

PPG 80.5 11/72	Scoring D 74.3 3/189T	F6% .466 9/94	Opp. F6% .426 3/79	3PT% .342 9/168	Opp. 3PT% .318 4/66	FT% .727 12/184	RPG 37.4 7/75	APG 15.9 7/66	TO 10.8 10/113	Forced TO 10.8 10/257T	Score +/- +6.2 margin	Reb. +/- +2.9 margin	TO +/- +0.1 margin
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WHAT'S AT STAKE

1. Momcilovic + Wilkins: 201 3s in '25-26, T-5th-most of any teammate duo this szn

2. Pope's UK teams: 8.8 3s a G ... 26-5 when UK makes 10+ 3s

STORYLINES

Nine newcomers: 6 transfers, a Serie A pro, 2 freshmen

Pope, year 3: '96 UK title captain ... '24-25 Sweet 16

How '25-26 ended: L 82-63 to Iowa St in the NCAA 2nd rd

Early tests: Kansas 11/10, Indiana 11/20, UNC 12/19

SERIES

First meeting between the schools

COACH NOTES

HC Mark Pope

23rd UK HC (hired April 2024) ... 46-26 at UK, 233-134 in 11 szns as a HC

'25-26: 7-3 in 2-possession games ... 1 of 5 teams w/ 5+ W over KenPom top-20 teams

13 W over AP Top 25 teams in 2 szns at UK ... 19 Quad 1 W, 2nd among coaches hired for '24-25

Won his 1st 3 games vs AP Top 10 teams at UK, joining Adolph Rupp

1st UK coach w/ 4 W when trailing by 11+ at the half

BYU '19-24: 110-52 ... UK player: 25-1 in Rupp Arena

Assistants: Mark Fox, Cody Fueger, Mo Williams, Mikhail McLean, Alfred Aboya

SCHOOL NOTES

Lexington, Ky. ... Rupp Arena: 690-92 ... 2,444 all-time W, most in college basketball ... 8 NCAA titles ... 49 SEC reg.-szn titles ... 26 ex-Cats on NBA opening-day rosters, tied w/ Duke for most

LAST TIME OUT

W 76-65 vs No. 19 Texas Tech (exh., 10/23) ... trailed 25-18, then a 15-0 run ... closed on a 22-11 run from 54-54 ... 19-22 FT (TTU 5-6) ... 18 ast on 25 FG

Exh.: W 69-49 vs Little Rock (10/16)

SCHEDULE 2026-27

10/02 Big Blue Madness (EXH)

10/16 Little Rock (EXH)

10/23 Texas Tech (EXH)

10/28 UCF (EXH)

11/03 Manhattan

11/06 James Madison

11/10 vs Kansas

11/13 Northern Arizona

11/16 Grambling St

11/20 vs Indiana

11/27 Wichita St

12/02 at Virginia

1)

2)

3)

2	BRAYDON F HAWTHORNE 6'8", 195, So., Beckley, W. Va. (Huntington Prep) 7 PTS IN UK DEBUT	LAST 1 off. reb in 8 min vs Texas Tech (exh.) '25-26: SEC First-Year Academic Honor Roll ... HS: consensus 4-star, No. 33 in the '25 class (247) ... No. 1 player in West Virginia by every major recruiting service ... final HS szn at Huntington Prep: 23.5 PPG, 6.0 RPG, 4.0 APG ... McDonald's AA nominee ... brother Zyon joins him on UK's roster	
4	MASON G WILLIAMS 6'3", 210, Fr., Dallas (Tennessee Collegiate Academy) NO WILLIAMS' SON	LAST 14 pts (5-8 FG, 2-4 3FG), 27 min off the bench vs Texas Tech (exh.) 12 PPG, 69.2% FG, 60% 3FG thru 2 exh. ... 10 pts (4-5 FG), 3 ast, 3 stl vs Little Rock in the exh. opener ... HS: No. 109 in the '26 class (247), No. 124 (Rivals) ... 23 pts in TCA's upset of No. 1 Prolific Prep ... Mississippi state titles in '24 and '25 ... picked UK over Texas Tech, Memphis, Ole Miss and Washington	HS sr. szn: 15.1 PPG ... 5.3 APG ... 4.5 RPG ... 3.5 SPG ... HS: 60% FG, 41% 3FG, 89% FT
5	ZOOM G DIALLO 6'6", 195, Jr., Tacoma, Wash. (Prolific Prep / Washington) SCORER	LAST 7 pts (3-5 FG), 3 ast, 22 min, started vs Texas Tech (exh.) '25-26 at Washington: 10+ pts in 23 G, car-hi 26 vs Southern Cal ... car-hi 12 ast (16 pts) vs Iowa ... 24 pts (20 in the 2nd half), 7 ast vs No. 23 Wisconsin in the Big Ten Tourn ... 22 pts, 11 ast in an OT W over Southern Cal ... 3 double-doubles ... XFR after 2 yrs at UW ... HS: McDonald's AA, '22-23 Washington Gatorade POY	15.7 PPG 3.9 RPG 147 AST '25-26 at Washington FG 196-401 (.489) · 3FG 23-73 (.315) · FT 104-126 (.825) · OR 30 · STL 22 · TO 84 · BLK 0 · MIN 29.7
10	ALEX G WILKINS 6'6", 170, So., Boston (Brooks School / Furman) PLAYMAKER	LAST 13 pts, 7 ast, 3 stl, 29 min vs Texas Tech (exh.) '25-26 at Furman: 622 pts, most ever by a Furman fr. ... SoCon Tourn MOP, helped Furman win the title + an NCAA bid ... car-hi 34 pts vs UNC Greensboro in the SoCon semis ... 21 pts, four 3s vs UConn in the NCAA Tourn ... 20+ pts in 14 G ... All-SoCon 2nd team, Kyle Macy Natl Fr. of the Year finalist	17.8 PPG 2.0 RPG 165 AST '25-26 at Furman FG 220-478 (.460) · 3FG 65-198 (.328) · FT 117-142 (.824) · OR 9 · STL 27 · TO 133 · BLK 4 · MIN 29.9
11	FRANCK G KEPNANG 7'0", 270, Gr., Yaoundé, Cameroon (Westtown HS / Washington) SHOT BLOCKER	LAST 1 reb in 5 min vs Texas Tech (exh.) '25-26 at Washington: 3rd in the Big Ten in blk a G (2.07) ... car-hi 6 blk 3 times ... car-best 14 reb (10 pts) vs Oregon ... 10 pts, 10 reb at No. 5 Purdue ... 13 pts (6-8 FG) vs No. 12 Michigan St ... XFR after 2 yrs at Oregon ('21 Sweet 16) + 4 at UW ... wears No. 11 to be the top 1% of the top 1%	6.2 PPG 6.3 RPG 6 AST '25-26 at Washington FG 68-132 (.515) · 3FG 0-1 (.000) · FT 31-45 (.689) · OR 68 · STL 16 · TO 27 · BLK 56 · MIN 22.9
19	OUSMANE F N'DIAYE 7'0", 220, Jr., Dakar, Senegal (Vanoli Basket Cremona) REBOUNDER	LAST 10 pts, team-high 7 reb, 1 blk, 28 min vs Texas Tech (exh.) One of 5 finalists for Serie A's Best Under 22 award ... szn-hi 24 pts, 11 reb vs Trieste ... 12 pts, szn-hi 17 reb, 3 blk vs Varese ... earlier clubs in Spain (Baskonia, Granada, Palencia) ... Senegal natl team: bronze at FIBA AfroBasket '25 ... in his words: humble, hardworking and shy	Last club: Vanoli Cremona (Italy, Serie A) ... F6%: .407 ... 3FG%: .305
21	JUSTIN F MCBRIDE 6'8", 245, Sr., Plano, Texas (Plano HS / James Madison) BUCKET GETTER	LAST 2 pts, 3 reb, 1 blk, 12 min vs Texas Tech (exh.) '25-26 at James Madison: 3rd-team All-Sun Belt ... 1st JMU player since Matt Lewis ('19-20) to avg 15 pts + 5 reb ... 20+ pts in 10 G ... 33 pts vs Norfolk St, most by a JMU player at Atlantic Union Bank Center ... 30 pts, 12 reb vs South Alabama ... earlier: Oklahoma St ('23-24), Nevada ('24-25)	15.3 PPG 5.6 RPG 45 AST '25-26 at James Madison FG 171-346 (.494) · 3FG 38-95 (.400) · FT 93-119 (.782) · OR 42 · STL 12 · TO 55 · BLK 18 · MIN 27.1
22	MILAN F MOMCILOVIC 6'8", 220, Sr., Pewaukee, Wis. (Pewaukee HS / Iowa St) PRESEASON ALL-AMERICAN	LAST 15 pts (7-7 FT), 4 reb, 3 ast, team-best +20 vs Texas Tech (exh.) '25-26 at Iowa St: 2nd-team All-Big 12, Big 12 All-Tourn team ... 136 3s, an ISU szn record and 2nd-most in a Big 12 szn ... car-hi 34 pts (eight 3s) at Cincinnati ... 20 pts, four 3s vs UK in the NCAA Tourn ... XFR after 3 yrs at ISU: 260 car 3s, tied for 2nd in school history ... nickname: the Serbian Sniper	16.9 PPG 3.1 RPG 38 AST '25-26 at Iowa St FG 208-411 (.506) · 3FG 136-279 (.487) · FT 72-82 (.878) · OR 8 · STL 30 · TO 31 · BLK 9 · MIN 30.6
24	MALACHI G MORENO 7'0", 250, So., Georgetown, Ky. (Great Crossing HS) PRESEASON ALL-SEC	LAST 15 pts (6-9 FG), 6 reb, 3 ast, 35 min vs Texas Tech (exh.) '25-26: All-SEC Fr. team ... team highs in blk (1.47 a G) + double-doubles (3) ... game-winning buzzer-beater at LSU ... 17 pts, 8 reb, 6 ast, 4 stl vs Mississippi St: 1st D-I 7-footer w/ that line since at least '96-97 ... HS: Mr. Kentucky Basketball, state title at Great Crossing, McDonald's AA	7.8 PPG 6.3 RPG 64 AST '25-26 at UK FG 96-165 (.582) · 3FG 0-3 (.000) · FT 88-126 (.698) · OR 87 · STL 19 · TO 46 · BLK 53 · MIN 22.6
33	REECE F POTTER 7'1", 235, Sr., Lexington, Ky. (Lexington Catholic / Miami (OH))	'24-25 at Miami (OH): car-hi 19 pts vs Sacred Heart ... 15 pts, 8 reb in the MAC Tourn opener vs Eastern Michigan ... '23-24 at Miami: 15-33 from 3 ... RS '25-26 at UK, 2 szns of eligibility left ... HS: '23 Lexington POY, Mr. Kentucky Basketball finalist, 11th Region POY ... favorite former Wildcat: John Wall	6.5 PPG 3.7 RPG 35 AST '24-25 at Miami (OH) FG 75-161 (.466) · 3FG 22-60 (.367) · FT 24-40 (.600) · OR 39 · STL 12 · TO 31 · BLK 21 · MIN 17.1