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FOOTBALL

OPINION: Bush Hamdan Needs to Go as Kentucky Eyes Winless SEC Season

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Joseph Hoppe | Last updated September 30, 2025
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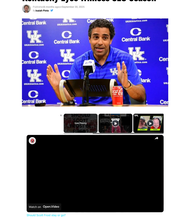

Hamdan Scott Foster, ends or go?

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Spirits for Kentucky football seem to be at an all-time low in Lexington.

Saturday's 31-13 blowout loss to South Carolina marked seven consecutive SEC losses. It has been a whole calendar year since the Wildcats recorded an SEC victory.

Thus far, the combination of Zach Calzada and Carter Bolin under-dual isn't to the SEC to passing yards, passing touchdowns and passing yards per game.

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Many Wildcats fans pleaded for Bolin to start in Calzada's place after Calzada failed to pass a touchdown against Toledo and Ole Miss while completing less than 50% of his passes.

Tweets by kyinsider

However, Bolin hasn't revived a dead passing game. Although Bolin's 240 yard passing and two touchdowns were a significant improvement was promising, it was against a non-era Eastern Michigan team at home.

In his third career start against the Gamecocks, Kentucky's offense was exposed against a Power Four defense. Bolin was unable to score a touchdown while giving up three turnovers, one resulted in a scoop and score, and the other was a pick six.

Kentucky was outscored 24-3 after the first quarter.

Under offensive coordinator Barth Hamdan, who was hired ahead of the 2024 season, the Wildcats are last in the SEC in scoring with a 23.75 points per game average. In addition to an SEC worst 175.5 passing yards per game.

Hamdan's quarterbacks have thrown for 17 touchdowns and 20 interceptions across 16 games. For reference, Alabama has thrown for 15 touchdowns in four games this season.

The biggest bright spot for Kentucky's offense has been the running game, which has improved from 2024, especially with the emergence of Seth McGowan.

However, since 2024, the Wildcats 21 rushing touchdowns rank last in the SEC, and the yards per game average is the fifth worst in the conference.

Going into the season, Hamdan's return was perceived as a good move, especially for continuity purposes.

Kentucky's offense kept receiver Ja'Marr Hatcho despite transfer portal rumors, while receivers Dane Key and Barion Brown both departed in the portal, but the Wildcats were able to secure their top wideout Dentrell Law from Alabama to supplant the losses.

Personnel isn't necessarily the issue.

It had been five years since an offensive coordinator returned for a consecutive season under head coach Mark Stoops. However, at this rate, Hamdan's job is at serious risk.

Hamdan, in my opinion, should be fired and the Wildcats will likely go winless in the SEC.

This weekend Kentucky hosts No. 12 Georgia on the road. Stoops is 0-8 against the Bulldogs. The Wildcats haven't won in Sanford Stadium since 2005.

After Georgia, the Wildcats will have Texas. The Longhorns this season have held opponents to an SEC, best average of 7.75 points and only 311 yards on average.

No. 21 Tennessee will visit Kroger Field in late October. The Volunteers have one of the highest scoring offenses in the nation.

Kentucky's final SEC games include road trips to Auburn and No. 16 Vanderbilt and hosting Florida between those road games.

Unfortunately, Hamdan hasn't shown enough to consistently compete against SEC foes.

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"Former" Kentucky Wide Receiver Hardley Gilmore IV Flips Commitment

Kyle McCollum
Kyle McCollum | Last updated January 5, 2026

Jordan Fullmer-IMG001 Images

After leaving the Wildcats in the offseason for the transfer portal, wide receiver Hardley Gilmore IV has officially flipped his commitment from Kentucky football with the team on Tuesday, March 5, according to multiple reports.

Gilmore originally committed to the rival Louisville Cardinals, but in-law Vince Marrow-Sabino, he solified as the Wildcat transfer, leading the outcast to flip his commitment to the Baylor Bears on Jan. 12.

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Kentucky Boasts Top 15 Portal Class After Busy First Week

Kyle McCollum
Kyle McCollum | Last updated January 5, 2026

Chris Ross-UK Athletics

It has officially been an entire week since the college football transfer portal opened on Jan. 2, with teams across the nation scrambling for visits and spoil commitments.

Despite the duties on Oregon's offensive coordinator, which ended in abrupt fashion on Jan. 9 by one of the No. 1 Indiana Hoosiers, Will Stein and company have been building or holding onto a very impressive transfer portal class in Lexington.

According to 247Sports, Kentucky currently holds the No. 14 overall portal class ahead of the 2026 season, consisting of 13 total commitments. Of those, two players are four-star recruits.

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Kentucky Earns First Transfer Portal Addition Ahead of the 2026 Season

Kyle McCollum
Kyle McCollum | Last updated December 3, 2025

Arkansas Democrat Gazette

On Saturday, Jan. 3, the Kentucky Wildcats and new head coach Will Stein put down the first piece of the puzzle, landing Arkansas linebacker Tavion Wallace from the transfer portal, the younger brother of former Kentucky linebacker Trevin Wallace.

The former Razorback stands at 6-foot-1 and weights 239 pounds, who at one time was a consensus four-star recruit and was ranked as a top 25 linebacker in the country – all taking place while his brother was dominating the SEC and eventually turned into a third round pick in the 2024 NFL Draft.

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