

Maxey joins exclusive fraternity with 54-point, nine-assist game

BY STEVE MEGARGEE
ASSOCIATED PRESS

MILWAUKEE — Philadelphia 76ers guard Tyrese Maxey arguably is the NBA's hardest-working player this season.

His heavy workload sure isn't hindering his production so far.

Maxey already was averaging an NBA-leading 40.3 minutes per game this season before he had a career-high 54 points and nine assists over 46 ½ minutes in a 123-114 overtime victory over the Milwaukee Bucks on Thursday.

According to Elias Sports Bureau, Maxey and Wilt Chamberlain are the only 76ers to have at least 50 points and nine assists in a game.

"Blessed," Maxey said. "I thank God for it. Any time you're in a conversation with Wilt, who scored 100 points, you can't complain."

Maxey's remarkable performance came one night after he played 39 minutes in a 121-112 loss to the Toronto Raptors. The 76ers have leaned on Maxey even more heavily because injuries have limited the availability of 2023 MVP Joel Embiid and six-time All-NBA wing Paul George.

Embiid missed a sixth straight game Thursday due to a knee issue. George made his season debut Monday after missing Philadelphia's first 12 games while recovering from offseason surgery on his left knee.

Philadelphia (9-6) is above .500 thanks largely to Maxey, who is averaging 33.4 points to rank second in the league,



Philadelphia 76ers' Tyrese Maxey gets past Milwaukee Bucks' AJ Green during tocertime of an NBA basket-ball game Thursday in Milwaukee.

behind only the Los Angeles Lakers' Luka Doncic (34.6).

"He's special," George said. "He's gifted. I think what you guys don't see and what stands out is after the game, on a back-to-back, 50, 45-plus minutes, he goes and lifts. That just speaks volumes to who he is, why he's where he's at. I've been around a lot of great guys in this league. That's what they do. They do the stuff like that keeps them going, keeps them strong, always working on themselves."

Maxey earned his first All-Star Game appearance in 2023-24 but played just 52 games in 2024-25 as his season ended in early March due to an injured finger on his right hand. He made the most of his time off and says he watched film every day in the offseason.

He returned with a tenacity that's been evident the last couple nights.

There was no guarantee Maxey would even play Thursday. He was listed as probable

after bruising his right quadriceps against Toronto. He woke up, got treatment and decided he'd play as long as he could run effectively.

Then he wanted to make amends for his performance in that Raptors game. Although he scored 24 points, he took only 14 shots.

"I definitely was not as aggressive as I should have been," Maxey said. "I got hit in the head and I also got hit in the quad, so it was a little tough

for me."

His teammates and coaches told him afterward he needed to shoot more than that. He responded Thursday by going 18 of 30 overall, 6 of 15 from 3-point range and 12 of 14 on free-throw attempts. His two free throws with seven seconds left in the fourth quarter forced overtime.

After resting for just over half of the second quarter, Maxey never left the game after halftime.

"We usually have a little discussion there to start the fourth," 76ers coach Nick Nurse said. "He didn't want to have the discussion tonight. He wanted to stay in."

Maxey said the Bucks' decision to play a zone defense for much of the second half helped him keep his energy level relatively high.

"I didn't have to move too much or work too hard to score or get the ball on offense, so I think I didn't feel tired just because of that," Maxey said. "The zone slowed the game down and kind of took stress off the body. I was like, 'Listen, I'm good. If you want me to stay, I can stay.' He let me stay, so I finished the game."

Maxey is ready to stay on the floor as long as he needs each and every game, even if that means leading the league in minutes.

"I don't really care," Maxey said. "I just want to win. If I have to play however much I have to play to win, then that's what I'm going to do."

Kentucky State football is competing for first NCAA championship

BY CAMERON DRUMMOND
LEXINGTON HERALD-LEADER
(TNS)

History is being made this week at Kentucky State University.

For the first time, the Thorobreds will compete for an NCAA championship in football after KSU was selected for one of 16 at-large berths into the expanded 32-team NCAA Division II football playoffs. This marks Kentucky State's debut appearance in the event, which dates back to 1973.

Kentucky State — the commonwealth's only public historically Black university — went 9-2 in the regular season, which marked the Thorobreds' best campaign since 1935.

"We can beat you through the air. We can beat you through the ground," KSU head coach Felton Huggins Jr. told the Herald-Leader this week during an interview in his office. "We can beat you defensively. We can beat you special teams-wise. We can beat you different ways."

"You've got to account for all that stuff. And so I'm just proud of our guys, of them taking each day a step at a time and getting it done."

Huggins, the third-year head coach at Kentucky State, has overseen a significant turnaround. The Thorobreds went 3-7 during his first season in 2023 and 5-6 last season before a four-win improvement this season.

KSU enters the post-season on a roll. Kentucky State has won eight straight games, the program's longest single-season winning streak since 1934. Those wins have come by an average of more than 23 points.

The impressive statistics don't stop there. Kentucky State held seven of its last eight opponents to 20 points or fewer. The Thorobreds are averaging more than 35 points scored per game and went 7-1 in league play in the HBCU-based Southern Intercollegiate Athletic Conference.

A trio of players has at least three rushing scores this season, led by freshman Chad Elzy Jr. with 11. Senior Jon McCall (10) and junior

Darius Cyprian (eight) have combined for 18 receiving touchdowns. The Thorobreds have enjoyed success with quarterbacks Torrence Bardell, a grad student, and current starter junior Denim Johnson (12 passing touchdowns against one interception).

On defense, juniors Navy Curry and Lawrence McConnell both have four interceptions and a pick-six.

Special teams have also shined, as freshman Leland Gantz made a 41-yard, walk-off field goal to give KSU a non-conference win at Franklin Pierce (New Hampshire) in October.

"During fall camp, and in the spring, we all just bought in to just have fun with each other," McConnell said. "We knew we had a chance to do something great here. So everybody just believed. That's the main thing, just believing that we can do it."

Kentucky State's consistency has brought Huggins' group to this moment. The Thorobreds' maiden NCAA playoff game will be Saturday afternoon at Newberry College (9-1) in South Carolina.

"Just playing this late in the year is always a great opportunity," Cyprian said. "It's going to be a lot more people watching, a lot more people cheering us on. I feel like it's going to be a more electric atmosphere out there for play-off football this weekend."

Defensive star Navy Curry exemplifies Kentucky State's football turnaround

Curry, a 6-foot defensive back who is in his third season at Kentucky State, was quick to highlight the program's culture change.

"My first year here (2023), there wasn't really that much camaraderie," Curry said. "It wasn't really much of a brotherhood on the team, like how it is now. Seeing what we came from, it just makes it even more special for us to be having such a good season this year."

Curry arrived at Kentucky State as a quarterback and only played in two games as a fresh-

man. Huggins knew the talent Curry possessed, though, and he planned for Curry to switch positions to get playing time.

Huggins — a former NFL player who played collegiately for former Kentucky head coach Hal Mumme at Southeastern Louisiana — stuck to his word.

Curry finished his freshman season at receiver before getting his feet wet at defensive back as a sophomore. Now, Curry has enjoyed a breakout campaign, highlighted by a 100-yard interception return for a touchdown in a September win at Morehouse.

"There had been a lot of times I came to Coach Huggs' office crying, (saying) 'I really don't know what I'm gonna do with this football thing,'" Curry recalled. "He'd just sit there. He'd talk to me. He'd tell me 'Everybody runs their own race.' He'd tell me to just keep working and just keep my head up and just let God take control of what's going to happen."

Curry's individual development at Kentucky State is emblematic of the program's turnaround under Huggins, who comes from a family of coaches and educators.

"My dad always taught me 'Be firm, but be fair with your kids.' They'll give you the world once they know," Huggins said. "Even though sometimes they don't like you to get on them, they'll always love you for being honest with them. ...I've been in places where coaches will say one thing but mean another, and kids will see through that real fast."

Kentucky State makes NCAA playoffs after controversial schedule change

Kentucky State's berth in the NCAA Division II playoffs didn't come without controversy.

Originally, KSU was scheduled to finish the regular season with a road game at Delta State, another contender for an at-large berth in the national postseason.

But Kentucky State dropped that road game for a home game against Shorter University. KSU used a formal football scheduling agreement between the SIAC and

Shorter's league, Conference Carolinas, to do so.

Delta State entered the final week of the regular season with a 7-3 overall record. Shorter was 2-8.

Kentucky State easily handled Shorter in a 35-7 win. Delta State — which wasn't selected for the NCAA Division II playoffs — failed to find an opponent to fill the void in its schedule.

After Kentucky State changed opponents, Delta State head coach Todd Cooley expressed anger and frustration with the decision.

Huggins defended the scheduling move in a nearly three-minute response to the Herald-Leader and said everything on KSU's end was done "above board."

"We reached out to (Delta State) over a month and a half in advance, let them know that we were on this trajectory and this was a possibility," Huggins said.

Huggins added that he had a conversation with Cooley following the schedule change.

"There wasn't a lot of pushback from him, as far as when I clearly stated to him that we weren't going to be able to play this game," Huggins said. "... He had a whole month and a half to make an uproar. But all of a sudden, I don't

know, at the end of the day, after a game, now it all becomes an issue... We never backed out on them at the last minute. We were very proactive. We did everything we were supposed to do, and I stand by what we did."

Curry added that Huggins was transparent with his players about what happened with the opponent change.

"At the end of the day, everybody knows I don't duck no smoke," Huggins said, pointing to top opponents like Grand Valley State, Alabama A&M, Virginia Union and Grambling State (a Division I school that needed overtime to beat KSU in September) that Kentucky State has played during his tenure.

Three schools from the SIAC qualified for the NCAA playoffs: Albany State (10-1), Benedict (9-2) and Kentucky State.

Two of the four teams from Delta State's league, the Gulf South Conference, made the NCAA field.

Kentucky State football to make NCAA Division II playoffs debut

There's plenty of pride in what Kentucky State has already accomplished.

KSU is the only commonwealth school to qualify for the NCAA Division II playoffs. A

win over Newberry on Saturday would secure a school-record 10th win of the season.

The winner of that contest will face either North Greenville or West Florida in the second round of the playoffs Nov. 29.

On Sunday, when the NCAA Division II playoff bracket was announced, Kentucky State coaches and players gathered to watch the selection show. A little more than 11 minutes into the program, host Joey Lindstrom had one team still to announce on the bracket's left side.

The KSU contingent watched with anticipation. Some were unsure of how the selection committee would evaluate KSU's resumé.

"A newcomer to the D-II championship," Lindstrom began.

Before Kentucky State's name even emerged on the screen, one player exclaimed. And once their spot in the playoffs was confirmed, the celebration was on for the Thorobreds.

"As I soon as I saw we punched our ticket, I was like, 'All right, we got a chance in this thing,'" Curry said. "All we needed was a foot in the door. We gonna make a run."

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NOTICE OF ZONING HEARING REGARDING 6976 WEST LOUISVILLE LANE

A request has been filed with the Owensboro Metropolitan Board of Adjustment by Thomas Hayden and Independence Bank of Kentucky for a **Conditional Use Permit** in order to operate a shop of special trade for major vehicle repair in a B-4 General Business zoning classification. The above proposal is to be considered at a meeting of the Owensboro Metropolitan Board of Adjustment on December 4, 2025 at 5:30 p.m. in the 4th Floor Auditorium of City Hall, 101 E. 4th St., Owensboro, KY.

RUTH ANN MASON
SECRETARY
LEWIS JEAN
CHAIR



PUBLIC NOTICE

Notice is hereby given that Adam Burden of 1140 Marksberry Rd. W, Owensboro, KY 42301, has filed an application with the Energy & Environment Cabinet to construct a 40X60 Post Frame Building with 12x40 covered porch. The property is located approximately at -87.136543°W, 37.643846°N.

Any comments or objections can be submitted via email to: DOWFloodplain@ky.gov Kentucky Division of Water, Floodplain Management Section, 300 Sower Blvd., Frankfort, KY 40601. Call 502-564-3410 with questions.

GARAGE SALE

SOUTH - St. Ann, 3039 (off of Legion Blvd.) Inside Sale- Rain or Shine Christmas decor, ornaments, pj's and shirts. Handmade craft gift ideas, keychains, scarves, quilts. Holiday bedding, scrapbooking, cricket. Many items new or NWT.