

UK looking to.....

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 receiving last year with 26 receptions for 365 yards and 2TDs. He averaged 14.0 yards per catch. He is dangerous once he catches the pigskin with his 4.6 speed. Meece came on during the spring and emerged as a serious challenger. All he did was grab 3 passes for 51 yards in the Bank One Blue-White game for 1 TD, including a 42-yard reception. Pennington played in 10 games last season, catching 9 passes for 172 yards and 1 TD. He owned a team-high 19.2 yards per catch average.
 At flanker, sophomore Phil Logan (6-2,203) looks like the ample replacement for Smith. Logan caught only 4 passes for 50 yards (14.8 ypc) in 1987, but possesses big-play ability. Logan will likely return punts as well.
 Another possibility at flanker is senior Ray Gover (6-3,166). Gover had 2 receptions for 32 yards last year, but needs a mid-August to seriously push for the starting berth.
 Split end features sophomore John Bolden (6-6, 172) and all-time so-called soph Steve Phillips

(6-2,203). Bolden emerged from the pack toward the latter stages of the spring to win the number 1 spot entering the fall. He did a little of everything last fall, receiving 11 for 14, rushing (3 for 25) and kick off returns (13 for 216). Phillips missed the entire 1987 season because of a knee injury. He looked impressive at times during the spring, catching the football, but his durability is his big question mark.
 Junior college transfer Alfred Jones (6-6, 190) and the possible move of tailback Tim Smith (6-11,180) to split end will add quality depth.
 Possibly the biggest question mark surrounding the 1988 Kentucky Wildcats is the development of the offensive line. Only 11 starter returns to the UK offensive interior from a year ago. Dermontt Dawson, Greg Kunkel, Brad Myers and Butch Wilburn started every game last fall but have since graduated.
 The lone returnee is Pressman. All-SEC tackle Mike Pfeifer (6-7,290). Pfeifer started all 11 games at left tackle last season

and was moved to right tackle during the spring. He is solid, bench pressing 425 pounds, squatting 575 pounds and runs the 40 in 6.0. Pfeifer is an excellent player to build a foundation around.
 At left tackle, look for sophomore Mike Nord (6-7, 278) and senior Ho Smith (6-3,267) to battle it out for the starting spot. Nord and Smith have little experience, but Smith had put himself in position to contribute in 1987 before a stress fracture sidelined him.
 At left guard, three candidates are in the running. Sophomore Dean Wilks (6-3, 292), and senior Brian Denham (6-1, 254) all have a shot at starting. Wilks did play in all 11 games and did letter, but it was as a long snapper. Denham is a walk-on.
 Junior Brian Cralle (6-1, 280) is listed as number 1 at center entering the fall. Cralle has good upper body strength, bench pressing 405 pounds and squatting 575 pounds. He will be pushed by junior David Crane (6-2, 254) and freshman Courtney Longacre (6-2, 235).
 Sophomore Bill Healtie (6-2,

255) and freshman Kevin Diostelle (6-3, 255) appear to be the front-runners at right guard. Healtie, who came to UK as a walk-on, had the best spring of any of the offensive guards. Diostelle came on as well, after redshirting last season.
 Behind Pfeifer at right tackle will be Tom Gunnison (6-4, 276) and Tony Nash (6-5, 274), both juniors.
DEFENSE
Defensive Ends
 Both starters, senior Jay Dortch (6-1, 212) and junior Tony Massey (6-3, 221), return from 1987 to give the Wildcats a solid, one-two punch at end. Dortch finished 5th on squad a year ago with 71 tackles, including 2 QB sacks and 7 behind-the-line. He is a solid number 1 at right end.
 Massey was 9th on the team in tackles last fall with 62, including 4QB sacks and 7 behind-the-line. Surprisingly, it was Massey who led UK in interceptions with 4 for 69 yards. He returned one of those 38 yards for a TD against Ole Miss. Massey is

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 also solid at left end.
 Behind Dortch, sophomore Billy Swannick (6-0, 216) is listed at making a pair of tackles. He did have a good spring.
 On the other side in back of Massey is sophomore Jeff Brady (6-1, 230) and junior Tony Zigman (6-2, 204). Grady moved from line-backer to defensive end during the spring and made a very smooth transition. His 4.5 speed into the 40 will be a huge asset in pass coverage. Brady played in all 11 games last fall and made 10 tackles, mostly on special teams. Zigman also played in all 11 contests and finished with 11 tackles on the season. He will likely be used on special teams again this fall too.
 Replacing All-SEC tackle Jerry Bose is the biggest piece of puzzle Claiborne has to find among his interior defensive line. Claiborne does have 2 of 4 starters returning in the interior unit, plus some talented backups from a year ago.
 The best athlete in the bunch is

junior left tackle Oliver Barnett (6-3, 285). An all-star candidate, Barnett started all 11 games last season and led UK in QB sacks with 6. He also grabbed up an interception off a tipped pass against Utah State. Barnett bench presses 380 pounds and runs the 40 in 4.9.
 Behind Barnett is sophomore Gary Ralston (6-3, 256).
 At right tackle, juniors Doug Houser (6-3, 256) and Donnie Gardner (6-4, 230) are engaged in a battle for the starting berth. Houser lettered and played in all 11 games last season at left defensive guard and made 22 tackles, including 2 QB sacks. He switched to tackle in the spring to help alleviate the loss of Bose. Gardner came on strong toward the end of the spring and had a super Bank one Blue-White game with 5 tackles and 3 QB sacks. He also played in all 11 games last season and was credited with 24 tackles.
 Right guard will be anchored by all-star candidate Vic Adams (6-1, 269). Adams started 9 games

in 1987 and finished the season with 61 tackles, including 1 QB sack. He bench presses 390 pounds and will be a solid road-block in the middle. Behind Adams is junior Mike Meiners (6-2, 261) who will indeed contribute this fall.
 The left guard spot will be manned by redshirt freshman Jerry Bell (6-3, 284) and junior Mike Cham (6-0, 262). Bell received a hardship after suffering a stress fracture early last season. He has ability to dominate the line of scrimmage. Cham came on in the spring and will see action in a relief role in 1988.
Linebackers
 This group, from top-to-bottom, may make Kentucky's linebacking corps the strongest position on the team. That is difficult to say generally, when you lose the squad's leading tackler to graduation in Jeff Kremer (110 tackles in 1987). But, this group may be that talented.
 Returning at left linebacker is three-year starter Chris Chensault (6-2, 240). Chensault, selected to the

Birmingham Post-Herald Pre-season All-SEC team, posted a whopping 160 tackles a year ago, included in a 28-tackle effort and interception against Vanderbilt. He has the tough-bench press of 265 pounds and 40 time of 4.6 to become a dominating figure in SEC play this fall.
 His running mate at right linebacker is scheduled to be sophomore Randy Holleran (6-1, 23). Holleran appeared in all 11 games, including 1 start against Florida, and was credited with 44 tackles and 9 QB sacks last season. He may be the top "blitzer" on this team as well.
 Behind Chensault, sophomore Steve Kelley (6-1,228) and senior walk-on Jay Amshoff (6-0, 217) will both see action in the Wildcat 6-linebacker rotation. Kelley managed 19 tackles in 6 games as a true freshman last season, but was hampered by a leg injury. Amshoff appeared mostly on special teams in 9 games, at did record 8 tackles and 1 QB sack.
 Backing up Holleran is junior Craig Benninger (6-0, 211) and


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