

Stein, Cats adding through portal

BY JOSEPH RUSSELL
PAXTON MEDIA GROUP

Less than a day after flipping former Notre Dame quarterback Kenny Minchey to Kentucky, Wildcats coaches continued building their 2026 roster through the NCAA transfer portal on what turned out to be a busy Tuesday.

With four more additions, Kentucky is up to eight new faces through the portal — a group that 247Sports currently ranks inside the top 10 of the best transfer classes in the nation.

Minchey, who had committed to Nebraska last weekend before switching to the Cats on Monday, appeared in six games for the Fighting

Irish in 2025 and is considered one of the top transfer quarterbacks in the nation.

Former UK head coach Mark Stoops famously used the transfer portal to find experienced players over the years — most notably quarterbacks Will Levis, Devin Leary and Zach Calzada — and first-year UK coach Will Stein has followed suit with his inaugural recruiting class.

On Tuesday, Kentucky also landed Tennessee offensive lineman Max Anderson, Oklahoma running back Jovante Barnes, Florida safety Aaron Gates and Purdue defensive tackle Jamarrion Harkless.

They'll join a group that already includes Gardner-

Webb edge rusher Antonio O'Berry, Baylor center Coleton Price and Arkansas linebacker Tavion Wallace.

Minchey and Price are the most coveted prizes so far for UK, as both come in rated as four-star transfers. Every other player is considered a three-star prospect by 247Sports, though all but one were four-star recruits out of high school.

In three seasons at Notre Dame, Minchey completed 23 of 29 pass attempts for 212 yards, along with 96 rushing yards and a pair of touchdowns on the ground. The 6-foot-2, 208-pounder was in the mix for Notre Dame's starting job before ultimately losing out to CJ Carr.

"He's good enough to be the starting quarterback at Notre Dame," Irish coach Marcus Freeman said of Minchey before the season began. "It was a tough decision — the statistics were very similar. At the end of the day, I had to throw it out the window and make it on other factors."

"(Minchey's) decision-making, arm strength, leadership in his own way — he's gained more trust from the start of spring ball to now more than anyone in our program."

Price, a 6-3, 318-pound Texas native, started 31 consecutive games at Baylor and will have one more year of eligibility remaining in

Lexington.

Barnes, a 6-foot, 211-pounder from Las Vegas, rushed for 1,236 yards in his first three seasons at Oklahoma but was limited to just four games this past fall in an effort for the Sooners to redshirt him for another year of eligibility.

Gates, a 6-foot, 198-pound Georgia native, played in 10 games for Florida in 2024 but missed most of 2025 with a shoulder injury.

Anderson, a 6-5, 311-pounder from Texas, just wrapped up his redshirt freshman campaign at Tennessee.

Harkless, a 6-3, 345-pound Lexington native, returns to his hometown after spending

the last two seasons at Purdue. He previously starred at Frederick Douglass High School.

Kentucky's defense also got another boost from the return of defensive back Nasir Addison, who entered the transfer portal before later deciding on a return to the Cats.

The NCAA transfer window lasts for 15 days and will close Jan. 16, with an extended window for national championship game participants. Stein will take over the Cats as soon as his duties as Oregon's offensive coordinator in the College Football Playoff are over.

Analysis: High stakes as Ravens move on from Harbaugh era

BY NOAH TRISTER
ASSOCIATED PRESS

In three decades of existence, the Baltimore Ravens have had two primary owners, two general managers and three head coaches. Stability like that is hard to achieve in the NFL and should not be taken for granted.

Now the franchise heads down an uncertain path after firing John Harbaugh. It's a risk owner Steve Bisciotti clearly felt was worth taking.

"Our goal has always been and will always be to win championships," Bisciotti said in his statement Tuesday announcing Harbaugh's dismissal. "We strive to consistently perform at the highest level on the field and be a team and organization our fans take pride in."

When Harbaugh was hired before the 2008 season, he'd been an assistant in Philadelphia — the less famous older brother of Jim Harbaugh, the former quarterback who at the time was a college coach.

Then John won a championship in his fifth season with the Ravens, famously beating Jim head to head in the Super Bowl after the latter had become coach of the San Francisco 49ers. John Harbaugh's run in Baltimore ends with six division titles and four trips to the AFC championship game in 18 years.



Baltimore Ravens quarterback Lamar Jackson speaks during a news conference after an NFL football game against the Pittsburgh Steelers, Sunday, Jan. 4, 2026, in Pittsburgh.

But since Lamar Jackson was drafted in 2018, the Ravens have posted the third-best record in the NFL in the regular season while going just 3-6 in the playoffs. Blown leads and close losses became common, and Baltimore may have been the most disappointing team in the league this year, finishing 8-9.

As is often the case when a coach is fired, those who were spared will be under even more scrutiny. In Baltimore, that's Jackson and general

manager Eric DeCosta.

AN MVP TALENT

Jackson already has two MVPs, and the star quarterback's best year might have been 2024, when he didn't win. He threw for 4,172 yards and 41 touchdowns that season with only four interceptions, while also running for 915 yards.

The Ravens don't have to unlock some never-before-seen level of performance from Jackson. They need a return



Baltimore Ravens head coach John Harbaugh watches during the first half of an NFL football game against the Green Bay Packers, Saturday, Dec. 27, 2025, in Green Bay, Wis.

to the way he played just one season ago — and for the team as a whole, Jackson included, to stay close to that level in the playoffs.

This season, Jackson dealt with multiple injuries and didn't look all that comfortable when he did play. The result was a surprisingly average season in which he wasn't nearly the running threat he usually is. But even so, with the division title at stake last weekend at Pittsburgh, Jackson put Baltimore in position to win three different times in the fourth quarter, only for the defense and kicking game to let the Ravens down.

Baltimore now has to decide what to prioritize. Should the new coach be someone hired to bring out the best in Jackson. They need a return

again, on and off the field? Or are the Ravens confident their quarterback, who turned 29 on Wednesday, will rebound mostly on his own, freeing them up to look perhaps at a more defensive-minded option?

CONSTRUCTING THE ROSTER

The Ravens didn't make too many major moves before this season, reaching a new deal with tackle Ronnie Stanley and adding receiver DeAndre Hopkins. They largely stood pat, which didn't work out too well when the team regressed, especially in the trenches. Baltimore's pass rush wasn't great, with younger players failing to develop fast enough and

veteran Kyle Van Noy slowing down.

The offensive line paid a price for relying on less proven players at the guard position.

DeCosta has a lot of areas to improve on this roster, and he'll also need to work out a new deal with Jackson to provide some short-term salary cap relief.

POSSIBLE CANDIDATES

The Ravens don't necessarily need a coach who can succeed for another 18 years. They need someone who can win big during the current window with Jackson. A couple former Baltimore assistants are now defensive coordinators elsewhere — Jesse Minter of the Los Angeles Chargers and Anthony Weaver of Miami.

Brian Flores, Kliff Kingsbury, Robert Saleh and Kevin Stefanski have head coaching experience with varying levels of success.

Seattle offensive coordinator Klint Kubiak and Los Angeles Rams defensive coordinator Chris Shula could be in line for their first head coaching opportunities.

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AMES

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appearances and a Sweet 16 in that time. He came out after his second foul with 17:12 left in the first half and didn't return until the 9:19 mark. He finally scored with 6:11 left in the first half, then had 20 points after halftime.

"I'd take him over any point guard in America," Ozelberger said. "Obviously, not having Tamin out there quite as much in the first half impacted where the game was at. But man, in that second half, the plays he made, the shots he made, it was amazing — especially when you have to bounce back when your normal routine and rhythm of a game is disrupted because of the fouls."

After the Cyclones shot



Iowa State guard Tamin Lipsey (3) goes up for a shot against Baylor center Jame Nnaji during the first half of an NCAA college basketball game Wednesday, Jan. 7, 2026, in Waco, Texas.

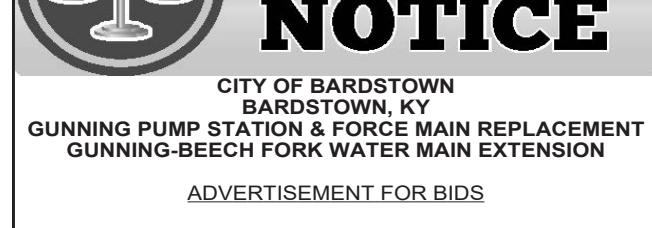
27.8% from the field (10 of 36) in the first half, they were at 57.1% (16 of 28) after halftime.

On the defensive side, they held Baylor to 18.8% (6 of 32) before halftime and 30.6% (19 of 62) overall.

"Iowa State is a really good team. If you ask me, right

now, today, them and Michigan are the two best in college basketball," Baylor coach Scott Drew said.

"They're not going to beat themselves. They know exactly where they're going to be, how they're going to do things. T.J. has done a great job with them."



Sealed Bids for the construction of the Gunning Pump Station and Force Main Replacement and Gunning-Beech Fork Water Main Extension will be received, by the City of Bardstown, at the office of the City Clerk, 220 North Fifth Street, Bardstown, KY 40004, until 2:00 p.m. local time on January 20, 2026, at which time the Bids received will be publicly opened and read. The Project consists of constructing a replacement Gunning sanitary sewer pump station and appurtenances, 8-inch and 12-inch gravity sewer lines and appurtenances, 8-inch force main including horizontal directional drilling (HDD) crossing of Beech Fork, and 20-inch and 16-inch water main installation including HDD crossing of Beech Fork.

Bids will be received for a single prime Contract. Bids shall be on a unit price basis, as indicated in the Bid Form.

The Issuing Office for the Bidding Documents is: Lynn Imaging, 328 Old Vine Street, Lexington, KY 40507, Phone: 859-255-1021, Website: www.lynnimaging.com. Prospective Bidders may obtain copies of the Bidding Documents from the Issuing Office as described below.

Bidding Documents also may be examined online at: Builders Exchange of Kentucky, Inc. www.bxkentucky.com and McGraw-Hill Construction/Dodge www.mcgraw-hill.com.

Bidding Documents may be obtained from the Issuing Office from 8 a.m. to 5 p.m., Monday through Friday. Bidding Documents are available by electronic download (as portable document format (PDF) files) for a non-refundable charge of \$230.00. Alternatively, printed Bidding Documents may be obtained from the Issuing Office either via in-person pick-up or via mail, upon Issuing Office's receipt of payment for the Bidding Documents. The non-refundable cost of printed Bidding Documents is \$260.00 per set, payable to "Lynn Imaging", plus a non-refundable shipping charge. Upon Issuing Office's receipt of payment, printed Bidding Documents will be sent via the prospective Bidder's delivery method of choice; the shipping charge will depend on the shipping method chosen. The date that the Bidding Documents are transmitted by the Issuing Office will be considered the prospective Bidder's date of receipt of the Bidding Documents. Partial sets of Bidding Documents will not be available from the Issuing Office. Neither Owner nor Engineer will be responsible for full or partial sets of Bidding Documents, including Addenda if any, obtained from sources other than the Issuing Office.

If Owner awards the contract for the work, such award shall be to the responsible Bidder submitting the lowest responsive total Bid. The project is planned to be funded by a Kentucky Infrastructure Authority (KIA) Fund B Revolving Loan and is subject to the requirements of that funding program.

A pre-bid conference will be held for this project at the Bardstown City Hall Annex building. Attendance at the pre-bid conference is highly encouraged but is not mandatory. Schedule and information regarding the pre-bid conference will be provided to all plan holders.

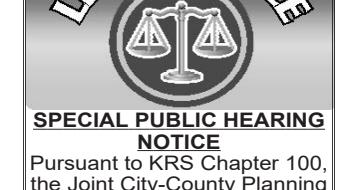
Bid security shall be furnished in accordance with the Instructions to Bidders.

Owner: City of Bardstown

By: Jessica Filiatreau, P.E.

Title: City Civil Engineer

Date: December 21, 2025



Pursuant to KRS Chapter 100, the Joint City-County Planning Commission of Nelson County will hold a special public hearing and meeting (Agenda #592) on Tuesday, January 27, 2026 at 5:30 p.m. in the Nelson County Civic Center, 321 South Third Street, Bardstown to consider the following:

Application #2786 — Hayden Enterprises has filed an application to rezone 2.395 acres located on the west side of Hayden Drive and approximately 560 feet north of Bloomfield Road and approximately 225 feet east of Buchanan Avenue, from LIP (Light Industrial Commercial Park) to R-3 (Multi-Family Residential District).

Application #3300 — Hayden Enterprises has filed an application for a 16.3-foot variance from the required 30-foot rear yard setback for two multifamily structures located on the west side of Hayden Drive and approximately 560 feet north of Bloomfield Road and approximately 225 feet east of Buchanan Avenue.

Application #2787 — Ken Haverly (Applicant/Owner) & Bourbon City Developers, LLC (Co-Applicant/Developer) has filed an application to rezone 20.18 acres located at 117 Haverly Drive, from A-1 (Agricultural District) to R-1B (Single Family Residential District).

Application #2788 — Seth Choate has filed an application for an A-1 (Agricultural District) Planned Unit Development for Recreational Facilities (campground/RV park).

Application #2789 — Bardstown Mills Properties, LLC (Thomas S. Hurst, Jr.) has filed an application to rezone 1.627 acres located at 1393 Withrow Court, from I-2 (Heavy Industrial District) to B-4 (General Business District).

Application #2790 — Raisor Home Builders Corporation (Luke Raisor) has filed an application to rezone 3.088 acres located at 379 Old Nazareth Road and adjoining Tract 2 of the William & Anna Miller Minor Subdivision Plat from R-1A (Single-Family Residential District) to R-1C (Single-Family Residential District).

A copy of the application(s) may be reviewed in the Planning Commission office at 989 Chambers Boulevard, Bardstown.

JOINT CITY-COUNTY PLANNING COMMISSION OF NELSON COUNTY



Baylor guard Cameron Carr (43) drives to the basket against Iowa State forward Joshua Jefferson (5) and guard Killyan Toure (27) during the second half of an NCAA college basketball game Wednesday, Jan. 7, 2026, in Waco, Texas.

Julio Cortez