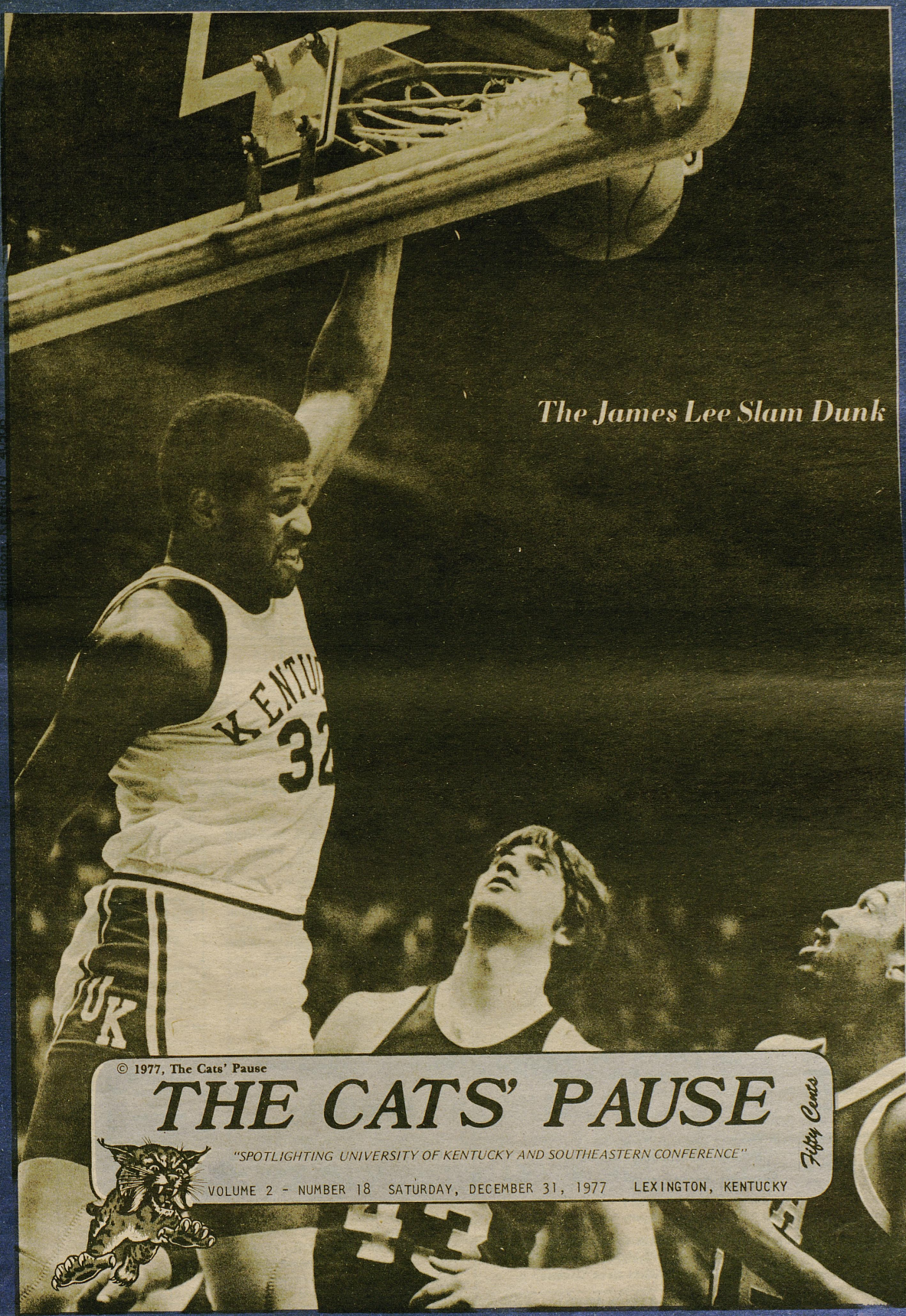


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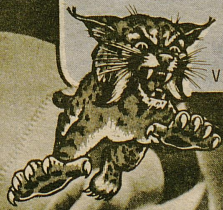
*The James Lee Slam Dunk*

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# THE CATS' PAUSE

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
VOLUME 2 - NUMBER 18 SATURDAY, DECEMBER 31, 1977 LEXINGTON, KENTUCKY



*Fifty Cents*



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AUBURN AT GEORGIA	GA 3	GA 1	GA 2	AUB 3	AUB 6	AUB 5	GA 1	AUB 3	GA 4	AUB 8
ARKANSAS AT LSU	ARK 11	ARK 9	ARK 8	ARK 6	ARK 8	ARK 10	LSU 3	ARK 2	ARK 4	ARK 1
NOTRE DAME AT UK	UK 7	UK 5	UK 6	UK 7	UK 15	UK 5	UK 10	UK 5	N.D. 1	UK 8
LSU AT ALABAMA	ALA 7	ALA 8	LSU 1	ALA 4	ALA 6	ALA 4	LSU 1	ALA 8	ALA 6	ALA 10
AUBURN AT TENN	TENN 6	TENN 8	TENN 12	TENN 2	AUB 4	TENN 4	AUB 2	TENN 3	AUB 5	AUB 6
VANDY AT UK	UK 12	UK 16	UK 18	UK 19	UK 16	UK 15	UK 24	UK 22	VAND 1	UK 14
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### Florida - Kentucky Game Sold Out

With the opening of the Alligator Alley portion of Florida's basketball schedule still a month away all reserved seats have been sold and less than 300 general admission season tickets remain.

"When these general admission tickets are sold on a season basis there will be no other tickets available to the general public to any game," says Athletic Director Ray Graves. "We are holding back 250 student tickets per game and these will be sold on a first-come, first-served basis prior to each game."

Student reserved season tickets are also sold out, according to Graves.

The season ticket sale is an all-time University of Florida record. First game at Alligator Alley is Saturday, Jan. 7 against Kentucky, currently the nation's top-ranked team.

## Kentucky

PIZZA HUT NOMINATIONS -- The University of Kentucky Wildcats led the East with three nominations to the annual Pizza Hut Basketball Classic, April 1, at Las Vegas. The three Wildcats are forwards Jack Givens and Rick Robery and center Mike Phillips. Only four other Southeastern Conference players were nominated. They are Al Bonner and Richard Gasper of Florida, Mike Mitchell of Auburn, and Anthony Murray of Alabama.

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## Oscar L. Combs

Cats' Pause Publisher



WILDCATS

# Kentucky, Notre Dame Clash On Television

It's showdown time in collegiate basketball although it's the first national television game of the season this Saturday as Kentucky and Notre Dame square off before almost 17,000 fans at Louisville's Freedom Hall and a nationally televised audience of millions over the NBC network.

Kentucky will carry the nation's number one ranking into the game and Notre Dame will arrive with thoughts of knocking the Wildcats from the ranks of the unbeaten.

The Fighting Irish would have entered the game as the nation's number two club had it not been for a one-point upset loss at Indiana last week, the same Hoosier team which fell to Kentucky 78-64 earlier this month in Lexington.

Tip-off will be just a few minutes past 4 p.m., Easter time.

**HITS AND MISSES . . .** Former UK aide Jim Long, now with University of Las Vegas, says Vegas is going to be one of the real tough teams in the country, but we're "getting by with some good ole fashioned luck" at the present time. Jim, a part-time assistant and recruiter last season at Kentucky, moved to Vegas a couple of months ago. . . . Look for some positive developments soon concern-

### THE KENTUCKY WILDCATS

On November 11 the Russians came To try Kentucky's favorite game. Up and down the court they would sizzle But very soon they began to fizzle.

No match for the Cats would they be For these Wildcats are the best in history. At the final buzzer it is now known All Ivan could generate was a loud groan.

Let this be a lesson for all to see The best in the world is Kentucky. Some teams are taller, some shorter. There are no teams in basketball smarter.

So onto the rest of the season schedule To convince the world of the Cats' muscle It begins with the boys from SMU And concludes with No. 5 in old St. Lou.

ing the Adolph Rupp Trophy Room at the Lexington Civic Center. Word is the group is now ready to begin work on a memorial to the great UK coach. Coach Rupp's personal belongings were removed from his Memorial Coliseum office the week after his funeral. His son, Herky, and some close family members loaded up all the trophies, plaques, pictures and etc. There's been no decision on what Rupp's office will be used for in the future. . . . The UKIT has to be one of the richest tournays in the land, grossing some \$200,000 each year when it is sold out. To date, each visiting team in the tourney gets a flat \$10,000 to play in the event, and the school has to pay for its own expenses from that fee. There are about 10,000 seats in the lower arena and those tickets go for \$10 for the tourney, while some 13,000 seats in upper level sell at \$4 per ticket for the event (both sessions). UK assistant athletics di-

rector Larry Ivy says there are about 350 total complimentary tickets issued to visiting teams and other officials. . .

The first Fan Poll results out of Chapel Hill, North Carolina, has Kentucky (of all schools) in first place, writes W.C. Forrester of High Point, North Carolina, an avid Kentucky fan. The Wildcats received 102 first place votes out of 242 ballots. North Carolina was second with 83 first place votes and Notre Dame was third and Marquette fourth. . . . After Tennessee defeated Georgia State 84-62 recently, State coach Roger Couch, a former Vanderbilt assistant, said Vol fans had better get used to hard times in the SEC this season. "This is the most inexperienced Tennessee team I have seen in 10 years, and the most beatable in Knoxville that I can ever remember," said the Georgia State mentor. Couch said he was making his remarks for the benefit of potential critics of Cliff Wettig, who is directing

the Tennessee team for ailing Ray Means. But reader Ted Landrum of Nashville, says, "look for the Vols to be most competitive and to finish fourth in the SEC." . . . For readers who have asked, record albums of Kentucky basketball and the one of Adolph Rupp offered by the Committee of 101 a few years ago are still available according to Bob Crowley, president. The 33 rpm, long-playing album of "Great Moments of Kentucky Basketball" is narrated by Adolph Rupp. Crowley also said a 45 rpm record of the "Ballad of Adolph" will be included free with each order while they last. You should send a check or money order for \$5.50 (postage is included) to: Committee of 101, Department TCP, P.O. Box 22, Lexington, Kentucky, 40501. . . . Don't be too surprised if Kentucky football's offensive line pens itself a nickname like "Hollywood Hots" or something like that before next season. Dan Fowler, the ever-likeable offensive lineman says his crew wants recognition so they'll get to play in some bowl games next season after the regular bowls. "Hey, we like publicity as well as those defensive cats and the running stars," joked Fowler. Well, he wasn't really joking, but he did laugh and carry a big smile. . . . If you see an "Apartment Wanted" classified advertisement in the Dayton, Ohio, Journal with a Lexington phone number, there's a good chance the listing would be that of Joe B. Hall or Leonard Hamilton. The Kentucky staff is spending so much time in Dayton, UK could save money by renting an apartment. It's all because they're unloading all guns in an effort to win Dwight Anderson to Big Blue Country. The premier star guard in the nation scored 53 points in a game a couple of weeks ago and UK coaches admitted they would be making the trip up I-75 several more times this season before the big signing date. Look for Dayton and Cincinnati to be in the thick of the chase for the 6-3 sharpshooter. . . . More than 100 local sports fans around IBM just returned from Hawaii, but they didn't get to see the heroes they really wanted to. It seems the ten-day vacation was built around a proposed UK basketball game with Hawaii, but the proposal fell through, so the club decided to take the trip anyway. Committee of 101 president Bob Crowley said the group listened to part of the UKIT by a telephone patch-up and then they called the HeraldLeader for the final statistics and posted them on a hotel bulletin board. Those Hawaiians must have thought the Kentuckians had too much egg nog with such carryings-on.



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# Joe B. Hall

UK Head Basketball Coach



## We'll Be Ready For Notre Dame

**Question:** This was the second straight good game for Kentucky. Are the Wildcats rounding into the top form you've expected of them?

**Coach Hall:** "We played a fine ball game against a fine team in beating Iona College. We could not stop their man-to-man offense, though. They played extremely well and were very sharp. They came to play and did not withhold the ball. When they came from seven points down early in the game and took that one lead, they proved what kind of a team they have and who they are capable of beating. Our zone bothered them and turned the game for us. We played it well and got a lot of deflections."

**Question:** It was the second unit which upped the four-point lead in the first half to the 18-point halftime margin. Any comments?

**Coach Hall:** "The subs played real well. In the first half, James Lee, Jay Shidler and Chuck Aleksinas had 21 of our 44 points and that's an indication of the work we were getting from the subs. Aleksinas helped us tremendously when he went in and added more strength to the boards. He was moving the ball and scoring well. Lee's four baskets also were a big boost."

**Question:** Did Aleksinas see the game as something special since he was going against Jeff Ruland who was recruited so heavily by Kentucky?

Did he think about this game a little more than the others, maybe?

**Coach Hall:** "I think he looks to every game like this. Chuck played real well, and Ruland played well and lived up to his billings. He had a super game and is an outstanding basketball player. He certainly didn't play like a freshman out there."

**Question:** Do you think Ruland made a mistake by going to Iona instead of Kentucky?

**Coach Hall:** "No, I wouldn't say that. He's close to home and I'm sure that's what he wants. He's on a fine ball club and they have a good coach in Jim Valvano."

**Question:** Kentucky seems to be near the point of reaching a peak now. Is that true and is this the time you want that to happen?

**Coach Hall:** "We played awfully well against Iona. Dwane Casey played a very fine game. LaVon came in and helped us a lot and Jay came on to play well. Our bench looked so much better. Robey still didn't have a great night, Phillips didn't have a great night but we still played outstanding basketball."

**Question:** Was the Iona game the type of game you need to prepare your club for the game coming up this weekend with Notre Dame at Louisville?

**Coach Hall:** "You can never tell.

Sometimes you need a scare going into a game like Notre Dame. But we have an eight-day lay-off before the Notre Dame game and this game was a good one to let them go home for Christmas with. Then we'll come back and get ready for Notre Dame. We've got plenty of time and we know how good Notre Dame is. We know what the rivalry is and we'll be ready for that game."

**Question:** Kentucky seemed to play with a lot of enthusiasm and teamwork. Have they started playing together as a team?

**Coach Hall:** "They were very unselfish tonight and they moved the ball well on the fast break. They were kicking it back out to the guards where we were getting good shooting and it all fitted together. That's what we're looking for. The only thing I didn't like was our offensive rebounding. We didn't go to the offensive boards as well as we should have. We played looser because the 1-3-1 zone got us playing looser. That aggressiveness carried over to our offense."

**Question:** James Lee passed up some potential dunk shots for easy lay-ups. Did his play please you?

**Coach Hall:** "Yeah, he played a smart ball game tonight and did a good job. Jack's second half looked much better than his first. He could have scored 100 if he had played the whole

game like he did that one five- or six-minute spurt when he was getting out on the break and getting that short jumper. That's what we want from him, but you can't do that against everybody, though."

**Question:** Were you surprised how completely Kentucky dominated the game against Iona?

**Coach Hall:** "Yes, absolutely. It was absolutely beyond my hopes to dominate that team that way, especially after the first ten minutes when they caught up with us because I thought they looked outstanding. Iona came to play. They were picking us apart offensively early in the man-to-man. It wasn't that we were playing that poorly, but they just executed perfectly. The zone, though, just stymied them. They were very ineffective against our zone."

**Question:** In the last poll before Christmas, Kentucky received all the first place votes with the exception of one. Do you think that one expert's list will change after the Iona game?

**Coach Hall:** "I don't know if everyone else respects Iona as much as I did and I don't know if that will help us that much. But we weren't playing with that in mind. We just wanted to have a good game and we've now put two back to back. That's going to help us and them being two New York schools won't hurt us, either."

**Question:** How will these two big wins over New York schools affect your recruiting up in the East?

**Coach Hall:** "I don't really know. It can't do anything but help us overall. This team beat St. John's last year and the good win over St. John's, and playing so well will help us. Their scribes and media not only recognized that we beat them but that we played so well in doing it. That's even more important."

**Question:** What about Lee going to the bucket, but not charging like last year?

**Coach Hall:** "He's a year older and possibly has learned his lesson. He's doing the smart thing and playing very well. They were beautiful plays when he went down the middle and hit those lay-ups. There were courageous. He was full speed but yet they were under control and he avoided the charge with the agility of a broken-field scaback. I don't see how he does it, but he handles 240 pounds about as easy as anyone you'll ever see. I wish it were 230 pounds. If I had ten off of James and ten on Freddie (Cowan), we'd be all right."



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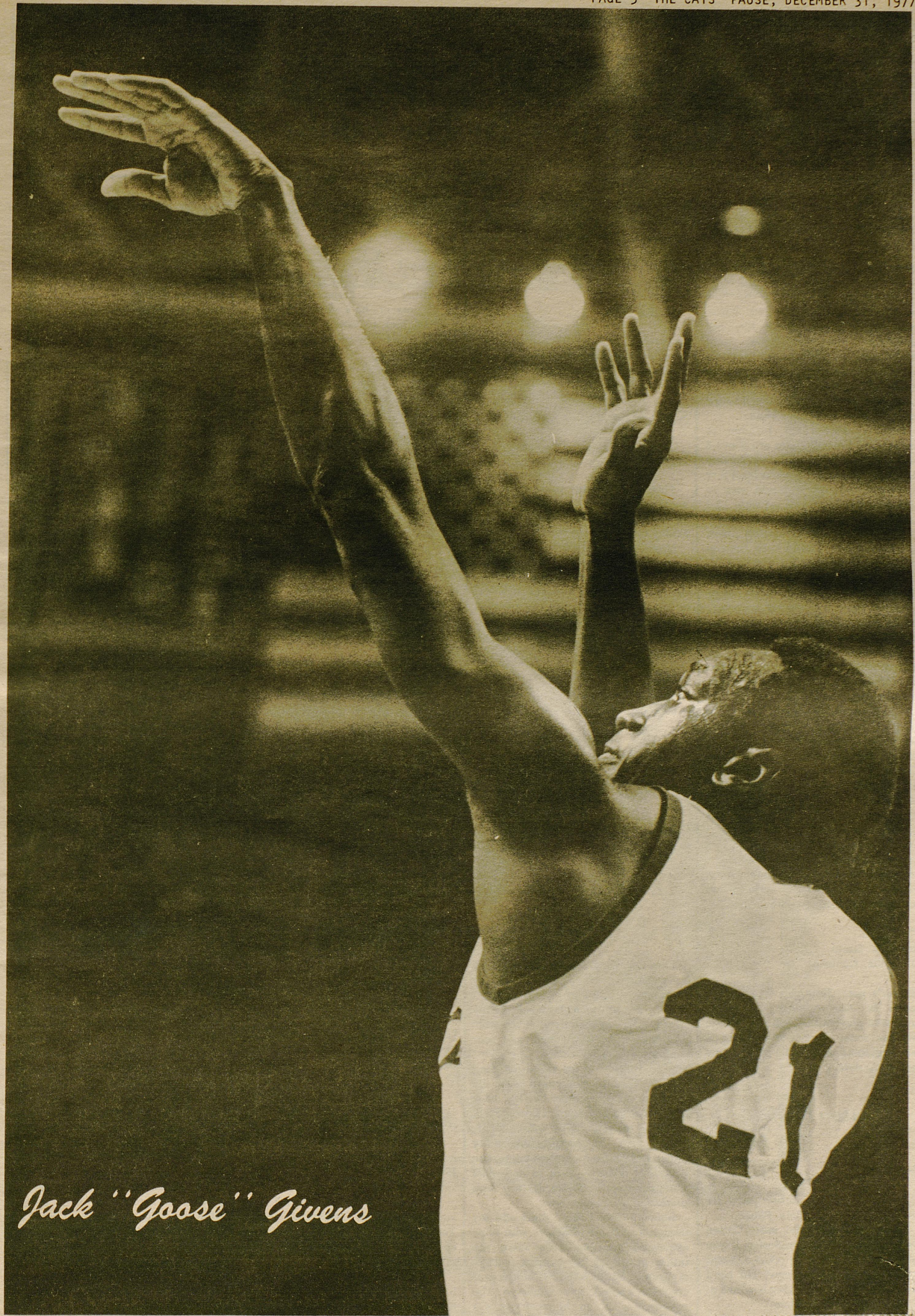
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*Jack "Goose" Givens*





# VIEWPOINT

## Letters To The Editor



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

### Football Recruiting

Dear Sir:

I would just like to tell you how much I enjoy reading The Cats' Pause each week. I agree with Mr. Jon McKinney who would like more information on the Cats football recruiting. I am sending you a story out of last week's Courier-Journal by Earl Cox about UK not signing a single prospect from Jefferson County.

This is really hard for me to understand because there are about 6 or 7 top prospects in Jefferson County this year, you would think at least 2 or 3 of these top players would want to sign with the Cats since we went 10-1 and were rated 7th in the nation. Coach Curci is always talking about how he must be able to keep the top players in the state from going to other schools. Also, the 2 boys from Mayfield and the big tackle from Erlanger have not signed with us. Would you please check with our coaches and see if we have a chance of signing these players and give us readers your opinion as to why we haven't signed any more players from the state than we have.

Would you please see if you could give us the Parade Magazine High School All-American football team that was released last Sunday. I know Bob Crable of Cincinnati Moeller was on the first team along with Art Schlichter of Miami Trace, Ohio. Do you know if either one of the top players has signed with anyone yet? What about Tyrone Young of Ocala, Florida? Has he been signed by any SEC school yet. I hope you can fill us football fans in on some of the Parade All-Americans and who they have signed with.

Thank you,  
Robert L. Smith  
Louisville, Kentucky

[Editor's note: Kentucky is still very much in the running for some Louisville players and will sign some, you can count on that. Recruiting is just beginning with mid-February the important date.]

### Cotton Nash

Dear Sir:

Please renew my subscription for another year to The Cats' Pause.

I have been a UK fan since Cotton Nash played. I was wondering if you might tell me where he (Cotton Nash) is and what he is doing now? The last I knew of him he was playing baseball at Evansville for the Triplets.

Now on mention of basketball, I

think the University of Kentucky is to basketball what Elvis was and still is to Rock&Roll (The Greatest). The governor should change one of our mottos from pretty women and fast horses to pretty women, fast horses and great basketball.

Go Big Blue.

Sincerely,  
Terry & Anne Chaney  
Graham, Kentucky

### Soft Peddle The NCAA

Dear Sir:

Please renew my subscription for another great year of coverage on UK sports. I always look forward to every Friday and receiving my Cats Pause.

Having the opportunity to read C.P. each week I support the statement made by Mr. Larsen of Decatur, Georgia (November 5 issue), it would be wise to soft pedal all the national championship talk at this time. You shouldn't count your chickens before they hatch.

Sincerely,  
Herbert W. Patrick  
Lynchburg, Virginia

P.S. How many scholarships does Kentucky have in basketball next year, because there seems to be some confusion about the N.C.A.A. probation.

[Editor's note: Only 3 this spring.]

### Kings Are Gone

Dear Sir:

I am enclosing a check for a year's subscription to Cats' Pause, as my Christmas present to my father (so I don't have to give him all of my issues). We are both dyed-in-the-wool Kentucky fans and must add our congratulations to Coach Curci, his staff and the team for an outstanding season. I am most pleased with the events of this year when I reflect back to the five years I spent at Stoll Field watching the grass grow (class of '71, UK College of Architecture). My father and I have one other interest in Kentucky. Chuck Jones (a red shirt nose guard this year) is son and brother to us, respectively.

Before I close I feel I must add my thoughts to those of others who have expressed their concerns about the future growth of Kentucky's football program. Surely the Rupp/Bryant experience should have educated "the powers that be" to the necessity of a balanced approach to the development

of UK's athletic programs. I sincerely hope that the apparent equilibrium has arrived and its future growth is assured. The kings are gone. Long live the kings!

Good luck to Coach Curci in his recruiting efforts. Hope he will receive all 25 presents he's wishing for.

Good luck to Coach Hall and his Wildcats, as they travel their route to St. Louis.

Sincerely,  
J.C. Jones  
Lexington, Kentucky

### Attendance Records

Dear Sir:

How does UK manage to rewrite all the NCAA attendance records and have that fact ignored by the national media? Look at this carefull:

Per game home attendance record  
Total home attendance record  
Per game attendance record (all games)  
Per game attendance record (road games)  
Total attendance for season (all games)  
Record attendance for 2 session Christmas tournament

Possibly per game road attendance (can't verify this one)

Yet Sports Illustrated, Sporting News, Basketball Weekly and all the rest haven't written anything about Kentucky attendance. You would think such a performance would rate a few stories in some of the national media.

I was wondering: does UK's sports information department have good relations with the national media?

I don't know who it is but I'm firmly convinced that someone isn't doing his job in this area.

Sincerely,  
Barry Ellington  
Bowling Green, Kentucky

[Editor's note: A page is devoted to attendance records in this year's Facts Books.]

### Appreciates CP

Dear Sir:

Just a note to say how much I enjoy your publication, The Cats' Pause. You really add a great deal to the sports scene in Kentucky and I find that invaluable.

I looked to meet you at the Kansas-Kentucky game in Lawrence, Kansas, but never could find you.

If we can ever be of service to you

from this office please don't hesitate to let us know.

Best wishes this Holiday season. And again, you have a fine publication.

Sincerely,  
Steve Hatchell, Director  
Big 8 Conference Service Bureau  
Kansas City, Missouri

## U.K. Notes

### SHORT SHOTS -- UKIT LEFTOVERS

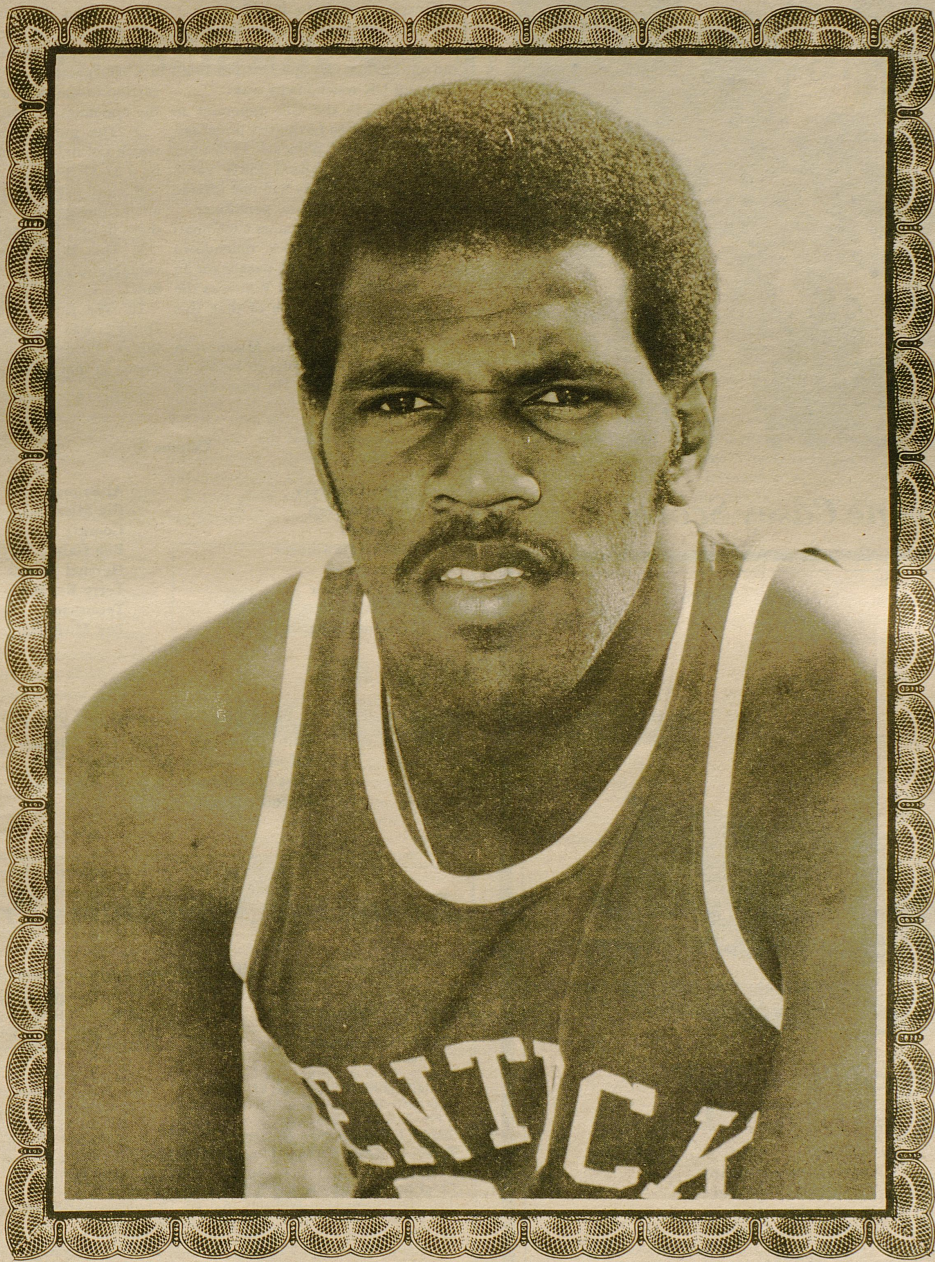
-- The two-night crowd of 46,944 exceeded last year's by 10,908 . . . Three Wildcats -- Jack Givens, Truman Claytor and Mike Phillips, along with Portland State's Freeman Williams (only unanimous selection) and St. John's George Johnson, were selected to the All-UKIT team, while Phillips matched his 1975 Most Valuable Player award . . . Phillips played sensationally in the championship game, hitting 10 of 14 shots, grabbing eight rebounds and handing out five assists in only 22 minutes played. But his defense, as always, was what coach Hall was most pleased with . . . Portland's Williams was the tournament's leading scorer with 73 points . . . Records set in the UKIT included the crowd; UK's 114 vs. Portland State; UK's 46 field goals (tied) UK's 46 vs. DePaul in 1956, and Williams' 40 field goal attempts vs. UK. . . Five Rupp Arena records were set: Team Scoring, UK's 114, UK Opponent Scoring, Portland 88, Field Goals Made, UK 46 vs. Portland; Individual Points Scored, Williams' 39 vs. UK, and Individual Field Goals Attempted, Williams' 40 vs. UK.

### ALEKSINAS ON THE PROWL --

Freshman center Chuck Aleksinas of Morris, Conn., made his finest showing as a Wildcat when he played superlative defense and scored 17 points and grabbed seven rebounds in 17 minutes against Portland State. He came back against St. John's and scored eight points and had four rebounds in 13 minutes. Hall, who has called him the team's most improved player, was elated not only with his offense, but the manner in which the big man has responded to defensive play. Aleksinas' averages are: 6.3 points, 3.5 rebounds, 60.9 percent from the field, 71.4 percent from the free throw line, and 9.3 minutes playing time per game. Asked about his first tournament in cavernous Rupp Arena, he replied, "There is no place in the country like it. The fan support is unbelievable."

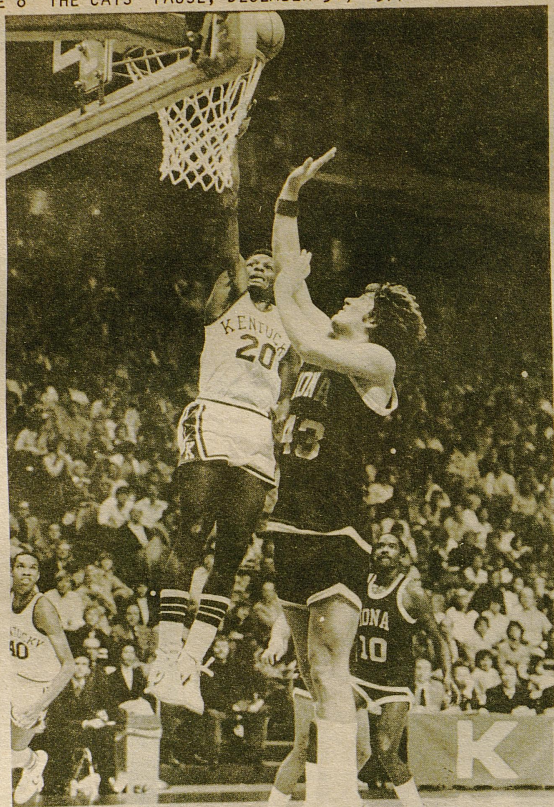


*Kentucky Wildcats  
Basketball Album*



*James Lee*





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## Dewey Bentley

Weekly UK Sports Quiz



Fill in the Blanks With Correct Answer  
From Column B

- In the 1949 loss to SMU (20-7) Kentucky's lone TD came on a 26-yard completion from Babe Parilli to:
- The UK great who blocked two punts, one against North Texas State and one against Georgia Tech, in 1950, to set up UK touchdowns was:
- Who was the UK opponent in 1951 that came to Lexington undefeated and beat the Wildcats 13-7 after Kentucky was penalized 138½ yards and the opponent only had one offense and three delay of game penalties?
- In a 1950 game against Cincinnati Babe Parilli threw five touchdown passes hitting on 18 of 29 passes for an SEC record of 338 yards. Who was the UK player to catch three of these five TD passes?
- In a 7-0 victory over Missouri in 1965, this UK player played safety in his first varsity game. He intercepted
- three passes for Kentucky, including one in the end zone, to tie a school record. Who was this Wildcat?
- Dicky Lyons, the all purpose back from Louisville, threw his first pass in a 1966 game to Dan Spanish who carried to the two-yard line. Who was the opponent in that game?
- The number one ranked team which UK defeated in September 1964 by a 27-21 margin was:
- Until 1952, Kentucky had not lost an opening game since 1896. Who beat them in the '52 opener?
- This Wildcat was named most valuable player of the 1951 Sugar Bowl:
- The first victory of the "Thin Thirty" was against Detroit, 27-8. Which Wildcat scored three touchdowns in that game?

Column B

- |                  |                |
|------------------|----------------|
| Walt Yowarsky    | Al Bruno       |
| Georgia Tech     | Ole Miss       |
| Villanova        | Georgia        |
| Junior Hawthorne | Bob Gain       |
| Dom Fucci        | Hershel Turner |
| Perky Bryant     | Terry Beadles  |
| Vanderbilt       | Tennessee      |
| Leeman Bennett   | Lou Michaels   |

- ANSWERS: 1.Dom Fucci 2.Bob Gain 3.Georgia Tech 4.Al Bruno 5.Terry Beadles 6.Vanderbilt 7.Ole Miss 8.Villanova 9.Walt Yowarsky 10.Perky Bryant

## Kentucky - Notre Dame Preview

8th Game—NOTRE DAME at Louisville—Saturday, December 31 (TV)

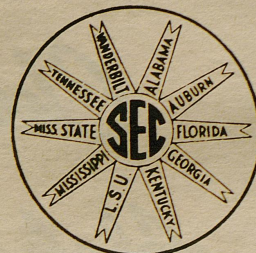
- |   |  |
|---|--|
| Site—Freedom Hall (16,613)  | Tipoff—4:00 p.m. EST (Nat. TV)   |
| Location—South Bend, Ind.   | Series—UK leads 25-14  |
| Enrollment—11,345   | Last Game—102-78 UK in '76   |
| Conference—Independent  | Biggest Win Margin—  |
| Nickname—Fighting Irish   | UK 34 (103-69) in '65  |
| Colors—Gold and Blue  | ND 21 (41-20) in '36   |
| Athletic Director—Edward W. Krause  | Records at Site—   |
| Publicist—Roger Valdiserri  | UK 15-3 (Last Win in '76)  |
| Ph—219 283-7516   | ND 3-15 (Last Win in '7?)  |
| 1976-77 Record—Won 22, Lost 7   | Hall Record—Won 4, Lost 1  |
| COACH—Richard (Digger) Phelps (6 Years at ND—Won 114, Lost 58—Pct. 66.3)  | Defense—Man-to-Man, Matchup Zone   |
| Offense—2-1-2   | Chief Losses—Toby Knight (F) 15.2; Bill Paterno (F) 9.6  |
| Top Returnees—Don Williams (6-3 G) 18.1; Dave Batton (6-9 F) 12.2; Bruce Flowers (6-8 F) 11.3; Rich Branning (6-3 G) 10.7 | Best Newcomers—Bill Laimbeer (6-11 C) (red shirt); Tracy Jackson (6-5 F) 29.8; Kelly Tripucka (6-7 F) 36.0; Orlando Weelridge (6-8 F) 21.0 |

**OUTLOOK:** Notre Dame returns four starters and blends five promising newcomers into its Irish recipe for success. The Irish will have height and plenty of it with 6-9 Dave Batton, 6-11 Bill Laimbeer, who returns after sitting out a year, and 6-11 freshman Gil Salinas. The backcourt is in very capable hands—Don Williams and floor-general Rich Branning, who directed the Irish offense the final 22 games after co-capt. Ray Martin broke his ankle. Bruce Flowers, a two-year starter at forward, is expected to team up with Batton, where the two juniors averaged 11.3 and 12.2 points respectively. All in all, the Irish appear to be loaded with top talent.





# Around The SEC



## SEC Schools Set Attendance Marks

I may be in the midst of basketball season around the country, but it's also time for football bowl action and NCAA's boasting of record-shattering attendance marks on the gridiron.

Statistics just released last week show nearly 33 million fans flocked to the stadiums for the big Sturday pastime this past fall and the SEC was no exception.

SEC Commissioner Boyd McWhorter was beaming right alongside the big boys, and there was good reason. The SEC played before 3.3 million fans, that a 3.3 percent increase and an all-time per game average of 55,338 at SEC schools on the average Saturday.

Only the Big Ten, thanks to Michigan's 104,000-seat stadium, out-ranked the SEC in conference attendance across the nation. The Big Ten played before 3.7 million and a per game average of 59,443. That figure was a slight decrease from last season.

Penn State, which hosted Kentucky this past fall, led the independents in attendance, averaging over 62,000 per game, followed by Notre Dame, South Carolina, Pittsburgh and Georgia Tech.

Only the total home season attendance mark wasn't broken and that's because of the seven-game home card during 1976. This past season the Wildcats played only five times at Commonwealth Stadium.

But the other new marks are impressive. The Cats played before an average home crowd of 57,897, up from the record 56,212 the year before.

Kentucky played before 603,867 fans in eleven games during 1977, as compared to the previous record of 598,502 during 1976. And Kentucky put on its show before an average of 54,897 fans each Saturday during the course of the season, up from the previous record-setting crowds of 54,509 in 1976. Bowl games are not included in the stats.

Had it not been for two games, the figures would have been much higher. The attendance marks at both Baylor and Vanderbilt were well below the 40,000 mark or Kentucky probably would have averaged close to 60,000 per game.

Likewise, the SEC marks suffered tremendously because of three schools in particular, Vanderbilt, Ole Miss and Mississippi State. Vandy officials have been debating whether to go big-time for the past decade but won't get off the fence-post.

Instead of arguing with coach Fred

Pancoast, the school should get off its fanny and build a big, new stadium like Kentucky's. Then, the Commodores will enjoy success like the Wildcats.

Ole Miss and Mississippi State are caught up in a sparsely-populated state with too many good football teams for everyone's good.

There's so much rivalry and bitterness, the two schools cut their own throats. Like two years ago when Mississippi State and Kentucky were playing at Jackson in one of the South's best games. Meanwhile, over in Oxford, Ole Miss was celebrating homecoming against one of the nation's finest, Georgia.

It was plain stupid to schedule two big games like those the same day at

the same time so close together. In the end, less than 68,000 fans saw both games combined. There should have been that many fans for each game had there been proper scheduling and an adequate stadium.

No doubt, there will be pressure from other SEC schools to update the programs and attendance at those schools. After all, if Kentucky can do what it has in football, why can't everyone else?

In fact, Kentucky is already lending an eye toward expanding its relatively new 58,000-seat stadium. The Cats could easily have filled a 70,000-seat stadium last season and there's no reason to expect a decline in interest.

We'll have a wrap-up on the SEC's bowl participation next week. Only two

SEC clubs are bowling this season, LSU in the Sun Bowl and Alabama against Ohio State in the Sugar Bowl. Kentucky would have received the invitation to the Sugar Bowl had it not been on probation.

# # #

Basketball teams are picking up the steam in the SEC, especially Alabama and Florida, but both Tennessee and Auburn hit the skids in action last week.

Alabama finished second to Indiana in the Indiana Classic, falling to the Hoosiers 66-57 after nudging by Princeton 61-60 in the opening round. Reggie King is the big spark plug for the Crimson Tide right now.

After getting off to a fine start, Tennessee has now lost three in a row, the finals of its own tournament in Knoxville, and both games in a Las Vegas tourney last week.

The Vols bowed to Utah, then lost to both Iowa (92-86) in the Vegas first round and by 93-86 to Northwestern in the consolation contest.

Coach Cliff Wettig has been getting good scoring from Terry Crosby and Reggie Johnson, but youthfulness is a glaring weakness at the present time.

Auburn continues to be up and down. Last week, it was a downer when the Tigers fell to little Iona on the road. This past week, Auburn was shooting for a reversal in the Sugar Bowl tourney in New Orleans.

LSU escaped with a 68-67 win over DePaul when Joe Ponsetto missed the front end of a bonus free throw try with only two seconds left in the game.

It also saddled DePaul with its first loss of the season. Jody Hultberg paced the Tiger attack with 18 points while teammate Kenny Higgs chipped in with 13.

Hard-luck Ole Miss lost another toughie on the road, this time a 70-67 decision at Memphis State.

Showing surprising power against tough State, Ole Miss held a 39-31 halftime lead but Ole Miss lost John Stroud to fouls and Memphis State proved too much.

Following Auburn's 105-82 loss to Iona, coach Bob Davis was visibly upset.

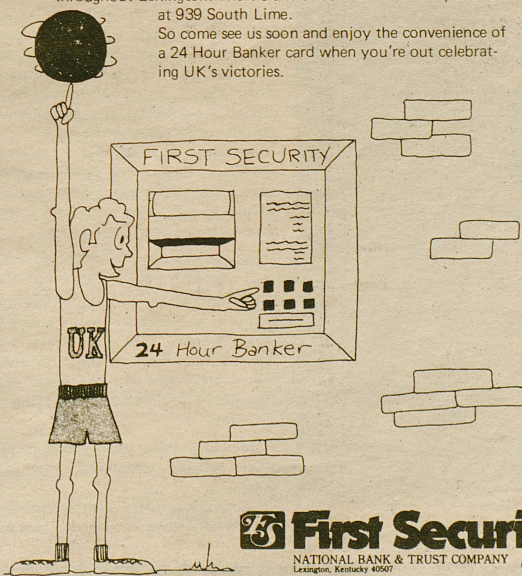
"We took our Christmas vacation a day or two early," said Davis. "It was a total mental lapse. We weren't ready to play. The best thing we can do is put that behind us and come back ready for some good practices."

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# Chuck Aleksinas

## 6-10 Eastern

## Career At UK; F

Chuck Aleksinas, a young man who came to Kentucky from the East Coast for his collegiate basketball stardom, is right on track in his rookie season with the Wildcats as he learns the finer points of the game in a reserve role.

Next season, the 6-10 Aleksinas will be called on to fill the shoes of departing 6-10 senior center Mike Phillips. Two week ago, Aleksinas put together his finest game in the Big Blue uniform by scoring 17 points in 17

minutes against Portland State. It won't be his last.

Last week, Chuck talked about his current role with the Cats, how he was recruited, and what he expects in the future.

Following is that conversation with The Cats' Pause:

**Question:** Has the transition been tough from high school ball in the East to the varisty level in collegiate basketball?

Chuck Aleksinas: "Everyone thought my weakest point would be my defense. I've been working on it since summer. I've learned how to defense against guys 6-9 and 6-10 by playing against Rick (Robey) and Mike (Phillips). I thought it would be my biggest problem and when I first arrived, it was. They taught me how to go to the basket and not get my shots blocked. It's helped a lot.

**Question:** What about the recruiting phase of your career last season? Some said Kentucky tried to play a low-key role and grab you before other schools discovered you. Tell us about the recruiting last season.

Chuck Aleksinas: "They (Kentucky) tried to tell everyone they weren't recruiting me but when they (other schools) found out, I started getting all kinds of letters, telling me not to go to Kentucky, that they would screw me up and all that. I was totally lost at the beginning of the season on where to go. Everybody just confused me. When it came down to making the final decision, I made the right one. With Mike and Rick and the other seniors here, I knew I'd get a lot of experience and that helped a lot. Going to some other schools, I probably would have started but wouldn't have gotten good experience in practice like here."

**Question:** Are you saying you were willing to sacrifice one year's starting time for a year's experience against people like Phillips and Robey and then start the final three years?

Chuck Aleksinas: "Yes, like next year I'll probably be starting. I'm better off getting the experience the first year at Kentucky than starting at other schools the first year. I've learned more here in the first eight weeks of practice than the whole year anywhere else if I had been playing as a starter."

**Question:** Who were some of the other schools recruiting you last season?

Chuck Aleksinas: "Providence, University of Richmond, North Carolina-



Chuck Aleksinas



Aleksinas Fighting F



# Turner Looks Forward To Brilliant K; Eyes NCAA Crown In Rookie Year



**Fighting For Position**

Charlotte, and Maryland. Smaller schools contacted me my sophomore year, but most of the big schools, like Kentucky and UCLA, started contacting me my senior year."

**Question: How did Kentucky end up winning the recruiting war for your services?**

Chuck Aleksinas: "Coach (Leonard) Hamilton came to practice one day and said he had heard about me and wanted to check me out. We talked a while and Kentucky started recruiting me."

**Question: One of the so-called super scouts of the East labeled you as one who could not make it on the big-time level in college. What's your feelings about that assessment?**

Chuck Aleksinas: "Well, I don't know. I guess he has his reasons for it. I'm just going to try to prove him wrong."

**Question: One of the chief complaints in evaluating you as college material came from the claim you did not play in a tough high school league. How tough was high school basketball back home?**

Chuck Aleksinas: "They were pretty good ball players although they were in the 6-4 range, but they had three or four on me every game and I feel that's like playing against a seven-footer. I couldn't move and every time I did turn around, I'd knock someone over. That's part of the reason why I've had a hard time learning to power myself inside like I should in college."

**Question: Already this season, you've played against some of the better teams in the nation, like Kansas, Indiana, St. John's and South Carolina. What's your feeling about collegiate basketball after a month?**

Chuck Aleksinas: "It's much more physical than it used to be, even on the Division I level. You've just got to get used to the different style of play."

**Question: You have just come off your finest game of the season to date with 17 points over Portland State in seventeen minutes of action. What do you look forward to the remainder of this season?**

Chuck Aleksinas: "When the opportunity comes, I just try to give it everything. I've tried to use everything I've learned. Against Portland State, everything seemed to fall into place that game."

**Question: It's apparent Kentucky has strong confidence in you and has put all its eggs in your basket for the future, as far as the big center is**

**concerned. How do you feel about that?**

Chuck Aleksinas: "I feel good about the fact they're (Kentucky) not recruiting a center for next year. When I go out there I try to improve as much as I can because I know I'm going to have to play a lot next year. This season, I'm trying to get as much experience as I can."

**Question: Are you on schedule, as far as progress is concerned this year?**

Chuck Aleksinas: "Most of the games, I feel like I've been coming along pretty good. I just hope everything continues this way."

**Question: What are your hobbies?**

Chuck Aleksinas: "I collect coins and things like that."

**Question: What are your plans for next summer?**

Chuck Aleksinas: "Well, of course we'll be going to Japan in June on the basketball tour and then I'll probably spend some time at home, just play some dirt court basketball."

**Question: Did the trip to Japan and the new Basketball House have any influence on your decision to attend Kentucky?**

Chuck Aleksinas: "Yes, especially the dorm. In fact, there were several aspects about Kentucky I liked which I didn't know about before I visited Kentucky. It made me think more of Kentucky. I remember my visit to Lexington because it came two days after the North Carolina game in NCAA and fans weren't too happy at that time."

**Question: Coming to Kentucky at that time, did that hurt Kentucky's recruiting of you?**

Chuck Aleksinas: "No, not really because I knew they could play. I watched the game at home on television. It was just one of those games. This year, I felt, Kentucky is going to win it all and I wanted to play on it."

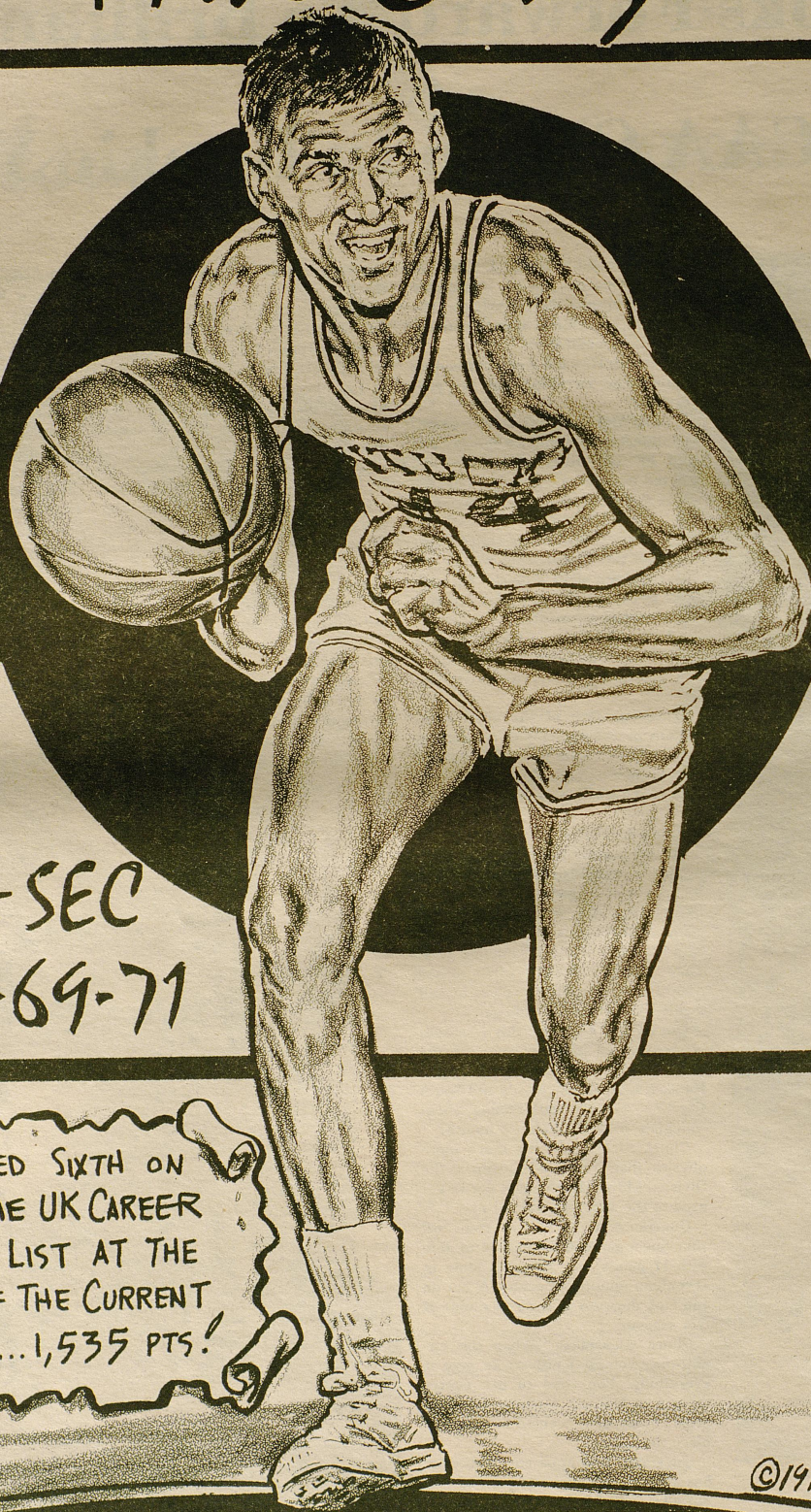
(Continued On Page 15)



**Chuck Aleksinas**



# Mike Casey



All-SEC  
1968-69-71

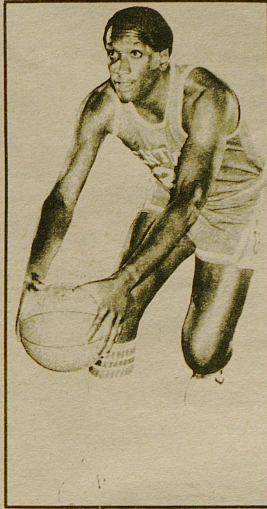
HE RANKED SIXTH ON  
THE ALL-TIME UK CAREER  
SCORING LIST AT THE  
START OF THE CURRENT  
SEASON...1,535 PTS!



# Wildcats

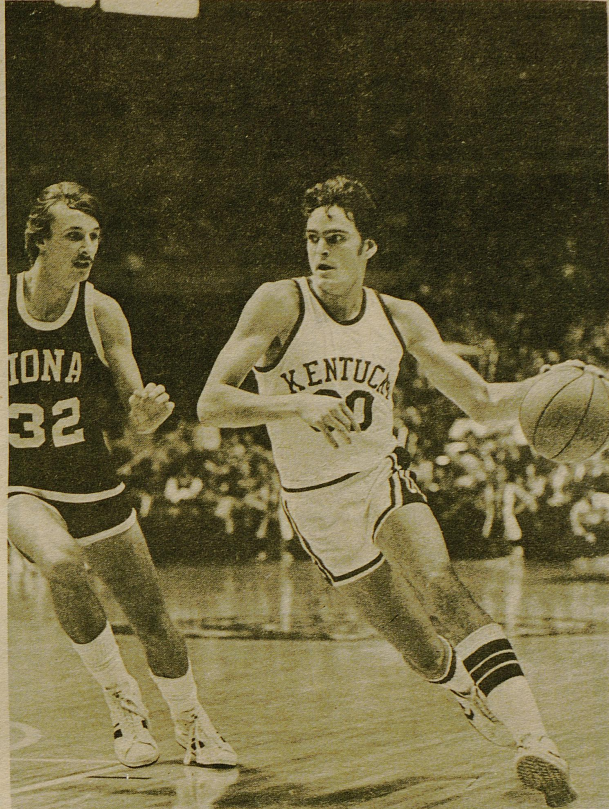
JACK GIVENS, 6-4, 205 Senior Forward  
Lexington, Ky. (9/21/56)

A two-time Citizens-Savings Foundation All-American and All-Southeastern Conference selection, Givens has firmly established himself in Wildcat lore as one of the truly best finesse players to ever wear the Blue and White... Playing at Kentucky where balance in team scoring is traditional, Givens nevertheless has edged up to No. 11 in all-time UK scoring... After scoring 602 points as a sophomore (second best at UK) and 566 last year, Givens could become all-time scoring leader by averaging 22.7 points and is almost a sure bet to dislodge Kevin Grevey as No. 2... Tied school record—field goal percentage in single game, 11 of 12 for 91.7 per cent at Miss. State, 1/31/77... 1976 All-UKIT and MVP of annual Notre Dame game... Recipient of 1st annual Montgomery Alumni Club MVP award at Auburn last Jan... 1977 NCAA All-East Regional... Led team scoring, 18.9, free throw shooting, 83.2 per cent, finishing fifth and third in same SEC categories... Committed fewest turnovers (53) for time played... Started all 30 games, scoring in double figures 27 times, in the 20's 14 and his high season output, 30 vs. Notre Dame... Led team scoring 16 times and rebounding five... Top UK scorer in NIT, winning first team All-NIT honors... An outstanding student as well as involving himself in community affairs and the Big Brothers of Lexington organization... A much sought speaker at school and civic meetings... Averaged 9.4 ppg as a frosh and 13 during final four games of the '75 NCAA tournament... Selected with Robey to '75 All-SEC Freshman team... A prep All-American and twice All-State, led Bryan Station to a 76-17 three-year record while scoring 1,777 points, a 18.7 average... Led the Defenders to one District and two Regional titles... Set state tournament rebounding record with 25 against Owensboro... Kentucky's "Mr. Basketball" for Ky-Indiana series... Played in Derby Classic, the Kentucky All-Stars-Russian National Junior game, and the East-West All-Star game... Coach Bobby Barlow... Arts and Sciences.



Coach Hall: "Jack Givens gets better and better every year and it looks like this is going to be the outstanding year of his career at Kentucky. Knowing that this is his senior year, Jack will give his usual great effort and show more leadership on this year's team. He's quicker and stronger than he's ever been and we're looking for great things out of Jack."

Year	G	Sts.	Time	FG-FGA	Pct.	FT-FTA	Pct.	Reb-Ave	A	PF-D	Pts. Ave	Season High	
Fr.	31	5	598	126-255	49.4	40-54	74.1	152-4.9	27	55-1	292	9.4	26
So.	30	30	1068	243-494	49.2	116-140	82.9	216-7.2	81	80-0	602	20.1	33
Jr.	30	30	1032	236-459	51.4	94-113	83.2	208-6.9	82	64-1	566	18.9	30



Tim Stephens Drives

### Record of SEC Teams in NCAA Tournaments

1942	Kentucky	Defeated Illinois 46-44, lost to Dartmouth 28-47.
1945	Kentucky	Lost to Ohio State 37-45, defeated Tufts 66-56.*
1948	Kentucky	Defeated Columbia 76-53, Holy Cross 60-52, and Baylor 58-42.
1949	Kentucky	Defeated Villanova 85-72, Illinois 76-47, Okla. State 46-36.
1951	Kentucky	Beat Louisville 79-68, St. John's 59-43, Illinois 76-74, and Kansas St. 68-58.
1952	Kentucky	Defeated Penn State 82-54, lost to St. John's 57-64.
1953	L.S.U.	Defeated Lebanon Valley 89-76 and Holy Cross 81-73; Lost to Indiana 67-80 and Washington 69-88.*
1954	L.S.U.	Lost to Penn State 70-78 and to Indiana 62-73.*
1955	Kentucky	Lost to Marquette 71-79 and defeated Penn State 84-59.*
1956	Kentucky	Defeated Wayne Univ. 84-64; lost to Iowa 77-89.
1957	Kentucky	Defeated Pittsburgh 98-92; lost to Michigan State 68-80.
1958	Kentucky	Defeated Miami, O. 94-70, Notre Dame 89-56, Temple 61-60, Seattle 84-72.
1959	Kentucky	Lost to Louisville 61-76, then defeated Marquette 98-69.*
1960	Ga. Tech	Defeated Ohio Univ. 57-54, lost to Ohio State 69-86.
1961	Kentucky	Defeated Morehead 71-64; lost to Ohio State 74-87.
1962	Kentucky	Defeated Butler 81-60; lost to Ohio State 64-74.
1963	Miss. State	Lost to Loyola (Chicago) 51-61 then defeated Bowling Green 65-60.*
1964	Kentucky	Lost to Ohio Univ. 69-85 and to Loyola (Chicago) 91-100.*
1965	Vanderbilt	Defeated DePaul 83-78; lost to Michigan 85-87.
1966	Kentucky	Defeated Dayton 86-79, Michigan 84-77, Duke 83-79; lost to Texas Western 65-72-c.
1967	Tennessee	Lost to Dayton 52-53 and to Indiana 44-51.*
1968	Kentucky	Defeated Marquette 107-89; lost to Ohio State 81-82.*
1969	Kentucky	Lost to Marquette 74-81; defeated Miami, O. 72-71.*
1970	Kentucky	Defeated Notre Dame 109-99; lost to Jacksonville 100-106.
1971	Kentucky	Lost to Western Ky. 107-83; Lost to Marquette 91-74.
1972	Kentucky	Defeated Marquette 85-69; Lost to Fla. St. 73-54.
1973	Kentucky	Defeated Austin Peay 106-100; Lost to Indiana 65-72.
1974	Vanderbilt	Lost to Marquette 61-69 and Notre Dame 88-118.
1975	Alabama	Lost to Arizona State 97-94.
	Kentucky	Defeated Marquette 76-54, Central Mich. 90-73, Indiana 92-80, Syracuse 95-79; Lost to UCLA 85-92.
1976	Tennessee	Lost to VMI 75-81.
	Alabama	Defeated North Carolina 79-64; Lost to Indiana 69-74.
1977	Tennessee	Lost to Syracuse 88-93 (OT).
	Kentucky	Defeated Princeton 72-58 and VMI 93-78; Lost to North Carolina 72-79.

### 1978 NCAA Tournament

Mideast Regionals: University of Dayton, Dayton, Ohio  
March 16 & 18, Dayton Arena  
NCAA Championships: St. Louis, Mo.  
March 25 & 27, St. Louis Arena

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Location: Nashville, Tenn.  
 Founded: October 18, 1875  
 Enrollment: 7,000

Colors: Gold and Black  
 Nickname: Commodores  
 Gymnasium Capacity: 15,626



DR. ALEXANDER HEARD  
 Chancellor



WAYNE DOBBS  
 Head Coach



CLAY STAPLETON  
 Athletic Director

Faculty Chairman of Athletics: Vice-Chancellor R. R. Purdy  
 Assistant Athletic Director: C. R. Bickerstaff  
 Assistant AD for Business: Pete Navlor  
 Assistant Coaches: Ron Bargatz and Jay Hoover  
 Information Director: Lew Harris; Assistant, June Williams  
 Telephones: (AC 615) AD 322-4727, Coach 322-4810, SID 322-4727  
 Mailing Address: P.O. Box 12158, Nashville, Tenn. 37212

**1977-78 Schedule**

Date	Opponent	Site	Time
Nov. 26	TENNESSEE TECH	Cookeville	7:30 CST
Nov. 29	ST. JOHN'S	Nashville	7:30 CST
Dec. 3	LOUISVILLE	Louisville	8:00 EST
Dec. 5	KANSAS STATE	Nashville	7:30 CST
Dec. 8	CITADEL	Charleston	8:00 EST
Dec. 10	RICE	Houston	7:30 CST
Dec. 12	CALIFORNIA STATE	Nashville	7:30 CST
Dec. 22	VIRGINIA TECH	Nashville	7:30 CST
Dec. 28	RICHMOND	Nashville	7:30 CST
Jan. 2	* KENTUCKY	Lexington	8:00 EST
Jan. 7	* AUBURN	Auburn	7:30 CST
Jan. 9	* FLORIDA—t	Gainesville	9:00 EST
Jan. 14	* OLE MISS	Nashville	7:30 CST
Jan. 16	* LSU	Nashville	7:30 CST
Jan. 21	* ALABAMA	Tuscaloosa	7:30 CST
Jan. 23	* MISS. STATE	Starkville	7:30 CST
Jan. 28	* GEORGIA	Nashville	7:30 CST
Jan. 30	* TENNESSEE	Nashville	7:30 CST
Feb. 4	* AUBURN	Nashville	7:30 CST
Feb. 6	* FLORIDA	Nashville	7:30 CST
Feb. 11	* OLE MISS†	Oxford	1:30 CST
Feb. 13	* LSU	Baton Rouge	7:30 CST
Feb. 18	* ALABAMA—t	Nashville	3:00 CST
Feb. 20	* MISS. STATE	Nashville	7:30 CST
Feb. 25	* GEORGIA	Athens	8:00 EST
Feb. 27	* TENNESSEE	Knoxville	8:00 EST
Mar. 6	* KENTUCKY	Nashville	8:00 CST

\* SEC Game t—Television x—Overtime

**1976-77 Results**

Vandy	Opp
66	Kansas State .89
76	Louisville .81
53	St. John's .63
76	Michigan .97
35	Mercer .33
69	Iowa State .66
106	Tenn. Tech .71
62	Middle Tenn. .59
69*	Tennessee .73
72*	Georgia .69
62*	Kentucky .64
72*	Florida .83
69*	Auburn .74
77*	Ole Miss .72
68*	LSU .67
77*	Miss. State .102
82*	Alabama .96
73*	Kentucky .113
85*	Florida .72
71*	Auburn .75
66*	Ole Miss .95
74*	LSU .96
68*	Miss. State .65
77*	Alabama .78
74*	Georgia .71
55*	Tennessee .65

Won 10, Lost 16; SEC 6-12

**1978 Prospectus**

Vanderbilt fielded a predominantly freshman team last year, played what Basketball Weekly magazine rated the toughest schedule in the nation . . . and immediately captured the fancy of the 15,626 season ticket holders who pack Memorial Gymnasium each and every time the Commodores tip it off.

Headlining the Commodore cause for the second straight year will be 6-6 forward Charles Davis, a consensus SEC All-Freshman pick last year after leading Vandy in both scoring (15.3 average) and rebounding (7.0).

A two-way battle looms at the other forward berth. Tom Schultz, a 6-4 junior, moved into the starting lineup for the final third of the season and averaged 8.2 points per game. He could be pushed, however, by 6-8 prep All-American Brian Allsmiller, who was recruited by some 300 schools after averaging 21 points and 10.7 rebounds per game at Buffalo Grove High School in Chicago.

A key to the season may be the degree of improvement at center, where incumbent regular John Sneed must battle lettermen Carl Crain and Clarence Smith plus 6-10 freshman Pat Berwanger.

The guard spot should be in good hands with four returning lettermen plus 6-5 freshman Mike Rhodes, the leading scorer in the state of Tennessee last year. Mark Elliott, who led the team in assists and playing time as a freshman, will be the playmaker. Tommy Springer, 5-10, started the final two games of the season last year and will probably battle Rhodes, who averaged 41.9 points per game as a high school senior, for the other guard berth.

**Coach Wayne Dobbs**

Organization, efficiency and a tremendous will to win—that's a capsule summary of Vanderbilt head basketball coach Wayne Dobbs.

Although the 38-year-old Dobbs' first Vanderbilt team was one of the youngest in the SEC with three freshmen starters, it was also one of the best coached. The Commodores played textbook-perfect defense, worked hard for the percentage shot and demonstrated a youthful enthusiasm that helped account for the second highest season attendance in Vanderbilt history.

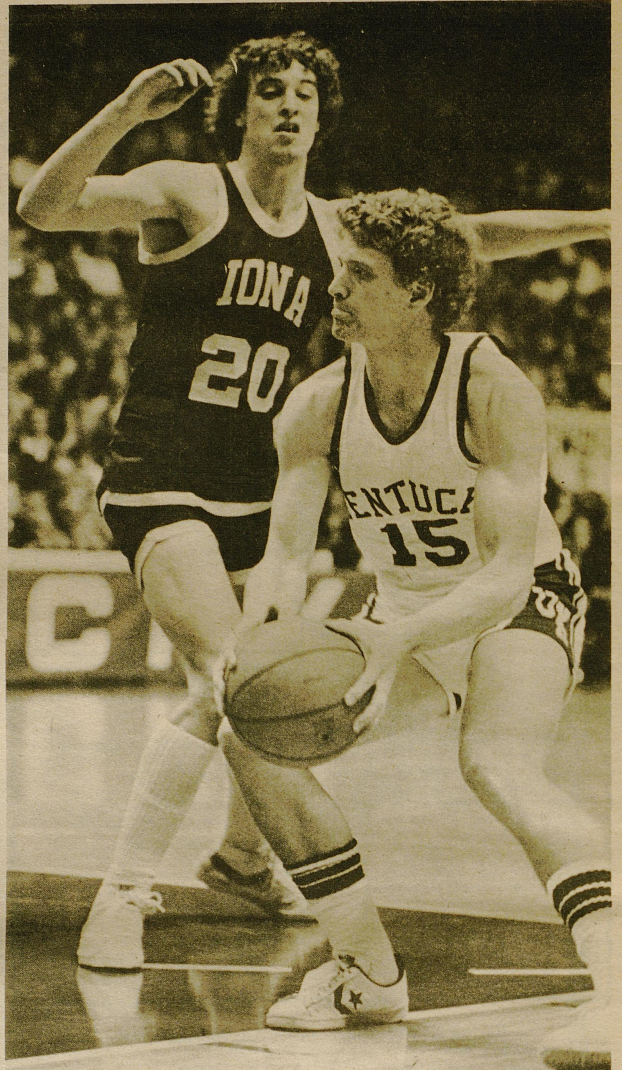
Dobbs, who served as a Vanderbilt assistant for six years, came to the Commodore campus from George Washington University. He guided the Colonials to two straight third place finishes in the Southern Conference and gave the school its first winning season in 10 years in 1969.

Prior to that, Dobbs led Belmont College in Nashville to a two-year mark of 34-19. His Rebels were 21-7 in 1965 and stunned eventual NIT finalist Western Kentucky, 52-50.

Dobbs, who has also coached on the high school and junior college levels, was a four-year letterman in basketball at Oglethepe University. A Dean's List student, he was named to Who's Who in American Colleges and Universities and was nominated by the faculty for a Rhodes Scholarship.

**1977-78 Vanderbilt Roster**

No.	Name/Position	Class	Ht.	Wt.	Age	Exp.	Hometown	Course
11	Tommy Springer, G	Soph.	5-10	161	19	1L	Nashville, Tenn.	Education
20	Mike Rhodes, G	Fresh.	6-4	174	18	—	Linden, Tenn.	Arts/Science
22	Tom Schultz, F	Junr.	6-3	193	21	2L	Springfield, Mo.	Pre-Med
23	Charles Davis, F	Soph.	6-6	192	19	1L	Nashville, Tenn.	Education
24	Mark Elliott, G	Soph.	6-1	179	19	1L	Kingsport, Tenn.	Business
32	John Sneed, C	Senr.	6-8	215	21	3L	Nashville, Tenn.	Education
33	Carl Crain, C	Junr.	6-9	244	20	2L	Nashville, Tenn.	Education
35	Tim Thompson, G	Junr.	6-3	172	21	2L	Kansas City, Mo.	Arts/Science
40	Jay Lowenthal, G	Junr.	6-3	177	21	1L	Pontiac, Ill.	Arts/Science
41	Brian Allsmiller, F	Fresh.	6-6	207	18	—	Chicago, Ill.	Arts/Science
45	Clarence Smith, C	Soph.	6-7	204	19	1L	Chattanooga, Tenn.	Business
51	Pat Berwanger, C	Fresh.	6-9	238	18	—	Jacksonville, Fla.	Engineering



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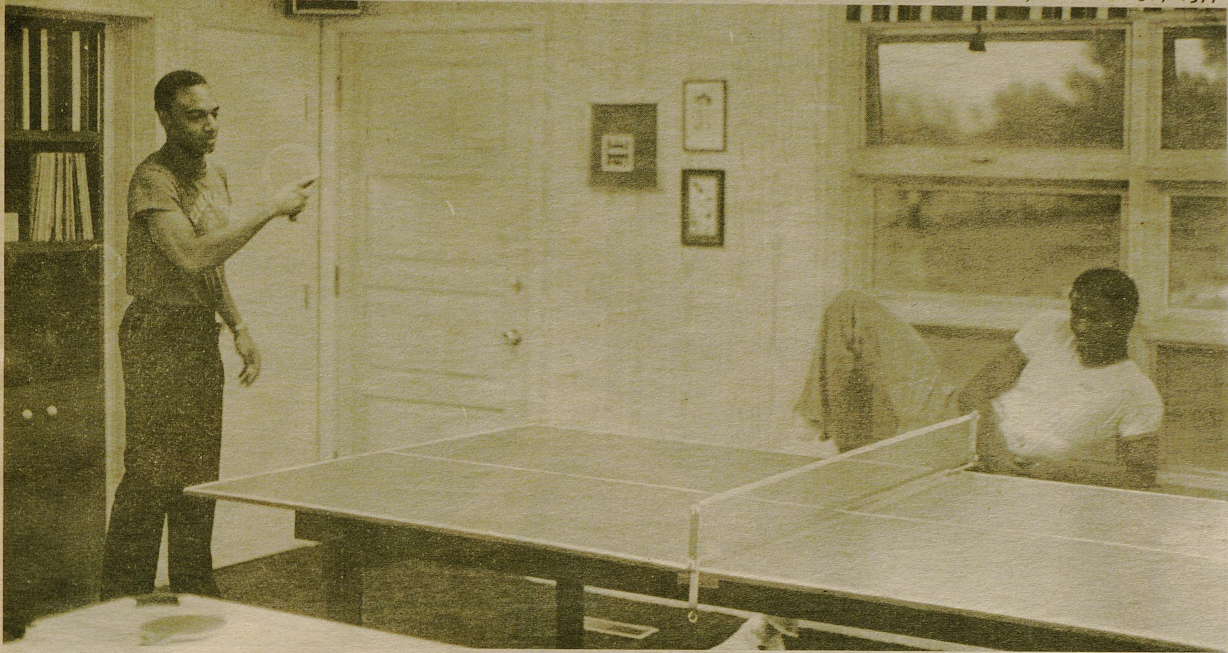
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*Williams Relaxes As TC Plays Ping Pong*

## Aleksinas Chose Kentucky For Style Of Play

(Continued From Page 11)

**Question:** What about Kentucky's team? How do you evaluate the material on this Wildcat team, especially the veterans?

Chuck Aleksinas: "All four seniors will be drafted into the pros in my opinion. They're the four best senior in the country and Rick and Mike is the best forward-center combination around."

**Question:** What do you look forward to during the next three and a half years at Kentucky, on a personal basis?

Chuck Aleksinas: "Improving as much as I can. Coach Hall can improve me more than any coach around, that's why I came here and hopefully I can play pro after college. Kentucky has a reputation of developing the big man. The other schools recruiting me never had that great big man and Kentucky, well, there have been several All-Americans here so they have to know what they're doing."

**Question:** What did recruiters use in trying to sell their respective programs to you, schools other than Kentucky?

Chuck Aleksinas: "It was really strange, but Kentucky was the only school which was completely truthful with me. Some schools would try to find out who you were interested in, then tell you bad stuff about that school. After the schools found out Kentucky was after me, I started receiving all kinds of letters. One said Kentucky had so many big men that I would never play. Another one said LaVon Williams is 7-1 and that Danny Hall was still here and stuff like that. Some even said Kentucky was only recruiting me so I couldn't go

anywhere else."

**Question:** Are there Kentucky fans in your home area?

Chuck Aleksinas: "There are many Kentucky fans up in Connecticut, especially in my area."

**Question:** What's the Kentucky connection that far from the Bluegrass State?

Chuck Aleksinas: "Well, WHAS radio comes in beautifully back home and everyone listens to Kentucky basketball up there. My junior varsity coach has been a Kentucky fan a long time. In fact, before Kentucky ever contacted me, my high school coach said I should go to a school like Kentucky where they play inside. When I received the letter from Kentucky, I figured I'd look into it."

**Question:** What do the hometown people think about you leaving the coast for Kentucky to play basketball?

Chuck Aleksinas: "My coaches agreed with my decision but several hometown fans thought I should have stayed in my home state and they didn't think I could play at Kentucky. The coaches just want me to prove the fans wrong. I guess a lot of them are fans of the University of Connecticut and didn't like the decision too much. Some felt I owed it to the state to stay home, but there are no dominating centers up there and I wanted to play against the best competition there is."

**Question:** What's been your most exciting moment in sports?

**Question:** What's been your most exciting moment in sports?

Chuck Aleksinas: "The first game of the season last year we lost to a team by 24 points and went on to lose five of

our first six. We finished fifth in our league of eight but went on to the tourney semi-finals and then lost by only one point to a team which beat us by 58 points earlier in the season. That was the highlight, improving so much during the season. Nobody could believe that we improved that much over the season."

**Question:** Have there been any surprises since your arrival in Kentucky?

Chuck Aleksinas: "One thing is that there aren't any lakes here where you can go swimming and that's about it, no oceans either. But I do love the weather here. There were about two feet of snow yesterday back home and it was about fifty here. I really like the weather here."

**Question:** What about the Kentucky basketball fans?

Chuck Aleksinas: "They're really crazy. Up in the East, the fans are good but they're not basketball-crazy like the fans here. I was really amazed the first time I played here, especially the Indiana game. They really went crazy and it helps the team a great deal."

**Question:** What do you think about the new Wildcat Basketball House?

Chuck Aleksinas: "Super, it's just super. It's going to be beautiful, just like living in a big hotel on a road trip the entire year. I really look forward to it. I didn't even know about the House until about the third time Coach Hamilton visited with me. I couldn't tell a lot about the house from pictures, but I had no idea it would be as nice as it is."

**Question:** When did you finally

decide to sign with Kentucky?

Chuck Aleksinas: "The day of signing I didn't even know I was going to come here. Coach Hall came up for the last time and I told him Charlotte was going to be coming up on Saturday. I still didn't know what I was going to do. All of a sudden I just signed, everything just came together all at once. Once I signed, I didn't HAVE ANY REGRETS ABOUT IT."

**Question:** Kentucky had only three scholarships last season. Did that have any bearing on your decision?

Chuck Aleksinas: "With all I had been told, I wasn't sure Kentucky wouldn't go out and get another big center this year so I was pretty mixed up. I just didn't know who to believe. I believed Coach Hall in the end."

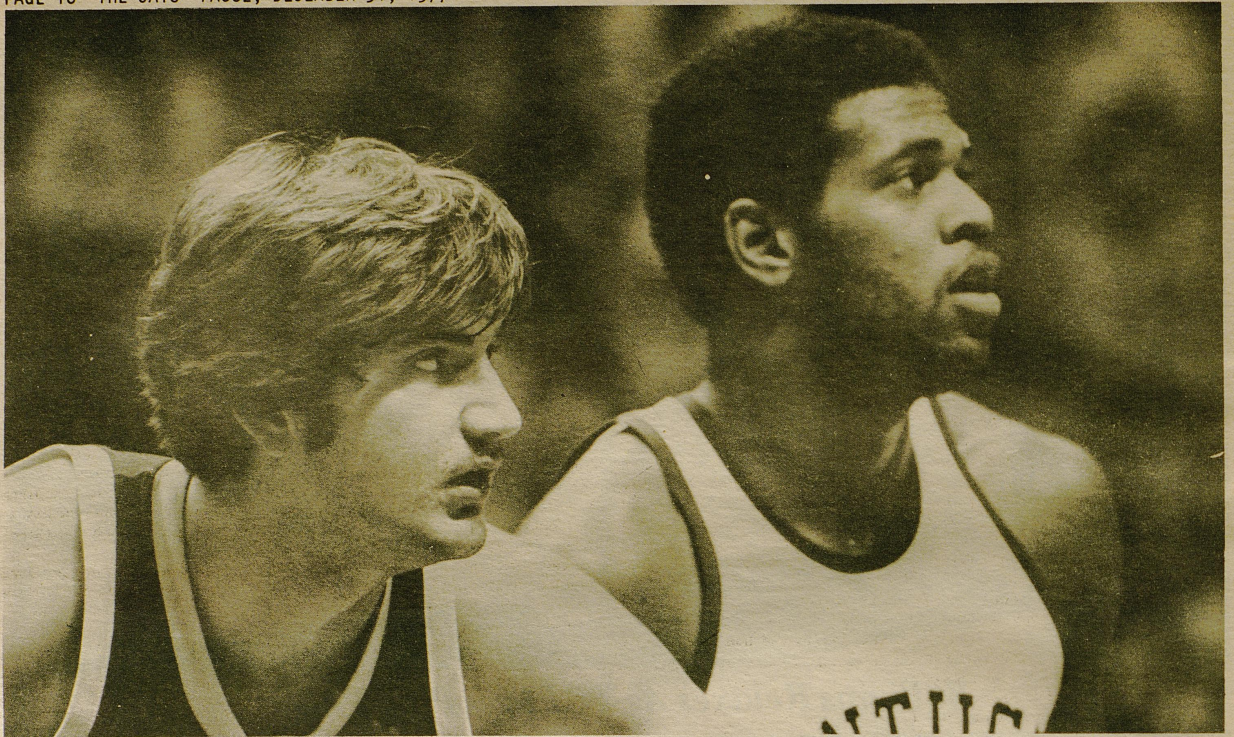
**Question:** How do you feel about Kentucky's style of ball, the muscular, inside play with a fast tempo?

Chuck Aleksinas: "That was a big reason I came here because of the power play inside and I like a team that runs, but not like Las Vegas. Kentucky likes to play two big men at the same time and it fits my style."

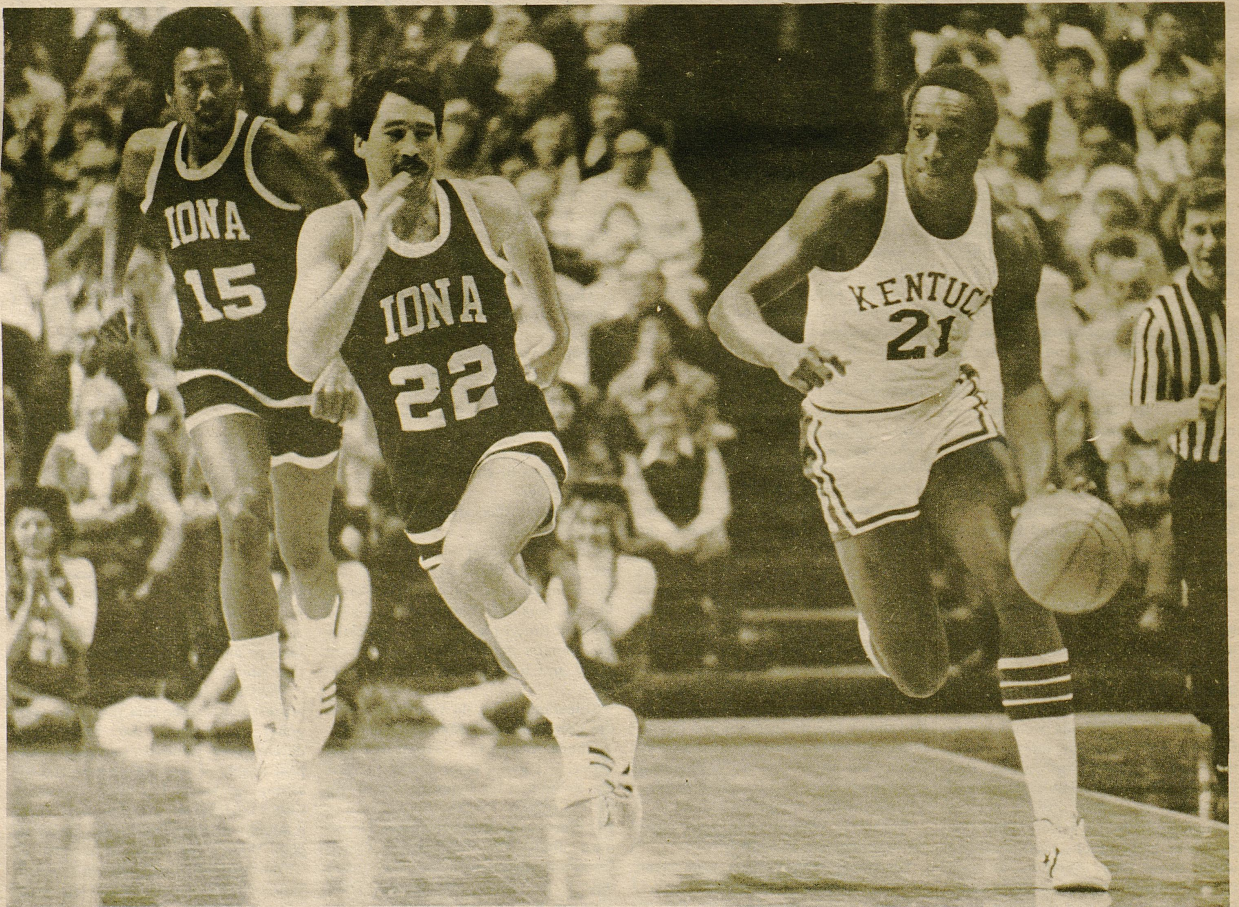
**Question:** Joe Hall was asked during a press conference this year if he was going to discard the karate-type defense label Kentucky has earned the past couple of years. He answered by saying he would not have recruited Chuck Aleksinas if he had any thoughts of abandoning the physical play. What's your reaction to that?

Chuck Aleksinas: "What impressed Coach Hamilton most on his first visit was my strength. He said I could get up and down the floor all right for a big man and he started recruiting me."





*Ruland And Lee Gaze Skyward*



*The Goose On The Loose*

.....



# Wildcats Explode For 104 - 65 Win Over Iona; Prepare For Irish

"I feel like Santa Claus. I just came in and gave Kentucky a nice Christmas present," laughed the jolly young fellow from the Big Apple.

Speaking was Coach Jim Valvano of Iona College after his Gaels had just been beaten 104-65 by top-ranked Kentucky before the usual capacity crowd of 23,472 at Rupp Arena last Friday night.

But it wasn't all that easy as the Wildcats raced out to a perfect 7-0 pre-Christmas record. In fact, little Iona gave the Cats a small scare midway in the first half.

Kentucky blitzed out to a 7-0 lead, but after Valvano had calmed down his boys from New York, the Gaels stormed back, whipping Kentucky's man-to-man defense with ease and took command of a 12-11 score with 13:33 left in the first half on Glenn Vickers' lay-up.

The Cats, thanks to brilliant play from the bench, stormed ahead by 18 at the half as the reserve Cats outscored the visitors 23-7 in the final eight minutes of the half.

It was homecoming, somewhat, for a young man who has never attended the University of Kentucky and it was a disappointing one for him.

Jeff Ruland, the 6-10 Iona rookie and one of the best in the country, showed why Kentucky recruited him so heavily as he scored his team's first eight points and netted a game-high 24 for the contest.

But his match-up much of the game showed why Kentucky didn't cry so much at the loss of Ruland.

Freshman Chuck Aleksinas gave another fine exhibition for Wildcat fans while scoring 12 points and four rebounds in only 17 minutes of action. Ruland had six rebounds in 37 minutes of playing time and hit 10 of 17 from the field. Aleksinas hit on three of five from the field.

Even at that, Wildcat fans had to dream a little of what might have been had Kentucky landed both Aleksinas and Ruland. As a team, they would have been awesome, maybe even unbeatable.

It was when Aleksinas entered the game that Kentucky went to war. In fact, the big Easterner (facing regional folks for the second time in a week) entered the game with Kentucky leading 23-19 and 6:56 left in the half.

He powered his way for eight points in the final seven minutes as Kentucky surged ahead by 44-26. The other half of the big surge late in the first half was James Lee, the strongman.

Lee tossed in seven points in a fine display of ballhandling and maneuvering, as the UK second unit outshined the starters.

In the second half, Jack Givens went to work with Mike Phillips and the remainder of the roster.

The big change in UK's defense

turned the trick in the first twenty minutes. After Iona repeatedly beat UK inside against the man-to-man defense, the Cats switched to a 1-3-1 zone defense and Iona appeared to have never seen such a defense before.

During a twelve-and-a-half minute stretch, Iona could only muster three field goals as Kentucky erased a 12-11 deficit to take command of a 41-22 lead. It was all over but the final score.

Joe Hall's charges used their usual second half blitz to quickly wipe out any hopes of a comeback for Iona.

Kentucky ripped off ten points to five points for Iona in the first three minutes of play and Iona knew it was

all over.

Givens went to war in the second half and scored 12 of his 18 points on the night as Hall cleared the bench several times during the final twenty minutes.

It was a festive time for the Cats, a time when Joe Hall sent every player home for Christmas with a smile. Everyone got into the action and walk-on Chris Gettelfinger scored the first bucket of his UK career on a lay-up with just sixteen seconds left in the game, capping the Cats' 104 point total for the evening.

Givens won game scoring honors for the Cats with 18 points followed by Lee with 17, and husky Mike Phillips with

15 in a strong second half. Phillips has really been coming on strong the last two weeks and could be the big difference down the stretch. Aleksinas was the other Wildcat in double figures with 12.

Ironically, Rick Robey, Kyle Macy and Truman Claytor, all starters, did not finish in double figures -- mostly because Robey played only thirteen minutes, Macy dished out nine assists and Claytor played only seventeen minutes.

Behind Ruland in scoring for Iona were Dave Brown with 12 and Vickers with 10 points.

Kentucky won the boards' battle by a tally of 48-32 with Lee pacing the Cats with 9, followed by Givens with 7 and Macy with 5. Reserve Kevin Vesey was tops for Iona with 8.

The Cats continued to hit well from the field, canning better than fifty percent each half for a game percentage of 52.4 on 44 of 84 attempts. At the free throw line, the Cats hit 16 of 21 for 76.2 percent.

Iona hit 43.9 percent from the field on 25 of 57 attempts, and 15 of 25 from the charity line for 60.0 percent.

Perhaps most satisfying to Hall was the turnover department, where Kentucky made only 12 mistakes to 25 for Iona. And the 25 assists credited to Kentucky is an indication of the team play Hall praised following the contest.

Iona, now 7-2 on the season plays host to Fairleigh Dickinson University Friday night in New Rochell, New York. Iona's only other loss of the season was to Holy Cross on the road by a score of 105-83.

Kentucky now prepares for its big annual shoot-out with Notre Dame this Saturday at Louisville's Freedom Hall. Tip-off is 4:05 p.m., and it will be televised live nationally over the NBC television network.

Hall has announced that there will be a public work-out of the Kentucky team at 3 p.m. Friday at Freedom Hall and the public is invited, free of charge. The Wildcats will work out from 3 p.m. til 4 p.m. and then be available for autographs following the sessions.

As an added treat for the UK fans, attractive basketball cards with a player's individual picture and UK's schedule on the reverse side, will be distributed free after the practice.

Following the Notre Dame game, it will be into the thick of the South-eastern Conference race as the Cats open defense of their co-crown two days later.

Monday, Kentucky plays host to Vanderbilt at Rupp Arena. Next weekend, the Cats must face a crucial road trip to Florida and Auburn, one which could be the most important of the year to the Cats.

## IONA

PLAYER	FG	FT	REB	PF	TPS	A	TO	MIN
D. Brown	4-7	4-6	6	5	12	1	2	30
J. CcCall	0-7	2-4	4	4	2	1	4	33
J. Ruland	10-17	4-5	6	3	24	1	5	37
G. Vickers	5-9	0-0	3	1	10	4	4	35
J. Skiba	1-5	0-0	2	3	2	2	5	27
K. Hamilton	2-7	3-5	1	2	7	4	1	15
K. Crawford	0-0	0-2	0	0	0	0	0	2
L. George	0-1	0-0	0	1	0	0	1	6
T. Richardson	0-0	0-0	0	0	0	0	1	2
C. Alberti	0-0	0-0	0	0	0	1	0	1
J. Lytwyn	0-0	0-0	1	0	0	0	0	3
D. Burns	0-0	0-0	0	0	0	0	0	1
K. Vesey	3-4	2-3	8	2	8	0	2	8
Team Rebounds			1					
TOTALS	25-57	15-25	32	21	65	14	25	200

## KENTUCKY

PLAYER	FG	FT	REB	PF	TPS	A	TO	MIN
J. Givens	9-17	0-0	7	3	18	3	2	28
R. Robey	3-6	0-0	4	5	6	0	3	13
M. Phillips	6-8	3-4	3	3	15	0	1	19
K. Macy	3-8	0-0	5	3	6	9	1	27
T. Claytor	3-7	0-0	0	0	6	1	2	17
C. Gettelfinger	1-2	0-0	1	0	2	0	0	2
D. Casey	3-5	0-0	3	1	6	7	1	16
J. Shidler	3-5	2-2	1	1	8	0	0	13
T. Stephens	0-3	0-0	0	1	0	2	0	5
J. Lee	7-12	3-4	9	4	17	2	1	26
F. Cowan	3-6	2-2	4	1	8	0	1	5
S. Courts	0-0	0-0	1	1	0	0	0	4
C. Aleksinas	3-5	6-9	4	3	12	1	0	17
L. Williams	0-0	0-0	2	2	0	0	0	8
Team Rebounds			4					
TOTALS	44-84	16-21	48	28	104	25	12	200
IONA COLLEGE			26		39	---		65
UNIVERSITY OF KENTUCKY			44		60	---		104

Officials: Ken Lauderdale and Bob Olah  
Attendance: 23,472 (Rupp Arena Capacity)





# VIEWPOINT

## Letters To The Editor



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

### Number One Team

The Editor  
The Cats' Pause  
Lexington, Kentucky

Dear Sir:

Enclosed is my check to renew my subscription to the world's No. 1 publication covering the world's No. 1 team -- the UK Wildcats.

It is such a pleasure to follow the games announced by Cawood. His play-by-play broadcasts are the best anywhere.

After UK destroyed the Russians, I composed the tribute to the Cats.

It is only fitting that we should win No. 5 as a memorial to our beloved Baron of Basketball -- Adolph F. Rupp. May he rest in peace!

Sincerely,  
L.A. Schwartz  
Cincinnati, Ohio

[Editor's note: See Tribute elsewhere in this week's edition.]

### What Is A "Watkins"?

Dear Sir:

I only recently discovered The Cats' Pause paper and immediately subscribed to it. To date, I have received my first 3 copies. I am 42 years old and have been following the Wildcats for 33 years. Admittedly, I am not the most intelligent fellow in the world but in my 42 years I have learned some things. For example:

1. I KNOW that a glass tumbler dropped on a concrete floor will break! Every Time!
2. I KNOW that the greatest coach in the history of "Round-ball" is now dead. No use to doubt it.
3. I KNOW that the sun comes up every morning. In my 42 years it hasn't failed, so I expect it again tomorrow.
4. I KNOW that UK has won about 82 percent of its games over the last 46 years. I also know they are at the time of writing 4-0. So why shouldn't we expect them to win 82 percent this year?

My question is this . . . WHAT IS A "BOB WATKINS"? It is listed on The Cats' Pause Board of Experts. In my three copies this "thing" has picked the opposition each time when others on the Board were picking UK by 20 to 30 points.

I must conclude, in the face of such evidence, that "it" is a die-hard Tennessee (yuk) fan that lost his way and wandered out of the mountains of

(ugh) Tennessee. Or it just might be that "it" is just an ignorant turkey that refuses to be educated.

UK ALL THE WAY,  
Vernon Harris  
Jackson, Mississippi

P.S. You think I signed this letter with blue ink, but that's my blood, brother, blood!!!

[Editor's note: Mr Watkins is sports editor of the Elizabethtown News-Enterprise, and is really a hard-nosed UK fan when off-duty. The reason for him picking the opposition is because he started picking the opposition after UK lost to Baylor in football and Kentucky hasn't lost since. Watkins says he'll continue picking the opposition until Kentucky gets beat. By the way, the win streak, in both football and basketball now stands at 16 straight.]

### Orange Country

Dear Sir:

This subscription is a Christmas present for our father who has moved to Tennessee. He has been a Wildcat fan for years and so have we.

We enjoy our Cats' Pause so much that we know he will, too.

Sincerely,  
Skeeter & Joe Edd Smith  
Benton, Kentucky

### A TC Fan

Dear Sir:

I really enjoy your Cats' Pause. I got interested in Kentucky basketball when Truman Claytor enrolled there to shoot the hoop.

I've known "Blue" (that's his nickname around Toledo) since his grade school days at Robinson Jr. High, and I can say you have a top class student, and basketball player in True "Blue" Claytor.

Without a doubt, Kentucky fans will remember Truman before he leaves Kentucky the same way Toledo fans remember him.

I've also add a check for this year's subscription.

I'm waiting until Kentucky plays Tennessee. This year Truman should face Terry Crosby, an old high school foe, and fellow All-Ohioan.

Sincerely,  
Morrece D. Cortland  
Toledo, Ohio

### Likes Macy

Dear Sir:

Please renew my Cats' Pause for another year. This is my 2nd subscription, and I am crazy about the Pause. You do a fine job and I am looking forward to another NCAA title for the Cats this year. I was up to see the Cats play SMU and I really like Macy's playing ability.

Sincerely,  
Gene Garrett  
New Castle, Kentucky

### Once Over

Dear Sir:

Enclosed is a check for the renewal of my subscription to The Cats' Pause.

You may have to start using a better quality of printing paper. My family and I read it from cover to cover several times, as does the gang at work, and when everybody is done,

"The Cats' Pause" looks like it's been through a shredding machine.

Keep up the good work.

Sincerely,  
Afton Bates  
Antwerp, Ohio

### Fred Walters?

Dear Sir:

What ever became of Fred Walters?

Fulton B. Mayer  
Nashville, Tennessee

### Skeptical

Dear Sir:

This is my subscription for a second year of your publication, "The Cats' Pause."

In my year of reading CP I have found it informative and exciting in many aspects. Many of the articles and news bits on the SEC and other major conferences are appreciated greatly.

Although a skeptic on this year's UK team's ability to win all the marbles, I will follow their progress with great interest by way of your publication.

Sincerely,  
Johnny D. Evers  
Newburgh, Indiana

### Super!

Dear Sir:

Super publication!  
Living in Florida, it is music to our ears!

Sincerely,  
Bill Honaker  
Longwood, Florida

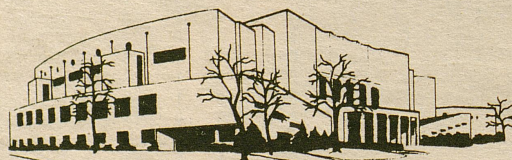
### Discusses The Cats

Dear Sir:

As our subscription expires this month, we are sending \$14.50 to assure us of each issue of The Cats' Pause. Each member of our family enjoys reading all the news about Kentucky sports.

Thanks for the many hours of enjoyment my Dad and I receive from reading and discussing each issue of The Cats' Pause.

Sincerely,  
Derrick Jeffers  
Fort Collins, Colorado



### THE HOUSE THAT RUPP BUILT

Jerry Byrant Cover

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# UK Basketball



PLAYER	G	MIN	FG-FGA	PCT.	FT-FTA	PCT.	REB-AVE	A	PF-D	PTS	AVE	TO
JACK GIVENS	6	193	49-93	52.7	16-19	84.2	44- 7.3	28	12-0	114	19.0	8
RICK ROBEY	6	169	27-49	55.1	35-47	74.5	65-10.8	10	14-0	89	14.8	15
MIKE PHILLIPS	6	129	31-49	63.3	16-18	88.9	47- 7.8	9	20-1	78	13.0	22
KYLE MACY	6	204	27-49	55.1	23-25	92.0	15- 2.5	35	16-0	77	12.8	18
JAMES LEE	5	95	22-38	57.9	6-9	66.7	29- 5.8	7	16-0	50	10.0	14
TRUMAN CLAYTOR	6	144	20-45	44.4	8-9	88.9	2- 0.3	14	16-0	48	8.0	11
CHUCK ALEKSINAS	6	56	14-23	60.9	10-14	71.4	21- 3.5	0	10-0	38	6.3	6
DWANE CASEY	6	68	7-17	41.2	3-5	60.0	5- 0.8	5	15-1	17	2.8	4
JAY SHIDLER	4	38	6-12	50.0	3-4	75.0	1- 0.3	5	6-0	15	3.8	7
TIM STEPHENS	4	25	4-9	44.4	4-5	80.0	4- 1.0	3	7-0	12	3.0	1
LAVON WILLIAMS	5	40	3-10	30.0	3-4	75.0	13- 2.6	1	11-0	9	1.8	3
FREDDIE COWAN	3	21	2-5	40.0	4-6	66.7	2- 0.7	1	4-0	8	2.7	2
SCOTT COURTS	3	15	2-4	50.0	2-5	40.0	7- 2.3	0	3-0	6	2.0	3
CHRIS GETTELFINGER	1	3	0-0	----	0-1	----	0- 0.0	0	0-0	0	---	2
TEAM							27 KY - OPP	Deadball	15-14		2	

KENTUCKY TOTALS	6		214-403	53.1	133-171	77.8	282-47.0	118	150-2	561	93.5	118
OPPONENTS' TOTALS	6		173-404	42.8	95-153	62.1	205-34.2	86	147-9	441	73.5	114

SEASON RECORD: Won 6, Lost 0, HOME: Won 5, Lost 0, AWAY: Won 1, Lost 0

OPPONENT	SITE-CROWD	KY	OPP	INDIVIDUAL HIGHS - POINTS, REBOUNDS
Soviet Union (EX)	(MC-11,897)	109	75	Lee 19, Phillips 14
SMU	(H-23,472)	110	86	Givens 30, Phillips 18
Indiana	(H-23,521)*	78	64	Givens 22, Robey 13
Kansas	(A-15,620)	73	66	Macy 15, Robey 10
South Carolina	(H-23,472)	84	65	Robey 19, Robey 11
Portland State	(UKIT-23,472)	114	88	Givens 26, Robey 10
St. John's	(UKIT-23,472)	102	72	Phillips 20, Phillips, Robey 8 Each

BLOCKED SHOTS - STEALS, BY INITIALS IN ABOVE PLAYER ORDER

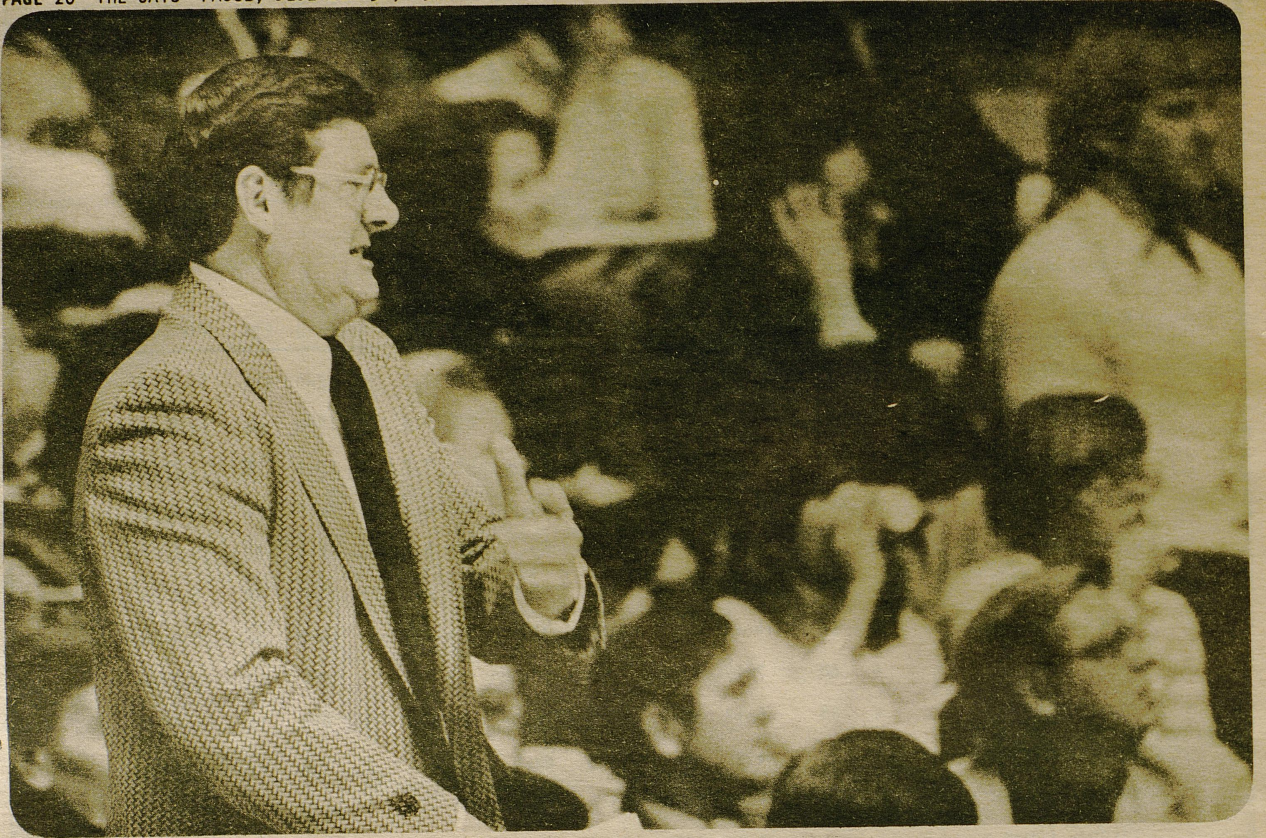
JG	RR	MP	KM	JL	TC	CA	DC	JS	TS	LW	FC	SC	CG
7-11	0-4	6-7	1-7	1-2	0-2	1-3	0-5	0-3	0-2	0-0	0-0	0-2	0-2

\* Breaks NCAA Single Game Attendance Record On Home Court - Set At Rupp Arena November 26, 1977. UK vs. SMU (23,472).

#### UPCOMING SCHEDULE:

December 23: Iona; December 31: Notre Dame at Louisville 4 P.M. On National Television;  
January 2: Vanderbilt; January 7: at Florida; January 9: at Auburn; January 14: Louisiana  
State University; January 16: University of Mississippi





*Joe Hall Makes A Point*



*Relaxing Times*