

‘A big to develop.’ The long-term plan for Kentucky’s Elsa Vadfors

BY CAROLINE MAKASKAS
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Last week, Kentucky women’s basketball coach Kenny Brooks told local media that he doesn’t expect international freshman Elsa Vadfors to “be able to contribute for us a lot this year.”

However, there is a development plan in place for Vadfors as Brooks and his staff embrace the opportunity to expand the Swedish center’s game.

Vadfors played professional basketball for Uppsala Basket in Uppsala, Sweden, during the 2024-25 season, averaging 1.3 points, 2.8 rebounds, 0.1 assists, 0.4 blocks, 0.3 steals and 1.6 personal fouls in 10.4 minutes across 20 games, shooting 40.7% from the floor. The Hudiksvall native has also represented Sweden on the U18 team.

She announced her commitment to Kentucky on May 18 via social media and told the Herald-Leader at the program’s media day that, though her recruitment process came later than typical, it was the relationships that brought her to Kentucky.

“Once I talked to



MORGAN SIMMONS UK Athletics

Swedish center Elsa Vadfors was a late addition to Kentucky’s 2025 recruiting cycle.

Coach Brooks and the whole family, it felt right,” Vadfors said. “And they were so nice to me, and just opening about the facilities and all of the possibilities here. So, it just felt like the right place.”

Kentucky assistant coach Josh Petersen described Vadfors’ path to Kentucky as “late in the scene.” The Wildcats — who Petersen said were in search of “a big to develop,” — found Vadfors, who stands 6-foot-5, and identified her as a good potential fit for the system.

“I think she’s strong,” Petersen said. “But she’s mobile, too. And that’s the one piece that’s,

whether we’re running a down-and-back or whatever, she’s able to stay with the guard. She’s got the mobility we like, the size, the strength. And that’s a huge part of it is, ‘How big are you?’ Especially in our league, like, ‘Do you have the physical attributes?’”

Ahead of last season, Brooks and his staff brought in 6-7 international prospect Clara Silva for a similar role. The Portuguese center served as the primary backup for starting post Clara Strack while averaging 4.0 points, 2.6 rebounds and 1.1 blocks in 12.5 minutes per contest; Silva transferred to

TCU during the offseason.

Strack, who came with Brooks from Virginia Tech to Kentucky ahead of the 2024-25 campaign, received little in-game responsibility for the majority of her freshman year due to her backing up and learning from All-America center Liz Kitley. Not until a torn ACL prematurely ended Kitley’s final season did Strack not only *start* a game for the Hokies but shoulder the expectation of consistent, starter-level production through the postseason.

Strack, the reigning SEC Defensive Player of the Year, is expected to be a major part of what the Wildcats hope will be a successful season. Vadfors might not have the same usage as Silva or Strack did during her own freshman campaign, but she *will* be expected to tackle the developmental aspect of her first year with “perfect intent” — a program mantra.

Off the court, Vadfors studies engineering. Petersen praised her strength in the classroom, and connected her enthusiasm for learning with how the team would like her to approach basket-

ball.

“The cool thing about Elsa is she is amazing in the classroom,” Petersen said. “And she is a really quick learner, probably one of our best students on the team. And when you’re doing it in a different language, that’s even more impressive. And I think the biggest thing for her right now is just to be a sponge. Soak it up. There’s a lot to learn, whether it’s terminology or the way we do things. So, hers is going to be a process of just learning, applying, not getting overly frustrated, do it again.”

Petersen noted Vadfors’ professional experience allows her to see the game differently and said her “mental capacity” with her height and length “give her a great chance,” and now it’s a matter of refining her skill set while facing the challenges that come with moving continents to attend university.

“She’s a tremendous person,” Petersen said. “The big step for her, too, is being an international freshman is huge. And she’s handled adjusting and all that in a really great manner. And I think that, yeah, she’s going to be just fine. ‘Just keep it steady and see what happens and continue to develop,’ I think is going to be big for her.”

At media day, Brooks gave an honest perspective on Vadfors’ progress,

and said he was “very pleased” with what he’d seen from her since she arrived on campus this summer.

“Elsa is obviously, she’s got a long ways to go,” Brooks said. “We understand that. But one thing you can’t do is teach height. So, I wouldn’t expect her to be able to contribute for us a lot this year, but she’s continuing to work, and we understand that. Very, very pleased with her progress and what she’s been able to do.”

Vadfors said she feels like college basketball in the United States is “the best way to develop your game,” due to the volume of new things to learn while playing against strong competition.

“It’s a little bit different, the game from here to Sweden,” Vadfors said. “There’s a lot of different rules and things like that. And the game is a little bit more physical and faster here, but I’m doing my best to adjust.”

While Vadfors develops for the future, No. 24 Kentucky enters its 52nd season as a program and second under Brooks. The Wildcats (1-0) defeated Morehead State 75-59 in Monday’s season opener.

UK hosts Monmouth (1-0) on Thursday at Memorial Coliseum. The game starts at 6:30 p.m. on SEC Network+. The Hawks beat Division II Chestnut Hill 81-42 on Monday.

FROM PAGE 1B

STORY

26.7% on 3-point attempts, 23 of 86.

On the plus side, history says a Pope-designed offense generally thrives.

In the five seasons (2019-2024) Pope coached BYU, the Cougars ranked in the top 50 in adjusted offensive efficiency in the Pomeroy Ratings four times, finished in the top 25 three times and inside the top 15 twice.

Last winter, in Pope’s first season as head man at his college alma mater, UK finished 10th in adjusted offensive efficiency. The Wildcats were seventh in the nation in scoring (84.4 points a game), 20th in assists (16.9 a contest) and 21st in fast-break points (14.03 a game).

Of particular note here, the 2024-25 Cats shot 37.5% from behind the 3-point arc.

Alas, it is a fact that Kentucky in its 2025-26 roster construction brought far less proven offensive production into this season than there was on Pope’s first UK team in 2024-25.

Of the nine players Pope signed out of the transfer portal prior to the 2024-25 season, seven had averaged in double figures in scoring for their college teams during the previous year.

Conversely, the 2025-26 Wildcats boast only two players who were double-figure scorers in college basketball last season — incumbent UK star Otega Oweh (16.2 ppg in 2024-25) and transfer point guard Jaland Lowe (16.8 for Pittsburgh last season).

Among current Cats who have taken at least five 3-pointers through the three games in which we’ve seen Kentucky play, only two — Oweh (37.5%, 3 of 8) and Collin Chandler (35.7%, 5 of 14) — are shooting better than 33 percent on trey tries.

Otherwise, Kentucky’s 3-point shooting percentages are arctic — Kam Willaims is at 15.9% (2 of 13), Aberdeen 20% (2 of 10), Jasper Johnson 29.4% (5 of 17) and Trent Noah 30% (3 of 10).

Due to the shoulder injury he suffered in Kentucky’s Blue-White scrimmage, Lowe, UK’s expect-

ed floor general, has yet to play.

Once the point guard returns (as soon as Friday night against Valparaiso?), his presence could lead to higher shooting percentages for his teammates by creating both better shots and more open spacing.

“Having Jaland back, the offense is going to be more comfortable,” Kentucky forward Mouhamed Dioubate said. “We’ve been practicing with Jaland all summer long; he was most of our offense. Once he comes back, I think we’re gonna get more, better looks, more open shots, and it’s gonna be more spatial in the court.”

One intriguing variable in evaluating the prospect that Kentucky will ultimately start making 3-point shots at an acceptably efficient rate this season is how much players tend to improve their offensive production merely by being plugged into Pope’s modern, five-out offensive system.

Of the eight transfers who formed the core of Kentucky’s 2024-25 team, only three — Oweh (plus 4.8 points a game), Lamont Butler (plus 2.1) and Koby Brea (plus 0.5) — raised their scoring averages at UK over what they had posted the prior year at their previous schools.

However, seven of the eight averaged more assists a game than they had the prior season; five raised their overall field-goal percentage; and *four raised their 3-point field-goal percentage.*

(I did not include Kerr Kriisa’s numbers in these tabulations due to the small sample size available since he played only nine games last season for Kentucky due to injury). Bottom line is that it is vastly too early in the season to be *worried* about what has so far been Kentucky’s penchant for inaccurate 3-point shooting.

However, if you are among that faction of Kentucky basketball fandom which must have something to fret over, directing some small level of *concern* about the 2025-26 Wildcats’ capacity for regularly hitting outside shots does not seem premature.

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Legals

Legals & Public Notices

Notice of Public Hearing

The Lexington-Fayette Urban County Airport Board (the “Issuer”) will hold a public hearing at 8:30 a.m., local time, on Wednesday, November 19, 2025 at the Blue Grass Airport, 4000 Terminal Drive, Boardroom, Lexington, Kentucky 40510, to discuss the possible issuance by the Issuer of General Airport Revenue Obligations (Lexington-Fayette Urban County Government General Obligation) pursuant to a Lexington-Fayette Urban County Airport Board Line of Credit between the Issuer and Pinnacle Bank, in one or more series, in a total principal amount not to exceed \$18,000,000 (Eighteen Million Dollars) (collectively, the “2025 Obligations”) pursuant to Chapter 183 of the Kentucky Revised Statutes, as amended (the “Act”). If approved, the proceeds of the 2025 Obligations would be used: (A) to finance or reimburse the costs of the design, acquisition, construction, equipping and installation of exempt airport facilities for purposes of an exempt facility bond (“Qualified Airport Facilities”) under Section 142(a)(1) of the Internal Revenue Code of 1986, as amended (the “Code”) including, without limitation: (i) terminal improvements including but not limited to, demolition of customs border patrol, Delta Air Lines cargo facility, existing rental car ready return facility and Tex Sulton facilities, including hangar and office building, construction of restroom facilities and baggage conveyors, expansion of passenger and baggage screening facilities, jet bridge replacements and related equipment replacements; (ii) construction of an apron hangar; (iii) acquisition of new equipment including but not limited to acquisition of tugs, deicers, air stairs; and (iv) any other related Qualified Airport Facilities (collectively, the “2025 Project”) at the Blue Grass Airport, 4000 Terminal Drive, Lexington, Kentucky 40510; and (B) to pay for certain issuance costs associated with the 2025 Obligations. Upon the issuance of the 2025 Obligations, the initial owner of the 2025 Project will be the Issuer. A public hearing (pursuant to Section 147(f) of the Code) will be held as listed above by the Issuer in connection with the aforesaid matters. At such public hearing there will be an opportunity for persons to express their views concerning the foregoing. Anyone may appear in person at such public hearing or submit written comments to be considered at such public hearing. Written comments should be sent prior to the hearing date to: Don Sever, Director, Administration & Finance, Blue Grass Airport, 4000 Terminal Drive, Suite 206, Lexington, Kentucky 40510, telephone: (859) 425-3150. Information and documents regarding this proposed financing are on file in such office.

/s/ Eric J. Frankl
Executive Director
Lexington-Fayette Urban County Airport Board

IPL0288641
Nov 7 2025

LEGAL NOTICE

Notice is hereby given that the Stock Yards Bank & Trust Company, 1040 East Main Street, Louisville, Kentucky, 40206 has made an application to the Federal Deposit Insurance Corporation and the State of Kentucky Department of Financial Institutions to establish and operate a bank branch at 2037 Merrick Dr, Richmond, KY 40475 (Madison County). Any person wishing to comment on this application may file his or her comments in writing with the Regional Director of the Federal Deposit Insurance Corporation at the Regional Office at 300 South Riverside Plaza, Suite 1700, Chicago, IL 60606, or the Kentucky Department of Financial Institutions at 1025 Capital Center Drive, Frankfort, Kentucky 40601, not later than fifteen days after the publication date. The non-confidential portions of the application are on file at the appropriate FDIC office and the Kentucky Department of Financial Institutions. This information is available for public inspection during regular business hours at the FDIC and upon written request at the Kentucky Department of Financial Institutions. Photocopies of the non-confidential portion of the application will be made available by FDIC upon request. A schedule of charges for such copies can be obtained from the Regional Office. This notice is published pursuant to Part 303.44 of the Rules and Regulations of the Federal Deposit Insurance Corporation and the State of Kentucky.

Stock Yards Bank & Trust
By: /s/
Ja Hillebrand, CEO and Chairman
750466/1001466063
IPL0288396
Nov 7 2025

NOTICE

A Board of Architectural Review public hearing will be held on Wednesday November 19, 2025 at 4:00 p.m., Second Floor-Council Chamber Urban County Government Center, 200 East Main Street in order to review the following applications for:

Agenda:

124 South Ashland Avenue: Shift garage location and reduce width of driveway.128 Clay Avenue: Demolish existing driveway, walk and remove tree; construct new driveway and patio and landscaping.135 Ransom Avenue: Infill porch addition; construct garage and extend driveway.200 West High Street: Remove sycamore tree. 257 South Hanover Avenue: Construct one-story addition.298 South Ashland Avenue: Demolish garage and construct garage; pave driveway.423 Fayette Park: Install chair lift.497 East Main Street: Change openings in the main structure, rear addition and garage; remove shutters.538 – 542 Arcadia Park: Construct new fence and deck.624 North Broadway: Change roof and siding. 1007 Fontaine Road: Construct carport.2930 Cadetown Road: Demolish structure; construct structure.

The full Agenda is available at www.lexingtonky.gov/calendar.

For further information, contact: Historic Preservation Office 200 East Main Street Lexington, KY 40507

Lexington, KY 40507

Phone: 859-258-3265
IPL0287843
Nov 7 2025

LEGAL NOTICE

Please take notice Interstate Storage located at 3099 Lexington Rd, Richmond, KY, 40475 intends to hold a public sale to sell the property stored in the following units stored at the Facility. The sale will occur as an Online auction via www.lockerfox.com on 11/11/2025 at 11:00 AM. Unit #101. This sale may be withdrawn at any time without notice. Certain terms and conditions apply. 7568-323606
IPL0284216
Nov 7 2025

Notice of Self Storage Sale

Please take notice Interstate Storage located at 3099 Lexington Rd, Richmond, KY, 40475 intends to hold a public sale to sell the property stored in the following units stored at the Facility. The sale will occur as an Online auction via www.lockerfox.com on 11/11/2025 at 11:00 AM. Unit #101. This sale may be withdrawn at any time without notice. Certain terms and conditions apply. 7568-323606
IPL0285246
Nov 7 2025

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Legals & Public Notices

MASTER COMMISSIONER'S SALE

In order to comply with the orders of the Fayette Circuit Court, the Commissioner will sell the property described in the following action on **November 24, 2025**, at the hour of 12:00 noon in the ROBERT F. STEPHENS COURTHOUSE, FAYETTE CIRCUIT COURT BUILDING, 120 NORTH LIMESTONE, Lexington, Kentucky. A bailiff will direct you to the appropriate room. Said property shall be sold to raise the amounts hereinafter set forth, together with interest and the costs of the action, and upon the (unless otherwise indicated) following terms and conditions. (A) At the time of sale the successful bidder shall either pay cash or make a deposit of 10% of the purchase price with the balance on credit for thirty (30) days. **In the event the successful bidder does not pay cash, the bidder will be required to post bond and furnish an acceptable surety thereon.** Said bond shall be for the unpaid purchase price and bear interest at the rate the judgment bears from the date of sale until paid, and shall have the force and effect of a judgment. (B) The purchaser shall be required to assume and pay all taxes or assessments upon the property for the current fiscal tax year (i.e. the amount that will be due thru June 30, 2026) and all subsequent years. All other delinquent taxes or assessments upon the property for prior years shall be paid from the sale proceeds if properly claimed in writing and filed of record by the purchaser within ten (10) days from the date of sale. (C) The property shall otherwise be sold free and clear of any right, title and interest of all parties to the action and of their liens and encumbrances thereon, excepting easements and restrictions of record in the Fayette County Court Clerk's Office and such right of redemption as may exist in favor of the United States of America or the defendant(s). “Master Commissioner Sales are “**Buyer Beware**” Sales. The Property is sold “**As Is**” “**Where Is**.” The condition of the property is not warranted by the Court, by the Master Commissioner, or by the Plaintiff. If you bid on property, you should have done your due diligence before you bid, not after!” FURTHER INFORMATION REGARDING THESE SALES AND OTHER UPCOMING SALES, AS WELL AS PAST SALES CAN BE FOUND AT WWW.FAYCOM.INFO. PROSPECTIVE BIDDERS ARE ADVISED AND ENCOURAGED TO REFER TO THAT WEB SITE FOR ANSWERS TO THEIR QUESTIONS.

1- 2679 COLRAIN COURT, 25-CI-01147, Principal to be raised \$47,740.00. Parcel No. 12533400

2- 2201 PREAKNESS COURT, 25-CI-02710, Principal to be raised \$88,136.39. Parcel No. 38018020

3- 1401 YOSEMITE CIRCLE, 25-CI-01395, Principal to be raised \$297,356.57. Parcel No. 11887793

4- 524 ERIE ROAD (A/K/A 985 DE PORRES AVENUE), 22-CI-00738, Principal to be raised \$862.65. Parcel No. 15521700

5- 219 ABERDEEN DRIVE, 25-CI-01716, Principal to be raised \$149,177.74. Parcel No. 27262675

6- 472 MARBLEROCK WAY, 24-CI-04206, Principal to be raised \$100,088.17. Parcel No. 20062920

7- 204 SOUTH HANOVER AVENUE, 22-CI-03723, Principal to be raised \$122,065.50. Parcel No. 12192450

JAMES H. FRAZIER, III
MASTER COMMISSIONER

IPL0288434
Nov 7 2025

Public Notice

Notice is hereby given that Lexington Fayette Urban County Government has filed an application with the Energy and Environment Cabinet to complete a streambank stabilization along Cane Run at the Coldstream Park. This will result in a “stepped rock” area for pedestrian access to the proposed disc golf course. Approximately three creek crossings will be stabilized. The property is located at 469 Parkway Drive, Lexington, KY. Any comments or objections shall be submitted via email to: DOWFloodplain@ky.gov and must be received within the date of this notice. Kentucky Division of Water, Floodplain Management Section, 300 Sower Blvd. Frankfort, KY 40601. Call 502-564-3410 with questions. IPL0288259
Nov 6-8 2025

NOTICE

We will be having a meeting of the Fayette County Extension District Board on November 11, 2025 at 9:00 AM. This advertisement was paid for by the Fayette County Extension District Board using taxpayer dollars in the amount of \$84.02. IPL0287626
Nov 7 2025

Beverage Notice

Legal notice

Santa Fe Taqueria LLC at 2350 Woodhill drive ste 168 Lexington ky 40509 hereby declares intention to apply for a NQ2 Retail Drink License. No later than November 6,2024, this business to be licensed will be located at 2350 Woodhill Dr, St. 168 Lexington, Kentucky 40509 doing business as Santa Fe Taqueria, LLC. The owner is the following position owner, Victor Jimenez of 2409 Elderberry Court, Lexington, KY 40509. Any person may protest the approval of the license by writing to the department of alcohol beverage control within 30 days of the date of legal publication. IPL0288203
Nov 6-7 2025

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