

Athletic Highlights for Board of Trustees Meeting, September 12, 2019

- Since the last meeting of the Board of Trustees in June, UK Athletics' 14th-place finish in the 2018-19 Learfield IMG Directors' Cup became official.
- The finish is third highest among SEC schools and third best in school history. This is Kentucky's third straight top-20 finish and just the third top-15 finish in school history.
- UK placed 65 on the SEC Spring Academic Honor Roll and 99 on the SEC First-Year Academic Honor Roll. For the year, Wildcat student-athletes received more than 300 academic honors from the SEC while achieving a cumulative GPA of higher than 3.0 for the 13th and 14th consecutive semesters.
- Now, the 2019-20 season is underway along with the fall semester for more than 500 Wildcat student-athletes. UK's men's and women's soccer, volleyball, football, and men's and women's cross country teams are already in action.

Fall Sports Update

- The **football** team is off to 2-0 start for the third straight season after posting a 38-17 victory over Eastern Michigan on Saturday. UK has scored 38 points in each of its first two games and is averaging 441.5 yards per game.
 - Kentucky will host No. 9/8 Florida this Saturday evening with SEC Nation in town for the sold-out SEC East showdown.
 - UK football held its annual Heroes' Day at the EMU game, honoring active and reserve members of the military, police, fire, and first responders.
 - UK sold nearly 3,000 more full-season ticket packages in 2019 than in 2018, bucking the nationwide trend of declining season ticket sales.
- The **volleyball** team spent the first two weekends of the season on the road. The Wildcats are 4-2 on the season and already boast a pair of victories over ranked opponents.
 - The two-time defending SEC champions are led by returning All-Americans Leah Edmond and Madison Lilley.

- The Wildcats will open their home schedule this weekend at the Bluegrass Battle. UK will take on Cleveland State and Florida Gulf Coast on Friday and Indiana on Saturday.
- The **men's soccer** team, after a 2-1 start to the season, are in the midst of a challenging week. The Wildcats face a pair of ranked teams in Xavier (home) and Charlotte (road).
 - The Charlotte match on Sunday is the first in Conference USA play for the Cats. UK is the defending conference champion.
 - Midfielder Kalil ElMedkhar, goalkeeper Enrique Facusse, and defender Aimé Mabika were named to the Hermann Trophy Watch List. The award is given annually to the national player of the year.
- The **women's soccer** team is off to an unbeaten 4-0-2 start to the season, winning its last four matches after tying its first two.
 - UK will play nonconference matches this weekend at Eastern Kentucky on Thursday and against Indiana on Sunday before opening conference play against Auburn next week.
- The **cross country** teams opened the season at the Miami Opener on August 30, with the men finishing third and the women fourth. Freshman Aaron Withrow led the men with an 11th-place individual finish, while sophomore Kelli Walsh finished 12th for the women's team.
 - The Wildcats are building up to the postseason, when UK will host SEC Championships at Kentucky Horse Park on November 1.
- The **women's golf** team opened the fall portion of its schedule by winning the Minnesota Invitational this week. The tournament title is UK's first away from Lexington since 2013.
 - Freshman Jensen Castle led UK by tying for third as individual, birdieing three straight holes down the stretch to seal the team championship.
 - The Wildcats will host the Bettie Lou Evans Invitational at the University Club September 27-29.
- The **men's golf** team opened the fall with a sixth-place finish at the Island Resort Intercollegiate.

Off the Field

- Casie Ott (women's golf), Avery Skinner (volleyball), Kendyl Paris (volleyball), KeKe McKinney (women's basketball), Emma Shields (women's soccer), Jackson Hawthorne (men's soccer), Sarah Loheide (women's swimming and diving), Autumn Humes (softball), Molly Leppelmeier (women's track and field), and Mollie Korth (gymnastics) participated in the second of two annual department-sponsored service trip to Ethiopia this summer.
- The 2019 class of the UK Athletics Hall of Fame is set to be inducted during Hall of Fame Weekend, September 13-14, in conjunction with the football home game vs. Florida. The induction ceremony will take place Friday night.
- Kentucky sophomore men's golfer Cullan Brown has been diagnosed with osteosarcoma, a form of bone cancer, in his left thigh. Treatment will require chemotherapy and surgery. Brown has withdrawn from Kentucky and will also not compete during the 2019-20 season as he spends the year focusing on his health.
- A unique partnership with Toyota Motor Manufacturing Kentucky (TMMK), the Kentucky College of Engineering, and the Kentucky Children's Hospital will bring special guests to the Cat Walk presented by Chevy this season as the Kentucky football team arrives at Kroger Field. A brand-new and specially built push cart vehicle will provide a Kentucky Children's Hospital patient the chance to both accompany the Wildcats on the Cat Walk and attend a game at Kroger Field. A new patient will be chosen by the Kentucky Children's Hospital each week to participate. Offensive tackle and College of Engineering junior Luke Fortner (Sylvania, Ohio) and a team of TMMK engineers have worked for months to design, test and manufacture the device through a project called "Lift Them Up."
- The softball team hosted a camp for a handful of location Special Olympics Kentucky teams this past Sunday, continuing the Student-Athlete Advisory Committee's ongoing relationship with SOKY.
- The October 12 Kentucky football game vs. Arkansas in Kroger Field has been designated Jared Lorenzen Day. UK Athletics will celebrate the life of

the Wildcat great and fan favorite in a series of ways to remember the man who wore No. 22.

- Kentucky softball player Katie Reed, who graduated in May of 2019, has been chosen as the University of Kentucky's nominee for the NCAA Woman of the Year.
- Kentucky men's golfers Lukas Euler, Matt Liston, and Max Mehles were named Srixon/Cleveland Golf All-America Scholars for their outstanding effort both on and off the course.
- The College Swimming and Diving Coaches Association of America has named 27 swimmers and divers from the University of Kentucky to the 2019 CSCAA Scholar All-America teams, announced on Wednesday.
- Mark Stoops and the University of Kentucky agreed to a contract amendment that restructures Stoops' deal.
- Mitch Barnhart was named the chair of the NCAA Division I Men's Basketball Committee for the 2020-21 season.
- Junior offensive tackle Landon Young is one of 91 nominees for the Wuerffel Trophy, known as "College Football's Premier Award for Community Service." Named after 1996 Heisman Trophy winning quarterback Danny Wuerffel from the University of Florida, the Wuerffel Trophy is awarded to the FBS player that best combines exemplary community service with athletic and academic achievement.
- The Kentucky baseball team was honored by the American Baseball Coaches Association with its Team Academic Excellence Award for 2018-19, the organization announced. UK is one of just 51 teams in Division I and two in the Southeastern Conference to receive the distinction.