

Back Thru The Wildcat Years

Five Years Ago

*The Kentucky zone defense, plus the hot hands of Jim Master and Kenny Walker, led the 'Cats to a 73-61 victory over the Florida Gators in the O'Connell Center on the Florida campus. UK's aggressive zone forced the Gators to shoot 20-foot jumpers and did not allow them to utilize their strong inside game. Kentucky held a 33-28 halftime lead and slowly built on it the rest of the game. Four UK players were in double figures, led by Walker and Master with 18 points each. Walker also grabbed eight rebounds to lead the 'Cats in that category.

*Kentucky won its fifth game in a row, handing Vanderbilt an 82-63 whitewashing in Rupp Arena before a crowd of 23,782. Again it was Jim Master and Kenny Walker leading the way as Mast hit eight of 10 shots for 22 points and Walker scored 16 points and grabbed a career-high 18 rebounds. He

became the first 'Cat to grab more than 13 rebounds in a game this season. UK started fast and with the score 15-8 in UK's favor, the Wildcats outscored the Commodores 25-7 and took a 44-21 halftime lead. Vandy shot only 19.4 percent in the first half. The Commodores could get no closer than 53-39, but Master then hit from the top of the key and Walker had a stuff and sank two free throws. Te win moved the Wildcats to 10-4 in SEC play and 18-5 overall.

*The Lady Kats said goodbye to seniors Valerie Still, Lea Wise, Patty Jo Hedges and Terri Naiser with a 77-55 blowout of Auburn in front of 8,223 at Memorial Coliseum. Still led all scorers with 21 points and also had 10 rebounds. Wise added 10 points and nine assists, while Hedges score 12 and dished out seven assists.

Eight Years Ago

*Kentucky traveled to Las Vegas and turned

the tables on the Runnin' Rebels of UNLV with a 74-69 win, UK's seventh in a row and the 24th on the season. Sam Bowie, recruited heavily by Jerry Tarkanian at Vegas, hit on a variety of dunks and outside shots to lead the 'Cats with 23 points. Kyle Macy added 14 points and Fred Cowan chipped in with 11 as Kentucky hit on 14 of 19 second-half shots from the field, after leading 42-40 at the half. Sidney Green led Vegas with 17.

*Kentucky jumped out to a 20-2 lead and then went on to ease by Vanderbilt 91-73 in a game played in Memorial Gymnasium in Nashville. UK freshman Sam Bowie was awesome in perhaps his best performance of the year. Bowie finished with 20 points and nine rebounds and was intimidating from the outset, blocking six shots in the first half alone. Kyle Macy led the 'Cats in scoring with 22, hitting nine of 13 shots. Fred Cowan added 20 points and Dirk Minniefield 11. Mike Rhodes scored 18 for Vandy.

*In a game in which coach Joe Hall could find few faults, the Wildcats blasted Florida 95-70 after jumping out to an early 43-25 halftime lead. Nine Wildcats played over 10 minutes and seven over 20 as several players performed well coming off the bench. While Sam Bowie led all scorers with 19 points, Derrick Hord came off the bench to toss in 18. Fred Cowan, Kyle Macy and Jay Shidler also scored in double figures for the winning 'Cats.

Nine Years Ago

*UK survived a late scare from Ole Miss to win 82-77 in the first round of the SEC tournament. Ole Miss cut a 16-point UK lead to 80-77 with under a minute to go before Kyle Macy sank a pair of foul shots with five seconds left. Macy was brilliant, scoring a career-high 32 points.

*In one of the most classic games ever seen in the South, Kentucky outraced Alabama 101-100 in a wild shootout in the second round of the SEC tourney. It was racehorse basketball at its best. UK hit a sizzling 68.3 percent on 43 of 63, while Alabama converted 41 of 71 for 57.7 percent. Truman Claytor scored 25 points to lead Kentucky. Kyle Macy added 22. Reggie King led the way for the Tide, scoring 38 points and hauling in 11 rebounds.

*UK dumped a highly-ranked and heavily-favored LSU team 80-67 behind the guard tandem of Kyle Macy and Truman Claytor. The game was actually not as close as the final score would indicate. UK jumped out in front 15-14 and led the rest of the way. With 18 minutes gone in the game, the 'Cats stunned everyone by leading 51-30. Macy was sensational again, hitting 10 of 15 shots from the field and scoring 29 points. Claytor finished with 20 points. UK managed to win without the services of freshman sensation Dwight Anderson, who broke his wrist in the game's opening minutes.

Twelve Years Ago

*In one of the most entertaining games of the year, Kentucky hit 65 percent from the floor and defeated Auburn 93-82 in Memorial Coliseum. Jack Givens led UK with 27 points, hitting 12 of 18 from the field, and Mike Phillips added 24, making 12 of 17 field goal attempts. James Lee bulled his way to 17 points and seven rebounds. Mike Mitchell led Auburn with 28 points.

Thirteen Years Ago

*Over 15,043 spectators in Tuscaloosa, Ala., and a regional-television audience watched as Kentucky nipped the Crimson tide 84-79 to tie for the SEC lead with fifth-ranked Alabama. Both teams are now 13-2 in con-

ference play.

Kentucky once trailed by 12 points and by five at the half. Bob Guyette came off the bench to get 17 points and Kevin Grevey, benched for almost 20 minutes, came back to score 16. It was the 20th win for the 'Cats, their 25th 20-win season.

*UK went almost 10 minutes without a basket and lost its first-place tie with Alabama for the SEC lead, dropping a 66-58 decision to Florida in Alligator Alley. Gene Shy led the Gator upset with 20 points, while Kevin Grevey matched that mark to lead UK.

Fourteen Years Ago

*When the two teams met earlier in the year in Lexington, Kentucky blasted Ole Miss 93-64. So when the 'Cats packed their bags and headed for Oxford, Miss., it was payback time for the Rebs. Ole Miss freshman Gary Yoder swiped the ball away from Kentucky's Kevin Grevey with 1:15 left in the game and the 'Cats clinging to a 60-59 lead. Rebel coach Bob Jarvis elected to freeze the ball until :17 showed on the clock, and who else, Yoder drove the basket and threw up the winning shot.

Seventeen Years Ago

*Tom Payne, Kent Hollenbeck and Mike Casey starred as UK defeated Georgia 107-95. Payne led the 'Cats in scoring with a season-high of 34 points. Hollenbeck contributed 28 and Casey had 21. Payne also pulled down 15 boards.

*Kentucky dominated the glass and hit 54.3 percent of its shots from the field to run its SEC record to 12-2 by handing LSU its worst defeat of the season by a score of 110-73. Tom Payne scored 39 points, the high for any team member this year, and equalled his own season high of 19 rebounds, which he had done three previous times. Bill Newton led LSU with 24 points.

Eighteen Years Ago

*Behind 47 points from Dan Issel, Kentucky defeated Alabama 98-89 to wrap up the third straight SEC title for the Wildcats. UK is now 14-1 in league play.

*Al McGuire pulled his Marquette team out of the NCAA tournament because the Warriors were denied a spot in the Mideast Regional. Marquette had split two games with UK the previous two years in the Mideast, and McGuire said the UK coach Adolph Rupp may have had something to do with his team not being invited back to the region.

*UK has overtaken UCLA for first place in the *Associated Press* college poll, while the Bruins continued to hold the top spot in the *United Press International* rankings. Kentucky has been no lower than third this year. UCLA saw its 21-game win streak snapped by Oregon, falling 78-65 to the Ducks.

Thirty-Two Years Ago

*Paced by a 25-point outburst by sophomore guard Vernon Hatton, UK downed Mississippi State 86-65 before 7,000 fans in Lexington. UK never trailed in winning for the 16th time in 19 games. Hatton hit eight of nine shots from the field. Bob Burrow scored 15 points and Jerry Bird kicked in 10 as 11 different Wildcats scored. Jim Ashmore scored 24 points for State.

*Dick Heise scored with :12 left to give DePaul an 81-79 win over Kentucky in Chicago. For Adolph Rupp's 'Cats, which had beaten the Blue Demons 16 straight times, it was the fourth loss of the season. UK led 76-66 with five minutes to go. Vernon Hatton, the flashy UK sophomore guard, scored 32 points. Bob Burrow was the only other 'Cat in double digits with 25.

WILDCAT QUIZ

1. True or False? Kentucky Coach Eddie Sutton has never lost a game at Florida's O'Connell Center.

2. What Big Ten team did Florida eliminate from the NCAA tournament last season?
a) Indiana
b) Illinois
c) Purdue
d) Northwestern

3. What former NBA player holds the Gator record for the most free throws attempts in one season?
a) Neal Walk
b) Rick Barry
c) Ronnie Williams
d) Andrew Moten

4. Who was Florida's last SEC Freshman of the Year?
a) Ronnie Williams
b) Vernon Maxwell
c) Andrew Moten
d) Bob Hoffman

5. In reference to Dwayne Schintzius, someone once said: "Before he's through at Florida he'll be the dominate center in college basketball." Who said this?
a) Dwayne Schintzius
b) Will Perdue
c) Winston Bennett
d) Norm Sloan

6. Which Gator player holds the school record for the most games played in a career?
a) Chip Williams
b) Eugene McDowell
c) Andrew Moten
d) Malcolm Cesare

7. Florida assistant Monte Towe was a part of a national championship team as a player. What team was he on?
a) North Carolina
b) Marquette
c) North Carolina State
d) UCLA

8. What NBA player holds the O'Connell Center record by an opponet for the most rebounds in one game?
a) Charles Oakley
b) Kenny Walker
c) Charles Barkley
d) Carlos Clark

9. Who was the Gators' leading rebounder two years ago?
a) Joe Hobbs
b) Kenny McClary
c) Eugene McDowell
d) Randall Leath

10. True or False? Florida has never appeared in the postseason NIT.



Answers

1. False (UK lost at Florida last year 74-56)
2. Purdue
3. Neal Walk
4. Andrew Moten (1984)
5. Norm Sloan
6. Eugene McDowell
7. North Carolina State (1974)
8. Charles Barkley (17)
9. Kenny McClary
10. False