



ACTIONS

not words

HISTORY IN THE MAKING

As part of its storybook 2011 season, the Kentucky softball team made its first NCAA Super Regional appearance in front of soldout crowds at the UK Softball Complex. Among the team's many other historic accomplishments, the Wildcats posted their first-ever 40-win season, spent a school-record 14 consecutive weeks in the national rankings, defeated 12 top-25 ranked teams, captured a school-best five Southeastern Conference series and became one of just 31 teams in the nation to advance to the NCAA Tournament for three straight seasons. Kentucky was ranked 12th in the final USA Softball Rankings and 13th by the National Fastpitch Coaches Association.



ACTIONS

not words

The University of Kentucky men's basketball team joined retiring UK President Dr. Lee T. Todd, Jr., for the championship trophy ceremony at the 2011 NCAA East Regional. The Wildcats defeated North Carolina in the regional finals to advance to their first Final Four since 1998 and make their 14th appearance in school history.



2011 UK Athletics Annual Report

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Kentucky is on pace in its quest for 15 national or conference championships by 2015 after capturing three more titles in the 2010-11 athletics year. In total, UK has won seven championships (four rifle titles and three men's basketball crowns) in the past two years.

A Call to Action

It is nearly impossible to accomplish anything positive in athletic competition without taking some type of decisive action.

It's the essence of what competition is about – running, jumping, thinking, reacting, communicating with coaches and teammates, often under intense pressure or scrutiny.

As the oft-used phrase “talk is cheap” implies, it can be relatively easy or convenient to say what is perceived as the right thing. It takes much more resolve to do the right thing.

Without action, games would grind to a standstill and little exciting or worthwhile would happen. Often, doing nothing can be as costly as doing the wrong thing. In contrast, making the right decision without hesitation can be the difference between winning and losing.

Often, doing nothing can be as costly as doing the wrong thing. In contrast, making the right decision without hesitation can be the difference between winning and losing.

We strive to be an athletic department that is judged and known for its positive actions (not words) in the classroom, in the community and on the field of competition. Inaction is simply not an option. While words can convey powerful and noble ideas, they cannot graduate, serve as role models to small children,

play by the rules or win championships. Only our student-athletes, coaches and staff – collectively – can do that.

Life is like that too. Our actions or inactions can have major consequences. Do we strive to do the right thing only when others are watching or all the time? Do we take initiative to make a positive impact or wait for someone else to lead us to action? Do we invest the extra time and energy it may take to excel at each endeavor or do we settle for just getting by? These are important questions that confront everyone – not just student-athletes or coaches – on a daily basis.

In this year's annual report, we highlight a few individuals and teams whose actions during the past athletic year have ranged from courageous to life changing. Our hope is that their stories will serve as an inspiration and motivation for others and that, during the coming year, we will continue to let our actions, not words, define us.

OPERATE *in a first-class manner*

POSSESS *great integrity*

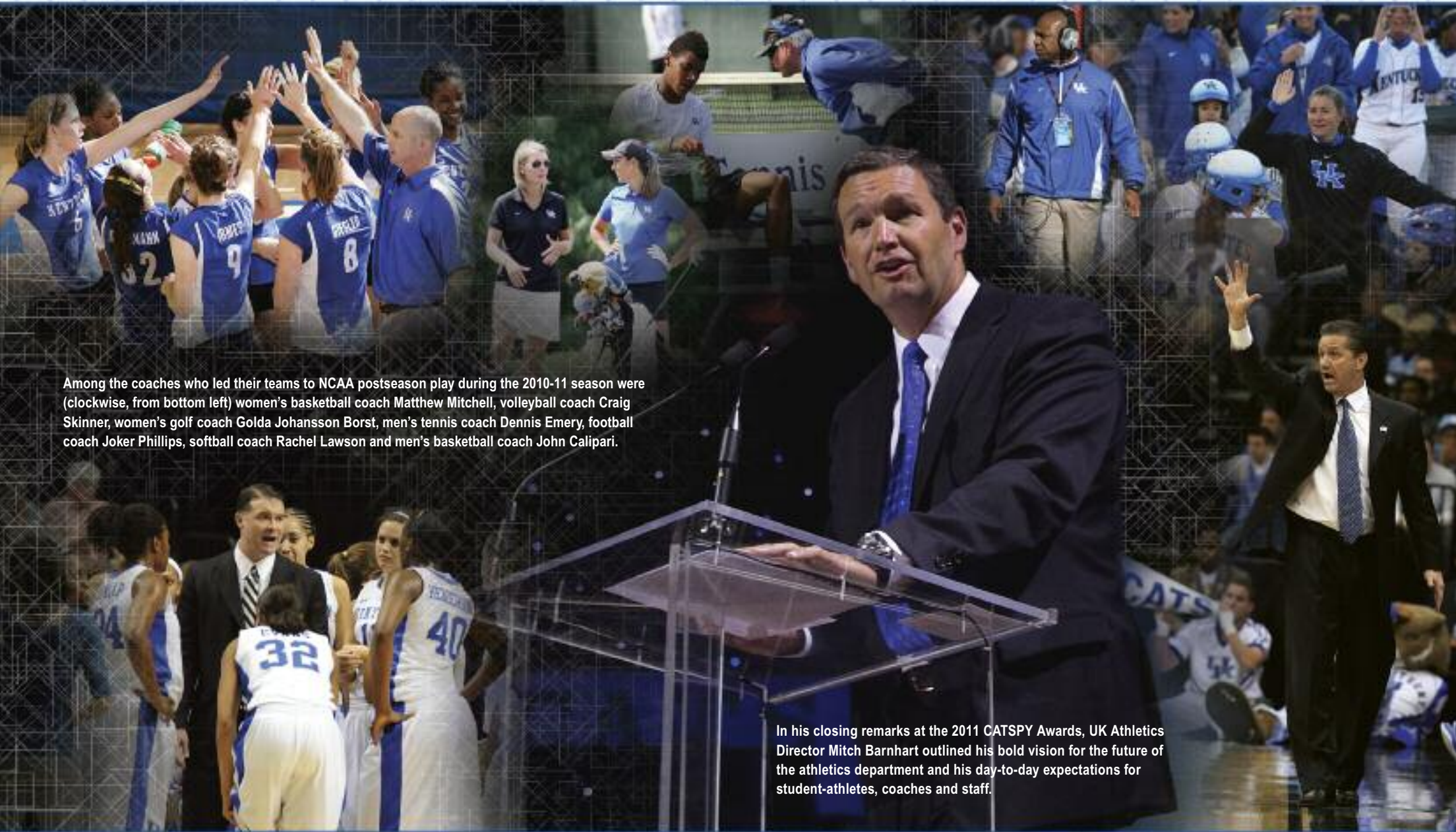
FOCUS *on the student-athlete*

PROVIDE *sound fiscal management*

COMPETE *for championships*

“Step out, lead and do the little things that leave a legacy for the people who follow you. That’s what we’re asking everyone to do, coaches, staff and all of us included. We’ve got to move this thing to a different spot. To do that, it’s going to take a commitment from everybody.”

— Mitch Barnhart, UK athletics director



Among the coaches who led their teams to NCAA postseason play during the 2010-11 season were (clockwise, from bottom left) women's basketball coach Matthew Mitchell, volleyball coach Craig Skinner, women's golf coach Golda Johansson Borst, men's tennis coach Dennis Emery, football coach Joker Phillips, softball coach Rachel Lawson and men's basketball coach John Calipari.

In his closing remarks at the 2011 CATSPY Awards, UK Athletics Director Mitch Barnhart outlined his bold vision for the future of the athletics department and his day-to-day expectations for student-athletes, coaches and staff.

GUIDE

with conviction

LEAVING A LASTING LEGACY

Victoria Dunlap left an indelible mark at Kentucky, ranking behind only the legendary Valerie Still in scoring, rebounding, blocks and steals in UK Hoops history. She led UK to back-to-back NCAA Tournament appearances before becoming the program's highest WNBA draft pick with the 11th overall selection in the 2011 draft.



MAKE

dreams come true

Turning Point to Transformation

Josh Harrellson hadn't reveled in success very often. As a two-year seldom-used reserve, he wondered why his coach wanted to spoil his night of glory following a 26-rebound performance in the Blue/White Scrimmage.



During his memorable senior season, Josh Harrellson went from being a reserve whom most teams knew little about to a powerful force around the basket who held his own against big-name talent from opposing teams. As tangible evidence of his rapid improvement, Harrellson was named to the 2011 SEC All-Tournament and NCAA Tournament All-East Region teams. He was later chosen in the second round of the NBA draft by the New Orleans Hornets and traded to the New York Knicks.

Frustrated, Harrellson took to the social media platform of Twitter. In two messages, each of 140 characters or less, Harrellson vented his frustration with John Calipari and bemoaned his coach for questioning his performance.

When Calipari caught wind of the comments, he was so furious that he thought about kicking Harrellson off the team. Calipari ultimately decided to let Harrellson remain on the roster, but Harrellson had to meet some stringent conditioning stipulations.

Calipari's plan worked. Harrellson took the change-your-attitude-or-else ultimatum to heart and went on to transform his game and future outlook.

Every practice, 30 minutes before his teammates showed up, Harrellson sprinted the floor of the Joe Craft Center, jogged miles on the treadmill and bounced off the padded blows of assistant coach Kenny Payne to work on his footwork and post moves.

As beads of sweat dropped to the hardwood, the pounds on Harrellson's 6-foot-10 frame seemingly dropped with them. The exterior goal was to get Harrellson in shape, but the underlying motive was to change his attitude.

Calipari's plan worked. Harrellson took the change-your-attitude-or-else ultimatum to heart and went on to transform his game and future outlook. He led UK to its first Final Four since 1998 and was selected in the NBA draft.

Harrellson also earned the adoration of the Big Blue Nation and the respect of college basketball followers everywhere for his smart, physical inside play on both ends of the court.

Josh Harrellson was all smiles as he returned from the 2011 NCAA East Regional with the championship trophy in hand and the net around his neck.



"I have done this [coach] a long time. I'm not sure if I ever have been this proud of a young man. He changed. He did it himself. It's not what I did. We put him on a stage, but he had to perform."

— Head men's basketball coach John Calipari on the improvement of Josh Harrellson

Motivated to Make a Difference

Luis Orta doesn't remember what he was thinking a few months ago during a typical 10-mile training run for the Kentucky track and field team, but there are few times when he has thought more clearly.

When Orta discarded this pair of shoes into a nearby trash can, he felt an overwhelming sense of guilt. Track and field athletes go through shoes like napkins, but Orta didn't feel right throwing away something that still had use to it.

Feeling at fault with himself, Orta went home and talked to his roommate and teammate Josh Nadzam about the shame he was feeling. Together, they came up with an idea.

Instead of just throwing away the shoes, what if they gathered them up and shipped them to developing countries and people in need, they thought. Sure, the shoes had been worn, but they were in perfectly good shape for anything outside of a track athlete's use.



In an impromptu meeting, Orta and Nadzam turned the idea into a plan. They were going to start a shoe drive on UK's campus and donate the footwear to Soles4Souls, an organization that has found new homes for gently used shoes.

The two went to work that day. They texted, called, e-mailed, "Facebooked" and "Tweeted" anyone they knew, including UK student-athletes. They also sought help from Kentucky's media relations department and got the word out through the *Lexington Herald-Leader* and the *Kentucky Kernel*.

After the first day of the drive, they had collected 100 pairs of shoes. People then started doing their own mini shoe drives and delivered them to the Center for Academic and Tutorial Services, home of UK's shoe drive.

By the 10th day, they'd amassed 418 pairs, and in total, they collected 2,100 pairs of shoes in the three-week drive.

"We are so thankful and appreciative of our opportunities as athletes here at UK," Nadzam said. "We want to do as much as we can to give back to those who are not as fortunate."

REACHING OUT IN TANGIBLE WAYS

UK student-athletes volunteered an estimated 4,000 hours in the community during the 2010-11 academic year. As part of its concerted outreach effort, UK Athletics sponsored three local elementary schools in the God's Pantry Backpack Program. Teams and department units took part each week in collecting, sorting and distributing lunch food for more than 5,000 schoolchildren.



University of Kentucky Athletics Director Mitch Barnhart visits with members of the 2010-11 women's basketball team about the athletic department's participation in the God's Pantry Backpack Program.

"I am proud of the strides our community outreach program made this past year. Our student-athletes recorded more than 4,000 hours of community service, which is nearly double the amount of time we volunteered in 2009-10. I am honored to work with an unselfish group of young men and women who truly understand what 'giving back' is all about."

— *Dustin Lewis, C.A.T.S. life skills coordinator*



UP TO THEIR NECKS IN SHOES

Josh Nadzam (above, left) and Luis Orta donated more than 2,100 pairs of shoes they collected for Soles4Souls, an organization in Nashville, Tenn., that has found new homes for more than 13 million pairs of gently used shoes within the last six years.

LEAD
by example



From left, men's tennis phenom Eric Quigley, softball sensation Meagan Aull and women's tennis standout Megan Broderick share an unrivaled passion for strength and aerobic training.

MAXIMIZE
your athletic potential

When Talent and Hard Work Collide

With unprecedented talent, a relentless work ethic and physical tools that few could match, Eric Quigley finished high school as the greatest tennis player in Kentucky high school history.



The tremendous play of Eric Quigley throughout the 2011 men's tennis season helped propel Kentucky to the quarterfinals of the NCAA Tournament. Quigley was ranked as high as No. 2 in the nation as a junior in 2011 and never fell out of the top eight all season long. He was named a first-team singles All-American for the second straight season.

Yet, when the four-time high school state champion arrived at UK for his freshman year, he was met with the harsh reality that he wasn't the only guy who could serve over 100 miles per hour and smash forehands past opponents with the flick of a wrist. A man among boys in high school, Quigley quickly learned there were plenty of players on the college level with the same physical tools he possessed.

Quigley still won a lot his freshman year, but for someone who didn't know what losing was like in high school, the few defeats he suffered took a toll. After watching Bruno Agostinelli, a player who wasn't highly touted before college, reshape his body and become one of the best players in program history, Quigley vowed to return to the principles that his high school trainer Jay Melton instilled in him.

It wasn't as if Quigley stopped working before; he still looked like he was chiseled out of stone. But Quigley decided before his sophomore season to transform himself into a physical beast.

In Kentucky's strength and conditioning weight room, Quigley hit the weights as hard as ever. With a strong core already established, Quigley honed in on doing quick, punishing reps with little rest in between. He targeted running and agility drills with a goal to build his stamina and speed.

The drills weren't just done during practice hours. Long after everyone had left, sometimes in between classes, Quigley could be found working out. Even at his apartment complex, Quigley was constantly hitting the gym.

The work paid off. Quigley started chasing down balls that were unreachable for most players and developed a sometimes un-returnable serve.

Building off a sophomore season that saw him advance to the NCAA Singles Championship Round of 16, Quigley helped lead Kentucky to its fourth NCAA Championship quarterfinals with a 45-15 singles record, including two wins over the No. 1-ranked player in the nation.



“If you’ve ever watched Eric Quigley work out in the weight room, you’d understand why he is able to run down balls on the court that others can’t reach and why there is little doubt he’ll succeed at the professional level.”

— Mitch Barnhart, UK Athletics Director

The Consummate Competitor

Randall Cobb is as calm, cool and collected as they come. Above all else, UK football's "Mr. Everything" was known for his unwavering attitude and hard work through the best and worst of times.

In a rare moment of weakness, however, Cobb showed a glimpse of vulnerability in the week leading up to the South Carolina game. Following a last-second loss to Auburn, the program's career touchdown leader publicly expressed his disdain for losing. He was tired of being on the other side of those game-winning field goals and on-field celebrations.

The notorious streaks were starting to add up.

But as Kentucky fell behind 28-10 at halftime to South Carolina, one of the owners of those notorious streaks over UK, and the weight of the losing streak to Steve Spurrier exponentially intensified, Cobb regained his unflappable attitude. The chances of toppling the nation's 10th-ranked team appeared as bleak as ever, but Cobb carried on.

When the Gamecocks stuffed UK's usually unstoppable "Wildcat" package at the line of scrimmage, Cobb ran back to the huddle, buckled his chinstrap and asked for more. When the

Gamecocks jammed him upon the snap, doubled his passing routes and limited his receptions, he ran faster and harder.

Cobb encouraged fellow receiver Chris Matthews as he benefited from single coverage and enjoyed a career night in leading UK to within a score of a shocking upset.

Now, with the game on the line, Cobb was ready for his opportunity. Although he'd been held in check, Cobb flanked to the right at the 24-yard line. Milliseconds after the snap, Cobb noticed the corners jumped on Matthews' "sit" route. The double team was gone.

Cobb ran straight into the green pastures of the end zone, where he found himself wide open. Quarterback Mike Hartline saw him and fired. Cobb, as unflappable as ever, didn't waver while the ball was in the air.

He caught it with 1:15 remaining, giving Kentucky a 31-28 victory. The streak was over.


Cobb elected to enter the 2011 NFL Draft at the conclusion of his junior season and was selected by the reigning Super Bowl Champion Green Bay Packers in the second round. He is UK's highest NFL draft selection since 2003.

Randall Cobb thrilled the crowd at Commonwealth Stadium, like he had done so many times before, when he hauled in the game-winning pass in last year's victory over No. 10/12 South Carolina.



Randall Cobb was selected by the Green Bay Packers in the second round of the 2011 NFL Draft. Despite playing only three seasons at UK, Cobb set the school career touchdown record with 37. He exited Kentucky ranked fourth all-time in all-purpose yardage (4,674 yards), fourth in career scoring (226 points), fifth in career receptions (144 catches) and sixth in receiving yardage (1,661 yards).

Cobb, who gave up his senior season of eligibility to enter the draft, played wide receiver, quarterback, punt returner, kickoff returner and placekick holder during his three seasons with the Wildcats. He earned first-team All-America honors in 2010 from The Associated Press, ESPN.com and SportsIllustrated.com.



With the score tied 3-3 and a spot in the NCAA Men's Tennis Championships Sweet 16 on the line, Alex Musialek (below) downed Louisville's Viktor Maksimcuk 6-0 in the third set to clinch the win. The Wildcats ultimately advanced to the quarterfinals of the NCAA tournament for the fourth time in school history.

Junior Alex Meyer (left) threw a complete game shutout in Kentucky's 2-0 win over No. 1 ranked Vanderbilt at Cliff Hagan Stadium. On the season, he led UK with seven wins, a 2.94 ERA and 110 strikeouts (tops in the SEC). He was later selected as the No. 23 overall pick in the first round of the 2011 MLB Draft by the Washington Nationals to become the second-highest draft pick in school history.

Senior Meagan Aull was one of four UK softball players to hit 10 or more home runs during the 2011 season. None of Aull's long balls was more important, however, than her leadoff shot against Michigan in the bottom of the seventh inning to tie the score (1-1) and ignite a 2-1 rally that sent Kentucky to its first NCAA Super Regional appearance.

A NIGHT TO REMEMBER

Anthony Mosley sealed UK football's first victory over South Carolina since 1999 when he picked off Stephen Garcia's pass in the end zone in the final seconds. Mosley's interception sparked a celebration Commonwealth Stadium hasn't experienced since upsetting No. 1 LSU in 2007.

CELEBRATE

great accomplishments



Kentucky claimed its fourth consecutive Governor's Cup in football, defeating in-state rival Louisville under first-year UK head coach Joker Phillips.

CHAMPIONSHIPS HAPPEN HERE

The UK men's basketball team won 10 of its final 11 games of the 2010-11 season, winning the SEC Tournament (for the second consecutive season) and the NCAA East Regional Tournament en route to making its first Final Four appearance since 1998.

COMPETE

for national championships

Poise under Pressure

If ever there was a moment Harry Mullins was going to capture his elusive national title, this had to be it.



Ethan Settlemyres fired a 590 on the final relay of air rifle to secure Kentucky's first rifle national championship.

In addition to earning second-team All-America honors in air rifle, Settlemyres was named NCAA Shooter of the Match for his clutch performance in a pressure-laden situation.

For 26 years, Mullins and the Kentucky rifle program had come so close to winning the whole thing. There was 2009 when Kentucky entered the NCAA Championships with just one loss, only to lose to West Virginia. Three other times, in 1997, 2001 and 2002, Mullins and the program had experienced similar heartbreak.

But this time seemed like fate. Six years since his beloved father passed away, Mullins returned to Lexington where his father served as a sergeant in the military and settled his family with a goal of finishing the job.

A month after toppling the top-ranked Mountaineers, Mullins and the rifle team carried an overall lead going into the final day.

But as all great teams do, West Virginia made its charge in the final hours of the competition. The top-ranked Mountaineers cut into UK's lead, meaning one major slipup and the national championship could fall through Mullins' fingers again.

Fortunately for Mullins, there was little time to reflect on the magnitude of the situation. There was so much going on at once that Mullins had no time to get nervous.

But with one final shot in air rifle to determine the national championship, Mullins inevitably started to sweat.

With one shot to go for Ethan Settlemyres, Mullins knew he needed at least an 8.0 to clinch the title.

As Settlemyres gazed through the sights on his rifle, he slowed his breathing, controlled his heart rate and steadied the rifle. Settlemyres fired and exhaled.

Mullins, standing with most of the team at this point, couldn't see how Settlemyres had done, but Henri Jung-hanel was standing nearby. He turned around to the group, looked at Mullins and gave him two thumbs up.

Settlemyres had nailed the bulls-eye and scored a 10.7. Kentucky and Mullins, 26 years in the waiting, had won the national championship.



“It is a tremendous honor to come out on top among such a great group of teams and shooters. We have had a magical season and it is surreal to be standing here at the end of the year as the national champion.”

— Head rifle coach Harry Mullins

A Shared Sense of Pride

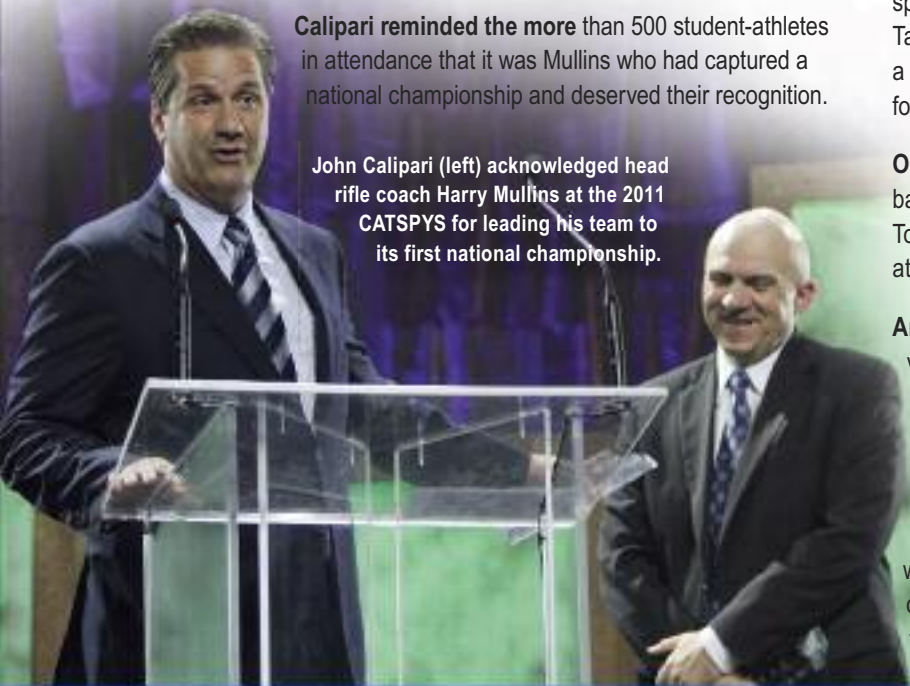
John Calipari had every reason to bask in glory when he was summoned to the stage at Kentucky's CATSPY Awards in late April.

After all, he had just led the men's basketball program to its first Final Four since 1998, a significant achievement for the lifeblood of the Commonwealth.

But Calipari did the opposite. Instead of taking his turn answering questions, Calipari forfeited his time at the podium and turned the attention over to rifle coach Harry Mullins, one of three coaches to win the Coach of the Year award.

Calipari reminded the more than 500 student-athletes in attendance that it was Mullins who had captured a national championship and deserved their recognition.

John Calipari (left) acknowledged head rifle coach Harry Mullins at the 2011 CATSPYS for leading his team to its first national championship.



Before Mullins could speak, every person inside Memorial Coliseum rose to their feet and gave Mullins a standing ovation. Misty-eyed, Mullins gazed into the crowd, stunned at the overwhelming applause he was receiving.

Calipari is one of the frontrunners in supporting the department's achievements, but he's far from the only one. Celebrating excellence is routine in a family that consists of 22 varsity sports, more than 50 coaches and 500-plus student-athletes. Take, for instance, women's soccer coach Jon Lipsitz. It's rare a week goes by when Lipsitz doesn't offer words of support for teams other than his on Twitter, a social media platform.

Or take the men's basketball players. While the women's basketball team built its résumé for a second straight NCAA Tournament berth, members of the men's team were routinely at courtside watching.

And when the softball team hosted Louisville in a critical rivalry showdown, student-athletes like Ann Armes, Becky Pavan and Amber Smith came out to cheer and helped lift UK from a seven-run deficit to snap an eight-game losing streak to the Cardinals.

Current and former Wildcats alike understand a job done well and appreciate the effort that goes into it. When it comes time to celebrate that hard work, the entire Kentucky family revels in the feeling of success.



The University of Kentucky women's soccer team was recognized during the UK-South Carolina football game last fall at Commonwealth Stadium.



Brandon Knight, a freshman All-American on the 2011 UK men's basketball team, was selected in the first round of the NBA Draft (eighth pick overall) by the Detroit Pistons.

"We appreciate what you do for us and all the hard work and effort you put into it. It means a great deal to us and means a great deal to the people in this state. The emotions of this state move with this department. Never, ever forget that."

— Mitch Barnhart, UK athletics director, addressing Wildcat student-athletes at the 2011 CATSPY awards show



Former UK punter Tim Masthay (above) returned to Kentucky as the honorary “Y” at a men’s basketball game after winning a Super Bowl ring with the Green Bay Packers in his first NFL season. At left, UK Athletics Director Mitch Barnhart is pictured at the 2011 CATSPY Awards with Mr. and Miss Wildcats Lauren Rapp (volleyball), Megan Yocke (softball) and Eric Quigley (men’s tennis). The CATSPY Awards were started in 2003 as a unique way of honoring Kentucky’s varsity athletes, coaches and staff for their accomplishments.

CHEER
for each other

ON MY HONOR
I WILL BRING MY EDGE TO ACHE.
I WILL KEEP MY BODY POWERFUL,
MY DESIRE INTENSE,
AND I WILL UNFLINCHING.
I WILL CREATE AN EXAMPLE,
A NEW DEFINITION OF PASSION
AND I WILL CONTINUE TO CHERISH MY BELIEF
THAT EVERY SPIRED DROP OF SWEAT
IS AN INVESTMENT IN PERFECTION.



THE LONG JOURNEY BACK
Amber Smith has endured countless hours of grueling rehabilitation in the training room and weight room – all in her quest to play one more basketball season in a Kentucky jersey.

OVERCOME

each and every obstacle

The Power of Perseverance

After storming onto the women's college basketball scene in 2010 with a historic Elite Eight appearance, point guard Amber Smith dreamed even grander goals with her best friends, Victoria Dunlap and Carly Morrow.



If Victoria Dunlap represented the legs behind UK Hoops' historic Elite Eight run in 2010, Amber Smith, above, symbolized the heart. UK's fiery point guard averaged 9.2 points and 4.5 assists in the Wildcats' relentless full-court attack.

For two years, they endured the struggles of missing the NCAA Tournament together. When the team erased the mediocrity with a newfound sense of pride, hard work and style of play in the 2009-10 season, there was reason to envision even bigger dreams in 2010-11.

Those dreams could have come crashing down for Smith last July when she crumpled to the Joe Craft Center floor. Playing in a pickup game with some of her teammates, Smith heard a pop in her left knee. The pop turned out to be a torn anterior cruciate ligament.

The prognosis called for a recovery period of four to six months, leaving the window open for a possible return late in her senior season.

Having already undergone a similar ACL tear in her other knee her freshman year and experiencing the long, grueling and painful process of rehabilitation, Smith had little doubt in her mind that she could fight through physical therapy and return for another magical NCAA Tournament run with Dunlap and Morrow during their senior years.

When Smith started making cuts on her knee in December and January, however, the stability in her knee wasn't back. As the realization that a return wasn't possible, Smith began to wonder if returning the following year was even worth it.

As doubt crept into her mind, Smith forced herself to return to the same persevering mentality she had in July. Yes, the dream of playing alongside Dunlap and Morrow was gone, but after practically living in the training room for six months and helping lead UK to national relevance, Smith wasn't about to give up on her final season.

With nine of UK's 10 leading scorers returning next season, Smith is expected to headline a team that could once again make an NCAA Tournament run.



In honor of her long and courageous battle to overcome a potentially career-ending knee injury, Amber Smith received the Blue Heart Award at the 2011 CATSPY Awards.

“Amber demonstrated great heart and perseverance during her knee rehabilitation this year. She was able to bring the same work ethic and determination that we see on the basketball court into the athletic training room.”

— Courtney Jones, UK athletics trainer

The Ultimate “Perfect Game”

When you’ve never gotten anything less than an “A” on your report card in your life, there’s a perception that academics come easy. As T.J. Daugherty of the baseball team can confirm, it’s nowhere near that simple.

Daugherty, who graduated this spring with a 4.0 grade-point average, has endured his fair share of academic-related panic attacks. Receiving a “B” may not seem like life or death to most people, but to Daugherty, the mark of excellence was a standard from which he wasn’t willing to part.

“**I set the bar high for myself,**” Daugherty said. “I always expected to get an ‘A’ because I knew that I was capable of that. Anything less meant I wasn’t doing my best or I was letting myself down.”

Daugherty’s perfection wasn’t without its close calls, however. There were two classes in particular, both in the same semester his sophomore year, that nearly ruined Daugherty’s 4.0.

Unlike so many times before, Daugherty hadn’t given himself the cushion he wanted going into the final week of the semester. With all the hours he had to balance between his role as a catcher with the baseball team and tutoring hours at C.A.T.S., Daugherty’s key to academic success was to put the work in early and learn the material well before the test.

But Daugherty found himself on the verge of a dreaded “B” that sophomore semester. He knew he needed a 94 on the final paper in his Honors class and a 95 on his final exam in economics.

So, Daugherty, even with his responsibilities at baseball, did what any student would do – he ate, slept and breathed at the library. The workload of cramming with practices the next day was tough enough, but the pressure of keeping the perfect record alive felt overwhelming.

“**Experiencing failure like that** was something I didn’t want to do,” said Daugherty, who majored in mathematical economics. “Most people wouldn’t see it as failure but I would have.”

Daugherty ended up getting those “As.” Before graduating this spring, he was awarded the Male Scholar Athlete of the Year at the ninth-annual CATSPY Awards. Daugherty shared the stage that evening with senior swimmer Kayla Sergesketter, who was named Female Scholar Athlete of the Year.

She scraped by with a 3.902 GPA in communication disorders.



MAKING THE GRADE

In the NCAA’s 2011 Academic Progress Rate report, all 22 of Kentucky’s varsity sports teams surpassed the NCAA cutoff score with 16 squads exceeding the national average for public universities in their sports.

The women’s tennis team led the way with 992 points out of a possible perfect score of 1,000, followed by women’s cross country (988), softball (987) and men’s golf and women’s swimming, both of which came in at 984.

The scores are a four-year composite, covering the 2006-07, 2007-08, 2008-09 and 2009-10 school years, that measures academic eligibility and retention of student-athletes. The NCAA cutoff score for each sport is 925.

Among the other UK teams that exceeded the national average were football (948), women’s basketball (976) and men’s basketball (974), which tied Vanderbilt for the highest APR score in the Southeastern Conference. It was a 20-point increase over last year and was good enough to be listed in the 80th-90th percentile for its sport.

“Unlike a student who works a part-time job, there is not an hour that goes by in the day that most of our student-athletes do not think of their sport and their responsibility to that sport. While it is something they have always been good at and recognized for, it comes with accountability. So does school. To excel in both is an enormous task and extremely rewarding.”

— Bob Bradley, associate athletics director for student services



TIME FOR A STUDY BREAK

T.J. Daugherty (left) of the UK baseball team and Wildcat swimmer Kayla Sergesketter have little time to sit down and relax. In addition to their responsibilities to their teams and in the classroom, they must attend mandatory tutoring sessions at UK's Center for Academic and Tutorial Services.

EXCEL
in the classroom.



ARE YOU GAM3DAY READY?

The UK Athletics Department launched a five-city Gam3Day Ready tour, featuring head football coach Joker Phillips, throughout Kentucky during the summer of 2010. The primary purpose of the tour was to promote academics, healthy eating habits and basic athletic skills to youth in eighth grade and under. As part of the tour, the athletics department funded playground equipment in each city it visited.

PROMOTE
meaningful initiatives

No Wrong Time for a Good Idea

As the UK Athletics Department Gam3Day Ready Tour staff can attest, inspiration tends to breed even more inspiration.



All-America linebacker Danny Trevathan, above, formed many bonds during his week in Ethiopia, including one with this widow from the village of Adama. At right, head football coach Joker Phillips and his team provided footwear to kindergarten children from Gutumuma in need of shoes.

The idea behind the 2010 Gam3Day Ready Tour was to show kids the importance of making healthy food choices and staying active. The core theme of the tour through Kentucky was to show kids that staying active can be fun.

To get the message across, UK football coach Joker Phillips made separate stops at five cities throughout Kentucky in Hyden, Central City, Danville, Louisville and Franklin. During each stop, Phillips and the UK marketing team hosted a free mini-combine for boys and girls eighth grade and under.

At local parks throughout the state, Phillips and the Gam3Day Ready crew timed the kids' 40-yard dash, measured their vertical jump, showed them how to pass, kick and run with the football, and guided them through drills. After the clinics, the participants were provided with healthy snacks, autographs and a chance to interact with UK football staff.

On the way back from one of the stops, the Gam3Day Ready staff decided to watch *Invictus*, a film that chronicles Nelson Mandela's unification of his apartheid-torn country of South Africa through the enlistment of a national rugby team.

In the movie, the 1995 South African rugby team goes to the communities of South Africa to promote a foreign game and inspire unification.

While watching the film, the UK marketing team realized they were doing something similar and wanted to build on it. Instead of making it a summer-only tour, the staff decided to expand the tour and hosted another combine in Birmingham, Ala., in January in conjunction with the BBVA Compass Bowl.

This past summer, the tour went international. UK football stars Danny Trevathan and Stuart Hines joined Phillips and athletics director Mitch Barnhart on a trip to Africa to introduce the game of American football and serve the people of Ethiopia by forming relationships and offering a week of humanitarian labor.



“The stuff you see on TV and read about doesn’t even compare to when you’re actually over here, doing work and seeing these places. You can’t begin to imagine how great the needs are. This trip has really changed my outlook on life and how I view things in the world.”

— Stuart Hines, reflecting on his humanitarian service trip to Ethiopia

Following their Cats and Hearts

As diehard Kentucky supporters and longtime K Fund members, Vickie and Wendell Bell have become fixtures at UK Athletics events.

From hosting team parties, to attending games and everything in between, their consistent presence is a positive foundation of support for the department and its student-athletes.

“It’s all about the team and the athletes,” Vickie said.

Devotion is nothing new for Kentucky fans, one of the most passionate fan bases in all of sports, but the Bells have taken dedication to another level.

Taking the March Madness moniker to new meaning, the Bells attempted to attend every major UK Athletics event in a month that included both the men’s and women’s Southeastern Conference basketball tournaments, the NCAA tournaments and the NCAA Rifle Championships.

Traveling to multiple events meant stops in cities across the nation, a lot of frequent flier miles and a ton of hours behind the wheel. If only the Bells had clones on March 12.

On that day the Bells faced a dilemma. The men’s basketball team was in the SEC Tournament semifinals, but the rifle team was on the verge of its first national championship.

The Bells made the tough choice to split up. Early that Saturday morning – before the sun had risen – Vickie woke up and made the two-hour drive from Atlanta to Columbus, Ga., to arrive in time for the NCAA Rifle Championships.

When the rifle team captured its historic national title, it was actually Vickie who broke the news to UK Athletics staff in Atlanta. She drove back that night, rejoined Wendell and watched the men’s basketball team win the SEC Tournament championship the next day.

Why go through all the trouble?

“If I’m going to show them my loyalty, I have to show up physically to confirm my commitment to them,” Vickie said. “Verbally expressing it is not enough. You need to be there to support them.”



As the Kentucky rifle team competed at the NCAA Championships in Columbus, Ga., Vickie Bell, watching the action firsthand, texted the news to her husband, Wendell Bell, who was at the SEC Men’s Basketball Tournament in Atlanta. With UK Athletics staff anxiously awaiting in Atlanta, Wendell received the text message they had all been eagerly awaiting. Kentucky had won its first national championship.

“Wendell and Vickie’s unparalleled support for all student-athletes has been amazing. Their generous actions and commitment to the university leave an undeniable impression on all of our kids, coaches and staff.”

— Mark Coyle, UK deputy director of athletics



MORE LIKE FAMILY THAN FANS
Often feeling more like “proud parents” than devoted fans, Vickie and Wendell Bell have formed a close personal bond with many past and present Wildcat athletes. They are pictured with (from left) women’s basketball player Keyla Snowden, Logan Fox from the 2011 national championship rifle team and volleyball standout Ann Armes.

SUPPORT

competitive success

Striking the Proper Balance

UK Athletics, which is 100 percent self-supporting and receives no state or university funds, supports the broadest program in the Southeastern Conference – 22 varsity sports – with an athletics budget that ranks in the midrange of SEC schools.

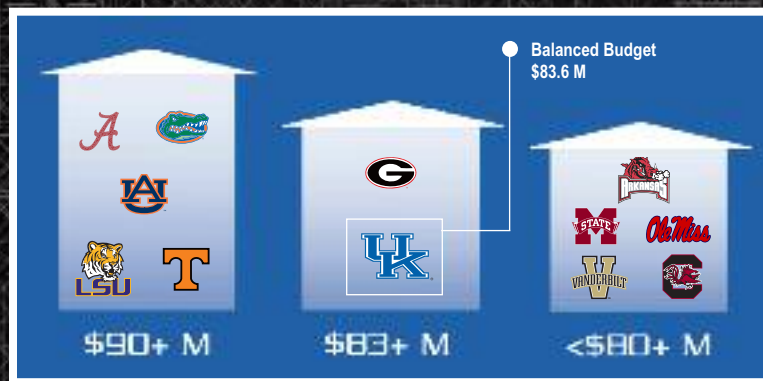
This truth reflects the department's mission to be a self-sustaining, nationally prominent program that values integrity, social responsibility, high academic achievement and competitive excellence.

Although total expenses are projected to increase by \$4 million in 2012, UK Athletics will continue to balance its budget and fully sustain itself during a period of difficult economic times on the local, state and national levels.

The athletics department also remains fully committed to supporting the University in its quest to become one of the nation's preeminent research institutions. UK Athletics will donate \$1.7 million in 2011-12 toward the university's general scholarship fund. In the past nine years, the department has given more than \$14.7 million in overall scholarship support of the university's academic mission.

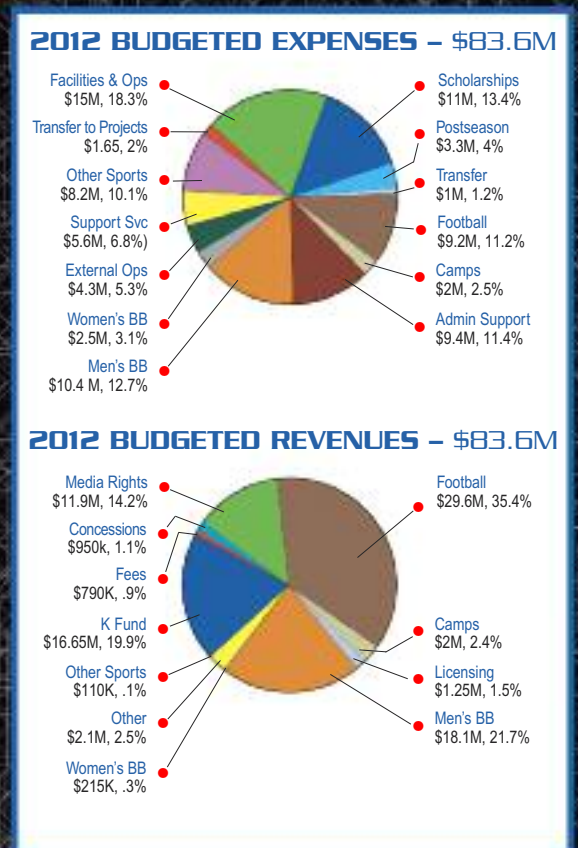
In addition, UK Athletics spends approximately 25 percent of its annual self-supported budget (\$20-plus million) back on campus. These expenditures include:

- Full rate for 340 scholarships (\$11 million)
- University service assessment fee (\$1.8 million)
- Payment for all utilities, maintenance, parking and security for all athletic facilities
- \$500,000 annually in radio advertisement inventory to the University for academic messaging



UK Athletics boasts the broadest program in the Southeastern Conference (22 sports), yet its budget ranks as average among all 12 league schools. UK Athletics also prides itself on operating with a balanced budget (\$83.6 M).

Toward that end, the UK Athletics Department Board of Directors approved an operating budget of \$83.6 million for the fiscal year of 2011-12. This represents less than 3.5 percent of the total university budget.



PROVIDE
sound fiscal management

Among the UK student-athletes who benefitted from athletic scholarship aid in 2010-11 were All-Conference USA men's soccer player Matt Lodge, junior track and field All-SEC pentathlete Precious Nwokey, senior gymnastics standout Andrea Mitchell, men's golfers Alex Volpenhein and Brian Belden (pictured in cap and gown with head coach Brian Craig), and women's golfer Ashleigh Albrecht.

INVESTING IN WILDCAT STUDENT-ATHLETES AND IN ALL UK STUDENTS

In order to help outstanding student-athletes from across the country and around the world pursue their post-secondary athletic and academic aspirations at the University of Kentucky, the UK Athletics Department will spend \$11 million in 2011-12 to fully pay for 340 athletic scholarships. In addition, UK Athletics will donate \$1.7 million toward the university's general scholarship fund. Overall, the athletics department spends approximately 25 percent of its self-supported budget back on campus.

Individuals and teams from 15 of UK's 22 sports participated in NCAA postseason play in 2010-11. At the same time, 66 Wildcat student-athletes received their undergraduate degrees during the 2010-11 academic year.

*Together, we must seek the truth and achieve goals through high expectations.
We must have a drive and passion to be the best, as evidenced through a
first-class operation where all team members understand compassion,
accountability and sacrifice for the better good.*

