the title game

and Duke appeared last in 1966 when the famous Rupp's Runts defeated the Blue Devils in the semi-finals at College Park, Maryland. Kentucky then fell to Texas Western in the championship game 72-65, but everyone still claims the Cats' 83-79 win over Duke was "THE" game of the finals. The Wildcats just couldn't get ready for Texas Western and a bout with the flu helped the Miners provide a knock-out punch to probably the best team in the nation that season. But the final score gave that honor to Texas Western . . . Tommy Bell, the former NFL official from Lexington, could be in a tough situation should Kentucky and Duke meet this weekend. Tommy, who is a member of the UK Athletics Boards, is the proud papa of Bruce Bell, who just happens to be a member of the Duke basketball squad. Maybe he'll pull a Julian Carroll act: Sit on the Kentucky side for a half and on his son's side for a half.

ON THE REBOUND . . .

With Terrence Tucker

Time To Admit
The Obvious

The sports writers can scramble for room reservations and the ticket holders can check flight times for the 15th time. But for me -- and, I imagine, for the majority of fans like me -- there is nothing to do this week besides wait.

Two more games. Each one, as everyone knows, could go either way. The first is still some 300 miles and 146 hours distant.

This, I suppose, is the time for each of us to make peace with himself. It is the last chance to marshal our support, to reaffirm our commitment.

These, also, are the last days for hope. Henceforward there can only have been victory . . . or defeat.

An interesting time.

And in this time, I would like to say something that I have waited in vain for years for someone, somewhere, to say publicly: it matters. It is important. Not how they play the game. Whether or not they win.

It's crazy that it should matter, but it does.

Because an awful lot of people have an awful lot invested. And it's not money -- the money will be made regardless of the score.

The point is that hundreds of thousands of people -- Kentuckians here at home, those who have had to leave the state, those who have been adopted and those who are natives . . . even those who simply wish they were Kentuckians -- all of these people, in all of the states of the Union and of many countries around the world . . . we all want the same thing.

These days, that is quite an accomplishment. You would have a hard time uniting this many people in one effort with any other mechanism short of Part II of the War Between the States.

To some it might seem a shame that the only things we are able to pull ourselves together for are the things that are apparently frivolous. That is, why can't we manage to pull together management and union, producer and consumer, Republican and Democrat, etc., etc. -- why not for any other purpose?

Well, we can't. So take the advice an old friend of mine once gave to someone who had been given only a few years to live: "Make your mind up to it, and then make the best of it."

For whatever otherwise ridiculous reason, we're all in this one together. By now even the most hesitant Kentuckian has made his decision whether to declare himself. As such, he has decided whether to risk a substantial portion of his personal

pride, betting on the talent and motivation of a small group of our young men.

For they are "our" young men. Though they may have come as freshmen from anywhere, and though they may come initially with visions of a larger stadium and a winning program and a chance at national exposure . . . by this time every man on that team is a Kentuckian.

He would have to be.

The character of the people of this state is as contagious as it is distinctive. And the basketball team at the University of Kentucky is a natural vessel for the perennial outpouring of that character.

As the players take the court in St. Louis, they will be carrying the standard of the state and its people. It may be their game, but it is a flag that belongs to all of us.

And when the team leaves the court Monday night, I fully expect that every other flag of every other state in the Union will be at half-mast.

It isn't going to be easy. Kentucky has drawn one of the very toughest schedules throughout this tournament. And Saturday's game seems to be no exception. Arkansas is the team that was right behind us in the ratings all season. We've been hearing for months now that they were the guys who were going to surprise everybody this year. They certainly look tough.

And, as if beating Arkansas isn't going to be tough enough, the Cats are going to have turn around and play a rested Notre Dame two days later. We've seen Notre Dame before. And they've seen us.

It will take some kind of effort, to be sure.

But this, as Larry Orr used to say, is "the one you've been waiting for all night." And we Kentuckians are a stubborn bunch of folks. We've had our hearts and our minds set on this one for four years. We know it. The players know it. The sportswriters know it. The other teams know it. I get the feeling that every blade of bluegrass knows it.

The talent is there, fathoms deep. The coaching is there. The willingness is there. What it takes now is some good, old fashioned stubbornness.

And, if things look bad for a while, I suggest the players remind themselves of another piece of advice: "If things look bad, and you don't think you're going to make it, and you just want to throw up your hands and give up . . . if that happens, then just get mean. Real mean."



Mike Phillips Scores

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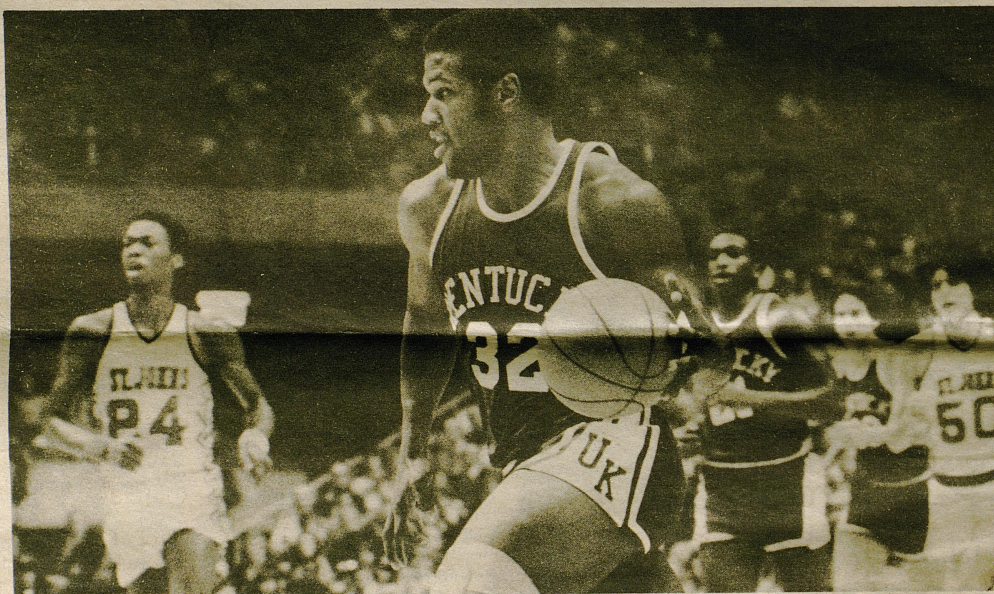
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