

school year. At the same time, much of the materials that the Committee considered was taken from the Connecting with Kentuckians Report, a report that many of the Board members are very familiar with. The President is also familiar with the report. The report was derived from town forums that were held prior to the selection of a President whereby they went around the state, gathered input from the community, and asked the community, "What do you want in your President, and once we hire this President, what do you want this President to focus on?" With that in mind, on becoming Chairperson in September, he has been talking with President Todd about various criteria in the report and has relayed his conversations to Chairperson Plattner. Based on conversations with Dr. Plattner, the various criteria have been incorporated. Those thoughts have been transitioned into the report. Despite the late nature of the report being presented, that does not tell the entire story because he has been talking with the President. He has been talking with the Trustees and taking information from the report. He noted that the report is several years old, but it is very important to the Board.

Ms. Sparks said that she would like to make a few comments, and she would hope that the entire Board would concur. She said they would be remiss if they did not send their congratulations and thank you to Coach Tubby Smith for an outstanding season. Coach Smith, the team, and Mitch Barnhart are to be commended. She also thanked the Pep Band and the cheerleaders. The Pep Band added so much to the enjoyment of the game in Minneapolis. She said that she would like for the Pep Band director to know how much the Board appreciates them. The band was booed by some of those 25,000 people that were not in "Kentucky blue." She said that she became incensed, and it would be a long time before she ever got over students, athletes and the student band getting booed. She said that she would hope that the UK fans would never act in such a manner. It just did something to her, and she thought it was unsportsmanlike behavior. The band was going to play the Star Spangled Banner and not a pep song. The cheerleaders added so much to the games, and it was a tremendous season. She called attention to a wonderful brochure that she received in the mail regarding Athletics and told the Board that they should get a copy of it.

Ms. Sims said the cheerleaders are the university's front-line ambassadors. They are amazing, and they show up at every alumni function. She said that she would put every hour of practice and time spent in their venue up against any athlete on the entire campus. She has never seen such hard workers. She also mentioned the "cat."

Ms. Smith Edge said that she thinks everyone has been spoiled by the quality of the cheerleading as well as the other athletics, but especially the cheerleaders because at a SEC tournament or other games, the quality is very obvious.

Mr. Reed thanked the members for their comments and praise of the cheerleaders and the "cat."