6-5 is best media can do for '88 Wildcats



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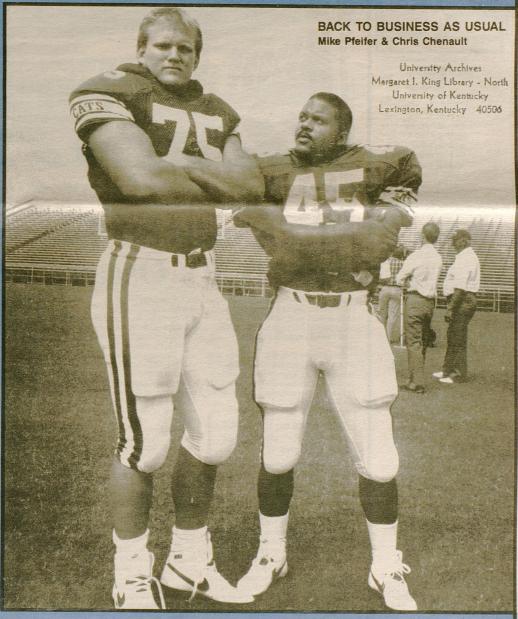
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Duke, Alaska Shootout highlight UK's hoop slate

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Here's what Commonwealth Stadium may look like in the future after a proposed facelift

NCAA calls off interview with TCP's Oscar Combs

You can add TCP/BBB editor-publisher Oscar Combs' name to the ever-growing list of those interviewed by NCAA investigators concerning its investigation of the University of Kentucky basketball program. . .well,

Combs agreed to an Aug. 3 interview with NCAA investigator Bill Saum, but Saum discontinued the session before any questioning took place because he said the NCAA does not allow interviewees to tape-record any interviews.

☐ For more on the NCAA investigation, please see pages 12 and 13.

Combs offered three proposals—1) that the NCAA record the interview, 2) that a court stenographer take notes or 3) that a tape of the interview be placed in escrow by a third party—and after the NCAA rejected each one Combs called a press conference.

Although no questions were asked, Combs lawyer, Andy Palmer, was later told that the NCAA wanted to discuss three topics: 1) UK alumni Bill Chupil of Columbus, Ohio, and his connection to high school star Lawrence Funderburke, 2) UK's recruitment of Funderburke and 3) A poster/advertisement of UK recruit Sean Woods that appeared in a past issue of BBB.

Here is Combs' prepared statement from

his Aug. 3 press conference:
"This morning I was notified by Bart
Rogers of the law firm of Brown-Todd-Haburn that an investigator for the NCAA wished to interview me concerning the NCAA investigation of the UK basketball

I agreed to meet with Mr. Rogers and Mr.

Bill Saum of the NCAA at my office for an interview at 11:00 this morning.

"When the interview began, I was informed by Mr. Saum that there would be no taperecording of the interview, that he would take notes and later prepare a memorandum after his return to Kansas and I could then request to see a copy of the notes and make any corrections or clarifications. He then said I would not be permitted to keep a copy of his

"When I informed him my attorney had advised me to tape-record the session, I showed my tape recorder to Mr. Saum. He asked if the recorder was on. I replied, 'Yes,' and he promptly informed me the interview was over because the NCAA has a policy against tape-recording.

"I take this opportunity to make public my willingness and desire to cooperate fully with the NCAA and answer any questions they may direct to me, but only on the condition that the interview is fully recorded for the sake of accuracy.

"It has been our newspaper policy to tape-record all important interviews, and *always* when requested to do so by the interviewees.

"In light of the NCAA's criticism of the Lexington Herald-Leader for not releasing its tapes three years ago, I find it ironic and difficult to understand why the NCAA would refuse this form of accuracy

"Again, I'm willing and eager to any questions the NCAA may have if it would assist in the search for truth in this investigation, but only if it is recorded in a proper

Good news, bad news for TCP subscribers

As we prepare for yet another year of bringing you, our readers, in-depth coverage of the Kentucky Wildcats in *The* Cats' Pause, we have some good news and some bad news.

some oad news.

First, the good news: This is our last monthly issue for 1988, and we will once again be printing weekly starting with the Sept. 3 issue, in which we will preview UK's football season opener against Cen-

tral Michigan.

Now for the bad news: We regret to inform you that effective Oct. 1, 1988, we will be forced to raise our subscription and newsstand prices for the first time in five

Because postal rates have increased by 20 percent recently, and because of increases in the cost of newsprint, *TCP* will cost \$1.25 on the newsstand after Oct. 1. Subscription prices after that date will increase to \$28.50, still a savings of \$5.25

off the newsstand price.

We will honor the \$25 price on

subscriptions purchased before Oct. 1.

Once again we regret the increase, but we look forward to providing you with another year of coverage of the Big Blue.





OSCAR L. COMBS

CATS' PAUSE EDITOR/PUBLISHER

It's a killer schedule, but I like UK to go 5-6

Less than three weeks remain before Jerry Claiborne begins his eighth season as head coach of the Kentucky Wildcats and the future holds as much us as it did this time back in 1982

After seven seasons of everything from an 0-10-1 season to a 9-3 mark en route to the Hall of Fame Bowl, this fall looms be the most crucial of all

And it comes at a time when Claiborne may be challenging the most difficult schedule of his entire coaching career. No fewer than seven bowl teams (count 'em, Indiana, Auburn, Alabama, Florida, Tennessee, LSU and Georgia) dominate the 1988 schedule and the underdogs (Central Michigan, Kent State and Southern

For even a team with solid talent and sufficient depth, this calendar would be a formidable task. Even the most optimistic followers of Kentucky football agree the cupboard of thoroughbreds is somewhat

In other words, these are not the most optimistic of times. But don't try selling this package to Claiborne. Nevertheless, it doesn't take a Heisman

Trophy expert to pinpoint the losses of Mark Higgs, Kevin Dooley, Dermontii Dawson, Jerry Reese, Jeff Kremer, Dee Smith and a host of others.

This year's crop of seniors, even those of the five-year variety, have never experienced a winning Wildcat season on the gridiron. Not since the Wildcats went 9-3 and captured the Hall of Fame Bowl with an exciting come-from-behind vic-tory over Wisconsin has UK enjoyed a

winning campaign.

Oh, how bright the future appeared in the spring of 1985. That fall, UK would open by playing five consecutive games at friendly Commonwealth Stadium. A third straight winning season appeared about as sure as the hot summer days of August. In 1986, the 'Cats would face one of their more promising schedules in years, at least in terms of ability to win. The '86 card had teams like Rutgers, Kent State, Cincinnati, Southern Miss, Ole Miss and Virginia Tech sandwiched around the usual tough SEC card. UK had only a 5-5-1 mark to show for its work that fall

As it's obvious things didn't work out those two years, last season's bitterly disappointing 5-6 record failed to make matters better, especially considering that the 1987 squad was considered a veteran unit expected to conquer great feats.

Now, Kentucky finds itself in its customary role, that of playing to avoid the cellar of the Southeastern Conference along with Ole Miss, Mississippi State and Vanderbilt. The Commodores, who finished with a blitz over the 'Cats last season, return this fall with a crew of redshirt freshmen and enthusiasm bubbles in Nashville like it did a few years ago in Lexington

But all should not be lost in Wildcatland.

Kentucky seems to achieve its greatest success when experts expect the least. With Kentucky ranked solidly near the bottom of the SEC, you can bet most op ponents will be taking the Wildcats lightly

And although the 'Cats lack big names in their backfield, it'll be like many of the Wildcats say, they've got nowhere to go but up because no one is expecting many victories from this unit

Unlike most football factories around the SEC, for which Claiborne and his staff can be grateful, there will be no great heat on the UK staff to pave a way to postseason bowl action.

It's obvious from president David Roselle's well-documented views on intercollegiate athletics that he is far more iterested in Claiborne's success with the

players in the classroom than the won-loss record on the football field. That's not to say Roselle's attention won't be directed to the scoreboard a few times by Big Blue followers. If Roselle viewed football like his colleagues around the conference, Claiborne and his staff would be well-advised to order the more ing vans for late November. No where else in the SEC can a staff survive four consecutive seasons without a winning

This fall, Kentucky could finished 4-7 and have its best on-field performance of the past four years. And if UK should somehow win five or six games, Claiborne should be elected national

Coach of the Year by acclamation.

Even by Roselle's standards, though, this Kentucky team must be competitive If the 'Cats should finish worst than 4-7 or should not be competitive in three of four games, it'll be tough for even Roselle not to feel the heat.

Actually, Claiborne could be benefitting from all the problems plaguing the UK basketball team right now. Allegations and accusations abound and the intense scrutity has overshadowed the football's lack of success at the stadium.

Come Sept. 3, attention will switch to Commonwealth Stadium when the 'Cats host Central Michigan.

A preseason prediction? Well, my guess is no better than anyone else. I've hit on the hit about as often as it's rained this summer and you know how little rain we've enjoyed.

But here goes.
The 'Cats should grind out a convincing victory over Central Michigan by something like 27-3, but you can bet Claiborne won't be showing too much vith Auburn on deck.

Next up is Auburn on national televi-

sion and this game is very critical for the Wildcat program. There's no way UK can upset the Tigers and since the outcome is virtually a lock, the most important thing for UK is to stay injury-free so the 'Cats will have a full stable of horses for game No. 3 and perhaps the true indicator for

That's come on Sept. 17 in Bloom-

ington where the 'Cats will try to make it two in a row over the Hoosiers. A victory here could send the 'Cats on a positive way with Kent State waiting in the wings. I like Kentucky 14-13 in this one. With a 2-1 mark safely tucked away, the 'Cats take on Kent State from the Mid-

American Conference. This league has been a constant pain in UK's side over the years, but not this time as the 'Cats a convincing 35-10 victory.

Back to prime time

Alabama is not the Alabama of old, but the Tide still has a great deal more talent and depth than does UK. The Tide is try-ing to adjust to second-year coach Bill Curry. Alabama will win this one although it will be closer than 'Bama

faithful would like. Tide wins 17-13.

Now 3-2 on the year, Kentucky heads off to Baton Rouge for the second straight fall. Actually, LSU should be visiting Lexington this year, but with a seventh SEC game added to the schedule UK ed to even out road trips at either 4-3 or 3-4 each season rather than having five at home one year and then five on the road the next season. Thus, the 'Cats were forced to make two straight trips to Bengal land.

Oh, how many times has UK found self flirting with success entering the LSU game, usually on a record very similiar to 3-2. And just as had UK played so well and yet come up short, the 'Cats just don't have the ammunition to upset LSU this time, losing 17-14 in yet

upset LSO this time, losing 17-14 in yet another superb effort.

Now 3-3, Kentucky returns to Lexington for a four-week homestand against Georgia, Southern Miss, Vanderbilt and

By now, UK's casualties are beginning to mount. Georgia wins 32-10 (too much power), but the 'Cats bounce back to even their record at 4-4 with a 24-3 victory

over Southern Illinois.

A year ago Vanderbilt humiliated Kentucky in Nashville. Now, it's turn-about in a year which has the Commodore fans talking post season bowl. Kentucky wins

It's enough to cause UK president David Roselle extend Claiborne's contract a couple years and ensure him the oppor-

unity to retire in a normal fashion.

It'll be the last bit of good news for the season though as any bowl hopes fade against the Gators, a team which traditionally has a tough time of getting up for UK. This game always comes the week following Florida's annual feud with Georgia. The Gators take no prisoners in a 27-10 war.

record, but the Volunteers chalk up a 31-17 victory in a game which has the ingredient of a fight at OK Corral.

There you have it, a 5-6 mark for the Wildcats, one which most experts believe is an impossibility. About the only things impossible today are trying to escape death and taxes. Football comes under neither category.

laburn that at intestigator for the variety of the concentration

UK athletics director Cliff Hagan has released a 31-game schedule for the 1988-89 basketball Wildcats and the card

includes several great match-ups.

The 'Cats open with Duke in the Naismith Hall of Fame Classic in Naismith Hall of Fame Classic in Springfield, Mass., and then UK travels to Anchorage, Alaska, for the Great Alaska Shootout the following weekend. ESPN will carry UK's first two games of the season. ESPN will also carry one second-round game of the Shootout as well as the championship and consolation games of the event.

Other his intersectional games on the

Other big intersectional games on the UK slate include Notre Dame in the Big Four Classic, Syracuse on the road, In-

diana at Rupp Arena and cross-state rival Louisville in Freedom Hall. Depending on the outcome of the cur-rent NCAA investigation, this schedule could be the most serious threat to UK's streak of . consecutive non-losing seasons since UK went 13-13 back in 1974.

By the time many of you read this, some of the mysteries may be known. School will begin at UK on Aug. 24, aby that time, the uncertainty of some players not enrolling at UK should be cleared up.

Speaking to that, one CBS-TV official told The Lexington Herald-Leader that if the NCAA should place a ban on UK telecasts it most likely wouldn't take effect until the 1989-90 season since television schedules have already been set. CBS' Mark Carlson said his views are based on previous NCAA sanctions handed down.

Rumors around the UK campus have it that the final outcome of the UK investigation by the NCAA may not be known until as late as December or

With that in mind, you can expect Eddie Sutton's staff to have very little success on the recruiting front during the early November signing date.

FIRST AND TENS . . . Former Wildcat grid star Ken Roark is now an assistant at Tennessee Wesleyan. He was in town recently at the annual meeting of the Mid-South Conference. During his stay he made his first visit to the Erv Nutter Football Complex. "It's the nicest I've ever seen," said Roark, "I couldn't The ever seen, said Roark, "I couldn't believe my eyes. I'd given anything to had that facility when I was playing here.".

Former hoop Wildcat Kyle Macy didn't find the right NBA offer so he's off to Europe for another round of basketball. Speaking of roundball, synicated sport-swriter Earl Cox is authoring a book on ex-Wildcat Rex Chapman, but we're told it won't be a Brian Bosworth tell-all-theworld type . . . To our many radio listeners, our weekly Cats' Pause Sports Hotline will begin Aug. 29 at 7 p.m. on radio stations around the state. If your local station is not caring the show, give em a call and tell them to keep up with the 'Cats by tuning us it. . The Kentucky-Auburn game has been moved (Continued On Page 21)

If you listen to the media 'experts,' UK's football Wildcats are in for a long season

ing Green Daily News: "I think it's obvious the defense will be able to hold some peo-ple, but I think the key will be whether they're out on the field 40 to 45 minutes a game against a team like Auburn or Alabama. They're liable to get worn our pretty quick. I think the offense has got to sustain drives, even though they may not score a whole lot. The offensive line is a big question. Glenn Fohr may spend a lot of time on his back once they get into the meat of the SEC schedule. It's good that they're starting out with Central Michigan even though they have to come back with Auburn and Indiana. They're going to have to grow up pretty quick

On the SEC's new Prop 48 ruling, which will phase out partial qualifiers by 1991: "I think it's a great rule. I agree with Claiborne that the rest of the country needs to adopt it in order to be a fair and equitable situation for all teams in the country. I think the SEC has enough clout to where they can get something like that pushed through by the time it rolls around for the SEC. But I think it's a great rule.'

Mathis' fearless forecast: 3-8

Dave Baker, weekend sports anchor for WKYT-TV and color man for UK's football TV telecasts: "It's all going to depend on what happens in those first four games because of a lack of depth. We'll have to see how beat up everyone is after playing Auburn, Alabama and Indiana—a big, physical football team to make the kind of strides they've made in the Big Ten. If the depth can hold up, they have a chance to pull off a couple upsets. But we know how teams like Auburn and Alabama can physically beat up teams, and this team just doesn't have the kind of quality depth to go down deep after physical games with those ballclubs. If those teams come out and play the kinds of games they've played in the past, it could be difficult after that. One thing people are looking at is the kicking game. Coaches talk about it all the time. Close games are won and lost by the kicking game."

On the Prop 48 ruling: "I agree with what on the Frop a Funng: Tagree with man most of the coaches are saying. If it's nation-wide, it's good. College people should be thinking first and foremost about academics. It will really put the (SEC) conference schools at a disadvantage if they're under more stringent rules (than other conference).

Baker's fearless forecast: 4-7

Carl Nathe, sportscaster for WLEX-TV: "Kentucky has a good shot at coming out and winning three or four of the first five ballgames. Some people say the addition of Alabama and Auburn is a dark thing, but I think the seven-game Southeastern Conference schedule is a good idea, because if you're going to be in the conference, you might as well play the other conference teams. Indiana is pivotal. If they can play well and win up there, they could be on their way to a winning season

On Prop 48 ruling: "Somebody has to take the lead. I think it's a good, positive step for college athletics in general. Maybe the SEC will be out on a limb for a couple years, but I think the others will follow suit, because Proposition 48 is making more awareness around the country. If you're going to have it, let's make it mean something.

Nathe's fearless forecast: 6-5

Danny Brandenburg, TCP columnist and sports editor of the Winchester Sun: "I think they definitely have a shot at winning all four of the nonconference games. And with Vandy and Florida coming in here, hopefully they can pull off an upset and take one of the SEC games. In four or five of the SEC games, there's not a lot of hope or op-

On Prop 48 ruling: "In the long run, it will be a good move. These kids have got to have some incentive to work a little harder in high school. There will be a few deserving players along the way who will miss by a point here, or 10 points there that will get left out. But someone has to take a little initiative and set some standards. If getting totally shut out of the SEC isn't incentive, I don't know what is

Brandenburg's fearless forecast: 5-6

Nick Nicholas, TCP associate editor: "Kentucky could be a very good football team. . .but the schedule it's about to face is too much of an obstacle. Depth-wise, things look better in the Wildcat camp. The junior college kids definitely will help, Alfred Rawls, Alfred Jones for examples. The ability of an inexperienced offensive line to jell as the season progress will be another key, as well as if the line can avoid injuries. Defensively, Kentucky is sound. I look for Oliver Barnett to have an an All-SEC campaign. For UK's sake, the offense will have to control the ball. If not, then UK's strong defense, which probably can go two deep at most positions, will wilt. I think Jerry Claiborne will pull out all stops, but I wonder if that will help against this schedule."

On Prop 48 ruling: "What the SEC is do ing is good, in the long run. Hopefully, all conferences will one day apply this rule to their recruiting guidelines. Pat Dye is going way overboard, don't you think? I do believe. however, that under Prop 48 the tests—in regard to the ACT or SAT—should be dropped. A higher GPA, say a 2.3, plus the current core requirements, could be considered. But the ACT and SAT are not suited for

Nicholas' fearless forecast: 4-7.

Earl Cox, Kentucky sports columnist: "I'm the world's biggest optimist, so I'd like to say it's going to be 6-5, but if coach Claiborne wins more than three games this year, he should be Coach of the Year. The Wildcats should be able to out-man the two Mid-American teams and Southern Illinois I'd say they have a chance to beat Indiana and Vanderbilt. I don' know if they have a chance to beat anybody else. I don't think anybody's going to tell you, except the most optimistic coach on this team, that they're going to beat one of those big six.'

On Prop 48 ruling: "College is supposed to be for people who want to get a higher education, and we have a lot of people in col-lege, most of them athletes, who don't belong in the universities. If the whole nation goes to this, fine. If the whole nation doesn't go to it, the Southeastern Conference is going to get killed."

Cox's fearless forecast: 6-5

Tom Wallace, editor of Cawood on Kentucky: "The strengths will obviously be the defense, especially the secondary and the ends. The weakness has got to be the offensive line. I don't know why, but I also have the feeling that the (Alfred) Rawls kid is going to be a player. I feel like he's going to be

On Prop 48 ruling: "I think Prop 48 has good intentions, but I'm not so sure that I'm 100 percent sold on it all the way. As for the SEC, I agree with coach Claiborne. It's unfair if all conferences aren't going to do it. If it's fair for one, it's fair for all. Otherwise, it should be left alone."

Wallace's fearless forecast: 4-7

Mark Sok, weekend sports anchor for WTVQ-TV: "I think once again it's going to be another sub-.500 year. We always talk about "ifs." If they can pull a big upset against Tennessee, or a Georgia, or Alabama, or someone like that, they could come out 6-5. They have to play the weak teams exceptionally well. None of this marginal stuff like we saw last year against the teams they should have beat. If all that falls in line, I can I forsee maybe 6-5, but I think it will be more on the down side of the ledger."

On Prop 48 ruling: "It's kind of a drastic measure. But as coach Claiborne said, hopefully it will send a proper message to the rest of the country. But if it doesn't, it's not a good idea. I hope it works out for the sake of the kids.

Sok's fearless forecast: 5-6

John McGill, sports columnist for the Lexington Herald-Leader. "I don't think 5-6 is out of the question. I think they can have a winning season if they have some success early. I don't think it's likely, but it's mor within reach than most people think. I would say if it's 5-6, people here should be satisfied with the type job they've done."

On Prop 48 ruling: "I think it's a good idea, because it establishes a tone and puts the SEC ahead of other schools. If other schools start picking up Prop 48 kids, so be it. It's an important statement to be made that most conferences aren't doing."

McGill's fearless forecast: 5-6

Alan Cutler, sports anchor WLEX-TV: "On paper, it looks like this team won't be as good as last year. There's one particular phase of the game that's a huge question mark that everyone knows about, and that's the offensive line. Basically, the record will depend on that one area if everything else goes semiaccording to plan. They've got some nice defensive players and some nice running backs. Glenn Fohr has the possibility of developing into a nice quarterback. He has the physical tools. They have certain qualities to beat some people. Kentucky is a pretty good football team, but they play in the toughest conference in the country. If they go .500, I would be absolutely ecstatic, but I don't see how they can go .500. I hope I'm

On Prop 48 ruling: "I would like to see them take Prop 48 kids, because when they get to school, some of them make it, some of them don't. I think the kids deserve an opportunity. I also think it's good for football. When you take away something they enjoy doing, I don't know how much it helps. It sounds like the Southeastern Conference is trying to be holier-than-thou

Cutler's fearless forecast: 3-8

Tom Leach, sports director at WVLK "There are three pretty sure wins. Everything else is really in doubt after that I think this team will surprise a few people. but the schedule is so tough that they can't pull that many surprises. Having question marks along the line is a bad spot to have question marks in this conference.

On Prop 48 ruling: "I think it's good for the SEC, but as coach Claiborne pointed out, it will put the SEC at a competitive disadvantage if the other conferences and other leagues across the country don't follow suit.

Hopefully, the NCAA will take the lead and make it a national policy."

Leach's fearless forecast: 5-6

Doug Ormay, Kentucky Network: "The Boug Ormay, Kentucky Network: "The schedule is just so difficult. Maybe they can have a respectable year, in the neighborhood of 4-7 or 3-8. They could play well and have a record like that. They're not a bad team. The competition is just so good.'

On Prop 48 ruling: "The SEC has really done the right thing here, not only in trying to get some leadership in this part of the country, but nationwide. If everyone goes along, then it works out. If not, then it's real trouble. Then they have big problems

Ormay's fearless forecast: 3-8

Todd Hallum, TCP columnist: "They've been 5-6 two of the last three years, and 5-5-1 the other year. Maybe they're stuck on five wins. I think they can be better. On paper, I see them being competitive every game. They'll have some mismatches possibly with great defensive lines like Alabama and on just about anybody. It will take the offensive line some time to jell. I'm expecting another good year defensively from them They were third in the SEC last year, and there is no reason why that should not continue. It will be a matter again of if can they get the big break. They cannot not afford any injuries. And they've got to win the close games this year. If they can, I'm sure they can improve on 5-6.

On prop 48 ruling: "If it's the same everybody, then I think it would be good. Pat Dye is going to be hurt. I'm sure he isn't going to like it. I don't know if will be good not. If it's just for the SEC, then no, I do no like it.

Hallum's fearless forecast: 5-6

Bill Peterson, UK beat writer for the Cincinnati Post: "They have a really good defense. The key will be if an offensive line that has only one guy coming back can at least hold the ball, if not score points, enough to keep the defense off the field and enable the defense to play with a fair amount of energy at the end of the season. Last year, people were kind of tired. I think it will be interesting season, but I don't think there will be a lot of wins.

On Prop 48 ruling: "Around here, it won't make that much difference. I'm sure people will figure out a way to farm out guys who can't make the grades early. I think it will have an affect. It might ultimately benefit this team here. This football team has been playing above board academically a lot longer than a lot of other places. It will probably be five years before we see any effect.

Peterson's fearless forecast: 3-8

Bob Watkins, TCP columnist and syndicated state columnist: "You'll have to score a lot of points against the schedule they play. I don't think Kentucky has the offensive depth to it. Glenn Fohr hasn't proven that he can play in this league as far as I'm concern-ed. Because of that, the pressure is going to be on the defense, the defense will spend more time on the field, and you can't score when the defense is on the field. If they should happen to go 5-6, Jerry Claiborne should be Coach of the Year and get a new contract.

On Prop 48 ruling: "I agree with Claiborne in that if everybody's going to go to the same party, they all dance the same [Continued On Page 5] waster.



Kentucky coach Jerry Claiborne greets media; says he's ready to kick off his seventh year at UK

[Continued From Page 4]

step. At least you can say the SEC is going to be a pioneer if everybody follows suit, which I hope they do, but there's no quarantee. I think it's a good rule, because it's past time that these kids find out that they're going to have to go to class to get to

Watkins' fearless forecast: 4-7

John Clay, UK beat writer for the Lexington Herald-Leader: "They could surprise some people, because they have eight starters back on defense. But depth is going to hurt them. It remains to be seen how much this even game (SEC) schedule will hurt them. Nobody is expecting much out them. They could slip up on some people.'

On Prop 48 ruling: "The main reason the rule was brought in was for somebody like Pat Dye at Auburn, who brought in something like 15 Prop 48 guys in two years. That's just not fair to the rest of the conference who won't do that. I think Prop 48 is a good rule. I think there should be some limits, but I am not in favor of not allowing non-qualifiers to come into school. I think there are sometimes special cases.

Clay's fearless forecast: 4-7

Brett Hait, TCP staff writer: "UK's big gest problem is that it plays in the toughest league in the country. Because of the strength of the Wildcat schedule, I just don't see them having a winning season. That's the breaks when you play in the SEC. If defense counts for anything, they should be in a lot of games this year and may even pull off a few upsets on the some of the top teams in the conference. Players like Ron Robinson, Chris Chenault, Vic Adams, Oliver Barnett and David Johnson can play with just about anybody. And with eight defensive starters back, they should be one of the best in the league again. They were third in the SEC in defense last year, they should be near the top again. But the schedule is just so tough, though, it will be difficult to have an above-.500 record.

On Prop 48 ruling: "I think it's gonna leave a lot of good players out in the cold. It's gonna make people improve their academics, but I've never been sure that it's fair to judge somebody on a four-hour te because it's been proven that some people just don't test well under those conditions should increase academic awareness in this part of the country since it is the SEC that is instituting this rule. And if the rest of the conferences in the country go to it, it should help clean up college athletics."

Hait's fearless forecast: 4-7

Larry Vaught, TCP columnist and sports editor of the Danville Advocate-Messenger:
"I'll take Kentucky to go a realistic 3-8.
Anything above that and you have to think coach Claiborne has done his best coaching job here. With the strength of the schedule, the uncertainty about the offense and just the problems of the last few years, I just can't see more than three wire." more than three wins.

On Prop 48 ruling: "I think the SEC has the right rule. If they can't make those minimum scores, they don't need to be play-ing. If other schools want to take them, that's fine. But somebody along the way has to set the example you want set. It's kind of hypocritical for a group of presidents to say they want integrity in the schools, yet turn around and let you recruit marginal athletes to bring in dollars for the athletic budgets.

Vaught's fearless forecast: 3-8

Dick Gabriel, sportscaster WKYT-TV: "I think their lack of depth will be a problem, combined with the killer schedule. They can surprise some people if some of the question mark kids come through. I think they'll be in just about every game into the fourth quarter. If they can just make the big plays, they can upset some people. They're going to have to score points and keep the defense off the field, because the defense can play with any team in the conference, as long as its rested properly."

On Prop 48 ruling: "As long as everybody in the conference plays by the same rules, I'm in favor of it. I don't have any problem with the rule itself. I could even see accepting a set number of Prop 48 cases, limiting everyone to three, four, maybe five. Whatever it is, it's got to be consistent. The ACT test merely defines whether a kid is ready to go to college intellectually.

Gabriel's fearless forecast: 4-7

Mike Estep, TCP associate editor: "I hate to sound pessimistic about the season, because I think this could be Kentucky's best team since I've been here, but I just don't see any way for UK to win a lot of ballgames this year. And the schedule has a lot to do with that. Not that I'm against playing a tough schedule, because I think if you're going to be in a league like the SEC you should play the best in the SEC.

'Looking at the schedule, there are three games they absolutely can't win-at Auburn, at LSU and at Tennessee—and then there are three games that they absolutely can't lose— Central Michigan, Kent State and Southern Illinois. It's those other five games that will make them or break them—home games againsts Alabama, Georgia, Yandy, and Blorida andoat Indiana ett econos conges

"Personnel-wise, I think UK is very close to turning the corner and moving into the up-per division of the SEC. With the exception of a few spots on the offensive line, there are good, solid, fundamental players at each posigood, sould, fundamental players at each posi-tion. Players that are good enough to play in the SEC. But not players that can consistent-ly win in the SEC on their own. To win in this league you have to have plenty of solid players-which UK has-but you also have to have a handful of players that can dominate, guys that can almost single-handedly take over a game and decide the outcome. Oliver Barnett and Charlie Darrington are those type of players. Donnie Gardner might develop into a guy like tha before he graduates. UK just doesn't have enough people like that right now.

"If they resort to some trickery on offense and get a lot of good breaks, it's possible they could win two or three of those five games but one (I think Florida) is more like it.'

On Prop 48 ruling: "I like it and I don't Theoretically, what I'd really like to see the NCAA do is take Proposition 48 and tear it up. Do away with it. I'd like to see all the admissions policies controlled by each in-dividual school. ..with no regard to athletics. Treat all incoming freshmen the same, whether they're there to major in bio-chemistry or basketball. If school X says 'regular' students have to have a 30 on the ACT to be admitted, then student-athletes should have to have a 30 to be admitted. If school Y says you only have to score a 10 to get in, then student-athletes should only have have a 10 to get in. Instead of making inferior students meet university standards, we're making universities lower their standards to accomodate inferior students

"Realistically, though, I know that the chances are we'll probably have an authentic Elvis sighting before that happens. So, if we have to live with Proposition 48, then I like the action the SEC has taken."

Estep's fearless prediction: 4-7

Ralph Hacker, color analyst on UK radio broadcasts: "The schedule-it's the toughest they've faced in years. Even though they may have better material than in years past, I think the schedule may have caught up with them. Their strengh has to be Glenn Fohr. But other than that I'm not sure they've got a lot of strength. I'm saying that without seeing them (practice). I think Mike Pfeifer is a good one. Question is, will they be able to bring the other linemen along? Their weakness is the other linemen along? Their weakness is the depth in the offensive line—lack of depth and experience. Those two things have to go hand in hand. It's the age old problem at UK Their real strengths? A think they be got some good coaches. That's their real strength.

On Prop 48 Ruling: "I think it's an excellent decision-not to take them. There has to be a line drawn somewhere. It's an excellent decision and I applaud the SEC. It's not like they (incoming college students) didn't know this was coming. They knew it was coming

Hacker's fearless forecast: 4-7

Oscar Combs, TCP editor/publisher: "Nobody's expecting the 'Cats to do much this season because of that schedule that in-cludes seven bowl teams from last year, but Kentucky seems to achieve its greatest success when experts expect the least. With Ken tucky ranked solidly near the bottom of the SEC, you can bet most opponents will be taking the Wildcats lightly.

"And although the 'Cats lack big names in their backfield, it'll be like many of the Wildcats say, they've got nowhere to go but up because no one is expecting many victories from this unit

'A preseason prediction? Well, my guess is no better than anyone else. I've hit on the hit about as often as it's rained this summer and you know how little rain we've enjoyed. and you know now little rain we've enjoyed.

But I see Kentucky winning games against
Central Michigan, Kent State, Southern Illinois, Vanderbilt, and then I see UK beating
Indiana in a close one up in Bloomington. I think the 'Cats will be in just about all of the other games, and like last year, it will come down to UK-Tennessee for a winning season and a possible bowl bid. And like last year, I think UT will come out on top in a

"I see a 5-6 mark for the Wildcats, one which most experts believe is an impossibility. But the only things impossible today are trying to escape death and taxes. Football comes under neither category."

On Prop 48 ruling: "First of all I have to wonder if this is just a situation to put nine SEC schools on the level of Georgia since the famous Jan Kemp case resulted in Georgia officials directing Bulldog coaches not to admit anyone not making Prop 48. In all honesty, it's a bold move for the conference which is commonly referred to as the nation's most prolific "football factory." There are some who believe the NCAA will adopt similar legislation within the next two years. Perregistation within the next two years. Fersonally, I don't think that will happen. If it does, then all will go well and the SEC will get credit. But if the NCAA doesn't enact similar legislation, you can bet your bottom dollar the Floridas, Georgias, Auburns, LSUs and Alabamas of the SEC won't allow the rosters to be raided by the likes of Florida. rosters to be raided by the likes of Florida State, Miami, Texas, Arkansas, Clemson, South Carolina, etc.

Combs' fearless forecast: 5-6 knich t

Inexperience of line may tie Eisaman's hands

By TCP Columnist Nick Nicholas

Wildcat offensive coordinator Jerry

Eisaman has his hands full as he prepares to enter his seventh year at Kentucky.

First of all, he must plot his playbook for the likes of early-season opponents Auburn, Indiana and Alabama. Too much "razzledazzle" can't be used against Central Michigan or Kent State, because SEC scouts

Michigan or Kent State, because SEC scouts will be watching every move.

If UK's offense has problems scoring points against the Chippewas or Golden Flashes then it probably won't matter.

So much for changing the gameplan.

Defensively, Kentucky's first unit, when fresh, can keep up with the big boys. To go

one step farther, so can the second-stringers. Remember the key word is fresh, however. So, if the defense is putting in overtime while the offense is saddled on the sidelines, like in the past three non-winning campaigns, then

it could be a long, long season.

Another concern of the offensive unit is that 6-foot-7, 300-pound right tackle Mike Pfeifer is the line's lone returnee.

OK coach, you've fielded questions about

UK's green interior front since the end of last season. One more time, would you talk about the inadequacies in the trenches?

"We're going to have (depend on) some of these young kids," says Eisaman. "You know, they're big kids, they're strong kids and they've worked hard over the summer. The thing is, they just don't have playing experience

"They're just going to have to mature fast.
They're just going to have to accept the responsibility that they have a man-size job to do—step in and fill some shoes and get the

job done.
"You know, they're not going to have time

to mature because of the schedule this year." Experience. There's no substitute for having experience in game situations. Whether they're ready for it or not non-letter winners like Mike Nord (6-7, 278), Bill Hulette (6-2, 257), Brian Cralle (6-1, 280), Brian Denham (6-1, 254) and the rest of the interior buddles will have to learn the hard way.

Yes, Pfeifer is a mountain of a tackle, but

not big enough to carry those guys on his proverbial shoulders.

Coach Eisaman, is there anything to the old adage: your backs are only as good as your offensive line?

"Most of the time," answers Eisaman.
'There are four to six times in a tough ballgame, and I don't care who it is or what league you're in, you're going to have to knock somebody off the line of scrimmage, whether it's third-and-one or fourth-and-one. If you can't do that a couple of times a game then you're going to be hurtin'.

"I think that's what happened to us last

True, especially against Southeastern Conference teams. Of its five SEC setbacks, UK's inability to mount scoring drives against LSU and Georgia led to its demise. After that the 'Cats' chucked it in, losing three of their re-

maining four games.

Against Tennessee in the season finale,
Jerry Claiborne's club had one last gasp to guarantee a winning record. But a 6-5 record fell one yard shy when Mark Higgs was stopped three times inside the three

Putting aside UK's offensive line problems for the time being, Eisman is hopeful that quarterback Glenn Fohr, a stable of running backs and a couple of talented receivers ca help keep opposing defenses honest.

At least that's what he's hoping. Eisman's main man will be Fohr, the one responsible for igniting an explosive offen-

"I think that Glenn is going to have an outstanding year just by the fact that he knows what to do this year" the UK assistant

"Last year he wasn't ready to start. He had to go in there and play. His numbering system in junior college was completely opposite of ours. When we signal our formation and run the play in and he's trying to get the play from coach (Greg) Nord, now he's got to translate it into his (system). It was confusing to him and it took him to get in and out of the

'Now he knows the offense completely,

which will speed up the operation."
Fohr's primary targets will be "big-play"
men, tight end Charlie Darrington and
sophomore wideout Phil Logan, Gaining yardage by the run, meanwhile, may Eisaman's main objective.

Kentucky's ground game will be centered around four backs—senior Ivy Joe Hunter, juniors Andy Murray and Darren Bilberry

and sophomores Al Baker.

Hunter, who for most of his college career has been bothered by various nagging injuries, is coming off his best spring session. The UK staff is hoping he can rise to the forefront, much like George Adams and Mark Higgs did in their respective senior years.

How you get points on the board. . .it rests on the shoulders of five guys up front.

"We've got running backs who can run, but they've got to have some opportunites to get through the line of scrimmage," hopes

UK football notes: It's no surprise that the Wildcat offense is one of the big question marks entering the season. That won't be

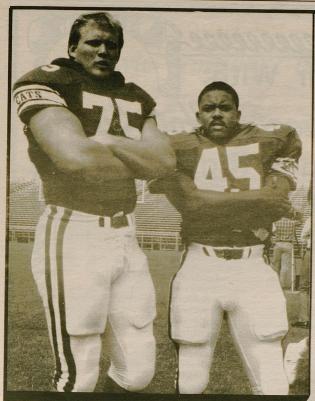


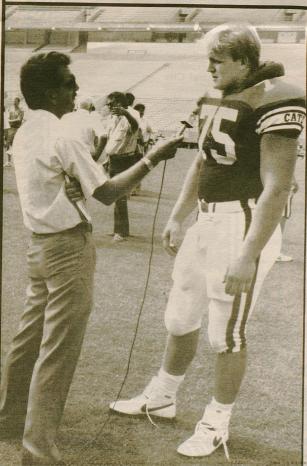
Dee Smith Now A Hilltopper

Helped by the departure of Dee Smith, who has enrolled at Western Kentucky. Smith was arrested last spring in Cincinnati for allegedly trying to sell cocaine to undercover detec-UK coaching staff. Smith caught 23 passes last season (second on the club behind tight end Charlie Darrington), for a team-high 420 yards (18.3 yards per reception) and four touchdowns. Smith will have to sit out this touchdowns. Smith will have to sit out this season and will have one year of eligibility remaining. He's currently awaiting a September trial. Former Kentucky Wildcat Joe Curry is now back with the 'Cats as a graduate-assistant. Curry, hampered throughout his career because of five knee operations, with Tony Czack will be in charge of the tight and charge of the tight ends



WATCH WHAT YOU SAY, MIKE seems to be what Chris Chenault is trying to get across to teammate Mike Pfeifer





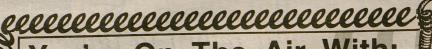


Wildcat Media Day

(Top left) Mike Pfeifer and Chris Chenault are two veterans expected to be leaders of the '88 squad; (Lower left) Here Pfeifer is being interviewed by Lexington's Carl Nathe; (Top right) Reporters flock to Al Baker for answers; and (Lower right) One bystander takes a break from all the activities.







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WIEL, AM 1400	Elizabethtown
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Bowie confident he'll return to Blazers

Ex-UK star hopes to silence critics

Even when he was hobbling to the arena on crutches, Sam Bowie still heard the whispers and questions

"I just keep answering the same question about why Portland picked me over Michael Jordan," said Bowie, the second overall pick in the 1984 National Basket-



Larry Vaught

Cats' Pause Columnist



ball Association draft, "I firmly believe, though, that one day I'm going to quiet all

that criticism and become the player I know I can be."

Bowie, a former All-American at Kentucky, has missed four of the last seven ons with leg injuries. A stress fracture in his left leg made him miss two years

He came back to lead Kentucky to the Final Four in 1984. That's when Portland decided to take the 7-1 Bowie over Jordan, now a superstar with Chicago. The first

choice in that 1984 draft was Akeem Olajuwon, another star at Houston.

"It was a lot of pressure to be picked between those two," said Bowie. "But who knows, it could have been one of them who got hurt and then people would be ques-

tioning those picks."

No one faulted Portland after Bowie's rookie season. He averaged 10.1 points, 8.6 rebounds and 2.67 blocked shots per game and hit 52.3 percent from the floor.

He was having another banner year in 1985-86 when a bone bruise in his left leg made him miss 13 games. He returned for three games before season-ending surgery was needed

That just started his problems. The fifth game of the 1986-87 season Bowie went down with an injury to his right leg. He missed the rest of the year. He thought he was ready to return last season. Warming up for the first exhibition game, though, he went down.

"It wasn't a new break," said John Lashway, Portland's public relations director. "It just turned out that the original break hadn't healed. It was really weird."

In March a metal plate and 10 screws were inserted in Bowie's right leg. "The injury was just so bad that they had to screw the bone back together," said Bowie. He's been in Lexington all summer working to rehabilitate the leg under the watchful eye of Pat Etcheberry, UK's strength coach.

"If anybody can get me back, it's Etch," said Bowie.
Portland doesn't want Bowie to rush. Some team officials feel if he had not tried

rortiand doesn't want bowle to rush. Some team officials real in the lad not dreat to play so soon last season that he would now be fully healed.

"We are giving Sam as long as he needs," said Lashway. "No one is counting on him because no one wants to pressure him into coming back too soon.

"We would like to think he could be ready midway of the season. That would be

we would nike to tillink he could be ready intoway of the season. That would be great for him and us."

Bowie doesn't have to rush back. He makes \$1 million per year and has two more years remaining on his original contract. He's also guaranteed extended payments through 2001.

That security is one reason Bowie won't feel sorry for himself.
"I could be a lot worse off," said Bowie. "If I had got hurt again before the draft, I wouldn't be financially secure now

If it hadn't been for his basketball talent, Bowie isn't sure if he would have even been able to go to college.

"I came from a broken home," said Bowie. "My parents were divorced when I was in the seventh grade and it was a sad situation for some time.

"My mother was making \$10,000 and trying to raise two kids. My parents just didn't have the finances to send me to college. That's why I tried to absorb all I

could when I got a free education.

"Life is too short. Time just flies by. That's why I'll never forget my roots. No amount of money can change that. Plus money doesn't help you if you have bone cancer or get paralyzed in a car wreck. Money can't make those people happy."

Bowie still recalls when his father died. He was a sophomore at UK and was shocked when he heard the news.

"My father was 45 years old and had been a great athlete," said Bowie. "He was in shape and didn't have any health problems.

in shape and didn't have any health problems.
"I wanted to be a pro player and do so many things for him and my mom. They always wanted the best for us and tried to do all they could for me and my sister. Now I'm making all this money and he's not here to share it. But I do still feel like he's watching over me and we will get back together one day."

Bowie, who had over 600 scholarship offers after his prep career in Lebanon, Pa., always wanted to play pro basketball. But that didn't change the way his research signed him.

parents raised him.

"I was raised in a Christian family and it was mandatory for us to attend church each Sunday," said Bowie. "Now I'm so thankful that I have that relationship with Jesus Christ, It lets me be a good role model. So many athletes take drugs or abuse

alcohol. I don't want to be like that and want people, especially kids, to look to me

Bowie still remembers admiring Lew Alcindor, now Kareem Abdul-Jabbar of the world champion Los Angeles Lakers, when he was young.

"Jabbar had been my idol for years when I came into the NBA," said the former UK pivotman. "I had to play eight games against him that first year. The first

OK pivotman. "I had to piay eight games against him that first year. The first time he hit me in the chest with an elbow shocked me.

"Then I realized I had to get some respect, too. I shot him an elbow right back. After our first game, though, I went to his house for dinner. I got to mingle with Magic Johnson there. It was just a great experience for me."

So was working out with 7-0 Alexander Sabonis recently. The Soviet star was in Portland to rehabilitate a foot injury and the Trailblazers hope a deal can be work-



Big Boo hopes to be back

ed out to have him playing in Portland this year

"The organization is really excited about the chance of having him either this year or next," said Bowie. "He would be a real plus for us or any team. He's a nice

guy and I enjoyed working out with him."

Portland fans feel the same about Bowie, who plans to return to Portland late next month.

"The people here just love Sam," said Lashway. "Most of our fans have really stayed behind him. He did some TV work for us last year and after basketball he has a future there. But everybody here still hopes he makes it back on the court."

If he doesn't, though, Bowie insists he'll have no regrets

"I always thought I would be a pro player and want to make it back," said Bowie. "If I don't, though, it's no huge problem.

"People often wonder how I deal with the adversity. But adversity is seeing a 10-year-old kid in a hospital who has had his leg amputated. That kids wishes he had a leg to hurt. That's why I'll never feel sorry for Sam Bowie. Life's too short

Wildcat basketball team to get tested early; Duke, Alaska Shootout, Notre Dame first exams

Jerry Claiborne isn't the only Wildcat coach with a difficult schedule this season. Kentucky basketball coach Eddie Sutton and his troops are scheduled to face a demanding non-conference slate to go along with an always difficult Southeastern conference

Earlier this month, UK athletics director Cliff Hagan announced that not only will the Cats be playing traditional powers such as Duke, Notre Dame, Louisville and Indiana, but also a strong Alaska Shootout field and a made-for-television encounter at the Carrier Dome against Syracuse.

"It's a tough schedule, just like our foot-ball thing is anymore," said Hagan. "You've got a tough schedule, if you don't play anybody but your conference schools." Added Sutton: "This schedule is going to be tough for our young team, especially ear-

ly. But I would hope that by the time we get into conference play, our tough December schedule will have helped us mature."

There's one date remaining which has not

been confirmed-the Kentucky-Louisville matchup at Freedom Hall. CBS is planning to televise the game, unless NCAA findings place the 'Cats on the tube, banning the team from television appearances. Only time (and the NCAA) will tell. The date with Louisville won't be confirm-

ed until mid-December.

There's a possibility that the Wildcats night be facing the NCAA champion of the past three seasons. UK definitely will play Louisville (1986 champ) and Indiana (1987). Last season's national winner, Kansas, is slated to play in the Great Alaska Shootout. Kentucky's first opponent in the Thanksgiving weekend tourney is Iona, with the winner playing the Seton Hall-Utah victor.
Southeastern Conference rival Florida, cer-

tainly to be one of the favorites to capture this season's crown, is also playing in the Shootout.

Northwestern State is back on the 'Cats' schedule. The Demons, whose coach Don Beasley was dismissed on July 27, were the first opponents for Sutton at UK-1985-86

campaign.

The Wildcats are a hot item for television watchers too as only the Jan. 18th game at Alabama, and the Feb 20th contest at Auburn will not be televised. Four of the 'Cats' games are to be nationally televised by either CBS



Sutton optimistic about schedule

1988-89 KENTUCKY BASKETBALL SCHEDULE

DATE		OPPONENT	(TV) SITE
Nov. 14	(Mon.)	SWEDEN (EXHIBITION) RUPP ARE	
Nov. 19	(Sat.)	Duke (TIPOFF CLASSIC)	(ESPN) Springfield, Mass.
Nov. 25-28.	(FriMon)	(Alaska Shootout)	
		(UK vs. Iona, FIRST ROUND	
		Seton Hall, Utah, Kansas, Alask	a
		Florida, California)	(ESPN) Anchorage, Alaska
Dec. 3	(Sat.)	Notre Dame	(ABC) Indianapolis
Dec. 7	(Wed.)	NORTHWESTERN STATE	(UK-TV, LIVE) RUPP ARENA
Dec. 10	(Sat.)	WESTERN CAROLINA	(UK LIVE) RUPP ARENA
Dec. 16-17	(FriSat)	UKIT	
		(ARKANSAS STATE VS MARSHA	
		(BOWLING GREEN STATE VS. UK) (UK LIVE) RUPP ARENA	
Dec. 20	(Tues.)	INDIANA	RUPP ARENA
Dec. 27	(Tues.)	AUSTIN PEAY	(UK LIVE) FREEDOM HALL
Dec. 30 or	(Sat.)		The state of the s
Jan. 1	(Sun.)	Louisville	(CBS) Freedom Hall
Jan. 4	(Wed.)	GEORGIA	(SEC) RUPP ARENA
Jan. 7	(Sat.)	VANDERBILT	(UK DELAYED) RUPP ARENA
Jan. 12	(Thur.)	Florida	(ESPN) Gainesville, Fla.
Jan. 14.	(Sat.)	LOUISIANA STATE	(ESPN) RUPP ARENA
Jan. 18	(Wed.)	Alabama	Tuscaloosa, Ala.
Jan. 21	(Sat.)	Tennessee	(ESPN) Knoxville, Tenn.
Jan. 25	(Wed.)	AUBURN	(UK DELAYED) RUPP ARENA
Jan. 28	(Sat.)	Mississippi	(SEC) Oxford, Miss.
Feb. 1	(Wed.)	MISSISSIPPI STATE	(UK DELAYED) RUPP ARENA
Feb. 5	(Sun.)	Georgia	(ABC) Athens, Ga.
Feb. 8	(Mon.)	Vanderbilt	(SEC) Nashville, Tenn.
Feb. 11	(Sat.)	FLORIDA	(NBC) RUPP ARENA
Feb. 15	(Wed.)	Louisiana State	(SEC) Baton Rouge
Feb. 18	(Sat.)	ALABAMA	(SEC) RUPP ARENA
Feb. 20	(Mon.)	Auburn	Auburn, Ala.
Feb. 22	(Wed.)	TENNESSEE	(SEC) RUPP ARENA
Feb. 26	(Sun.)	Syracuse	(CBS) Syracuse, N.Y
Mar. 1	(Wed.)	MISSISSIPPI	(UK DELAYED) RUPP ARENA
Mar. 4	(Sat.)	MISSISSIPPI STATE	Starkville, Miss.
Mar. 9-12	(ThursSun.)	SEC Tournament	(TBA) Knoxville, Tenn.

Claiborne's Wildcats fight for respect

Big Blue facing uphill battle

UNIVERSITY OF KENTUCKY coach Jerry Claiborne and his gridiron wildcats are the Rodney Dangerfields of the state's college football scene hey get no respect. While Claiborne has had to struggle for recognition in each of his six previ-



Dan Brandenburg

Cats' Pause Columnist



ous seasons at Kentucky, he has never had to face an uphill battle like this

With all of the problems the UK basketball program has encountered over the summer being chronicled on the front page, Claiborne's Cats have barely even gotten a mention on the sports page.

But then that's exactly the kind of attention that Claiborne can do without.

NCAA investigations, recruiting allegations and Proposition 48 casualties do mix with the football programs run by Jerry Claiborne, thank you.

Whether coach Claiborne is anything else or not, he is squeaky clean, a reputation that precedes him wherever he goes. You only have to look at UK's

reputation that precedes him wherever he goes. You only have to look at UK's 90 percent graduation rate and the hord of Southeastern Conference All-Academic team members to know that.

The big question, though, is "Is that good enough?"

The best the Cats have done over the past three seasons is .500 and the prospects for even that good of a record this year are slim. If UK ends this season 3-8, will Claiborne be put on the road again?

I doubt it.

IT SEEMS THAT coaches of .500 teams who keep their noses clean tend to stick around longer than coaches of highly successful teams who get caught with their hand in the cookie jar, so to speak.

UK President Dr. David Roselle has let it be known that he is proud of the

academic success shown by the football team and he expects it to continue. As long as the Cats break even, keep stocking the All-Academic teams and steer

clear of the NCAA, I expect Claiborne's job to be pretty secure.

A 9-3 or 8-4 season every four or five years, hopefully with a minor bowl game tossed in, should also keep many of the fans content. With the likes of game tossed in, should also keep many of the fans content. With the likes of Auburn, Alabama, Georgia and others looming around the SEC, UK football fans have learned not to expect conference titles every season.

There's even been talk of Claiborne replacing Cliff Hagan as athletics director should the UK basketball program be found guilty of some serious viola-

tions by the NCAA.

But I don't expect that to happen, either.

With the NCAA under so much pressure to find UK guilty of something, I expect some minor violation to be found with an equally minor penalty to be levied. A measure that won't be nearly drastic enough to cause Roselle to "clean house."

"Claiborne, who will celebrate his 60th birthday Aug. 26, probably wouldn't be happy as AD anyway. He just doesn't seem like the type to juggle budgets, sign contracts and sit behind a desk in an office. It's hard to take a coach off the field, especially one who's been there for 26

BUTTHEN, WHO could blame someone for wanting to change jobs and get rid of mountains of pressure and stress? No one can coach forever. Claiborne would probably do a good job as AD, if that's the way the situation worked out, but there are probably more qualified persons within the UK administration

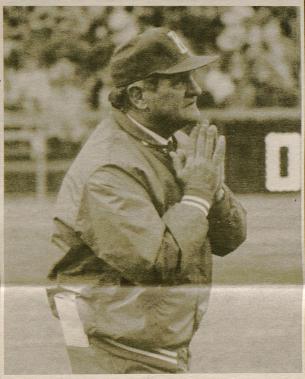
Some people are anxious to get another coach who can pull UK over onto the winning side of .500, while others are gun-shy about possibly bringing in someone not quite as "clean" as Claiborne. The UK program has had some

someone not quite as "clean" as Claborne. The UK program has had some problems in the past, you know.

Some of the thinking is, "We want a new football coach who can make UK a contender year-in and year-out, but Claiborne is such a nice guy and he runs such a clean program that we hate to fire him. So why not make him athletics director if current AD Cliff Hagan gets the ax somewhere among this fiasco with the basketball team?"

I disagree. While the Wildcat basketballers are trying to weather the storm, why not get behind Claiborne? I question whether any coach could make UK stack up favorably against the steamroller kind of schedule the Cats are set to face this season.

claiborne had earned a lot of respect in his six seasons at UK and is beginning to get a stronghold on all of the in-state talent. After having blue-chipper after blue-chipper take their skills elsewhere, UK is once again beginning to reap some of the homegrown talent. For example, look at preseason All-SEC



Now is not the time to give up on Claiborne

selections Mike Pfeifer from Louisville Trinity and Chris Chenault from Lexington Henry Clay.

Now is not the time to give up on Jerry Claiborne.

EVERYONE HAS SAID how tough UK's schedule was going to be this sea-

n and now they have the numbers to back them up. Kentucky was picked to finish ninth in the SEC's preseason poll and there was little wonder why. All of the top seven teams in the conference are on the UK schedule, with only No. 8 Mississippi State and cellar-dweller Ole Miss

This also sets the stage for my annual preseason predictions -

not for the weakhearted this year.

Kentucky finished 5-6 last season, but the Cats should feel fortunate if they achieve that record this year with the advent of the new seven-game SEC

achieve that record this year with the advent of the new seven-game SEC schedule. Looking at the UK slate, it's easy to say the Cats will finish 4-7, beating all of the non-conference schools and going 0-7 in the SEC race.

But, considering that seven of the games are to be played at Commonwealth Stadium including contests with Florida (picked sixth) and Vandy (7th), I'm going to be as optimistic as possible and say the Wildcats will duplicate their 1987 mark of 5-6.

Keep in print that no team coached by Cleiberge Leavening and the second se

Keep in mind that no team coached by Claiborne has ever beaten Alabama, Georgia or Auburn. Claiborne's teams own one victory each over Tennessee and LSU and two over Florida. That comes out to 4-33 against the SEC's Big Six during Claiborne's coaching career at Virginia Tech, Maryland and UK.

RASPBERRIES GO OUT to WKYT-TV (Lexington's Channel 27) for nearly scaring at least one roomful of UK faithful, myself included, to death with what was most likely a case of very poor timing.

I was sitting around in Versailles with a houseful of in-laws and the TV

NCAA sends UK's Roselle a

Four months of turmoil have rocked UK's program, and looks like it might get worse instead of better

By TCP Columnist Mike Estep

of its at UK are stationed that a serious allegation has been made by the NCAA concerning the men's basketball program. It is my wish, and I believe it is the wish of all UK supporters, that UK continue its winning basketball tradition, and that it continue it with a program that is fully compliant with NCAA regulations."

-UK president David Roselle

After suffering through nearly four months ous vexation since the Los Angeles Daily News initially alleged that University of Kentucky assistant coach Dwane Casey sent recruit Chris Mills' father Claud an over-night package containing \$1,000—first, star Rex Chapman decided to take his wares to the NBA, then came the news that prep phenoms Shawn Kemp and Sean Woods would have to spend the 1988-89 season pursuing scholarly rather than athletic endeavors—the good folks in Wildcat Country were beginning to wonder which would run out first...bad luck or basketball players. It's still early and the home team hasn't had

its turn at bat, but at this point the score ap-pears to be: Misfortune 4, UK 0.

And it looks like it might get worse before

it gets better.

At least that's the indication you get by At least that's the Indication you get of reading the NCAA's official letter of inquiry (LOI) concerning the Mills/Casey investigation, written by NCAA Director of Enforcement S. David Berst July 22 and received by Life and the David Berst July 22 and received by Life and the David Berst July 22 and received by the second of the David Berst July 22 and received by the second of the David Berst July 22 and received by the second of the David Berst July 22 and received by the second of the David Berst July 22 and received by the second of the S UK president David Roselle July 25, which

states in part:
...The enforcement staff essentially has concluded its inquiries regarding the March 30, 1988, package that was sent to the father of prospective student-athlete Chris Mills by men's assistant basketball coach Dwane Casey. Based upon a review of the available information, it appears reasonable to expect that the NCAA Committee on Infractions may find a violation of NCAA legislation concerning this matter..."

That sounds damaging enough in its own right, but as UK fans have come to expect

recently, bad luck usually arrives in bunches.
"...In addition," the NCAA's LOI states,
"other inquiries have been undertaken by the enforcement staff and it is anticipated that approximately 10 additional allegations will be submitted to the university in approximately

Even in drought-stricken Kentucky, when it rains, it pours.

No one this side of the NCAA enforcement

staff knows what those other allegations are, but the NCAA has reportedly been question-

ing the following:

□Who paid for a trip to UK by Barbara

Brown, Kemp's mother, last Oct. 31-Nov. 1.

□Whether LeRon Ellis paid for staying in Wildcat Lodge the summer between his senior year in high school and his freshman

□Possible irregularities concerning the Scholastic Aptitude Test that Eric Manuel

took in Lexington last summer.

□Who paid for Derrick Miller's air fare to Georgia following a death in the family.

UK's recruitment of senior-to-be
Lawrence Funderburke, of Columbus (Ohio) Wehrle High. And whether UK alumnus and admitted "basketball junkie" Bill Chupil of

Columbus acted as an agent for the University of Kentucky in bringing Funderburke to several UK basketball game

NCAA even brought TCP/BBB editor publisher Oscar Combs into the act. NCAA investigator Bill Saum showed up at our of-fices Aug. 3, to interview Combs (see separate story on page 2). The interview was aborted before any questions could be asked when the NCAA refused to let Combs tape-record the session to insure accuracy. The NCAA later informed Combs' attorney the NCAA later informed Combs attorney fine three topics they wished to question him about were 1) Chupil, 2) Funderburke and 3) A poster/advertisement of UK recruit Sean Woods appearing in an issue of *BBB*. Combs has had no further contact from the NCAA regarding the matter.

When the NCAA does inform Roselle of the other allegations, the university will be given a specified amount of time to draft a written response to be used in a hearing before the six-member Committee on Infractions. Upon reviewing the report and hearing testimony from each of the parties involved, Berst said the Committee on Infractions would issue a report detailing its conclusions

and penalties, if any.

Any way you look at it, UK appears to be in a heap of trouble. Berst couldn't supply exact figures, but he said that once a school receives a letter of inquiry, violations (and

sanctions) are usually not very far behind.
"Where there are several allegations submitted, it's usually not likely that all of those
will be dropped," Berst told TCP in a
telephone interview, "And that's because the enforcement staff does have to meet some kind of standard before we submit them—we can't just submit them as questions, we have to have some basis for going that far. And usually, institutions agree that there are some violations that occur out of the things that are submitted to them in official inquiries. So it's rather rare that institutions would go through that entire process and not have some kind of finding violation."

And if the violation is judged to be major

in severity. . well, the resulting penalties could be leave the already-undermanned Wildcats in worse shape than (gasp!) they were two years ago when they had to suit up managers and assistant coaches in order to

Under Section 7-(e) of the NCAA's enforcement procedures, the minimum penalties are

☐Two-year probationary period. ☐One-year elimination of all expense-paid

visits to campus by prospective recruits

□One-year ban on off-campus recruiting by all members of coaching staff.

☐One-year ban on postseason competition ☐One-year ban on televised games.

☐A requirement that action (such as suspension, reassignment or reduction in salary) be taken against all coaches that were tly involved in violations

If there is a bright side to the whole affair,

it could be this:

Even the gunslingers at the NCAA don't always get their man. Although UK did receive a reprimand in its last scrape with the NCAA (over the Herald-Leader accusations). no sanctions were handed down.

And Berst admitted that a letter of inquiry isn't always a kiss of death. Schools have received LOIs in the past and still survived. "It's infrequent," he said, "but it does hap-

What the NCAA's letter said:

What follows is the text of the letter, written by NCAA Director of Enforcement S. David Berst on July 22 and received by UK president David Roselle July 25, notifying UK that the NCAA is conducting an official inquiry into allegations that Dwane Casey sent \$1,000 to recruit Chris Mills' father Claud in an overnight package delivered by Emery Worldwide Overnight Service:

Dear President Roselle:

This letter (and enclosure) is the result of a preliminary inquiry that has been conducted by the NCAA into the athletics policies and practices of the men's basketball program at the University of Kentucky. This inquiry was initiated in accordance with Section 2-(b) of the Official Procedure Governing of the NCAA Enforcement Program as described in my April 25, 1988, letter. As you know, the NCAA enforcement staff

and the university have conducted numerous interviews with coaching staff members, additional institutional employees, enrolled student-athletes and others. The enforcement staff also has conducted independent interstari also has conducted independent into views away from the university's campus. The enforcement staff essentially has concluded its inquiries regarding the March 30, 1988, package that was sent to the father of prospective student-athlete Chris Mills by men's assistance. tant basketball coach Dwane Casey. Based upon a review of the available information, it appears reasonable to expect that the NCAA nittee on Infractions may find a violation of NCAA legislation concerning this mat-ter. Accordingly, this letter (and enclosure) constitutes an official inquiry as described in Section 3-(b) of the Official Procedure Governing the NCAA Enforcement Program. In this regard, if the Committee on Infractions makes a finding of violation and determines that it is "major" in nature, the provisions of Secis "major" in nature, the provisions of Section 7-(e) of the enforcement procedures would

tion 7-(c) of the emoretisen procedures worked be applicable in this case, and action also could be required against involved individuals (e.g., possibly Mr. Casey and Chris Mills). In addition, other inquiries have been under-taken by the enforcement staff and it is an ticipated that approximately 10 additional allegations will be submitted to the university in approximately 30 days. It was determined, however, that the enclosed allegation should be submitted at this juncture to clarify the status of this matter for the university, Mr. Casey and the Mills family (and their legal counsel) of the enclosed allegation and the possible effect of a finding upon Chris Mills' eligibility at the University of Kentucky.

In order that complete information may be developed concerning this matter, several questions are submitted to obtain the facts for review by the Committee on Infractions. In the interest of clarity and in accordance with

the general procedures established by the Committee on Infractions, the institution is requested to copy the allegation and its sub-paragraphs. The institution's response should immediately follow the allegation or sub-paragraph to which the information submit-

Ten copies of your response should be forwarded to the writer at the NCAA executive office, and one copy should be forwarded to each member of the Committee on Infractions at the following addresses

Mr. Roy Kramer Athletic Director, Vanderbilt Univ.

Mr. John E. Nowak College of Law, Univ. of Illinois

Miss Patricia A. O'Hara Assoc. Profesor of Law, Univ. of Notre Dame

Mr. Milton R. Schroeder Professor of Law, Arizona State Univ.

Mr. D. Alan Williams Assoc. Professor of History, Univ. of Virginia

Mr. S. David Berst (10 copies) Director of Enforcement, NCAA

Once all allegations have been submitted to the university, an appropriate deadline date for receipt of a response will be determined. The Committee on Infractions will consider the response during an upcoming meeting and would welcome an appearance by representatives of the institution at that time. You w In accordance with the committee's adopted policies, it is requested that you or your designated representative outside the athletics department appear before the committee. I Cliff Hagan, Faculty Athletics Representative Bob Lawson, men's head basketball coach Ed-die Sutton, assistant basketball coach Dwane Casey and student-athlete Chris Mills be included among the institution's representatives

You will note that the statement immediate following the allegation requests that the institution indicate whether the allegation substantially correct and submit evidence to support its response. In accordance with the cooperative principle of the enforcement program, the institution should make every effort to interview the principals identified in tort to interview the principals identified in the allegation and to collect related informa-tion, regardless of whether a request to do so is specifically contained in the allegation. The committee's interest is for both the NCAA in-vestigative staff and the institution to collect where possible, information for consideration in order for the committee to determine the validity of the allegation.

If the institution does not believe the allega-

Text of the NCAA's Official Inquiry:

1. [NCAA Bylaw 1-1-(b)(1)] It is alleged that on March 30, 1988, while recruiting prospective student-athlete Chris Mills (Los Angeles, California), men's assistant basket-ball coach Dwane Casey sent a package via Emery Worldwide Overnight Service that contained a videotape and 20 \$50 bills to Claud Mills, the young man's father, at the prospect's home; further, at approximately 11:57 a.m. (PST) on March 31, 1988, this package, which contained

on March 31, 1988, this package, which contained 20 \$50 bills and the videotape, was delivered to the Mills home, and a receipt for the package was signed by the prospect.

Also, provide the following:
a. A copy of the shipping label for Emery Overnight Express shipment number 043365177, and a copy of a computer printout for this package dated April 8, 1988, 9:12 Zulu.
b. A copy of the Emery delivery record used for nonroutine deliveries by Emery driver David

Jones on March 31, 1988. c. The dates and approximate duration of all telephone calls to the Mills home that were charged to Casey's university telephone credit card or his university basketball office extension during the period September 1, 1987, to March 20, 1987, and from April 11, 1988, to July 1, 1988.

d. The dates, time of day, approximate duration and purposes of all telephone calls to the young man's home that were charged to Casey's young man's home that were charged to Cassy university telephone credit card or his university basketball office extension during the period March 21 to April 10, 1988.

e. The dates and contents of all packages sent of the shift of the shift in the contents of the university of the shift in the case of the case of the shift of the shift in the case of the case of

e. The dates and contents of all packages sent via Emery Overnight Express by the university to the young man or his father during the 1987-88 academic year-and the specific location in the Lexington area where each package was sent.

f. The number of Emery packages sent by Casey to prospective student-athletes and the cash to Mercal Packages.

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tion is re tional sta allegation spective, whose el involvem Mills) be to any al dividuals and orall relevant to them in appear be siders each is involve those por dividual

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tion is substantially correct, it should support tion is substantially correct, a should support its position with any evidence upon which the conclusion is based. Further, if the institution concludes the allegation is substantially cor-rect but not complete or accurate in all respects, it should submit additional informa-tion to clarify or adjust the allegation as written.

In accordance with the procedures adopted by the Committee on Infractions, the institu-tion is requested to ensure that each institu-tional staff member who is identified in an tional staff member who is identified in an allegation (i.e., Dwane Casey) and each prospective, present or former student-athlete whose eligibility could be affected based on involvement in an alleged violation (i.e., Chris Mills) be provided the opportunity to respond to any allegation involving them. In each instance, the institution should provide those individuals the opportunity to submit in writing and orally any information they desire that is relevant to the allegation in question and notify them in person, as well as in writing, that they them in person, as well as in writing, that they and their personal legal counsel, if any, may appear before the committee at the time it considers each allegation in which the individual is involved and that they may have access to those portions of the university's response to the official inquiry that pertain to the in-dividual. This office also will communicate directly with Mr. Casey, and carbon copies of such correspondence will be forwarded to

Your attention also is directed to Section 4 of the Official Procedure Governing the NCAA Enforcement Program, which describes the procedures to be followed during the institution's appearance before the committee. In addition, you may wish to review the policies and guidelines set forth in Section 12 of the enforcement procedures. Should you have additional questions concerning these procedures, please feel free to contact this office. Also, in the event members of the NCAA staff who have been involved in the investigation of this case can be assistance to the institution in developing its response, please contact this office for such assistance.

The enforcement program of the NCAA is a cooperative undertaking involving individual member institutions and allied conferences member institutions and allied conferences working together through the NCAA—a unified effort designed to improve the administration of intercollegiate athletics. You are called upon as the chief executive officer of the University of Kentucky for your cooperation and assistance to the end that complete information related to this matter may be developed. may be developed.

Sincerely,

S. David Berst Director of Enforcement

young men's parents and high school coaches during the 1987-88 academic year, the contents of each package and the specific location in the Lexington area where each package was sent.

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g. The number of Emery packages sent by edit card or Casey to prospective student-athletes, the young cases to prospective student-athletes, the young men's parents and high school coaches during the 1988. Imate duracalls to the to Casey in the period in the period characteristic the point particular the point period characteristic the point

UK president David Roselle's comments:

The following are UK president David Roselle's comments concerning the letter of inquiry he received from NCAA Director of Enforcement S. David Berst on July 25:

To begin with, I want you to know that all of us at UK are saddened that a serious allegation has been made by the NCAA concerning the men's basketball program. It is my wish, and I believe it is the wish of all UK supporters, that UK continue it winning basketball tradition, and that it continue it with a program that is fully compliant with NCAA regulations.

From the beginning of this matter, our objective has been to determine the validity of the allegation and report to the NCAA. What we will do is defend the basketball program against any unfounded allegation but, at the same time, we will accept full responsibility for any wrongdoing judged to have occured.

Accordingly, when this matter was first brought to my attention, I promised a thorough investigation of the allegation and I employed the services of an outstanding Lexington attorney, James Park Jr., to lead the investigation.

As soon as we receive notice here at UK of the other allegations mentioned by the NCAA, we will investigate those and respond to the NCAA accordingly.

Question: Dr. Roselle, has Judge Park finished his investigation of the Mills case, and what timetable do you have for resolv-

Roselle: The Mills matter has been rather thoroughly investigated by Judge Park. There will not be a report on that particular issue. What the NCAA has requested, as you will see, is a comprehensive report on whatever allegations are forthcoming. What they asked for is one report on all the allegations.

Question: Is there a timetable as to when you response to the NCAA will be complete?
Roselle: The NCAA has apprised us that at the time the (additional) allegations are received by the university, and they say that should be within 30 days, they will suggest a timetable.

Question: Why was the Mills situation brought forth today, when it will be a month before the other allegations are announced? Why not wait and announce them all at the same time?

Roselle: I don't know. I think you would have to address that question to the NCAA.

Question: Dr. Roselle, what's the gist of Judge Park's report? I'm under the impres-



UK president David Roselle addresses reporters at a press conference regarding the NCAA's letter of inquiry.

sion that part of his report involving coach Casey and the recruit is complete. Roselle: I'm not sure it's complete. He's made a rather thorough report on that allegation. It's not necessary to speculate on that report. What the letter from the NCAA indicated is that they're alleging a series of

Question: What would you say to all the Question: What would you say to all the Kentucky basketball fans out there? What can they conclude from the letter you received and how the University of Kentucky is responding? If you could sum it up in layman's terms in couple of lines.
Roselle: What the letter is, is a charge of

a wrongdoing, and a serious wrongdoing at that. What I would say to Kentucky basketball fans is that the University of Kentucky has a wonderful winning tradition in basket-ball. It will be our intent to rebuild that tradition, whatever comes out of this. . .to continue that tradition, whatever comes out of

Question: How would allegations which were based in truth, should they arise, affect the head basketball coach and, perhaps, the athletic director, contractually?

Roselle: I don't know. I wouldn't speculate

Question: Are you surprised that there will

Question: Are you surprised man mere with be approximately 10 more allegations? Did you think there would be that many? Roselle: Well, we knew that representatives from the NCAA were rather thoroughly investigating our program. I didn't know what to expect, but I did know they were investigating the program thoroughly.

Question: In regard to Judge Park's investigation—do you feel good about this program, so-so or do you have some real

Roselle: The program has been charged with a serious violation, and you can't be

Question: Is it your opinion that the previous NCAA investigation (regarding charges made by the Herald-Leader in '85) will have any impact on this one?

Roselle: I haven't thought about that. The current investigation was triggered by an allegation of an event that happened in Los Angeles. I don't see any bearing on this case from the previous investigation

Question: Have you talked to the NCAA nee you received the letter? Roselle: I have not, but representatives

from the University of Kentucky have

UK coach Eddie Sutton's prepared statement:



UK coach Eddie Sutton

UK head coach Eddie Sutton was out of town recruiting on a recruiting trip and was unable to attend president Roselle's press

The following is coach Sutton's prepared written statement that was released to the press concerning the NCAA's letter of inquiry

sent to Roselle:

I have spent 30 years of my life coaching basketball. At no time has there been a question about my honesty or the integrity of my programs. No one had suspicions concerning my programs, and this was reflected when I was elected last year as president of the National Association of Basketball Coaches

During my entire career, I have never lived through any experience that has been so difficult for me nor my family as what has happened in the last four months. I can say

unequivocally that I have not been involved in wrongdoings nor was I aware of improprieties that might damage the Kentucky

basketball program or the university.

I appreciate the strong position that Dr. Roselle has taken in relation to the recent difficulties, and I commend him for appointing a respected outside investigator to review the entire matter. Judge Park has been conducting a very thorough review of the allegation related to the Emery overnight express package, and I feel confident that his report will reflect fair treatment. It is inappropriate for me to comment further concerning the investigation until it is concluded.

My abiding faith in those associated with the Kentucky basketball program remains undaunted, I continue to be optimistic concerning Kentucky's basketball future.

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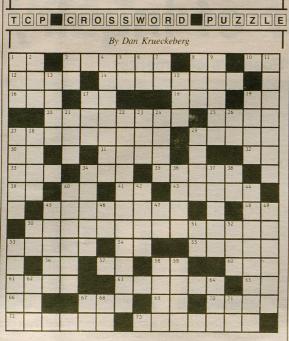
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Kentucky & Bowls

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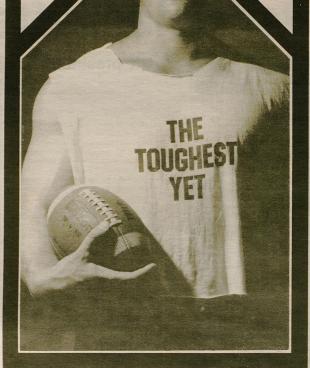


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Don't miss the action of seven (yes, seven!) **UK home football games at Commonwealth** Stadium this season. The Wildcats face the toughest of the SEC, including ALABAMA, GEORGIA, VANDY, AND FLORIDA right here in Lexington. See many of the nation's most exciting players as the '88 Cats face . . . the toughest yet.

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CENTRAL MICHIGAN KENT STATE Sept. 24 ALABAMA Oct. 1 **GEORGIA** Oct. 22 **SOUTHERN ILLINOIS** Oct. 29 **VANDERBILT** Nov. 5 **FLORIDA** Nov. 12

CALL for more ticket information

BANKEONE Eighteen Thousand People Who Care.

Vitale's Vitale, no matter what season it is

UK's Claiborne talks about 1989 UK football

College basketball guru Dick Vitale is as vocal and colorful in hot summertime as he in winter. I visited with him recently by telephone from his home in Bradenton, Fla. First, Vitale on the *Kentucky Situation*:



Bob Watkins

Cats' Pause Columnist



"I think a lot more things are going to pop before this thing's settled. This soap opera isn't over," he said. "What gets me is that Kentucky is the Rolls-Royce program of college basketball, one of the giants. I just can't believe you have to cheat to win at Kentucky." Vitale praised coach Eddie Sutton and expressed compassion, but.

"I've said all along that Eddie wouldn't survive five years at Kentucky and this just com-plicates that situation," Vitale said. "But for my money, Eddie is and always has been a man of great integrity.

"I feel bad for him and I've wanted to give him a call, but I really don't know what I can say. Basketball is so big at Kentucky, sometimes you can just get caught up in the bigness of things.
"And I've always been a big booster of Dwane Casey, too

"This all bothers me a lot. I just can't believe it's happening. It certainly isn't good for basketball when one of the giants gets a black eye like this."

However, Vitale pointed out, "One message comes through loud and clear: The NCAA, much maligned as it's been in the past, is showing people that it doesn't matter who it is, if they thing you're breaking the rules they're coming after you. This Kentucky thing

Characteristically, Vitale had (at least) one more salvo and one could almost see his pate turning red

"I blame the (high school) athlete for a lot of what's happening today," Vitale said. "Hey, I get tired of hearing about all the pressure that's on a kid to sign with this college or that one. One hundred guys are bidding for his body and the kid knows it and some of them use it. These 18-year-old kids aren't as innocent as some people think. They know

what's nappening.
"Talk about pressure on the kids, what about the pressure being put on these coaches to win? When something like this thing at Kentucky comes up, it makes me mad, that the coaches, the schools are under the gun while the kid walks away. That isn't right.
"But there's always a way of bouncing back, and Kentucky basketball will come back."

"Survivil". Visualization are continued to relieve coacter along. He is excited about a new

"But there's always a way of bouncing back, and Kentucky basketball will coinc back. Meanwhile, Vitale's career continues to roller-coaster along. He is excited about a new book on the market in November called Basically Vitale, which is underlined, "Just your average, one-eyed, bald-headed basketball junkie," and is published by Simon and Shuster. "Curry Kirkpatrick (of Sports Illustrated) wrote it and this guy's a PTA in my book. Prime Time Author," Vitale crowed. "He's done a super job with it and I'm very excited the state of th

. Prime Inne Author," Vitale crowed. "He's done a super job with it and I'm very excited and very flattered that all this is happening to me.

"The book has lots of funny stories in it, some about basketball in Kentucky that I believe fans there will enjoy. And it's going to have things like my list of favorite coaches, stories about them, things like that. It was fun to do and I just feel real good about it.

"To think in 1971 I was teaching sixth grade and now I'm working for ABC Television and ESPN. No doubt about it, this proves than anybody can enjoy the American dream."

Much criticized, sometimes vilified, Vitale is smiling all the way to the bank these days.

But more than that he believes fans are starting to understand (or appreciate) what he

But more than that, he believes fans are starting to understand (or appreciate) what he

brings to college basketball.

"Oh, a lot of people have taken shots at me and that's all right," he says. "But every day now more and more folks are saying, 'Hey, this guy is who he is and he's good for

the game. Let's just enjoy him.'
"Hey, I violate the (television broadcasting) rules. People say, 'Vitale talks too much.

He's too loud. He's this, he's that. But the guy works hard."
"I'm just very fortunate to be where I am and I know that. I'm lucky and I appreciate everything that's happening to me.'

Pay Players: Point-Counter Point

In July interviews, New Jersey Nets assistant coach and Kentucky native Butch Beard (Mr. Basketball 1965) contrasted views on the college game with one of the most-

distinguished gentlemen in all of college sports, John Oldham of Western Kentucky University (retired). To pay or not to pay big-time college athletes was the topic.

Beard: "We all know that there are recruits who go to school who are there for one thing, to play ball, no other reason. They are not there to get a degree. The schools are tepping stone to the pros.

They're making a lot of money for the universities and they aren't getting a cent of

it. I think you have to pay them something."

Oldham: "Athletes are already being paid. They have an opportunity to go to college free. What is it, one percent of them ever play ball in the pros?

"These kids are getting the chance to prepare for their future, and it's all paid for by

the schools

"You take away the scholarships and look out here and you'll still see 125 kids showing up to play on the football team. The teams might not be as good, but the rosters will be full."

Oldham suggests the theorem, "What goes around, comes around" may become operable once again: "We might see colleges go back to doing things the way the high schools do. The kids who really want to, show up to play on the teams. Nobody pays them or gives them anything free to do it. They play because they love the game. Maybe we'll see the scolleges going in that direction instead of looking to pay their athletes. "Besides," he added, "except for 20 or 30 schools you hear so much about—Oklahoma, Florida State, Miami and those—I don't think the colleges could nearly afford their athletes."

College Football Playoff

College football fans who advocate a playoff system to determine a national champion, don't expect one until at least 1997. That's when the recently-signed contract between ABC-TV and the Rose Bowl comes up for renewal. Champions from the Pac-10 and the Big Ten are under contract to the Rose Bowl until then for a price tag of approximately \$100

With that kind of mega-pay out, there is no incentive for either conference to participate in a playoff. And a national championship football hoedown without the Big Ten and Pac-10 would be like an NCAA basketball tournament without perennials Kansas, Kentucky, Indiana, Louisville and Georgetown.

College Football Popularity

A 1987 survey of college football fans by Simmons Market Research Bureau presented some interesting results in the July edition of *Sidelines*, published by the College Football

□89 percent of viewers of college football games are white and 61.9 percent are males. □63.9 percent of all viewers are married, but only 31.8 percent of those couples have children. But 58 percent of all viewers are in households of three or more.

☐More than 40 percent have white-collar jobs.

☐More than a third earn a salary of more than \$40,000 a year, but a third of those are said to be "at the beginning of their employment life (ages 25-34). Another 17.5 percent are in the 35-44 age range. What does it all mean?

Such a high level of income makes for a choice commercial (television) target, writes Alan Pearce: "College football viewers seem to have many of the qualities regarded as desirable by advertisers: disposable income, white-collar jobs, home ownership and households of three or more people."

Jerry Claiborne

While dismayed by the beleaguered UK basketball program and feeling the heat from critics after three straight non-winning seasons, head football coach Jerry Claiborne remains "the good soldier."

In an interview in late July, Claiborne addressed these points:

□Does the 1988 season mark a crossroads for Jerry Claiborne the coach? And, your reaction to growing criticism of you coaching performance after three straight non-winning

"People talk about putting pressure on the coach. But nobody puts more pressure on me than I do. Nobody hates losing more than I do.
"I don't pay any attention to criticism. We work hard, do the very best job we can. Some

of these guys who say things, I'd like to see how well some of them do their jobs.

□How has the latest NCAA investigation into basketball impacted the football program? "I don't think it's hurt us. Besides, this last one hasn't been proven."

 \Box You've said UK will be your last coaching stop. What's your reaction to those projecting you into the athletic director's chair?

"I don't know how that got started. Don't even put that in the paper. There's nothing to that at all. I'm the football coach. And as long as I'm having fun coaching, I'll continue

□Given the severity of UK's schedule year-in and year-out, is anything in the planning about a series with coach Howard Schnellenberger's University of Louisville Cardinals?

"I doubt it. I can't see any way that playing Louisville would help our program. We've to a good competitive schedule. No, I don't see that we need to have a series with Louisville.

☐The 1988 season?

'We've been so close the last three years, but just haven't done what we needed to do in critical situations to win. This year I'm hoping we can get over that hump, be more consistent, make some breaks for ourselves.

"I felt like last year, overall, we had our best 22 players since I've been here. If we could just build some depth.

"You know, I've said it before, if we had been able to attract 10 or 15 of the in-state kids who left to play at other schools (Mr. Footballs Frank Jacobs and Kurt Barber, for example), those 5-6 and 5-5-1 seasons we've had would have been 8-3s, maybe even 9-2s."

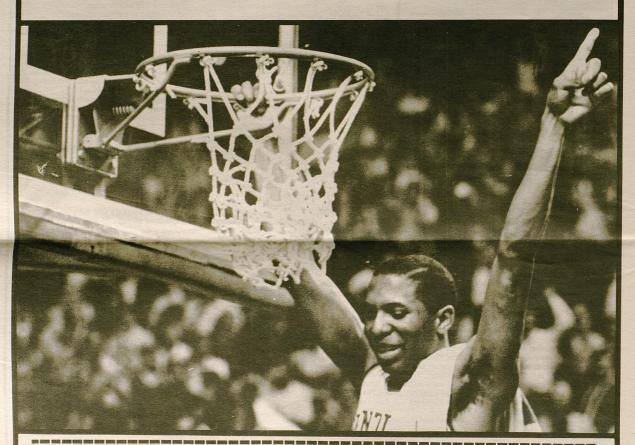
Midnight Madness. Do you consider it a nuisance and a distraction at a critical point

of the football season each year?

"As I've said before, anything that's good for our basketball program, creates interest in our university, is fine with me. Besides, if our football team is good enough, it won't bother us anyway, will it?

Finally, Claiborne believes a stronger, more creative and public-relations minded Ken-(Continued on page 21)

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



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The 'Boz' has given college sports a black eye

Believe it or not, everybody doesn't cheat

There was a crooked man and he walked a crooked mile. He found a crooked sixpence against a crooked stile. He bought a crooked cat which caught a crooked mouse. And they all lived together in a crooked little house.



Stan Torgerson

Cats' Pause Columnist



What in hell is going on in college athletics?

You can't use the expression "there's good news and there's bad news." Where's the good

Sure, I know Brian Bosworth played in the Big Eight and the mud he is slinging is aimed at Oklahoma. But mud splatters, and in this case some of it will hit every major college

"IF OKLAHOMA CHEATS, EVERY SCHOOL CHEATS. If Oklahoma players run

wild, certain players at every school run wild."

Of all the charges levied against college athletics in recent years, Bosworth's are the worst.

Of an the charges reviet against conege anientes in recent years, Bosworms are the worst. Did Kentucky send Chris Mills a thousand dollars a few months ago? Penny-ante stuff compared to Bosworth's charge that while he was a student-athlete at Oklahoma, he lived in a \$500 per month apartment and owned two cars. Some college kids smoked marijuana. Trivial transgressions in comparison to the portion of Responsible and based which are placed for head of the pro-

tion of Bosworth's new book which says players free-based cocaine on game days.

Not just his own teammates, mind you. Miami (Fla.) players, as well, says Bosworth, and, he claims, Vinny Testaverde confirmed it.

And there's more, much more. Steroids being popped like aspirin. NCAA violations left and right. Extra recruiting visits! Free airplane tickets!

It mattered not, said Bosworth, as long as you won and Oklahoma won and won. How much of his book is fact and how much is fiction?

How finder of inis book is fact and how much is fiction?

How far have we come from the days 20 years ago when a serious violation was slipping out the window at the athletic dorm, going out for a couple beers and perhaps a bit of romance with a campus cutie and returning to your room at 1:00 a.m. without getting caught?

What Bosworth has done is convince millions of college football fans the game is played and coached by crooked little men who all live together in crooked little houses.

IT'S NOT, YOU KNOW. There are cheaters and some of them do get caught. Ask SMU Florida or the many other schools who have paid a penalty for not playing the game off the field by the rules.

Certainly it's possible that the football and basketball factories have gone further than

others to preserve their dominance.

But let's not tar all schools with the brush used by a few

We're not naive enough to believe all is purity and chastity in college sports.

There are hookers walking the sidelines as surely as there are hookers walking the streets.

We knew of a freshman player with his own apartment because he didn't want to live in the dorm—and he was a star so the coach set him up.

We knew of a guy who sold pot to his teammates and when he was caught the coaching

staff hushed it up.

We knew of a married player who regularly beat his wife after a bad game

But they were the exception to the other kids on the team who, in the main, sincerely enjoyed being athletes and who did play by the rules, either through brooding or fear. Oklahoma basketball coach Billy Tubbs said, when asked about Bosworth, that "family" should have known better. Perhaps, but it seems to me the father of that family should also know better than to let his kids do whatever they want to do whenever and ho

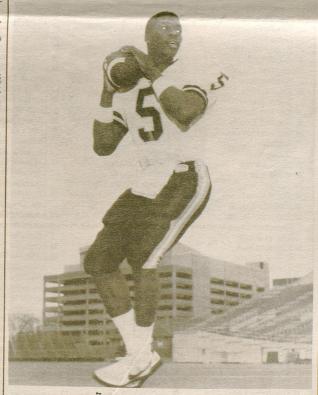
There are a few crooked little men who live in crooked little houses. But most of their neighbors are straight little men in straight little houses, which is why the crooked little men like Brian Bosworth stand out and get noticed.

Not For Broadcast

What a compliment to former Ole Miss star Barry Wilburn that Sports Illustrated devoted x pages to him and his career with the Washington Redskins. That's one of the longest articles of its type we have seen in America's most popular sports magazine. . . Auburn is already putting out basketball press releases. Catch this lead sentence in a recent mailing: "Check the 1988-89 Auburn basketball roster and you'll find no marquee names." ing: "Check the 1988-89 Auburn basketball roster and you'll find no marquee names." The Tiger tub thumpers point out that Chris Morris, Jeff Moore, Terrance Howard and Johnny Lynn have departed. Those four accounted for 58 percent of Auburn's points and 51 percent of its rebounds last year, made four straight NCAA tournament appearances and won 81 games while losing only 47 during their careers. Said coach Sonny Smith: "Those guys put a lot of food on my table over the last four years." If we know Sonny, he's got some pretty good waiters ready to keep the meals coming. . If you can believe the Memphis State media guide, Southeastern Conference teams Ole Miss, Mississippi.

State, Florida, Tennessee and Vanderbilt, all of whom appear on the Tiger schedule this year, should beware. Memphis State makes no bones about the fact they are greatly improved. Not loaded, perhaps, but with seven offensive starters and 10 defensive starters returning, greatly improved. . By the way, when you talk about various state talent levels, check this out: Memphis State has 23 players from Alabama and 16 from Florida. They only have 23 from their home state of Tennessee and a mere five from a close neighbor.

Mississippi. In fact, the Tigers have as many from Pennsylvania as they do from the only have 23 from their home state of Tennessee and a mere five from a close neighbor, Mississippi. In fact, the Tigers have as many from Pennsylvania as they do from the Magnolia State. ... Funny, isn't it, how some schools seem to specialize in players from certain positions. A recent Florida release said this: "Some people collect sea shells, some collect coins, others collect stamps. The University of Florida collects great wide receivers. That collection includes All-American Carlos Alvarez, Pro Bowlers Wes Chandler, Chris Collinsworth and Nat Moore, and more recently, 1987 first-round pick Ricky Nattiel." How true! . . It's generally conceded that Vanderbilt will be better this year, parly because the Commodores redshirted so many players in 1987. Question to coach Watson Brown: "The decision to redshirt most of your freshman class last year must have been a tough one." Answer: "I never wavered on it because I don't think we can make it without doing "The decision to redshirt most of your freshman class last year must have been a tough one." Answer: "I never wavered on it because I don't think we can make it without doing it. I think we've got to redshirt the bulk of our freshmen classes every year.". ... Harvey Schiller, commissioner of the SEC: "People ask me the No. 1 issue before the conference and it's always compliance." Schiller, defending the new rule designed to eliminate partial qualifiers from SEC scholarships: "What if we said to our high school athletes we don't care about your SAT or ACT scored?". .. Six SEC schools ranked in the top 12 nationally in football last season and once again, the league led the way in total attendance. Tennessee was second in the nation with an average of 88,179. Georgia was fifth with 79,436; Auburn sixth with 78,754; LSU seventh, 77,320; Alabama, 1lth, 74,707 and Florida 12th with 74,689. Overall, SEC schools attracted 4,351,832 fans in 1987, substantially ahead of the Big Ten's 4,006.845. .. Every conference team has played in at least one bowl game during the 1980s and nine of the 10 league schools have been in at least two during the decade. .. Arkansas and Alabama have agreed to a home-and-home series in 1993 and 1996. The Crimson Tide visits the Razorbacks on Sep. 4, 1993, and Arkansas comes to Alabama Sep. 7, 1996.



Vandy quarterback and Heisman Trophy candidate Eric Jones

The Last Word: Former Vanderbilt star Steve Wade to Commodore Heisman Trophy candidate Eric Jones, and then Jones' reply

"I was the first one to tell you you were going to be great, wasn't I Eric?"
"Yes, you were I think you said that while you and a pile of players were on top of me.

We feel that news about the sports programs at the University of Kentucky should be required reading for all of the state's high school students. So, the staff of *The Cats' Pause* is starting a program we call "Big Blue Penetration."

Below, we have listed all the high schools in the state of Kentucky, and it is our aim to give every high school student in the commonwealth the opportunity to read The Cats' Pause by making the paper available to every high school library in the state. In order to accomplish this, it will be up to our subscribers to carry out "Big

Blue Penetration" during the coming months.

If you would like to see *The Cats' Pause* in one or more high schools in your area, fill out the subscription blank provided to the right and return it with the appropriate payment. We will begin sending it to the school(s) and we'll notify

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At best, looks like 5-6 for Claiborne's 'Cats

Schedule, offensive problems biggest obstacles

With the pigskin campaign just around the corner, let's look at what's in store for coach | losing streak to improve to 3-5.

Jerry Claiborne's seventh squad at Kentucky this fall:

Well, as most of you have already heard, it's going to be a difficult season for Jerry and his boys. Because of a killer schedule and a questionable offense, Kentucky is expected



Jamie Vaught

Cats' Pause Columnist



encounter a losing record. UK's defense is solid, ranking among the best in the

to encounter a losing record. UK's defense is solid, ranking among the best in the Southeastern Conference, but it won't be enough to offset the problems.

And the preseason grid magazines have projected a lowly finish for UK in the SEC, placing the Wildcats around eighth or ninth place.

Now, if the 'Cats were playing in another league like the Atlantic Coast Conference or the Big Ten, they would be among the top five. Not in the bottom four, where they are now in the SEC, along with Mississippi, Mississippi State and Vanderbilt. Kentucky is the best of these four clubs, even though coach Watson Brown's club at Vandy is not far behind.

Kentucky has developed a respectable all-around football program under Claiborne, but it doesn't have enough to compete in what is arguably the toughest conference in the nation. As much as I like Kentucky—I hate to sound pessimistic, but I'm trying to be objective and realistic—looking at the 1988 schedule, which includes seven SEC games as well as

seven home contests, the most realistic, or should I say optimistic, prediction is probably a 5-6 mark. Of course, with that in mind, the 'Cats won't be going to a postseason "bowl-

Here's a brief game-by-game forecast on UK's schedule:

SEPT. 3—CENTRAL MICHIGAN (5-5-1):

The season opener for both clubs. Home game for the 'Cats. A Mid-American Conference member, Central Michigan returns seven starters on offense and five on defense. Chalk up victory No. 1 for UK.

SEPT. 10-AT AUBURN (9-1-2):

A season opener for the defending SEC champion War Eagles, who are considered by many as the top choice to win the league crown again. Auburn's depth and home-turf advantage are the keys as the 'Cats drop their first game.

SEPT. 17-AT INDIANA (8-4):

A tough road game for the 'Cats. The Hoosiers return nine starters on defense and six on offense after a Peach Bowl campaign last season. The contest will be a toss-up. Indiana wins by a last-second field goal as UK runs its record to 1-2.

SEPT. 24-KENT STATE (7-4):

The Wildcats return to friendly Commonwealth Stadium after two consecutive setbacks on the road. A preseason choice to win the Mid-American Conference championship, Kent State features a new head coach by the name of Dick Crum. Sound familiar? He's the same guy who was at North Carolina the last few years. The Golden Flashes have seven starters returning on defense and six on offense. Could be a tight game, but UK will prevail, even-

OCT. 1—ALABAMA (7-5):
The Crimson Tide invades Lexington to meet the Wildcats for the first time since 1981, when Bear Bryant and Fran Curci were the field generals for their respective squads. Alabama won that last meeting, which was also in Lexington, 19-10. Don't forget Alabama features a Heisman Trophy candidate in Bobby Humphrey, and coach Bill Curry has said the Tide will be better than last year. 'Bama by 10. UK's record drops to 2-3

OCT. 15-AT LSU (10-1-1):

This game in Baton Rouge may be televised by the TBS cable network. LSU also features a Heisman Trophy candidate in quarterback Tom Hodson. The Tigers will win by two touchdowns. UK's worksheet drops to 2-4.

OCT. 22-GEORGIA (9-3):

A home-field advantage may not be sufficient for the struggling 'Cats, as Georgia could have its best team since Herschel Walker left the school. The Bulldogs are rated No. 9 in the country in a preseason poll by *The Sporting News*. This will be another tough battle for UK. The long-suffering Wildcat fans are beginning to complain as Kentucky falls to 2-5.

OCT. 29—SOUTHERN ILLINOIS (3-8):

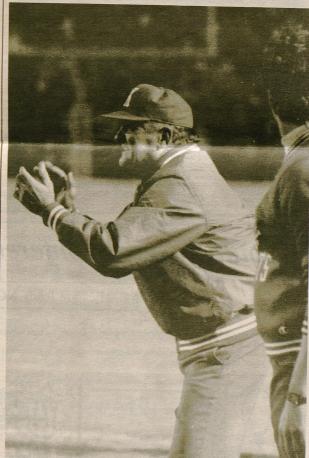
One of Kentucky's few breathers on its schedule. Southern Illinois is an NCAA Division I-AA member, playing in a little-know league called the Gateway Collegiate Athletic Conference. The visiting Salukis are projected to finish last in the league in a preseason poll. Playing at home, the 'Cats will celebrate in a big blowout, breaking a three-game

NOV. 5-VANDERBILT (4-7):

If Kentucky's defense can hold Vandy's explosive offense to a couple of touchdowns, the 'Cats will survive. But it may be a difficult task. The Commodores have a Heisman Trophy candidate in quarterback Eric Jones. Last year in Nashville, Vanderbilt stopped the 'Cats 38-29. However, this time in Lexington, UK will come out on top, winning a close fight to push its record to 4-5.

NOV. 12-FLORIDA (6-6):

NOV. 12—FLORIDA (6-6):
UK's last home game of the season. The Gators will be young and inexperienced, but competitive. Ever since Commonwealth Stadium opened in 1973, Florida has not fared well there. The Gators only have a 4-3 mark against the 'Cats in Lexington over that period. They lost 10-3 in 1986 in their last journey to the Bluegrass. Despite the presence of Heisman Trophy contender Emmitt Smith, Florida will struggle. UK by a touchdown. The 'Cats even their mark at 5-5.



Hopefully, 1988 won't be Claiborne's last season at Kentucky

NOV. 19-AT TENNESSEE (10-2-1):

A possible bowl bid on the line. The bad part is that the contest is held in Knoxville. The Vols are practically unbeatable at Neyland Stadium and coach Johnny Majors will field a a tough squad as usual. *Lindy's SEC Football* annual has tabbed Tennessee as the favorite to capture the SEC title. UK will come up short, completing the season with a

So, if the Wildcats do finish .500 or under this fall, it will mark the fourth consecutive So, if the Wildcats do finish 500 or under this fall, if will mark the fourth consecutive non-winning season for Claiborne, who turns 60 on Aug. 26. It could, unfortunately, mean the end of Claiborne's era at UK. But I hope not as he is a proven coach with lots of class. At any rate, like I said, it appears that the 'Cats are heading for a long season because of their schedule. But, who knows, Kentucky could be the surprise team of the SEC.

Fan from 213 tells what to expect of '88 'Cats



He (or she) gives pros, cons of football team



This is the first of a weekly series of columns, written by "The Unknown Fan From Section 213," which will run during football season. Each week, "Unknown" will speak his mind about what's happening in the Wildcat football program—from a fan's perspective. This week, "Unknown" previews the upcoming campaign.

I think one of Kentucky's strengths will be tight end, particularly with Charlie Darragton. He led the tight ends in receptions last year and I think he's going to be one of the better ones in the league

The overall defense should be excellent. They were third in the conference behind Auburn and Florida last year. In particular, the linebackers and defensive backs are very deep. We have excellent talent there. We have a little problem at defensive packs are very deep, the depth at defensive tackle.

Based on spring practice, it looks as if Ivy Joe Hunter has gained the mental toughness he's been lacking, which would help him drastically.

ONE OF THE SMART MOVES THAT JERRY CLAIBORNE has made is adding Joe Phillips to the coaching staff, because he has some experience in the pros and he can teach the wide receivers some things-some techniques and some maneuvers-that they

teach the wide receivers some things—some techniques and some maneuvers—that uney probably haven't heard before.

At quarterback, we have Glenn Fohr, who I think is going to be an excellent leader this year based on some of his comeback efforts of last year. Last year's experience, added with some maturity and studying films, will make him an excellent leader.

I see some depth at quarterback. I really like the young kid, Freddie Maggard, from Cumberland. I think he's an excellent prospect. He showed it some of the scrimmages back in the string.

back in the spring.

The obvious weaknesses are depth and the experience of the offensive line. One of the past problems on our football team has been that we've been small. That's no longer a

factor. We have the size and the bodies to work with.

This season is no different from most seasons in that we always have a question mark hanging over the offensive line. . .even in the 9-3 and 6-4-1 seasons, which were bowl teams.

One of the other weaknesses is that we're unproven at running back. Ivy Joe Hunter has had a measure of success, but it has been somewhat limited due to his lack of mental

toughness, which he possibly has overcome, based on what he did in the spring. He didn't

THERE IS A BIG QUESTION MARK hanging over the kicking game. (Punter) Ja Tesar's off-season injury, as far as rehabilitating his "plant" leg in punting, is a question mark. He has worked very hard, but we just don't know about him right now. Jeff Nelson has been incosistent, but he claims he's ready to go. Ken Willis, the placekicker, has a strong leg, but he hasn't shown the consistency.

We have no proven punt returner, and the kamikaze unit needs drastic improvement as far as kickoff coverage is concerned. It wasn't bad on punt coverage, but the kickoff coverage left a let to be desired last year at times.

left a lot to be desired last year at times

Another weakness is the schedule. We play a very tough schedule, but at the same time, you don't play the game on paper. You put on the helmets between the white lines, and anything may happen.

The depth factor, to me, is somewhat overblown. All coaches complain about depth.

The depth factor, to me, it somewhat overflown. All coaches complain about depth. I read in a publication last year that even Barry Switzer was complaining about depth. Come on Barry, give me a break. The reason I feel it's overblown is because no defense is on the field all day. I don't care if it's Alabama or Georgia of Florida. The offenses are too sophisticated, and the quarterbacks have the ability to throw the football much better than they used to. You win now by scoring points. You have to have a good defense, but you have to seem expire to vice.

WORD HAS IT THAT THE COACHES ARE VERY PLEASED with the freshman class that came in. They're big and are good athletes. I attribute this directly to the Nutter Center. It can't be based on our record, because we've only won five games each of the last three years. It's got to be the Nutter Center that's made the difference. I do believe that to keep on improving, they must continue to improve on the facilities to keep bringing in better athletes.

I've noticed that the fan enthusiasm and media enthusiasm is somewhat down this year, but that could be a plus. It could be good for the team. The last two or three years, there has been a lot of hype on the players following the two bowl years in '83 and '84. I think has been a lot of hype of the players following the two bowl years in 83 and 84. I think the players went in with a little cocky attitude thinking they could just roll their helmets out there and win against all good opponents. Two or three times, we've just stubbed our toe, like against Bowling Green and Rutgers. The players may be going in with a little better attitude this year, at least about that first game opponent. You can't win them all until you win that first one.

until you win that first one.

Coach Claiborne has been very unpredictable. After the 0-10-1 season, he came back and had the second-best turnaround of any college in history. That was very much unexpected. Then they went 9-3 and surprised a lot of people. Then you follow that up with a season where people really expected them to do something, and they fall on their face. This year, when we don't expect the Wildcats to do anything, who knows? Based on Claiborne's unpredictability while he's been here, he seems to respond when his back is to the wall. He's a very competitive coach and does not like to lose, and I think he's willing to do the things it takes to keep from beging.

A MAN WOULD HAVE TO HAVE HIS HEAD BURIED in a moonshine jug to predict that UK would have a great season, or to predict that UK would have a shot against Auburn at Auburn. However, there is a plus in that we play Auburn Sept. 10, and that is Auburn's first game. We'll have one game under our belt, and that's Auburn opening game. A lot of coaches put a lot of stock in that, and that may be a plus in our favor.

(Losing to Tennessee), I think that's one reason there's a lack of fan enthusiasm this

year. A lot of people went home with a bad taste in their mouth, based on blowing some [Continued On Page 22]

Southeastern Conference assumes fresh role

League leads NCAA academic urge

The life-blood of the Southeastern Conference throughout its 55 years has been a series

First challenge: To produce football teams for intersectional competition, to gain recogni-



Scoop Hudgins

Cats' Pause Columnist



In the 10th season, 1942, six SEC teams rated in the Associated Press Top Twenty, and

In the 10th season, 1942, six NBC teams rated in the Associated Press 10p 1 wenty, and four of them played in the only major college bowl games of that time.

In the Rose Bowl, Georgia ripped UCLA 9-0. In the Sugar, Tennessee beat Tulsa 14-7. In the Orange, Alabama awed Boston College 37-21. And in the Cotton, Georgia Tech fell to Texas 14-7. The SEC won three of the four.

THIS SUCCESS IN FOOTBALL FURNISHED THE CONFERENCE a financial base to expand national competition to some 20 other sports in the next 40 years—men's and women's. Most met, and conquered, their national challenges.

Now, when the 13 colleges left the 23-member Southern Conference to form the SEC,

they incoprorated scholarships for football, including financial aid.

At this time, 1933, the NCAA, by strict interpretation of the amateur code, barred any aid, financial or scholarship, based on athletic ability.

When the SEC's aid for footballers surfaced, other conferences giving scholarships and jobs without acknowledging it, protested to the NCAA.

The NCAA threatended to ban the SEC schools who practiced "subsidization of athletes." The SEC did not heed the threat. They chose to convince the NCAA that football players

needed aid at any college, and justifiably so.
Dr. John J. Tigert, faculty representative of the University of Florida, a 1903 all-Southern fullback at Vanderbilt and a Rhodes Scholar, led the SEC effort to eventual acceptance.

Later he served as president at Florida.

The SEC continually serves as an advocate of more practical methods for coordinating good athletics with solid academics

Now, some 50 years after battling the NCAA about open aid for student-athletes, the SEC has come full circle. It is requiring stricter academic standards for the SEC student-

SEC has come full circle. It is requiring stricter academic standards for the SEC student-athletes than does the NCAA.

Under Proposition 48, the NCAA allows high school graduates who fail to meet one of the two requirements for eligibility to be accepted as a partial qualifier for study toward the requirements. A grade-point average of 2.00 in core curriculum or 15 on ACT or 700 on SAT is required.

The SEC has, as does everyone, partial qualifiers. But the presidents, Dr. James Martin

The SEC has, as does everyone, partial qualifiers. But the presidents, Dr. James Martin of Auburn, president of the body, voted to phase them out.

Commissioner Harvey Schiller said: "We send a clear message to the nation by raising academic standards beyond the NCAA's. It gives high school athletes an advantage to know what they need to participate in the SEC."

NCAA Executive Director Richard Schultz says that he hopes the other conferences will follow the lead of the SEC.

"It will certainly strengthen everything we're trying to do in the area of academic reform,"

Bringing education of the student-athlete closer to his own demands of himself on the field will occur. The young man who learns to go all out for his classes, as well as for his team, brings fresh strength to the mation.

Bob Watkins

(Continued from page 15)

tucky High School Football Coaches Association would help showcase football, establish more tradition in the state.

"If they ever got together, appointed a director," Claiborne said, "a group like that would have a stronger voice in what goes on in athletics in Kentucky.

Parting Shot

Columnist Phil Jackman of the Baltimore Evening-Sun:

"When is the NCAA going to smarten up and simply set up brance offices on the campuses of constant offenders Memphis State, Nevada-Las Vegas, Oklahoma, Clemson, Florida and 75 percent of the Southwest Conference?"

And so it goes.

If you have a point of view you would like to share, please write to:

Bob Watkins Sports in Kentucky P.O. Box 124 Glendale, Ky. 42740

Fan From Section 213

[Continued From Page 20]

other games they felt like they should have won. Then we had Tennessee on the ropes and should have put them away and didn't. The way the last few plays came down was very disappointing. The overall attitude of the fans when they left the stadium was very much of disillusionment. It wasn't over anyone in particular, but with the overall situation of the program, maybe with the coaching staff, maybe with not beating Tennessee, maybe with not having the anticipated winning season.

I think it's still linearine in same people's minds. That, plus the fact that the ticket prices.

I think it's still lingering in some people's minds. That, plus the fact that the ticket prices went up. I see maybe a little drop off in attendance. It's up to the team to come out and play well against Central Michigan and turn that around.

Dan Brandenburg-

[Continued From 11]

blaring in the background when Channel 27 came on with one of their evening news "teasers," which are the little tidbits of information that try to get you to

news "teasers," which are the little tidbits of information that try to get you to tune in to their 11 p.m. newscast.

Although I wasn't really paying much attention to the tube, I did pick up through the various conversations around me someone saying, "Kentucky loses one of its longtime political leaders."

When I looked up, all I saw on the screen was two gentlemen assisting A.B. Chandler down some stairs. My first thought was, "Oh, no. We've lost Happy." And since that is where the teaser ended, we were all left wondering if that was actually what happened. This seemed especially important since we sitting just a mile or less from the Chandlers' home.

But, fortunately, Mark Twain had a similar occurance in that the reports of his death were greatly exaggerated. It was just a case of poor editing of the tape. What I hadn't seen was a few seconds of tape just before Happy that showed a casket being carried out. Chandler was shown leaving the funeral of former Lt. Gov. Harry Waterfield.

Oscar Combs

[Continued From Page 23]

up to 12:30 p.m. and will be televised live nationally over Superstation WTBS in Atlanta. It will be WTBS' kick-off of its SEC Game of the Week since a Sept. 3 game between LSU and Texas A&M was scratched from the lineup because the Tigers wouldn't move the game from night to day . . . Some ex-Wildcats of the night to day . . . Some ex-Wildcats of the baseball variety are doing quite well in the bigs this summer. **Paul Kilgus** is 9-10 with an excellent ERA of about 3.00, despite playing with the Texas Rangers, one of the worst clubs in the majors. Montreal's Jeff Parrett was enjoying an

30-minute sports shown on WKYTTV, Channel 27 this winter. How would you have liked to have odds on that pair teaming up back in 1984? . . . Much to the downfall of schools like Ole Miss, Miss. downfall of schools like Ole Miss, Miss. State, Vandy and Kentucky, the SEC voted recently to stay with its seven-game SEC football slate until at least the year 2004 . . . For those of you who have complained about not being able to get football season tickets, I've got good news for you and you won't have to wait for stadium expension. These to wait for stadium expansion. There's a pretty good supply of sideline stadium season tickets



Look for Joe B. Hall on his own TV show this season

All-Star type season until he split a finger on his pitching hand while taking batting practice right after the All-Star break. At the time, Jeff was among the top five leaders in the National League's ERA department and use the Execution of th department and was the Expos initially was on the 15-day disabled list nd then later moved to the 21-day list. He came off the DL last week. According to reports, Jack Savage is enjoying a banner year with Tidewater in Triple
AAA and should be called up by the New York Mets in September . . . Rumors have it that former UK coach Joe B. Hall will team up with one of his former players, Jim Master for a weekly

available and all you have to do is give UK a telephone call if you have a friend-ly piece of plastic at you side . . . And for you high school football fanatics, you won't find a better doubleheader than Saturday, Aug. 20 at Tates Creek High School when the fourth annual Thoroughbred Bowl is staged. It'll be Henry Clay and Paris in the opener at 6:30 p.m. with Boyd County colliding with Corbin in the nightcap at 8:45 p.m.

Last but not least, it'll be Wildcat Fan
Day Saturday, Aug. 20 at 2 p.m. at Commonwealth Stadium. Free hot dogs and
Cokes and a chance to have you picture made with your favorite Wildcat

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When Kentucky football had 'real' wildcats

History of Kentucky's live wildcat mascots

Football excitement was at a high peak in Lexington and the commonwealth 19 years ago, when the University of Kentucky, at the beginning of fall practice, unveiled not only a new head coach, but also what was to be its last live mascot. The coach was John Ray, who came to UK from Notre Dame, where he had coached the Irish defense for Ara



Russell Rice

Cats' Pause Columnist



Parsegian after gaining a reputation as a defensive genius at Olivet College

An eternal optimist, Ray was destined to last only four years at UK, compiling an overall record of 10-33 before being ousted and then serving a while as an assistant for the Buf-

falo Bills before joining Parsegian in the business world.

The live Wildcat, named "Baby," was owned by John Alexander, a veteran Lexington newsman and photographer. Her stay at UK was much shorter than Ray's tenure, lasting only two games before then-UK althletic director Harry Lancaster succumbed to pressure from a lady fan who complained about the cruel manner in which Baby was treated during

However, Baby did receive her moment in the spotlight as the TV cameras caught her on the UK sideline during the opening game against Indiana at Stoll Field.

The idea for UK's first live wildcat mascot first surfaced during a post-season banquet given for the grid Wildcats by Dick Webb, a former Wildcat football player and assistant coach. After a nationwide search, he purchased a beautifully-pointed brindle wildcat from

NOTING THE MEAN DISPOSITION OF THE CAT, which was named "Tom," The Lexington Leader opined: "If the University of Kentucky Wildcats of next year get imbued with the spirit of their mascot and act as ferocious on the gridiron as the mascot in his cage, the opponents will be a dilapidated, cat-pawed, battered and mangled aggregation at the end of each encounter. (The Wildcats finished the 1921 season 4-3-1).

Tom died quickly in captivity and was succeeded the following year by "TNT," which

also died some months later.

also died some months later.

Next came "Whiskers," a tamer cat that died during the UK-Georgia Tech basketball game Feb. 23, 1924, and was replaced by a cat from New Mexico.

It was during halftime of the 1928 UK-Tennessee football game in Lexington that a Morehead businessman presented a live wildcat to UK coach Harry Gamage. The cat was captured by John Hall, 15, of Rowan County, who tracked it to its den and pulled it out

y the nape of the neck.

Other live wildcats—"Dynamite," and "Fuzzy," to name a couple, came and went, either dying in captivity or being turned loose in the mountains because they could not thrive out of their native habitat.

Live mascots disappeared from the UK scene shortly before World War II and "Wildcat Fever" did not hit the campus again until 1947, when Adolph Rupp's basketball teams were winning championships and the football program was in its second year of rebuilding under a young navy veteran named Paul "Bear" Bryant.

THE ENTIRE STUDENT BODY and UK alumni throughout the nation got the fever

after the school newspaper, *The Kentucky Kernel*, ran a feature about the old live Wildcat mascots and asked in a bold headline: "Live Wildcat Years Ago, Why Not Now?"

Glenn W. Denham, a UK alumnus, located a ferocious 20-pound female cat that had been trapped in Whitley County by Harold Longworth. The cat, named "The Kentucky Colonel," was transported to Lexington in a hearse provided by Williamsburg mortician Ray Ellison, sedated and put in a shoulder harness.
"Colonel" was unveiled at the 1947 UK-Tennessee Homecoming game, and later joined

the Cats on the sidelines at the Great Lakes Bowl in Cleveland Stadium.

The Wildcats were 7-2 on the season heading into that Homecoming contest with the Vols, one of only several times Kentucky had entered the annual series with a better record Vols, one of only several times Kentucky had entered the annual series with a better record than their bitter rivals. Tennessee came into the game with a 3-5 record, fresh off a 38-13 upset of Boston College. But Kentucky was licking its wounds, in the worst physical condition of the season. Wah Wah Jones was only available for spot duty after undergoing a mid-season appendectomy. Don "Dopey" Phelps was suffering from a shoulder injury, and Charley Browning, Doc Ferrell and Jack "Bobo" Farris were unable to participate in full-contact drills during the week leading up to the contest.

Colonel's debut resulted in a 13-6 loss to the Vols, but her second time out was met with better success. The bowl game pitted UK against Villanova, another team of Wildcats, which had a live male cat as its mascot. The UK Wildcats, participating in their first postseason bowl game, won 24-14.

postseason bowl game, won 24-14.

As age took its toll, Colonel was taken seven years later to the state's wildlife farm n Frankfort, where she died shortly of pneumonia. She was mounted and returned to the

UK Department of Biological Sciences.

Four years later, SuKy, the student pep organization, obtained a stuffed wildcat from a Brooklyn taxidermist, named it "Tucky," and displayed it at football and basketball games. The cat lasted about 10 years and was the last live UK mascot before Baby had her brief moment of glory.

Kentucky's last "Colonel"



On the eve of UK's Nov. 22, 1947 football game with Tennessee, UK's student newspaper, The Kentucky Kernel, ran this picture of "Colonel," along with the ac-companying article:

Genuine Kentucky Wildcat To Spark Blue and White

will make her appearance at the Tennessee game tomorrow to join the Kentuckians in fighting for a Homecoming

Through the efforts of the Kernel, twenty pounds of growling, biting, clawing Kentucky wildcat has been caged and will be formally introduced to the student body at halftime tomorrow.

The ferocious feline arrived here Wednesday morning, never before touched by human hands and in a fighting mood, and is now housed in a fifth-floor penthouse of the Biological Sciences

Detailors.

Need for a mascot for Paul Bryant's upand-coming team has been felt for
sometime and recently the Kernal recalled Kentucky once had mascots and asked why not now

Alumni Offer Help

fering help.
And Monday, Glenn W. Denham, a And Monday, Clenn W. Dennam, a Williamsburg attorney who was graduated here two years ago, wrote to say he could borrow a wildcat from a Whitley County friend.

The Kernel staff told him to bring the Ray Ellison, a Williamsburg mortician, fought a hard battle to transfer the cat from her cage to a wooden box. After two they were successful and about 11:30 they arrived here where, after con-

a cage by the B.S. building.

The Kentucky Colonel as she is known, wasn't particularly happy about it all.

She growled and screamed and served notice she, like Bryant's Wildcats, is ready to fight—especially those folks from south of the border.

from south of the border.

Colonel, mam, that is, looked up as if
to say she wouldn't have anything to do
with Tennessee folks before she got
caught up in Harold Longworth's trap
three months ago and she still doesn't like

Longworth Owns Cat
The cat belongs to Mr. Longworth, a
veteran, who kept here on exhibition at
his Williamsburg filling station before
Denham brought her here.
She's mean—and stay away from her
when SuKy brings here out tomorrow.
Her diet is raw beef and she sharpens her
claws and teeth by gnawing through 2x4
planks in her spare time.

planks in her spare time.
John Tichner, who takes care of animals in the B.S. building, is feeding the Colonel and taking care of her. She will be presented to SuKy Saturday and that organization will feed and house her

while here.
The Kernel staff expressed appreciation to Frank Phipps of the Fish and Game Commission for his assistance in trying to find a wildcat. He is sending a special cage in which to exhibit the growling gray

Back Thru The Wildcat Years

One Year Ago

Kentucky coach Jerry Claiborne, who's entering his sixth season at the helm of the 'Cats, introduced his squad to the media this month. Senior quarterback Kevin Dooley will be the man expected to lead the charge when the 'Cats kickoff their season against Utah State at Commonwealth Stadium. Dooley has the dubious task of replacing record-breaker Bill Ransdell of Elizabethtown. Other key returnees for the 'Cats will be seniors Mark Higgs, Dermontti Dawson, Jerry Reese, Greg Kunkel, Joey Worley, junior Ivy Joe Hunter and sophomores Vic Adams and Dee Smith.

The University of Kentucky basketball schedule is out. Among the non-conference showdowns Eddie Sutton's Wildcats will face will be Indiana (Big Four at Indianapolis), Louisville (at Lexington), Miami of Ohio (first round of UKIT), Hawaii, Alaska and the Orangemen of Syracuse. The game against Syracuse will be held at Rupp Arena.

Six Years Ago

Scott Schroeder, a University of Kentucky linebacker, seems to be on the way to a successful comeback after missing the entire 1981 campaign because of a knee injury. It's quite ironic he suffered the injury during the '81 spring Blue-White scrimmage. It was expected that Schroeder, who paced the squad in tackles in 1980 as a sophomore, would start last season at linebacker. That was until he suffered the injury. The Satellite Beach, Fla., native "probably worked harder than I've seen anyone work," noted Wildcat team Al Green of Schroeder's comeback trail. "We've measured the strength in his legs and they are equal. So, that gives him a clean bill of health. There is no question he looks better this year. I think all the hard work will

8. What returning Wildcat finished second on the team in kickoff return yardage?
a) Ivy Joe Hunter

9. Who was the Wildcats' leader in intercep-

10. True or False? Kentucky finished third in the SEC in total defense last season.

b) Chris Tolbert c) Darren Bilberry

tions last year?
a) Chris Chenault
b) Tony Massey

c) David Johnsond) Oliver Barnett

∠Calling it a "setback but not an indication the bone will not heal," University of Kentucky basketball coach Joe B. Hall announced at a August 8 press conference at Wildcat Lodge that UK star center-forward Sam Bowie has had his leg placed back in a cast. The 7-foot-1 Bowie, an All-American as a second-year player, will be a junior athletically, at the university this year. He missed the entire 1981-82 campaign with an injury which is diagnosed as a hairline stress fracture of the left tibia (shinbone). Bowie was at the press conference, wearing the cast which covers from his ankle to knee. The cast he wore before covered his entire leg.
"In this last review of Sam's X-rays, the en-

tire Campbell Clinic in Memphis held a viewing of the X-rays," Hall noted. "There were 12 doctors that discussed the case. They are the ones that felt for Sam's future and his security that he needed to go back into the cast. They gave two reasons. One was to guarantee that he would not bear weight on the leg. The second reason is to pinpoint the electrical sttimulus. That has to be a very precise treatment. The cast insures that the stimulus goes to the proper spot. They could have left him out of the cast but it insures he will not bear weight on it and the stimulus hits the correct spot."

The outside of the bone looks well healed, covered over and lamanted," continued the Wildcat coach. "But they saw some weakening on the inside of the bone. I assume a weakening is a widening of the area. I don't know how else to put it."

The FWA, better known as the Football

Writers of America, has selected Cats'Pause publisher and editor Oscar Combs to a twoyear term on the association's board of direc Combs was selected at a meeting at Kings Island, Ohio.

Later this month the Great Kentucky Shootout will be held at Freedom Hall. You ask, what's the Great Kentucky Shootout? It's where former University of Kentucky and Louisville players get together for a game on the hardwood. Proceeds from the contest will go to charity. Some of the former collegiate Bluegrass heroes expected to play are Rick Robey, Truman Claytor, Dan Issel, James Lee, Kevin Grevey, Dwane Casey, Darrell Griffith, Jerry Eaves, Roger Burkeman and Wiley Brown

Several former Kentucky Wildcat grid stars still are keeping their chances alives for a shot at the professional ranks, while a few others have been cut. From last year's squad tight end Jim Campbell is trying out with the American Football Conference Houston Oilers. Lineman David Bond and Greg Long still are with the Atlanta Falcons, while defensive end Venus Meaux is with Dallas and defensive end Don Fielder is in Pittsburgh. All are free agents. Rick Strien, is one of the few unlucky 'Cats. The former UK placekicker tried out with New England and Pittsburgh. Ken Roark and Kelly Kirchbaum also were let go by the Washington Redskins and Houston Oilers, respectively. Kir-chbaum, a standout on the 1977 10-1 UK club, played for the New York Jets before being cut by the Oilers

New Wildcat coach Jerry Claiborne is making use during practice sessions of the tall towers built at Shively Sports Center many years ago by Paul "Bear" Bryant (1946-1953). Former coach Fran Curci seldom used the tower, in the rare occasions when he ascended it, he usually went to the first tier. John Ray (1969-72) also seldom used the tower. At one time, Ray had a small platform built on a pickup truck from which he could get a better "look" at what was happening at the complex, which contains four full-size football fields.

The appointment of Marilyn McReavy, developer of national championship volleyball squads at Sul Ross and Utah State universities, as head coach of UK's Lady Kats was announced by Wildcat athletics director

Seven Years Ago

As the Kentucky Wildcat football squad opened fall practice several team members were noticably missing from the field. Freshman All-American defensive end Jeff Dennis announced that he would be transferring to the University of Cincinnati, concen trating on a theatrical career. Running back by head coach Fran Curci after Jackson was during the middle of the morning. Wide receiver Greg Wimberly didn't return to school after having academic difficulties in the spring. Richard Adams, Chris Jones and Scott Schroeder all suffered injuries and Rick Buehner, George Taylor, Mike Duncan, Ron Knott and Kevin Kearns also did not return

to the team for various reasons.

Kentucky baseball coach Keith Madison signed two players for the 1982 season. They were Rick Campbell, a shortstop-second baseman from Bowling Green High and Mark Wallace, a left-handed pitcher from

Boyle County High School.

The Kentucky Lady Kat basketball team seven-game tour in Japan.

Eleven Years Ago

University of Kentucky athletics director Cliff Hagan announced the appointment of Robert L. Bradley as assistant to the direc-

tor for academic affairs.

The 1977-78 University of Kentucky basketball schedule was announced with a full Southeastern Conference tilt along with matchups against Indiana, Kansas, Nevada Las Vegas, South Carolina and Notre Dame

highlighting the 'Cats' card.

The Southestern Conference Skywriters picked the conference football race to come down to Alabama and Florida fighting for the crown. The writers picked Georgia third, followed by Mississippi State, LSU, Kentucky, Tennessee, Auburn, Mississippi and

Thirty-One Years Ago

Kentucky football drills are underway for the 1957 Wildcats, with 71 varsity candidates reporting and approximately 35 freshmen joining the team. The first two days will be devoted to picture taking, physical ex-ams and getting settled. Two-a-day sessions are planned for the first 10 days. Energetic headmaster Blanton Collier enters his fourth year at Kentucky and 60 percent of his var-sity squad will be sophomores, of which there

George Mikan, considered by many the toughest basketball player ever, says that former University of Kentucky forward All-American Leroy (Cowboy) Edwards was the

toughest player he ever faced.
"He has huge, powerful hands and a habit of squeezing my knees so hard, when a referee wasn't looking, that I'd be paralyzed for a second while he was shooting," Mikan was quoted. "Once he knocked out four of my teeth. He outweighed me 80 pounds and he knew all there was to know.

WILDCAT QUIZ

- 1. True or False? Kentucky didn't win a con ference game during the 1987 season?
- 2. How many of Kentucky's games were broadcast on national television last year (network and cable)?

- 3. Kentucky lost how many games by less than a touchdown last year?
 a) two

- 4. Who led the Wildcats in rushing (total yards) last season?
 a) Ivy Joe Hunter
 b) Al Baker
 c) Mark Higgs

- d) Andy Murray
- 5. True or False? All three of UK's graduating defensive starters attended NFL training camps this summer?
- 6. Against which team did Kentucky give up the most points in one game?
- a) Tennessee b) Florida
- Vanderbilt
- 7. Against which team did UK quarterback Glenn Fohr have his best collegiate game (Hint: he threw for 240 yards and two
- a) Georgia b) LSU
- d) Florida

c) Tennessee

Answers

6 Vanderbili (38 points). 7 Tennessee (UK lost 24-22). 8 John Bolden (216 reum yands). 9 Tony Massey (four). 10. True (301.27 yands per game).

I. Külse (Ole Miss 35-6).

Z.Three (Georgia, LSU & Florida).

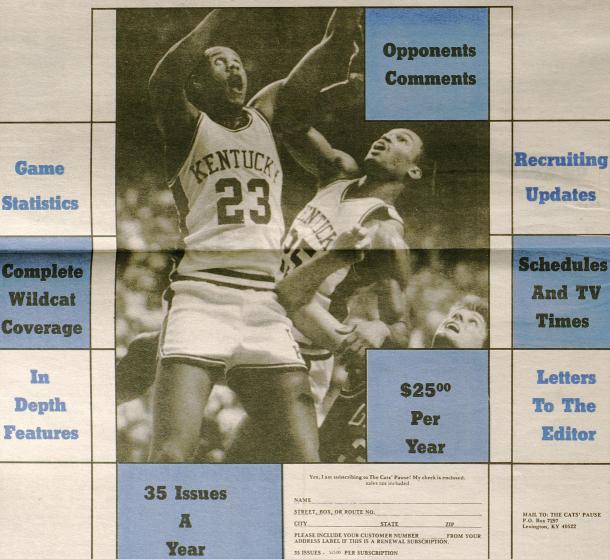
Z.Three (Georgia, LSU & Muley.).

4. Mark Higgs (I,ZR) wrds).

5. True (Jerr) Reese—Pinsburgh, Jeff
Kremer—Daldas and John Shannon—
Örlecue).

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The Bottom Line On UK Athletics