EVENTS

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In all, after losing six players to graduation and two to the transfer portal, Pope returns four players from a year ago while adding a total of 10 newcomers: six transfers, three high school seniors, and one international prospect.

For the second straight offseason, Pope signed a top-5 transfer class, which includes five of the top 65 prospects in the portal. In addition to his top-5 portal class, Pope also inked a top-15 high school class.

When combining the transfer portal and high school classes, Pope's 2025 roster haul ranks No. 4 overall according to 247Sports behind only Duke, Houston and BYU.

"Competitive, deep, skilled," Pope said. "I think the guys that have chosen to be here are guys that are just starving to come test themselves every day in practice to come get better. I've got hungry, hungry, hungry guys. I've got guys that have unique, distinguishable skill sets that fit us really well. I'm excited about this group. This is going to be a really special group."

But, how did we get here?

CatsPause.com recaps 2025's offseason timeline:

March 28: Tulane transfer Kam Williams commits to Kentucky

Kentucky's offseason additions began before its season was even over, as the Wildcats received a commitment from highly-regarded Tulane transfer Kam Williams while still playing in the Sweet 16 of the NCAA Tournament.

Williams (6-8, 190), who is ranked as the No. 42 overall transfer and No. 6 small forward in the transfer portal by 247Sports, averaged 9.3 points, 4.5 rebounds, 1.3 assists, 1.4 steals, and 1.1 blocks while shooting 41.2% from 3-point range while starting 28 of 33 games as a freshman for the Green Wave last season. On the year, Williams made 63 of 153 attempts from beyond the arc.

The Lafayette, La. native scored in double figures 14 times this season, including a season-high 24 points on 6 of 8 3-point shooting in an 85-68 win over UAB in the regular season finale on March 9.

Williams chose the Wildcats over Florida, Louisville, Baylor, Texas, LSU, Texas Tech, Arkansas, and USC among others.

"Kam is a beautiful kid who is not only an elite-level shooter but also an elite 1-through-4 defender," Pope said. "He has a ton of gravity to his game and has untapped athleticism that is going to make his ceiling really high."

March 28: Kentucky loses to Tennessee in Sweet 16

After sweeping the regular season series vs. Tennessee, Kentucky's historic 2024-25 season came to an end with a 78-65 loss to the Volunteers in the Sweet 16 in the first-ever NCAA Tournament meeting between the SEC's oldest rivals.

In Pope's first season, Kentucky went 24-12 overall, 10-8 in the SEC and reached the Sweet 16 for the first time since 2019 despite losing second-leading scorer Jaxson Robinson and backup point guard Kerr Kriisa to season-ending injuries while also having several other injuries impact the large majority of its season and playing just seven games all season at full strength.

In the process, the Wildcats tied an NCAA record with eight wins over teams ranked in the top 15 of the Associated Press Top 25, including No. 6 Duke, No. 7 Gonzaga, No. 6 Florida, No. 14 Mississippi State, No. 11 Texas A&M, No. 8 Tennessee, No. 5 Tennessee and No. 15 Missouri.

UK set a new single-season record for made 3-pointers with 341 while shooting 37.5% from beyond the arc. Its 3,040 total points scored ranks seventh in school history and the Cats also recorded 607 assists, good enough for ninth on the school's single-season list.

Kentucky ranked seventh nationally in scoring, averaging 84.4 points per game.

March 31: Kerr Kriisa enters transfer portal

Kentucky backup point guard Kerr Kriisa became the first of just two departures this offseason when he entered the transfer portal on March 31.

Kriisa was ruled out for the season in early March and hadn't played since undergoing surgery to repair a broken foot suffered in the second half of the Wildcats' overtime win over No. 7 Gonzaga on Dec. 7.

Kriisa, who finished the season averaging 4.4 points, 3.8 assists, and 2.4 rebounds in nine appearances with one start for the Wildcats, qualified for a medical redshirt but was non-committal when asked about his future prior to Kentucky's Sweet 16 matchup vs. Illinois.

"I'm not even focusing on that right now. I am here in Milwaukee right now trying to win a game in the NCAA tournament as a 3 seed with my best friends. I'm really just enjoying the moment," Kriisa said. "I don't know what the next year is gonna hold, if I'm gonna go pro overseas or come back, or any of that, and honestly, I like it that way because I want to live the present right now."

Kriisa, who began his collegiate career at Arizona before playing at West Virginia and then Kentucky, is headed back to the Big 12 where he will play for Cincinnati next season.

April 5: Pittsburgh transfer Jaland Lowe commits to Kentucky

After missing on New Mexico point guard transfer Donovan Dent (UCLA) early on, Kentucky landed its point guard of the future in Pittsburgh transfer Jaland Lowe, who is ranked No. 36 overall and the No. 10 point guard in the portal by 247Sports.

As a sophomore last season, Lowe (6-3, 175) averaged 16.8 points, 4.2 rebounds, and 5.5 assists while starting all 31 games for the Panthers. He scored in double figures in 26 of 31 games with nine 20-point games and one double-double. In a 93-48 win over VMI on Nov. 18, Lowe recorded a triple-double of 11 points, 10 rebounds, and 10 assists.

Over two collegiate seasons, both at Pitt, Lowe averaged 13.1 points, 3.5 rebounds, and 4.3 assists while shooting 29.8% from 3-point range, starting 50 of 64 games at point guard.

Lowe had a solid showing at the NBA G League Elite Camp in Chicago before withdrawing from the 2025 NBA Draft on May 22.

"I'm excited to get him here and hyper-speed his game. We're going to really unleash him and push him to play with as much pace as he possibly can," Pope said.

"He's so athletic. He's got such a herky, jerky nature to his game. He's like an elite-level tailback that can cut, like his cuts could be a 270 degree like, on a dime, cut, change direction. He proved to do everything at Pitt. He was an elite level scorer, he's incredible at getting to the free throw line, he was almost six assists a game. He had a real presence on the ball. Was almost a 3.0 turnover percentage guy. He's got a complete package."

April 7: Alabama transfer Mouhamed Dioubate commits to Kentucky

Pope showed just how committed he is to getting stronger, tougher, more athletic and better defensively when he landed the commitment of Alabama transfer Mouhamed Dioubate.

Dioubate (6-7, 215), who is ranked as the No. 61 overall transfer and No. 11 small forward by 247Sports, averaged 7.2 points, 5.9 rebounds, and 1.1 assists in just 16.0 minutes per game while shooting 61.7% from the floor and 46.2% from 3-point range on limited attempts (12 of 26) as a sophomore at Alabama last season.

He averaged 8.3 points, 7.0 rebounds, and 1.0 assists in three wins against Kentucky this season, including 13 points on 5 of 6 shooting and 1 of 1 3-pointers, eight rebounds, two blocks and a steal in 22 minutes vs. UK in the quarterfinals of the SEC Tournament in Nashville. Dioubate also had 10 points, 16 rebounds, and three blocks in an overtime win over Houston; 22 points and 10 rebounds in a win over Vanderbilt; 13 points, 10 rebounds, and four assists in a loss at Missouri; 10 points, 11 rebounds, and three assists in a win over Mississippi State 1 2 points and 12 rebounds in a loss at Florida; and 18 points and 10 rebounds in a win over Robert Morris in the first round of the NCAA Tournament.

Over the past two seasons, Dioubate helped Alabama to 53 wins overall, including a 26-10 mark in the SEC, and its first-ever Final Four appearance last season.

Kentucky leading scorer Otega Oweh reached double figures in scoring in all but three games this season and two of those came against the Crimson Tide. In Alabama's 96-83 win over the Wildcats in Tuscaloosa, Dioubate helped limit Oweh to a season-low two points on 1 of 9 shooting.

Dioubate is ranked by statistical guru Evan Miyakawa as the No. 5 transfer in terms of projected defensive impact.

"Mouhamed is a special young man who is a perfect fit for the way we play," Pope said. "He is a ballhandling, decision-making, physical, competitor. Mo can play and guard all five positions and has a presence as a point forward which makes him uniquely suited to play for us."

April 8: Arizona State transfer Jayden Quaintance commits to Kentucky

Just days after missing on No. 1 overall transfer Yaxel Lendeborg, who committed to Michigan, Pope revealed his ace in the hole by adding top-10 transfer and top-ranked center Jayden Quaintance of Arizona State, who picked Kentucky over Auburn.

After originally signing with UK out of high school in 2023, Quaintance (6-9, 230) was named to the Big 12 All-Defensive Team and All-Freshman Team after averaging 9.4 points, 7.9 rebounds, 1.5 assists and 2.6 blocks while starting all 24 games in which he appeared for the Sun Devils as a freshman last season.

At just 17 years old, he scored in double figures 11 times, including a career-high 20 points vs. UCF, and logged six double-doubles.

Quaintance suffered a season-ending knee injury vs. Kansas State on Feb. 23, a game in which he recorded 18 points on 8 of 11 shooting and 2 of 4 3-pointers, seven rebounds, two assists, two steals and a block in 26 minutes, forcing him to miss Arizona State's final six games. He underwent surgery to repair a torn ACL on March 19 and is expected to be cleared for contact in September.

Prior to his injury, Quaintance had been widely projected as a top-5 pick in the 2026 NBA Draft.

Quaintance arrived on UK's campus on May 22.

"Jayden is a 17-year-old phenom who is as explosive as he is skilled, and he is just scratching the surface of what he's going to become in this game," Pope said.

April 12: Andrija Jelavic commits to Kentucky

SEE **EVENTS/PAGE B3**

LEGAL NOTICE

COMMISSIONER'S SALE

CITY OF HOPKINSVILLE, KENTUCKY, A Municipal Corporation of the Home Rule Class, Plaintiff, against Eddie Menifee, et al., Defendants.

CIVIL ACTION NO. 23-CI-00450

BY VIRTUE of a Judgment and Order of Sale of the Christian Circuit Court, rendered on March 3, 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, June 9, 2025, 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 1409 Jones Street, Hopkinsville, Kentucky, and described with particularity in Deed Book 624, Page 635, Office of the Christian County Clerk.

The judgment in this case is for approximately $ 61,600.00 for the balance of the purchase price, the purchaser must execute bond with approved surety or sureties, bearing interest at 6% 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 2025, *et al.* Bidders will be prepared to comply promptly with these terms. Any announcements made on date of sale take precedence over printed matter contained herein.

Cotthoff & Willen
Hopkinsville, 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 _____, 2025.

_____
LEE M. HARTON

Note: Due to Covid-19 Restrictions, Address for Master Commissioner sales have temporarily changed to 1606 South Main Street, Hopkinsville, KY. 42240.

LEGAL NOTICE

COMMISSIONER'S SALE

MIDFIRST BANK, Plaintiff, against Donald R. McGar Jr. aka Donald L. McGar Jr., et al., Defendants.

CIVIL ACTION NO. 24-CI-00920

BY VIRTUE of a Judgment and Order of Sale of the Christian Circuit Court, rendered on January 21, 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, June 9, 2025, 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 6865 Johnson Mill Road, Hopkinsville, Kentucky, and described with particularity in Deed Book 725, Page 440, Office of the Christian County Clerk.

The judgment in this case is for approximately $ 90,500.00 for the balance of the purchase price, the purchaser must execute bond with approved surety or sureties, bearing interest at 3.375% 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 2025, *et al.* Bidders will be prepared to comply promptly with these terms. Any announcements made on date of sale take precedence over printed matter contained herein.

The Manley Law Firm
Columbus, 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 _____, 2025.

_____
LEE M. HARTON

Note: Due to Covid-19 Restrictions, Address for Master Commissioner sales have temporarily changed to 1606 South Main Street, Hopkinsville, KY. 42240.

LEGAL NOTICE

COMMISSIONER'S SALE

KENTUCKY HOUSING CORPORATION, Plaintiff, against Chasity Gray aka Chasity L. Gray, et al., Defendants.

CIVIL ACTION NO. 24-CI-01038

BY VIRTUE of a Judgment and Order of Sale of the Christian Circuit Court, rendered on March 24, 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, June 9, 2025, 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 7310 Rock Cliff Drive, Hopkinsville, Kentucky, and described with particularity in Deed Book 775, Page 215, Office of the Christian County Clerk.

The judgment in this case is for approximately $ 89,500.00 for the balance of the purchase price, the purchaser must execute bond with approved surety or sureties, bearing interest at 3.25% 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 2025, *et al.* Bidders will be prepared to comply promptly with these terms. Any announcements made on date of sale take precedence over printed matter contained herein.

Stierle and Rettig, PLLC.
Louisville, 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 _____, 2025.

_____
LEE M. HARTON

Note: Due to Covid-19 Restrictions, Address for Master Commissioner sales have temporarily changed to 1606 South Main Street, Hopkinsville, KY. 42240.

LEGAL NOTICE

COMMISSIONER'S SALE

CITY OF HOPKINSVILLE, KENTUCKY, A Municipal Corporation of the Home Rule Class, Plaintiff, against Unknown Heirs of Geneva Andrews, et al., Defendants.

CIVIL ACTION NO. 24-CI-00726

BY VIRTUE of a Judgment and Order of Sale of the Christian Circuit Court, rendered on March 3, 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, June 9, 2025, 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 207 North Vine Street, Hopkinsville, Kentucky, and described with particularity in Deed Book 206, Page 515, Office of the Christian County Clerk.

The judgment in this case is for approximately $ 6,800.00 for the balance of the purchase price, the purchaser must execute bond with approved surety or sureties, bearing interest at 6% 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 2025, *et al.* Bidders will be prepared to comply promptly with these terms. Any announcements made on date of sale take precedence over printed matter contained herein.

Cotthoff & Willen
Hopkinsville, 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 _____, 2025.

_____
LEE M. HARTON

Note: Due to Covid-19 Restrictions, Address for Master Commissioner sales have temporarily changed to 1606 South Main Street, Hopkinsville, KY. 42240.