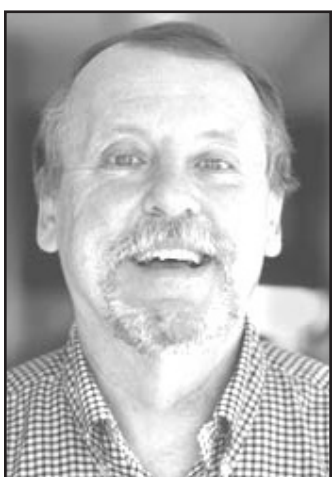


# More Exciting Watching Him Play at Kentucky



Larry Vaught

In four years with the Green Bay Packers, Randall Cobb has had 335 receptions for 4,214 yards and 33 touchdowns. Cobb also has a 108-yard kickoff return for the Packers.

The former University of Kentucky star signed a four-year, \$40 million contract to stay with the Packers before the 2015 season. Yet you might be surprised to know that his mother, Tina Cobb, still thinks it was more exciting to watch him play when he was at UK than it is in the NBA.

"I always watch him play because you never know what might happen in a game," Tina Cobb said. "But it was just more exciting when he was in college. I felt like in college, everybody's heart was really in it. In the NFL, they are out to hurt each other. I just think about that all the time. I don't want him to get hurt.

"In college, they have more sympathy for you than the NFL level. In college, they don't want to really hurt you. It's more intentional in the NFL than the college level. You can really get hurt in the NFL."

She doesn't go to many NFL games. For one reason, it's easier to watch games on TV. But there's also another major reason.

"It is hard to sit and listen to the critics (fans) and people talk about your son when things do not go your way and you are not able to defend your child. It's just easier to watch on TV," she said. "Everybody seems to be more worried about fantasy football than the person individually."

She admits her son's NFL success has been "unbelievable" and how her son dreamed of something like this happening.

"I remember when he was in college and I had moved to Kentucky briefly and we were out together. He said, 'Mom, if I had the opportunity to go to the NFL before my senior year, would you be okay with that?' I was like if that is what you want to do, fine. But in the back of mind I was not thinking that was going to happen because he was so little. But he had his mind made up. He left UK after his junior year and it worked out fine," she said.

Part of the reason why is his relationship with Green Bay quarterback Aaron Rodgers. The all-pro quarterback even came to Cobb's recent graduation at UK.

"Aaron is unbelievable. Their relationship is more than on the field," Tina Cobb said. "They do a lot of things together. They have gone on vacations together. They spend a lot of quality time together. They have a friendship and special bond.

"He is like a big brother to Randall and Randall is like a little brother to him. I watch them in games and on the sidelines and I can see Aaron tell him it is okay if he makes a mistake and is being too hard on himself."

Still, even though Randall Cobb's graduation at Kentucky Derby weekend,

Tina Cobb never thought about Rodgers being a the Derby and then coming to Lexington for the graduation.

"I was so surprised when Randall said Aaron would be there. Trust me, I was not thinking it would be that Aaron," she laughed and said.

## Women get a Boost

After a run of player and assistant coach departures along with de-commitments from recruits, the Kentucky women's basketball program got a needed boost from the signing of Memphis point guard Jaida Roper last week.

The 5-7 Roper averaged 13.2 points, 5.2 assists, 4.1 rebounds and 2.8 steals per game as a senior when her team set a school record with 27 wins. She had over 1,500 points in her career and helped Houston High School win 96 games in her four seasons. She scored 22 points in the state championship game as a senior and was named the tournament's most valuable player.

Roper didn't know a lot about the Kentucky women's program until recently after she was released from her commitment to Louisiana Tech. However, she knew plenty about the UK men's program because she grew up a fan of coach John Calipari when he was at Memphis.

"I was a big fan of John Calipari. My favorite team was when D (Derrick) Rose was there," Roper said. "It was a dream of mine to be at a school where he coached. I told coach (Matthew) Mitchell that before I even came to visit.

"This is all so surreal. People told me I could never do something like this because of my size. They said I would be a mid-major player because of my size. That's why I love (former UK point guard) Tyler Ulis so much. He is a great point guard. A lot won't say it because of his size, but he is. If he can do what he did, there's no reason I can't do it."

She also is looking forward to playing with one particular returning player.

"I look forward to playing with everyone, but everybody has told me how much I am going to like playing with Makayla (Epps), so I can't wait for that," Roper said.

She's also not worried about what has happened in recent weeks with the UK program.

"I have a lot of faith in coach Mitchell. I feel that he is a great person and even better coach," Roper said.

## Straight to the NBA

Two years ago it was Thon Maker that Kentucky was recruiting. Eventually, it was his teammate -- Jamal Murray -- who ended up at Kentucky last season while Maker stayed in high school in Canada.

However, basketball fans in the Bluegrass got to see him play a lot the last two years in Lexington, Marshall County and McCracken County.

Now he's going straight to the NBA, something he could do because of his age.

So what does ESPN draft analyst Fran Fraschilla see in the future for Maker and the draft?

"Wild card. He's a very mature 19-year-old. It's the best way I could put it. He's long and athletic. I've gotten to know him. I run the Under Armour summer camps and he was a camper there last summer. He seems like a terrific kid.

He plays with a high motor. His skill level is not at the NBA level right now, and I could see him going anywhere from 20 to 45 (in the draft)," Fraschilla said.

Murray could go in the top five, a spot two years ago that many thought would be where Maker would be.

## Not About Rebuilding

Kentucky native Rick Stansbury says he won't be about rebuilding at Western Kentucky. Instead, Western's new head basketball coach wants players that can help the Hilltoppers win immediately just like players at Kentucky and Louisville are expected to do.

Stansbury was an assistant coach and then head coach at Mississippi State. His most recent job before coming to Western was as assistant coach at Texas A&M.

"I want the same type players I had at Mississippi State and Texas A&M here. At the end of the year, we all play in the same tournament," Stansbury said. "I didn't have McDonald's All-Americans at Mississippi State and won. I want SEC players. I want guys who believe they can be pros and compete against teams like Kentucky and Louisville.

"I want the same players Kentucky and Louisville wants. I have got to hope they look at a kid and maybe hold off to get a McDonald's All-American and then that kid makes a commitment to me and turns out to be as good as that McDonald's kid. Those kids exist, too. There are always kids in this state who become terrific players in college. Kids don't have to leave this state for Wichita, Butler, Xavier or VCU. Western Kentucky has more tradition than all those programs and I see no reason we can't be really successful here."

Those in-state players could include some UK might target next year like John Calipari did three years ago with Derek Willis and Dominique Hawkins. The Cats could lose anywhere from five to nine players off next year's team and even with Calipari's recruiting prowess, he could easily target several in-state players in the 2017 class.

## Goodbye Matthews

After Kentucky won the Southeastern Conference Tournament championship, freshman guard Charles Matthews sat in the locker room with the net around his neck and the trophy on his lap.

"It's a great feeling. You put all egos aside to win championships. There's no better feeling than this," said Matthews in mid-March.

He averaged just 1.7 points, 1.6 rebounds and 10.3 minutes in 36 games with three starts for the Wildcats last season. However, he noted that he saw how former AAU teammate Tyler Ulis benefited from his freshman year at UK and then blossomed into a star as a sophomore.

"My first year has been great. I could not ask for a better situation," Matthews said then. "I am learning so much. I have been through a lot of bumps and bruises but it is all part of the process, part of the journey. We got the SEC championship and I just want to gain more confidence and use the experience I got this year to become a much better player."

However, last week he announced he was trans-



Tina Cobb could not be prouder of her son, Randall. He recently went through graduation at UK and has a \$40-million NFL contract. But Tina Cobb says she enjoyed watching him more at UK than in the NFL.

ferring from Kentucky.

Matthews, who averaged 22 points per game in high school, was an energy guy. He prided himself on defense and rebounding. His athleticism and skills had made him a recruiting target for Michigan State before he picked UK.

"We are all competitors and want to be in the battle but you have to maximize your opportunity and watch and learn," Matthews told me in March. "At the end of the day, this is what I love. Sometimes we look at the job, business aspects of it too much and lose that joy of the game. I just try to have fun. I just love playing."

Just not at Kentucky any longer.

**AT RIGHT: Memphis point guard Jaida Roper is not worried about past defections from coach Matthew Mitchell's team. Instead, her focus will be solely on winning.**



## GOVERNMENT FORECLOSURE SALE

WEDNESDAY, JUNE 8, 2016 2:00 P.M.  
AT 493 WALL ST., IRVINE, KY 40336  
OF HOUSE AND LOT  
493 WALL ST., IRVINE, KY 40336



This is a nice three bedroom home on city water and city sewer. It is well located in a quiet neighborhood. It consists of a living room, kitchen, three bedrooms, and one bath. This property is considered suitable for the Rural Development Housing Program. This would be an excellent buy for an investor interested in rental property or for resale after minor repairs.

An open house will be held on June 08, 2016 from 1:00 pm - 2:00 pm.

The minimum acceptable bid for this property is \$30,150.00.

Payments of the current year's property taxes are the responsibility of the purchaser.

Clear title to this property is not warranted. The U.S. Marshal's Deed is not a general warranty deed. Buyers are advised to have the property's title examined. Written notification regarding encumbrances on the property must be made to the Nicholasville Rural Development Office within 30 days.

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## LEGAL NOTICE

Notice is hereby given that on June 08, 2016, at 2:00 PM, at 493 Wall St., Irvine, Kentucky, in order to raise the principal sum of \$39,928.06, with accrued interest of \$2,209.23 through May 21, 2013, with total subsidy granted of \$46,948.88, with fees assessed of \$919.37, for a total unpaid balance due of \$90,005.54. Interest is accruing on the unpaid principal balance at the rate of \$8.1039 per day after May 21, 2013, until the date of entry of the Judgment, plus interest on the Judgement amount, (principal plus interest to the date of Judgment plus the interest credit subsidy granted) at the rate of 0.10%, computed daily and compounded annually, until paid in full and for the costs of this action, pursuant to Judgment and Order of Sale, being Civil Action No. 5:13-cv-00417-JMH on the Lexington Division of the United States District Court for the Eastern District of Kentucky, entered on May 07, 2014, in the case of United States of America vs. ADAM HARRISON, et al. following described property will be sold to the highest and best bidder:

A certain tract or parcel of land lying and being in Estill County, Kentucky, on the south side of Wall Street, more particularly described as follows: Beginning at an iron pin set on the south side of Wall Street and located 15 feet south of the centerline of Wall Street, said iron pin south 74-42-50 west, 677.60 feet from the northeast corner of the James B. Harrison property (a set stone, found); thence dividing the property of James B. Harrison three (3) calls in all: south 6-45-19 west, 22.50 feet to an iron pin (set), south 87-49-46 west, 200.00 feet to an iron pin (set), north 4-42-01 east, 220.65 feet to an iron pin set on the south side of Wall Street, 15 feet south of the centerline of same; thence with the south line of Wall Street 15 feet from the centerline of the same, two (2) calls in all: south 86-54-21 east, 120.47 feet to an iron pin (set), north 80-12-47 east, 88.95 feet to the beginning containing 1.00 acres, more or less, by deed dated May 29, 1993, and recorded in Deed Book 203, Page 312, Estill County Court Clerk's Office, Irvine, Kentucky.

TERMS OF SALE: Ten percent (10%) of the bid price (in the form of a Cashier's Check made payable to the U.S. Marshal) on the day of the sale with good and sufficient bond for the balance, bearing interest at the rate of 0.10% per annum until paid, due and payable in 60 days and said bond having the effect of a Judgment. Upon a default by the Purchaser, the deposit shall be forfeited and retained by the U.S. Marshal as a part of the Proceeds of the sale, and the property shall again be offered for sale subject to confirmation by the Court.

This sale shall be in bar and foreclosure of all right, title, interest, estate claim, demand or equity of redemption of the defendant(s) and of all persons claiming by, through, under or against them, provided the purchase price is equal to two-thirds of the appraised value. If the purchase price is not equal to two-thirds of the appraised value, the Deed shall contain in a lien in favor of the defendant (s) reflecting the right of the defendant(s) to redeem during the period provided by law (KRS 426.530). Under law, the purchaser is deemed to be on notice of all matters affecting the property of record in the local County Clerk's Office.

Inquiries should be directed to:  
John Johnson,  
RURAL DEVELOPMENT AREA OFFICE  
Shelbyville, Kentucky  
Telephone: 859-881-4469 Ext. 4