

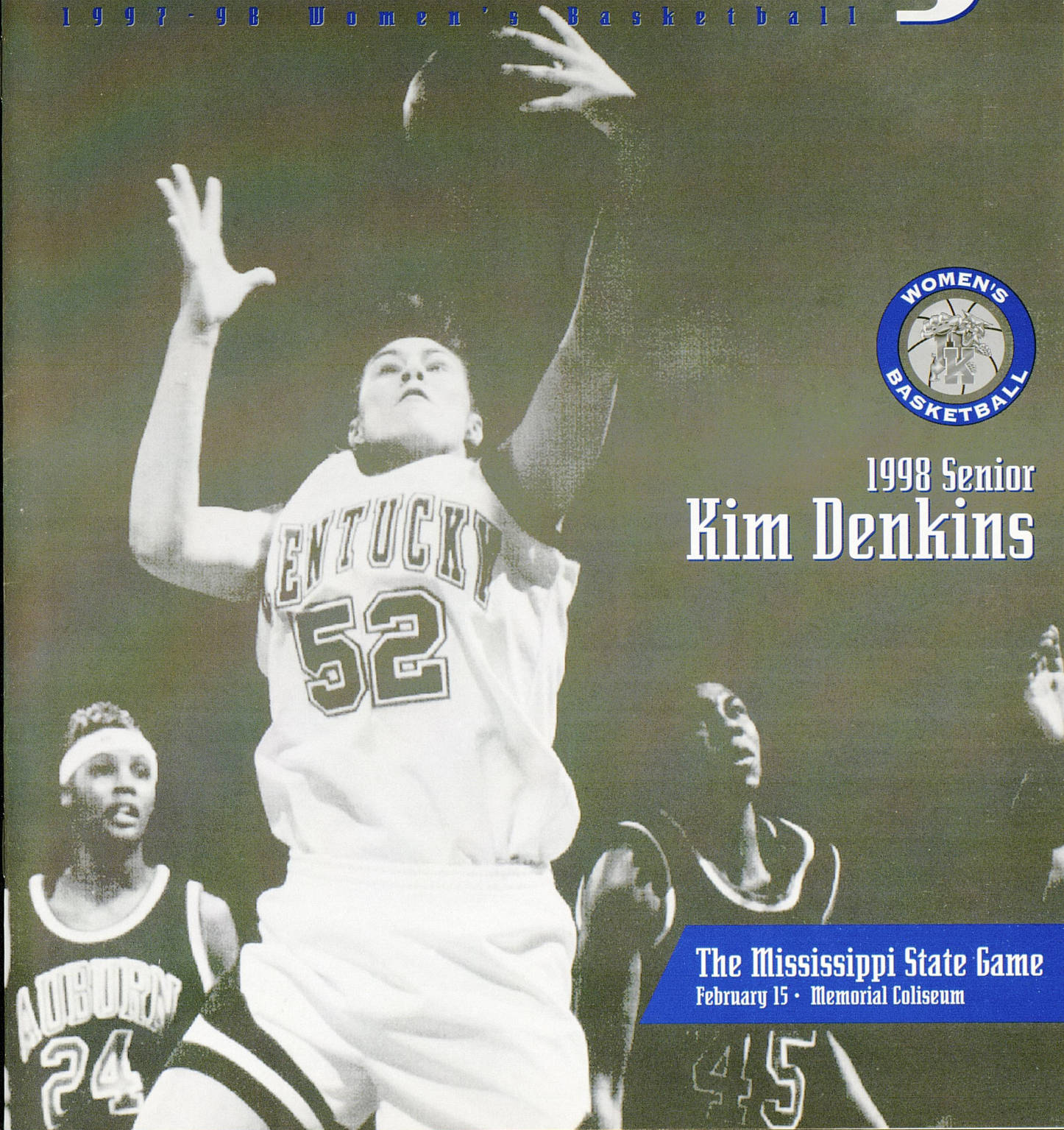
Kentucky

1997-98 Women's Basketball



1998 Senior
Kim Denkins

The Mississippi State Game
February 15 • Memorial Coliseum





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did somebody say ?

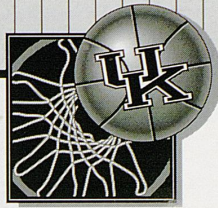
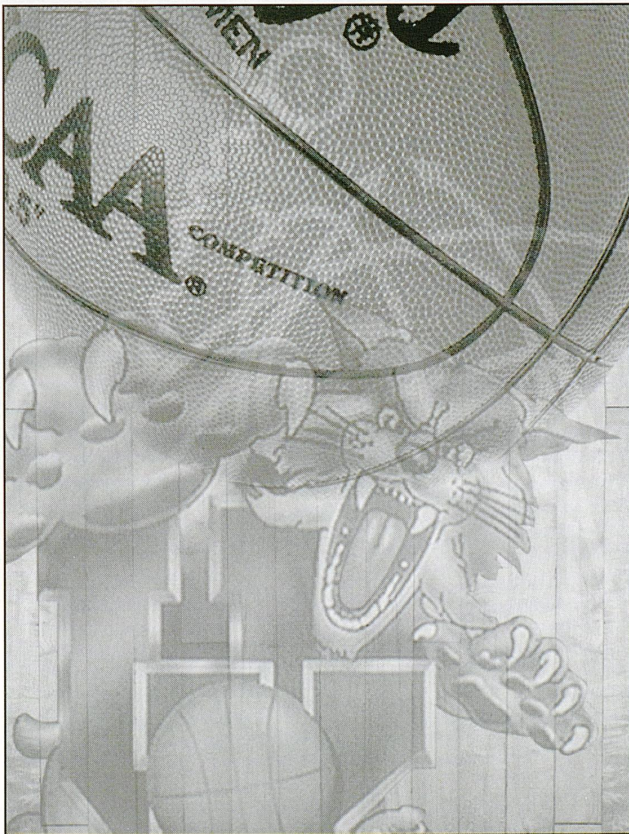


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Location: Lexington, Ky.
Founded: 1865
Enrollment: 24,100
President: Charles T. Wethington Jr.
Athletics Director: C.M. Newton
Conference: Southeastern
Nickname: Wildcats
Arena: Memorial Coliseum (8,700)
Ticket Office: (606) 257-1818



1997-98 Women's Basketball Schedule

Date	Opponent	Time
Nov. 15	HUNGARY-exhibition	7:00 p.m.
Nov. 18	at Indiana	7:30 p.m.
Nov. 21	at Southwest Missouri State	8:05 p.m.
Nov. 25	at Michigan State	7:30 p.m.
Nov. 28-29	at Nebraska Thanksgiving Tourney (Nebraska, Illinois at Chicago, Stetson)	TBA
Dec. 3	OHIO STATE	7:00 p.m.
Dec. 6	DAYTON	7:00 p.m.
Dec. 8	at Western Kentucky	7:00 p.m.
Dec. 14	AUBURN	1:00 p.m.
Dec. 20	at Miami, Ohio	2:00 p.m.
Dec. 28-29	Dartmouth Invitational (Dartmouth, Northeastern, UMass)	TBA
Jan. 4	at Florida (FOX SPORTS SOUTH)	3:00 p.m.
Jan. 7	at Vanderbilt	8:00 p.m.
Jan. 10	MISSISSIPPI	7:00 p.m.
Jan. 14	LSU (Cincinnati)	6:30 p.m.
Jan. 18	TENNESSEE	2:00 p.m.
Jan. 21	*LOUISVILLE (Louisville)	5:30 p.m.
Jan. 24	at Alabama	8:00 p.m.
Jan. 28	FLORIDA	7:00 p.m.
Jan. 31	ARKANSAS	7:00 p.m.
Feb. 4	at Auburn	8:00 p.m.
Feb. 8	SOUTH CAROLINA	2:00 p.m.
Feb. 11	at Georgia	7:30 p.m.
Feb. 15	MISSISSIPPI STATE	2:00 p.m.
Feb. 17	EASTERN KENTUCKY	7:00 p.m.
Feb. 21	at South Carolina	7:00 p.m.
Feb. 26-March 1	SEC Tournament(Columbus, GA)	TBA

Home games in all CAPS

All times Eastern and subject to change

* Double-header with UK men's team at Freedom Hall





Head Coach Bernadette Mattox

Bernadette Mattox begins her third season at the helm of the University of Kentucky women's basketball program. Mattox became UK's head coach in March of 1995 after serving one year as Assistant Athletics Director and Senior Women's Administrator at UK.



Prior to her stint as an administrator, Mattox earned national recognition as one of the

first female assistant coaches on a Division I men's basketball staff when Coach Rick Pitino added her to the Wildcats' program in 1990. She gained valuable experience working with the Wildcats' players in daily individual instructional sessions and in supervising their academic affairs while also fulfilling her game assignments.

Mattox is highly regarded in women's basketball circles. She was a top recruiter as an assistant to Coach Andy Landers at her alma mater, national powerhouse Georgia. During her five seasons as an assistant coach with the Lady Bulldogs, Mattox helped guide the program to national rankings, NCAA Tournament berths and many SEC honors. She also helped recruit two of the

best female basketball players in the history of women's basketball — Olympians and current professionals, Teresa Edwards and Katrina McClain.

Mattox's journey to success began as a collegiate player at the University of Georgia. She led the Lady Bulldogs to the 1981 National Women's Invitational Tournament title and became UGA's first

female athlete to earn All-America honors. Mattox led the team in scoring during the 1979-80 season, averaging 20.6 points per game. She also led the team in steals and assists as a junior and senior. Mattox still ranks on Georgia's top 10 list in career assists and career steals.

She holds single-season records for field goals attempted (555 in 1979-80) and for steals per game (4.2 average in 1979-80). Mattox only played two seasons at the University of Georgia.

A native of Philadelphia, Tenn., Mattox played basketball for Loudon County High School. She then attended Roane State Community College, playing two seasons under Landers. Mattox then enrolled at

Georgia, where she earned her degree in education in 1981. Mattox served as a graduate assistant under Landers for two seasons before leaving the coaching ranks for one year. She returned to her alma mater in 1985 as an assistant coach for the Lady Bulldogs and remained there until joining Pitino's staff in 1990.

After assisting the UK men's basketball team for four seasons, Mattox accepted the position of Assistant Athletics Director and Senior Women's Administrator at UK in 1994. On March 14, 1995, she was named head coach of the UK women's basketball team.

Mattox continues to receive national attention since becoming head coach of the UK women's program. She has been featured on "Wide World of Sports" and numerous other national shows and publications.

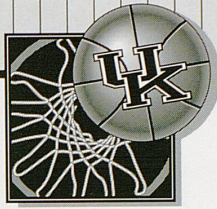
A requested speaker at various business, community and sports-related functions, Mattox volunteers her time to local organizations such as the American Heart Association and the Children's Miracle Network. Mattox also has worked in television broadcasting, serving as a television color commentator for UK men's basketball and SEC women's basketball games. In addition, she has done national television and radio commercials throughout her coaching career.

Mattox and her husband Vince reside in Lexington with their two-year-old son, Vincent Alexander.

Mattox's Coaching File

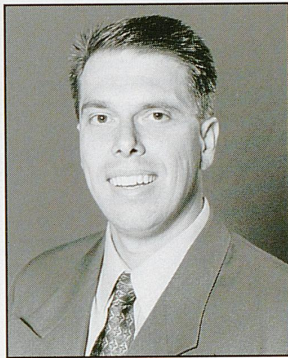
Year	School	Position	Record	Postseason
1982-83	Georgia	Graduate Asst.	27-7	NCAA Final Four
1983-84	Georgia	Graduate Asst.	30-3	NCAA Quarterfinals
1985-86	Georgia	Assistant	30-2	NCAA Round of 16
1986-87	Georgia	Assistant	27-5	NCAA Round of 16
1987-88	Georgia	Assistant	21-10	NCAA Round of 16
1988-89	Georgia	Assistant	23-7	NCAA Second Round
1989-90	Georgia	Assistant	25-7	NCAA First Round
1990-91	Kentucky	Men's Assistant	22-6	—
1991-92	Kentucky	Men's Assistant	29-7	NCAA Quarterfinals
1992-93	Kentucky	Men's Assistant	30-4	NCAA Final Four
1993-94	Kentucky	Men's Assistant	27-7	NCAA Second Round
1995-96	Kentucky	Head Coach	8-19	—
1996-97	Kentucky	Head Coach	8-19	—

Mattox's head coaching record: 16-38



Assistant Coaches

Rick Griffith is the newest addition to the UK women's basketball family. Previously, Griffith taught mathematics and was the head girl's basketball coach at Paul G. Blazer High School in Ashland, Ky. He is no stranger to championships, as his team garnered the 1997 16th Region Championship and was runner-up in 1996. Griffith was the assistant boys basketball



Rick Griffith

coach at Blazer from 1990-1995. He helped lead the boys to win the 16th Region Title in 1992 and 1993.

"Rick's knowledge of the game and teaching experience is invaluable to our program," stated Mattox. "His energy and honest love for the game complements Kentucky's up-tempo style."

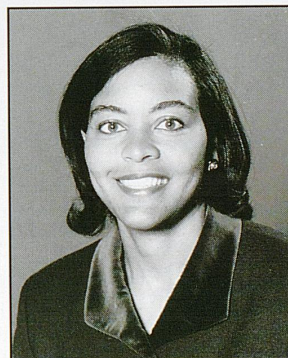
As a student at Mississippi College in Clinton, Miss., Griffith played basketball while studying for

his undergraduate degree in mathematics. He continued his education at Morehead University in Morehead, Ky., where he completed his master's in secondary education. In addition, Griffith received a Rank I degree, which is rated higher than a masters in the state of Kentucky, in administration.

Griffith's job responsibilities include scouting, overseeing team managers and the equipment room, scheduling and directing summer camps.

Griffith's hobbies include playing golf and exercising. He and his wife Suzanne have two children, Savanna, 7, and Grayson, 2.

Regarded as one of the best players in the history of UK women's basketball, Nichols begins her second season as an assistant coach and recruiting coordinator for UK.



Leslie Nichols

Nichols was a starter for Kentucky from 1982-86 under Coach Terry Hall. She averaged 11.4 points and seven rebounds per game as a freshman. Nichols' freshman year was the same season in which UK was ranked 11th nationally by the Associated Press en route to a 23-

5 record and an NCAA Tournament berth.

Nichols led UK in scoring her sophomore through senior seasons, averaging 18.4 points per game as a sophomore, 18.4 points per game as a junior and 16.7 points per game as a senior. She is the only UK women's basketball player to be named to the All-SEC team three consecutive seasons (1984-86). She also served as the team's co-captain her junior and senior seasons.

During her four-year career, Nichols left a

lasting mark in the UK record books. She ranks second on UK's all-time scoring list with 1,798 points, seventh on the all-time assists list with 323 assists and second on the all-time rebounding list with 877 boards. She held the title of all-time steals leader with 278 career steals for almost 10 years until the mark was surpassed in 1995. She currently ranks second on that list as well.

Nichols, a product of Henry Clay High School in Lexington, was a two-time all-state player and a fourth-team Parade All-American as a senior. She received her bachelor's degree from UK in agricultural economics in 1987. Nichols and her husband, former UK football player Al Carter, reside in Lexington.

Mollie McClure enters her second season with the University of Kentucky women's basketball program after completing her collegiate career at the University of Richmond in Virginia in 1996.



Mollie McClure

Her responsibilities for the Wildcats include: the coordination of several administrative duties such as team travel arrangements, student-athlete academic

progress, film exchange, summer development of the perimeter players, as well as, assist in all aspects of recruiting and scouting for the Wildcats.

"Being a part of an abiding program this past year, I've been able to learn and teach a great system of up-tempo basketball under a remarkable recruiter, Bernadette Mattox," McClure said. "There should be no reason why

this program cannot reach the apex of women's basketball."

McClure, who played forward for the Spiders, began her collegiate career as a walk-on before earning a scholarship her junior year and senior seasons. As a senior, she earned a starting position in 16 games, averaging seven points and leading the team in rebounding with an average of 5.8 boards per game. She was also one of three team captains her senior year.

McClure earned her bachelor's degree in art history at Richmond University.



Meet the Wildcats



Back Row From L-R: Bernadette Mattox, Mollie McClure, Stephanie Christman, Vonda Jackson, Katie Vieth, Kim Denkins, Laura Meadows, Leslie Nichols, Rick Griffith.
Seated From L-R: Natalie Martinez, Natasha Ross, Tiffany Wait, Nikki Hay, Patrice Boyd, Jaye Barnes, Kenya Young

Numerical Roster

No.	Name	Pos.	Ht.	Cl.	Hometown (High School/College)
4	Natalie Martinez	G	5-6	So.	Albuquerque, N.M. (Rio Grande HS)
11	Tiffany Wait	G/F	5-10	Jr.	Hot Springs, Ark. (Lake Hamilton HS)
23	Nikki Hay	G	5-6	Sr.	Henderson, Ky. (NE Oklahoma JC)
25	Katie Vieth	C	6-3	So.	Florence, Ky. (St. Henry)
30	Jaye Barnes	F	6-0	Jr.	Jacksonville, Fla. (Florida CC)
32	Natasha Ross	G/F	5-11	Fr.	Beckley, W.Va. (Woodrow Wilson HS)
33	Stephanie Christman	F	6-2	Fr.	Chicago, Ill. (Immaculate Heart of Mary HS)
35	Patrice Boyd	F	5-11	So.	Brownsville, Tenn. (Haywood HS)
40	Kenya Young	F	6-1	Fr.	Greenville, S.C. (J.L. Mann HS)
44	Laura Meadows	G	6-2	Fr.	Huntington, W.Va. (Huntington HS)
51	Vonda Jackson	F	6-2	Sr.	Manchester, Ky. (Clay County)
52	Kim Denkins	C	6-3	Sr.	Carlisle, Ky. (Nicholas County HS)

Alphabetical Roster

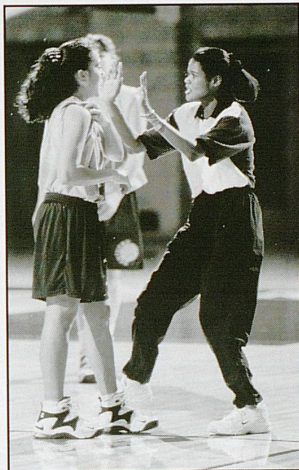
No.	Name	Pos.	Ht.	Cl.	Hometown (High School/College)
30	Jaye Barnes	F	6-0	Jr.	Jacksonville, Fla. (Florida CC)
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51	Vonda Jackson	F	6-2	Sr.	Manchester, Ky. (Clay County)
4	Natalie Martinez	G	5-6	So.	Albuquerque, N.M. (Rio Grande HS)
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32	Natasha Ross	G/F	5-11	Fr.	Beckley, W.Va. (Woodrow Wilson HS)
25	Katie Vieth	C	6-3	So.	Florence, Ky. (St. Henry)
11	Tiffany Wait	G/F	5-10	Jr.	Hot Springs, Ark. (Lake Hamilton HS)
40	Kenya Young	F	6-1	Fr.	Greenville, S.C. (J.L. Mann HS)



Bernadette Mattox Individual/Team Camps

The Bernadette Mattox summer camps are designed to provide players with an environment in which they can improve their basketball fundamentals, develop new techniques and most of all... have FUN!

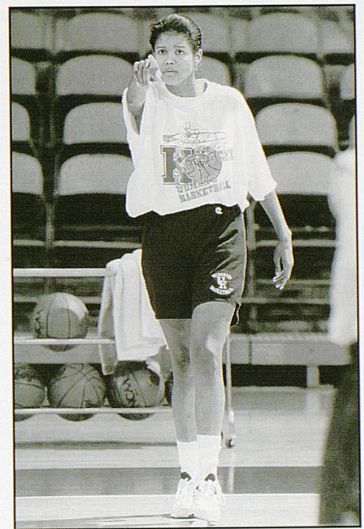
Campers will learn fundamentals and strategies of the game. There are several camps to choose from, including team and individual camps. In addition to Coach Mattox, campers will receive instruction from experienced coaches and some of the top collegiate players in the country. There will be guest appearances from former state



basketball standouts and other key athletics representatives.

Campers will fine-tune their skills on the beautiful University of Kentucky campus in UK's outstanding facilities, including the air-conditioned Seaton Center and historic Memorial Coliseum.

The goal of the staff is to provide each individual with a positive learning experience at camp. For more information on the Bernadette Mattox Instructional Camps, contact the UK Women's Basketball Office at (606) 257-6046. The 1998 camp dates are scheduled for June 11-14 (Team camp) and June 21-25 (Individual camp).

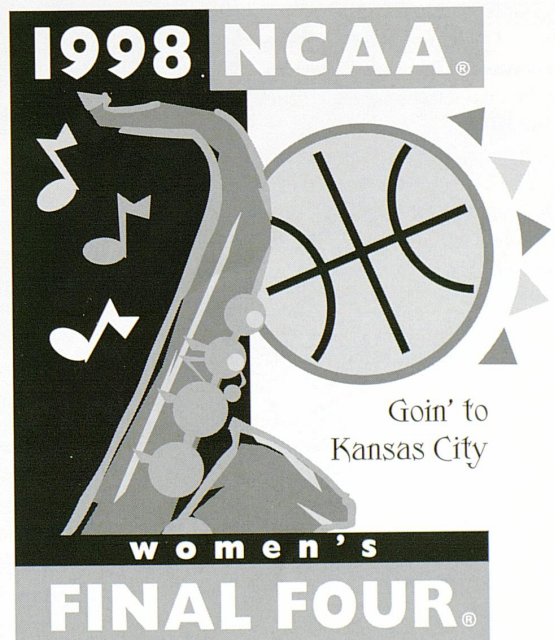


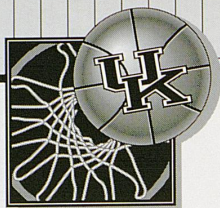
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The University of Kentucky was founded in 1865. The campus in Lexington has 673 acres and is located just south of downtown. It consists of a graduate school program, the University hospital and 16 colleges. The colleges are: allied health professions, architecture, arts and sciences, agriculture, business and economics, communications and information studies, dentistry, engineering, education, fine arts, human ironmental sciences, law, medicine, nursing, pharmacy and social work. The graduate school offers 97 master's degree programs and 60 doctoral programs.

Enrollment is approximately 24,100 and includes students from every Kentucky county, state, and more than 100 countries. Full-time faculty numbers 1,796. Approximately 98 percent of the full-time faculty hold the highest possible degrees in their field. UK's faculty and staff attract more than \$120 million in grants, gifts and contracts; and the University has been designated a Research University of the First Class by the Carnegie Foundation — one of just 59 public universities in the country.

The University attracts excellent students. The number of National Merit Scholars entering UK consistently ranks among the top 10 public universities in the country.

The University of Kentucky Community College System is made up of 14 colleges throughout Kentucky. Enrollment numbers over 44,000. The colleges offer associate degrees in technical subjects, two-year programs toward a bachelor's degree, and a wide variety of continuing education, community service and business liaison programs.

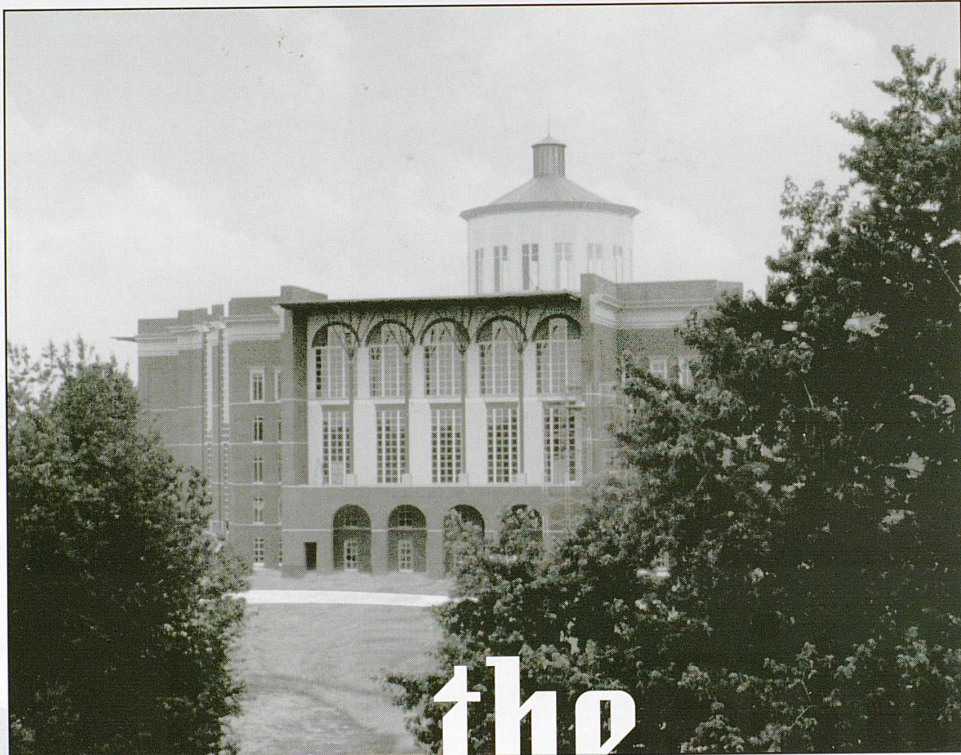
The number of UK alumni is more than 145,000. Private supports from alumni and friends of the University exceeds \$30 million annually.

UK maintains 23 research centers which conduct applied research in areas as diverse as tobacco and health, aging, cancer, toxicology, equine health, mineral production, manufacturing systems, and public policy.

The UK College of Medicine is ranked third in the country in the quality of primary care training. The UK Hospital is ranked among the top 100 U.S. hospitals in the country by HCIA Inc. and Mercer Manage-

mercial facilities on the research campus.

The latest addition to the educational landscape at the University of Kentucky is the new William T. Young Library. Built at a cost of \$58 million, the Young Library will



the University

ment Consultants. The UK College of Pharmacy consistently is ranked third in the country by U.S. News and World Report and is one of the few pharmacy schools in the country with the capability of developing a drug "from bench to bedside" due to its drug product evaluation unit.

The University is in the process of developing the Coldstream Research Campus, a 750-acre complex designed to attract high-tech companies desiring ties to the University. Negotiations are under way to execute leases with developers to construct several new com-

be completed in the fall and is slated to open in January, 1998. Here are more facts about this magnificent structure:

- Size: 351,350 square feet--more than six football fields
- Shelf capacity: 198,828 linear feet--more than 37 miles of linear shelf space
- Seating capacity: 4,000 patrons--a 355 percent increase over the current UK library.
- Computer connections: every study table and study carrel in the new library will have an electrical outlet and a computer jack connected to the university's computer system.



Kentucky Wildcats

Coach: Bernadette Mattox

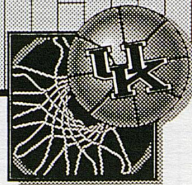
NO.	NAME	POS.	HT.	Class	Two Point FG	Three PT FG	Free Throws	Fouls	Points
4	Natalie Martinez Albuquerque, N.M. (Rio Grande HS)	G	5-6	So.	1 2 3 4 5 6 7 8 9 10 11 12 13 14 15	1 2 3 4 5 6 7 8 9 10	1 2 3 4 5 6 7 8 9 10 11 12 13 14 15	1 2 3 4 5	
11	Tiffany Wait Hot Springs, Ark. (Lake Hamilton HS)	G/F	5-10	Jr.	1 2 3 4 5 6 7 8 9 10 11 12 13 14 15	1 2 3 4 5 6 7 8 9 10	1 2 3 4 5 6 7 8 9 10 11 12 13 14 15	1 2 3 4 5	
25	Katie Vieth Florence, Ky. (St. Henry)	C	6-3	So.	1 2 3 4 5 6 7 8 9 10 11 12 13 14 15	1 2 3 4 5 6 7 8 9 10	1 2 3 4 5 6 7 8 9 10 11 12 13 14 15	1 2 3 4 5	
30	Jaye Barnes Jacksonville, Fla. (Florida CC)	F	6-0	Jr.	1 2 3 4 5 6 7 8 9 10 11 12 13 14 15	1 2 3 4 5 6 7 8 9 10	1 2 3 4 5 6 7 8 9 10 11 12 13 14 15	1 2 3 4 5	
32	Natasha Ross Beckley, W.Va. (Woodrow Wilson HS)	G/F	5-11	Fr.	1 2 3 4 5 6 7 8 9 10 11 12 13 14 15	1 2 3 4 5 6 7 8 9 10	1 2 3 4 5 6 7 8 9 10 11 12 13 14 15	1 2 3 4 5	
33	Stephanie Christman Chicago, Ill. (Immaculate Heart of Mary HS)	F	6-2	Fr.	1 2 3 4 5 6 7 8 9 10 11 12 13 14 15	1 2 3 4 5 6 7 8 9 10	1 2 3 4 5 6 7 8 9 10 11 12 13 14 15	1 2 3 4 5	
35	Patrice Boyd Brownsville, Tenn. (Haywood HS)	F	5-11	So.	1 2 3 4 5 6 7 8 9 10 11 12 13 14 15	1 2 3 4 5 6 7 8 9 10	1 2 3 4 5 6 7 8 9 10 11 12 13 14 15	1 2 3 4 5	
40	Kenya Young Greenville, S.C. (J.L. Mann HS)	F	6-1	Fr.	1 2 3 4 5 6 7 8 9 10 11 12 13 14 15	1 2 3 4 5 6 7 8 9 10	1 2 3 4 5 6 7 8 9 10 11 12 13 14 15	1 2 3 4 5	
44	Laura Meadows Huntington, W.Va. (Huntington HS)	G	6-2	Fr.	1 2 3 4 5 6 7 8 9 10 11 12 13 14 15	1 2 3 4 5 6 7 8 9 10	1 2 3 4 5 6 7 8 9 10 11 12 13 14 15	1 2 3 4 5	
52	Kim Denkins Carlisle, Ky. (Nicholas County HS)	C	6-3	Sr.	1 2 3 4 5 6 7 8 9 10 11 12 13 14 15	1 2 3 4 5 6 7 8 9 10	1 2 3 4 5 6 7 8 9 10 11 12 13 14 15	1 2 3 4 5	



Mississippi State Lady Bulldogs

Coach: Sharon Fanning

NO.	NAME	POS.	HT.	Class	Two Point FG	Three PT FG	Free Throws	Fouls	Points
11	Angela Harris	G	5-6	So.	1 2 3 4 5 6 7 8 9 10 11 12 13 14 15	1 2 3 4 5 6 7 8 9 10	1 2 3 4 5 6 7 8 9 10 11 12 13 14 15	1 2 3 4 5	
12	Cynthia Hall	G	5-6	Fr.	1 2 3 4 5 6 7 8 9 10 11 12 13 14 15	1 2 3 4 5 6 7 8 9 10	1 2 3 4 5 6 7 8 9 10 11 12 13 14 15	1 2 3 4 5	
14	Meadow Overstreet	G	5-7	Fr.	1 2 3 4 5 6 7 8 9 10 11 12 13 14 15	1 2 3 4 5 6 7 8 9 10	1 2 3 4 5 6 7 8 9 10 11 12 13 14 15	1 2 3 4 5	
20	Stacie Farris	G	5-9	Sr.	1 2 3 4 5 6 7 8 9 10 11 12 13 14 15	1 2 3 4 5 6 7 8 9 10	1 2 3 4 5 6 7 8 9 10 11 12 13 14 15	1 2 3 4 5	
21	Natasha Reid	F	5-10	Fr.	1 2 3 4 5 6 7 8 9 10 11 12 13 14 15	1 2 3 4 5 6 7 8 9 10	1 2 3 4 5 6 7 8 9 10 11 12 13 14 15	1 2 3 4 5	
22	Elizabeth Wamsley	F/C	6-2	So.	1 2 3 4 5 6 7 8 9 10 11 12 13 14 15	1 2 3 4 5 6 7 8 9 10	1 2 3 4 5 6 7 8 9 10 11 12 13 14 15	1 2 3 4 5	
23	Elisha Williams	F	6-0	Fr.	1 2 3 4 5 6 7 8 9 10 11 12 13 14 15	1 2 3 4 5 6 7 8 9 10	1 2 3 4 5 6 7 8 9 10 11 12 13 14 15	1 2 3 4 5	
24	Evette Porter	F	5-11	Sr.	1 2 3 4 5 6 7 8 9 10 11 12 13 14 15	1 2 3 4 5 6 7 8 9 10	1 2 3 4 5 6 7 8 9 10 11 12 13 14 15	1 2 3 4 5	
25	LaToya Graham	F	6-0	Jr.	1 2 3 4 5 6 7 8 9 10 11 12 13 14 15	1 2 3 4 5 6 7 8 9 10	1 2 3 4 5 6 7 8 9 10 11 12 13 14 15	1 2 3 4 5	
32	Sharon Thompson	C	6-1	Sr.	1 2 3 4 5 6 7 8 9 10 11 12 13 14 15	1 2 3 4 5 6 7 8 9 10	1 2 3 4 5 6 7 8 9 10 11 12 13 14 15	1 2 3 4 5	
33	Lakia Westerfiled	F	6-2	Fr.	1 2 3 4 5 6 7 8 9 10 11 12 13 14 15	1 2 3 4 5 6 7 8 9 10	1 2 3 4 5 6 7 8 9 10 11 12 13 14 15	1 2 3 4 5	
34	Nitra Perry	G/F	5-8	So.	1 2 3 4 5 6 7 8 9 10 11 12 13 14 15	1 2 3 4 5 6 7 8 9 10	1 2 3 4 5 6 7 8 9 10 11 12 13 14 15	1 2 3 4 5	
40	Barbara Thomas	F	6-0	Sr.	1 2 3 4 5 6 7 8 9 10 11 12 13 14 15	1 2 3 4 5 6 7 8 9 10	1 2 3 4 5 6 7 8 9 10 11 12 13 14 15	1 2 3 4 5	
42	Sabrina Scott	f	5-11	Sr.	1 2 3 4 5 6 7 8 9 10 11 12 13 14 15	1 2 3 4 5 6 7 8 9 10	1 2 3 4 5 6 7 8 9 10 11 12 13 14 15	1 2 3 4 5	
44	Ilisha Jarrett	F/C	6-5	Fr.	1 2 3 4 5 6 7 8 9 10 11 12 13 14 15	1 2 3 4 5 6 7 8 9 10	1 2 3 4 5 6 7 8 9 10 11 12 13 14 15	1 2 3 4 5	



Scouting the Lady Bulldogs

Watch for:

#32 • Sharon Thompson
6-1 • Sr.
Geiger, Alabama

A look at Thompson:



Sharon Thompson, known as "Shep" by her teammates, is a woman of steel, almost literally. After suffering from stress fractures in both legs, Thompson had steel rods placed in both of her tibias. The tough

6-1 competitor went on to start in all 27 games for the Lady Bulldogs last season after the surgery and was second on the squad in scoring (11.9 ppg) and was first in rebounding, grabbing 7.8 boards per game.

Thompson has picked up where she left off last season, returning for her final year at Mississippi State to lead the Lady Bulldogs in scoring (16.3 points per game) and rebounding (8.7 rebounds per game). She is one of only two starters to start in every game this season, averaging 31.1 minutes per game.

The Geiger, Ala., native became the 10th player to join MSU's elite 1,000-point club and now has tallied a total of 1,339 points, ranking her third on the career-point list.

As a junior, Thompson swatted 25 shots to lead MSU with 64 career blocked shots. She leads the team this season with 18 blocks and ranks 10th in the Southeastern Conference in blocks per game (0.8). As a sophomore, Thompson was one of two MSU players named to All-SEC second team after leading MSU in shooting percentage with a 48.4 mark and rebounding with 8.6 boards per game.

Thompson's freshman year was also impressive for the Sumter County High School graduate. She was selected as MSU's first All-SEC Freshman since 1989 while starting 26 of 27 games. In only her second collegiate game, Thompson scored 28 points vs. Villanova, the most by a Lady Bulldog freshman since 1981.

About the Lady Bulldogs

The Lady Bulldogs return all but one starter from a squad that finished 11-16 overall last season. Three of those starters are seniors who have improved on last year's

1-11 conference record. The Lady Bulldogs are now 4-8.

Mississippi State's two-year coach, Sharon Fanning, coached the Wildcats from 1988 to 1995. Fanning registered a 134-97 mark at UK and led the Wildcats to two 20-win seasons, an NCAA berth (1991), UK's highest finish in the SEC Tournament (1992) since a tournament title in 1982, and national rankings in the Associated Press and USA Today national polls (1990, 1991, 1993).

Fanning has recorded a career record of 359-267 during her 21-year head coaching career, which ranks her among the top 50 all-time NCAA women's basketball coaching victories.

Probable Starters

Mississippi State Lady Bulldogs

	PPG	RPG
* C-32 Sharon Thompson	16.4	8.6
* G-20 Stacie Farris	10.4	2.0
* F-34 Nitra Perry	10.1	6.1
* G-11 Angela Harris	8.0	2.1
* F-22 Sabrina Scott	5.8	5.5

Statistical Comparison

(Kentucky vs. Mississippi State)

	UK	MSU
1997-98 Record	11-13	12-11
Points Per Game	62.9	71.0
Points Allowed	68.8	69.0
Scoring Margin	-6.1	+2.0
FG Percentage	41.9	41.1
Opp. FG	41.9	43.2
3-PT Percentage	31.3	31.6
FT Percentage	67.2	66.7
Rebounds	36.1	39.7
Opp. Rebounds	38.5	37.4
Rebound Margin	-2.4	+2.1
Turnovers	636	441
Opp. Turnovers	553	481

Statistical Leaders

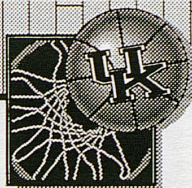
(Kentucky vs. Mississippi State)

UK	AVG	MSU	PPG
Jaye Barnes	14.4	Sharon Thompson	16.3
Two Players	11.3	Stacie Farris	10.3
Kim Denkins	8.4	Nitra Perry	9.9
Rebounding			
Kim Denkins	6.3	Sharon Thompson	8.7
Jaye Barnes	5.9	Nitra Perry	7.0
Laura Meadows	5.5	Sabrina Scott	5.7
Assists			
Laura Meadows	80	Angela Harris	81
Natalie Martinez	78	Nitra Perry	56
Tiffany Wait	53	Sharon Thompson	45
Steals			
Tiffany Wait	41	Two Players	34
Laura Meadows	38	Two Players	27
Natalie Martinez	32	Sabrina Scott	26
Field Goal Percentage			
Jaye Barnes	54.9	Nitra Perry	48.1
S. Christman	52.1	Sharon Thompson	43.2
Kim Denkins	50.0	Sabrina Scott	42.7

Mississippi State Schedule



Date	Opponent	Time/Result	W/L
Nov. 18	@ Troy State	72-69	L
Nov. 21	Arkansas- Pine Bluff	78-50	W
Nov. 22	Arkansas State	68-76	L
Nov. 25	Memphis	87-74	W
Nov. 28	@ South Alabama	93-65	W
Dec. 01	UMKC	73-63	W
Dec. 04	Troy State	80-57	W
Dec. 14	@ Vanderbilt	78-47	L
Dec. 19	Oregon	68-64	W
Dec. 20	Nevada	45-35	W
Dec. 21	Washington State	61-59	L
Dec. 30	Austin Peay	83-59	W
Jan. 03	@ LSU	76-67	L
Jan. 07	Mississippi	80-76	W
Jan. 11	South Carolina	70-62	W
Jan. 15	Arkansas	80-73	L
Jan. 18	@ Alabama	85-69	L
Jan. 21	@ Mississippi	83-74	L
Jan. 25	Auburn	63-59	W
Jan. 28	@ Arkansas	89-70	L
Feb. 01	@ Georgia	79-75	W
Feb. 05	Vanderbilt	73-66	L
Feb. 09	Tennessee	74-52	L
Feb. 15	@ Kentucky	2:00 p.m.	
Feb. 18	Belmont	7:00 p.m.	
Feb. 22	@ Florida	3:00 p.m.	
Feb. 26-Mar. 1	SEC Tournament	Columbus, Ga.	



#52 Kim Denkins • 6-3 • Senior • Carlisle, Ky.



For four years Kim Denkins has donned a blue and white uniform at Kentucky. She has endured a coaching change, numerous player changes and her own share of ups and downs. Ask her if it was worth it and the answer would be a definite "yes". "Enduring the things I've gone through at Kentucky has not only made me a better basketball player but a better person," Denkins said. "I'll always cherish my four years here and the memories and the friendships that I have made."

Denkins, a 6-3 center from Carlisle, Ky., came to Wildcat country in the fall of 1994 from

Nicholas County High School, where she was a finalist for Kentucky Miss Basketball. She immediately stepped in, playing in 27 of 28 games, including nine starts. As a sophomore, Denkins proved her skills to first-year coach Bernadette Mattox and her staff and worked her way into a starting spot in all 27 games and earned second-team All-SEC in just her second year at Kentucky. That year she posted a career-high 31 points against nationally-ranked N.C. State and grabbed a career-high 17 rebounds vs. Marshall. Denkins recorded 11 double-doubles and led the team in rebounding (9.0 rpg), field goal percentage (51.3 percent), and blocked shots (15) and was second on the team in scoring (15.4 ppg).

During her junior year, Denkins scored in double figures 12 times and recorded five double-doubles. She played in 25 games, starting 21 and led the team again in rebounding (7.7 rpg).

Now, as her final season at UK comes to an end, Denkins plans to go out in style. She has already reached the milestone of scoring her 1,000th-point on Feb. 8 vs. South Carolina. She joins 18 other Wildcats currently on the all-time scoring list with 1,000 or more points.

Denkins has played a key role in Kentucky's 11-13 record (the most wins for Kentucky since 1994-95). She has started in 23 of 24 games and leads the Wildcats in rebounding for the third straight season (6.3 rpg) and is second on the team in blocked shots (19).

Denkins will graduate in August with a major in social work. She then plans to marry Lancaster, Ky., native Matthew Blake in September.



1997-98 Kentucky Pom Squad

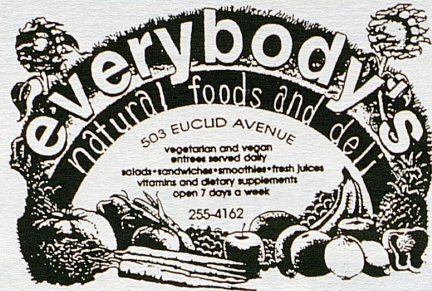
White Squad Members (L to R) Back Row: Cathy Agent, Jessica Richardson, Sarah Hatfield, Julie Taylor, Alison List, Kristi Dibbons, Danielle Embry
Front Row: Rebecca Ocampo, Amy Barnes, Sara Todd, Alyssa Olson, Tasha Sims, Jennifer Wright, Sherrie Bryant

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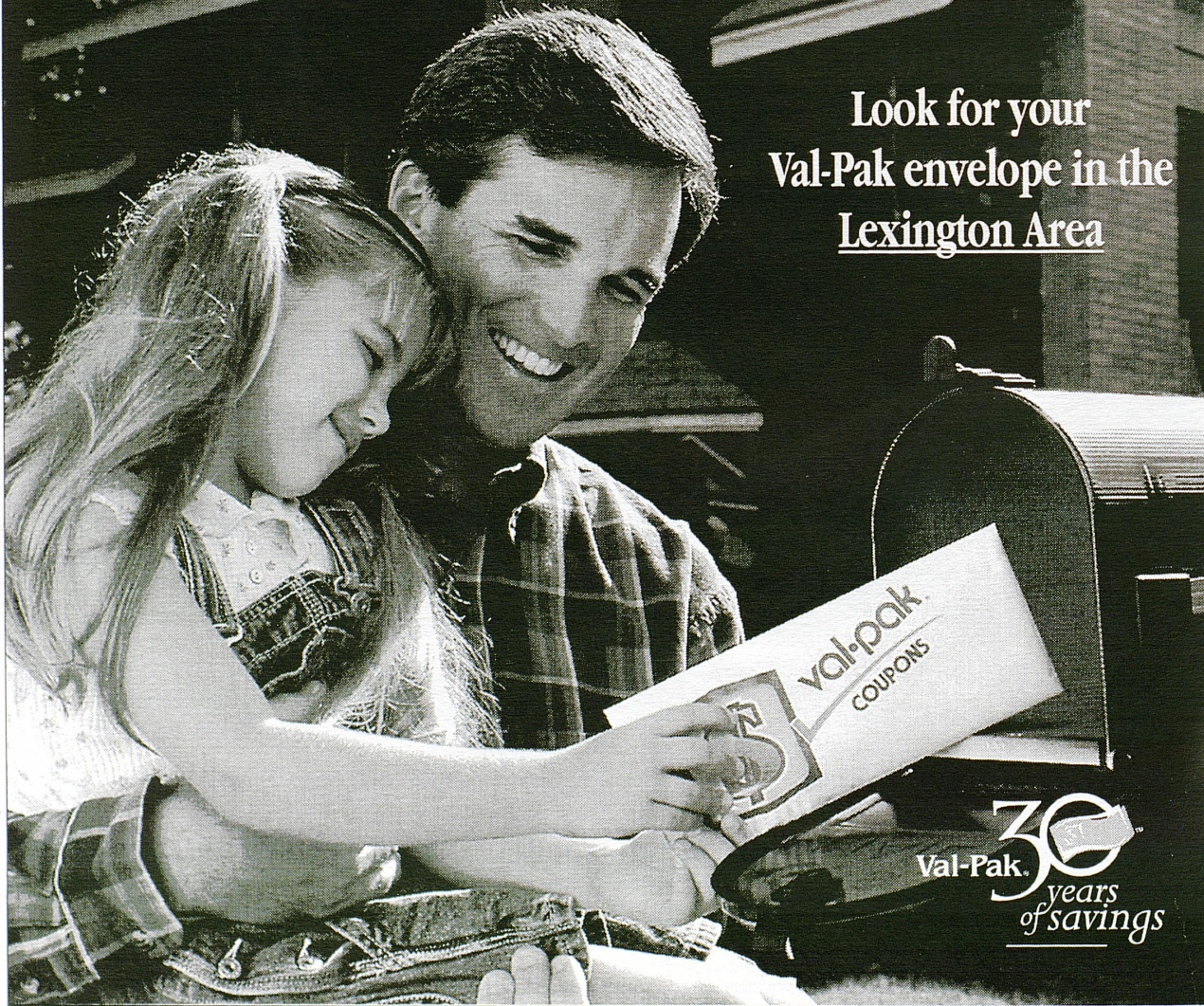
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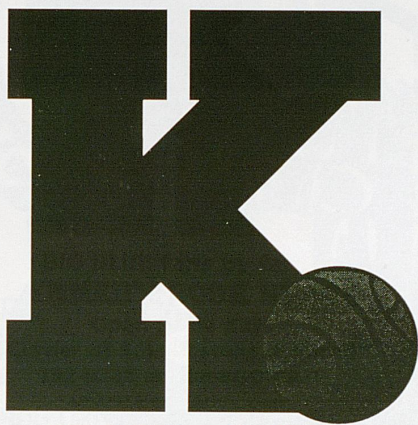
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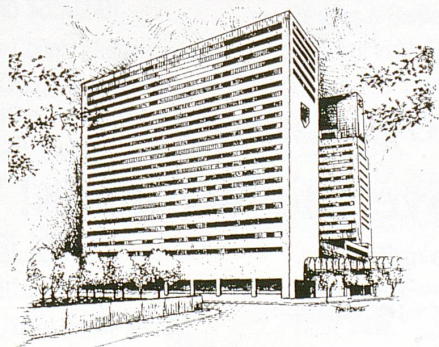
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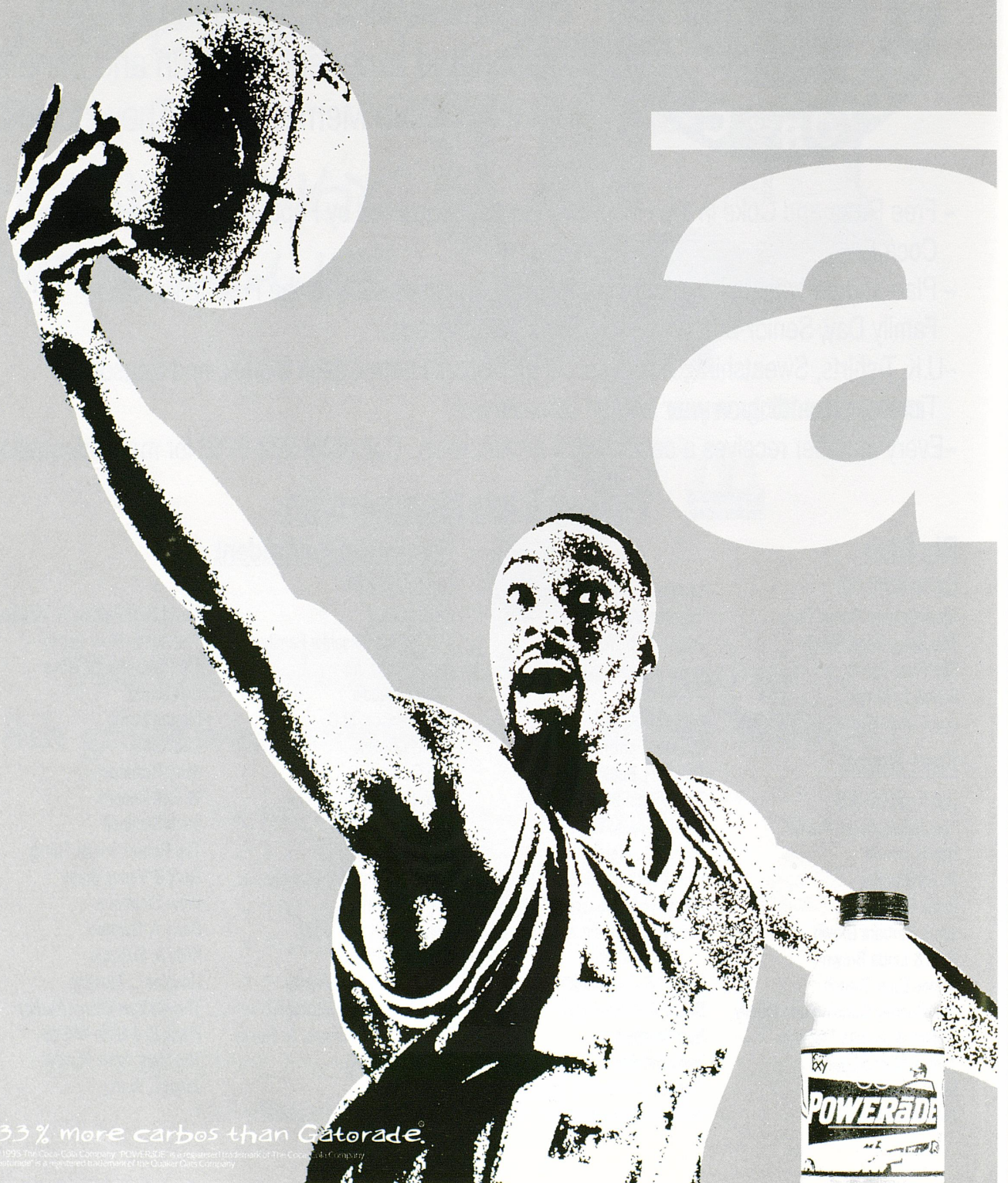
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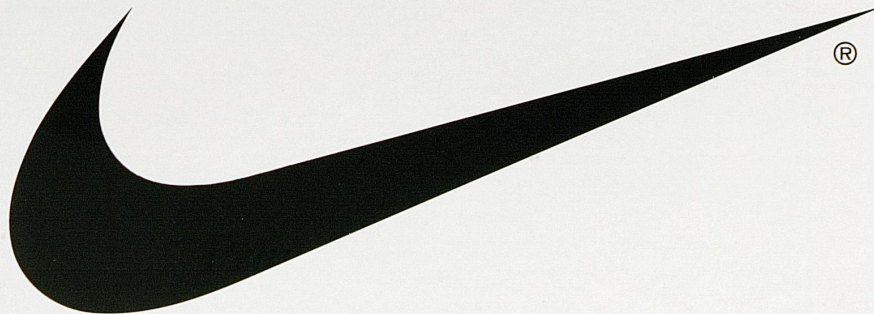
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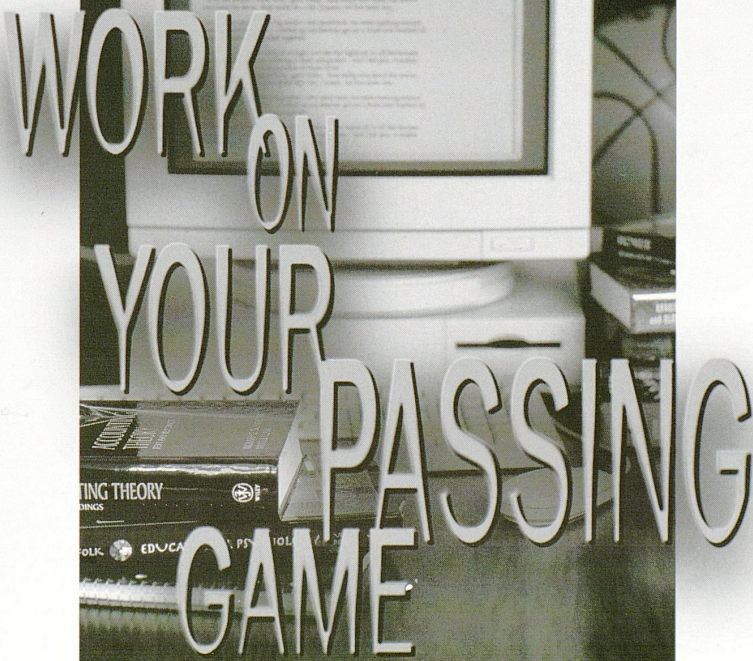


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