

Kentucky Alumnus

VOLUME XII

LEXINGTON, KY., OCT. 1, 1941

NUMBER 1

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U. K. FOOTBALL JUBILEE, OCT. 11



Jackie Thompson

Jackie Thompson Returns To U. Of K.

When old grads gather at Stoll field on October 11 for the Wildcat Homecoming game with Vanderbilt, one of the most excited and eager spectators will be Jackie Thompson. For Jackie gave Kentucky its start in football and he wants to see how much it has grown since he was rocking the Wildcat cradle.

Fifty years ago Paul Anderson, former dean of the Engineering college, saw 145-pound Jackie playing halfback for a great Purdue eleven. Anderson asked Thompson to come to Lexington to help the State boys with their football team. Jackie bought a ticket to Lexington and arrived to find that Kentucky was to play a game with VMI the next day. He coached the boys on the train and before the game. Despite his efforts, the Bluegrass boys played raggedly, and in order to help, Jackie slipped on a sweater and played the remainder of the afternoon.

After he had finished at Kentucky, he went back to Purdue. When he

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Homecoming Game Will Honor Service Men

By FRED HILL

This could be a feature, but because of the million and one details that we want to tell you about, this account of the plans for the annual homecoming day celebration slated here October 11 will have to be strictly news.

For one thing, this is not an ordinary homecoming. This is the fiftieth homecoming day in which football has played a part. This is the golden anniversary year of football at UK.

The opponent of that day is Vanderbilt, a team Kentucky has defeated but once in the long rivalry of the two schools. The result of last year's game was a tie; the year before last Coach Kirwan broke ice on the Commodores for the first time. This year he's out to prove it wasn't just luck.

Festivities really start on Friday night with a pep rally and shirt-tail parade. The chief speaker on that pep rally will be Jackie Thomp-



Ab Kirwan

HOMECOMING PROGRAM OCTOBER 10-11, 1941

Friday night, October 10—Pep rally, Stoll Field. Jackie Thompson—first coach of U. K., Leader.

Saturday, October 11—Alumni Headquarters, Lafayette Hotel. Registration of Alumni in lobbies of Lafayette and Phoenix Hotels.

11:00 a.m. — Luncheon honoring all "K" men and former Coaches, Lafayette Hotel.

1:45 p.m.—Program in honor of all U. of K. men in Military

2:00 p.m.—Vanderbilt vs Kentucky, Homecoming Game, Stoll Field.

4:30 p.m.—President and Mrs. Donovan receiving alumni, students and friends at Maxwell Place.

9:00 p.m.—Dance, Student Union Building. All students, friends, and alumni.

son, first coach of the Wildcats. Mr. Thompson, who prefers to be called Jackie, came to Lexington in 1892 from Purdue to teach and play football here. Proud of his position as pathfinder for the Wildcats, he has gladly accepted an invitation from the Athletic Department to be guest of honor for the week-end and will remain here through Sunday. His home now is in Franklin, Indiana.

Saturday morning a group of appointed judges will rate the best decorated fraternity and sorority houses. All of those houses, incidentally, will be open to alumni and friends during the entire day. And a number of them are planning receptions, luncheons and dinners for the alumni.

At eleven o'clock Saturday in the Lafayette Hotel there will be a luncheon for all alumni who while in school earned a "K" in some varsity sport. At that affair the guests of honor will be the ex-Kentucky coaches and so far the following have accepted the athletic department's invitation to be its guests during the week-end:

Jackie Thompson (Purdue)—1892-'93.

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Kentucky Alumnus

Official Organ of the Alumni Association of the University of Kentucky published quarterly on the campus of the University, at Lexington. Subscription to non-members, \$1.00. Membership (Type A) in the Association includes subscription to the Alumnus.

Entered as Second Class Matter at the Post Office at Lexington, Ky., May 22, 1929, under the act of March 3, 1879.

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VOL. XII OCTOBER, 1941 NO. 1

ALUMNI PARTICIPATION

The magnificent expansion program for the University, as outlined by President Donovan; the preparation for the celebration of the 50th anniversary, or Golden Jubilee, of football on the campus; and the many other items that are of interest to alumni, all lead up to one point—an active Alumni Association. As a paid member of your Association for this year, 1941-42, you are in a position to assist materially in the development of the Association by urging other members who are eligible to follow your example. Each of you is to be congratulated upon having become an active participant in the affairs of the University through your active membership in the Alumni Association because by so doing you have shown conclusively not only your interest but also your belief and conviction that the Alumni Association can perform a real service in behalf of our University.

Wherever you are located, one of your responsibilities is that of forming a club of Kentucky men and women and activating that club in behalf of the University program.

An excellent example of what can be done is that of the Greater Louisville Club, which is doing such an admirable piece of work in publicizing our University through its club activities. The officers and the members of this club are to be congratulated upon the very fine piece of work that they are doing. It is hoped that many more such clubs will be organized throughout Kentucky within the next few months.

In an issue of the Princeton Leader, from Princeton, Kentucky, dated September 29, 1941, Gracean M. Pedley, Class of 1916, owner and editor, wrote the following editorial. The thoughts contained in this editorial are so pertinent to the new program of the University that I have taken the liberty of reprinting it for the benefit of the active members of our Alumni Association, all of whom I am sure will appreciate it.

G. Lee McClain
Executive Secretary
Alumni Association

"... SO LIMITED FOR SERVICE"

President H. L. Donovan, of the University of Kentucky, who has spent a good many years administering public schools in Kentucky from a one-room country school to the State's largest educational institution, told his board of trustees, and the people of Kentucky last week via the public prints, "I have never administered an institution where the budget was so limited for the services expected of the institution."

And thousands of alumni of the University of Kentucky well know the new president, who probably has been shocked at finding out the immensity of his task and the inadequacy of funds allocated to the rapidly growing (in point of number of enrollees) institution of which he recently assumed the presidency.

Kentuckians all over the State know their university never has been given money enough properly to perform the huge task expected of it. For 50 years many of those good citizens who concern themselves with basic shortcomings of Kentucky have striven, in good times and in bad, to obtain more money for the State University.

It begins to appear that in Dr. Donovan, close friend of Gov. Keen Johnson and able worker in the Kentucky field of education since his youth, may be just the man who can focus attention of and lead a campaign among that element of our citizenry who will, brooking no denial, push forward toward the goal which will establish the University of Kentucky on a plane commensurate with the State's glorious history and the accomplishments of her sons and daughters throughout 150 years of unmatched leadership in the nation's development.

It is sheer folly to expect Kentuckians, because of a noble heritage, to be able to compete with the best educated brains of the other 47 states unless their educational opportunities are at least something like as good.

Governor Johnson has pledged himself to complete rehabilitation of the State's other institutions, penal and eleemosynary, begun in the Chandler administration, after the State debt has been paid off; and this is fine.

But there is no State institution as important to Kentucky now or in the future as the University. And we very much hope Governor Johnson, graduate of the University and past president of the alumni association, will find a way to help his good friend President Donovan establish the University of Kentucky on the kind of basis every Kentuckian would be proud to see it in . . . among the very top ranking State universities of the Nation. It cannot be in that category without adequate funds to hire the best instructors, to build proper physical facilities and equipment and to maintain an educational plant which will rank among the best.

True, Kentuckians always have achieved greatly in the face of hardships and handicaps; but this is no reason they could not make still greater places for themselves in "Fame's eternal camping ground" if educational advantages were better.

There have been many real improvements in Kentucky's educational system in recent years. More especially, we think, is the recent trend toward vocational training in high schools to be commended in that it affords our youth opportunity to gain skill in arts and crafts and thus to fill places where the living wage is far better than is the pay of many white-collar workers.

One-room shacks are fast fading from the scene in Kentucky and splendid consolidated schools line every road in the State.

But these things, admirable tho they are, do not excuse the State of Kentucky for gross neglect of her largest educational institution—a neglect which is widely recognized, openly admitted—and all too frequently ignored when the Legislature meets at Frankfort.

"WAY BACK WHEN"

The Alumni Office is starting a file to be known as "Way Back When," which will be an assortment of letters and communications from each of you, it is hoped, telling the most interesting facts, happenings, experiences, or what-have-you, relating to the days when you were a student here in the campus. Sit right down and start writing a letter to us wherein you can let your memories run rampant.

'42 U. K. Diamond Jubilee Year, Says President

In a recent interview, President H. L. Donovan issued this message to his fellow alumni:

"The first year of my administration as sixth president of the University of Kentucky will be highlighted by the seventy-fifth anniversary celebration of the existence of our Alma Mater. "In 1942 we will celebrate the Diamond Jubilee of the University, and all of our plans for the year will point to a grand homecoming and reunion of all alumni in June.

"At the request of Lee McClain, our secretary, I outlined briefly for you my hopes for the University following my appointment as president last spring. Now the time has come to be a little more specific, and again Mr. McClain has accorded me the privilege of placing the University's problems and needs in your care, so that you may be informed about your University, and so that you may be in the position of knowing much about your institution when you, as loyal alumni, have occasion to militate in her favor.

University Is Cooperative Enterprise

"I have told the faculty and student body that my conception of a University is that it is a cooperative enterprise, a partnership in which many people hold shares; it is not a one-man show, but it is an adventure in cooperation, in which many men and women, students, teachers and alumni, are working together for values they mutually deem worthy of their efforts. We are, therefore, asking each of you to take an interest in this enterprise and to assume your share of responsibility for its success. "Public support usually comes to that agency or institution that can present a united front and a reasonable program, adequately interpreted, to the people, therefore, I will try to tell you, as briefly as possible, what we hope and expect for the future." "We hope to obtain an increased amount for operating expenses this year, when we present our proposed budget to the General Assembly.

Field House Urgent Need

"The University budget will also contain a request for a field house, which is a crying need, for at present there is no auditorium on the campus large enough to hold the student body, no place where large agricultural meetings, sports events,

music contests, and other such gatherings can be adequately housed. The field house to be requested by the administration may be regarded as a general utility building, which would not only provide for a gymnasium with a basketball floor where from 10,000 to 12,000 might witness a game, but would also serve the University for an auditorium. A part of the building would be a dormitory for athletes, which could be built under the ramps at a very limited cost of what is frequently regarded as waste space.

"The building should include a swimming pool, and should also be constructed so that the football team could have space for practice in inclement weather. It would also serve as a fine place for ROTC activities, and the state basketball tournament should be entertained in such a building and would be large enough to take care of all who wished to be admitted. A building of this type would be of enormous value to the University and to the entire state, either directly or indirectly. "This is one of the more urgent needs of the University. Other buildings which the University needs include a fine arts building, a building for the College of Commerce, an addition to the present library, a museum an archives building, and dormitories for men and women.

Legislative Support Expected

"However, I want you to know what the University's urgent and immediate needs are, and what it hopes and expects to receive this year from the General Assembly. With your help, your cooperation, your enthusiasm for the University, when you have an opportunity to discuss its needs with the people of the state, it is our hope that most of these things will materialize.

"Always remember that in unity there is strength and in dissention there is weakness, and while you may not always agree with all of our ideas, I want you to know that what we have planned has been done with honesty and sincerity, keeping our one common interest always in mind, the purpose which the University, as such, must fulfill. The University needs to have every man and woman, every student, teacher and alumnus, working together for the common cause we represent, before we can attain those goals toward which we aim. We are working for something much bigger than any of us, therefore, we can give it our full measure of devotion.

"It is my hope that you will come to see me whenever you visit the campus, and that you will always give me the benefit of your experience and advice."

U. K. FOOTBALL JUBILEE, OCT. II

(Continued from Page 1)

- J. White Guyn (Kentucky)—1906-'08.
- Prentiss Douglass (Mich.)—1911.
- John J. Winn (Princeton)—1922-'23.
- Fred Murphy (Yale)—1924-26.
- Chet Wynne (Notre Dame)—1934-'37.

And of course on that list goes Ab Kirwan (Ky. '26) the present coach. Immediately before the game there will be a 15-minute special radio program—on a national hook-up—honoring all the University of Kentucky men now in service. The speaker will be President Donovan. Also on the program will be the "Best Band in Dixie" and the Pershing Rifle Company of the UK ROTC, the top drill unit in this corps area.

President and Mrs. Donovan will have an open house and a reception for all students, friends and alumni at Maxwell Place after the game.

And on Saturday night the annual Alumni dance will be held in the Bluegrass room of the Student Union building. Miss Margie McLaughlin, president of the Lexington Alumni Club will be in charge. Tickets will be \$1 per couple or stag.

Alumni headquarters will be in the Lafayette Hotel. A registration table, however, will also be set up in the lobby of the Phoenix.

JACKIE THOMPSON RETURNS TO U. OF K.

(Continued from Page 1)

wasn't playing for one of the two schools, he filled in by playing for an Indianapolis artillery team or any other outfit that could use a good player.

His coaching and playing did not earn him a livelihood and he had to secure other employment. There were no lucrative professional leagues then; college football had not become the big business it is today. In fact, Jackie's salary for his first year of coaching was a railroad ticket from Purdue to Lexington.

When Jackie became too old to compete in this young man's game, he settled in Edinburgh, Ind. where he ran a resort. One year the river flooded him out and he opened a gravel pit on his property which he still runs.

Jackie does not stack up physically of course, with the Kentucky halfbacks of today. He has a slight limp which he acquired from a leg injury in his gravel pit. But his fire and his spirit are still there and it will be his fire and spirit that have stretched over half a century that will accompany the Wildcats in their thrusts against Vanderbilt.

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E. Cronley Elliott, '02, Heads Alumni



Dr. E. Cronley Elliott

Letter From President of Alumni Association

October 1, 1941

Alumni and Friends:

The year of 1941 has been a history making year for the University of Kentucky. It has been a time when we have welcomed to the chair of President one of our members, a graduate of our institution. Under his administration we feel that the University will move forward in all lines of endeavor and in his behalf the Association solicits and expects the support of all her friends and alumni.

Our objective for 1941-42 is twofold. First that we will double the membership of our Alumni Association, and second that we will fully support our President, Dr. Donovan, and his plans for a greater University. To reach this goal it is necessary that we have the cooperation of every alumnus, old student, and Alumni Club.

DR. E. CRONLEY ELLIOTT
Pres., U.K. Alumni Association

1941 FOOTBALL SCHEDULE

Sept. 27—V. P. I.	Louisville
Oct. 4—W. & L.	Lexington, Va.
Oct. 11—Vanderbilt	Lexington (Homecoming)
Oct. 18—Xavier	Cincinnati
Oct. 25—West Va.	Lexington
Nov. 1—Alabama	Tuscaloosa
Nov. 8—Georgia Tech.	Atlanta
Nov. 15—Southwestern	Lexington
Nov. 22—Tennessee	Lexington

Officers Installed, Reports Made At June Meeting

Dr. E. Cronley Elliott, Lexington, loyal, long-time member of the executive committee of the University of Kentucky Alumni Association and member of the class of 1902, was installed as president of the association at the annual June meeting of that body held Friday, June 6 at the Student Union building, in connection with the alumni reunions and commencement festivities. Other new officers installed were: Miss Marguerite McLaughlin, '03, vice president; L. K. Frankel, '00 and Dr. George H. Wilson, '04, members of the executive committee for a period of three years.

The association welcomed as new president of the University of Kentucky one of its own members, Dr. Herman Lee Donovan, class of 1914, and received and accepted the reports of the secretary and treasurer.

On July 9, a special, called meeting of the executive committee was held at which time six names were recommended to the Board of Trustees to be voted on by the membership of the association for election to the Board of Trustees as alumni member, the term of Louis Hillenmeyer having expired. The following names were recommended by the executive committee for the vote of the association: J. Donald Dinning, Louisville; Herndon J. Evans, Pineville; Louis Hillenmeyer, Lexington; Joe T. Lovett, Murray, H. D. Palmore, Frankfort, and G. M. Pedley, Princeton.

At that meeting a committee was also appointed by President Elliott to make plans for the homecoming celebration October 11, during the Vanderbilt-Kentucky football game. The committee consists of Dr. G. Davis Buckner, Bernie A. Shively and Doctor Elliott.

The new president of the Alumni Association is a native of Lexington, and both his son, Dr. Richard G. Elliott, and his daughter, Dorothy Love, are alumni of the University. Mrs. Elliott, while not an alumna, has given freely of her time to the work of the association for many years, and has been a contributing factor to the success of many alumni festivities.

While a student at the University Doctor Elliott played football, basketball and baseball, was chairman of the committee which obtained permission for the students to dance on the campus, and was a member of Pi Kappa Alpha social fraternity.



Miss Margie McLaughlin

Doctor Elliott got his D.D.S. degree from the Louisville College of Dentistry in 1905, and has been a practicing dentist in Lexington since his graduation.

He has served as president of the Lexington Kiwanis Club, has held all offices from teacher to deacon in the Calvary Baptist church, has been alumnus secretary of Pi Kappa Alpha, representative in the national body of Odd Fellows, and is a member of the state and national dental associations.

LOUISVILLE ALUMNI HAVE ACTIVE CLUB

The activities of the Greater Louisville Alumni Club, with Grover Creech as president, included a week-end of delightful events for the V.P.I. game. The high light, of course, was the victory of the Wildcats over the Gobblers to the tune of 37-14. On Friday night before the game the Louisville alumni group and students of the University gathered for a pep rally at Lincoln Park. The "Best Band in Dixie" was there and on parade. At 10.30, Saturday morning President and Mrs. Donovan received alumni from Louisville and other parts of Kentucky and at 11:30 the old-fashioned "Kentucky Breakfast" was served to about 250 alumni in the Ballroom of the Brown Hotel.

On Saturday night the Blue and White Orchestra played for a dance in the Brown Hotel Ballroom.

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