



JOSH HARRELLSON KENTUCKY SPORTSMAN OF THE YEAR FINALIST

We are revealing, in alphabetical order, the 10 finalists for the 2011 Lexington Herald-Leader Kentucky Sportsman of the Year award. The winner will be announced simultaneously the night of Feb. 15 on Kentucky.com and at the inaugural Bluegrass Sports Awards Banquet. Complete results will be in the Feb. 16 Herald-Leader.

What he did in 2011: After Turkish center prospect Enes Kanter failed to gain NCAA eligibility for the Kentucky men's basketball team, Harrellson went from little-used reserve to starting center and thrived. He became a Kentucky folk hero by averaging 12 points and 8.1 rebounds in eight post-season tournament games (SEC and NCAA) to help UK to the Final Four. Completing a fairy-tale year, Harrellson was selected in the second round of the 2011 NBA Draft by the New York Knicks and made the team.

Voter comment: "Jorts' shorts and his toughness in the NCAA (Tournament) can't be forgotten."
— Alan Cutler, WLEX-TV, Lexington

Previously announced finalists: Bob Beatty, John Calipari, Randall Cobb, Scott Davenport, Victoria Dunlap and Kenneth Faried.

SUNDAY, FEBRUARY 12, 2012 » LEXINGTON HERALD-LEADER » KENTUCKY.COM/SPORTS » SECTION C

SPORTS SUNDAY



Dunbar sweeps 5th Region swimming and diving — C7

Woodford County wrestlers win 7th Region title — C5

UK BASKETBALL NOTEBOOK

Davis the latest in a short line of stars

UNIQUE GAME CHANGER EVOKES EWING, CAMBY



JERRY TIPTON
HERALD-LEADER STAFF WRITER

To measure the impact made by Kentucky freshman **Anthony Davis**, learned basketball observers go back decades to find a comparable player.

Hall of Famer **Dick Vitale**, the Pied Piper of college basketball, cited a player in the 1980s.

"He's special in how he affects the game," Vitale said of Davis. "He's the only player I've seen going back to **Patrick Ewing** that affects the game without scoring a point."

Another ESPN analyst, **Jay Bilas**, cited a player from the 1990s.

"He is the best big guy college basketball has seen in a while, several years," Bilas wrote in an email. "I liken him to a more skilled **Marcus Camby**. He is a game changer defensively that can block shots around the rim and block perimeter jump shots."

At this stage of development, Davis outshines Camby, Bilas said.

"He is far better than Camby at that age, and far better offensively than he is showing now," Bilas wrote of Davis. "He can shoot the ball but doesn't right now. ..."

"Davis is just scratching the surface of how good he can be, and he is going to be good offensively. He has great hands and a really nice touch and shooting stroke. Just a wonderful player and talent."

Davis has already set a record for blocks by a freshman from a Southeastern Conference school. The league record of 170 — set twice by **Jarvis Varnado** of Mississippi State — is well within reach.

While Davis' average of 4.8 blocks is slightly smaller than the national leaders the past two seasons (**William Mosley** of Northwestern State last season and **Hassan Whiteside** of Marshall in 2009-10), he's doing it against higher-caliber competition.

By the way, the NCAA record for average number of blocks in a season is 6.43, set by **Adonal Foyle** of Colgate in 1996-97.

See TIPTON, C3



DAVID J. PHILLIP | ASSOCIATED PRESS

Ramon Dominguez rode Hansen, right, past Javier Castellano and Union Rags to win the Breeders' Cup Juvenile at Churchill Downs in November.

FEW STARS COME UP ROSES

DERBY HISTORY HAS BEEN UNKIND TO 2-YEAR-OLD 'SURE THINGS'

By Alicia Wincze Hughes
awincze@herald-leader.com

Kentucky.com

Online: Go to our Web site for a Derby Dozen photo gallery.

If the hands of time could be turned back, trainer Kieran McLaughlin would love for the video of the 2011 Grade I Champagne Stakes to show Alpha running past Union Rags for the win instead of battling for runner-up money.

After all, in a sport that saves its most revered prize

for 3-year-olds, there might be nothing better than knowing the sophomore in your barn already proved he could handle the best his classmates had to offer.

Should Alpha give

McLaughlin his first Kentucky Derby triumph this May, however, the Lexington-born trainer might be grateful the son of Bernardini was 5¼ lengths short of victory in his first Grade I outing last October.

Because, ironically, the same 1¼-mile classic that asks its young stars to display ability beyond their years has not been kind to its most pre-

cocious participants in recent decades.

With the flip of the calendar every Jan. 1 comes the annual guessing game in the racing community as to which newly turned 3-year-old will reign on the first Saturday in May. Not surprisingly, the majority of horses who dominate the early discussions displayed top-level ability as

See DERBY, C10

The Derby Dozen: Check out the 12 horses we think have the best shot of wearing the roses at Churchill. **Page C8**

Pletcher exercises winners, caution: Trainer has top contenders, but he knows the potential pitfalls all too well. **Page C10**

Surprise at the Donn: Hymn Book pays \$15 to win, and Shackelford and Ruler On Ice aren't factors. **Page C11**



TRIPLE CROWN

KENTUCKY DERBY

When: Saturday, May 5
Where: Churchill Downs

PREAKNESS STAKES

When: Saturday, May 19th
Where: Pimlico Race Course in Baltimore

BELMONT STAKES

When: Saturday, June 9
Where: Belmont Park in Elmont, N.Y.

Jim Dinwiddie scored 277 points in a three-year career for Kentucky beginning in 1968. This photo was taken his senior year in 1970.

STAFF FILE PHOTO



Remembering Jim Dinwiddie

KENTUCKY PLAYER BECAME RESPECTED ATTORNEY



MARK STORY
HERALD-LEADER SPORTS COLUMNIST

The first time I met a Kentucky Wildcats varsity basketball player in person, I was 6 years old.

FAN FARE

Jim Dinwiddie came to North Hardin High School to speak at the post-season basketball banquet.

Having been told Dinwiddie was a UK guard, my basketball world view — which thought that guards were short — was rocked by the fact he stood a gigantic 6-foot-4.

After he spoke, I got to meet Dinwiddie. It was the first time I ever talked to a UK basketball player.

I thought of that night again last week after the news that Dinwiddie, 63, an attorney in his hometown of Leitchfield and a divorced father of four, died Tuesday from a self-inflicted gun shot.

Though meeting Dinwiddie
See STORY, C2

Sports Editor Gene Abell » Phone (859) 231-3237 » Email hlsports@herald-leader.com » To report a score call 231-3225 or toll free at (888) 222-7026 after 5 p.m.

GIVE THE GIFT THAT EVERY BODY NEEDS

Over 30 pairs of highly trained hands provide relaxation and pain relief when you need it.

Gift certificates start at just \$35.

- VALENTINE'S SPECIALS:
- SWEETHEART PACKAGES
- COUPLES MASSAGE JUST \$150



The Massage Center
In Historic Dudley Square

Locally owned since 1989 | Call or order online themassagecenter.org | 231-1782