

UK downs Little Rock 69-49 in sloppy preseason opener

BY COLE PARKE
PAXTON MEDIA GROUP

Kentucky men's basketball defeated former Cat Travis Ford's Little Rock Trojans 69-49 inside Rupp Arena last Friday.

The contest was the first of the preseason for the Wildcats and that fact showed, especially early on.

When it was all said and done, Kentucky had a staggering 19 turnovers, including a combined seven from **Zoom Diallo** and **Alex Wilkins**, which was only minimized by a less-than-impressive 15 Trojan turnovers as well. With that added together, it was a combined 34 turnovers for both teams to kick off the preseason.

"It's so normal. You can almost predict it in this first night," **Mark Pope** said postgame. "We're eager to grow. It's such a young group. I'm not overly concerned about it."

Part of the problem for Kentucky was the Little Rock press defense, which proved difficult to overcome at times, especially during a sequence in the middle of the second half in which Kentucky logged four turnovers in less than three minutes thanks to the press.

The Wildcats were also less impressive in the shooting department, finishing 25 for 57 from the

field for a field-goal percentage of 43.9%. Wilkins in particular found himself cold on the day, finishing with 11 points on 4-12 shooting and 2-8 3-point shooting. In spite of this, Kentucky as a team was solid from range, shooting 42.9% on 28 attempts.

Luckily for the Wildcats, Little Rock was even worse, finishing with a nightmare 31% from the field on 58 attempts and 10% (2-20) from beyond the arc.

Also of note, Kentucky finished the contest 7-12 from the free-throw line.

At the end of the day, though, that's what the preseason is for and it's also why Kentucky chose to schedule the Trojans ahead of higher-intensity preseason duels with UCF and Texas Tech, both of which are reigning NCAA Tournament teams.

The Cats were led in scoring in the victory by **Milan Momcilovic**, who finished with 16 points including four 3-pointers. Behind Momcilovic was Wilkins and true freshman **Mason Williams** (10).

"He's going to be really important for our team," Pope said of Momcilovic. "He just makes impossible shots. He just makes his gravity. He is just a problem. He got downhill a couple times tonight."

On the defensive end, Kentucky amassed eight

blocks, three of which were courtesy of **Malachi Moreno**. Moreno would finish four points short of a double-double in the game, amassing 11 rebounds. UK also logged nine steals in the victory.

With the dust settled, Kentucky fans are most likely to fondly remember the strong debut of true freshman Williams, who played well above his age in the contest with just one turnover and 4-5 shooting from the field. Fans were also able to see returner **Braydon Hawthorne** for the first time after he red-shirted last season. Hawthorne, while not perfect, showed flashes of what made him such a special prospect and also made a habit of using his length to his advantage to finish with seven points.

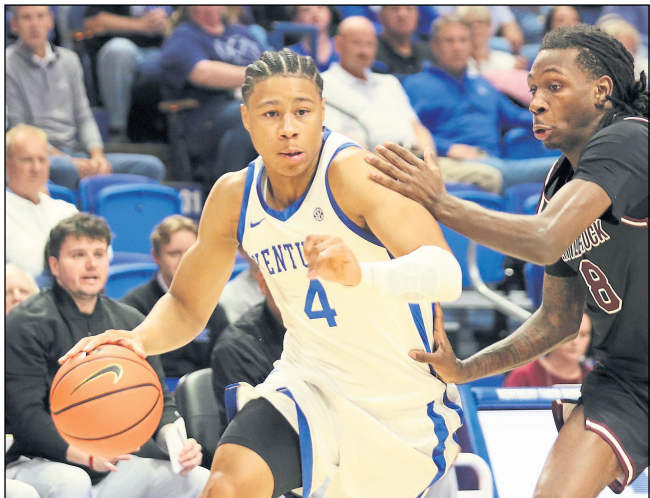
"I think we're barely scratching the surface," Pope said. "I thought Malachi had a great presence. The star of our defensive impact metric, which is a combination of deflections, blocks, steals and charges, Braydon Hawthorne was at 11 today. He was a double figure DIM guy. He has a chance to be a difference maker."

Franck Kepnang was also memorable in his 12 minutes on the floor, diving for loose balls and logging a block and steal despite not scoring a point.

Late in the contest, fans also got to see **Reece Potter** check into the game for the first time in his Kentucky career. Potter had one rebound. He'd be joined by Zyon Hawthorne later, who did not log any stats in one minute.

The Cats were without **Kam Williams**, **Trent Noah** and **Jerone Morton** in the contest due to injury.

Kentucky will continue its preseason slate on Friday, Oct. 23, against Texas Tech inside Rupp Arena. The Cats will tip off against the Red Raiders. (TV: Live on SEC+ ar 7 p.m.)



Darrell Bird/The Cats' Pause

Freshman Mason Williams drives the base line during Kentucky's exhibition win over Arkansas Little Rock Friday night at Rupp Arena.

ABOYA

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some space there. He's going to have a huge impact there."

Africa is also personal for Pope.

"I spent probably more time as a head coach than any head coach in America in Africa," Pope said, highlighting trips to Mali, Madagascar, Tanzania and Egypt. "It's an immense amount of talent and great people throughout Africa. The basketball is growing there so fast."

That's a point with evidence behind it, too.

On the team right now is Cameroonian Franck Kepnang, a big man which Aboya is expected to work with, and on the recruiting trail, Kentucky is involved with prospects Lewis Uvwo and Cherif Millogo, two targets that Pope might be hoping Aboya could lend a hand in landing.

Uvwo is one of the top shot blockers in the country on the recruiting trail, currently standing as a true five-star and the No. 1 center in the country (No. 7 national) in the class of 2027. Millogo meanwhile is a four-star prospect, the No. 6 center in the class of 2027 and the No. 44 national star.

Regardless, the message was clear. Pope may not have been quoted in the press release, but it's not because of a lack of confidence or belief in the hiring.

"He adds another dimension to our staff that's going to be really important for us long-term," Pope said.

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LEGAL NOTICE

Low Income Home Energy Assistance Program (LIHEAP)
Fuel Vendors

Tri-County Community Action Agency is soliciting fuel vendors (propane, firewood, kerosene/fuel oil and coal) wishing to participate in LIHEAP Subsidy and/or LIHEAP Crisis for the 2026/2027 fiscal year. Vendor packets are available at our three county offices and on our website. Previous vendors for the 2025-2026 fiscal year should receive an updated vendor packet in the mail. LIHEAP Subsidy operates November 9th, 2026, through December 18th, 2026. LIHEAP Crisis typically operates early January through the end of March or until available funds have been expended. We currently do not have a set date for the Crisis Program to begin for 2027. Please submit completed vendor packets to our Henry County location via mail, fax, or email by November 6, 2026.

Oldham County
1015 Dispatchers Way LaGrange, KY 40031
(502) 222-1349
Fax(502)222-0968

Henry County-Hope Community Center
684 Elm Street, Eminence, KY 40019
(502) 518-0524
Fax (502) 518-0509
tspurr@tccaaky.org

Trimble County
3240 West HWY 421 Bedford, KY 40006
(502) 255-7514
Fax (502) 255-7189

LEGAL NOTICE

In accordance with KRS 424.130; KRS 424.140; KRS 81A.420; and all other applicable law, the City of Carrollton hereby publishes this notice to inform voters who reside in the area of the proposed annexation, and landowners who own land in the area of the proposed annexation as described in Ordinance No. 2026-19, that they may, within sixty (60) days of publication of Ordinance No. 2026-19 on October 23, 2026, being no later than December 22, 2026, present a petition to Robb W. Adams, Mayor of the City of Carrollton, Carrollton City Hall, 750 Clay Street, Carrollton, Kentucky 41008, with signatures from fifty-one percent (51%) or more of the resident voters or owners of property in the area intended to be annexed, opposing the City of Carrollton's intent to annex the property as described in City of Carrollton Ordinance No. 2026-19. If fifty-one percent (51%) or more of the resident voters or owners of real property within the limits of the territory proposed to be annexed by the City of Carrollton present their petition within sixty (60) days of publication of Ordinance No. 2026-19 on October 23, 2026, being no later than December 22, 2026, the ordinance proposing annexation shall become ineffectual. If no petition containing fifty-one percent (51%) or more of the resident voters or owners of real property within the limits of the territory proposed to be annexed by the City of Carrollton is presented to the Mayor within sixty (60) days of publication of Ordinance No. 2026-19 on October 23, 2026, being no later than December 22, 2026, the City Council of the City of Carrollton may, having provided notice to the Carroll County Fiscal Court, enact an ordinance annexing the territory. The list of known voters and landowners may include: Kentucky Transportation Cabinet, Vickie R. Abbott, Jeffery L. Cull, George D. Cull, Freddie Lopez, and the City of Carrollton. Signed: /s/ Hon. Jake A. Thompson, Attorney for the City of Carrollton

LEGAL NOTICE

ORDINANCE #2026-19
AN ORDINANCE STATING INTENT TO ANNEX CERTAIN TERRITORY CONSISTING OF APPROXIMATELY 226.805 ACRES, ADJACENT TO THE CITY LIMITS.

WHEREAS, the City of Carrollton, Kentucky, is a Kentucky city other than a city of the first class and is authorized pursuant to KRS 81A.400 and KRS 81A.420 to annex unincorporated territory in accordance with the procedures established by Kentucky law; and,

WHEREAS, the City Council of the City of Carrollton has determined that it is in the best interest of the citizens of the City of Carrollton to annex the territory described in Exhibit "A", attached hereto and incorporated herein by reference, and map of said territory is attached hereto as Exhibit "B", and incorporated herein by reference;

WHEREAS, the City of Carrollton desires to annex the territory described in Exhibit "A", and illustrated in Exhibit "B", into the corporate limits of the City of Carrollton pursuant to KRS 81A.400 and KRS 81A.420; and,

WHEREAS, the territory proposed to be annexed is presently located outside the incorporated limits of the City of Carrollton and within Carroll County, and is contiguous and adjacent to the existing boundaries of the City of Carrollton, being all of the "Property" described in Exhibit "A", which is attached hereto and incorporated herein by reference; and,

WHEREAS, the City Council of the City of Carrollton has determined that the "Property" is eligible for annexation pursuant to KRS Chapter 81A; and,

WHEREAS, the City Council of the City of Carrollton has determined that it is desirable to annex the "Property" which is contiguous to the boundaries of the City of Carrollton; and,

WHEREAS, the City Council of the City of Carrollton desires to hereby state its intention to annex the Property.

NOW, THEREFORE, Be it ordained by the City Council, City of Carrollton, Commonwealth of Kentucky as follows:

(1) That the Property meets the requirements of KRS 81A.410 and meets the following criteria:

(A) The Property is contiguous to the boundaries of the City of Carrollton, Kentucky;

(B) The Property is urban in character and suitable for development for urban purposes without unreasonable delay; and,

(C) The Property is not included within the boundary of another incorporated city.

(2) The Property described in Exhibit "A", and shown in Exhibit "B" is and shall be the same Property which the City of Carrollton intends to annex, and the City of Carrollton does hereby expressly state and declare its intention to annex the Property;

(3) The Clerk of the City of Carrollton is directed to provide written notice of the proposed annexation to the owners of the record properties;

(4) Pursuant to KRS 100.209 and KRS 81A.420, the City intends to establish zoning for the Property, which shall be included in the annexation ordinance;

(5) This Ordinance may be waived, altered, or suspended only by a change of ordinance; and,

(6) This Ordinance shall become effective after two readings and publication requirements have been met.

This Ordinance had its first reading on September 14th, 2026; its second reading October 12th, 2026; was approved by the City Council on October 12th, 2026; and was published on October 23rd, 2026.

/s/ Robb W. Adams
Robb W. Adams, Mayor

ATTEST:
/s/ Melinda Wright
Melinda Wright, City Clerk-Treasurer

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July 15, 2026

PARCEL TO BE ANNEXED BY CARROLLTON, KENTUCKY
DESCRIPTION OF 226.805 ACRES

Located in Carroll County, Kentucky, and being a portion of the existing public right-of-way of Kentucky Highway 227 and the George David Cull, Vickie Rae Abbott, and Jeffery Lane Cull property (Deed Book 236, page 375) as recorded in the office of the Carroll County Clerk and is more particularly described as follows:

The bearings shown hereon are referenced to the Kentucky State Plane Coordinate System, Single Zone NAD83.

BEGINNING at a point in the northeasterly right-of-way line of Kentucky Highway 227 and in the existing southerly corporate limit of Carrollton, Kentucky;

THENCE with said northeasterly right-of-way line for the following twenty-five (25) courses:

1. S 26°30'59" E a distance of 275.13 feet to a point;

2. S 27°50'30" E a distance of 234.19 feet to a point;

3. S 35°19'19" E a distance of 222.36 feet to a point;

4. S 31°17'29" E a distance of 774.19 feet to a point;

5. S 25°34'51" E a distance of 201.00 feet to a point;

6. S 29°41'55" E a distance of 719.49 feet to a point;

7. S 32°41'22" E a distance of 275.68 feet to a point;

8. S 34°05'15" E a distance of 301.18 feet to a point;

9. S 31°13'30" E a distance of 200.25 feet to a point;

10. S 34°05'15" E a distance of 940.71 feet to a point;

11. S 33°53'43" E a distance of 100.47 feet to a point;

12. S 33°42'11" E a distance of 372.26 feet to a point;

13. S 34°13'10" E a distance of 413.77 feet to a point;

14. S 36°38'21" E a distance of 245.00 feet to a point;

15. S 32°49'30" E a distance of 75.17 feet to a point;

16. S 36°38'21" E a distance of 150.00 feet to a point;

17. S 33°24'53" E a distance of 142.23 feet to a point;

18. S 37°29'55" E a distance of 200.02 feet to a point;

19. S 43°13'12" E a distance of 340.13 feet to a point;

20. S 48°52'52" E a distance of 74.34 feet to a point;

21. S 54°53'16" E a distance of 341.36 feet to a point;

22. S 59°25'02" E a distance of 73.23 feet to a point;

23. S 74°44'19" E a distance of 75.69 feet to a point;

24. S 59°25'02" E a distance of 422.92 feet to a point;

25. with a curve turning to the right having an arc length of 1102.56 feet, a radius of 3889.72 feet, a chord bearing of S 51°17'49" E, and a chord length of 1098.87 feet, to a point at the corner of Cull, et al and Marshall Land Management, LLC (Deed Book 218, page 142);

THENCE with the common line of Cull, Marshall Land Management, LLC, CPW Properties LLC (Deed Book 235, page 200), Wal-Mart Real Estate Business Trust (Deed Book 146, page 464) and Carroll County Fair Association Foundation, Inc. (Deed Book 155, page 172) N 34°28'18" E a distance of 2421.29 feet to a point;

THENCE continuing with the common line of Cull, et al, Carroll County Fair Association Foundation, Inc. and Austin W. Dunn (Deed Book 211, page 44) S 55°54'40" E a distance of 859.99 feet to a point;

THENCE continuing with the common line of Cull, et al and Dunn N 35°19'10" E a distance of 1449.68 feet to a point at the common corner of Cull, et al and Cassandra C. Towles (Deed Book 229, page 391 & 393);

THENCE with the common line of Cull, et al and Towles S 51°26'39" E a distance of 1224.23 feet to a point at the common corner of Cull, et al and Troy Lee Bickers & Kathryn Ann Bickers (Deed Book 125, page 715);

THENCE with the common line of Cull, et al and Troy Lee Bickers & Kathryn Ann Bickers for the following four (4) courses:

1. S 63°21'22" W a distance of 155.82 feet to a point;

2. S 06°55'06" W a distance of 228.88 feet to a point;

3. S 12°22'17" E a distance of 109.12 feet to a point;

4. S 48°35'52" E a distance of 91.63 feet to a point;

THENCE continuing with the common line of Cull, et al and Troy Lee Bickers & Kathryn Ann Bickers for the following five (5) courses:

1. N 51°47'52" W a distance of 572.59 feet to a point;

2. N 52°05'24" W a distance of 312.74 feet to a point;

3. N 37°24'04" E a distance of 8.00 feet to a point;

4. with a curve turning to the left having an arc length of 380.06 feet, a radius of 20475.74 feet, a chord bearing of N 53°07'50" W, and a chord length of 380.05 feet, to a point;

5. N 53°19'59" W a distance of 942.78 feet to a point;

THENCE leaving said right-of-way line and thru said right-of-way and with the common line of Cull, et al and SSP Petroleum, LLC (Deed Book 199, page 434) S 47°23'22" W a distance of 262.43 feet to a point in the northeast right-of-way line of Kentucky Highway 227;

THENCE with said right-of-way line S 40°47'55" E a distance of 375.32 feet to a point;

THENCE leaving said right-of-way line and thru said right-of-way and with the common line of Cull, et al and SSP Petroleum, LLC (Deed Book 199, page 434) S 47°23'22" W a distance of 262.43 feet to a point in the northeast right-of-way line of the Carrollton Railroad (Deed Book 30, page 583 & 594);

THENCE with said right-of-way line for the following five (5) courses:

1. N 51°47'52" W a distance of 572.59 feet to a point;

2. N 52°05'24" W a distance of 312.74 feet to a point;

3. N 37°24'04" E a distance of 8.00 feet to a point;

4. with a curve turning to the left having an arc length of 380.06 feet, a radius of 20475.74 feet, a chord bearing of N 53°07'50" W, and a chord length of 380.05 feet, to a point;

5. N 53°19'59" W a distance of 942.78 feet to a point;

THENCE leaving said right-of-line N 33°56'09" E a distance of 55.85 feet to a point at the common corner of Cull, et al and Carrollton LLC (Deed Book 230, page 485);

THENCE with the common line of Cull, et al, and Carrollton LLC S 58°09'33" E a distance of 173.55 feet to a point;

THENCE continuing with the common line of Cull, et al, Carrollton LLC and Northern Kentucky MHMR Properties, Inc. N 33°40'07" E a distance of 484.37 feet to a point in the southwesterly right-of-way line of Kentucky Highway 227;

THENCE with said right-of-way line for the following twenty-one (21) courses:

1. with a curve turning to the left having an arc length of 970.56 feet, a radius of 3759.72 feet, a chord bearing of N 52°01'19" W, and a chord length of 967.87 feet, to a point;

2. N 59°25'02" W a distance of 569.15 feet to a point;

3. N 62°07'03" W a distance of 234.36 feet to a point;

4. N 46°04'33" W a distance of 308.50 feet to a point;

5. N 51°02'53" W a distance of 82.46 feet to a point;

6. N 34°31'34" W a distance of 181.68 feet to a point;

7. N 36°38'21" W a distance of 1129.05 feet to a point;

8. with a curve turning to the right having an arc length of 103.05 feet, a radius of 2011.01 feet, a chord bearing of N 35°10'16" W, and a chord length of 103.04 feet, to a point;

9. N 33°42'11" W a distance of 372.26 feet to a point;

10. with a curve turning to the left having an arc length of 99.60 feet, a radius of 14850.35 feet, a chord bearing of N 33°53'43" W, and a chord length of 99.60 feet, to a point;

11. N 34°05'15" W a distance of 740.71 feet to a point;

12. N 36°56'59" W a distance of 200.25 feet to a point;

13. N 34°05'15" W a distance of 200.00 feet to a point;

14. N 35°59'21" W a distance of 301.34 feet to a point;

15. N 32°41'22" W a distance of 200.28 feet to a point;

16. S 86°26'16" W a distance of 53.02 feet to a point;

17. N 31°41'36" W a distance of 40.00 feet to a point;

18. N 36°41'56" E a distance of 27.15 feet to a point;

19. N 31°17'28" W a distance of 1701.74 feet to a point;

20. with a curve turning to the right having an arc length of 472.27 feet, a radius of 5829.58 feet, a chord bearing of N 28°58'14" W, and a chord length of 472.14 feet, to a point;

21. N 26°38'59" W a distance of 279.22 feet to a point;

THENCE leaving said southwesterly right-of-way line N 64°31'17" E a distance of 200.04 feet to the **POINT OF BEGINNING** containing 226.805 Acres, more or less.

STATE OF KENTUCKY
GREGORY A. LARISON
3357
LICENSED
PROFESSIONAL LAND SURVEYOR
10/24/26

ANNEXATION PLAT
CITY OF CARROLLTON
CARROLL COUNTY, KENTUCKY