POPE

FROM **PAGE B1**

logical.

Kentucky is a team with a lot of youth. Ousmane N'Diaye is in his first year of college basketball, star Alex Wilkins is just a sophomore, Braydon Hawthorne is a redshirt freshman, superstar Malachi Moreno is a sophomore and Mason Williams is a true freshman.

Of course, Kansas is also a team that started two freshmen. But Pope didn't bring up the age factor to suggest that his players were simply outmatched, he did it to explain the variance in performance.

See, young teams are more than capable of winning and playing very well. But, as anyone who followed Kentucky under John Calipari could attest, they are also very volatile. They can look great one day and poor the next. They're emotional. Anything can throw them off and change the tide of a game.

Unfortunately, Kentucky wasn't able to play its game for most of the night.

Four minutes into the game, after a hot start had Kentucky ahead, Moreno, the starting five, picked up his second foul and got sent to the bench. Immediately after, N'Diaye, the starting four, picked up a staggering three fouls, including a Class A Technical Foul for an altercation with Kansas' Taylen Kinney. So, he went out too.

Instead of Mason or Kam Williams being your sixth man off the bench, suddenly its Franck Kepnang coming in first and, with Kepnang being unable to stay out for lengthy periods of the game, Reece Potter played in the first quarter (first half of the first half) of action.

"We found some frustration early in the game," Pope said. "It was really disruptive for us and we never quite recovered from it. It's an unbelievable learning experience for our guys and our young group and they'll respond the right way."

For those who look on dismissively about that quote from Pope's opening statement, his last answer, given with a noticeable amount of fire to end the press conference, was more brutally honest and telling. There, Pope was asked about some of the rotations he employed throughout the game.

"Well, I didn't want any of those rotations, but the game kind of demanded it. I got Mali and Ous sitting on the bench with two fouls three minutes into the game. It makes it really complicated," Pope said. "But as we grow, we'll be able to sustain our effort through super strange events in a game. We're just not there yet. We weren't there against a terrific opponent in Kansas, but we'll get there. We're just not there quite yet."

That same idea would rear its head in the middle of the 8:15 press conference, too, which constitutes a reference roughly every 2.75 minutes.

"I thought our response was disjointed. In the first three-and-a-half minutes, we lost our whole front court. That was problematic for us and we didn't respond very well, both from a coaching staff perspective and from a player perspective," Pope said. "It just seemed like distraction after distraction. That's what happens when you have teams— that's where we are, this is a great group. This is a group that can really learn, it's a group that will look internally and will get way better."

Really and truly, though, it was the story of the game. A youth-heavy Wildcats team got thrown off its game and never recovered. It was a similar story for Duke in game one, which trailed for essentially the entire game against Michigan State after struggling to hit shots all night. Yet, the national sentiment around Duke is one of understanding and for Kentucky it's of concern largely due to preconceived notions about which team has more future NBA talent.

Pope didn't sugarcoat the fact that, after being knocked off their game, his team played quite poorly. His guards turned over the ball and didn't distribute (Williams, Zoom Diallo and Wilkins combined for seven turnovers and three assists). His squad didn't finish possessions. His back court didn't take care of the ball and guard the paint well enough (Kentucky was beaten in points in the paint and second chance points while Moreno, Kepnang and Potter combined for four turnovers).

At the end of the day, even the most devout sunshine pumper would have a hard time finding something positive to say about the performance. Pope himself said they'd just focus on being "constructive" while adding that, "We're gonna have to get a lot better."

But that's what happens with "learning and growing teams" as Pope repeatedly said.

The only problem is whether or not they'll learn and grow enough to satisfy a fanbase that, by and large, simply walked out of the United Center with plenty of time left in the game.

Kentucky's coaches seem confident that this team is going to get far better. The national media isn't so sure. And, quite frankly, there's plenty much closer to home that aren't so sure, either.

The question is who will ultimately be right? As frustrating as Tuesday's game was, there was nothing absurd about it. Every beat in the story made sense, for better or for worse. And yet that doesn't make it any less hard to swallow.

But if there's any silver lining, Pope remains optimistic and hopeful about this team, which is far more than could've been said a year ago. What that is worth to the fans, that's for them to decide.

"We're going to keep learning and growing and I like this group for it, man," Pope concluded. "I'm betting on this group."

LEGAL NOTICE

COMMISSIONER'S SALE NOTICE

FREEDOM MORTGAGE CORPORATION, Plaintiff, against Destiny F. Powell, et al., Defendants

CIVIL ACTION NO. 25-CI-01125

BY VIRTUE of a Judgment and Order of Sale of the Christian Circuit Court, rendered on September 10, 2026 in the above cause, I shall proceed to offer for sale at the **OFFICE OF THE CHRISTIAN COUNTY MASTER COMMISSIONER, LEE M. HARTON**, at 1606 **SOUTH MAIN STREET**, Hopkinsville, Kentucky, to the highest bidder at **PUBLIC AUCTION** on Monday, November 16, 2026, at or about the hour of 11:00 a.m., upon a credit of 10% of the sale price on day of sale, balance in 30 days, the real estate located at 119 N. Cavalcade Circle, Oak Grove, Kentucky, and described with particularity in Deed Book 807, Page 510, Off0ice of the Christian County Clerk.

The judgment in this case is for approximately $ 294,900.00 for the balance of the purchase price, the purchaser must execute bond with approved surety or sureties, bearing interest at 7.2500% per annum from the date of sale until paid, and having the force and effect of a judgment. This sale is subject to all *ad valorem* taxes for 2026, *et seq*.

Bidders will be prepared to comply promptly with these terms. Any announcements made on date of sale take precedence over printed matter contained herein.

Brock & Scott, PLLC.
Cincinnati, OH.
Counsel for Plaintiff

LEE M HARTON
MASTER COMMISSIONER
www.christiancountymastercommissioner.com
Certificate of Service

I hereby certify that a copy of the foregoing Notice of Sale was this day served by United States mail, postage prepaid, to all parties not in default for failure to appear in accordance with CR 53.02 and 53.02(1).

Dated this ____ day of _____, 2026.

/s/ Lee M. Harton
LEE M. HARTON

LEGAL NOTICE

COMMISSIONER'S SALE NOTICE

PENNYMAC LOAN SERVICES, LLC., Plaintiff, against Jesse Walters, et al., Defendants

CIVIL ACTION NO. 25-CI-00342

BY VIRTUE of a Judgment and Order of Sale of the Christian Circuit Court, rendered on September 1, 2026 in the above cause, I shall proceed to offer for sale at the **OFFICE OF THE CHRISTIAN COUNTY MASTER COMMISSIONER, LEE M. HARTON**, at 1606 **SOUTH MAIN STREET**, Hopkinsville, Kentucky, to the highest bidder at **PUBLIC AUCTION** on Monday, November 16, 2026, at or about the hour of 11:00 a.m., upon a credit of 10% of the sale price on day of sale, balance in 30 days, the property located at 178 College Street, Crofton, Kentucky, and described with particularity in Deed Book 796, Page 390, Office of the Christian County Clerk.

The judgment in this case is for approximately $ 149,000.00 for the balance of the purchase price, the purchaser must execute bond with approved surety or sureties, bearing interest at 5.9900% per annum from the date of sale until paid, and having the force and effect of a judgment. This sale is subject to all *ad valorem* taxes for 2026, *et seq*.

Bidders will be prepared to comply promptly with these terms. Any announcements made on date of sale take precedence over printed matter contained herein.

Millsap & Singer, LLC.
Louisville, KY
Counsel for Plaintiff

LEE M HARTON
MASTER COMMISSIONER
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Certificate of Service

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Dated this ____ day of _____, 2026.

/s/ Lee M. Harton
LEE M. HARTON

LEGAL NOTICE

COMMISSIONER'S SALE NOTICE

THE HUNTINGTON NATIONAL BANK, Plaintiff, against Alek D. Vagts aka Alek Dean Vagts, et al., Defendants

CIVIL ACTION NO. 25-CI-00730

BY VIRTUE of a Judgment and Order of Sale of the Christian Circuit Court, rendered on August 17, 2026 in the above cause, I shall proceed to offer for sale at the **OFFICE OF THE CHRISTIAN COUNTY MASTER COMMISSIONER, LEE M. HARTON**, at 1606 **SOUTH MAIN STREET**, Hopkinsville, Kentucky, to the highest bidder at **PUBLIC AUCTION** on Monday, November 16, 2026, at or about the hour of 11:00 a.m., upon a credit of 10% of the sale price on day of sale, balance in 30 days, the real estate located at 509 Indian Drive, Oak Grove, Kentucky, and described with particularity in Deed Book 807, Page 575, Off0ice of the Christian County Clerk.

The judgment in this case is for approximately $ 248,300.00 for the balance of the purchase price, the purchaser must execute bond with approved surety or sureties, bearing interest at 7.25000% per annum from the date of sale until paid, and having the force and effect of a judgment. This sale is subject to all *ad valorem* taxes for 2026, *et seq*.

Bidders will be prepared to comply promptly with these terms. Any announcements made on date of sale take precedence over printed matter contained herein.

Sassano, Deighton, Delaney, Higgins & Mommsen Co., L.P.A.
Cleveland, OH.
Counsel for Plaintiff

LEE M HARTON
MASTER COMMISSIONER
www.christiancountymastercommissioner.com
Certificate of Service

I hereby certify that a copy of the foregoing Notice of Sale was this day served by United States mail, postage prepaid, to all parties not in default for failure to appear in accordance with CR 53.02 and 53.02(1).

Dated this ____ day of _____, 2026.

/s/ Lee M. Harton
LEE M. HARTON

LEGAL NOTICE

COMMISSIONER'S SALE NOTICE

LOANDEPOT.COM, LLC., Plaintiff, against Susan Kay Weiker, et al., Defendants

CIVIL ACTION NO. 25-CI-00219

BY VIRTUE of a Judgment and Order of Sale of the Christian Circuit Court, rendered on December 22, 2025 in the above cause, I shall proceed to offer for sale at the **OFFICE OF THE CHRISTIAN COUNTY MASTER COMMISSIONER, LEE M. HARTON**, at 1606 **SOUTH MAIN STREET**, Hopkinsville, Kentucky, to the highest bidder at **PUBLIC AUCTION** on Monday, November 16, 2026, at or about the hour of 11:00 a.m., upon a credit of 10% of the sale price on day of sale, balance in 30 days, the real estate located at 2276 Flat Lick Lane, Herndon, Kentucky, and described with particularity in Deed Book 776, Page 349, Office of the Christian County Clerk.

The judgment in this case is for approximately $ 219,400.00 for the balance of the purchase price, the purchaser must execute bond with approved surety or sureties, bearing interest at 3.875% per annum from the date of sale until paid, and having the force and effect of a judgment. This sale is subject to all *ad valorem* taxes for 2026, *et seq*.

Bidders will be prepared to comply promptly with these terms. Any announcements made on date of sale take precedence over printed matter contained herein.

Diaz Anselmo & Associates, P.S.C.
Fort Lauderdale, FL.
Counsel for Plaintiff

LEE M HARTON
MASTER COMMISSIONER
www.christiancountymastercommissioner.com
Certificate of Service

I hereby certify that a copy of the foregoing Notice of Sale was this day served by United States mail, postage prepaid, to all parties not in default for failure to appear in accordance with CR 53.02 and 53.02(1).

Dated this ____ day of _____, 2026.

/s/ Lee M. Harton
LEE M. HARTON

LEGAL NOTICE

COMMISSIONER'S SALE NOTICE

U.S. BANK TRUST NATIONAL ASSOCIATION, AS TRUSTEE OF THE FW SERIES I TRUST, Plaintiff, against John Franklin Smith, et al., Defendants

CIVIL ACTION NO. 25-CI-00676

BY VIRTUE of a Judgment and Order of Sale of the Christian Circuit Court, rendered on August 21, 2026 in the above cause, I shall proceed to offer for sale at the **OFFICE OF THE CHRISTIAN COUNTY MASTER COMMISSIONER, LEE M. HARTON**, at 1606 **SOUTH MAIN STREET**, Hopkinsville, Kentucky, to the highest bidder at **PUBLIC AUCTION** on Monday, November 16, 2026, at or about the hour of 11:00 a.m., upon a credit of 10% of the sale price on day of sale, balance in 30 days, the real estate located at 3080 Russellville Road, Hopkinsville, Kentucky, and described with particularity in Deed Book 453, Page 587, Office of the Christian County Clerk.

The judgment in this case is for approximately $ 60,000.00 for the balance of the purchase price, the purchaser must execute bond with approved surety or sureties, bearing interest at 4.188% per annum from the date of sale until paid, and having the force and effect of a judgment. This sale is subject to all *ad valorem* taxes for 2026, *et seq*.

Bidders will be prepared to comply promptly with these terms. Any announcements made on date of sale take precedence over printed matter contained herein.

Sottile & Barile
Loveland, OH.
Counsel for Plaintiff

LEE M HARTON
MASTER COMMISSIONER
www.christiancountymastercommissioner.com
Certificate of Service

I hereby certify that a copy of the foregoing Notice of Sale was this day served by United States mail, postage prepaid, to all parties not in default for failure to appear in accordance with CR 53.02 and 53.02(1).

Dated this ____ day of _____, 2026.

/s/ Lee M. Harton
LEE M. HARTON

LEGAL NOTICE

COMMISSIONER'S SALE NOTICE

CHARTER GROUP, LLC., Plaintiff, against Randall Hampton, et al., Defendants

CIVIL ACTION NO. 25-CI-00235

BY VIRTUE of a Judgment and Order of Sale of the Christian Circuit Court, rendered on August 31, 2026 in the above cause, I shall proceed to offer for sale at the **OFFICE OF THE CHRISTIAN COUNTY MASTER COMMISSIONER, LEE M. HARTON**, at 1606 **SOUTH MAIN STREET**, Hopkinsville, Kentucky, to the highest bidder at **PUBLIC AUCTION** on Monday, November 16, 2026, at or about the hour of 11:00 a.m., upon a credit of 10% of the sale price on day of sale, balance in 30 days, the real estate located at 15030 Greenville Road, Hopkinsville, Kentucky, and described with particularity in Deed Book 794, Page 337, Office of the Christian County Clerk.

The judgment in this case is for approximately $ 6,500.00 for the balance of the purchase price, the purchaser must execute bond with approved surety or sureties, bearing interest at 12% per annum from the date of sale until paid, and having the force and effect of a judgment. This sale is subject to all *ad valorem* taxes for 2026, *et seq*.

Bidders will be prepared to comply promptly with these terms. Any announcements made on date of sale take precedence over printed matter contained herein.

Albrektson & Wakild
Crestwood, KY
Counsel for Plaintiff

LEE M HARTON
MASTER COMMISSIONER
www.christiancountymastercommissioner.com
Certificate of Service

I hereby certify that a copy of the foregoing Notice of Sale was this day served by United States mail, postage prepaid, to all parties not in default for failure to appear in accordance with CR 53.02 and 53.02(1).

Dated this ____ day of _____, 2026.

/s/ Lee M. Harton
LEE M. HARTON