## Mark Stoop: 'There's zero chance I'm walking away'

TRIBUNE NEWS SERVICE

The latest blowout loss for Kentucky football might have only added more fuel to the fire for a coaching change, but Mark Stoops is not ready to accept defeat.

One day after a radio report that he had approached the UKadministration about negotiating an exit last year was widely shared on social Stoops unequivocal about his status following a 35-14 loss at Georgia.

"I hate to give anything like that legs," Stoops said when asked by the Herald-Leader about the report. "There's zero (truth). I told you last year, right? I mean, you guys could write it and say what you want about me, but, I mean, I told you there's zero chance I'm walking away. I mean, zero. There's no quit in me."

Alan Cutler, a retired Lexington television reporter who now hosts a talk radio show on the Lexington ESPN radio affiliate, reported on his show this week, citing unnamed sources, that Stoops approached UK athletics director Mitch Barnhart last season about leaving Lexington but the two sides had not reached a separation agreement.

"Sources are telling me that Mark Stoops went to Mitch Barnhart after the



File photo by Kentucky Today

Kentucky coach Mark Stoops speaks at a news conference following the loss to South Carolina earlier this season at Kroger Field.

he wanted out and he would negotiate the buyout," Cutler said on his show.

That report was seized on by the portion of UK fans calling for Stoops to be fired in the wake of widespread reporting that UK is in no position financially to pay the near \$38 million buyout that would be owed Stoops if he were fired Dec. 1.

A source within the UK administration denied that report to the Herald-Leader before the game Saturday, and Stoops was even more adamant in his denial when asked about it in his postgame news conference.

"That's unequivocally, 100% false, and anybody says otherwise is lying," he said. "I don't want to address that crap no more."

The only way for Stoops

Tennessee game and said to silence the calls for his departure is to start winning games, though.

There were some signs of progress for the offense at Georgia as redshirt freshman quarterback Cutter Boley completed 25 of 41 passes for 225 yards, two touchdowns and one interception, but the defense had no answers for Georgia's offense early, allowing the Wildcats to fall into a 14-0 hole before their second possession.

Georgia led 35-7 at the end of the third quarter and played the majority of the fourth quarter with backups.

"No one's going to feel sorry for us, and they shouldn't," defensive coordinator Brad White said. "We all signed up for this, and we've got to find a way to dig ourselves out of this. know that, and we just keep

to work. It sounds really cliché, but I don't know what else you can say.

"And the thing that I appreciate about this group more than maybe any that we've had, is that it's not a finger-pointing group. It's not. They just want to work."

Kentucky heads into its second bye week of the season at 2-3 with two more games against top-15 opponents looming in October. There appear to games on the schedule in November where the Wildcats have a more realistic chance of being competitive, but with each passing week a turnaround looks less likely.

UK has not scored more than two offensive touchdowns in 12 consecutive games against Power Four conference competition. The tackling issues that plagued the defense at times in its first two SEC games were rampant again in Athens.

The negativity evident by Friday's uproar about the radio report continues to grow.

'At the end of the day, if you're a grown man, you got to realize nothing (outside) of this locker room matters," Boley said. "And I feel like we got a lot of grown men on this team. Nothing else on Saturdays except these guys matters. I mean, literally nothing. I think these, all these guys

All we can do is go back pushing and keep getting negativity. Like he did after better individually.

Barnhart, who watched Stoops' news conference from the back of the media room but departed from the area, as normal, before reporters could approach him for a response, has given no indication he is considering a coaching change.

Stoops reminded reporters that the season is not even at its halfway point and noted that Kentucky is not the only team that must deal with

last week's loss at South Carolina, Stoops stressed the importance of staying positive even as the negative results pile up.

"You got to have the right pieces in place," Stoops said. 'We're not exactly where we want to be. We're better than we've been in the recent past, but we're still not where we want to be.

"We're missing a few pieces, but we'll keep on





The Carroll County Sheriff's Office Fee audit for the calendar year January 1, 2024 through December 31, 2024 has been completed. A copy of the complete audit report, including finanial statements and supplemental information, is on file at the Sheriff's Office and is available for public inspection during normal business hours: 8:30a.m. to 4:30p.m. Monday-Friday. Any citizen may obtain from the sheriff office, a copy of the audit report will be charged, for duplication cost, at a rate that shall not exceed twenty-five cents (\$.25) per page. Copies of the financial statement prepared in accordance with KRS 424.220 are available to the public at no cost 440 Main Street, Carrollton, KY. 41008.

## Pope wants Cats to be 'fully engaged' this season

BY KEITH TAYLOR KENTUCKY TODAY

LEXINGTON

Kentucky coach Mark Pope wants the Wildcats to stay "fully engaged" going into his second season with the Wildcats.

"It's going to be one of the greatest challenges for us this season in that we all are kind of chasing the same vision," Pope said during the team's annual media day Monday.

Pope wants the Wildcats to be engaged on the court and have an open line of communication between the players and the coaching staff the entire season. Off the court, he wants to keep an open dialogue within the program.

Otega Oweh, Kentucky's leading returning scorer, understands what Pope is looking for when it comes to being fully engaged.

"It means paying attention to the little things," he said. "They're little details, but they're not little, because they add up. If you keep on forgetting to switch your feet in the ball screen defense, like three, four times it adds up and it's going to end up in points.

'It may be a little thing. but it ends up adding up, and, you know, it could hurt your team. I think that's what joy and pride and belief, and Coach means when he says 'fully engaged' ... just paying attention to so-called little things and not having it hurt you in the long run."

The Kentucky coach also wants the Wildcats to focus on individual and team growth, another element to



KEITH TAYLOR/Kentucky Today

Kentucky coach Mark Pope smiles during the team's annual media day on Monday in Lexington

cement his team's foundation coaching."

confused (because) we think that what we're really chasing is achievement, and that is wrong," he said. "What we're chasing is growth. It is not achievement.

Achievement is false, fake and it tricks you. It is growth."

He added his returning players, including Oweh,

"Growth is what brings it makes you walk in the room differently. Achievement is fine, but it's fickle, and so out of these second-year guys, we're seeing this amazing growth. They feel it. They're different. They walk into the room differently. I love it. It's the best thing about

That growth is also evident "Sometimes we get within the coaching staff as the Wildcats build on last year's success, the Kentucky making coach said, things "incredibly fun."

"As a head coach, you do vour best with short and limited information about positioning guys in the responsibilities where they're going to excel the most," Brandon Garrison, Trent he said. "Then there's also Noah and Collin Chandler, this growing process of a are "actually living that right year ago, at this time our staff still had so many questions about, like, Well, what do you do about this, and how do we do this, and everything else?"

This season, Pope said his staff has "gravitated guys more into the places where they can be stars on the staff."

We still have so much growth to accomplish as a staff, but I feel like we're

in a way different spot," he said. "I'm grateful for that. I think we're functioning well together."

And it starts at the top with who hasn't Pope, changed his mind about coaching "the biggest thing in basketball."

"I thought it was going to be the most challenging. It's the most challenging. I thought I would love it more than I've ever loved a job and probably more than I will ever love a job in my entire life, and I'm pretty sure that's true.

"I thought this was the greatest fanbase where the connection matters so much, and I still think that's true. I think it's just — I mean, I just am grateful that we get to live in it. I'm really grateful."

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UNIFIED COURT OF JUSTICE CARROLL CIRCUIT COURT

Civil Action No. 22-CI-00169 PLANET HOME LENDING, LLC PI AINTIFF NOTICE OF COMMISSIONER'S SALE Electronically Filed **DEFENDANTS** SARAH ANN CRAWFORD.

a/k/a SARAH CRAWFORD UNKNOWN SPOUSE, IF ANY, OF SARAH ANN CRAWFORD a/k/a SARAH CRAWFORD

By virtue of a Judgment and Order of Sale entered in the Carroll Ćircuit Court on the 5th day of May, 2025, and subsequent Order entered September 23, 2025, I will sell at public auction on the front steps (south door facing Highland Avenue) of the Car-roll County Courthouse, 440 Main Street, Carrollton, Kentucky, the property described herein located in Carroll County, Kentucky, on FRIDAY, OCTOBER 24, 2025, at the hour of 9:00 a.m. prevailing time, and more particularly described as follows: Property Address: 209 Tenth Street, Carrollton, KY 41008

Map ID #: C3-05-03 Being the same property conveyed to Sarah Ann Crawford, single, from Candice A. Perkins and Denny Perkins, husband and wife, and John R. Robbins, a/k/a Charles Randal Robbins, and Cindy Robbins, husband and wife, and John Timothy Robbins, a/k/a John T. Robbins, single, and Billy Jo Robbins, Jr., and Terry Robbins, husband and wife, by Deed dated October 6, 2020, of record in Deed Book 217, Page 262, in the Office of the Carroll County Court Clerk.

THERE IS NO MOBILE HOME, DOUBLEWIDE AND/OR MANUFACTURED HOME INCLUDED IN THIS SALE The amount of money to be raised by this sale is the sum of \$130,240.29, with accrued interest thereon to April 1, 2022, and with interest continuing to accrue from April 1, 2022, at the rate of 2.625% per annum or \$9.78 per day until fully paid, together with reasonable attorneys fees of \$3,075.00 and court costs of

The real estate shall be sold on the terms of ten (10%) per-

cent cash at the time of the sale, except that said deposit shall be waived if the Plaintiff is the successful bidder at the sale, and the balance on a credit of thirty (30) days bearing interest at the rate the judgment bears per annum from date of sale. When the purchase price is paid in full, the deed will be delivered to the purchaser. It is further provided that the property sold includes insurable improvements and the successful bidder at said sale shall, at bidder's own expense, carry fire and extended insurance coverage on said improvements from the date of sale until the purchase price is fully paid, to the extent of the Court appraised value of said improvements or the unpaid balance of the purchase price whichever is less, as a minimum, with a loss payable clause to the Commissioner of the Carroll Circuit Court or the Plaintiff herein. Failure of the purchaser to effect such insurance shall not affect the validity of the sale or the purchaser's liability thereunder, but shall entitle, but not require, the Plaintiff Planet Home Lending, LLC, to effect said insurance and furnish the policy or evidence thereof to the Commissioner if it so desires, and the premium thereon or the proper portion thereof shall be charged to the purchaser as purchaser's

The aforesaid property shall be sold free and clear of all liens and encumbrances

xcept the following a. All unpaid state, county and city real estate taxes for the

b. Easements, restrictions, and stipulations of record; c. Assessments for public improvements levied against the

or further information, see the Final Judgment and Order of

Carroll County.

d. Any facts which an inspection and/or accurate survey of the property may disclose.

Sale and pleadings of record in the Office of the Circuit Court of /s/ Jake A. Thompson JAKE A. THOMPSON MASTER COMMISSIONER

CARROLL CIRCUIT COURT

FROM PAGE A1

present for a picture at the Courthouse and recognition by fiscal court.

Bedford Rotary Club had asked fiscal court for funding assistance to upgrade Bedford city limits signs at the community's four entrances but were informed that public taxpayer funds could not be used for a private project. The Rotary Club has established a GoFundMe page, and placed donation jars at several locations throughout the city

for public contributions toward Jonathan Wilson, who was the project.

The court has contracted with OC Cleaning, LLC as the cleaning company for three county buildings. "We have had trouble keeping good employees in this position, so we have decided to go with a cleaning company," said Ogburn.

Several community announcements were also made concerning upcoming events. The Volleyboo Classic, a Halloween-themed volleyball tournament with costumes encouraged, will be Saturday, Oct. 25 at the Trimble County Park with proceeds to benefit

recently injured in an ambulance accident.

Trimble Homemakers will receive 15% of proceeds from an all-day fundraiser involving Tiki Taco on Friday, Oct. 17. A 99th birthday party for Glenn "Sonny" Fisher, the last original member of Bedford Volunteer Fire Department, is 2-4 p.m. on Saturday, Oct. 11, at Bedford Fire Department. Vintage military equipment will be on display.

The next Trimble Fiscal Court meeting is at 9 a.m. on Monday, Oct. 20.