**Kentucky Women’s Basketball Postgame Notes**

**FINAL:  #18/18 Kentucky 71, Vanderbilt 55**

**Memorial Gymnasium – Nashville, Tenn.**

**Feb. 14, 2016**

**Team Records and Series Notes**

* Kentucky and Vanderbilt met for the 51st time in program history on Sunday with the Wildcats securing a 71-55 victory. VU holds the all-time lead in the series, 28-23.
* The win moves Kentucky to 17-6 on the season, including a 6-6 record in SEC play. Vanderbilt is now 15-10, 4-8 in the league.
* The win avenges Kentucky’s loss to Vanderbilt earlier in the season.
* Matthew Mitchell is in his ninth season as the Kentucky head coach and sits 211-87 during that tenure with a 241-116 record overall.
* Kentucky returns to action on Thursday as they travel to No. 10/11 Mississippi State for a 7 p.m. ET showdown on the SEC Network.

**Game Notes**

* Kentucky used the starting lineup of Janee Thompson, Makayla Epps, Maci Morris, Batouly Camara and Evelyn Akhator for the third straight game. UK is 1-1 this season when using that starting combination.
* Kentucky lead it early 10-2 behind an 8-0 run, before the Commodores scored 10 of the last 14 points of the first period to cut UK’s lead to 14-12 at the end of the first 10 minutes.
* The Wildcats trailed only once in the first half, 17-16, after a Vanderbilt 3-point. But UK responded by ending the half on a 12-2 run to grab a 28-19 lead at halftime. Janee Thompson paced Kentucky during that stretch with two 3-pointer.
* VU only scored seven points in the second period.
	+ The seven points scored by Vanderbilt in the second period tied the fewest points scored against Kentucky in a quarter this season. The Wildcats also limited Auburn to just seven points when the two teams met on Jan. 3 in Auburn, Ala.
* Kentucky forced Vanderbilt into 16 turnovers in the first half and scored 15 points off those turnovers. The Wildcats only committed six turnovers.
* UK won the battle in the paint, 18-8, in the first half. The Wildcats also outrebounded VU, 16-15 in the first half.
* Alexis Jennings hit a floater in the paint as time expired in the third period to put Kentucky on top 46-32.
* For the game, Kentucky shot 29-of-63 from the field for 46%. The Wildcats attempted 21 more field goals in the game than Vanderbilt, who was 20-of-42 for 48%.
* The Wildcats hit five 3-pointers in the game, which is the second most in a game in SEC play this season. UK has hit 5 or more 3s in back-to-back games for the first hitting five against Duke and Tennessee State back in December.
* Kentucky forced Vanderbilt into 24 turnovers in the game, the most since forcing Tennessee State into 24 turnovers in late December.
* UK had 15 offensive rebounds in the game, the most since recording 16 offensive boards against South Carolina on Jan. 14.

**Individual Notes**

* **Alexis Jennings** paced Kentucky with 18 points and nine rebounds.
	+ Jennings 18 points was the second most she has scored this season and the most in conference play.
	+ The sophomore post player went 9-of-13 from the field in the game.
* **Janee Thompson** scored 15 points in the game on 5-of-10 shooting with two assists and 3-of-5 3-pointers.
	+ Thompson tied her season high in 3-pointers made, a feat she has accomplished in back-to-back games.
	+ The senior guard has scored in double figures in five of her last six games.
* **Makayla Epps** scored seven points in the game, but recorded an impressive six assists.
	+ Epps has recorded five or more assists in 10 games this season.
* **Evelyn Akhator** posted 10 points and six rebounds in the game on 5-of-11 shooting.
* **Taylor Murray** went 3-of-9 from the field in the game with eight points and three assists, adding four steals.