

Back Thru The Wildcat Years

One Year Ago

➤ Nearly two months after they released a summary of 17 additional allegations contained in the NCAA's Supplemental Official Inquiry into the University of Kentucky's basketball program, UK officials, obeying a court order, released 13 of the allegations to the public.

UK officials received the Supplemental Official Inquiry Oct. 13, but because they feared some individuals named in the inquiry might have their rights injured by its publication, they released the summary, which did not name any individuals involved.

The *Louisville Courier-Journal* and the *Lexington Herald-Leader* subsequently filed a friendly law suit under the state's open records law, and Fayette Circuit Judge George Barker ordered the university to release the inquiry.

➤ After losing to Northwestern State in an 85-82 nightmare earlier in the week, the Wildcats returned to Rupp and were leading Bowling Green, 32-22, at halftime in the opening session of the UKIT.

However, Joe Gregory and substitute Darrell McLane combined for 23 second-half points to spearhead a 56-54 Bowling Green victory. The Falcons had put together a 7-0 stretch to pull within five of the Wildcats at 34-29 when McLane came into the game and ignited the visitors with a three-point shot.

Two more three-pointers by McLane and a long jump shot set the scene for Gregory, whose 15-footer and two three-pointers sparked Bowling Green to a 54-47 lead with 2:17 left.

The Wildcats cut the lead to 56-52 with 28 seconds left, but Richie Farmer missed a three-pointer; however, the freshman guard

slapped the ball out of Gregory's hands on the inbounds play. With six seconds left, Farmer drove the lane to put up a left-handed layup to make it 56-54.

UK got another break when Ed Colbert, Bowling Green's center, couldn't get the inbounds pass in within five seconds. UK got the ball with five seconds remaining. After two inbounds passes went awry, Farmer's 19-footer rolled in...and out at the buzzer.

➤ University of Kentucky football coach Jerry Claiborne was awarded a four-year extension of his contract, which was not scheduled to run out until after the following season.

For Claiborne, it marked the second contract extension of his career at UK. His first renewal came eight days before his 1984 squad upset Wisconsin in the Hall of Fame Bowl. It was a five-year extension.

Harden scored a career-high 12 points in 33 minutes of action while Bearup scored six points and had seven defensive rebounds.

10 Years Ago

➤ Seven-foot Melvin Turpin announced from his home in Lexington he would attend the University of Kentucky the following year. Turpin attended Bryan Station High School and then at the time was attending Fork Union Military Academy.

Turpin said one reason he chose UK was because his parents had been ill and he wished to stay close to home.

15 Years Ago

➤ Upon being named UK athletics director, former Wildcat All-America basketballer Cliff Hagan said, "I am pleased with this opportunity to serve my alma mater and the state."

An assistant director at the time, Hagan was hired to replace Harry Lancaster, who retired.

20 Years Ago

➤ The UK football recruiting season got off to a good start as new head coach John Ray signed 14 prospects.

➤ Led by senior co-captains Dan Issel and Mike Pratt, the Wildcat basketball team entered the UKIT with a clean slate, having defeated West Virginia, 106-87; Kansas, 115-85; North Carolina, 94-87, and Indiana, 109-92.

Missing from the Wildcat roster that season was senior Mike Casey, who received a broken leg in an auto accident during the preceding summer.

25 Years Ago

➤ The Wildcats scored their second 100-point game in a row by defeating Syracuse, 110-77, in Memorial Coliseum. Three days earlier, they had defeated Iowa State, 100-74, after opening with an 85-77 win over Iowa at home and a loss to North Carolina, 82-67, at Charlotte.

Before playing West Virginia in the opening game of the UKIT, coach Adolph Rupp had decided on a starting lineup of Louie Dampier and Tommy Kron at guard; John Adams at center; Larry Conley and Pat Riley at forward. All five were destined to score in double-figures that 15-10 season.

WILDCAT QUIZ

Next Week: The UKIT

1. The Portland entry in the UKIT this year is coached by former Wildcat Larry Steele, an Indiana native. Can you name his hometown?

- a) Marion
- b) Bainbridge
- c) Corydon
- d) LaPorte

2. Which of the following won last year's UKIT?

- a) Kentucky
- b) Marshall
- c) Arkansas State
- d) Bowling Green

3. This player led the 'Cats in scoring during the first round of last year's UKIT?

- a) Chris Mills
- b) Reggie Hanson
- c) Richie Farmer
- d) John Pelphrey

4. Who was the top scorer in last year's UKIT?

- a) Reggie Hanson
- b) Joe Gregory
- c) John Tate
- d) A. P. Williamson

5. The UKIT originally was created to:

- a) Provide financial aid to college basketball programs
- b) Compete with other tournaments throughout the country
- c) Return college basketball to the campus
- d) Showcase the basketball Wildcats

6. In 1965, UK posted the largest victory margin (91-56) so far in the UKIT. Who was

the opponent?

- a) Washington State
- b) Indiana
- c) Rich Kelley
- d) Connie Hawkins

7. What former NBA player pulled down 27 rebounds vs. the 'Cats in a UKIT during the 1970s?

- a) Freeman Williams
- b) John "Hot" Rod Williams
- c) Rich Kelley
- d) Connie Hawkins

8. UK has won how many UKIT title since the tournament first was held in 1953?

- a) 20
- b) 27
- c) 30
- d) 35

9. Which of the following teams did not participate in the first UKIT?

- a) LaSalle
- b) UCLA
- c) Duke
- d) North Carolina

10. Which of the following UK players scored a total of 57 points for the 'Cats in the UKIT? Hint: He was not a Kentucky native.

- a) Cliff Hagan
- b) Wallace Jones
- c) Rex Chapman
- d) Cotton Nash

Answers

- 1. Bainbridge
- 2. Arkansas State
- 3. Reggie Hanson (14)
- 4. John Tate (Ark. State)
- 5. Return basketball to the campus
- 6. Indiana
- 7. Rich Kelley
- 8. 27
- 9. North Carolina
- 10. Cotton Nash (1962)

Five Years Ago

➤ Kenny Walker scored 32 points and grabbed 15 rebounds, but the Wildcats made a few critical mistakes toward the final minutes and fell to Louisville, 71-64, in "Dream Game IV" in Freedom Hall.

Walker had hit a semi-hook to give the Wildcats a 42-41 lead (their last) when James Jeter, falling out of bounds, somehow managed to carom the ball off James Blackmon's leg.

Louisville retained possession and went ahead with a baseline 12-footer from Billy Thompson. A few seconds later, Thompson hit a double-pump 14-footer from the baseline that upped the margin to three with 8:03 remaining.

With U of L clinging to a four-point lead (55-51) freshman forward Richard Madison's short jumper was rejected by Thompson. Madison responded by reaching in and committing his fifth foul. Thompson hit the front end of a one-plus-one.

UK's big miscue came with 2:49 to play, when the Wildcat defense left Jeff Hall wide open from 22 feet. Hall's goal gave the Cardinals a 58-53 lead. Three seconds later, the junior from Ashland stole a Bret Bearup in-bound pass and was fouled by Bearup. Hall hit the one-and-one to extend the Cardinal lead to 60-53 with 2:46 left.

Besides Walker's 32 points, only three other UK players scored. In his starting debut, Winston Bennett hit six of 14 from the field and two of three from the line for 14 points before his hometown folks. Roger

Oscar Combs

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any Kentucky need, such as being an asset to recruiting.

Pitino would rather schedule games in the East, especially the New York area, where he plans to recruit heavily in the future. His theory is that a team needs to play in locales where it plans to recruit.

UK's current schedule, other than the SEC slate and some existing contracts such as Louisville, IU and Notre Dame, was made by Newton at a time when UK was without a coach this past spring.

Pitino was hired after the schedule was made.

Had Williams been more of a gentleman, he would have called his scrubs in much earlier. Perhaps he knew Kentucky would probably not return to Lawrence again after this year and he

became greedy. He and his assistants sure lived in glory as the margin hit the 50 mark.

But Williams and his Jayhawks should have never been given the opportunity. That was a terrible scheduling mistake, one which should have never happened. Neither should Carolina be on this year's schedule. But the schedule has been etched in stone and these young kids will have to withstand the pain.

Still, the 55-point defeat will forever ring in the ears of both Pitino and the few loyal players who chose to stay and rebuild the Big Blue tradition. They weren't the ones to bring shame to this program and they don't deserve the burden of creating this record.

Someone else should have to carry this cross.