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Lady Jackets use

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Jackets' ability to handle the Menifee team.

Being able to get back and set up the defense as Menifee came down the court, the Jackets were better able to force Menifee to the outside and successfully contain their driving drive, the coach explained.

However, Kenney said Menifee made a mistake going to an inside zone defense because it left the Jackets room to work the outside and set up better shots.

Hutton and Earlywine went on a roll scoring eight points each in the third with Auser adding a much needed three points and Denkins, with two, brought the score up to 45-45 at the third stop.

More importantly, though, the Jackets were able to stay Young.

But though the Jackets had come back, foul problems threatened to remove Hutton and Auser, playing well defensively, as they both logged their fourth fouls in the third.

By the fourth quarter, though, the Jackets had hit their stride and were matching Menifee point for point, but still were unable to take the lead.

However, at one point in the second half, Menifee, despite Dunkins', Auser's, and Smoot's improved defensive efforts, managed to climb back in the lead by nearly nine points.

But Denkins, leading fourth quarter scoring with nine points, kept the Jackets from being blown off the court.

The Jackets had problems at the foul line, but renewed effort from Earlywine, Smoot, Hutton and Auser, closed the scoring gap.

With less than 2:00 left in the game, Nicholas had overtaken and passed Menifee with a foul shot from Denkins.

A combination of foul shots with Hutton and Smoot going to the line, the Jackets moved to a five point lead.

However, even with as little as 50 seconds left, Menifee staged a comeback. Menifee cut the Jackets' lead to two.

However, on Menifee's final drive down court with 16 seconds left, Denkins stole the ball and kept

the home fans cheering the game into overtime.

Kenney said Menifee was the toughest team the Jackets have faced to date and it was the Jackets' defense, coupled with a solid team effort from the girls, that led them to their slim victory.

While Young had scored 21 points in the first half, the Jackets had kept her to only seven points in the second, Kenney said.

Another factor she said she felt made the difference in the game was the Nicholas girls had given

up only nine turnovers, a vast improvement to the 25 turnovers they had allowed playing Lewis County days earlier.

Hutton came out, as leading scorer for the game with 17 points with Earlywine nearly matching with 15 points.

Denkins had 13 for the Lady Jackets. Smoot, after two low scoring games, came up with 12 points. The Lady Jackets return to the court on December 27 in the Harrison County holiday tournament.

UK still in the coaching hunt

By Mike Embury
AP Sports Writer

SPORTS EXTRA
LEXINGTON (AP) — The search continues for a football coach at the University of Kentucky.

Mike Shanahan, an assistant coach with the Denver Broncos, turned down the invitation late Saturday in a telephone call to UK athletic director C.M. Newton.

He emphasized it was a career decision. Newton said a news conference Sunday at Wildcat Lodge. The Kentucky job was the only college job he would consider, but it boiled down to whether he wanted to return to college football or remain in professional football.

"I respected the decision but respected it. He's been our choice Denver and coach the quarter-previous much from the beginning of the process. He's an outstanding person and football coach."

Shanahan said at a Denver Broncos news conference Sunday that he took last week to sit down with his wife and figure out which direction he wanted to lead.

"It was a tough decision," Shanahan said. "Kentucky's a great university, but I'm really happy to be here with the Broncos."

"It was best for me and my family just to stay right here."

Newton said he first contacted Shanahan about the job shortly after Claiborne retired Nov. 28. Newton said there were not any contract snags and that both parties had a 60-90 day "matching want."

"There was never to my knowledge," he said of contract problems. "That was a non-existent issue."

But he added: "We're not trying to buy a football coach. There are limits to what we can do."

"We've identified coaches we think can do the job and there are several," he said. "The next step is to bring in different individuals we think can do the job."

Newton said he hoped to find a coach with a strong offensive background because "I think if someone is an outstanding offensive coach, you understand defense, but it boiled down to whether

the UK Athletic Board had scheduled a meeting for 3 p.m. Sunday, but it was canceled after Shanahan's decision to stay in Denver.

Shanahan, fired earlier this season as coach of the Los Angeles Raiders, had toured the Kentucky campus last weekend, met with his athletics board and with school president David Rowell.

Newton complained of what he referred to as "misinformation" about the negotiations with Shanahan.

He said news reports about the possibility of announcing Shanahan as coach last Friday were "true. He also called stories that Shanahan would receive \$600,000 a year as 'ridiculous.'"

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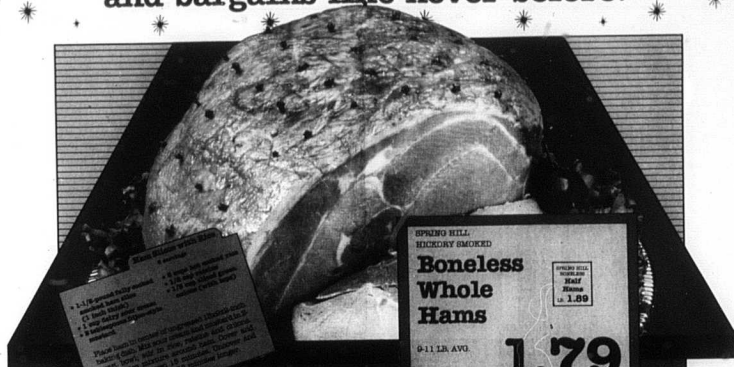
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