# 'Cats Drop First SEC Tourney Game In Atlanta.

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# The Cats' Pause

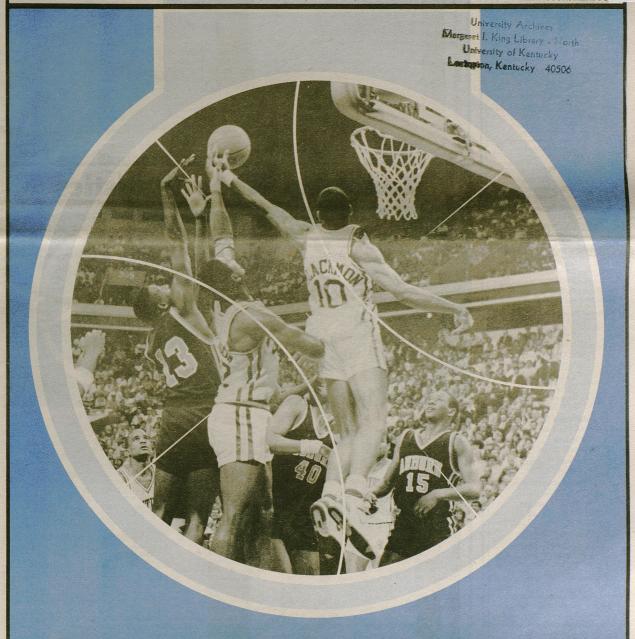
PRISE STATE PROPRIES

"SPOTLIGHTING UNIVERSITY OF KENTUCKY AND SOUTHEASTERN CONFERENCE"

LEXINGTON, KENTUC

VOLUME 11 - NUMBER 27

SATURDAY, MARCH 14, 1987



.Return To The Omni To Play Ohio State In NCAAs

900 44938 8/24/87 40500 UK MARGARET KING LIBRARY MICROFILM CENTER LEXINGTON

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

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Published Weekly: Sept. 13-April II Monthly: May, June, July, August

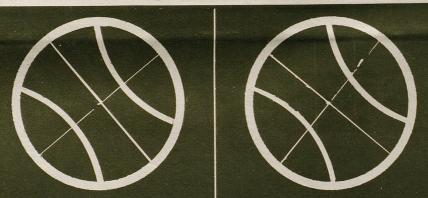
Advertising Representative WILDCAT NEWS COMPANY 2625 Regency Road Lexington, Kentucky 40503

Subscription Price \$25.00 per year in USA \$35.00 per year in Canada Phone:(606)278-3474

Postmaster: Send Address Changes b THE CATS' PAUSE, P.O. Box 7297. Lexington, Kentucky 40522

Date: 03-08-198	7													8-10	0ve	rall	; 10- 5-6	8 SEC	[tied for 0-2 Neutr	3rd])	
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MILLER, DERRICK 28 -		13.5	53	138	38.4	33	78	42.3	6	14	42.9	56	2.0	31	Ē	18	22	3	8	145	5.2
THOMAS, IRVING	457	16.3	37	75	49.3	-	1	-	22	47	46.8	86	3.1	80	5	20	47	6	16	96	3.4
ANDREWS, PAUL 23 2	307	13.3	16	34	47.1	1	1	100.0	6	8	75.0	36	1.6	21	-	17	17	-	7	39	1.7
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# **Kentucky Hoop Statistics**



UNIVERSITY OF KENTUCKY SCHEDULE

UHLI MOLLE OF REAL SAME SAME												
Date		Record	UK	Орр	Opponent	Margin	Тор	Scorer	Top	Rebounder	Attenda	nce
Nov.	29	1- 0	71	69	Austin Peay	2	20	Davender, Ed	6	Madison, Richard	22,630	(H)
Dec.	02	2- 0	66	60	Texas Tech	6	23	Davender, Ed		Thomas, Irving	21,805	(H)
Dec.	06	2- 1	66	71	Indiana	-5	26	CHAPMAN, REX	10	THOMAS, IRVING	17,232	(A)
Dec.	13	3- 1	71	56	Lamar	15	16	DAVENDER, ED	7	MADISON, RICHARD	23,123	
Dec.	19	4- 1	75	59	Iona	16	19	LOCK, ROB	11	LOCK, ROB	22,723	
Dec.	20	5-1	81	69	Boston	12	26	CHAPMAN, REX	15	MADISON, RICHARD	23,240	(H)
Dec.	27	6- 1	85	- 51	Louisville	34		CHAPMAN, Rex	17	MADISON, Rich	19,513	
Dec.	30	6- 2	65	69	Georgia	-4		DAVENDER, ED	9	MADISON, RICHARD	20,053	(H-L'vi)
Jan.	03	7- 2	63	60	Auburn	3	24	CHAPMAN, REX	11	LOCK, ROB	12,347	(A)
Jan.	07	7- 3	55	69	Alabama	-14	15	MADISON, RICHARD	7	MADISON, RICHARD	23,220	(H)
Jan.	10	7- 4	68	75	Tennessee	-7	29	DAVENDER, ED	8	MADISON, RICHARD	12,700	
Jan.	12	8- 4	57	49	Mississippi State	8	1.6	CHAPMAN, REX	8	LOCK, ROB	4,714	(A)
Jan.	14	9- 4	67	62	Florida	5	16	CHAPMAN, REX	13	LOCK, ROB	23,215	(H)
Jan.	18	9-5	41	76	LSU	-35	14	BLACKMON, JAMES	6	BLACKMON, JAMES	23,285	(H)
Jan.	21	10- 5	71	65	Vanderbilt	6	16	DAVENDER, ED	6	MADISON, RICHARD	15,626	(A)
Jan.	25	11-5	80	69	Navy	- 11	22	CHAPMAN, REX	6	MADISON, RICHARD	23,275	(H)
Jan.	29	11-6	65	76	Ole Miss	-11	23	CHAPMAN, REX	13	MADISON, RICHARD	5,915	(A)
Jan.	31	12- 6	50	36	Mississippi State	14	18	BLACKMON, JAMES	7	MADISON, RICHARD	22,831	(H)
Feb.	04	13- 6	75	71	Auburn	4	27	BLACKMON, JAMES	7	LOCK, ROB	23,100	(H)
Feb.	07	14- 6	70	69	Alabama	1	29	DAVENDER, ED	8	MADISON, RICHARD	15,043	(A)
Feb.	11	15- 6	91	84	Tennessee	7		CHAPMAN, REX	10	MADISON, RICHARD	23,002	(H)
Feb.	14	15- 7	56	74	Florida	-18	22	DAVENDER, ED	6	LOCK, ROB	12,018	(A)
Feb.	19	16- 7	65	54	Vanderbilt	- 11	19	CHAPMAN, REX	11	MADISON, RICHARD	23,013	(H)
Feb.	21	16-8	52	65	Louisiana State	-13		CHAPMAN, REX	7	LOCK, ROB	10,782	(A)
Feb.	25	16- 9	71	79	Georgia	-8	15	DAVENDER, ED	7	MADISON, RICHARD	11,200	(A)
Feb.	28	17- 9	64	63	Ole Miss	1	19	DAVENDER, ED	9	MADISON, RICHARD	23,265	(H)
Mar.	01	18- 9	75	74	Oklahoma	1	21	DAVENDER, ED	12	MADISON, RICHARD	23,991	(H)
Mar.	06	18-10	72	1179	Auburn	-7	17	CHAPMAN, REX	6	MADISON, RICHARD	13,279	(SEC)



# Oscar L. Combs

Gats' Pause Lublisher



# If 'Cats Slip Past Buckeyes, Hot Hoyas May Be Next

This week, the Kentucky Wildcats must feel very fortunate to indeed have a second opportunity to finish their current season on

Thanks to a surprising No. 8 seed, coach Eddie Sutton's club has been placed in a position where it can prove the Wildcats not on-ly belong in the NCAA hoedown, but could

make a strong impact on the eventual winner.

Certainly no one was surprised with the decision to select the 18-10 Wildcats as one of 64 teams. But making the 'Cats a No. 8 seed in the Southeast Region raised a few

eyebrows.
First, most observers expected to watch the Wildcats head for the setting sun in the far West like Kentucky did two years ago when the Big Blue received an invitation with a 16-12 record. Some thought the NCAA committee would leave Alabama (which it did) along with either Florida, Georgia or Auburn (which it didn't) in the Southeast Regional.

Eddie Sutton, obviously, isn't arguing the decisions which sent Florida to the East, Georgia to the West and Auburn to the

However, the fact that Alabama was the No. 2 seed (and rightfully so) in the Souther No. 2 seed (and rightfully so) in the Southeast probably caused Kentucky a potential showdown with the redhot, top-seeded Georgetown Hoyas if the Wildcats should upset Ohio State in the first round.

Had Kentucky been seeded No. 7, the Wildcats would have played BYU in the first round and a win would have put UK against the winner of the Alabama-N.C. A&T game. Had UK been placed No. 10, the Big Blue would have played New Orleans then more than likely faced Alabama.

But because of that ridicilous deal in Atlanta last year where three SEC teams faced off in the semifinals, the NCAA committee changed its rules this time so no two SEC teams could meet before the final game of a

Therefore, Kentucky very well might have been ranked somewhere lower or higher than No. 8 in the original rankings Sunday, but moved to avoid the possibility of facing a league rival before the final game of the

So the Wildcats will repack their gear and head back to Atlanta for what they hope will be more than a mere overnight stay

The one last week surely wasn't pleasant. Joining Kentucky at The Omni on Friday will be the likes of Ohio State, Georgetown, Bucknell, Kansas, Houston, Clemson and Southwest Missouri State.

The two survivors from Atlanta will move on the following week to Louisville's Freedom Hall where they will be met by two challengers from the Birmingham

Among those fighting for those two spots are UAB, Alabama, Providence, Illinois, Austin Peay, New Orleans, BYU, and N.C. A&T.

Some interesting observations from the NCAA bracket.

It's obvious the NCAA committee is concerned with lagging attendance for first- and

second-round games.

Almost without exception, first-round host schools and nearby teams were the top

Examples are plentiful—like UAB and Alabama in Birmingham; UNLV and Wyoming in Salt Lake City; Arizona and UTEP in Tucson; DePaul in Chicago; Xavier and Indiana in Indianapolis; North Carolina in Charlotte, Syracuse in Syracuse and Clemera in Advances in Alexandra. son in Atlanta.

There were a few exceptions.

Notre Dame would have been more at home in Indianapolis, but was shipped off to Charlotte. N.C. State, which beat North Carolina in the ACC finals, could have been at Charlotte, but was shipped off to Syracuse. State had to be shipped out to avoid the two from facing each other prior to the regional

Georgia Southern certainly would have been more attractive in Atlanta than Syracuse

just as Illinois perhaps should have been in Chicago. No luck. What about BYU having to travel all the way to Birmingham (that's where they were three years ago, losing to UK) instead of be-

tional east name at either Salt Lake City or

Plus it would allow the NCAA to keep either Georgia or Auburn or Florida in Atlan ta to generate some fan attendance at The

Wrong again

Perhaps that's what the NCAA had in mind, but the most disappointing sight at The Omni last week was the lacklustre support of the home-standing Bulldogs. Their fans ere nowhere to be found.

If the NCAA is trying to help attendance at The Omni this week, it apparently feels that a Kentucky-Ohio State showdown plus teams like Georgetown, Clemson and Kansas can do more to ignite the fans than the Georgias, Auburns and Floridas. The latter three were promptly dispatched to other

To matters closer at hand

Georgetown is the surprise No. 1 seed in the Southeast Regional, but it will be the Kentucky-Ohio State battle which attracts top

but you have to give the boys credit when credit is due. They have now acknowledged the fact that Southeastern Conference basket-

While some of the football-minded officials were mumbling about the league being down this season with so many teams having double-digit losses, the selection committee big show.

During the five-day SEC tournament stay in Atlanta, I don't remember hearing a single soul even mentioning the remote chance of six SEC teams getting invitations. Most figured on four, with five an outside

So the NCAA did put stock in its computer ratings and the various schools' scheduling and the strength of conference play. When all the dust had settled, there were six schools from each of the SEC, ACC and Big 10

Meanwhile, some traditional powers stayed

You start the shocking list with defending national champion Louisville and then go to

Villanova which won the title two years ago.

Louisville didn't get an invitation for a couple reasons. No. 1, it had an opportunity to sew up the automatic Metro Conference bid by winning the league tourney at home in Freedom Hall Sunday, but the Cards were bombed 75-52, losing for a third time to Memphis State.

State, which is on NCAA probation, is bar-red from the NCAA and since Memphis State was permitted to play in the tourney, then win it, the NCAA was not bound to invite a Metro

Conference team.
Secondly, the Cards played an impressive schedule which goes a long way toward get-ting an invitation, but there were too many losses (14) and not enough wins (18) to justify an invitation when teams like Cleveland State (23-7) left at home.

Villanova finished 15-15 and although it played well at the end, wasn't invited because the NCAA is intent on the big show not becoming a glorified version of the NCAA.

becoming a giornied version to the NCA-New Mexico, which finished with a whopping 25 victories and nine defeats, wasn't invited to the big party either.

The message is now apparent. You either play in a very tough league and compile a

winning record or you compile a very glit-tering record against decent competition or you take your chances with a so-so record against great competition or a great record against so-so competition



Heading Back To The Omni Again

ing near home in Salt Lake City? But to avoid an early conference showdown, BYU had to hit the road.

Even stranger was the shipping of some SEC teams to far away places. Some figured Kentucky would head to the west.

Theory number one had it that the selec-tion committee might get some heat for an 18-10 team getting an invitation (remember two years ago?). So, the NCAA would ship UK west and let it earn its way back to civilization.

As the scheme went, UK would be happy

to go anywhere. It would allow the committee to help beef up local interest with a na-

billing of the opening round in Atlanta.

The 'Cats and Buckeyes will tip-off at 9:37

p.m. Friday as the second game of the night session. The first evening game at 7:07 p.m. will be Georgetown toying with Bucknell

In the afternoon session, Clemson will take on SW Missouri State followed by Kansas and Houston at 2:37 p.m. Times for the Sunday session won't be set until after the first round games are completed.

It took the Southeast Regional a year ago to wake up the NCAA selection committee,

The top half of the Southeastern Conference was tougher a year ago than this season, but from top to bottom, the league

has never been tougher than it is today.

Six teams have been invited to the big show while Vanderbilt and Ole Miss are headed off to the National Invitational Tournament. Tennessee was expected to be in the NIT, but at last report, was not included among the 32-team field.

Vanderbilt (16-15) will play host to Jackson-

[Continued On Page 22]

#### Bat Cats 'Slam' Cards; Are Off To 7-0 Start

Freshman Billy White hit a grand slam last Sunday to give the University of Kentucky baseball Wildcats an 8-5 victory over the University of Louisville at Shively Field. White, a shortstop from St. Xavier High School in Louisville, cleared the bases with an opposite field home run in the sixth inning to give UK a. 5-2 lead that it never relinquished.

The win ups Kentucky's record to 7-0, the best start in head coach Keith Madison's nine

years at UK.
"I think our start will give us momentum going into SEC play next weekend." Madison said. "We are a young club and this will give us confidence for the games coming up this week."

U of L got on board first when designated hitter John Brooks and catcher Richard Cooper hit back-to-back doubles in the second. UK got that run back in the fourth when catcher David Ray crushed a homer to left-center field.

The Cardinals scored in the fifth when Kevin Curry walked, advanced to second on a single by Tim Fries, moved to third on a double-play grounder by Scott Karkos and scored on a wild pitch.

UK scored three times in the eighth, including a twa-run pinch-bit homer by Bob-

UK scored three times in the eighth, including a two-run pinch-hit homer by Bobby Olinick, a sophomore from Louisville St. Xavier High School.

Starter Doug Sutton went the distance to pick up his first win. Sutton survived the ninth inning, in which he threw two wild pitches, as U of L scored three runs. The loss for Louisville evened their record at 3-3. UK's next game is scheduled for Wednesday (March 11) against Cumberland (Tenn.) University at Shively Field.

Freshman Darin Rieman banged out three hits, including a grand slam, as the University of Kentucky Wildcats defeated the University of Louisville, 8-2. Wildcat batters pounded out 15 hits last Saturday at Shively Field

Rieman led the UK attack with six RBIs. The third baseman from Fairfield, Ohio, broke the game open with a towering grand slam that easily cleared the fence in right-center in the eighth frame. The home run was Rieman's second of the young season.

Rieman's second of the young season.
Vince Tyra and Roy Bailey combined to limit the Cardinals to two runs. Tyra overcame a shaky start to earn his first win of the year. The first three Cardinal batters got hits off Tyra as U of L pushed across one run in the first. Tyra settled down and held the Cardinals to two hits while striking out nine in six innings of work. Bailey came on in the seventh and pitched three shutout innings to earn the switched



# Envelope Please: And The Winner Is. . .

Timeout For SEC Awards Ceremony

As another exciting year of SEC basketball has been completed, it's time to look back on the 1986-87 season. Now let's give tribute to the players and coaches that made this season one to remember.

Coach of the Year: Georgia's Hugh Durham gets this distinction hands down. Despite having two starters and a top reserve out for most of the season, Durham orchestrated the Bulldogs to a remarkable third-place finish. And in the preseason, Georgia wasn't even picked to finish in the upper division of the league with those players. Although Wimp Sanderson also did an outstanding job in leading Alabama to a first-place finish in the league by a full four



#### Todd Hallum

Cats' Pause Columnist

games. Durham got better production out of what he had to work with than any other coach in the conference.

Player of the Year: Derrick McKey, Alabama. One of the most difficult players in the conference to defend because of his fantastic versatility, McKey can hit the post-up jumper inside, or connect from the three-point range outside. With another year of eligibility remaining, McKey is becoming one of the best players ever to wear a Crimson Tide uniform.

Freshman of the Year: Rex Chapman, Kentucky. It's not too hard to figure this one out, is it?

Most improved player: Will Perdue, Vanderbilt. Perdue's presence in the paint makes Vanderbilt a good team instead of an ordinary one.

Best defensive player: LSU's Bernard Woodside gets the nod over Kentucky guard Ed Davender. Because of his height at 6-5, Woodside usually draws his team's toughest defensive assignment, shading the opponent's best shooter. Davender at times can apply



#### Vandy's Perdue Most Improved

smothering pressure in the backcourt, but has trouble handling bigger guards who can post him up in the lane like Georgia's Dennis Williams.

Most consistent team: Alabama. Except for the late comeback win by Kentucky, and an overtime loss to Florida, Bama would have been undefeated in the conference. Bama's consistency comes from having a wealth of experience with three seniors, a junior and a sophomore in the starting lineup.

Most puzzling team: Auburn. If Sonny Smith's team could have eliminated silly turnovers and shot well from the field, then the War Eagles would have been one of the toughest teams to beat in the country. However, like Kentucky, Auburn's consistency was its inconsistency.

Best homecourt advantage: Alabama. In a year when the league was as balanced as it has ever been and home teams were dropping like flies, Bama was the club to have just one home-floor less.

Best offensive performance: Tony White, Tennessee. On

Feb. 14 in Knoxville, White exploded against Auburn for a 51-point performance in the Vols' 103-84 rout of the Tigers. And the man they call "The Wizard" also had high-scoring games of 49, 39 and 35. White is the best one-on-one guard in the league, especially when Don DeVoe uses a clear-out offense to let him work.

Mr. Clutch Award: Rex Chapman, Kentucky. His buzzereating performances against Tennessee and Ole Miss in Rupp



#### Rex Chapman—SEC's Mr Clutch

Arena remind many basketball historians of what Jerry West used to do at West Virginia. For a freshman, Chapman has displayed more cool and poise than any other player who has entered the SEC for quite some time.

Most vicious dunk artist: Jose Vargas, LSU. One of these days Vargas is going to bring a backboard down with one of his patented slam dunks.

Best coaching hex over Kentucky: Dale Brown, LSU. In the teams' last three meetings, Brown has a 3-0 advantage over the Wildcats.

Crybaby Award: Wimp Sanderson, Alabama. Good ol' Wimp won this award unopposed. Sanderson is the best there is in this category, and no other coach in the country even comes close at ranting and raving along the sidelines and still NOT being whistled for a technical foul. I guess SEC basketball officials believe Wimp doesn't mean any harm.

**Surprise teams:** Georgia, with runner-up honors going to Ole Miss. Besides Durham and Sanderson, Rebel coach Ed Murphy turned in the best coaching performance of the year, doing a masterful job in making Ole Miss a competitive team.

Floorburn award: Rob Lock, Kentucky, It seems UK trainer Walt McCombs had to make at least one trip to the floor each game to check and see if Lock was healthy enough to continue following one of the big guy's diving acts in chase of a loose ball.

Best officiating crew: Don Rutledge and Paul Galvan. It's hard to select a third official because these two gentlemen are among the best in the college game. Both Rutledge and Galvan have officiating experience in the NCAA Final Four.

All-Underrated Team: It seems like every year there are a handful of players in the league that go out and perform day-in and day-out but still don't get the recognition they deserve. You mention their names and people will shake their heads and say, "Who, never heard of 'em?" Here are five guys that fit the bill this season:

	8.7	
1.	Willie Anderson	Georgia
2.	Dennis Williams	Georgia
3.	Eric Smith	Ole Miss
4.	Jim Farmer	Alabama
5.	Chris Capers	Florida

**All-Conference Team:** With as much talent as the SEC had this year, especially at the guard position, it's pretty difficult to pick five players to single out as the best in the league. But, listing players by position, here goes:

G	Veron Maxwell	Florida
G	Tony White	Tennessee
C	Derrick McKey	Alabama
F	Nikita Wilson	LSU
F	Chris Morris	Auburn

# Rupp Arena Celebrates 10th Anniversary

May Host SEC Tourney Every Other Year

Last October 6, when the 10th anniversary of cavernous Rupp Arena rolled around, it went without any public celebration

That's not unusual for a public facility, but you can bet direc-

That's not unusual for a pulner facinity, but you can be director Tom Minter and his staff quitely rejoiced.

"When we first started this project, we had no idea we've have the kind of success we've attained," said Minter recently.

Not only has the 23,000-plus seat facility been the home arena of University of Kentucky basketball games the past 11 seasons, but it has also been the showcase for Lexington's first indoor circus, ice show, indoor tractor pull, rodeo and the return of the



Mel Holbrook

Cats' Pause Columnist

state high school basketball tournament after an absence of

It's also been the host to the NCAA Final Four men's and women's basketball tournaments, and numerous NCAA regional tournaments as well, plus concerts by various musical groups and other activities.

#### Success Of Arena Has Been Incredible

"It's really been incredible," says Minter, who came to Lexington in March of 1975 to help serve as a consultant for the thenproposed project, part of the Lexington Civic Center Corpora-

"We've went from a staff of 61 full-time employees to about 80 in 10 years, plus 250-300 part-time employees," Minter continued. "We average around 500-600,000 patrons annually who attend arena events, and when you add Heritage Hall and the Opera House, that amounts up to a million people a year who use our facilities.

Minter says the numbers of people who attend games, this season's attendance totaled close to 400,000, on a continual basis isn't so much a surprise because of the popularity of UK basket-

"But when I was acting as a consultant, I recommended that the seating capacity be kept to around 18,500," said Minter. "I didn't feel like we could comfortably seat more than that inside the box. But we've found there have been very few complaints. Second, and I'm finding this to be true, the actual number of people in attendance at the games has dropped off in recent years.



The Legendary Der Baron, Adolph Rupp

That can be attributed to the live telecasts and sometimes the weather. But still, the number of people that turn out is amaz-

#### Kentucky Isn't Supposed To Lose In Rupp

Rupp Arena, of course, is a study in passion. UK basketball

has a patent on fan-aticism. It prides itself on heart-stopping teams, powerful enough to dominate, human enough to lose. Although Alabama basketball coach Wimp Sanderson would

"It's against the rules for Kentucky to lose there," says

The Wildcats have compiled an outstanding record of 153-16 at Rupp Arena, including this season's 11-2 slate. That's a winning percentage of 90 percent.

"Oh, it's a great place to play," said Ole Miss coach Ed Mur-



Rupp Arena-A Champion's Palace

phy. "It's a great program. Rupp Arena is what college basket ball is all about."  $\,$ 

#### Arena Has Helped Revitalize Downtown Area

When local promoters were working on the idea of a downtown civic center years ago, the previous success of UK's basketball program was a main contributing factor in the decision to build the arena. The arena, and the civic center itself, are now the base for what has developed into a bustling downtown area.

"When I first came to Lexington and drove through the downtown area on a Sunday afternoon, one of my daughters said that it was a pretty dead area," said Minter. "Now, 20 years later, look at it. The skyline is beautiful. And the whole area has been revitalized.'

That skyline, of course, includes various hotels that were very instrumental in the Final Four tournaments being held at Rupp Arena. But, even with the new accomodations, the tournaments may not be back in the Bluegrass for awhile.

And the city was dealt another blow recently with the Kentucky High School Athletic Association's decision to alternate the State Tournament between Lexington and Louisville

"I understand both decisions," said Minter. "The Final Four has become one of the premier sporting events in the world and

#### NCAAs Could Be Headed Soon To Lexington

they have a higher demand for tickets. That's why they're choosing larger, domed stadiums. As for the state basketball tournament, Louisville made some very serious offers and guarantees to the KHSAA Board of Control. They'll get the tourguarantees to the Krisara Board of Condon. They fige the don-nament in '88 and we'll get it the next year. We know we can meet our guarantees. We've proven it. It remains to be seen whether or not Louisville can do the same.

"The KHSAA took a big risk in taking a tried and proven

endeavor and putting it into an unknown situation," Minter added. "That gamble may not pay off."

There hasn't been an NCAA Regional tournament since the Mideast in 1984, but Minter says that situation will be resolved

"We got so involved in getting ready for the Final Four, we forgot what happens after that," Minter explained. "We will make a bid for the 1988-89 regional soon. And we'll be back in

There has also been talk of the Southeastern Conference tour nament returning after trips to Atlanta, Baton Rouge and Knoxville, and Minter is all for that as well.

"I've heard talk that the SEC wants to rotate the tournament between here and Knoxville every year," he said. "That would be just fine with us. We're not afraid of a challenge. We've proven that in the past."

#### **DeBoer Goes North** To Canada To Get **Volleyball Signee**

Late last month University of Kentucky volleyball coach Kathy DeBoer announced the signing of Karen Creates to a national letter of intent

Creates, a 6-foot-2 middle-hitter Toronzo, currently plays for John Abbot College in Quebec. Her college team is one of the five teams in Quebec given elite volleball

According to DeBoer, "Karen's height will make her an immediate asset at the net. With continued experience and training she can

develop into a dominant player."

Creates raises the total number of signees for DeBoer at three. Laura Linder of Muncie, Ind., and Chris Maradits of Parma, Ohio signed earlier with the Wildcats. Said DeBoer about her overall recruiting crop, "This is one of the best recruiting classes we've ever had. We look for all three players to be significant factors during the next four years

#### **Kentucky Hands Out** 51 'Ks' To Gridders

Fifty-one University of Kentucky football players have been awarded K-Letters for their performance during the 1987 season, Wildcat head coach Jerry Claiborne announced.

Included are eight players who have earn-ed three previous football letters: tight ends Matt Lucas and Mark Wheeler, defensive back Tony Mayes, wide receiver Eric Pitts, linebackers Larry Smith and Don Yarano, offensive tackle Joe Prince and quarterback Bill

Other graduating seniors awarded letters were WR Cornell Burbage, DE Guy Neal, FB Marc Logan, DT Mike Velotta and DG Tom Wilkins, their third; OT Sam Rotell, his second, and one each to FB John Groves, WR



Marc Logan

Billy Dean, centers Conrad Carney and Ken Lange and DE Tim Reese.
Underclassmen Dermontti Dawson,

Mark Higgs, RB; Tim Jones, SE; Jeff Kremer, LB; Brad Myers, OT; Jerry Reese and John Shannon, DTs; Butch Wilburn, OG, and Joe Worley, PK, also joined the threeletter ranks.

Two-year lettermen are LBs Chris Chenault, TEs Joe Curry and Martin Pennington, DE Carwell Gardner, DBs David Johnson and Ron Mack, S Ray Gover, OG

Scott Endris and OL Sam Rotella.

Presented their first letters were DGs Vice Adams and Doug Houser, DTs Oliver Barnett and Donnie Gardner; DEs Jay Dortch, Tony Massey and Craig Benzinger, RB Ivy Joe Hunter, OTs Greg Kunkel and Mike Pfeifer, punter Jeff Nelson, DBs Anthony Gardner and Robionson and WR Dee Smith.

# Tide Rolls In

# Regular-Season Champion Alabama Beats Tennessee, And Auburn, Then Turns Back LSU 69-62 To Capture SEC Tournament Crown

#### LSU 68, Mississippi State 54

Louisiana State had too much

And it was obvious Mississippi State didn't

Dale Brown's Tigers jumped out to a 20-9 lead and coasted to a 68-54 victory to tipoff last Wednesday's SEC Tournament held at

LSU's inside-outside punch of forward Oliver Brown, 16 points, and hot-shooting guard Anthony Wilson, 16 points, paced the

The win put the seventh-seeded squad from Baton Rouge, 19-13, in the quarterfinals against No. 2 seed Florida.

Mississippi State ended its campaign under in the quarterfinals

t-year coach Richard Williams with a 7-21

The game was all LSU's, as the Tigers led The game was all LSU's, as the Tigers led from the word "Go." Anthony Wilson connected on a driving layup with only 45 seconds elapsed (2-0) and LSU was on its way. The Tigers' maximum lead came with 9:11 remaining in the contest when Darryl Joe canned a three-pointer, giving LSU a 17-point advantage (53-36).

Trailing 53-39, MSU made a slight run

with the help of a three-pointer by Reginald Boykin. State then forced a jump ball, regaining possession. Anthony Blakely proceeded to take advantage of a nicely set screen and scored on a jumper from the left corner. MSU now trailed 55-44 with 6:00 minutes left. But after a LSU timeout, Bernard Woodside hit of four free throws to cancel the Bulldogs comeback (58-44, 4:38)

MSU's offensive attack was spearheaded by Boykins (17 points) and Blakley (15).

The Decisive Point: Following an Anthony Wilson two-pointer, making the score 9-5, Richard Williams became so outraged with the officiating of Charles Vacca that he was whistled for a "T." Anthony Wilson made the technical rewards, followed by a jumper inside by Nikita Wilson, and a steal and layup by Joe. As far as MSU fans were concerned the game was out of control—LSU led 15-5 with 13:55 remaining.

Telling The Story: "It was a very difficult game for us," said MSU's Williams. "LSU's defense was good, and our offense was bad. The combination made it hard for us to score baskets. It has been a long and often frustrating season. We're not going to quit. We are going to get better

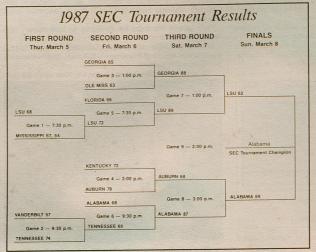
#### Tennessee 74. Vanderbilt 57

Vanderbilt and head coach C.M. Newton came into the game hoping the third time would be the charm for the Commodores. Two times Vandy had met Tennessee on the court this season, and both times Don DeVoe's Vols had come out on top.

And in the early going at least, it looked as though the Music City boys were going to pull off the trick. After Vandy center Will Perdue and UT guard Tony White traded buckets to start the game, Bobby Westbrooks hit three jumpers to key an 11-point Com-modore run. Vandy's Eric Reid put the finishing touches on the spurt and Tennessee found itself down 13-2 with 14:19 to play in the half

Vanderbilt extended the lead to 12 at one point (15-3) and held on to a 35-27 advantage

The Decisive Point: While Vanderbilt possessed all the magic in the first half, Tennessee's White (whose nickname is The Wizard) and his UT teammates still had s tricks up their sleeves in the second half.



Trailing 39-31 with just over 18 minutes remaining in the game, Tennessee put on a scoring spurt of its own. Over the next three minutes, the Vols ran off 12 unanswered points to take the lead for good at 43-39.

White, who was held to 12 points in the first half on eight-for-13 shooting from the field, missed just three of 11 attempts and erupted for 18 second-half points to allow UT to advance to play top-seeded Alabama Fri-

Telling The Story: "The game was obviously played in two different halves," Newton said. "The thing that is most dissapointing to our team is that we got the same shots in the second half as we did in the first get them to go down. thought Tony White was just magnificent Tennessee played very well. They handled the tough times

#### Georgia 65. Ole Miss 63

The two regular-season meetings between Ed Murphy's Ole Miss club and Hugh Durham's Georgia Bulldogs followed a

Ole Miss rallied from a nine-point deficit with 11 minutes to go in the first matchup played in Oxford, to beat the Bulldogs 80-68. When the two teams got together in Athens

later in the season, it was Georgia's turn to e from behind, erasing halftime deficit and hand the Rebels a 69-65

This second-round game of the SEC tour wasn't any different. Behind nine first-half points from Joe Ayers and Ronnie Sims, Ole Miss streaked out to a nine-point halftime lead. Georgia took the early lead at 6-3, but the Johnny Rebs scored 10 of the game's next 12 points to take a 13-8 lead. Ole Miss extended the lead 12 at 27-15 with six minutes to go until halftime, and went into the dressing room at the break on top 32-23

But the Dogs started to control th early in the second half and tied the game at 46 when guard Willie Anderson hit a short bank shot with 9:22 left in the game. Georgia built its lead to six (56-50) at the five-min mark, and led by five (62-57) with only :44 left in the game, but couldn't deliver the knockout punch.

When Avers hit a driving layup in traffic his fifth point in less than a minute- with just :03 left on the clock, Ole Miss had egained the lead at 63-62.

The Decisive Point: The Dogs had just one chance left, and Durham called timeout to talk things over. When they came back out after the timeout, reserve guard Mike Harron inbounded the ball to Dennis Williams, as the horn sounded to give Georgia the two-

Telling The Story: "It was just a great read and a great pass, and Dennis just put it in the bottom of the net," Durham said. We wanted to throw the ball in to the basket, but they put a man back there. In that situation, you've just got to read the defense and make the adjustment. He (Harron) couldn't throw the ball to anyone else, and he had to look for Dennis or Milt (Blakley).

"Can you just imagine how much one shot affects so many people? Our people are so elated right now, theirs are so down. I've been on the other side before, and I can sincerely feel for Ed (Murphy) and his club.

#### LSU 72. Florida 66

Everyone was hailing it as a big mismatch. Twice they met during the regular season, and twice Florida blew Dale Brown's club out of the water. Norm Sloan's Gators had beaten spects didn't look good for LSU this time

But this is tournament time in the Omni LSU seemingly loves to play, and Florida became the Tigers' fourth victim in a row (dating back to last season's Southeast Regionals) at the Atlanta facility.

Maybe it was LSU's great defense or Florida's poor offensive showing (hitting just 26 of 65 shots for 40 percent). Perhaps the Gators were overconfident because they felt they had already wrapped up an NCAA tournament bid and the Tigers just wanted it

Whatever it was, Florida continued its string of lacklustre performances and lost for the fourth time in its last five outings, 72-66.

The lead changed hands several times in the opening stages of the game, and the score was tied four times, the last coming at 19-19 at the nine-and-a-half-minute mark then took the lead for good when Anthony Wilson hit a three-pointer from the top of the

LSU extended the lead to 16 points in the second half, and coasted into the semifinal round where they were to take on Georgia.

The Decisive Point: Florida center Dwane Schintzius picked up his fourth foul Dwane Schintzus picked up ins fouth tool and had to leave the game with 8:31 to go and LSU in front by nine at 52-43. When Schintzius returned with 7:05 left to play, UF had trimmed the Tiger advantage to six and threatened to make a contest out of it. But the big guy fouled out with 5:46 to play, and LSU immediately went to work, eventually running the margin up to 16 with just under four minutes to play

Telling The Story: "I thought LSU played very well tonight, that was not a sur-prise," Sloan said. "But I thought we played poorly, and that was a surprise

season. We hate to end the season on a note like this. I just hope we get another chance to prove we are one of the better teams in the league. I can't give you an explaination for what happened tonight."

"Like I've said before, we're a bunch of blue-collar workers," Brown said. "We just have good kids. Norm has a great team, and I know how they feel in this situation. They beat us by 24 and 21 during the regular season. I feel we owe our victory to hard work. The work ethic pays off again."

#### Alabama 68, Tennessee 60

Don DeVoe's Tennessee ballclub had kept ace with Alabama for a long period of time

pace with Alabama for a long period of time last Friday night. But 'Bama guard Terry Coner pushed the Tide into Saturday's semifinal with a 68-60 win over UT.

Holding on to a slim three-point cushion—39-36—Coner proceeded to either score or dish out an assist on 15 of Alabama's cert 18 periors as the Tide was on a roll. next 18 points as the Tide was on a roll, leading at one time 54-40. However, UT trimmed the lead to four when Tony White's three-pointer connected, making the score

Following a Jim Farmer basket, a technical was called on UT's Doug Roth for pushing was careed on UT's Bodg soul for passing (flagrant foul) Mark Gottfried. Roth's actions cost him a quick exit and 'Bama cashed in on the free throws to salt the game away.

At one time in the first half UT led by as

many as nine points (23-14 and 25-16). But 'Bama regained the momentum as it scored

White was the game's leading scorer, netting 26 in possibly his last outing for Tennessee. He ended his career at Tennessee with 2,219, only 30 short of the Volunteers all-time mark set by Ernie Grunfield. With the loss UT falls to 14-15, but after the loss still retained slim hopes of earning an NIT bid.

Decisive Point: As far as UT was concerned, it missed a golden opportunity to pour it on the Crimson Tide in the first half. The underdog squad from K-town had twice take command before halftime (37-31).

**Telling The Story:** "It was atypical for Doug (Roth) to retaliate," said Don DeVoe about when his starting center was thrown out of the game. "He felt badly. He didn't do well in the first-round game, and he would have liked to done better tonight."

#### LSU 89, Georgia 88

Something had to give

Georgia entered the game fresh off a dramatic, last-second, come-from-behind win

[Continued On Page 10]

# Even rain is perfect for E'town's salute

BY BOB WATKINS

A t times heavy with emotion and at others laced with good humor and displays of genuine affection, the testimonial brunch for ex-University of Kentucky quarterback Bill Ransdell in Elizabethtown last week was perfect.

An estimated 330 friends, family, coaches and former teammates refused to let rainy weather keep them from paying tribute to one of their own at the city's community Center. And one would have had to have a stone for a heart not to be moved by it, a community saying, "Thanks, we're very proud" to the young man who, "every time he was on national television," brought to the lips of Keith Jackson and the like the words "Elizabethtown, Kentucky."

The three-hour testimonial for Ransdell was good fun, spiced with bad jokes (and good ones) and riotous laughter. And it all left young Ransdell understandably taken aback, almost speechless.

Almost, but not completely. The young man affectionately

with bad Jokes (and good ones) and riotous laughter. And it all left young Ransdell understandably taken aback, almost speechless.

Almost, but not completely. The young man affectionately known as "Little Bill" volunteered few words, softly spoken, but they said volumes.

"This is the most memorable day of my life. I never thought I'd say that after the Hall of Fame Bowl (a 20-19 UK victory over Wisconsin on Dec. 29, 1984). But this tops that.

"I really can't express how much this means to me," he went on. "If I'm lucky enough to get drafted (into the NFL), I'll thank the Lord and all of you too."

Advice to youngsters who would follow in his footsteps?

"I would tell you to set your goals, know what you want to do and give it your best. But have a dream and hold onto your dream. I'm still holding onto mine."

And then, every father who ever lived would have felt his chest puff out mightily and a lump come up in his throat when Little Bill went public with: "The thing I'll always remember about E'town is my dad telling me if you decide to do something, do it all the way. Don't do anything halfway. Give it your best all the time."

A credo that young Ransdell played by ever after and came to be known for.

THE COMMUNITY. The appreciation day for Ransdell was one of those times when a town comes together to—in a subtle way—embrace itself. Veteran sports writer Earl Cox exhorted the crowd to give itself a round of applause because of its devotion to Ransdell during his trials and tribulations at UK, but also because he remained a citizen of whom Elizabethtown could be immensely proud to call its own.

"E' town is to be congratulated," Cox said, "for being a Big Rlue town all the way."

"E'town is to be congratulated," Cox said, "for being a Big Blue town all the way."
Claiborne: "E'town has done a lot for Bill and he'll be the first one to tell you that. And he's done a lot to make this community proud. He's one of the finest student-athletes to ever go through this institution (UK)."
UK assistant director of athletics Frank Ham, "Sometimy you don't get a double feature like we have with Bill Ransdell. He's not only been a fine football player. He was a student-athlete."
Yes, Ransdell's day of appreciation was perfect right down

arklete.'
Yes, Ransdell's day of appreciation was perfect right down to the rain showers that spattered against the windows. Rain, the dreaded ogre of every quarterback who ever took a center snap, gave reason to joke.
Claiborne: "Coming in here today (Bardstown High Coach) Garnis Martin told me, 'It's a great day,' And I asked him why. And he said, 'It's just the kind of weather I liked to see when we were going to play E' town when Bill Ransdell was here.' "
ACCOLADES. The dignitaries by their presence by

And he said, 'It's just the kind of weather I liked to see when we were going to play E'town when Bill Ransdell was here.' "

\*\*ACOLAPES.\*\* The dignitaries, by their presence, by testimony, by letter and by proclamation, extolled the virtures of Little Bill too. And the list was impressive.

\*\*Ekentucky governor Martha Lane Collins charged former U.S. Sen. Walter 'Dee' Huddleston, to acclaim, on her behalf, the Outstanding Kentuckian Award upon him.

\*\*The voice of University of Kentucky sports, Cawood Ledford, sent a letter with warmest regards and high praise for the holder of 16 school records in football.

\*\*Claiborne called him the "toughtest competitor I ever coached." And, "Bill might not lay a down of pro ball, but he'il be a success at whatever he does because he's already got his degree. And he's a winner."

\*\*\*UK quarterback coach Jerry Eisaman said that in his years in coaching nine of his quarterbacks had gone on to play professional football, including Boomer Eisason with the Cincinnati Bengals, "but in all those years I had one quarterback who gave everything he had all the time. He knows the difference between pain and being injured and he played with both. Bill Ransdell."

\*\*Dave Gash, representing the Kentucky Wildcats Club, presented the young man a plaque with his records engraved and said, "Like all of you we're very proud of Billy. We're proud of his courage and his leadership ability."

\*\*And Ransdell's high-school coach, Phil "Duke" Owen declared that Little Bill's jersey, No. 9, might never be retired. "I can't tell you that nobody else will ever wear No. 9, but I'll tell you one thing, Bill. If somebody does he'd better be a stud."

\*\*FINAL TRIBUTE. It strikes me that we are fortunate that a few rare people come our way from time to time, those who make

FINAL TRIBUTE. It strikes me that we are fortunate that a few are people come our way from time to time, those who make as feel good. Thankfully, some of them play sports: Julius Erving, Rex Chapman, and yes, Bill Ransdell.

Wistfully we see something of ourselves in them. Their specialness and success excites us. And secretly we hope that maybe a bit of the stardust might rub off. "Poise is one word that covers a lot of things," Garnis Martin said. "And with this young man you could see it. There is a very fine line between winning and not winning and I love all the adjectives associated with winning."

And Bill Ransdell is a winner.



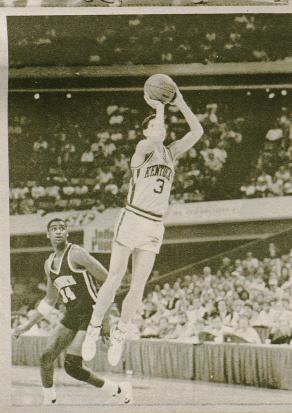
Former U.S. Senator Dee Huddleston Pays Tribute To Bill



Kentucky's Bill Ransdell Continues To Hold On To Dream











Photos By Gary Cromwell

### Brown And Smith—Masters At Motivation

Led Their Teams To Unlikely NCAA Berths

If it's tournament time in the SEC, which it was last week, if it's time to start the so-called "second season," recent history seems to suggest that either Auburn or LSU, or both, will shake their season long doldrums and make things interesting.

\*Flashback—1985: Auburn limped through the SEC round robin schedule with an 8-10 record, tying the Tigers for seventh place with Tennessee, and most forcasters ticketed them for an early exit in the league tournament. But Auburn got hot, defeated Ole Miss, LSU, Florida and Alabama to win the tourney title and become the first team to turn the trick after having played in the preliminary



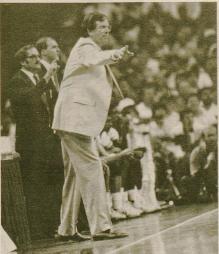
#### Mike Estep

Cats' Pause Columnist

and. Sonny Smith's team was supposed to roll over and play dead in the NCAAs, but advanced to the Sweet 16, beating P Kansas before being eliminated by North Carolina.

\*Flashback-1986: In the preseason, a lot of people were expect thing 1986 to be LSU's year. The Tigers were expecting to have one of the most imposing front lines in college basketball—Tito Horford, John Williams, Nikita Wilson and Zoran Jovanovich. But Travelin' Tito packed his bags for Miami before the first game was played. Jovanovich went down for the year with a knee-injury 11 games into the season. Wilson, an All-SEC selection, was lost to academics. And Williams, along with forward Bernard Woodside, was out of action for several weeks because of a chicken pox

After racing out of the gate 14-0, LSU lost six of its next eight games, finished at 9-9 in league play and entered the SEC tourney



Sonny Smith

with 10 losses. Dale Brown's crew won their first-matchup with Florida, but lost to Kentucky, for the third time of the year, in the

But when the NCAAs got started, so did LSU. The Bayou Bengals downed Purdue and Memphis State in the first round in the friend-ly confines of their own Assembly Center, and then beat Georgia Tech and Kentucky in the Southeast Regional in Atlanta to advance to the Final Four, where they were dropped by eventual national champion Louisville.

Smith guided Auburn to a second-place finish in the conference Smitt guided Adolution to a second place in the regular season in '86, but was surprised by Mississippi State in the first round of the league tourney. Sent to the tough West Regional which included teams like top seed St. John's, North Carolina and Louisville, the Tigers were supposed to be sent home in short order. It didn't happen that way. Auburn turned back Arizona, St. John's and UNLV, and came an eyelash from being the second SEC team to make the Final Four. The Tigers led Louisville for most of the game before running out of gas and falling 84-76.

Going into the conference carnival last week, the setting was much the same. To be honest about it, based on their regular-seasor merits, neither group of Tigers deserved to be included in the NCAA's 64-team shootout. As the top four teams in round-robin play, you had to believe Alabama, Florida, Georgia and Kentucky were just about assured of a trip on The Road To The Final Four,

as CBS is wont to call it.

But Auburn or LSU? You had to wonder whether Dick Shultz and the NCAA tourney committee would dole out five, much less bids to the SEC.

Auburn, who figured to be one of the teams to beat in the conference this season, came to Atlanta as the tourney's No. 5 seed with a 16-11 overall record and a 9-9 mark in league. Not exactly glittering numbers for a team that was ranked in everybody's Top Ten nationally for much of the early part of the season. And, LSU 18-13 overall and 8-10 in the SEC coming in, finished in the lower division of the league for the first time in 10 years and was seeded

Of course everybody knows by now, both Auburn and LSU did well in Atlanta and impressed the selection committee enough to earn two of the SEC's six invites.

The interesting thing about all this is not that Brown and Smith

did it, it's how they did it. Smith got his Auburn club into the NCAAs by beating the same Kentucky team that had beaten the Tigers twice this season. And Brown got his up and down team o play consistently for four consecutive gam

#### Professors Brown, Smith Were In Top Form

If you were one of the relative few to turn in Atlanta last week to see the tourney, or if you caught the games on TV, then you witnessed a veritable clinic in motivation. All week long, professors Brown and Smith gave a seminar in Basketball Psychology 101
Smith, with the help of Cincinnati Enquirer sportswriter John

Erardi, got his Tigers to believe that they could beat Kentucky in Friday's first-round action, even though the 'Cats had beaten them

After the Plainsmen had sent UK back to Lexington with a 79-72 defeat, Smith stuck his head out the locker room door. "Where's John Erardi?" he wanted to know. "He out there? Tell him to come in here. My players want to congratulate him."

If seems Erardi had been on hand for Auburn's team workout Thursday, and had ripped Smith and his team in Friday's edition of the Enquirer. Said that they were "lazy," that they were "uninspired," that they were "an embarrassment."

Little did Erardi know that Auburn had already conducted a prac-

tice at a local high school, and was just going through the motions

"I didn't want my kids running our sets in practice with everybody watching," Smith said. "And this jerk writes how lazy and uninspired

So before his team took the court to do battle with the Wildcats, Smith read Erardi's article to the team

And according to guard Frank Ford, that went a long way in helping Auburn advance to the second round.

The guy said the game would be a bunch of mismatches," Ford I. "I didn't see none out there whatsoever."

And when he was asked what he would say if he saw Erardi again, Ford said, "I'd tell him, 'Man, this one's for you."

"We've been attacked by the school paper, been called awful," Smith said, giving some background. "And we've taken a beating over something we didn't create. I told y'all we weren't that good,

sepecially without Gerald White. But people created the situation for me, and now they're burning my kids left and right.

"Look at me," he continued, "I'm giving that guy credit. I'm using y'all to fire us up now. Usually I try to think of something

#### Brown Woke Up His Slumping Team

While Smith was using the age-old tactic of using the printed word to inspire his team, Brown was busy being original. In an attempt to show his team that fatigue shouldn't play an overwhelming factor in the tournament, the LSU coach actually went two nights in a row without going to sleep.

"Last night when we finished (beating Florida in the Tigers' second game in as many nights), I knew fatigue would be a factor,"
Brown told the press after his team played Georgia. "It's easy for me to say as a coach, 'Go out and play.' We don't have a deep bench.
So I thought, 'I'm going to try to be a living example,' and I stayed

[Continued On Page 22]

#### **NCAA Reactions**

Dick Schultz, athletics director at Virginia and head of the NCAA Selection Committee, commenting about the SEC getting six teams in the NCAA tournament:

The SEC was a very tough conference this year, as was the Big Ten. And the SEC, when you take a look at their teams, their records aren't that impressive overall, but they just chewed each other up in the conference all year long. If you take a look at their losses, they've just beat each other up all year long.

UK coach Eddie Sutton, about Kentucky's draw in the NCAA:

"Well, we're pleased to be in the NCAA, and we, along with two other teams, have been there for eight straight years, the other two being North Carolina and Georgetown.

Sutton on returning to Atlanta

'Last Thursday when we departed for the SEC tournament, we were scheduled to leave at 10:00 p.m. We got out there got on the plane, the pilot all of the sudden tried to start the left engine and it wouldn't start. We end-ed up having to stay here and instead of getting there at noon for a press conference and a workout in the Omni, we didn't get there until about 5:15 and lost the opportunity to workout in the Omni. Then after we had a very sound defeat by Auburn, we were scheduled to leave at 8:00 p.m. We finally got out of Atlanta about 10:00 p.m. and got home about midnight. So it wasn't a very pleasant trip. But we will be going back to Atlanta and we're thankful we're in the SEC tournament."

itton speaking about his team's matchup with Ohio State

"I believe they finished fifth or sixth in the Big Ten, but they certainly are an outstanding ballclub and a team that we match up with fairly decent. Some ballclubs you play and maybe they're hard for you to play. So we got as good a draw (as you could expect). we got as good a at artw (as you could expect). We're just happy to be there. The other 63 teams are quality ballclubs as well. In all likelihood, if we're fortunate enough to beat the Buckeyes, then we get to play perhaps the hottest team in college basketball right now, assuming they win, and that's the Hoyas of Georgetown. But if we could win those two ballgames at least we get to come back pret-ty close to home because the regionals are in Louisville.

Sutton giving his thoughts about six SEC teams getting into the tournament:

"I think some of the other coaches in the SEC were a little nervous (over) whether they would get in, and we were one of two conferences that got six ballclubs in the NCAA field. And believe me, all six of those teams deserved to be in the final 64.

Sutton on Florida drawing N.C. State

"Well, they're gonna have a tough chore there because we watched earlier this afternoon as a team and North Carolina State upset the Tarheels of North Carolina and I thought played very well. About a week and a half ago, Jim Valvano was really crying the blues and his ballclub was 14-14. Now his ballclub has won six in a row at deserving of being in the NCAA.

Sutton assessing Auburn's chances since the Tigers are in the same bracket with

"Auburn should beat San Diego, and they'll have the opportunity to play Indiana. And I think Auburn is the kind of ballclub that could give Bobby Knight's ballclub some trouble.

Sutton talking about the Georgia Tech-LSU

"Georgia Tech plays LSU, and earlier in the year LSU beat the Ramblin' Wreck from Georgia Tech. LSU, I'll tell you—Dale (Brown) did a great job of getting his ballclub prepared for the tourney this weekend in Atlanta and it took a very seasoned and wellcoached ballclub in Alabama to beat them in the championship game.

## Tide .

#### [Continued From Page 6]

ver Ole Miss which saw Dennis Williams hit a long three-pointer at the buzzer

LSU came in riding a two-game tourna-ment win streak which saw them defeat Mississippi State and second-seeded Florida. You couldn't have asked for a better

ballgame

LSU got 11 points from guard Anthony Wilson and took advantage of Georgia's cold first-half shooting (33 percent) to take a commanding 31-18 edge at the half. When Wilson converted a three-point play on a layup and a free throw with 16:07 remaining in the second half, the Tigers had upped the lead to 20 points and seemed to be on their way to a cakewalk win and a spot in the champion-ship game against Alabama.

But Dale Brown's club, which was playing

its third game in as many days, began to tire down the stretch and Georgia closed the gap.

When Willie Anderson, who had been 0-6 from beyond the three-point stripe in the first half, connected on a bonus shot with nine and a half minutes to go, Georgia had trimmed the lead to 10 at 47-37.

Georgia continued to peck away at the lead. and with under a minute to go had cut the advantage to one at 57-56. LSU's Jose Vargas had a chance to put the game on ice when he was at the line to shoot the front end of a bonus situation with :04 to play and LSU in front 63-60. But the shot kicked off the rim and Georgia's Milt Blakley hit a running three-pointer as the buzzer sounded to force

The lead see-sawed back and forth during the five-minute period, and Georgia held a two-point lead with :43 seconds to go. But LSU's Oliver Brown converted an offensive rebound into a basket with :15 left to force yet another extra period.

The Decisive Point: LSU took control in the second overtime and jumped out to a seven-point lead (88-81) with 1:43 showing on the clock. But Georgia's Eric Burdette and Derrick Kirce brought the Dogs to within one at 89-88 with :51 left. Durham's team had a chance to win the game with :22 to go, but Burdette missed a short jumper in the lane and Anderson couldn't connect on the follow shot from the baseline as time ran out.

Telling The Story: "At the end we wanted to get the last shot," Durham said. "We had to decide whether to go early or wait it out. We didn't want a third overtime because of our foul situation. What we wanted was to take the last shot and everybody go for the boards."

"Hugh Durham coached his way back in-to the game," LSU coach Dale Brown said. "I would really like to compliment the Georgia team. That was an incredible com-, and their players and coaches deserve a real compliment

"This was the singular most gutty performance I have seen by one of my teams in my 30 years of coaching and all the time I played. If ever a team was knocked out and wound. ed after being down by 20, we were. This tops our ascent to the Final Four last year and our 95-94 double overtime win over Kentucky (in 1978) when all five of our starters fouled out

#### Alabama 87, Auburn 68

Midway in the second half Alabama turned on its afterburners and breezed past its

arch-rivals by a score of 87-68 in semifinal

With Alabama trailing the Tigers 57-56 at the 8:47 mark, the Tide then sprinted out to

the 8:47 man, as a 25-9 run.
While Derrick McKey is considered Alabama's star performer, Jim Farmer, by many experts, is thought of as the glue that keeps the Tide together. Farmer's three straight three-pointers—all from the right corner—changed a 56-57 struggle into a corner—changed a 56-57 struggle into a 62-57 'Bama lead. McKey kept the Tide flowing with a jumper from the left baseline. And then it was back to three-point territory, but this time it was James Jackson who connected.

Indeed, the Tide did roll over Auburn for the third time this season

Alabama was led in scoring by McKey and Farmer with 22 and 21 points, respectively. Guard Terry Conner turned in a fine overall performance. The senior playmaker scored 16 points, dished out nine assists and was credited with seven steals. He did, however, turn the ball over six times in 34 minutes of

Auburn was paced by senior guard Frank

The Decisive Point: No question about this tale of the tape. Farmer's three consecutive three-pointers in the second stanza took a lot out of Auburn's dreams of making the finals of the SEC Tournament. Overall, Farmer was four of six from Three-point

Telling The Story: "Our team got hot at the right time," declared 'Bama's Wimp the right time," declared 'Bama's Wimp Sanderson. "With eight minutes to go, it was Jim (Farmer) outside and Derrick (McKey) inside. That's when we won the game. . This is a fun team (Crimson Tide) to watch. It is an unselfish bunch that puts winning absolutely ahead of anything else. If ever in sports there was a team, then this is truly a team. I would say that even if we were to go out and get beat a 100 points tomorrow. This

team has a lot of heart.'

#### Alabama 69, LSU 62

Paced by 20 of 22 free throws in the second half Alabama was crowned the 1987 SEC Tournament winners with a 69-62 win over LSU last Sunday in Atlanta's Omni

Leading only by two at halftime, 32-30, 'Bama earned its victory at the charity stripe. Dale Brown helped 'Bama's cause in the second stanza by being whistled for two technicals. The second one came when he gave official Luis Grillo a choke signal (Brown grapsed his neck).

It marked the second straight season that an SEC Tournament champion had won the regular season crown. Last year Kentucky captured both the 18-game round-robin format and the SEC Tournament to boot.

This season's most valuable player, Derrick McKey led a balance attack with 16 points, followed by Terry Coner's 15, Michael Ansley's 14, and Jim Farmer's 13.

LSU had the game's leading scorer as Nikita Wilson pumped in 26.

One of the big defensive gems of the day was turned in by 'Bama's Mark Gottfried. His assignment was to shut down Anthony Wilson. Wilson, considered one of the best pure shooters in the conference, scored 31 points the day before against Georgia. But with Gottfried holding down the fort, the LSU senior was able to only muster nine

Alabama now has an eye-catching 26-4 overall record, 19-2 in SEC competition. With the loss LSU drops to 21-14.

The Decisive Point: Alabama hitting 20 22 free tosses in the final 20 min Without that stat and the Tide might not have been so fortunate on this afternoon

**Telling The Story:** "We take pride in our free throw shooting," said Mark Gottfried. "Everybody on the team shoots 30 free throws after practice and can't leave until they

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Total

Readers Choice

Gombs

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Nick Nicholas 35-15

258-117

Mike Estep 35-15

269-106

Todd Hallum

39-11

260-115

Gary Gromwell

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PURDUE vs. NORTHEASTERN	PURDUE 18	PURDUE 20	PURDUE 11	PURDUE 19		PURDUE 10
WEST VIRGINIA vs. WESTERN KENTUCKY	WESTERN 4	WESTERN 9				WESTERN 6
SYRACUSE vs. GEORGIA SOUTHERN	SYRACUSE 14	SYRACUSE 11	SYRACUSE 25	SYRACUSE 20		SYRACUSE 12
PROVIDENCE vs. UAB	UAB 8	UAB 3	UAB 2	UAB 9	PROVIDENCE3	
ILLINOIS vs. AUSTIN PEAY	ILLINOIS 10	ILLINOIS 6	ILLINOIS 4			ILLINOIS 10
NEW ORLEANS vs. BRIGHAM YOUNG	UNO 7	UNO 2	UNO 10			UNO 4
ALABAMA vs. NORTH CAROLINA A&T	ALABAMA 12	ALABAMA 17	ALABAMA 26			ALABAMA 12
GEORGETOWN vs. BUCKNELL	G'TOWN 18	G'TOWN 26	G'TOWN 14	G'TOWN 32		G'TOWN 15
KENTUCKY vs. OHIO STATE	KENTUCKY 7	KENTUCKY 3	KENTUCKY 5	KENTUCKY 3		KENTUCKY 12
KANSAS vs. HOUSTON	KANSAS 6	KANSAS 7	KANSAS 2	KANSAS 9		KANSAS 7
CLEMSON vs. SW MISSOURI STATE	CLEMSON 8	CLEMSON 7	CLEMSON 1	SW MO. ST. 4		CLEMSON 10
INDIANA vs. FAIRFIELD	INDIANA 14	INDIANA 12	INDIANA 18	INDIANA 25		INDIANA 17
AUBURN vs. SAN DIEGO	AUBURN 3	AUBURN 7	AUBURN 9	AUBURN 10		AUBURN 12
DUKE vs. TEXAS A&M	DUKE 8	DUKE 3	DUKE 5	TEXAS A&M 3		DUKE 8
MISSOURI vs. XAVIER	MISSOURI 4	MISSOURI 9	MISSOURI 6	MISSOURI 8		MISSOURI 14
ST. JOHN'S vs. WICHITA STATE	WICHITA ST. 4	ST. JOHN'S 6	ST. JOHN'S 2	WICHITA ST. 4		ST. JOHN'S 8
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TEMPLE vs. SOUTHERN	TEMPLE 8	TEMPLE 2	TEMPLE 5			TEMPLE 1
UNLV vs. IDAHO STATE	UNLV 18	UNLV 20	UNLV 11	UNLV 30	UNLV 15	
GEORGIA vs. KANSAS STATE	GEORGIA 7	GEORGIA 7	GEORGIA 1	GEORGIA 1		GEORGIA
VIRGINIA vs. WYOMING	VIRGINIA 2	VIRGINIA 6	WYOMING 1	VIRGINIA 5		VIRGINIA
UCLA vs. CENTRAL MICHIGAN	UCLA 8	UCLA 10	UCLA 11	UCLA 4	OOLA	UCLA 12
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UTEP vs. ARIZONA	ARIZONA 2	UTEP 1	ARIZONA 3	ARIZONA 2		ARIZONA
IOWA vs. SANTA CLARA	IOWA 6	IOWA 12	IOWA 9	IOWA 25	IOWA 9	IOWA 1

# First-Game TKO

## Auburn's Attack Too Much For Eddie Sutton's Team To Fight Off, While Free Throw Woes Continue To Sting Wildcats

By Nick Nicholas

Lately, Kentucky does either one of two things in the Southeastern Conference Tournament. Ever since 1979, the year the league tournament was renewed, Kentucky has either made its way into the finals or lost the first game which it has played.

For Wildcat fans the news from Atlanta's Omni wasn't too pleasant as Auburn took control and the control

control early and abolished the 'Cats from the tournament by a count of 79-72 last Fri-

Kentucky, 18-10 overall, had to play catch up all the way. And according to head coach

Eddie Sutton it wasn't exactly the way he wanted to spend an afterno "I feel like I've been climbing a mountain top all afternoon," said who suffered his initial loss in two years at the SEC get-together. "It's always important to get ahead (early)

to get ahead (early)."

If Sutton felt like he was climbing a mountain, then his obstacles consisted of Auburn's box-and-one and press defenses, the overall performance of center Jeff Moore, horrendous free throw shooting by the Wildcats and the play of a healthy Gerald White. Auburn upped its record to 17-II, and with the win held on to hopes of an NCAA bid. With the victory the Tigers earned a shot at in-state rival Alabama. Moore chipped in with 23 points while grabbing 10 rebounds. It was his play underneath which kept the Wildcats at bay for the entire contest.

"They came out and played really well at the beginning of the game," noted UK guard Ed Davender. "It's really hard to play catch up to a fine team like Auburn. Just about every time we would make a run they would make a run at us."

Davender and Rex Chapman led the way for Kentucky, scoring 17 points apiece, follow-

ed by Richard Madison's 10-point afternoon performance

#### Third Time Was The Charm For Auburn

Kentucky came into the contest owning two victories over Sonny Smith's club this season. Earlier this year UK won at Auburn (63-60) and in Lexington (75-71). In those games Chapman scored 26 and 18 points, respectively. Thus, Smith wasn't about to let the Owensboro freshman do him in for a third time.

When Chapman was in the lineup, Auburn forward Chris Morris was assigned to stick by his side, while his teammates formed a box defense. It threw the youngster's game off-balance for much of the afternoon.

Chapman was hounded for most of the game. He was able to get off only 11 chapman was hounded for most of the game.

game off-balance for much of the afternoon.

Chapman was hounded for most of the game. He was able to get off only II shots from the field, far below his normal use of his trigger finger.

"Sonny Smith did a good job, especially with the gimmick defense he used to dog Rex Chapman," Sutton said. "I told Rex, 'Welcome to big-time basketball."

"Auburn came out with good intensity. They were alert from the opening tipoff."

"This was the kind of game that I expected it to be, with them playing more of a half-court game and us playing a full-court game," Smith said afterwards. "We went in with hopes of being able to work our running game, and the number of first-half fast break baskets we got was a key to our start.

"We wanted to control the rebounding and make second shots come at a premium for them (Kentucky)."

for them (Kentucky)

for them (Kentucky)."

UK's inside players battled tooth-and-nail with Auburn's trio of Morris, Moore and Mike Jones, being outrebounded by only one, 36-35. However, the Tigers held a 19-15 rebounding advantage in the first half, a half which had the conference's fifth-seeded team in front 45-37. And it was the Tigers front line which eventually took control at the offensive end, combining for 53 of Auburn's 79 points.
"I told our team there were two things we needed: strong defensive board play and stopping their transition game," said Sutton. "We didn't do a good job with either one of those goals."

When the goine got tough in the second half, with UK trails and transitions.

When the going got tough in the second half—with UK trailing 57-47—the 'Cats got rolling. After an Auburn three-point play, Chapman connected on a jumper from the top of the key. Davender converted UK's next three points with a free throw, followed

y a steal near mid-court that resulted in an easy two for the Brooklyn junior. All of a sudden the Wildcat fans, who made up a big portion of the 13,279 in attendance, had something to cheer about because their Wildcats had reeled off five consecutive points

UK trailed 57-52 with a little more than 11 minutes remaining

Chapman brought the 'Cats even closer when his three-pointer just before the expiration of the 45-second clock found the bottom of the net.

Oh, we had us a barn burner, 57-55 with 10:08 left.

But that didn't bother Auburn's Jeff Moore. In fact, it kinda turned him on, in a basket-

But that didn't bother Auburn's Jeff Moore. In fact, it kinda turned nim on, in a basket-ball sense. The 6-7 junior, against UK's man-to-man defense, lofted a shot over Rob Lock. Not only did the ball go in but Moore was fouled as well. His three-point play seemed to switch Mr. Mo (momentum) back in Auburn's favor. And after Chapman failed to connect from three-point territory, it was Moore again, this time on a short,

What once was a two-point contest was quickly turned into a comfortable seven-point margin by the Tigers (62-55, 9:04 remaining). And then Terrance Howard drove for an easy bucket which expanded his team's lead to 64-57. As they say on press row— Auburn was back in the driver's seat.

The close's UK would get for the rest of the contest would be six (69-63 and 72-66). Kentucky's problems at the free throw line continued. With UK trailing 68-59, Richard Madison missed four straight chances at the charity stripe. But it was that one particular stretch drive by Auburn which set the tables for the Wildcats' 10th loss of the

#### A Healthy White Can Make A Difference

White has been hampered throughout his senior year with all sorts of injuries and

ailments. In two previous Auburn-Kentucky battles, White scored three points in the first meeting and didn't even dress out for contest in Lexington. This time his prescence made a big, big difference. Especially in the first half.

Auburn made its move early in the first half. With the count Il-10 in the Tigers' favor, Chris Morris sandwiched in two easy hoops around a Chapman field goal. UK even pulled back to within a point (15-14) following a Madison pump fake and connection. Successive scores by Howard, Ford and Moore was just a sample of what was to quickly follow.

ly follow.

White's three-pointer at the top of the key gave Auburn's its biggest lead at the time, 26-14 with 9:14 left. Davender, as if he was saying, "I can do that too," countered with a three-pointer of his own. That didn't bother White as again he connected from 19'9", giving his club a 29-17 lead, and apparent contol of the game.

Davender knew that a healthy White meant trouble for his team.
"It (White's presence on the floor) was a big key to today's game," Davender said. "I have to go down and help out the big guys. When they kicked it back out, he hit the shot. I know he can hit the open jump shot."

White ended up with 11 points, five assists, three steals in 34 minutes of action.

#### **Tiger-Wildcat Tidbits**

As was mentioned at the beginning of the story, since 1979 UK has either made the finals or has been beaten in its first game. In 1979 the Wildcats made it to the finals before being beaten by **Tennessee**. Again, in 1980 the Wildcats were in the title game,

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#### Moore And Ford Grab 10 and 9 Boards Apiece

only to lose to **LSU**. Here's how the 'Cats have fared from 1981-86 in SEC tourney play: lost to **Vanderbilt** in their initial game; (1982) lost to **'Bama** in championship;

[Continued On Page 22]

# Finally, Good News From College Hoops

White Deserves All-American Consideration

It is a simple matter to find the negative side of college athletics

ese days, so let's have a story from the other division.

When **Ted Mimlitz** came out of St. Louis (University) High School four years he was one of the most sought-after schoolboy basketball players in the nation. He seemed to have the whole excellent athletic and academic skills. In the end he chose

But things didn't work out in Columbia in part because of several injuries and a personality clash with coach **Norm Stewart**. So Mimlitz transferred to **St. Louis University** where his father had



Larry Donald

Cats' Pause Columnist

While that marriage has worked out well, injuries continued to stalk Mimlitz. He has a shoulder injury which refuses to heal and often can go out while he sleeps at night. Because he's never been



#### College Basketball's Loss Is LSU's Gain

able to get healthy his confidence has continued to slip, reducing him to a part-time player with the Billikins.

On the other end of it, Mimlitz is facing a decision. He has been accepted into medical school (3.9 GPA) which would mean an end to his basketball career. Will he stay another year and play a reserve role with the basketball team or get on with the business of being an important member of society? Sometimes, perhaps college athletics does some good athletics does some good.

For the second issue in a row, I find myself in Indiana coach Bobby Knight who told Al McGuire: "If the NCAA ran U.S. Steel the same way and for as long as they've run ollege athletics, there wouldn't be an automobile on the road to-

Bill Sudek is the basketball coach at Case Western Reserve University in Cleveland, Ohio. Recently someone asked him why he liked to play in so many holiday tournaments. "Because any time you put together a two-game winning streak, they give you a trophy." Boston College coach Jim O'Brien used this analogy when trying to decide whether to key his defense on **Jerome Lane** or **Charles Smith** of Pittsburgh: "It's like choos-

ng between sudden death and lingering illness."... No, **Bradley** won't be appearing in this year's NCAA Tournament, but don't forget about this squad because every starter returns next year when the probabtion's lifted. . There was a bizzare play in the Southwest Conference recently, TCU's Carven Holcombe in the Southwest Conterence recently, ICU's Carven Holcombe hit a jump shot just as the first-half buzzer sounded and was foulded. He made the free throw and then joined his teammates in the locker room. When he came out for the second half, however, he learned that official **Jim Harvey** had changed his mind during the intermission and ruled the shot had not gone in before the buzzer

sounded. All three points had been taken off the board and Holcombe was sent to the line again. He made the free throw, bu



Wimp Never Prouder

unanswered is this: If the shot wasn't taken before the buzzer sound ed how could there have been a foul on the play? And if the two points were taken off the board shouldn't he have been given a one and-one free throw situation? You figure it out. . .

Earlier this year Alabama coach **Wimp Sanderson** kept insisting this team wasn't as good as last year's. Now, it seems he's wavering, telling reporters: "Twe never been more proud of a team than I am of this one." It is the first Tide team to win eight of nine

SEC road games. . .

It's not exactly like a death in the family, but college basketball is poorer with the loss of **Joe Dean** to his new job as athletics director at **LSU**. For 18 years he's been the color commentator or SEC basketball and for longer than that he's been Converse's No. I ambassador to college basketball. . . You've got to be impressed with **Georgetown's** performance in the closing weeks of the year. Winning at Pittsburgh and Syracuse when you've only got one rea gun in the arsenal is a tribute to what effort and attention to defen

I'm told that Xavier coach Pete Gillen will accept the Ford McLaughlin wants to take the program up a notch or two and feels Gillen is the guy to get the job done. . . Despite the loss to North Carolina in Chapel Hill, I'm inclinded to think Clemson is for real. This team can hurt you inside and out and can make a run in the tournement Incidentally Clemson has a guerners. Incidentally Clemson has a guerners Incidentally Clemson has a guerners. in the tournament. Incidentally, Clemson has never won a basket

Tony White of Tennessee was the SEC's leading scorer in the regular season and will get a sprinkling of All-American recogni-tion. When he came out of Charlotte, N.C., the only two schools which showed interest in him were North Carolina Charlotte and Tennessee. . . I found it interesting that **Jim Valvano** said he might never again recruit a junior college player. Does one had experience (Kenny Drummond) offset several good ones (Nate McMillen and Spud Webb)? Just the frustration of the moment, I suspect.

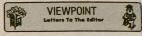
Marshall, Tennessee Chattanoga, and UTEP are 20-game plus winners and are headed for the NCAA Tournament. Think for a minute, how little you know about these three teams and you'll have some understanding of television's influence.

I don't understand the fuss about **Memphis State** playing the

Metro Conference Tournament. Critics are saying the only reason the Tigers are being allowed to participate is the fact they'll bring 5,000 fans to Louisville for the tournament. Money, money, money says my pal **Dick Vitale**. But, then, what other reason is there for playing these postseason conference tournaments?.

for playing these postseason conference tournaments?. So severe is the back injury to California's 6-9 junior **Leonard Taylor** that his basketball career may be finished. That's a major blow for the Bears and coach **Lou Campanelli**. Mentioning the Pac-10, the thing which most amazes me about the volume of criticism this league receives is that so many people care enough to speak out. I mean there are a lot of conferences which play or-dinary basketball and they are largely ignored. But for the Pac-10

be less than a giant seems to be a mortal sin. . . When a university (**Indiana**) says no to a press credential reest from one of the nation's foremost newspapers (The Washington Post) I've got to wonder if college basketball hasn't reached the point of taking itself entirely too seriously. Recently, the **University** of Cincinnati broke the school record for field goal accuracy in a game (.643 percent). The bad news? Well, the Bearcats lost the game to Memphis State by 20. . . .



#### What A Weekend!

Oh, how I missed the old pros this

Unable to hear Cawood Ledford and Ralph Hacker call the Ole Miss-Kentucky game, I was forced to listen to the Ole Miss an-nouncers. Was that memorable? All they did

- 1. Confuse Cedric Jenkins with Irv Thomas throw shooter.
- 2. Confuse James Blackmon with Rob Lock. (Silly. Everybody knows Rob doesn't have a mustache.)
- 3. Say, "Blackmon passes to Harden."

Then for the senior farewell, we don't have NBC and Dick Enberg, who really know to cover the ceremony. Instead there's Brent Musburger. Not only does CBS not show the introduction of the seniors, they cut away just as Happy Chandler begins "My Old Kentucky Home." And then Brent has the nerve to remark after the commercial break that it

was a "moving" ceremony.
Yeah, Brent, I've never been so moved as
I was during that Visa commercial. The Reader's Digest condensed version of the senior ceremony, slipped in during a secondhalf timeout, was too little, too late. Why don't the Kentucky people in charge of mak ing the TV arrangements insist that the

Angela Stockton Gulfport, Mississippi

P.S.—Come to think of it, I hope Rob Lock doesn't grow a mustache. He'd look like an oversized Yosemite Sam.



#### **UK Lady Gymnasts** Spring To Success

The Kentucky gymnasts had a banner day Saturday, Feb. 28, at Memorial Coliseum as they broke four Lady Kat records on the way to a rout of lowa State and Eastern Michigan. The Wildcats' team total of 183.55 set an all-

The wildcast team total of 163-33 set at all time team high for the school.

The previous high was 182.7 set last year against Rhode Island. Kentucky also broke all-time highs in three other categories. The Wildcats' 47.0 team score on the floor exer-

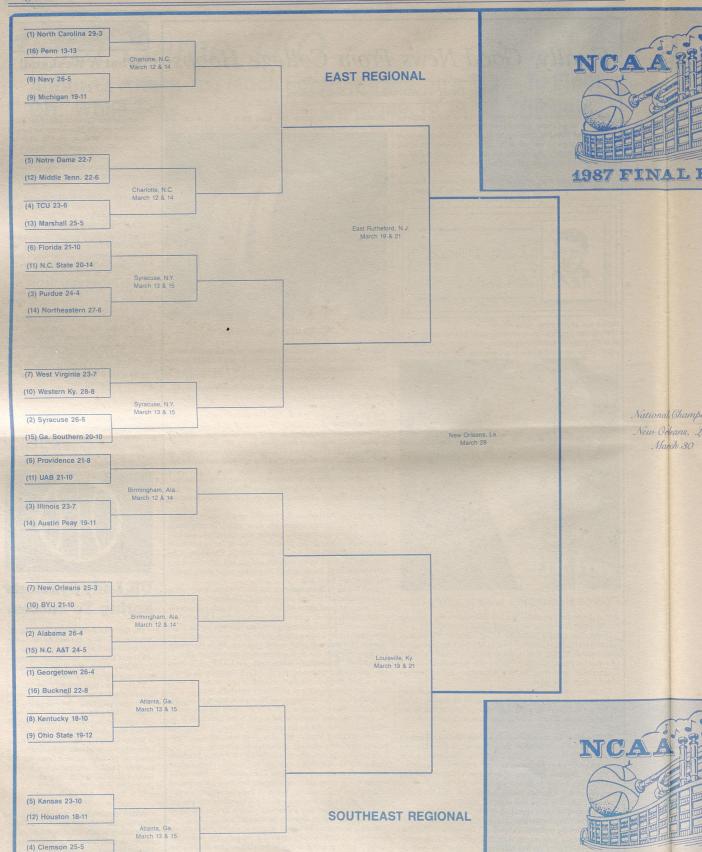
Wildcats 4/0 team score on the floor exercise surpassed their previous record of 45.85 against Eastern Michigan in 1985.

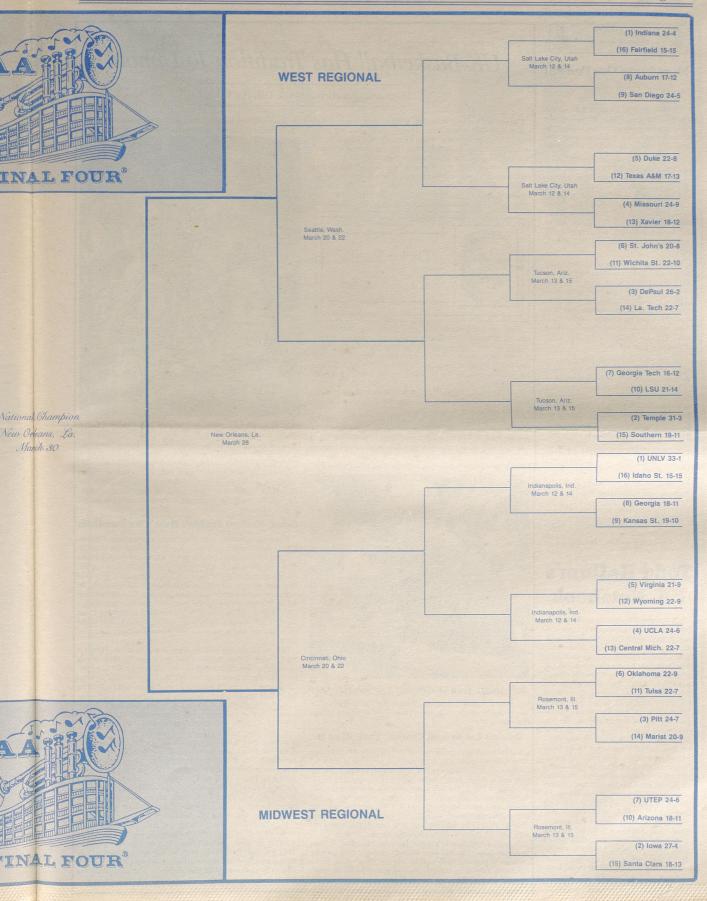
Junior Kendall Lucas' 9.4 score on the uneven bars is an all-time high while her 9.6 score on the floor exercise broke the UK mark that Lucas established against Bowling Green University, a 9.55, in 1985.

After a sluggish beginning, the UK gymnasts have taken off. The team has broken its previous best in each of their last three meets. Numerous other season bests were set against Eastern Michigan and Iowa State. The sevenmenber squad broke 20 of a possible 28 in-dividual season highs in its seventh meet. The Lady Kats also broke three of a possible five team highs for 1987.

(13) SW Missouri St. 27-5

1987 FINAL I







VIEWPOINT



#### More From Our Pen Pal

Dear Sir

When is the SEC going to wake up ar realize (and this seems to include the Wildcats) that when the NCAA installed the 45-second shot clock, it didn't mean that you were only allowed one shot per 45 seconds?

Most teams in the Big Ten, Big East, ACC and Big Eight have not changed their style of play just because of the clock, and are of play just because of the contracting packed arenas, in most cases, to an exciting brand of basketball, scoring 80, 90 and 100 points a game frequently. While crowds (if you can call them that in places like Oxford, Starkville, Gainesville, Athens and Auburn) in the SEC are being treated to high-scoring barnburners like 56-51, 61-55,

Defense, you say? Poppycock. These other conferences play just as much defense as the SEC. The difference is, you never know when a player from one of these other conferences is going to shoot. They don't pay much attention to the clock, whereas you know that most SEC teams are going to milk the clock down for 40 or 44 seconds before throwing up a shot. Are the fans in the SEC being treated to a legalized stall?

For 40 years Adolph Rupp's Kentucky teams beat other teams' brains out with a racehorse, fastbreak, hard-nosed brand of basketball. His teams constantly attempted more field goals per game and therefore usually made more per game. The Baron of the Bluegrass won 875 games by allowing his Kentucky long rifles (Larry Pursiful, Louie Dampier, Pat Riley, Johnny Cox, Billy Ray Lickert, Ronnie Lyons, Jimmy Dan Conner, Mike Pratt and Mike Flynn) to bomb away from anywhere on the floor as soon as the offense set up.

A home run in the first inning counts just as much as one in the ninth. I rest my case

Thank you

Kenneth Rowland J.S. Penitentiary-Atlanta, Georgia

#### Todd Hallum's **UK Notebook**

UK basketball recruit Eric Manuel is back into the starting lineup after a bout with chicken pox. Manuel recently returned to his Macon (Ga.) Southwest High School team after missing a week of action because of the illness. Because his star player has been out of action, Southwest coach **Don Richard**son says he doesn't know how the team will fare in the Georgia 4A state playoffs. "I would feel pretty good going in this year if Eric hadn't gotten sick," said Richardson, who has won five state titles at Southwest. "He was won the state titles at southwest. The had just playing so well. I'm sure his timing will be off some, and you have to wonder about his stamina. But his presence on the court will mean something to the rest of the team." Southwest will square off against rival Savan-nah in the first round of the 4A tournament. nah in the first round of the 4A tournament. In the Atlanta Constitution's last regular-season high school poll, Macon was ranked third in the state. One thought came to mind during UK's thrilling 75-74 victory over Oklahoma during the senior's last game in Rupp Arena. Just how long has it been since a UK senior class lost its last regular-season a UK senior class lost is last regular scale home game? The answer? Well according to the UK facts book, it was 23 years ago. Kentucky lost to St. Louis 67-60 in the home finale of the 1964 season in Memorial Coliseum.

# UK Basketball Has Tradition To Uphold

Demands Excellence On & Off The Court

Playing major college basketball is the ultimate dream of high Playing major college basketball is untillake distantion and section basketball players. It is especially sweet when you get to play for a traditional power. When Kentucky, North Carolina, Indiana, Notre Dame or Louisville want a prospective student/athlete,

is very hard for that athlete to turn them down. All of these schools, as well as other universities, can only take ertain types of young men to join their program. They have to be a good people who are willing to work hard. They must be coachable and be prepared to sacrifice for the team's sake. They must have a good reputation and a good strong academic foundation.



Dicky Beal

Cats' Pause Columnist

When you talk about the traditional powers, they have become way because of the dedication and hard work from past players You do not want guys that are good athletes but not good people.

A lot of times, because of the pressure put on the coach, he may have to take a guy that he really does not want. It could be a player who has been in some sort of trouble, but the coach is willing to give him a second chance.

I like the idea of a person getting the chance to prove himself. If he blows his chance, then you realize that the person does not want the opportunity to better himself.

Which brings us to the case of Lloyd Daniels, the 19-year-old phenom who many talent scouts say is good enough to jump right o the NBA

Daniels had the opportunity to be a part of something special.

Coach Jerry Tarkanian at UNLV is known for taking guys who may have had problems elsewhere and making them into good basket-



Tarkanian Has A Certain Understanding

ball players. I think that says a lot about the man they call 'The Shark.' When you give a person a chance, you are trying to help

#### Daniels Got Second Chance, Then Blew It

But Daniels either couldn't or wouldn't make good on what was offered him at Vegas. The 6-9 supertalent never got to show his ability. He was in and out of five high schools in four years. He admity. He was an out of college he was enrolled in. He did enroll at UNLV, but only at a ninth-grade reading level. Still, Tarkanian was willing to give him a chance. All that was thrown away when Daniels was arrested while police were carrying out a sting operation. Daniels was apparently caught trying to buy drugs from an undercover detective, and Tark immediately announced there was no longer a scholarship offer for him at Vegas.

So sadly, Lloyd Daniels, the man Tarkanian has called "the best basketball player I've ever been around," probably does not have a chance to play at a major college program. Now he has blown his chance. Is he doing himself a favor by putting his life in danger because of drugs? I hope he sits down and realizes that he can still

do something with his life. I don't think that a pro team will give him a chance right away because of his background. Maybe if he



Off The Floor, Grant Didn't Fit UK's Mold

played in the Continental Basketball Association or in Europe for

a year or two, he could prove that he can make it drug-free.

The sad part is, how can a person who is so talented be so stupid?

I'm not talking about school, I mean street-wise. I have always felt strongly about helping those who want to help themselves. A per-son who is as talented as Daniels does not come along too often Too bad the young man did not get to showcase his talent *and* ge

#### Grant, Horford Couldn't Meet UK's Standards

When you talk about good players who the Kentucky Wildcats did not sign, you have to mention Harvey Grant and Tito Horford.

Grant is an excellent forward at 6-9, and he can also handle the basketball. He is quick, with the ability to score inside or outside. Grant is the type of player that coach Eddie Sutton likes. He would have been an excellent addition to the Wildcats. Unfortunately, he had some trouble with the law before he was to wear the Blue and had some trouble with the law before he was to wear the Blue and White. Because of the Wildcats' tradition, Grant was unable to sign with UK. Coach Sutton made the right decision in releasing Gran from his commitment. There is no way that Kentucky fans would have tolerated having someone who could tarnish the Kentucky

Now at Oklahoma, Grant has found himself a home. There are not too many schools that could pass up a player like Grant. It was a situation where coach Sutton had to stick with the Kentucky image rather than take the heat. I'm sure Mr. Grant was fired up when his Sooners came to town to face Kentucky two weeks ago, as he led his team in scoring and rebounding with 20 points and 12 boards.

Any way you look at it, though, both parties made the proper

Any way you look at it, mough, both parties made in proper moves. Grant will probably go on to become a good professional player. Too bad we were not able to see him as a Wildeat.

Another good player who got away was Horford. He was supposed to attend Houston, then made a brief pit stop in Baton Rouge.

After Dale Brown dismissed Horford from the LSU squad, Tito was rumored to be headed to Lexington. Coach Sutton made ar announcement that he would not sign Horford. Horford is now playing for the Miami Hurricanes. A seven-foot center who can rui the floor, Horford would have been a super addition to the Wildcats He probably would have put Kentucky in position to challenge for the national title. But again, Sutton made a wise choice by sacrificing

talent for the sake of the UK tradition.

My whole point is that no matter how good a player may be, if he does not fit the image of the Kentucky tradition, he can not be a part of the team. You can't blame fans for wanting excellence. They want their players to be good, but they also want them to have class. I don't think that is too much to ask. Kentucky players always have to be gentlemen. After all, why try to break something that has been around forever?

# CLA, Kentucky have best tournament records

By James M. Van Valkenburg NCAA Director of Statistics A study of the first 48 years of competition in the NCAA Division I Men's Basketball Championship shows that UCLA and Kentucky are the top two teams, no matter what system is used. But in what order should they be ranked?

But in what order should they be ranked?

UCLA dominated the 1960s and 1970s with John Wooden as coach, winning five championships in each decade and 10 in a 12-year span. But Wooden was 3-9 in NCAA tourney play prior to his first NCAA title (1964), before starting an incredible 44-1 run that included 38 tournament victories in a row. His successors have won 13 tournament pames in 11 years and reached the Final Four twice—good but not sensational.

Kentucky, by contrast, has been a model of consistency, ranking in the top 10 in all five decades (1-16-2-9) to be exact. Under Adolph Rupp, Joe Hall and, recently, Eddie Sutton, Kentucky has won five titles, reached the Final Four by just one game (i.e., second in the regional) an amazing 13 times. That means 22 years in the round-of-eight vs. 16 years for UCLA.

Our system

We believe teams should be ranked by how far they advanced in the tournament, not by total victories, because tournament expansion mag-nifies the more recent years. We also think teams should be given points for advancing within one game of the Final Four, or finishing second in the regional. Our system gives five points for regional second place, 10 for reach-ing the Final Four, 12 for second place and 14 for winning the cham-pionship. Third-place games are ig-nored because no third-place game was held in 13 tournaments (another drawback to total victories: They include meaningless regional third-place games that were eliminated 11 years ago).

include meaningless regional thirdplace games that were eliminated 11
years ago).

Under this system, UCLA edges
Kentucky for first on an all-time
basis, with North Carolina third.
Another system might put Kentucky
on top. More about that later.
Decade by decade, it is Kentucky
first, Ohio State second and Oklahoma State third in the 1939-49 period; Kentucky first and Kansas and
San Francisco tied for second in
1950-59; UCLA, Cincinnati and Ohio
State 1-2-3 in the 1960s, with Duke a
close fourth; UCLA, Kentucky, Marquette and Indiana 1-2-3-4 in the
1970s; and Louisville, Georgetown,
North Carolina and Houston the top
four so far in the 1980s. Now for a
closer look, listing each team with at
least 20 points in a decade.

1931-49

In the early years, only two teams.

In the early years, only two teams In the early years, only two teams won more than one championship. Kentucky had back-to-back crowns in 1948 and 1949 after Oklahoma State did it in 1945 and 1946. Other champions were Oregon in 1939, Indiana in 1940, Wisconsin in 1941, Stanford in 1942, Wyoming in 1943. Utahin 1944 and Holy Cross in 1947. Here are all the teams with at least 20 points in the 1939-49 period, with won-lost, regional second-places (R2),

Team, W-L	R2	FF	2d	CH
Kentucky, 8-2	. 1	3	0	2
Ohio St., 6-4	. 0	4	1	0
Oklahoma St., 8-1	. 0	3	1	2
Dartmouth, 6-4	. 2	2	2	0
Wyoming, 3-8	4	1	0	1
Oklahoma, 4-3	. 1	2	1	0
Arkansas, 3-3	. 1	2	0	0
Texas, 3-4	. 1	2	0	0
Holy Cross, 5-1		2	0	- 1
New York U., 3-4	. 2	1	1	0
Colorado, 2-4	. 2	- 1	0	0
Points - Kentucky 43				
St. 40, Dartmouth 34,				

27. Arkansas 25, Texas 25, Holy Cross 24, New York U. 22, Colorado 20.

Few games were played because this was the era of eight-team tournaments. Remember, we are ignoring



Tony White



Adolph Rupp







**Eddie Sutton** 

third-place games, both in the regionals and in the Final Four.
1950-59

Kentucky and San Francisco were

Kentucky, 13-5	3	2	0	2
San Francisco, 13-2	0	3	0	2
Kansas, 10-2	0	3	2	-1
Bradley, 8-3	1	2	2	0
Kansas St., 7-5	1	2	1	0
La Salle, 9-1	0	2	1	-1
Oklahoma St., 6-5	3		0	0
California, 6-2	2	1	0	
Iowa, 5-3	0	2	1	0
Temple, 7-2	0	2	0	0
Illinois, 6-2	0	2	0	0
Santa Clara, 6-4	2	1	0	0
Points - Kentucky 43, S	an F	rancis	co 38	. Kan
sas 38. Bradlev 29. Kans	sas S	1. 27. 1	La Sa	lie 26

The leaders:	R2	FF	2.4	CH
UCLA, 32-5	1	7	0	5
Kentucky, 14-7	4	2	1	1
Marquette, 17-9	1	2	1	1
Indiana, 11-3	1	2	0	1
North Caro., 9-6	0	2	1	0
Michigan, 7-4	2	1	1	6
Louisville, 8-8	0	2	0	0
Kansas, 4-6	0	2	0	0
Pennsylvania, 10-10	2	1	0	0
Villanova, 9-5*	2	1	*1	0
Points - UCLA 95, Ke	ntuck	cy 46,	Mari	quette
31, Indiana 29, North (	aro.	22, M	lichig	an 22
Louisville 20, Kansas				
Villanova 20				

Louisville 20, Kansas 20, Pennsylvania 20, Villanova 20.

Villanova 10.

Villanov

Kansas St., 23-20... 6 4 1 0
Okiahoma St., 1-5.8... 4 4 1 2
Duke, 23-11... 2 5 3 0
Villanova, 31-188... 6 3 21 1
Cincinnati, 20-9... 0 5 1 2
San Francisco, 21-13... 4 3 0 2
Georgetown, 20-10... 1 4 3 1
Michigan, 17-10... 4 3 2 0
Houston, 26-20... 0 5 2 0
North Caro. St., 24-12 Kernucky, 179... N2th
Caro. St., 24-12 Kernucky, 179

\*UCLA's second place in 1980 vasated. Avilanova's second place in 1981 vasated. Official records: UCLA 55-16, Villanova 27-17.

Big East, Big Eight lead In men's Division I basketball, the Big East Conference has the highest winning percentage vs. nonconference Division I opponents, while the Big Eight Conference has played the toughest nonconference schedule, according to the computer.

The Big East is .824 vs. outside Division I foes, the Atlantic Coast Conference is .806, Big Ten Conference .198, Southeastern Conference .998 and Big Eight (200 through games of February 8. Few nonconference games have been played since then. After the Big Eight in strength of outside schedule are the Pacific Coast Atlahetic Association, second; Southwest Atlahetic Conference, third; Big Ten, fourth, and Pacific-10 Conference, fifth. The Big East schedule ranks I 11th, the ACC is 15th. The Big Eight and Big Ten are the only conferences in the top five in both. SEC, Big Ten lead women In women's Division I basketball, the Southeastern Conference again leads in winning percentage vs. nonconference Division I foes at .852, losing only 19 of 128 games. Next are the Pacific-10 at .720, ACC .704, Big Eight, 691 and Big Ten, 690, through February 8.

The Big Ten played the toughest concentrations of the component of the pacific Conference and the pacific of the Pacific Pola at .852, losing only 19 of 128 games. Next are the Pacific Pola at .750, ACC .704, Big Eight, 691 and Big Ten, 690, through February 8.

February 8.

The Big Ten played the toughest schedule, with the The Big Ten played the toughest nonconference schedule, with the ACC second, Metropolitan Collegiate Athletic Conference third, Big East fourth and Atlantic 10 fifth. The SEC schedule ranked seventh. The ACC and the Big Ten are the only conferences ranking in the top five in both categories.

categories.

The home penalty

Now that it is tournament time, critics again are saying that the NCAA computer system ignores the home-court advantage. This simply is not true. The system exacts a penalty for every non-Division I foe played, and nearly all these games are on Division I home courts. When road success was included in the formula in 1981, it was found that a number of teams reached the top 25 by winning nine or 10 road games vs. teams ranked 220th or worse in Division I. Thus, it was removed. But the penalty for playing non-Division I foes (again, all these are at home) has always been in the formula. Further, when we removed all home games from the 1986 season, the conference ranking for road and neutral games only was virtually the same (and conformed very closely

with the Jeff Sagarin rankings in USA Today, which use point spreads—a system the NCAA will not use because it appeals to gamblers; Sagarin has told us that our system is as accurate as can be done using simply victories and losses). Up 13 sames

Sagarin has told us that our system is as accurate as can be done using simply victories and losses). Up 13 games

The Southwest Missouri State women's team has turned things around in a big way this season, going from 6-21 a year ago to 18-7 this season, an improvement of 13 games (12 more wins and 14 fewer losses is 26, divide by two). With games left, coach Valeric Goodwin-Colbert's team can go from a 20-loss season to a 20-victory season—a rare feat indeed. (Jon Ripperger, Southwest Missouri State assistant SID)

41 straight

The Washington women's team has won 41 straight regular-season games at home over the past three seasons. The only losses were in tournament play—conference and NCAA—in the postseason. Can any women's team top that? (Jeannie Grainger, Washington assistant SID)

Quotes of the week

Seeking to upgrade his schedule, Chicago State men's coach Bob Hall-

Seeking to upgrade his schedule, Chicago State men's coach Bob Hall-Seeking to upgrade his schoule, Chicago State men's coach Bob Hall-berg played nine consecutive road games at sites ranging from Pittsburgh to Oregon State and was home only four days in a 22-day span. Says Hallberg: "My wife forgot what I look like, and my kids think they are orphans. The players are exhausted, and anyone who says 'bus' or 'plane' has to run sprints. I will never again go a month without a home game—I'll schedule my son's grammar school if I have to: "(Shawn Ahearn, Chicago State SID)

Mississippi men's coach Ed Murphy on why he called a timeout with two minutes left and his team trailing Florida by 20 points: "The last timeout was to take the sandwich orders."

orders."

After Colorado had ended a 24game losing streak in men's Big Eight
Conference regular-season play by
defeating lowa State, coach Tom
Miller was asked if the victory took
the monkey off his team's back. "Yeah,
we can say the monkey is off our
back," Miller replied. "In fact, I saw
the little bugger running down the

we can say the monkey is o'll our back," Miller replied, "In fact, I saw the little bugger running down the hallway and then out of the Events Center. Now, we can get back to playing." (Tim Allen, Big Eight Conference)

Sound effects
When Rose-Hulman men's coach John Mutchner took over in 1963 on the heels of a 4-14 season, he decided to create some excitement. His pregame show included a siren, the grinding sound of several clackers, music from a pep band, a large banner unraveling from the rafters saying, "Give 'em hell, Rose," and ... a cannon. The 24-year show has become a legend. Says Eureka coach Dave Darnell, "The first time I heard that cannon, I thought the chemistry lab had exploded." (Joe Hargis, Rose-Hulman SID)

#### Basketball notes

1953 through 1974, it ranged between 22 and 25 teams, at the discretion of the tournament committee.

1960-69

1960-69
UCLA won its first championship in 1964, repeated in 1965, then swept the last three in the decade, 1967, 1968 and 1969. Cincinnati was the other double winner, in 1961 and 1962, beating Ohio State, the 1960 champion, in the finals both times. Other champions were Loyola (Illinois) in 1963 (in overtime over Cincinnati) and UTEP in 1966 (over Rupp in his last title game).
Those with at least 20 points:

Those with at le	ast 2			
Team, W-L	R2	FF	2d	CH
UCLA, 22-4	0	6	0	5
Cincinnati, 14-4	0	4	1	2
Ohio St., 13-3	0	4	2	1
Duke, 11-4	1	3	1	0
North Caro., 7-5	0	3	1	0
Michigan, 7-3	1	2	1	0
Kentucky, 7-7	3	1	1	0
Houston, 11-8	0	2	0	0
Utah, 6-5	0	2	0	0
Oregon St., 6-5			0	0
Points UCLA 80, Cin	cinna	ti 50,	Ohio	St. 48
Duke 37, North Caro. 3	2. Ke	ntuck	v 27,	Mich
			-	. 20

As the table shows, victories and

igan 27, Utah 20, Houston 20, Oregon St. 20.
As the table shows, victories and championships were more concentrated at the top than in previous decades. More of the same was to come in the 1970s.

1970-79

UCLA piled up an amazing 95 points in the 1970s, winning five championships and reaching the Final Four two more years. After UCLA won it in 1970, 1971, 1972 and 1973, for seven in a row, North Carolina State ended UCLA's 38-game tournament victory streak, 80-77, in double overtime at Greensboro in the 1974 semifinals, then beat Marquette for the title. UCLA won in 1975, Wooden's final year; then it was Indiana in 1976, Marquette in 1977, Kentucky in 1978 and Michigan State in 1979.

teams were seeded above Villanova in 1985. Houston was the upset victim in the 1983 finals, Georgetown in the 1985 finals, Denny Crum at Louis-ville, John Thompson at Georgetown and Dean Smith at North Carolina are the tourney decade leaders:

are the tourney dec	auc	icad	CIS.	
Team, W-L	R2	FF	2d	CH
Louisville, 19-4	0	4	0	2
Georgetown, 18-6	1	3	2	1
North Caro., 17-6	2	2	-1-	- 1
Houston, 12-4	0	3	2	0
Virginia, 11-5	1	2	0	0
Louisiana St., 9-6	1	2	. 0	0
North Caro. St., 12-4.	2	1	0	1
Villanova, 14-6	2	- 1	0	- 1
Kentucky, 11-7	2	1	0	0
Indiana, 10-5	1	-1	0	- 1
Duke, 8-4	1	1	-1	0
Points - Louisville 48,	Georg	getow	n 43,	North
Caro. 36, Houston 34,	Virgi	nia 25	, Lou	isiana
St. 25, North Caro.				
Kentucky 20, Indiana I	9, Di	ike 17		

Kentucky 20, Indiana 19, Duke 17.
Indiana and Duke are included because they are averaging more than two points per year, thus would have more than 20. No other teams have more than 10 in the 1980s.

more than 10 in the 1980s.

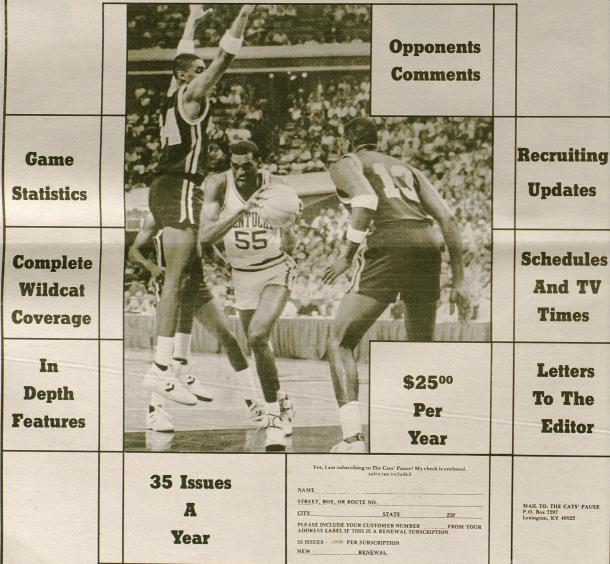
All-time standings

As mentioned, UCLA has the all-time edge under our system, and this would be true even after deducting its vacated second-place finish in 1980. However, under a different system, of, say, seven points for regional second place (instead of five), second-place Kentucky would be No. 1. North Carolina is third, Ohio State fourth and Kansas fifth. Others in the top 10, in order, are Louisville, Inditop 10, in order, are Louisville, Ind ana, Kansas State, Oklahoma State

Team, W-L	R2	FF	2d	СН
UCLA, 60-17*	2	14	•1	10
Kentucky, 53-28	13	9	2	5
North Caro., 40-21	3	9	4	2
Ohio St., 24-13	2	8	3	1
Kansas, 28-17		7	3	1
Louisville, 33-20	0	7	0	2
Indiana, 31-11	2	5	0	4

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#### **NCAA** Preview

Buckeyes-'Cats

#### OHIO STATE

- Columbus; 53,880 students

  Coach: Gary Williams

- Bid: At-large Record: 19-12 Starters: F, Dennis Hopson (6-5, Sr.); F, Jerry Francis (6-5, So.); C, John Anderson (6-9, Jr.); G, Curtis Wilson (6-1, Jr.); G, Jay Burson (6-0 So.)
- Last in NCAA: 1985 loser to Louisiana
- Last in NCA3: 1985 loser to Louisiana
  Tech in Midwest second round
   Top scorer: Hopson (29.1 ppg); rebounder: Hopson (8.4 rpg); 3-point
  shooter: Hopson (59-141, 41.8%)
   Avg. pts. for. 84.3; against: 77.7
   FG pct.: 48.3; FT: 75.3; Def. FG: 49.1

- PG pct: 48.3, F1: 75.3, Per: Fd: 49.1
  3-point shots/game: 8.8, pct: 42.0
   Outlook: Hopson one of the country's top players, but Buckeyes don't always get good performance they need from at least one of other four starters to win. Still, capable of making NCAA noise — they won at lowa, beat Kansas and Flori-



Dennis Hopson

#### KENTUCKY

Lexington; 22,000 students

- Coach: Eddie Suttor
- Bid: At-large
  Record: 18-10
- Starters: F, Richard Madison (6-7, Jr.); C, Rob Lock (6-11, Jr.); G, Rex Chapman (6-5, Fr.); G, James Blackmon (6-3, Sr.); G, Ed Davender (6-3, Jr.)
- Injuries: None
   Last in NCAA: 1986, lost to Louisiana State in Southeast final
- State in Sourneast mai

  Top scorer: Chapman (16.1 ppg); rebounder: Madison (7.6 rpg); 3-point
  shooters: Derrick Miller (33-77, 42.9%),
  Chapman (63-159, 39.6%)

  Avg. pts. for: 67.3; against: 65.7

  FG pct: 46.6; FT: 63.0; Def. FG: 46.8
- 3-point shots/game: 13.6; pct.: 37.9 Outlook: Wildcats will go as far as their three guards take them. Blackmon and

Davender are good athletes, Chapman a long-range shooting threat. But Lock plays smaller than his size inside, and team still missed injured power forward

Winston Bennett.

Coaches have certain charteristics pinned alongside their ability

## SEC Coaches — None Finer!

It Was Like A Coaches' Clinic In Atlanta

Southeastern Conference coaches

Let me say this, there's not another conference that has as many ine ring leaders than the SEC's stable of coaches. From the dean of SEC coaches, C.M. Newton, to the its two newest members, Ed Murphy and Richard Williams, the conference offers the naion's finest Xs and Os personnel

Last week all 10 gathered in Atlanta for the SEC Tournament. And last Thursday through Sunday at The Omni would have been the best time to have scheduled a coaching clinic for all those in-terested in entering this type of profession.

#### Nick Nicholas

Cats' Pause Columnist

There's more to these coaches than chalk talks and diagraming plays, though. All 10 have their own identities, something which separates them from each other. No two are alike with the exception they all play to win.

This work is Commontant with the common plant in the common plant is the common plant.

This week six SEC coaches will take their teams to the NCAA Tournament, while two of the league's coaches will be heading to the National Invitational Tournament.

The conference is blessed with winners, and that's the bottom line While Louisiana State's Dale Brown may be the one to turn to for a sudden inspiration, Mississipp's Ed Murphy uses the "fatherson" approach on the bench. That is, calm, cool and understanding with his pupils for most of the 40 minutes on the bench.

ding with his pupils for most of the 40 minutes on the bench. Then there's Auburn's Sonny Smith, a coach the media loves to quote. If you're looking for a king of the one liners, here's your man. But there's more to Smith than just the jokes which flow from his mouth and resurface in the sports pages. He's second to Brown in the motivation department and has proven he can coach in the big-time. Smith played the percentages when he put a chaser on UK's Rex Chapman, a player who almost single-handedly beat his team in Auburn. team in Auburn

On the other hand, Vanderbilt's Newton is a conservative man's coach. He might not be as flashy as ole Sonny, but the former player under the legendary Adolph Rupp is keen in almost every phase of the roundball sport. He's an experienced professor of the game as Newton's been through many wars on the sidelines.

To be fair, I haven't covered the Big 10, ACC, Big East or any

of the other top conferences in the country. Just the SEC, But I any of the other top conferences in the country. Just the SEC, But I don't believe I would have many arguments from my peers if I were to print: "The SEC is one of the top 'two or three' leagues in the country, in regards to outstanding coaches." There, I said it.

You want examples?

Norm Sloan won a national championship at North Carolina State and has put the Gators in the NCAAs for their initial appearance. Eddie Sutton was considered one of the nation's best coaches while at Arkansas, taking the Razorbacks to nine of a possible 11 NCAA tourney appearances, and has continued his success at Kentucky. Hugh Durham has taken two teams—Florida State and Georgia— to the Final Four. And getting this year's Dogs in the 64-field tourney, a team which lost three players for the year for one reason or another, is a major accomplishment itself. Wimp Sanderson, this year's SEC Coach of the Year, will be taking his club to its seventh straight NCAA Tournament. His Crimson Tide is considered to have an excellent shot to end up on Bourbon Street later this month. I

LSU's Brown has been to the Final Four twice and Auburn's Smith has pushed his team into the "final 16" and "final eight" in the last two years, respectively. While Tennessee's Don DeVoe has been suffering from hard times of late, don't think for one minute this man can't coach. Ask the other nine SEC head coaches and they'll give you the same answer. The same holds true for Newton. And give you me same answer. The same notes true for Newton. And after given a couple of more years in the league you might just find out that. Ole Miss' Ed Murphy, who got the most out of his club this season, is the best of the lot. . and Mississippi State's Richard Williams, once given a fair shake, will have his Bulldog program is better those. in better shape

SEC coaches-none finer

to coach. Last week I came up with a few observations of my own

about some of the SEC coaches.

Believe me, no two are alike. See what kind of *reading* you get from these quotes taking from on the court and from postgame press

\*Dale Brown, to no one's surprise, can be best described by simp-

\*Dale Brown, to no one's surprise, can be best described by simply the word—character. Against Georgia, it was his sideline antics of pumping his fist upward and chanting to the LSU fans to get his supporters and team fired up.

Also, he told the reporters after LSU's double-overtime win over the Bulldogs, that intentionally he did not sleep the night before. Well, since it worked once, why ruin a good thing. According to Brown he wasn't going to bed until after the SEC Championship contest between his club and Alabama.

\*Following Saturday's semifined up over Alabara.

\*Following Saturday's semifinal win over Auburn, Wimp Sanderson was asked about his plans for the upcoming evening.
"I intend to get a good night's sleep tonight," said Sanderson.
"Dale can stay up all night if he wants to, but I'm getting my fanny

under the covers, and I'm going to snore."

You see folks, despite what you may think of his ranting and raving on the sidelines, Wimp does have a sense of humor.

\*After two seasons as Bob Boyd's chief assistant, Richard Williams, by losing to 68-54 to LSU last Thursday night, completed his first season as the head man in Starkville. His team finished the year with a dismal 7-21 mark. Added to his problems was the fact MSU was without last year's star performer, Raymond Brown. The 6-foot-9 starting center was supposed to be the team's leader during his junior campaign. He, though, chose to transfer prior to

In reference to his players, Richard Williams displayed a lot oclass when answering a question—Are you glad the season's over



#### Murphy Has Gained Respect In Oxford

"Does that mean you're asking me if I'm glad we lost tonight?' the MSU coach replied. "Certainly not."

the MSU coach replied. "Certainly not."

The reporter then restated his question: "Now that your season is over, are you glad to put this season behind you?"

"At times it has been a very frustrating year," Williams said. "At other times it's been a very rewarding year. When we set out this season our goals were to improve as a team and to play with a great effort in every game. We met those goals. For those few of you (in the media) who have seen Mississippi State play basketball this year, you would have seen a team that has played with great effort

'It's amazing that a team, which is 7-20 and 3-15 in the league would yesterday (Wednesday) in practice dive on the floor for loose balls. That makes it worth-while. It makes it tough for me to have

[Continued On Page 22]

# geeeeeeeeeeeeee

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## Mike Estep

[Continued From Page 9]

up all last night. I never slept one second. And this morning in the dressing room I told them that I hadn't gone to bed yet, and I'm not going to bed until we win the SEC (tournament) championship or we play in a (NCAA) tournament game. And I'm not going to bed tonight.

Now if that sounds like it's a bizzare thing. I think it's something

It worked, LSU beat Georgia in double overtime and advanced to the title game against Alabama. Wimp Sanderson's Tide won that game 69-62 for the championship, but LSU did receive the NCAA

So now that both squads have been entered into the 64-team field what can they do for an encore? Knowing them, they'll think





## **Nick Nicholas**

[Continued From Page 20]

season end, because we were improving

\*Don DeVoe just might have saved his job with his performance in this year's tournament. The Volunteer coach has had to bear some neat this season because of UT's second straight sub-par campaign. Perhaps his first-round win over in-state rival Vanderbilt, com-

bined with the Vols' strong performance against top-seed Alabama, rekindled the brass and fans' faith for 1987-88. Against Vandy, DeVoe's constant play calling, reinforcement to his players, and sideline pacing compared favorably to a "do-or-die" situation. At one time in the first half Tennessee trailed Vanderbilt by

points. DeVoe became so outraged that during a sideline huddle he gave Dyron Nix the "chewing out" of his life. Nix was having his problems at the time. But in the end the 6-7 sophomore helped UT to a victory with his hustle and enthusiastic play. His 10 points and 14 rebounds didn't hurt either.

\*It's obvious that in years to come Ed Murphy's Rebels will \*It's obvious that in years to come Ed Murphy's Rebels will become a more and more feared opponent for nine SEC teams. True, Murphy's starting five—loe Ayers, Ronnie Sims, Roderick Barnes, Eric Smith and Charles Prater—are a talented group. They'll prove that latter statement correct in the NIT. But because of—depth problems, a history of lacking support in Oxford, and being in the SEC—Murphy had a stern challenge on his hands before his first season tipped off at Ole Miss.

His team went 15-12 overall and 8-10 in league play, Not bad, not bad at all. Watching him from behind the Rebs' bench you

His team went 15-12 overal and 8-10 in league pias, 3xx1 dat., not bad at all. Watching him from behind the Rebs' bench you could tell that he has the support of his players, while in return his players have the support of this loveable lug. And with a few seconds remaining against Georgia, it appeared that his club would earn a spot in the semifinals. Dennis Williams' 28-footer, meanwhile, fell homicidally through the nets just before the final born sounded. the final horn sounded.

The buzzer-beater sent both teams to the floor, one in jubilation victory while the other in disblief that they had lost.

of victory while the other in disblief that they had lost.

Afterwards Murphy shook Durham's hand and, later went to his
postgame press conference with his head held high.

"These things hurt," Murphy said, whose team's last regular
season loss was dealt by a Rex Chapman shot in the final five
seconds. "We played by the numbers and the shots went down,"

Looking forward to the immediate future Murphy noted, "I would rather us play in the NIT than in the NCAA because in the NCAA we would get some terrible draw and probably be playing Syracus in the Carrier Dome. . .We're not a bad basketball team."

#### Oscar Combs

[Continued From Page 13]

ville (19-19) on Thursday while Ole Miss | new arena next season. He said information

(15-13) visits Southern Miss (18-11) on Friday. At this time, only two of the 10 SEC members-Tennessee and Mississippi State-won't be competing in some form of tournament play. They were the only two SEC schools not to enjoy a winning record.

Closer to home. Eastern Kentucky fought all the way to the finals of the Ohio Valley Conference tournament before losing on a st-second shot to former UK assistant Lake and Austin Peay.

APSU (19-11) goes to the NCAA with the automatic bid and takes on Illinois (23-7) ir a first-round game at Birmingham on Thurs day. OVC regular season champion Middle Tennessee State (22-6) got a bid and will take on Notre Dame (22-7) Thursday in Charlotte.
Eastern had hoped for an NIT bid, but had
not been chosen with only two slots remaining open as of Monday. Akron, another OVC nember, was chosen and will play at Illinois

Perhaps that was the toughest shot the Metro Conference took during the weekend tournament seeding process. Not a single Metro team invited, yet two from the OVC got the nod

HITS AND MISSES Kentucky' rall record against **Ohio State** is 8-7 but Wildcats are winless in four outings against the Buckeyes in NCAA play. The one most Kentucky fans will remember was the heartbreaking 82-81 homecourt loss in the heartbreaking 82-81 homecourt loss in the championship game of the 1968 Mideast Regional championship game . . Tennessee assistant Jack Fertig would love to get a shot at the head coaching job at Morehead State where Wayne Martin quit last week. Martin, who built the Eagles into a winner a few years ago, had been wanting to move the state of back up the big-time ladder in recent years but the opportunity never came along. Previous stints included stops at Pikeville and Previous stints included stops at Pikeville and an assistant's job at **Oral Roberts** under **Lake Kelly**. He had sought the part-time job at **Kentucky** but then coach **Joe B. Hall** picked his old boss, Lake Kelly. Martin has accepted a position of sales manager with an Eastern Kentucky television station . . . Talk of the town in Atlanta last week surrounded the status of UT's Don DeVoe and whether or not he will return to the Knoxville cam-pus next season. Those UT officials said there is no doubt he'll be back next season. They say he's earned the right to break in the new arena which DeVoe campaigned so long over the past several years. Good new for **Kentucky** fans. One UT official said there would be plenty of tickets available for Wildcat fans for the first **Tennessee**-Kentucky basketball game played in the

would be forwarded to Kentucky medi-outlets early next season. On the other hand T'm not so sure how many Big Blue fans want to journey down I-75 to watch Kentucky, given the fact that UK is only 2-12 in its latt 4 meetings with the Vols in Knoxville. Has anyone flopped at the end of the season like the Florida Gators have the past three weeks? The Gators have now lost five of their last six conference games. The only victory during the stretch was the 74-56 victory over Kentucky . . . Tickets are still plentiful for the first- and second-round games in Atlanta and at last report, tickets were still available for the Southeast Regional in Louisville. get tickets for this weekend's card in at Atlan-ta, you need to call The Omni. UK officials announced that they will hold a student lot tery, but that no tickets will be sold to the general public. . . With the NCAA bid safe-ly tucked in, the 'Cats will be making their eighth consecutive trip to the big show. The Wildcats are one of only three schools that have played in the previous eight NCAA tourneys and will be taking part in the current one. The others are North Carolina (13 straight) and Georgetown (9 straight) straight) and Georgetown (9 straight). Villanova had played in seven straight before being denied this time... One of the big pluses for UK in the NCAA selection and seeding process was the UK schedule. In the NCAA computer ratings, the UK schedule was judged the third toughest in the nation . . . Kentucky's **Eddie Sutton** will be mak-

ing his 11th straight NCAA tournament appearance. That is second only to North Carolina's Dean Smith who is making his 13th straight . . . If Kentucky fans feel they know what the outcome of a Kentucky game is going to be at halftime, you really couldn't blame them for their views. Going into the SEC tournament, Kentucky owned a glitter-ing 17-1 record in games when UK was ahead at the half. When the Wildcats were behind at the half, they went on to lose in each of the eight contests. Nothing much changed in the SEC tourney. UK was trailing Auburn at the half, and then went on to lose . . . The good news is that Kentucky compiled a flashy 8-1 non-conference record this season and the only loss was a 71-66 defeat at the hands of Indiana in Bloomington The last time Kentucky and Ohio State met on the hardwood, it was a two-game series in Lexington and Columbus when **Eldon Miller** was head boss at Ohio State and Joe B. Hall was the coach at Kentucky. It was to be the beginning of an annual series between the two neighboring state schools, but the rivalry vanished as quickly as it was developed. Ken tucky won both games (both Sam Bowie and Clark Kellogg missed the game in Columbus because of injuries), but the series was no renewed after a rife developed between Miller and Hall over some comments Miller alleged-ly made about UK to a group of Ohio State

### Auburn 79, UK 72

[Continued From Page 12]

(1983) lost to Alabama in first game; (1984) won SEC title with victory over Auburn; (1985) lost to Florida in first game; and (1986) captured SEC title with win over Wimp Sanderson's Alabama crew. \_UK's record since the renewal is 13-7 while Auburn upped its SEC Tournament slate to 11-7. . . During his postgame comments Sonny Smith lashed out at Cincinnati Enquirer writer John Erardi. In Friday's paper he wrote that Auburn looked "lazy" and "uninspired" the day before during its pre-Wildcat workouts. Erardi witnessed Auburn's "lazy" workout at the Omni. And Erardi's article asked why the Tigers even bothered to practice. But what Erardi didn't know was that the Tigers had a hard workout that same day at a Southside high school in Atlanta. What Smith was doing was keeping his team's secrets to himself, and not into the hands of Kentucky. "I didn't want my kids running our sets in practice with everybody watching. And this jerk writes how lazy and uninspired we are," Smith said. . And how did Smith get the article so quickly? Well, the brother in-law of Auburn announcer Jim Fyffe had made the trip from Cincinnati that day. Of course, with Erardi's article in hand. What also upset Smith was that his in-laws live in a Cincinnati suburb and saw the article. "Tan's (Sonny's wife) mother and father don't know anything about basket (1983) lost to Alabama in first game; (1984) won SEC title with victory over Auburn; the article. 'Jan's (Sonny's wife) mother and father don't know anything about basket-ball," he said. "Oh, they know it's got air in it. But they're very religious people ball." he said. "Oh, they know it's got air in it. But they're very religious people—can't say the same about their son-in-law—and they think I kinda hung the moon. This year, all I been is hung in effigy." ... Because of plane trouble, the Wildcats were not able to practice the day before the game. UK had to wait in Lexington for a few hours for another plane. The one the 'Cats were scheduled to fly on had engine troubles, and they had to wait at Bluegrass Field while Alabama's team plane flew in from Atlanta to pick them up. .. Kentucky finished the contest hitting on 28 of 56 shots from the field for an even 50 percent. Prior to this game Kentucky owned a 9-1 record when shooting 50 percent or better from the field. ... In attendance was Kentucky's all-time leading scorer Dan Jean. ... Governt White so, which leads to the property of the property shooting 50 percent or better from the field. . . In attendance was Kentucky's all-time leading scorer **Dan Issel**. . .**Gerald White** on his role now that he's 100 percent: "I feel much better. I've got my confidence back. **Aundrae Davis** is not with us (ha ing been benched of late) so I need to be able to shot the three pointers." . **Rex Chaman** on the game: "In the first two games against Auburn, we controlled the temp They opened up this game with a back door play and took off from there. We we getting beat down the floor every other time. Oklahoma most recently played a box

# TCP Crossword Puzzle By Dan Krueckeberg

#### GOOD, BETTER AND RUPP: FORMER COACHING GREATS

#### ACROSS

- First name of 53 Down
  Peck started UL's winning ways
  Former Div. I coach Lemons
  First name of 4 Down
  Feminine name
  Frances

- 13 First name of 4 Down
  14 Feminine name
  16 Evergreen
  17 Abbr. for time periods
  18 "The Baron" a strange mixture of vanity and humility
  19 First two vowels
  21 Winningest Syracuse coach Andreas
  23 Winningest Badger coach Foster
  2 LA
  27 Abner
  28 Namesakes of winningest Navy coach Carnevale
  29 Auto fluid
  30 Successful Wake Forest coach Tacy
  32 Standout Georgia Tech coach Hyder
  34 Fossessed
  35 Feminine namesakes
  36 Abbr. for "Oxford English Dictionary"
  37 Masculine namesakes
  39 Verb suffix
  40 First name of 63 Across
  41 Fred Taylor of State
  43 Initials of 21 Across
  44 Many feel he was the game's greatest
  47 First name of 20 Down
  48 Hiker's snack
  49 Tip
  51 Hard to ignore his great record

- Tip Hard to ignore his great record Charm
- Initials of winningest Auburn coach Eaves

- Eaves
  56 Long-time Washington coach Harshman
  57 Abbr. for school of 41 Across
  59 Light brown
  61 Abbr. for a Bible part
  62 Few had heard of G. Ireland he
  took his Ramblers to NCAA title
  63 Standout Bluegrass coach
  65 Initials of 78 Across
  67 Initials of the all-time winningest
  coach

- coach
  68 Jewel
  70 WAC state abbr.
  71 Campus building
  72 Coach Maravich of LSU

#### Last Week's Answers



- First name of 8 Down
  First Biblical brother

  '\_\_\_coaching fame was gained
  at California
  Not his

- Nor his
  It is
  Symbol for "cerium"
  Long-time Vol coach
  Actor Ray
  k of the major leagues
  "We're number !"
  Often overlooked coaching great
  Famed coach on "The Hill"
  Famed coach the
  Coach of back-to-back national champs
  Big Ten state abbr.
  Standout Washington mentor Edmundson
  Pack

- 28 Poor 31 Initials of big winner at DePaul 33 Pile 34 George Fac-
- Pile
  George Keogan is Notre Dame's winningest \_\_\_\_ coach
  "He tried to it in"
  To make mournful
  13-year Irish coach John
  Slats Gill was \_\_\_ State's most
  successful coach

- 51 Us
  52 PCAA state abbr.
  53 Mc of North & South Carolina
  54 Winningest NC State coach Everett
  55 Famed coach McLendon of Hampton,
  Tenn. St., Kentucky St., etal
  58 Celestial body
  60 Initials of Purdue coaching great

- 62 Abbr. for a Metro Conf. school 64 Initials of Warrior coach turned TV

- star 65 Initials of Maryland's Lefty 66 Initials of Hoosier mentor McCracken 68 Initials of Smith; coached "The Big O"
- at 62 Down 69 Initials of winningest Wake Forest

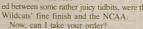


#### Meet The Press

Sutton Says Wildcats Are To Be Applauded After Meeting Picks North Carolina To Win The National Championship

By Nick Nicholas

After Kentucky's narrow escapes over Mississippi and Okla-homa, head coach Eddie Sutton was in good spirits for his weekly press luncheon with the local media. The hot entrees, sandwich-



Coming through in true blue fashion: Sutton and his staff recently challenged the Wildcat players to give their all for their last two regular season games, Mississippi and Oklahoma. If Kentucky was going to have any chance of earning an NCAA bid (besides winning the SEC Tournament) it needed desperately to win both weekend encounters

'We were pleased that our basketball team responded to the challenge," said Sutton of the 64-63 win over Ole Miss followed by the next day's 75-74 win over the Sooners. "Our staff did challenge them. We felt that it was necessary to win both games over the

'After grading the Oklahoma film we felt like we probably played the best that we've played in a long while. We did some things very well. Oklahoma, talent-wise, is as good a basketball team as we've seen all season long. They're deserving of the ranking that they've held for most of the year.

Realistic goals: With Kentucky finishing its regular season at 18-9, Sutton pondered back for a moment on the team's preseason

goals. Here's what they were.
"When we start the season I always visit with the seniors to determine what they think are our realistic goals. It's their (senior's) ballclub; they won't be back.

'First, you want to win the UKIT. It's been

a tradition; and we own that thing (trophy).
"Our second goal was to win the roundrobin, which is the true champion of any conference. With the tournaments, a team can get on a roll, get hot, and win and represent the league. But the true champion, as far as I'm concerned and most coaches will agree, is the ound-robin winner. Alabama had an outstan-

ding season.
"Our third goal was to win 20 games, I think that's a magic number. We still have (prior to the SEC Tournament) a shot at that.

"A fourth goal of James (Blackmon) and Paul (Andrews) was to win the SEC Tournament. Another goal is to get in the NCAA Tournament

Who deserves an invitation? Sutton was asked about some of the selections, when considering that sometimes a low-seeded team will win its conferences tournament. receive an automatic bid to the NCAAs The UK coach, when a reporter asked this question, was given an example of Fairfield winning last week's Metro Atlantic Conference Tournament

Fairfield was the No. 7 seed in its tourney. "If it's a strong conference, they're (NCAA) always going to take the round-robin winner. In a conference like that (MAC) they'll be fortunate to get an at-large bid. But in the SEC or the top 10 or 12 conferences, I would always think they'll take the roundrobin winner and if there is an upset in the tournament they'll still take that team

(regular-season winner).
"The problem is this, you cannot have a tournament unless that's your official representative. The NCAA made that decision when they started allowing tournaments. They have to take the tournament winner as the legal representative of that conference There's nothing they can do about that."

Drug testing gets underway: For the initial time drug testing will become a part of the NCAA Tournament. Coach, what's

your opinion of this move by the NCAA?
"I think it's a good idea," Sutton replied,
"Tm very much in favor of drug testing. Kentucky was doing it before I came here and we've continued that policy. Anyone playing for the national championship, and that's what you're doing every time you play a game in the NCAAs, and a team violates that rule the players should be eliminated. And if there ere enough players (involved) they would

probably eliminate the team.
"Unless the committee changes their mind, they're going to wait until (after) the first two

The luck of Eddie Sutton: During Sutton's two-year campaign, in which his won loss-record is an impressive 50-13, the UK coach has pulled out more than his share of ballgames. When a game has been decided in an extra period or by five points or less in regulation, Kentucky has won 18 and lost only five.

UK's last two victims during the regular season, Mississippi and Oklahoma, are prime examples of Sutton's success when close games are on the line.

You've gotta believe," echoed the feelings of Sutton.

Some reporters gathered at Joe B. Hall Wildcat Lodge then started to snicker.

"You do," Sutton said, answering those snickers. "Go back and check how many

# KENTIUCKY

games we won on last-second shots at Arkansas. That's something you install in players over a period of time. And they believe!

"If you believe hard enough, good things happen to you. We work on last second shots and things like that. We try to get better executing them, but if people believe (that's important).

"Kentucky gives that to everybody. I'm sure they've hit a lot of last-second shots, long before I came or Mr. Hall did. I'll bet that if you go back and look (records) that you'll see they hit a lot of last-second shots to win. That's tradition.

Perhaps Sutton's most exciting win in the clutch came when he was at Arkansas in 1981. U.S. Reed's despiration mid-court shot fell through the nets, giving the Razorbacks a 74-73 Midwest Regional win over Denny Crum's Louisville Cardinals. The game was

played in Austin, Texas.
"The best one of all-time was U.S.'s (Reed); I drew that one up over their on the sidelines," chuckled Sutton. "I told U.S. that just before he got to the midcourt line to let it go, say Hail Mary and it'll go in."

More hocus-pocus. . . Many Kentuckians might say that the Wildcats' 91-84 overtime clash with Tennessee was the most exciting they had ever witnessed.

In this contest the hosts were down by 10 points with 1:12 remaining. But a Chapman shot at the buzzer sent the game into

"We had to have some help from our op-ponent on that evening," Sutton said. "There's no way that you can pull a game off like we did with the Vols unless they miss

some free throws but there's this certain curse at the free throw line: True, Kentucky has

[Continued On Page 25]

#### **Allen Retires From UK Athletics Post**

The retirement of Col. Ron Allen as UK's director of student admissions, effective March 1, brought an end to a long and distinguished career of service to the Univer-

sity of Kentucky.

A native of Morristown, Tenn., where he A harve of worthstown, relim, where had brother Ermal "played everything"—football, basketball, golf, baseball, track and tennis—in high school, Ron followed Ermal to UK after graduating from Morristown High in 1940.

He participated in freshman football, basketball, golf and track at UK before his career was interrupted by World War II. He played basketball while in the Air Force and was head of cadet training at the Advanced

Flying School at Frederick, Okla.

After returning from the war, he played freshman football for Paul "Bear" Bryant and freshman football for fail Bear Bryant and then talked to Adolph Rupp about playing basketball. Rupp agreed to give him a half-scholarship, but Allen looked at all the talent around him and chose to accept a scholar-ship offer from Hank Iba at Oklahoma A&M. Before his career there was cut short by a knee injury, he played on the 1946-47 Aggie team that beat the Wildcats, 37-31, in the

Allen returned to Lexington, where he worked in the corrective rehabilitation sec-tion of the local VA Hospital and coached old Latin HS in 1948, playing games in the Morton Junior gym on Sundays. He received his M.A. at UK in 1950.

After one year at Latin, he was athletics director and head football and basketball



#### Ron Allen

coach at Paris High from 1949 until he was recalled by the Air Force in 1953, working with B-47 bombers (SAC) during the Korear

Choosing to remain in the Air Force, his arious assignments included six years at the Air Force Academy, where he was assistant basketball and golf coach, chief of the intramural division and commandant of cadets, also serving four years as assistant professor of air science.

His last assignment was with the comanding general, Pacific Air Force, during the Vietnam War. He retired from Hickam Field,

Oahu in December 1970.

He was visiting professor at the UK College of Education one year before joining the athletics department in 1971.

He is a past recipient of the K-Man-of-the

# The Evolution Of College Basketball

Is Overexposure Hurting The Game?

I had a talk with Rip Van Munson the other day

Georgia fans know old Rip as Larry Munson, who since the beginning of time, has been the voice of the football Bulldogs.

beginning of time, has been the vote or the football bandogs.

About 20 years ago, Larry gave up broadcasting basketball and it wasn't until this season that he returned to the sport.

Rip Van Winkle slept for 20 years. So did Munson during the past 20 basketball seasons. He rarely watched or listened and as for actually going to a game, he could find many better things to Walking the dog! Painting the bathroom! Solving the puzzles "Wheel of Fortune!"



Stan Torgerson

Cats' Pause Columnist

This year the powers that be in Larry's life, sometimes known as bosses, suggested they wanted him to call basketball again. "Suggested" is a nice word for "you like to eat, don't you?"

So Rip Van Munson awoke, traded in Vanna White for hairy-legged basketball players, and discovered that basketball in 1987

is an entirely different game than it was in 1967. It's not just the play itself that's improved. It's the suroundings

First, the game. Larry noted the players were bigger, stronger and much more highly skilled. When Munson broadcast basketball 20 years back there were a few superb players but not many

ball 20 years back there were a few superb players but not many. Now everyone has at least a couple.

The SEC also was a two- or three-team league in the 60s, Kentucky, of course, Mississippi State in the early part of the decade. Tennessee and Vanderbilt in the later stages. Occasionally Florida had a competitive team and LSU finished second in 1969-70, but Kentucky won it six times during those years and finished second

Everyone else regarded basketball as a diversion between fall football and spring football.

But as Larry and I talked some other memories popped out. In the late 60s and early 70s some schools traveled by chartered airplane. I know Ole Miss did. Apparently so did Georgia.

#### They Don't Build Planes Like They Used To

The Rebels worked a deal with a guy in Memphis who owned a DC-3. To this day I believe the plane was held together by baling wire and had a rubber band for a motor. Wind it up tight and take

It's the only plane on which I have ever felt a draft. The wind simply blew through the cabin. A smoking man could have licked the habit. The cabin breeze would have blown out his match. The Rebels finally changed to commercial flights when, follow-

ing the Marshall University plane crash, the FAA began to check on whether or not some of these jake-leg charter planes had certificates of airworthiness

To no one's great surprise, the Memphis company owning the

10 no ones great surprise, the mempine company owining an DC-3 on which we risked our lives five or six times per season, had no such certificate. Apparently Larry has similar memories. Munson also pointed to the Georgia cheerleaders as an example of the change 20 years had brought. The game the night we talked was at Alabama. Larry indicated the full contingent of Bulldog girls

and boys were yelling for their team.
"Twenty years ago," he said, "no one traveled (with their) cheerleaders. Today everyone does." (That's an improvement, too.

Female cheerleaders are cuter than basketball players).
All the Ole Miss athletics department did in years past was supply

a van for the kids to drive if the game was reasonably close by— Alabama, Mississippi State, Vanderbilt or LSU, for example. But if the contest was at Georgia, Kentucky, Florida or Tennessee,

ou could forget seeing the cheerleaders. Too far and too expensive.

Munson mentioned another change. It's the wealth of material now being supplied writers and broadcasters by the press departments of the various schools.

Years ago, you were given a list of game results to date and the ic material on scoring averages, free throw percentages, fouls nd not much else.

Today at game time the sports information people provide the bove, plus playing time for each kid, his three-point shot percentage, assists, blocked shots, an analysis of each game to date, feature aterial on the players, the coach and anything else their creative

publicity minds can create.

Munson was right. SEC basketball today isn't the same as it was when Larry called his last game in the 1960s.

Of course, neither is he. Or me! Or you!

#### **Not For Broadcast**

A broadcasting trade magazine, *Electronic Media*, headlined a recent issue "Overexposure Hurting College Basketball." The magazine says college basketball ratings have been disappointing this year. Says **Richard Hussey**, NBC Director of Program Planning, "There's too much basketball." The availability of more basketball games on cable has been the ratings downer Hussey said, and his network is now rethinking its basketball strategy. A few weeks ago one of the announcing teams pointed out there were 20 major college games on TV that day and 10 more were scheduled

or the next afternoon, a Sunday.

How much basketball can the public absorb? Who's going to stay tuned to the inevitable blowouts?

What's the solution? Who knows? Television created the problem.

They will make the decision on how to solve it

What will the colleges say? Absolutely nothing! They've sold their souls for a buck and they'll do exactly what the networks tell them souls for a buck and they if do exactly what the lietworks eth them to do. . Sometimes we forget how great Pete Maravich was. As the SEC's all-time leading scorer his lead over the No. 2 man, John Stroud, the former Ole Miss star, is 1339 points. Maravich had a career total of 3667 points. Stroud scored 2328 during his four years with the Rebels. But from No. 2 Stroud to No. 15 on the alltime list, who is **Jack Givens** of Kentucky, the margin is just 290 points. **Tony White** of Tennessee is the only active player in the top 15. Alabama's 1987 baseball team lost all eight every-day starters from last year, plus the designated hitter, plus three of their four top pitchers. Talk about starting over! Last year the Tide was



#### UT's White In Top 15

43-20 including an 18-9 mark in the SEC. . . New York Yankee pitcher **Britt Burns** recently paid a visit to an Alabama workout and offered to pitch batting practice. Said Tide coach **Barry Shollenberger**, "He would have broken a dozen wooden bats if Shollenberger, "He would have broken a dozen wooden bats if we were using them. He (Burns) was even telling them what was coming and they still couldn't hit him". While most of the attention has been on **Tennessee's** new basketball coliseum, and elsewhere in the SEC, remodeling football stadiums, **Mississippi State** has quietly built the finest baseball facility in the Southeastern Conference. It opened only a couple of weeks ago. The state of Mississippi now has the league's two baseball extremes State has the best place to play and **Ole Miss** has the worst. The Rebel diamond still uses wooden bleachers, has no dressing room and, believe it or not or fans. . . The Last Word: Ole Miss junior forward Bruce Tranbarger, a starter as a freshman but a reserve this year

"I played a lot of minutes on a loser and have ridden the pin on a winner. I'd a hell of a lot rather be where I am right now!

# Confidence A Big Factor In Sutton's Success

Logan Expects To Figure Into UK's Offense

Confidence is a great attribute for any athlete

Great players have a firm belief in their own ability. When a game is on the line, they want to take the key shot, make

the big tackle or deliver the clutch pitch.

Confidence, though, is just as important in coaching. A coach has to have faith in his system and believe it will work under any circumstances.

Kentucky basketball coach Eddie Sutton has that confidence as he nears his 400th collegiate victory.

'One of his strongest suits is his confidence," said UK



#### Larry Vaught

Cats' Pause Columnist

ssistant coach Doug Barnes. "He is confident in his ability to coach but he's also confident he can make his teams have that same belief.

"He stays positive because he believes in what he is doing," said UK assistant James Dickey. "He does a tremendous job motivating players and keeping them positive, too. "No matter what the situation, coach Sutton stays positive and confident. "He's won a lot of games on last-second shots over the years and that's no coincidence. He makes his players believe that someone will do expective the in the players believe that someone will do something to win the game. He tells them that and usually he is right."

That feeling of confidence is a huge asset to any team Maybe that's why UK was able to wipe out a six-point lead at Alabama and win. Or why UK came from 10 down against Tennessee in the final two minutes to win. Or remember last season when Roger Harden hit last-second shots to beat Alabama and LSU. Or how about when Rex Chapman hit a shot to beat Mississippi. And don't forget Richard Madison's late shot that beat Oklahoma.

"Coach Sutton's confidence is a huge asset for his team," said Barnes. "Last year I was amazed at the number of close games we were able to pull out. Coach Sutton never gives up and his players won't. He's just a master at staying positive and keeping his players believing in themselves."
Sutton stays positive because he has faith in the system he

brought to Kentucky two years ago.

"I know if our guys will listen and work hard that our system will be successful," said Sutton. "I'm a confident person and I relay that to my players. I want my players to respect every opponent but I don't want them to fear any team."

The Kentucky mentor was The Associated Press Coach of the Year last season after leading UK to a 32-4 record and berth in the NCAA Southeast Region title game. This season the Cats were not as successful but Sutton still believes in his

You can't look back and second guess yourself," said the UK mentor. "If we have had a fault as a staff this year, it was that we didn't get across to our players how much every team wants a piece of Kentucky. We didn't understand that at times

Still, Sutton probably got more mileage out of his talent this year than he did last season considering all that

'Coach Sutton has just done an outstanding job this year considering all that has happened," said Barnes. "Coaching awards are usually based on how many games you win but I don't know of anyone who has done a better job than coach

Sutton this year."

UK lost senior forward Winston Bennett for the season with a knee injury. Guard Paul Andrews and center-forward Cedric Jenkins both were slowed by injuries.

Recruit Reggie Hanson became an academic casualty. Sutton told Harvey Grant, now a starter at Oklahoma, he

couldn't come to UK after Grant was arrested.

That left UK with only eight healthy players part of the preseason. "Looking back I think the time when we didn't have enough players to scrimmage five-on-five hurt us," said Sutton. "We just were not pushed hard enough in

Off the court, though, Sutton knows just how to push or

console his player. One reason he has been so successful during his career is the time he spends talking to his player one-on-one. He's a great psychologist and is able to find out just what form of motivation works for each player.

"He is just a great teacher and motivator," said Barnes. Sutton, though, doesn't have a secret formula for success.

Instead, Sutton and his staff spend many long hours sear ching for ways to make the Wildcats better.

"We don't take shortcuts on this staff," said Dickey. "No staff in the country works any harder than Eddie Sutton and his staff. Coach doesn't expect us to work any harder than he

"You just won't find a better person to run a program than coach Sutton," said Dickey. "He's involved with everything

and works as hard as anyone.
"However, no matter what happens he never loses his confidence. His players learn that and develop the same feeling. It gives his team a huge edge."

KENTUCKY appeared in danger of not making the NCAA Tournament in mid-February but the Wildcats certainly deserved the tourney bid they received.

Entering the Southeastern Conference Tournament the Wildcats had an 11-9 record against teams ranked in the top 50 by the USA Today computer rankings. Since strength of schedule is one big criteria with the tourney selection committee, UK was a lock for a tourney bid no matter what hap pened in the SEC Tournament.

pened in the SEC Tournament.

"Our team went into a valley for a while but we knew we had to get it back together," said UK center Rob Lock. "If we hadn't, it would have been a long off-season."

UK secured its NCAA bid by beating Mississippi and Oklahoma in back-to-back one-point games. Even if the Cats had lost a game, though, they probably still would have received a bid because of the schedule they faced.

"We usually play well against big-name teams," said Lock. "That's probably bad to say but we just get up more



Sutton Is Gifted With A Positive Attitude

for big games. We like playing a tough schedule and going against good teams. That's how you improve.'

SOME PEOPLE wondered why talented wide receiver Phil Logan of Louisville signed a national letter-of-intent with Kentucky, a team not known for its passing game, last

Wasn't Logan worried that UK wouldn't throw deep often

wasn't Logan worried that UK wouldn't throw deep often enough to use his blazing speed and receiving ability?
"A team can't run every down," said Logan. "If you have a quality receiver they will get the ball to him. I'm confident in my abilities and I think UK will throw the ball my

#### Meet The Press

[Continued From Page 23]

been able to pull out close games. No one doubts that. But when it comes to free throw shooting, you might say the Wildcats are hav-ing some bad luck. When your a coach and your squad is shooting 63 percent from the charity stripe (295 of 468) you have a tendency to develop a few gray hairs.

"I've received some wonderful letters throughout the season on free throw shooting," Sutton said. "You'd be surprised snooting," Sutton said. "You'd be surprised at most of the things they've suggested— things we're already doing. The other night Sean (Sutton) and Henry Clay played at Pulaski County. Pulaski County hit 23 out of 24 free throws

"I may call down there and see what they're

'It's a mystery. We are better shooters than our free throw percentage. We ought to be hitting in the high-60s or at 70 percent. We're not a great shooting ballclub but certainly we're better than what we've shot in our first 27 games.

Don't look for a change: After seeing a drastic change in college basketball, with the addition of the three-point shot, one might expect the underdog-type teams to use the shot more than usual.

Sutton doesn't agree.
"I don't think it will be any different in the tournament itself than what you've seen in regular season play. There's no doubt that it's changed the game. Whether it's for the bet-terment of the roundball sport or whether it's not, I think the jury is still out as far as the coaches are concerned.

"From what I've been able to gather from

some of the fans that I've spoken with, they like the three-point shot. Some of them have reservations about it being too close.

"I don't think you'll see the game played any differently in the NCAAs, up to this point, other than the fact that most teams do get a little more conservative once you get in the playoffs. Scores may be higher because of the three-point shot, if you compare it with seasons in the past. But most ballclubs do play a little closer to their best once you get into postseason play.

Speaking of underdogs: In past NCAAs there have been a lot of upset specials. And with the three-point shot there could be a lot more.

"I do believe that it (three-pointer) will allow a team that is behind a better opportunity to perhaps catch up than what you may have seen in past years," Sutton note. "But I don't know whether there will be any more

What about those Runnin' Rebels of Nevada Las Vegas? No. 1 UNLV has been known to put up a few three-pointers of its own this season. What kind of effect will this have on the Rebels playing a more deliberate

type team? Coach Sutton?

"I think that most good ballclubs that have the ability to play with Nevada Vegas will try to stop their transition game, like we did with Oklahoma, and make them play a half-court game. That can stymie a ballclub like Vegas. But they still have that outside shooting that they can go to for three-pointers.

"Again, board play is so important. When

you throw that three-pointer up there and you're not hitting then you're in jeopardy of being beat by a sizeable margin.
"I don't think that I would give them any

more of an opportunity to win it this year than past years. They have a good ballclub this eason and they've had some in the past."

Eddie says Tar Heels: When asked

which team has the best chance to take home all the marbles, Sutton quickly responded, "I like North Carolina. I voted them No. I the last four weeks. They are the best team in college basketball, day in and day out.

'That doesn't mean they'll end up in New Orleans.

\*



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# **Back Thru The Wildcat Years**

#### Four Years Ago

The Kentucky Wildcats won their first bund NCAA game 57-40 against Ohio round NCAA game 57-40 against Ohio University in the Sun Dome in Tampa, Fla. UK entered the game with a two-year drought in the tourney, their last outing being the embarrassing defeat at the hands of Middle Tennessee in Nashville. The 'Cats tested their fans in the first half as they struggled with Ohio U's slowdown offense, and led by only Onto U s stowdown offense, and led by only four 21-17 at the half. Kentucky pressured Ohio in the second half, using traps to create confusion and turnovers to help up the lead to 10 with under eight minutes to go. UK fans were then able to relax as 'Cats reeled off the last eight points of the game to ice the win. Dirk Minniefield led the Wildcats with 16 points and five assists. Melvin Turpin scored 14 points and pulled down nine rebounds Kentucky moves to Knoxville, Tenn., to play the winner of the Oklahoma-Indiana contest

#### Five Years Ago

\*For the second straight year Kentucky was shocked in the first round of the NCAA Mideast Regional. In 1981 the 'Cats fell to UAB and in 1982 it was Middle Tennessee that pulled the trick by a score of 50-44. Ken tucky jumped out on top early but saw Middle battled back. UK could not respond to the challenge, losing its offense in the final minutes of the game. Kentucky's 44-point output was a season low, if you throw out the Notre Dame slowdown game. The 37.5 shooting percentage was 14 percentage points below the season norm and five below the season low. No Wildcat scored in double figures, a season first, and top gunner Derrick Hord shot just two for 16 from the field In the final 13 minutes of the game Kentucky scored four points. During one stretch of eight minutes Kentucky didn't score at all and Middle Tennessee was almost as inept. The

7. Kentucky started its long history in NCAA play in 1942. Who did the Wildcats defeat in their first tournament game?

8. Ten Kentucky players have been named to the all-tournament team for the Final Four, the most recent being in 1978. Jack Givens was one Wildcat who made the team

9. Who was the last Wildcat player to be named Most Valuable Player of an NCAA

10. Who was the last UK player to be named MVP of an NCAA Regional *and* the Final Four in the same season?

in '78, who was the other?

a) Kyle Macy

b) Mike Phillips c) James Lee

b) Dicky Beal
c) Kenny Walker
d) Melvin Turpin

a) Alex Groza

smaller Blue Raiders outquicked and outhusted Kentucky on the boards, 36-27, including a 19-12 bulge in the first half. Four Wildeast sied for the team's high scorer with eight points. The loss also crushed the chance for the 'Cats to meet the Louisville Cardinals

in the second round.
\*UK's Lady Kats, behind a 30-point performance from guard Lea Wise and 21 points from junior forward Valerie Still, held on in as visiting Illinois cut a 51-35 halftime defict to just three points late in the game to advance to the second round of the NCAA tournament with an 88-80 win. They were scheduled to play South Carolina in the

#### Six Years Ago

\*Kentucky got outscrapped, outplayed and outscored as the University of Alabama-Birmingham turned the tide on the 'Cats with a 69-62 win in Tuscaloosa in the first round of the NCAA Mideast Regional. The loss put an abrupt end to a 22-6 season for the 'Cats. The Blazers, which started the sport of basketball just three years ago, pulled the unbelievable upset against tradition-rich Kentucky. It was UAB which hit 18 of 19 free throws down the stretch, made the big shots and got the key rebounds. And it was the and got the key recording. All of Was the Management Blazers that played with poise and confidence when the game was on the line. Kentucky came out playing well, jumping out to a 28-1 lead. Suddenly the 'Cats went sour and UAB had inched to within 30-29 at the half. The Blazers raced out in front 47-40 as UK center Sam Bowie picked up his fourth foul. UK fought back to tie the score several times, the last time being at 56-all. UAB then reeled off eight straight points, five coming from Glen Marcus at the foul line, and Kentucky failed to score on four consecutive possessions. Chuck Verderber led Kentucky with 16 points. Dirk Minniefield scored 14 and Charles Hurt got 11. Bowie scored just eight points and grabbed four rebounds before foul ing out after logging only 21 minutes of playing time. Oliver Robinson led coach Gene Bartow's club with 18 points. Kentucky had beaten the Blazers by seven earlier in the year.
\*Sam Bowie of Kentucky, Durand Macklin

of LSU and Dominique Wilkins of Georgia were unanimous choices on the coaches' All-Southeastern Conference team announced last week. Also named to the 10-man were Eddie Phillips of Alabama, Ethan Mar-tin of LSU, Howard Wood, Gary Carter and Dale Ellis of Tennessee, Elston Turner of Ole Miss, Jeff Malone of Mississippi State and Ronnie Williams of Florida. Bowie was named as a third-team All-American last week by Basketball Weekly. Teammate Dirk Minniefield was honorable mention.

#### Seven Years Ago

\*Behind some awesome board work and tenacious man-to-man defense. Kentucky blasted Florida State 97-78 in the first round of the NCAA Mideast Regional played at Bowling Green. UK jumped out to an 18-5 lead but FSU got back to within 22-17 before UK broke the game open with a 49-27 halftime margin, scoring 18 of the last 22 points of the half. UK held a shocking 34-13 rebounding edge at the half and finished with a 54-31 advantage on the boards. Kyle Macy led UK with 16 points while Fred Cowan and LaVon Williams scored 14 each. Sam Bowie scored 13 points and hauled in 11 rebounds The win advances Kentucky to the Mideast Regional's second round to be played at Rupp Arena. Four of the nation's best teams will

be there as UK plays Duke and Indiana meet

\*Kentucky senior guard Kyle Macy has been named as a first-team All-American by both AP and UPI.

#### Nine Years Ago

\*The Kentucky Wildcats entered the NCAA Mideast Regional with confidence and almost left it as quickly as they entered. Florida State, which led at halftime and for much of the second half, gave the Big Blue quite a scare. Thanks to the support troops, Kentucky won its first game on the way to the national championship with an 85-76 win over the Seminoles. FSU's quickness had given them the lead at the half by the count of 39-32. But as the second half started, All-Americans Jack Givens and Rick Robey were sitting on the bench and reserves LaVon williams, Fred Cowan and Deserves Lavon Williams, Fred Cowan and Dwane Casey were on the floor bringing the 'Cats back into range for the kill. The strategy by coach Joe Hall, which was a very large gamble, turned out to be for the best. After the reserves caucht up, the starters returned and reserves caught up, the starters returned and reeled off 14 straight points and UK led 62-53. The game was then over. Kentucky went on to face Miami of Ohio who had upset No. 3 Marquette

#### Fifteen Years Ago

\*With All-American Dan Issel fouling out with 10 minutes to go and three other Wildcats fouling out as well, No. 1 Kentucky fell to Jacksonville 106-100 in the Mideast Regional finals. A brilliant efor by a group of sophomores and juniors reduced a 10-point Jacksonville lead to 102-100 with 45 seconds remaining, but two free throws by Rex Morgan decided it. Issel scored 28 points to lead UK. Tom Parker had 21, Terry Mills 18 and Mike Pratt 14. Morgan had 28 points for the Dolphins and Artis Gilmore had 24.

#### Thirty Years Ago

\*With reserve John Brewer hitting eight of eight free throws in the closing minutes, Kentucky held off underdog Pittsburgh in the first round of the NCAA tournament played at Memorial Coliseum. The unranked Panthers about ruined UK's hopes at their fourth straight NCAA title until Brewer sank his foul shots in the last 43 seconds. Pitt, which trailshots in the last-of seconds. Fift, which than-ed by as many as 12 points, never led in the second half. Johnny Cox wound up with 26 points to lead the 'Cats. Vernon Hatton had 24, Gerry Calvert 18 and Brewer 10. Pitt's John Riser scored 30. Ed Beck led UK with 14 rebounds. In the other first round game in Lexington, Michigan State nipped Notre Dame 85-83.

#### Thirty One Years Ago

\*Kentucky wound up its regular season with a 101-77 triumph over Tennessee before 10,500 fans at Memorial Coliseum. The win was UK's 19th in 24 games, giving them sole possession of second place in the conference. UK led all the way as sophomore guard Vernon Hatton paced the 'Cats with 20 points, followed by Jerry Bird with 17. Phil Grawemeyer returned to the UK starting

lineup and scored 16 points.

\*Finishing second to Alabama in the SEC, UK must now await the verdict of the SEC. which is in the process of conducting a poll of school presidents to determine which club sent the league in NCAA play. The winner of the conference race is usually extended the bid, but all five players of Alabama's starting unit have been ruled ineligible for the tourney

# Wildcat Quiz

#### **UK In The NCAA Tourney**

- pearances in the NCAA tournament than any other school. How many times have the Wildcats been included in the tourney field?

- 2. The 'Cats are second only to UCLA in overall tournament victories. What is UK's overall tournament victories. What won-loss record in the NCAAs?

- 3. Kentucky is also second to UCLA in NCAA titles with five. Name the five teams
- Adolph Rupp is third on the all-time list for NCAA tournament victories. How many tourney games did the Baron win?

  a) 32

- 5. Joe Hall is tied for seventh on the all-time NCAA win list. How many tourna-ment games did Hall win? a) 20

- 6. Current UK coach Eddie Sutton is tied for 10th on the list. How many games has Sutton won in the tourney?
- c) 13 d) nine

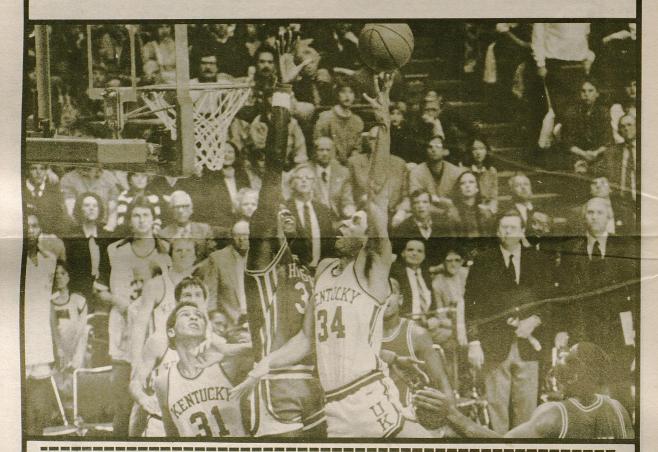
## Answers

10. Alex Groza. (MVP in both '48 and '49)

8 Rick Robey 9. Dicky Beal. (MVP of Mideast Regional 184)

3. Baylor in '48, Oklahoma A&M in '49,

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