

# 2004 Governors Cup

University Of Kentucky vs. University of Louisville

Date: 9/5/04  
Papa Johns Stadium  
Louisville, Kentucky

## Outline:

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This is a game that the "un-expected" happens and the "expected" does not happen. 2004 will be no different. Somebody ones said that Lightning does not strike twice in the same place. Well, we have proven that theory wrong and looking for more. This year it is believed that UofL will control the game with their running game. I agree! The UofL running game will control this game to a certain extent. However, I think UK will be able to control the UofL QB enough to get off the field in key situations and a Moderate running game by UK will have good success vs. a Cardinal defense that has softened dramatically since John L Smith has left.

Like LeFors in 2003, Shane Boyd is the latest QB known to be a good leader and runner but not known as good passer. Will lightning strike twice? As the regular QB Shane Boyd has taken 245 running or passing snaps (excludes handoffs). During those snaps he has Totaled 1421 total yards @ 5.8 ypp. Last year Jared Lorenzen had 420 snaps and only totaled 2292 yards for and average of 5.4 ypp. The key difference is that Boyd did most of his snaps in an offense that did not focus on a "running" QB. Shane Boyd has proven he can run this offense and over the 2<sup>nd</sup> half of the 2003 season the UofL Defense proved they couldn't defend running teams. As bad as UK running game was last year, they did show progress as the season progressed even with out the threat of a running QB. Expect the "un-expected", UK offense to have a solid ground game against he UofL Defense.

The Question is how much will UofL score? This question will be answered by how UK controls Stefan LeFors and they will. In 2004 UK used very little of the 3-4 Blitz Package. The week before the game Mike Archer decided it was better to have the team play the basic defense rather than the complex Zone Blitz schemes. By doing this UK will put much more pressure on the UofL QB and minimize his yardage on the ground to less that 4.7 ypc. This will be made much easier by with UofL having to replace 3 key players in the Offensive line and 2 SR TE's that were instrumental in last year success. The Offensive lineman all have good experience but none of the TE's have every played a snap.

## KEY TO THE GAME!!

UofL will get their yards with their big offensive Line and great tailbacks. But the key to this game will be how well UK's defense can control Stefan LeFors ability to run and how well UK can get him down when they bring pressure.

### 2003 Louisville Offense was much less productive when teams controlled LeFors with pressure.

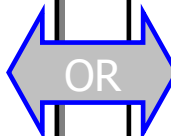
Date	Opponent	Pts	Rushing			QB Only				Passing				Total Off.			FD
			No	Net	ypc	No.	Gain	ypc	sax	Att	Comp	%	Int	Plays	Yds	ypp	
≤ 2 sacks allowed		41	41	255	6.1	6	41	7.1	0.3	30	19	64%	0.4	71	534	7.5	25
≥ 2 sacks allowed		21	38	167	4.3	9	30	3.4	2.5	31	16	53%	2.0	68	388	5.6	19
<b>Difference</b>		<b>-20</b>		<b>-88</b>	<b>-1.9</b>			<b>-3.7</b>	<b>2.2</b>	<b>0.5</b>		<b>-11%</b>	<b>1.6</b>		<b>-146.0</b>	<b>-1.8</b>	<b>-6</b>

KEYPOINTS: (When LeFors was sacked  $\geq 2$  /gm)

- POINTS / GAME = 20 pts less per game.
- RUSHING YARDS / GAME = 88 Less Rushing yards
- YARDS / CARRY (ypc) = 1.9 less yards each carry
- QB YARDS / CARRY = 3.7 yards less per QB run/scramble
- PASS COMPLETION % = 11% points less each game
- INTERCEPTIONS / GAME = Over 1.6 more INT / game.
- TOTAL OFFENSE / GAME = 146 yards less
- TOTAL YARDS / PLAY (ypp) = 1.8 yards below.
- FIRST DOWNS = 6 Less first downs / game (nearly 18 offensive snaps)

2003 Stefan LeFors ran for 487 yards on 71 carry's for 5.7 ypc

- VS UK he gained 19 yards on 4 very important carries.
- UK sacked him 1 time
- 1 drive in 3<sup>rd</sup> and 4<sup>th</sup> Qtr of 03' game
  - » 1<sup>st</sup> & 10 LeFors avoids blitz and gains 9yds
  - » 2<sup>nd</sup> & 10 shotgun run gains 6 yds gains
  - » 4<sup>th</sup> and 3 scrambles for 3 yds & 1<sup>st</sup> down.
 Next Play Shelton goes the distance and UofL takes a 9-point lead 33-24.



UK's MAGIC NUMBER < 4.8 ypc (Defensive Yards/Carry)

Can UK hold UofL to 4.7 ypc? = **YES**

- UK defense knows the system unlike it did in the 1<sup>st</sup> 3 games last year.
  - Post the 1<sup>st</sup> three games the ONLY game UK allowed more than 4.8 was vs. Vandy.
  - Excluding the early learning curve and mental lapse at Vandy UK held Opponents to 3.9 ypc
- See the below summary of UK's defense and you will see that it may not matter!*

UK only sacked LeFors 1 time and the UofL ran for 5.5 ypc in route to scoring 24 "Offensive" pts in route to scoring 24 pts. UofL will not have that kind of success this year. (UK just needs 1 out of 2)

## 2003 University of Kentucky Offense Summary

Ron Hudson has very gracefully accepted the responsibility for the UK offensive struggles in 2003. Hudson has never wavered from his talent perspective, has stated that for this offense to succeed UK must elevate the talent level in order to execute the system as needed. The well-spoken Hudson is a straight shooter and is no different in this case. On the surface it appears that the UK offense became worse as the season progressed (1<sup>st</sup> 6 games 25 ppg → 23 ppg), however, this is just a linear result of the schedule becoming more difficult the 2<sup>nd</sup> half of the season.

\*\*\* 7OT Stats vs. Arkansas are excluded \*\*\*

Date	OFF	Sag	Pts	Rushing						Passing					Total Off.			FD
				No	Gain	Loss	Net	ypc	sacked	Att	Comp	Int	Yds	ypa	Plays	Yds	ypp	
1st 6 gms	69	25	36	153	24	128	3.4	2.0	27	15	0.7	188	7.1	63	316	5.0	16.8	
2nd 6 gms	72	23	36	149	25	124	3.4	2.2	34	19	0.8	187	5.9	69	311	4.5	19.7	

Breaking it down a little deeper it simply shows that UK could run the ball better vs. team with less talent. Which resulted in better output in all the key areas.

Date	OFF	Sag	Pts	Rushing						Passing					YP	Total Off.			FD
				No	Gain	Loss	Net	ypc	sax	Att	Comp	Int	Yds	ypa		Com	Plays	Yds	
10/18/03	Ohio	53	35	42	187	10	177	4.2	1	23	11	0	144	6.3	13.1	65	321	4.94	18
09/20/03	Indiana	57	34	41	182	15	167	4.1	1	21	12	0	187	8.9	15.6	62	354	5.71	15
10/25/03	MississippiSt.	60	42	47	184	30	154	3.3	2	28	16	0	256	9.1	16.0	75	410	5.47	20
11/15/03	Vanderbilt	61	17	37	196	28	168	4.5	4	38	16	1	241	6.3	15.1	75	409	5.45	25
08/31/03	Louisville	71	24	36	139	31	108	3.0	2	32	18	2	236	7.4	13.1	68	344	5.06	21
10/09/03	SouthCarolina	74	21	30	137	20	117	3.9	2	32	17	0	210	6.6	12.4	62	327	5.27	18
09/13/03	Alabama	78	17	23	71	45	26	1.1	2	24	15	0	169	7.0	11.3	47	195	4.15	11
09/27/03	Florida	84	21	44	199	24	175	4.0	4	29	18	2	179	6.2	9.9	73	354	4.85	18
11/01/03	Arkansas	84	24	34	160	43	118	3.5	2	33	28	1	211	6.4	11.6	67	329	4.91	29
11/29/03	Tennessee	85	7	25	63	12	51	2.0	2	43	19	2	136	3.2	7.2	68	187	2.75	14
11/22/03	Georgia	91	10	28	103	28	75	2.7	2	36	21	1	137	3.8	6.5	64	212	3.31	12
Lower 6 teams		63	29	39	171	22	149	3.8	2.0	29	15	0.5	212	7.4	14.2	68	361	5.3	20
Upper 6 teams		83	17	31	122	29	94	2.9	2.3	33	20	1.0	174	5.5	9.8	64	267	4.2	17

### KEY POINTS: (Bottom 6 teams vs. Top 6 teams)

No.	Metric	Bottom 6	Top 6
1	Sagarin	63	83
2	Pts/Gm	29	17
3	YPC	3.8	2.9
4	YP Com	14.2	9.8
5	YPP	5.3	4.2
6	1 <sup>st</sup> Down	20	17

“We need to recruit more talent” - Ron Hudson

Hal Mumme always stated that his Defensive needs and 8 man front in order to compete in the SEC. The strategy behind and 8 man front is out number the amount of Offensive players with 1 extra defensive player. This philosophy is based on the QB handing the ball off and then being out of the play, as most pocket passers would do. In the Ron Hudson system because the QB can also run the advantage of the 8-man front is eliminated. In 2003 UK was not able to take advantage of this! Not only Kansas State but also several teams that are not known for talent are using this same philosophy and getting great results.

2003 Team	Total QB yards
Kansas State	4392
Missouri	3517
Virginia Tech	2977
Maryland	3087
Minnesota	3297
Kentucky	2489

Hudson's past @ K-St.



Kansas State	Total QB yards
2002	3395 52%
2001	3910 49%
2000	3715 49%
1999	2874 45%
1998	3969 54%

The system & Philosophy is solid and 2004 will be UK's 1<sup>st</sup> chance to run it as designed

## Quarterback play is the Key!

This winner of this game always goes to the team with the QB that makes the bigger plays. Even in last year's 40-24 loss the UK Quarterback made some huge plays, however, it was the UofL QB that was more consistent and made the big play when the team needed it. Conventional thought was that the veteran UK QB would edge out the unknown, 1<sup>st</sup> year Sophomore Cardinal signal caller.

*"His key is good leadership and wonderful with his feet, he will have to make plays outside the pocket. Accuracy is at a premium for this young man tonight"*

–Sean Salisbury ESPN analyst Pre-game

LeFors finished the game 14-23 for 180 yes 1 TD & 1 INT.& 4 rushed for 19 yds. They key to his performance was not his stats on the surface, but his ability to set his team up for 1<sup>st</sup> downs with his legs. Specifically in the 4<sup>th</sup> Quarter when UK had all the momentum and the score 24-26, LeFors converted a 4<sup>th</sup> and 3. The next play was a 22-yard TD run that virtually put the game away. This performance was just a precursor to the season; he finished the year with 3550 total yards keyed by 5.7 yards/rush and 61% completion rate. This year the "unknown" is Shane Boyd.

Stefan LeFors is not the only "dual-threat" QB to rise from nowhere and prove all the analyst wrong. Recently there have been several cases of an unknown "Dual Threat" QB leading their teams to

Team	Yr	Name	Phil Steele Rating (PS)	Experince	Pts/gm		Team Total Yds	
					Before	After	Before	After
Iowa	02'	Brad Banks	52	582yds 4TD 2 INT	32	37	393	424
Mizzouri	02'	Brad Smith	136	None	22	30	339	387
Wake	03'	Corey Randolph	116	333 yds 0TD 2 INT	27	28	408	355
West Va.	03'	Rasheed Marshall	119	327yds 2TD 4 INT	21	31	345	419
Kentucky	04'	Boyd	43	1052 6TD 8INT	24*	?	327	?

some of their best offensive seasons. Take special note to West Virginia in 2002, which was Rich Rodriguez 1<sup>st</sup> season at W.Va. That season the Mountaineers started a traditional drop back passer (Brad Lewis) needless to say the offense never got on track. Going into that season the 2<sup>nd</sup> string QB was Scott O'Brien who transferred to Maryland in August, #3 on the depth chart, was Danny Emmitt a very highly touted QB was Red-shirted. As the #2 QB on the depth chart Marshall showed flashes of greatness with his legs and left a lot to be desired with his arm by passing for 327 yds 2 TD's and 4 INT's. Going into 2003 Spring Danny Emmitt the RSF was expected to claim the job, however, Marshall's' field command and leadership was untouched. Marshall with his accuracy concerns won the job in the spring and solidified the spot in fall camp. The results were unquestioned.

### Marshall's Impact:

Improved	2001	2002
Pts/gm	21	31
Yds/Rush	4.2	5.2
1st Downs	20	22
Wins	3	9



Just because others have done it does not mean that Boyd can also do it, but keep in mind a couple things. **Key Points:** Mumme believed his accuracy was not an issue, Boyd's out of high school rating was higher than the others, he has better experience than the others and most notably when he has been the regular QB, the "Total Offensive" Output has been much better than what the 2003 Wildcats had.

Reading newspapers, internet message boards and listening talk radio one would get the impression that Shane Boyd was the most incapable QB in NCAA history. UK fought off battles from then Clemson OC, Rich Rodriguez the current West Virginia Head Coach. Clemson was looking to for Boyd to fill the shoes of Woodrow Dantzler, a dynamic QB that could make plays with both his legs and arms, Quite the contrast, to UK was looking to use Boyd in the high flying passing game that required a high completion %. The perception of Shane Boyd is that he is a run 1<sup>st</sup> and pass 2<sup>nd</sup> QB also known as "duel threat". Accuracy can't be measured by "public perception". By all accounts Tim Couch & Chris Redman are accurate passers, Lorenzen and Dave Ragone were not by comparison. So my question to the readers is why would Hal Mumme offer a valuable scholarship to a player that doesn't have the accuracy to play in his offense? If I recall Jeff Smoker was the only other QB Mumme was recruiting?

*"If things break down, he can get out and make some things happen. As far as running, everybody knows he's a big threat. As I watch more and more film on him, though, he seems to be a more accurate passer than people give him credit for. He'll be a dangerous person to play."*

– Kerry

Rhodes UofL Free Safety (The Courier-Journal 9-1-04)

Boyd as a regular QB has showed plenty of skills to operate the UK offense. In 2001 as a Red-shirt Freshman he was brought in the opening game vs. Louisville and promptly lead the team to goal line before mis-handling a hand-off resulting in a fumble. As a result of his performance vs. the Cardinals he earned the starting spot for the next 5 games. (Results Below). Since that time Boyd has had very few opportunity's to prove him self in a regular environment in which he is not expecting to make a big play with every snap. (As the case with spot play in 03')

\*\*\*NOTE\*\*\* In 2001 UK also started 3 new O-lineman (Rollins, Huff & Sietze)

### Boyd's History as the UK QB: (Criteria = Games with 5 or more attempts)

Opponent	Rushing			Passing							Total Yards		
	Att	Yards	Yds/att	Att.	Com.	Yds/Compl	Yards	Com %	TD	INT	Total Yards	Total Att.	total Yds/ply
01' Ball State	3	4	1.3	22	15	14.6	219	68%	2	0	223	25	8.9
01' Florida	7	40	5.7	39	23	8.8	203	59%	1	0	243	46	5.3
01' Mississippi	7	43	6.1	20	7	15.6	109	35%	0	1	152	27	5.6
01' South Carolina	4	21	5.3	36	20	9.4	188	56%	1	2	209	40	5.2
01' LSU	5	42	8.4	31	17	8.2	140	55%	0	2	182	36	5.1
03' Ohio	10	88	8.8	9	3	18.0	54	33%	1	0	142	19	7.5
03' South Carolina	9	73	8.1	14	7	11.6	81	50%	1	0	154	23	6.7
<b>AVERAGE:</b>	6.4	44	6.9	24	13	13.1	172	54%	0.8	1.0	202	35	5.8
<b>Lorenzen 03'</b>	7.4	6.3	0.9	28	16	11.6	185	57%	1.3	0.7	191	35	5.4

You can see by the above results. Boyd is more than adequate to be the UK QB. I wanted to draw attention to three areas compared to UK QB in 2003.

- ① Completion %. 54% vs. 57% (Not all that different)
- ② Yds Per Carry (.9 → 6.9 ypc)
- ③ Total Yards / Play (Result of #1 & #2, 5.4ypp → 5.8ypp)

This stat shows that regardless the Run/ Pass Ratio Boyd's ability to make yardage with his legs is more than adequate to replace the "perceived" better accuracy that Lorenzen had. When Boyd was the starter in 2001, that offense was not built around nor was it designed for a QB to running the ball as an option unlike now.

How great could this team be if it still had a John L Smith's Defense? UK fans have learned the hard way; a good team does not mean a good "offense". It means a good combination of offense, defense and special teams. John L Smith teams are very good in 2 of the 3. Petrino's teams are starting to look a lot like a Hal Mumme with the exception of commitment to the running game and 4<sup>th</sup> down decisions. (Despite Petrino went for 23 last year)

A good defense can always take either the running or the passing game away for another team. A great defense can do both. In 2003 Louisville did neither. I am going to keep this simple football. John L Smith UofL was known through out College Football as have a solid fundamental defense, Good at stopping the run from a base 4-3, allowing for safeties to roam freely. For whatever reason, since the former staff has left this defense has become soft. In 2003 the season progressed several key areas began to break down. Mainly from a very respectable 3.6 ypc in the 1<sup>st</sup> 7 games to a 4.8 ypc in the last 6 games.

Date	Opponent	Rushing								Passing					Total Off.				
		Sag	Pts	No	Gain	Loss	Net	yds/rsh	TD	Att	Comp	Int	Yds	yds/att	TD	Plays	Yds	yds/pl	Total
08/31/03	Kentucky	71	24	36	139	31	108	3.0	1	32	18	2	236	7.4	2	68	344	5.1	21
09/13/03	Syracuse	73	20	41	236	19	217	5.3	2	30	19	0	229	7.6	0	71	446	6.3	22
09/20/03	UTEP	48	14	43	214	25	189	4.4	1	27	10	2	111	4.1	1	70	300	4.3	19
09/27/03	Temple	63	12	30	109	56	53	1.8	0	54	27	0	362	6.7	2	84	415	4.9	27
10/04/03	SouthFla.	63	31	38	140	21	119	3.1	3	48	26	3	256	5.3	1	86	375	4.4	21
10/11/03	Army	48	10	26	106	9	97	3.7	0	55	28	3	242	4.4	0	81	339	4.2	18
10/17/03	Tulane	59	28	42	213	53	160	3.8	1	29	16	2	243	8.4	3	71	403	5.7	24
10/25/03	EastCaro.	54	20	37	168	2	166	4.5	1	42	24	1	291	6.9	1	79	457	5.8	24
11/05/03	TCU	71	31	46	223	13	210	4.6	3	28	17	0	251	9.0	1	74	461	6.2	28
11/15/03	Memphis	71	37	51	250	8	242	4.7	2	29	17	0	201	6.9	1	80	443	5.5	24
11/22/03	Houston	64	45	48	248	19	229	4.8	3	27	21	0	224	8.3	2	75	453	6.0	25
11/28/03	Cincinnati	65	40	42	222	19	203	4.8	3	40	20	0	336	8.4	1	82	539	6.6	26
12/18/03	Miami(Ohio)	89	49	33	242	21	221	6.7	2	33	21	0	376	11.4	4	66	597	9.0	28
min		48	10	26	106	2	53	1.8	0	27	10	0	111	4.1	0	66	300	4.2	18
max		89	49	51	250	56	242	6.7	3	55	28	3	376	11.4	4	86	597	9.0	28
avg		65	28	39	193	22.8	170	4.2	1.7	36	20.3	1	258.3	7.3	1.5	76	429	5.7	23.6
1st 7 gms		61	20	37	165	31	135	3.6	1	39	21	1.7	240	6.3	1.3	76	375	5.0	22
2nd 7 gms		68	36	43	224	19	204	4.8	2	33	19	0.4	275	8.5	1.9	75	479	6.4	26

The last 6 games UofL was unable to hold opponents below their season avg. in ppg & ypc

Over those 6 games, UofL scored 2 points less/game than what they allowed/game

Date	Opponent	Rushing								Opp Off 03' avg.	
		Sag	Pts	No	Gain	Net	yds/rsh	TD	pts/gm	yds/rsh	
08/31/03	Kentucky	71	24	36	139	31	108	3.0	1	24	3.5
09/13/03	Syracuse	73	20	41	236	19	217	5.3	2	27	4.5
09/20/03	UTEP	48	14	43	214	25	189	4.4	1	22	4.4
09/27/03	Temple	63	12	30	109	56	53	1.8	0	20	3.5
10/04/03	SouthFla.	63	31	38	140	21	119	3.1	3	25	3.4
10/11/03	Army	48	10	26	106	9	97	3.7	0	16	2.9
10/17/03	Tulane	59	28	42	213	53	160	3.8	1	28	3.9
10/25/03	EastCaro.	54	20	37	168	2	166	4.5	1	18	2.3
11/05/03	TCU	71	31	46	223	13	210	4.6	3	30	4.4
11/15/03	Memphis	71	37	51	250	8	242	4.7	2	30	4.5
11/22/03	Houston	64	45	48	248	19	229	4.8	3	34	4.3
11/28/03	Cincinnati	65	40	42	222	19	203	4.8	3	25	3.9
12/18/03	Miami(Ohio)	89	49	33	242	21	221	6.7	2	43	4.3
Season avg										2	0
# of Games below Season avg.										4	4
# of Games above Season avg.										7	9

It is my opinion that John L Smith brings toughness to football that separates him from other coaches. He makes an impact at every school. His 1<sup>st</sup> year at UofL his defense allowed 5.1 ypc, the following yrs were 4.1, 2.3, 3.5, 2.9. The 1<sup>st</sup> half of the season after his departure the Cardinals held opponents to 3.6 ypc and the 2<sup>nd</sup> half it drops to 4.8 ypc. Is that toughness going away? Prior to Smith's arrival in Lansing Michigan the Spartan's had a run of 3 years not holding opponents below the 4.0 ypc mark. Since 2000 they allowed 4.0, 4.4 & 4.7 until his arrival in 03' where they allowed 3.2 ypc. What ever "it" is John L Smith and his staff have "it". Can Mike Cassidy be the answer? He has a past that gives mixed results. As far as ypc goes he took Illinois from 4.8→ 3.9 in his 1<sup>st</sup>. year. However, by his 3<sup>rd</sup> and final year they also were allowing 4.7 ypc. Prior to his arrival at Oklahoma State the Cowboys held opponents to a solid 3.2 ypc his 1<sup>st</sup> year they again performed well at 3.3 ypc and in his final year they were a very respectful 3.7. For what it is worth, Oklahoma State has not allowed over 3.9 ypc since 1996. In the 2001 season at Illinois, Cassidy showed that he could get it done, however the only thing is that he had the luxury of the Big-10's Top scoring offense. My main concern for the former Wildcat is that he has not been able to maintain a job. He has not held just 1 job for over 2 years, that being Illinois.

## 2003 University of Kentucky Defense Summary

As with most defenses the ability to stop the run usually dictates who wins and who loses. In the first 3 games of the 2003 season UK was exposed to be soft against the run. UofL gashed the Cats for 246 @ 5.5 ypc Alabama ran for 266 @ 5.0 ypc. Over the season Kentucky allowed 4.3 ypc. This is nearly 1/2 yard worse than the NCAA average. As the season progressed it appears that UK became worse at stopping the run. (1st 6 gms 4.1 ypc → 4.3 ypc last 6 gms). If you really break down what the UK Defense did it becomes very evident that the stats are very misleading. UK had a tough time early in the season as noted by UofL and Alabama. However, the reason the 2<sup>nd</sup> half looks to be worse is because following the 7OT's vs. Arkansas UK allowed Vandy's QB (of all people) to run wild. Vanderbilt was not a good running team on the season running for an average of 3.4 ypc excluding the UK game. Vandy's QB (Jay Cutler) also did nothing special to separate himself from other QB's. In all games excluding the UK game he rushed for a total of 170 yards on 104 attempts for a 1.63 ypc. In the UK game alone he ran for 129 yds on 11 attempts for an amazing 11.7 ypc.

Date	Opp	Results		
		pts	ypc	ypp
08/31/03	Louisville	40	5.5	6.3
09/13/03	Alabama	27	5.0	5.8
09/20/03	Indiana	17	4.0	5.7
09/27/03	Florida	24	3.2	5.6
10/09/03	SouthCarolin	27	3.9	4.8
10/18/03	Ohio	14	3.0	4.4
10/25/03	MississippiSt.	17	4.7	5.4
11/01/03	Arkansas	17	4.7	6.1
11/15/03	Vanderbilt	28	6.0	7.3
11/22/03	Georgia	30	3.3	5.3
11/29/03	Tennessee	20	4.2	4.2
1st 6 games		25	4.1	5.4
2nd 6 games		21	4.3	5.4
1st 6 gms Excluding vandy		25	4.09	5.4
2nd 6 gms Excluding vandy		20	3.99	5.1
<b>Excluding 1st 2 &amp; Vandy</b>		<b>21</b>	<b>3.9</b>	<b>5.2</b>

The Vanderbilt game separates itself from the others because it was the game that players did what they had not done all season or their entire career. Not only did Cutler have a career running the ball he also had a career best 83% completion rate. I think the running QB angle can happen to any defense especially in a game that the QB is hitting all passes. The Vanderbilt game has a simple answer- EMOTION. UK players clearly were playing with very little emotion and very little purpose, after all this was the game following the 7OT loss to Arkansas that all but eliminated any chance at a Bowl birth.

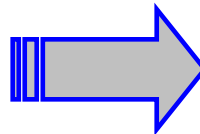
So looking back at the Run Defense of Kentucky, as expected it did improve over the season and it is better than most people believe. Excluding the 1<sup>st</sup> 3 games of the Season (Including Murray State) and Excluding the Vanderbilt meltdown. UK's Defense held opponents to a 3.9 ypc.

### BEAUTY OF KENTUCKY'S DEFENSE:

I found a very large separation in UK run defense performance. There are good to average games where they allow 3.0~4.2 ypc and then there are horrible games where UK allowed >4.7 ypc. In the games that UK allowed >4.7 the TEAM allowed an average of 27 pts/gm. In the games that UK held opponents < 4.7 UK allowed 22 pts/gm. So it seems that the key is for UK to perform "decently" and not allow teams over that 4.7 mark. I am not so sure that is the case! In those games that UK allowed > 4.7 they also allowed 23 pts to be scored by the offense and special teams. By eliminating these points you see the "Beauty" of the UK defense

Date	Opp	Results		
		pts	ypc	ypp
11/15/03	Vanderbilt	28	6.0	7.3
08/31/03	Louisville	40	5.5	6.3
09/13/03	Alabama	27	5.0	5.8
11/01/03	Arkansas	24	4.7	6.1
10/25/03	MississippiSt.	17	4.7	5.4
11/29/03	Tennessee	20	4.2	4.2
09/20/03	Indiana	17	4.0	5.7
10/09/03	SouthCarolina	27	3.9	4.8
11/22/03	Georgia	30	3.3	5.3
09/27/03	Florida	24	3.2	5.6
10/18/03	Ohio	14	3.0	4.4
Games allowed > 4.7 ypc		<b>27</b>	5.2	6.2
Games allowed < 4.7 ypc		<b>22</b>	3.6	5.0

Defensive Points only



Date	Opp	Results		
		pts	ypc	ypp
11/15/03	Vanderbilt	28	6.0	7.3
08/31/03	Louisville	24	5.5	6.3
09/13/03	Alabama	27	5.0	5.8
11/01/03	Arkansas	17	4.7	6.1
10/25/03	MississippiSt.	17	4.7	5.4
11/29/03	Tennessee	20	4.2	4.2
09/20/03	Indiana	17	4.0	5.7
10/09/03	SouthCarolina	27	3.9	4.8
11/22/03	Georgia	30	3.3	5.3
09/27/03	Florida	24	3.2	5.6
10/18/03	Ohio	14	3.0	4.4
Games allowed > 4.7 ypc		<b>23</b>	5.2	6.2
Games allowed < 4.7 ypc		<b>22</b>	3.6	5.0

22 ~ 23 points / game  
regardless the YPC

**2003 University of Louisville Offense Summary**

2003 was a magical season for the Cardinal offense. Since 1998 only 3 teams have been able to average over 7 Yards Per Play (YPP). Last year, along with Texas Tech Louisville nearly accomplished just that at 6.96 YPP. In 2001 BYU, Florida and Florida St. in 2000 were able to accomplish >7 YPP and those have been the only teams since 1998. In 2003 as the season progressed and the schedule became more difficult (see Sagarin rating), the Cardinals were able to improve each game in several key areas. (1<sup>st</sup> 7 games→2<sup>nd</sup> 7 Games). #1 YPP from 6.7→ 7.2 #2 Pts/Game improved from 34.6→36.4 #3 ypc 5.1→ 6.2 #4 QB ypc 5.2→ 7.5 #5 Total Yards 467→512. These are great accomplishments and are well noted through out College Football.

Date	Opponent	Sag	Pts	No	Rushing				OB				Passing				Total Off.			FD			
					Gain	Loss	Net	yds/ply	TD	No.	Gain	yds/rsh	sacked	Att	Comp	Int	Yds	Yds/att	TD		Plays	Total	yds/ply
08/31/03	Kentucky	71	40	44	251	11	240	5.5	3	4	19	4.8	1	23	14	1	180	7.8	1	67	420	6.3	22
09/13/03	Syracuse	73	30	39	194	9	185	4.7	0	5	34	6.8	0	25	16	1	266	10.6	3	64	451	7.0	18
09/20/03	UTEP	48	42	42	215	24	191	4.5	4	10	58	5.8	0	28	18	0	246	8.8	2	70	437	6.2	23
09/27/03	Temple	63	21	43	204	17	187	4.3	0	9	42	4.7	2	24	13	2	197	8.2	3	67	384	5.7	21
10/04/03	SouthFla.	63	28	42	201	14	187	4.5	2	10	25	2.5	2	41	20	2	272	6.6	2	83	459	5.5	19
10/11/03	Army	48	34	37	223	15	208	5.6	4	4	2	0.5	1	32	20	1	411	12.8	0	69	619	9.0	25
10/17/03	Tulane	59	47	42	296	8	288	6.9	5	6	70	11.7	0	28	17	0	212	7.6	0	70	500	7.1	20
10/25/03	EastCaro.	54	36	45	310	5	305	6.8	3	7	48	6.9	0	28	17	0	187	6.7	1	73	492	6.7	26
11/05/03	TCU	71	28	32	149	28	121	3.8	2	8	34	4.3	1	50	31	0	459	9.2	1	82	580	7.1	29
11/15/03	Memphis	71	7	27	96	39	57	2.1	1	8	4	0.5	3	31	13	1	159	5.1	0	58	216	3.7	12
11/22/03	Houston	64	66	52	448	3	445	8.6	7	3	22	7.3	0	31	24	0	334	10.8	2	83	779	9.4	37
11/28/03	Cincinnati	65	43	35	315	0	315	9.0	3	5	80	16.0	0	27	16	1	211	7.8	2	62	526	8.5	21
12/18/03	Miami(Ohio)	89	28	38	278	41	237	6.2	1	8	49	6.1	3	27	18	3	255	9.4	3	65	492	7.6	22
	Min	48	7	27	96	0	57	2	0	3	2	0.5	0	23	13	0	159	5.1	0	58	216	4	12
	Max	89	66	52	448	41	445	9	7	10	80	16.0	3	50	31	3	459	12.8	3	83	779	9	37
	Avg	65	35	40	245	16	228	6	3	7	37	6.0	1	30	18	1	261	8.6	2	70	489	6.9	23
	1st 7 gms	61	34.6	41	226	14	212	5.1	2	7	36	5.2	0.9	29	17	1.0	255	9.2	2	70	467	6.7	21
	2nd 7 gms	68	36.4	39	270	18	253	6.2	3	6	44	7.5	1.0	32	19	0.7	260	8.1	1	70	512	7.2	24

The UofL improvements were made even though the talent of the teams they were facing was getting better. The first 1/2 of the season you can see that UofL faced teams with an average Sagarin rating of 61 and the 2<sup>nd</sup> half an average of 68

Have you ever heard the phrase? "You can't stop them you can only hope to contain them".

At over 5.6 Yards Per Carry UofL was by far the elite rushing team in the NCAA. In fact over the 2<sup>nd</sup> half of the season UofL's 6.2 YPC is over 2 yards better than the NCAA average. As noted on the cart to the right, in games that UofL was held below their average they were still able to average 28 pts/gm. (4 pts over the NCAA avg.).

Of these games let it be noted that UofL was 4-3. But that was more a result of poor defense rather than a stagnant offense.

Date	Opponent	Pts	Rushing		
			No	Net	yds/rsh
11/15/03	Memphis	7	27	57	2.1
11/05/03	TCU	28	32	121	3.8
09/27/03	Temple	21	43	187	4.3
10/04/03	SouthFla.	28	42	187	4.5
09/20/03	UTEP	42	42	191	4.5
09/13/03	Syracuse	30	39	185	4.7
08/31/03	Kentucky	40	44	240	5.5
10/11/03	Army	34	37	208	5.6
12/18/03	Miami(Ohi)	28	38	237	6.2
10/25/03	EastCaro.	36	45	305	6.8
10/17/03	Tulane	47	42	288	6.9
11/22/03	Houston	66	52	445	8.6
11/28/03	Cincinnati	43	35	315	9.0
	1st 7 gms	28.0	38	167	4.2
	2nd 7 gms	42.3	42	291	6.9

### Even great teams have a weakness.

As great as the UofL offense was in 2003 it also has 1 very glaring weakness. This is a weakness. Going into the 2003 season, UofL had to replace 2 starters from the Offensive line that allowed 46 sacks and only just 3.1 YPC. 2003 the Cardinal offense made a remarkable improvement of 33 less sacks allowed. This was accomplished with the previously mentioned running game and also by using several rollouts (waggles), 3 step drops and shotguns. The idea of the offense is to utilize the strength of the QB (quickness) to minimize the weakness of the offensive line. During the 2003 game UofL had 23 pass attempts and 19 were of the nature listed above. After reviewing last year's box scores from this angle one can see what exactly Petrino was concerned with.

### GAMES UOFL ALLOWS 2 OR MORE SACKS VS LESS THAN 2 SACKS.

- Pts/Gm 41 → 21 (20 point difference)
- Ypc 6.1 → 4.3 (1.9 YPC difference)
- QB Ypc 7.1 → 3.4 (3.7 YPC difference)
- Int/Gm 0.4 → 2.0 (1.6 Int/gm more)
- Yds/Play 7.5 → 5.6 (1.8 yards difference)

Date	Opponent	Sag	Pts	Rushing					QB				Passing				Total Off.				FD		
				No	Gain	Loss	Net	yds/ply	TD	No.	Gain	yds/rsh	sacked	Att	Comp	Int	Yds	Yds/att	TD	Plays		Yds	yds/ply
09/20/03	UTEP	48	42	42	215	24	191	4.5	4	10	58	5.8	0	28	18	0	246	8.8	2	70	437	6.2	23
10/25/03	EastCaro.	54	36	45	310	5	305	6.8	3	7	48	6.9	0	28	17	0	187	6.7	1	73	492	6.7	26
10/17/03	Tulane	59	47	42	296	8	288	6.9	5	6	70	11.7	0	28	17	0	212	7.6	0	70	500	7.1	20
11/22/03	Houston	64	66	52	448	3	445	8.6	7	3	22	7.3	0	31	24	0	334	10.8	2	83	779	9.4	37
11/28/03	Cincinnati	65	43	35	315	0	315	9.0	3	5	80	16.0	0	27	16	1	211	7.8	2	62	526	8.5	21
09/13/03	Syracuse	73	30	39	194	9	185	4.7	0	5	34	6.8	0	25	16	1	266	10.6	3	64	451	7.0	18
10/11/03	Army	48	34	37	223	15	208	5.6	4	4	2	0.5	1	32	20	1	411	12.8	0	69	619	9.0	25
08/31/03	Kentucky	71	40	44	251	11	240	5.5	3	4	19	4.8	1	23	14	1	180	7.8	1	67	420	6.3	22
11/05/03	TCU	71	28	32	149	28	121	3.8	2	8	34	4.3	1	50	31	0	459	9.2	1	82	580	7.1	29
09/27/03	Temple	63	21	43	204	17	187	4.3	0	9	42	4.7	2	24	13	2	197	8.2	3	67	384	5.7	21
10/04/03	SouthFla.	63	28	42	201	14	187	4.5	2	10	25	2.5	2	41	20	2	272	6.6	2	83	459	5.5	19
11/15/03	Memphis	71	7	27	96	39	57	2.1	1	8	4	0.5	3	31	13	1	159	5.1	0	58	216	3.7	12
12/18/03	Miami(Ohio)	89	28	38	278	41	237	6.2	1	8	49	6.1	3	27	18	3	255	9.4	3	65	492	7.6	22
Min		48	7	27	96	0	57	2	0	3	2	0.5	0	23	13	0	159	5.1	0	58	216	3.7	12
Max		89	66	52	448	41	445	9	7	10	80	16.0	3	50	31	3	459	12.8	3	83	779	9.4	37
Avg		65	35	40	245	16	228	6	3	7	37	6.0	1	30	18	1	261	8.6	2	70	489	6.9	23
≤ 2 sacks allowed		61	41	41	267	11	255	6.1	3	6	41	7.1	0.3	30	19	0.4	278	9.1	1	71	534	7.5	25
≥ 2 sacks allowed		71	21	38	195	28	167	4.3	1	9	30	3.4	2.5	31	16	2.0	221	7.4	2	68	388	5.6	19
Difference			-20					-1.9				-3.7				1.6						-1.8	

#### Key to the game:

Last year it was uncertain how UofL would use LeFors in a running capacity. However, after the UK game it was very clear that LeFors was as effective with his legs as his arm. In 2003 this will not be as easy. In games that LeFors was held in check UofL had over 6 less 1<sup>st</sup> downs and opponents created more 3<sup>rd</sup> downs opportunity's to get off the field.

**2003 Flashback:** With 11:00 minutes to play and UofL leading 26-24. UofL was 4<sup>th</sup> down and 3 on the UK 25-yard line. LeFors scrambles for a 3-yard gain and a 1<sup>st</sup> down.

**Next Play:** Eric Shelton runs for a 22 yard TD and a 33-24 lead.

Date	Opponent	QB YPC yds/rsh	FD Total	3rd down	
				conv	att
09/20/03	UTEP	5.8	23	10	15
10/25/03	EastCaro.	6.9	26	7	14
10/17/03	Tulane	11.7	20	5	13
11/22/03	Houston	7.3	37	6	10
11/28/03	Cincinnati	16.0	21	2	8
09/13/03	Syracuse	6.8	18	7	14
10/11/03	Army	0.5	25	3	11
08/31/03	Kentucky	4.8	22	6	13
11/05/03	TCU	4.3	29	8	17
09/27/03	Temple	4.7	21	4	13
10/04/03	SouthFla.	2.5	19	6	20
11/15/03	Memphis	0.5	12	3	13
12/18/03	Miami(Ohio)	6.1	22	4	11
≤ 2 sacks allowed		7.1	25	6	12.8
≥ 2 sacks allowed		3.4	19	4	14.3
Difference		-3.7	-6.1	-1.8	1.5

## TALENT COMPARISON

Again is 2004 as in the past few seasons I continue to hear talk about talent. Because of the Cardinals success in "head to head" battle with UK in recent years, the overall "opinion" is that UofL has better talent than UK. UK is considered to have little talent and depth, while UofL is considered to have good talent and depth. But as with Wins-Loss records, talent is relevant to the competition you face. (There is NO common denominator for UK and UofL) Because of this, the talent comparison goes back to "head to head" battle and nothing else. I am here to evaluate the talents based on several methods. (Head to head, Power Rating's (Sagarin's &"gg") and my personal 2 deep player rating's)

### ① HEAD TO HEAD

Many UK and UofL fans are using the recent history of "head to head" to say UofL has better talent. I am a believer that neither team has much of an advantage over the other. What is considered recent? For the purpose of measuring talent I will eliminate any past season that does not have current players on it. Shane Boyd and Bobby Leffew were both part of the 2000 game so I will start there.

#### Recent History of UK/UofL series:

Year	Winner	Score	Notes
2003	UofL	40-24	1 <sup>st</sup> game for Brooks, Petrino, Lightning Bowl#2, 2 Special teams goofs
2002	UK	22-17	Smith and Ragone's last season, Morris 2 <sup>nd</sup> season. UofL K/O return TD
2001	UofL	36-10	Morris 1 <sup>st</sup> game. Boyd RFR came in late, Riley out 1 <sup>st</sup> half
2000	UofL	40-34 2OT	Debut of Ragone and Lorenzen, Lightning Bowl #1. 2yd FG missed by UK @ end of Regulation
1999	UofL	28-56	Bonner debut vs. Redman
1998	UK	68-34	Couch Jr year,

The 2000 game seems like it was years ago, maybe that is the case because we have seen a total of 5 head coaches participate? However, the story of the game was the inability of UK to score from the goal line in regulation and then the inability to execute the equivalent of an extra point. Nonetheless that game marked the demise of then Head Coach Hal Mumme. From a talent standpoint a double OT game seems to mark the similarities of the 2 teams talent levels.

The next 2 seasons combine for some boring discussion from a talent standpoint. 2001 game was competitive during the 1<sup>st</sup> half and a blow out in the 2<sup>nd</sup>. 2001 the UofL team went 11-2 and won the liberty bowl. 2001 was the 1<sup>st</sup> season was the 1<sup>st</sup> season of NCAA sanctions that UK won just 2 games but did build a foundation for 2002. 2002 on the other hand seemed to be the year expectation had NO chance. UofL was expected to "possibly challenge" the BCS system with an undefeated season and UK was expected to win NO more than what the "non-Conference" scheduled offered. Broderick Clark's 2<sup>nd</sup> Half TD return kept the Cards closer than the final score indicated in the 5 point UK win which catapulted UK to a 7-5 "Non-Bowl appearance" finish for UK and a 7-5 GMAC Bowl loss for UofL.

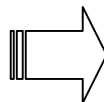
With both schools getting good victories in 2001 or 2002 and the 2000 game being a 2OT game, there clearly is not a talent advantage to either team. Fair or not, that only leaves the 2003 game and season as our only talent metric. Looking at the 2003 game on the surface it is easy to surmise that UofL has much better talent because they won 40-24. However, once you look beneath the surface it is easier to see that also in 2003 there was not a talent difference in the two teams. With just over 8:00 minutes to play Josh Minkins of Louisville intercepted a Jared Lorenzen pass at the UofL 2 yard line to seal the game for the Cardinals. At that stage of the game it can be debated who had the better talent. The score was 33-26 and Louisville had scored 16 points off UK miscues. It can be debated that the UK miscues were a result of superior talent or nothing but bad luck. Halfway in the 1<sup>st</sup> Quarter of the season the Shane Boyd experiment had taken root. Un-fortunately for UK fans it was not as the UK coaching staff had envisioned. With over 7 minutes to go in the 1<sup>st</sup> Quarter UK had started a solid drive by moving 21 yards in 4 plays when Shane Boyd did a 3 step drop and fired a shot out into the right flat, where Gavin Smart returned an interception 41 yards to set up a 2 play 4 yard drive that gave the Cardinals a 14-0 lead. Not to take anything away from Smart, this play could have been made by any player on either team. What made this play so easy was the short zone defense that UofL was in when Boyd was under center. All game when Jared Lorenzen was in the game the UofL corners were playing 12~15 yards off the line, not with Boyd under center. Though it was a miscue by UK we cannot say the same result would not have happened had UK punted and UofL drove down the field for a conventional score. (NCAA D1A a total of 46,154 total pass attempts, 492 were intercepted and returned for more than 10 yards, 172 were Intercepted and returned for more than 40 yards). The second UK miscue came early in the 2<sup>nd</sup> Quarter when at their own 46 UK's Ray Fontaine allowed JR Russell up the middle with NO contact. (Complete mis-assignment) Not only was this punt blocked it was blocked half the length of the field and settled in the End Zone. Out of 1681 total snaps, UK was flagged for 81 infractions, starting the 2<sup>nd</sup> half 1 of these turned out to be more critical than initially thought. This 4<sup>th</sup> & 8 Illegal procedure play nullified a perfect snap and catch by long snapper and punter, which was not the

case on the following play. On 4<sup>th</sup> & 13 play Punter Sevin Sucurovic dropped a perfectly place snap that hit directly between the numbers, UK was fortunate to only have a safety as a result of this complete debacle.

**(Smart Interception)**

**Stats at 8:00 minutes left in game:**

Statistic	Louisville	Kentucky
Score	33	24
First Down	17	21
Total Yards	328	344
Rush	182	108
Passing	146	236
Yds/Pt	10	14.3
3 <sup>rd</sup> down	3-10	8-14



**Final game stats:**

Statistic	Louisville	Kentucky
Score	40	24
First Down	22	21
Total Yards	420	344
Rush	240	108
Passing	180	236
Yds/Pt	10.5	14.3
3 <sup>rd</sup> down	6-13	8-14

This area shows just how close the game actually was minus the mental errors by the UK Punting teams. Prior to the INT by Lorenzen the game was very even which supports my original argument that 'talent' is not a reason that either of these teams will win or lose the 2004 Governors cup.

**② POWER RATING's**

Since before the rebirth of the Governors cup, UK and UofL fans have made a consistent argument that UofL is better based on overall record and UK fans play point to the SEC vs. CUSA. Which argument is correct? In my opinion both! You can't compare wins and losses accurately with out considering the opponent. The Daddy that can do 25 Pull ups only weighs 185lbs while the daddy that can only do 20 weighs 230lbs. Both are lifting a total of 4625lbs by the end? Until the two try to lift the same exact weights we don't know who is stronger? Jeff Sagarin makes "Power Rating's" that will set each teams schedule equal to each other and measure the value of their performance. A Power Rating's is simple to understand it is a ratio of performance vs. level of your competition.

$$\frac{\text{PERFORMANCE}}{\text{COMPETITION}} = \text{POWER RATING}$$

**SAGARIN RATING's**

Jeff Sagarin offers these rating's for all major sports and they can be seen at.

<http://www.usatoday.com/sports/sagarin/fbt03.htm>

As he states in his explanation, there are several 'types' of rating's however, to measure a teams ability vs. another the best method is to use the "predictor" method. I have listed where both UK and UofL were ranked at the end of the 2003 season. Also I have included several teams for reference, including most SEC and CUSA teams. Based on what Jeff Sagarin uses these two teams are just as I expected. "VERY SIMILAR" in talent.

RK	Team	Rating	RK	Team	Rating
1	Oklahoma	96.84	60	Memphis	71.1
2	LSU	96.33	61	TCU	70.88
3	Southern Cal	95.07	62	Kentucky	70.82
4	Florida St.	92.07	65	Louisville	70.59
5	Michigan	89.73	81	Duke	66.08
8	Georgia	89.13	85	Cincinnati	64.95
13	Auburn	85.79	86	Vanderbilt	64.84
14	Arkansas	84.94	90	Houston	63.75
15	Mississippi	84.69	93	UAB	63.1
20	Florida	83.46	94	South Flor	63.04
25	Tennessee	82.65	96	Temple	62.61
36	Alabama	78.17	115	Tulane	58.96
48	South Carolina	74.03	116	Mississippi	58.96
57	Southern Miss	71.63	119	Indiana	58.26

**POWER RATING #2**

Another method that will use will be very simple Power Rating calculation method. I will use the Jeff Sagarin Rating as my competition (Strength of Schedule) value and add the margin of the game to get a rating for that single game. I will do this for each game played and then take an average value. **Example:** LSU and Oklahoma played in the Sugar Bowl and LSU won 21-14. For that game LSU played to a Rating of 103.84 (7+96.84 = 103.84) Oklahoma played to an 89.33 rating. (-7+96.33). Get the idea. (P.S.- This works well with College Hoops, especially if you separate Home and Away games) As you can see UofL came out slightly higher in this metric system 70.6 vs. 69.7. The strength of schedule is shown by the YTD AVG rating under the OPP Rating column. UK's schedule is drastically reduced by Murray State. Had UK beat them like they should have this would not matter. With out that Rating UK's schedule strength is 72 instead of 69.

LOUISVILLE					
Opponent	Pts For	Pts vs	Marg	Opp Rating	PR
Kentucky	40	24	16	70.8	86.8
Syracuse	30	20	10	71.79	818
UTEP	42	14	28	46.86	74.9
Temple	21	12	9	56.93	65.9
South Fla.	28	31	-3	65.4	62.4
Army	34	10	24	44.2	68.2
Tulane	47	28	19	60.2	79.2
East Caro.	36	20	16	51.2	67.2
TCU	28	31	-3	74.5	71.5
Memphis	7	37	-30	71.9	41.9
Houston	66	45	21	64.9	85.9
Cincinnati	43	40	3	64.9	67.9
Miami (Ohio)	28	49	-21	90.6	69.6
<b>YTD AVERAGE</b>	35	28	6.8	64.2	71.0

KENTUCKY					
Opponent	Pts For	Pts vs	Marg	Opp Rating	PR
Louisville	24	40	-16	70.6	54.6
Murray St.	37	6	31	37.63	68.6
Alabama	17	27	-10	74.31	64.3
Indiana	34	17	17	56.87	73.9
Florida	21	24	-3	83.62	80.6
South Carolina	21	27	-6	73.55	67.6
Ohio	35	14	21	53.32	74.3
Mississippi St.	42	17	25	59.63	84.6
Arkansas	63	71	-8	84.07	76.1
Vanderbilt	17	28	-11	61.16	50.2
Georgia	10	30	-20	90.67	70.7
Tennessee	7	20	-13	84.01	71
<b>YTD AVERAGE</b>	27	27	0.6	69	69.7

### 2003 POWER RATING SUMMARY:

	UK	UofL
Sagarin	70.8	71
GG PR	69.7	70.6

**No Major advantage!**

### Player Rating's (see my 2002 summary for deeper explanation)

For 3 years now I have been developing a system for measuring all DIV1A teams talent for each player on the 2 deep depth charts. I have done by using the Phil Steele PS player by position rankings and modifying them based on years of experience, on field performance, (I.e. 1<sup>st</sup> team All American, All conference or Honorable mention) along with an adjustment for what position they play. The reason for the position adjustment is it prevent players at QB & TE from adding too much the overall teams rating based on only 1 player being on the field, likewise prevent the Offensive lineman from being "under-weighted" in a teams overall ranking.

#### How to use these rating's

Along with Coaching, Emotion, Chemistry and luck, talent obviously is a key ingredient to a good football team. Like Papa John's Pizza, "better Ingredient, Better Pizza". It can be said here. But don't be fooled it is not all in the "topping's". The criteria for these numbers are simple, the lower the number the better the rating. However, these numbers do not account for Home field advantage. Very simply match-up the two teams and see who has the lowest numbers. For those of you Vegas types I'll let in on something. Last year during the Non-Conference season (1<sup>st</sup> 4 weeks) the Numbers showed a positive profit of +12 games when you have an underdog that has better talent.

#### 2004 UK vs. UofL (Lowest is best)

Just as most would expect UofL has advantage on offense and UK's Defense has the advantage. Overall UK was able to edge out UofL by a small margin. On this rating scale the -308 advantage that I show to UK is not much at all. The 308 pt margin is about the same margin as home field advantage. Along with all other talent metrics that I have shown this one also tends to show that "talent" is not the Root Cause for victory or defeat.

#### Past Performance:

As stated I have been doing these for 3 years now. However, I have only tracked the performance the last 2 years below is a breakdown over that same time frame.

Gr	POS	UK	UofL	Edge
Off	QB	143	148	--
	RB	147	77	UofL
	FB	112	154	UK
	WR	332	262	UofL
	TE	274	341	UK
	OL	762	738	UK
Def	DL	510	643	UK
	LB	439	662	UK
	DB	494	497	--
<b>Total</b>		<b>3214</b>	3522	<b>-308</b>
<b>Offense</b>		1771	<b>1720</b>	UofL
<b>Defense</b>		<b>1444</b>	1802	UK

WINNING % Based Talent Margin								
WIN/Lose	Total	250	500	1000	1500	2000	2500	More
WIN	439	55	59	103	75	49	34	70
LOSE	258	58	46	41	45	23	6	8
697 gms	63%	49%	56%	72%	63%	68%	85%	90%

#### TALENT CONCLUSION:

I have used several different methods to measure "talent" Yet I have not found any reason to believe that either team has an advantage over the other. The winner of this game will not be based on talent.

## SEASON FORECAST

I have always used two systems to forecast the final wins for teams. This year I have added a 3<sup>rd</sup>. Talent #1 is a summary of each teams talent as is #2(Is a new system that I am hoping is a little better than #1. PR system is my pre-season Power Rating system that forecast scores. For Talent #1 and #2 the Criteria is simple the lower the number the better. Talent #1 is the margin between teams is with in 500 the game could go either way. #2 if the numbers are within 250 the games also could go either way.

## LOUISVILLE

	Team	Conf	Talent #1	Talent #2	PR Score	Talent #1	Talent #2	PR Score
Road	Kentucky	SEC	7192	3214	27	LOSS	LOSS	LOSS
Home	Louisville	USA	8005	3559	24			
Road	Louisville	USA	8005	3559	40	WIN	WIN	WIN
Home	Army	USA	16000	6175	17			
Road	Louisville	USA	8005	3559	46	WIN	WIN	WIN
Home	Tulane	USA	8637	3923	27			
Road	Louisville	USA	8005	3559	34	LOSS	LOSS	WIN
Home	NorthCarolina	ACC	4571	2451	28			
Road	EastCaro.	USA	10269	4016	14	WIN	WIN	WIN
Home	Louisville	USA	8005	3559	46			
Road	Louisville	USA	8005	3559	28	LOSS	LOSS	LOSS
Home	Miami(Fla.)	ACC	3069	2112	42			
Road	SouthFla.	USA	8744	3969	16	WIN	WIN	WIN
Home	Louisville	USA	8005	3559	27			
Road	Louisville	USA	8005	3559	27	LOSS	LOSS	LOSS
Home	Memphis	USA	6995	2814	32			
Road	TCU	USA	8123	3541	21	WIN	LOSS	WIN
Home	Louisville	USA	8005	3559	35			
Road	Louisville	USA	8005	3559	46	WIN	WIN	WIN
Home	Houston	USA	9450	3862	33			
Road	Cincinnati	USA	8134	3429	25	WIN	LOSS	WIN
Home	Louisville	USA	8005	3559	34			
Final Season record forecast						<b>7-5</b>	<b>6-6</b>	<b>8-4</b>

My Personal feeling is that Louisville will finish with 8 WINS (Same as PR system)

## KENTUCKY

	Team	Conf	Talent #1	Talent #2	PR Score	Talent #1	Talent #2	PR Score
Road	Kentucky	SEC	7192	3214	27	WIN	WIN	WIN
Home	Louisville	USA	8005	3559	24			
Road	Indiana	BIG10	8941	4124	17	WIN	WIN	WIN
Home	Kentucky	SEC	7192	3214	35			
Road	Kentucky	SEC	7192	3214	21	LOSS	LOSS	LOSS
Home	Florida	SEC	3352	2084	27			
Road	Ohio	MAC	12809	4985	24	WIN	WIN	WIN
Home	Kentucky	SEC	7192	3214	40			
Road	Alabama	SEC	5635	2725	21	LOSS	LOSS	WIN
Home	Kentucky	SEC	7192	3214	28			
Road	SouthCarolina	SEC	4725	2247	23	LOSS	LOSS	WIN
Home	Kentucky	SEC	7192	3214	27			
Road	Kentucky	SEC	7192	3214	21	LOSS	LOSS	LOSS
Home	Auburn	SEC	5001	2359	25			
Road	Kentucky	SEC	7192	3214	37	LOSS	LOSS	WIN
Home	MississippiSt.	SEC	6517	3092	21			
Road	Georgia	SEC	4221	2294	33	LOSS	LOSS	LOSS
Home	Kentucky	SEC	7192	3214	17			
Road	Vanderbilt	SEC	9427	3696	21	WIN	WIN	WIN
Home	Kentucky	SEC	7192	3214	28			
Road	Kentucky	SEC	7192	3214	20	LOSS	LOSS	LOSS
Home	Tennessee	SEC	2822	1848	24			
Final Season record forecast						<b>4-8</b>	<b>4-8</b>	<b>7-5</b>

I believe Kentucky will finish the Season with 6 WINS. UofL, IU, Ohio, Alabama, Mississippi State & Vanderbilt