KENTUCKY
MEN'S SOCCER

Kentucky (0-1-1, 0-0-0 SBC)
vs. Virginia Tech (1-1-0, 0-0-0 ACC)
August 28 // 6 p.m. ET // ESPN+
Thompson Field // Blacksburg, Va.

UK Athletics Communications and Public Relations · (859) 257-3838 · UKathletics.com
Zach Brown · zachary.brown1@uky.edu · (731) 608-6054

MATCH CENTER

KENTUCKY WILDCATS		VIRGINIA TECH HOKIES	
2026 Record:	0-1-1	**2026 Record:**	1-1-0
2026 SBC Record:	0-0-0	**2026 ACC Record:**	0-0-0
Rankings (USC/TDS):	RV/NR	**Rankings (USC/TDS):**	NR/NR
Last Game:	L, 2-3 vs. Louisville Aug. 24, 2026	**Last Game:**	W, 7-0 vs. Howard Aug. 23, 2026
Current Streak:	T1	**Current Streak:**	W1
Last Five Games:	1-3-1	**Last Five Games:**	2-2-1
Head Coach:	Johan Cedergren 15th season	**Head Coach:**	Mike Brizendine 18th season

STATISTICAL LEADERS (2026)

KENTUCKY WILDCATS		VIRGINIA TECH HOKIES	
Goals:	Four Players (1)	**Goals:**	Chan Tack (3)
Assists:	Iliadis (2)	**Assists:**	Perez (3)
Points:	Iliadis (4)	**Points:**	Chan Tack (6)
Shots:	Iliadis (5)	**Shots:**	Three Players (4)
Shots on Goal:	Schaerer (3)	**Shots on Goal:**	Perez (4)
Saves:	Rasmussen (8)	**Saves:**	Dauzier/Ledin (1)
Save Percentage:	Rasmussen (.615)	**Save Percentage:**	Dauzier (.800)
Shutouts:	N/A	**Shutouts:**	Dauzier (1)

MATCH FACTS

Kentucky faces Virginia Tech for just third time in program history on Friday night. In both previous meetings, the Wildcats and Hokies could not be seperated, resulting in a draw during the 1993 and 2024 seasons.

Kentucky drew Western Michigan 2-2 in a come from behind effort against the Western Michigan Broncos in the 2026 opener, thanks to goals from freshman Costa Iliadis and Tom Keller.

Virginia Tech enters match day three of the season coming off a 1-0 loss to the Ohio State Buckeyes in their season opener but followed that performance with a 7-0 thrashing of Howard at home on Sunday.

Kentucky was voted fourth in the Sun Belt Conference Preseason Coaches' Poll for the second consecutive season with 76 total votes. The Wildcats are currently receiving votes in the latest United Soccer Coaches Poll.

2026 SCHEDULE

All times Eastern

08/20	**WESTERN MICHIGAN**	T, 2-2
08/24	**LOUISVILLE**	L, 2-3
08/28	VIRGINIA TECH	6:00 PM
09/04	**EVANSVILLE**	7:30 PM
09/08	**OHIO STATE**	7:30 PM
09/18	**MARSHALL***	7:30 PM
09/22	LIPSCOMB	6:00 PM
09/28	UCF*	7:00 PM
10/02	**OLD DOMINION***	7:00 PM
10/06	INDIANA	7:30 PM
10/10	SOUTH CAROLINA*	6:00 PM
10/16	WEST VIRGINIA*	7:00 PM
10/21	**COASTAL CAROLINA***	7:00 PM
10/25	JAMES MADISON*	6:00 PM
10/30	**GEORGIA SOUTHERN***	7:00 PM
11/03	GEORGIA STATE*	7:00 PM

HOME AWAY
***Sun Belt Conference regular season**

SERIES HISTORY

Series History: Tied 0-0-2
Last Meeting: T, 2-2 (2024)

BY THE NUMBERS

3 Three Wildcats received Sun Belt Preseason honors, including midfielder Agustin Lopez and defenders Sinan Solmaz and Max Miller making the SBC All-Conference Preseason Team.

4 Kentucky was voted fourth in the Sun Belt Preseason Coaches Poll. The Wildcats were predicted to finish behind first-place West Virginia, Marshall and regining SBC Tournament Champions UCF.

10 Kentucky returns 10 players from last season's roster, including Max Miller, Sinan Solmaz, Agustin Lopez, Bertil Alban and Marcus Andersen from the starting XI in 2025.

16 The Wildcats welcome 16 incoming players to the 2026 roster, including eight freshman and six collegiate transfers.

MEDIA INFORMATION

CREDENTIALS
All media credential requests should be submitted at least 24 hours prior to home games. Credentials can be picked up the day of a game at Wendell & Vickie Bell Soccer Complex. Requests should be made through the Athletics Communications and Public Relations office by contacting Zach Brown.

PRESS BOX
The press box sits above the grandstand at midfield.

MEDIA SERVICES
During matches, media will be provided with notes and updated statistics. Final box scores will be available shortly following each game.

POSTGAME INTERVIEWS
Please direct all interview requests for players and coaches to Zach Brown.

PRACTICE/INTERVIEWS
Players and head coach Johan Cedergren are available for interviews upon request. All practices take place at the Wendell & Vickie Bell Soccer Complex and are subject to change. Interviews with coaches and players are after practice and phone interviews may be arranged. Advance notice is requested for all interviews. Please arrange all interviews through Zach Brown.

PHOTOS
The Athletics Communications & Public Relations office sometimes provides media with high-resolution digital images for use upon request. Please contact Zach Brown to request photos of UK men's soccer player and/or coaches.

WEBSITE
The official website for UK athletics, www.UKAthletics.com is the place to find updated rosters, schedules, results and statistics.

SOCIAL MEDIA
The Kentucky men's soccer program's story is told primarily through its social media accounts. Be that via Facebook, Twitter or Instagram, the best way to get to know the Wildcats and follow the season in-depth is by following @UKMensSoccer.

QUICK FACTS

UNIVERSITY
Location: Lexington, Ky.
Founded: 1865
Enrollment: 30,000
Nickname: Wildcats
Colors: Blue (PMS 286) and White
Conference: Sun Belt Conference (Men's soccer affiliate)
Stadium: Wendell & Vickie Bell Soccer Complex (3,000)
President: Dr. Eli Capilouto (Alabama, 1971)
Athletics Director: J Batt (North Carolina, 2004)

COACHING STAFF
Head Coach: Johan Cedergren (Cincinnati, 2001)
Associate Head Coach: Ryan Zinkhan (Virginia, 2014)
Assistant Coach: Sean Lawlor (Le Moyne, 2011)
Assistant Coach: Jan Hoffelner (Kentucky, 2022)
Director of Operations: Dustin Smith (Northern Kentucky, 2010)

SOCCER HISTORY
First season: 1991
Last postseason appearance: 2022 (NCAA Championship third round)

ATHLETICS COMMUNICATIONS & PUBLIC RELATIONS
Men's soccer contact: Zach Brown
Phone: 731-608-6054
Email: zachary.brown1@uky.edu
Website: www.UKathletics.com
Social media: @UKMensSoccer

2026 NUMERICAL ROSTER & PRONUNCIATION GUIDE

No.	Name	Position	Class	Ht./Wt.	Hometown (HS/Previous School)
1	Gilles Monti	GK	Fifth-Year	6’3/180	Bienne, Switzerland/Chaux de Fonds
2	Ben Nash	Def.	Sophomore	5’11/155	Edmonton, Alberta, Canada/Penn State
3	Max Miller	Def.	Fifth-Year	5’10/165	Lexington, Ky./Bryan Station HS
4	Sinan Solmaz	Def.	Senior	6’3/200	Bergisch Gladbach, Germany/CSU Bakersfield
5	Bernardo Bucci	Def.	Freshman	6’1/185	Citta di Castello, Italy/Liceo San Tommaso d’ Aquino
6	Cianole Nguepissi	Def.	Junior	6’2/205	Birmingham, England/San Diego State
7	Eric Onos	Mid/Fwd.	Junior	5’7/155	Buchen, Germany
8	Yasha Schaerer	Mid.	Senior	5’8/160	Zurich, Switzerland/Marshall
9	Thomas Nielsen	Fwd.	Freshman	6’1/180	Copenhagen, Denmark/Borupgaard Gymnasium
10	Agustin Lopez	Mid.	Junior	5’9/160	Santa Fe, Argentina/Juana Del Pino
11	Thomas Berteotti	Mid.	Sophomore	5'9/145	Wallonia, Belgium
12	Gustav Renman	Def.	Sophomore	5’9/170	Stockholm, Sweden/Anna Whitlock High School
14	Michael Lee	Fwd.	Junior	5’9/155	Toronto, Ontario, Canada/Louisville
15	Fredrik Skilberg	Fwd.	Fifth-Year	5’10/159	Stockholm, Sweden/SMU
16	Bains Smith	Fwd	Junior	6’1/170	Johns Creek, Ga./Providence Christian Academy
17	Bertil Alban	Mid.	Junior	6’1/170	Skovlunde, Denmark/Borupgaard Gymnasium
18	Marcus Andersen	Mid.	Sophomore	5’11/160	Greve, Denmark/Greve Gymnasium
19	Max Schrader	Def.	Junior	6’1/160	Cherry Hill, N.J./Rider
20	Ilan Ettinger	Def.	Freshman	6’1/175	Atlanta, Ga./Atlanta International School
21	Tom Keller	Fwd.	Freshman	6'1/165	Neunkirchen, Germany/Gemeinschaftsschule Neunlirche
22	Costa Iliadis	Fwd.	Freshman	6’0/175	Toronto, Canada/Clemson
23	Mats Brune	Mid.	Freshman	5’9/155	Witten, Germany/Fernuni Hagen
24	Benjamin Rasmussen	GK	Freshman	6’3/170	Haderslev, Denmark/Sonderjyske Fodbold
26	JJ Vozar	Def.	Sophomore	6’1/165	Pittsburgh, Pa./Milford High School
29	Ari Saliu	Mid.	Freshman	5’11/160	Chicago, Ill.
30	Dillon Griner	GK	Sophomore	5’11/175	Atlanta, Ga./Walton High School

COACHING & SUPPORT STAFF

Head Coach: Johan Cedergren (15th season)
Associate Head Coach: Ryan Zinkhan (5th season)
Assistant Coach: Sean Lawlor (1st season)
Assistant/Goalkeeper Coach: Jan Hoffelner (2nd season)
Director of Operations: Dustin Smith (3rd season)
Senior Associate AD for Compliance: Kevin Sergent (10th season)
Sr. Athletic Trainer: Bobby Broddus (4th season)
Equipment Manager: Ben North (4th season)
Sports Information Director: Zach Brown (2nd season)
Social Media Manager: Samuel Brangers (1st season)

PRONUNCIATION GUIDE

COACHES: Johan Cedergren – *YO-han SAID-er-grin*
Ryan Zinkhan - *Zink-Han*
Jan Hoffelner - *Yawn Hoff-El-Ner*

PLAYERS: Gilles Monti - *GILL Mon-Tea*
Sinan Solmaz - *See-Nan Soul-Maz*
Bernardo Bucci - *Boo-Chi*
Cianole Nguepissi - *See-An-Ole Gib-You-See*
Eric Onos – *OH-NO-sss*
Yasha Schaerer - *Share-ER*
Agustin Lopez – *OW-guh-steen*
Thomas Berteotti - *Bert-E-Ah-Tea*
Bertil Alban – *BUR-till OWL-bin*
Ilan Ettinger - *Ih-Lan Ett-In-Ger*
Costa Iliadis - *Ill-EE-Ah-Dis*
Ari Saliu - *Are-E Sal-You*

NATIONAL POLLS

UNITED SOCCER COACHES (Aug. 25, 2026) Week 1	TOP DRAWER (Aug. 24, 2026)
1. Stanford	1. San Diego
2. San Diego	2. Saint Louis
3. Portland	3. Clemson
4. Maryland	4. Maryland
5. SMU	5. Washington
6. Georgetown	6. Akron
7. Vermont	7. High Point
8. Saint Louis	8. Stanford
9. High Point	9. Georgetown
10. Akron	10. Furman
11. Washington	11. Portland
12. Marshall	12. NC State
13. Hofstra	13. Princeton
14. Indiana	14. UNC Greensboro
15. UMKC	15. SMU
16. Clemson	16. Duke
17. UCLA	17. Cornell
18. Charlotte	18. Indiana
19. Duke	19. UMKC
20. NC State	20. North Carolina
21. UNC Greensboro	21. Marshall
22. Ohio State	22. UCLA
23. Wisconsin	23. UMass
24. Michigan State	24. Bryant
25. Oregon State	25. Virginia

Receiving Votes:
Princeton (9)
Missouri State (9)
Bryant (8)
UMass (6)
Cornell (3)
UC Santa Barbara (3)

2026 SBC PRESEASON COACHES POLL

1. West Virginia
2. Marshall
3. UCF
4. **Kentucky**
5. Georgia Southern
6. South Carolina
7. Old Dominion
8. James Madison
9. Costal Carolina
10. Georgia State

CURRENT SBC STANDINGS

Team	Pts.	Overall/SBC
Georgia State	0	2-0-0/0-0-0
Old Dominion	0	2-0-0/0-0-0
South Carolina	0	2-0-0/0-0-0
Marshall	0	1-0-0/0-0-0
UCF	0	0-0-0/0-0-0
Georgia Southern	0	1-1-0/0-0-0
James Madison	0	1-1-0/0-0-0
West Virginia	0	1-1-0/0-0-0
Coastal Carolina	0	0-1-1/0-0-0
Kentucky	**0**	**0-1-1/0-0-0**

FINAL SBC STANDINGS (2025)

Team	Pts.	Overall/SBC
Kentucky	**22**	**10-4-5/7-1-1**
West Virginia	21	13-5-3/7-2-0
Marshall	19	12-4-5/6-2-1
Georgia Southern	18	13-4-1/6-3-0
UCF	14	10-7-3/4-3-2
Georgia State	9	4-8-6/2-4-3
Old Dominion	8	5-5-8/1-3-5
Coastal Carolina	7	3-9-2/2-6-1
South Carolina	5	7-9-2/1-6-2
James Madison	3	1-10-5/0-6-3

2026 GOAL TRACKER

Goal #	Opponent	Goal Scorer	Minute	Score	Assist(s)
1	Western Michigan	Tom Keller	34th	1-2	Costa Iliadis
2	Western Michigan	Costa Iliadis	66th	2-2	Marcus Andersen
3	Louisville	Michael Lee	18th	1-0	Costa Iliadis, Yasha Schaerer
4	Louisville	Yasha Schaerer	31st	2-0	Michael Lee

KENTUCKY WHEN...

MONTH

August	0-1-1
September	0-0-0
October	0-0-0
November	0-0-0
December	0-0-0

TYPE OF GAME

Home	0-1-1
Away	0-0-0
Neutral	0-0-0
Conference	0-0-0
Nonconference	0-1-1
vs. Top 10	0-0-0
vs. Top 25	0-0-0

KENTUCKY SCORING

Scoring first	0-1-0
1 or fewer goals	0-0-0
2 goals	0-1-1
3 or more goals	0-0-0

OPPONENT SCORING

Scoring first	0-0-1
1 or fewer goals	0-0-0
2 goals	0-0-1
3 or more goals	0-1-0

KENTUCKY SHOOTING

Outshooting opponent	0-0-1
5 or fewer shots	0-0-0
6-10 shots	0-0-0
11-15 shots	0-1-0
16 or more shots	0-0-1

OPPONENT SHOOTING

Outshoots Kentucky	0-1-0
5 or fewer shots	0-0-0
6-10 shots	0-0-1
11-15 shots	0-0-0
16 or more shots	0-1-0

MISCELLANEOUS

Leading at the half	0-1-0
Tied at the half	0-0-0
Trailing at the half	0-0-1
One goal games	0-1-0
Following a loss	0-0-0
Following a win	0-0-0
Following a tie	0-1-0
Day games (Starting at/before 5 p.m. ET)	0-0-0
Night games (Starting at/after 6:30 p.m. ET)	0-1-1

2026-27 Kentucky Men's Soccer
Overall Team Statistics
All games

Game Records

Overall	Conference	Home	Away	Neutral
0 - 1 - 1	0 - 0 - 0	0 - 1 - 1	0 - 0 - 0	0 - 0 - 0

Team statistics

	UK	OPP
SHOT STATISTICS		
Goals-Shot attempts	4-37	5-29
Goals scored per game	2	2.5
Shot pct.	.108	.172
Shots on goal-Attempts	13-37	13-29
SOG pct.	.351	.448
Shots/Game	18.5	14.5
Assists	5	3
GOAL BREAKDOWN		
Total Goals	4	5
Penalty	0	1
Unassisted	-	-
Overtime	0	0
Goals scored average	2	2.5
CORNER KICKS	13	10
PENALTY KICKS	0-0	1-1
OFFSIDES	4	4
PENALTIES		
Fouls	26	29
Yellow cards	6	8
Red cards	0	0
ATTENDANCE		
Total	2832	0
Dates/Avg Per Date	2/1416	0/0
Neutral Site #/Avg	0/0	-

Goals by Periods

Team	1st	2nd	OT1	OT2	TOTAL
UK	3	1	0	0	4
Opponents	2	3	0	0	5

Corners by Periods

Team	1st	2nd	OT1	OT2	TOTAL
UK	7	6	0	0	13
Opponents	4	6	0	0	10

Shots by Periods

Team	1st	2nd	OT1	OT2	TOTAL
UK	19	18	0	0	37
Opponents	11	18	0	0	29

Fouls by Periods

Team	1st	2nd	OT1	OT2	TOTAL
UK	13	13	0	0	26
Opponents	14	15	0	0	29

Saves by Periods

Team	1st	2nd	OT1	OT2	TOTAL
UK	2	6	0	0	8
Opponents	3	6	0	0	9

Offsides by Periods

Team	1st	2nd	OT1	OT2	TOTAL
UK	2	2	0	0	4
Opponents	1	3	0	0	4

2026-27 Kentucky Men's Soccer
Game Results
All games

Team Results

	Date	Opponent		Score	Overall	Conf	Att.	Goals Scored
	08/20/2026	Western Mich.	T	2-2	0-0-1	0-0-0	425	Iliadis, Costa Keller, Tom
	08/24/2026	Louisville	L	2-3	0-1-1	0-0-0	2407	Schaerer, Yasha Lee, Michael

Team Record	W-L-T
Overall:	0-1-1
Conference:	0-0-0
Home:	0-1-1
Away:	0-0-0
Neutral:	0-0-0
Overtime:	0-0-0

Attendance	Dates	Total	Avg.
Total:	2	2832	1416
Home:	2	2832	1416
Away:	0	0	0
Neutral:	0	0	0

2026-27 Kentucky Men's Soccer
Individual Statistics
All games

as of Aug 27, 2026

Game Records

Overall	Conference	Home	Away	Neutral
0 - 1 - 1	0 - 0 - 0	0 - 1 - 1	0 - 0 - 0	0 - 0 - 0

Team Box Score

No.	Player	GP-GS	MIN	G	A	PTS	SH	SH%	SOG	SOG%	YC	RC	GWG	PK-ATT	FG	OT	HAT	GTG	FOUL
22	Iliadis, Costa	2-1	133	1	2	4	6	.167	2	.333	0	0	0	0-0	0	0	0	1	0
8	Schaerer, Yasha	2-2	180	1	1	3	10	.100	3	.300	1	0	0	0-0	0	0	0	0	3
14	Lee, Michael	2-2	166	1	1	3	3	.333	2	.667	0	0	0	0-0	1	0	0	0	3
21	Keller, Tom	2-0	56	1	0	2	3	.333	2	.667	0	0	0	0-0	0	0	0	0	1
18	Andersen, Marcus	2-1	133	0	1	1	0	.000	0	.000	1	0	0	0-0	0	0	0	0	5
9	Nielsen, Thomas	2-2	155	0	0	0	4	.000	2	.500	0	0	0	0-0	0	0	0	0	5
16	Smith, Bains	2-2	135	0	0	0	3	.000	0	.000	2	0	0	0-0	0	0	0	0	0
12	Renman, Gustav	2-0	79	0	0	0	2	.000	1	.500	1	0	0	0-0	0	0	0	0	1
5	Bucci, Bernardo	2-2	180	0	0	0	2	.000	0	.000	1	0	0	0-0	0	0	0	0	1
15	Skilberg, Fredrik	1-1	30	0	0	0	2	.000	1	.500	0	0	0	0-0	0	0	0	0	1
2	Nash, Ben	2-2	180	0	0	0	1	.000	0	.000	0	0	0	0-0	0	0	0	0	2
19	Schrader, Max	2-2	123	0	0	0	1	.000	0	.000	0	0	0	0-0	0	0	0	0	1
11	Berteotti, Thomas	1-0	15	0	0	0	0	.000	0	.000	0	0	0	0-0	0	0	0	0	0
23	Brune, Mats	2-0	48	0	0	0	0	.000	0	.000	0	0	0	0-0	0	0	0	0	1
17	Alban, Bertil	1-1	30	0	0	0	0	.000	0	.000	0	0	0	0-0	0	0	0	0	0
7	Onos, Eric	1-0	6	0	0	0	0	.000	0	.000	0	0	0	0-0	0	0	0	0	0
6	Nguepissi, Cianole	2-2	158	0	0	0	0	.000	0	.000	0	0	0	0-0	0	0	0	0	2
24	Rasmussen, Benjamin	2-2	180	0	0	0	0	.000	0	.000	0	0	0	0-0	0	0	0	0	0
Total		**2**	**-**	**4**	**5**	**13**	**37**	**.108**	**13**	**.351**	**6**	**0**	**-**	**0-0**	**1**	**0**	**0**	**-**	**26**
Opponents		**2**	**-**	**5**	**3**	**13**	**29**	**.172**	**13**	**.448**	**8**	**0**	**-**	**1-1**	**1**	**0**	**0**	**-**	**29**

			Goal Average			Saves		Record			
No.	Goalie	GP-GS	MINS	GA	GAAVG	SAVES	PCT	W	L	T	SHO/CBO
24	Rasmussen, Benjamin	2-2	180:00	5	2.50	8	.615	0	1	1	0/0
TM	TEAM	-	00:00	0	0.00	0	.000	0	0	0	0/0
Total		**2**	**180:00**	**5**	**2.50**	**8**	**.615**	**0**	**1**	**1**	**0**
Opponents		**2**	**180:00**	**4**	**2.00**	**9**	**.692**	**1**	**0**	**1**	**0**

Goals by Periods

Team	1st	2nd	OT1	OT2	TOTAL
UK	3	1	0	0	4
Opponents	2	3	0	0	5

Corners by Periods

Team	1st	2nd	OT1	OT2	TOTAL
UK	7	6	0	0	13
Opponents	4	6	0	0	10

Shots by Periods

Team	1st	2nd	OT1	OT2	TOTAL
UK	19	18	0	0	37
Opponents	11	18	0	0	29

Fouls by Periods

Team	1st	2nd	OT1	OT2	TOTAL
UK	13	13	0	0	26
Opponents	14	15	0	0	29

Saves by Periods

Team	1st	2nd	OT1	OT2	TOTAL
UK	2	6	0	0	8
Opponents	3	6	0	0	9

Attendance Summary

	UK	Opponents
Total	2832	0
Dates/Avg Per Date	2 / 1416	0 / 0
Neutral Site #/Avg	0 / 0	

Gilles Monti

5-Yr. · GK · 6-3

Bienne, Switzerland

Prior to UK: Gilles Monti is an experienced and accomplished goalkeeper from Switzerland who brings leadership, composure, and a strong presence between the posts. A confident shot-stopper with excellent command of his penalty area and the ability to organize the defense, Gilles has developed through the Swiss football system and gained valuable experience competing at a high level throughout his career. He is known for his consistency, professionalism, and calm decision-making under pressure. Throughout his career, Gilles has represented several clubs in Switzerland, continuing to progress and establish himself as a reliable goalkeeper in competitive senior environments. Most recently, he has competed for FC La Chaux-de-Fonds, where he has continued to showcase his experience and quality as a goalkeeper. His years of playing in the Swiss game have helped him develop strong leadership qualities, game management skills, and a deep understanding of the position.

Off the field, Gilles is committed to his personal and professional development and plans to pursue an Undergraduate Certificate in Leadership at the University of Kentucky. His dedication to growth both on and off the field reflects the values we look for in our student-athletes.

Ben Nash

So. · DF · 5-11

Edmonton, Alberta, Canada

2025 (Penn State): Played in all 14 games… Started in five games… Scored a goal… Played 451 minutes … Made his first career appearance vs. Stetson (8/21) … Scored his first career goal vs. Army West Point (8/24)… Made his first career start vs. Maryland (9/23).

High School: Hailing from Edmonton, Alberta, Canada, Nash most recently competed with the Vancouver Whitecaps Academy team, as well as with the Vancouver Whitecaps II in MLS Next Pro. With the BTB Soccer Academy, which he competed with from 2020-23, Nash was a back-to-back Alberta Provincial Champion in 2022 and 2023. In the 2022 season, he helped lead his team to the Toyota National Championship. He was three-times voted to the BTB Best XI during his time with the club.

Max Miller

5-Yr. · DF · 5-10

Lexington, Ky.

Career Accolades:
Selected with the 50th overall pick by Nashville SC in the 2026 MLS SuperDraft
2023 Sun Belt Second Team All-Conference

2025 (Senior): CAPTAIN … Selected with the 50th overall pick by Nashville SC in the 2026 MLS SuperDraft … Appeared in 12 matches for the Wildcats in 2025, including eight starts … Recorded one assist at Coastal Carolina (9/28) … Totaled six shots and one shot on goal on the season … Logged 886 minutes, playing 90+ in six games … SBC Commissioner's List.

2024 (Junior): CAPTAIN … Did not play.

2023 (Sophomore): CAPTAIN … Named Sun Belt Second Team All-Conference … Recorded assist in QF round of 2023 Sun Belt Conference Tournament vs. JMU … Leads team with seven assists … Named to TopDrawerSoccer's Team of the Week (10.31.2023) … Recorded one assist to defeat No. 2 undefeated WVU … Recorded two assists vs. FGCU … Recorded one assist vs. ETSU, Lipscomb and Coastal Carolina … Sun Belt Preseason All-Conference … Saw action in 20 matches … Recorded 14 shots with three on goal.

2022 (Freshman): Scored equalizer vs. Dayton … Scored final goal vs. South Florida in second round of NCAA Tournament … Played 21 matches with 18 starts … Recorded 14 shots, five on

Sinan Solmaz

Sr. · DF · 6-3

Bergisch Gladbach, Germany

Career Accolades:
2024 First Team All-Big West

2025 (Junior): Appeared and started in 16 of the Wildcats' 19 matches in 2025 … Finished the season with the team's fourth-highest minute tally with 1,319 … Logged 90+ minutes in 10 of the 16 appearances … Scored his second career goal in a 3-2 win over UCF (9/19) … Recorded three shots and two shots on goal … Appeared in six of the Wildcats eight clean sheet in 2025 … Anchored the Kentucky defensive backline, primarily positioned as the left-side center back.

2024 (CSU Bakersfield): Started in all 16 games played … Earned First Team All-Big West honors…Tied for second among CSUB field players in minutes played (1,440)… Played all 90 minutes in all 16 games … Anchored the CSUB backline that had a 1.24 goals against average, sixth-best in the program's Division I history … Played the full 90 in both of Bakersfield's shutout victories … Scored first collegiate goal in win vs. UC Riverside … Earned CSC Academic All-District honors.

2023 (CSU Bakersfield): Played in 11 matches during his freshman season, starting in seven … Tallied 725 minutes played on the backline, a crucial part of CSUB's defense, which ranked 18th in the country in Goals Against Average (0.82) … Played all 90 minutes in 4 matches, including shutout at San Francisco (Sept. 7).

Bernardo Bucci

Fr. · DF · 6-1

Citta di Castello, Italy

Prior to UK: Joins Kentucky from Serie D club Trestina, the top level of Italy's non-professional football pyramid. Competing in one of the most competitive environments for young defenders in Europe, he developed his game against experienced and technically skilled opponents. His time in Italy has shaped him into a reliable and intelligent defender who reads the game well, wins duels, and brings leadership qualities to the back line.

Bernardo is pursuing his Undergraduate degree in Business at the University of Kentucky. He is eager to grow as both a student and a player in a competitive collegiate environment, and he's excited about the opportunity to challenge himself in a new setting while working toward his long-term goals.

Cianole Nguepissi

Jr. · DF · 6-2

Birmingham, England

Career Accolades:
College Sports Communicators Academic All-District (2025)
WAC All-Freshman Team (2024)
WAC All-Academic Team (2024 & 2025)

2025 (San Diego State): Appeared in all 18 matches while making 16starts… Led the team in minutes, playing 1,441 minutes (80/match) while playing a full 90 minutes 13 times… Had an assist at Howard (Aug. 24)… Attempted 10 shots… After the season was named to the WAC All-Academic Team and to the CSC Academic All-District Team.

2024 (San Diego State): Made an immediate impact in his first season at SDSU… Appeared in 15 matches and made 12 starts, including all eight WAC matches and was named to the WAC All-Freshman team… Helped the Aztecs record shutouts in six of their eight WAC matches… Had two assists… Played 1,06 minutes (73/match)… Played all 90 minutes in eight of the last nine matches… after the season was named to the WAC All-Academic Team.

High School: Played for West Bromwich Albion where he was team captain and helped win the 2022 Premier League 2 Cup… Played 1,779 minutes in the 2022-23 season… Also played for Birmingham City FC.

Eric Onos

Jr. · MF/FWD · 5-7

Buchen, Germany

2025 (Sophomore): Missed the first nine games of the season due to injury … Tallied 10 appearances and four starts … Recorded an assist in each of his first two appearances against Marshall (10/10) and Indiana (10/14) … Tallied eight total shots and one on goal against South Carolina (10/19) … Logged 421 minutes of play, including a season-high 82 vs. No. 10 West Virginia (10/26) … SBC Commissioner's List.

2024 (Freshman): Recorded assist vs. Coastal Carolina (10/27) ... No. 72 in Top Drawer Soccer's Midseason Freshman Top 100 ... Recorded two assists at South Carolina (10/4) ... Scored first Wildcat goal unassisted versus Lipscomb (9/14) ... Saw action on 17 matches ... Recorded one on goal, three assists, five points, 16 shots with five.

Yasha Schaerer

Sr. · MF · 5-8

Zurich, Switzerland

Career Accolades:
2024 Second team All-North Region selection
2024 Ohio Valley Conference Midfielder of the Year and first team All-OVC selection
2024 OVC All-Newcomer team selection
2024 OVC All-Tournament team selection
2023 First Team All-America
2023 First Team All-Region

2025 (Marshall): Made 16 total appearances in his lone season with the Thundering Herd, including seven starts … Recorded five assists, which finished tied for the team lead … Recorded 14 shots and four shots on goal … Totaled 597 minutes on the season.

2024 (SIUE): Second team All-North Region selection…Ohio Valley Conference Midfielder of the Year and first team All-OVC selection…OVC All-Newcomer team selection…OVC All-tournament team selection…Leading scorer for the Cougars with 15 points on three goals and an OVC-leading nine assists…His 15 points were good for fifth in the OVC…Nine total assists ranked 18th in the NCAA…Scored three game-winning goals to tie for the most in the OVC and rank 40th in the NCAA…Netted the game's only goal in the Bronze Boot win over Saint Louis (9/8) at CITYPARK…Scored the game-winner in SIUE's 2-0 win at Bradley (9/18)…Scored game-winner in SIUE's 2-0 win over Lindenwood (9/28)…Second on the team in total shot (42) and shots on goal (19)…One of only two players (Wes Gibson) to start all 20 games for the Cougars.

2023 (Mid American Christian): Played for National Christian College member Mid American Christian as a true freshman in 2023…Earned First Team All-America, First Team All-Region…Made 20 starts… Scored five goals, including a pair of game-winners, and added six assists.

Thomas Nielsen

Fr. · FWD · 6-1

Copenhagen, Denmark

Prior to UK: Thomas has developed within the Danish football system, competing with clubs including Boldklubben af 1893 and FC Helsingør. His experience in competitive academy and senior environments has helped shape him into a well-rounded attacker with strong tactical understanding and professionalism at a young age.

Off the field, Thomas is motivated to continue growing both academically and personally as he begins the next chapter of his career in Lexington.

Agustin Lopez

Jr. · MF · 5-10

Santa Fe, Argentina

Career Accolades:
2025 All-Sun Belt First Team
2025 United Soccer Coaches All-Southeast Region Second Team
2025 Preseason All-Sun Belt Team
2024 All-Sun Belt Conference Second Team

2025 (Sophomore): Named to the 2025 All-Sun Belt First Team and Preseason All-Sun Belt Team … 2025 United Soccer Coaches All-Southeast Region Second Team … Appeared in 14 matches during his sophomore season, making 11 starts … Scored four goals, two assists and 10 points on the season … Recorded his first career brace in a 2-0 win over Coastal Carolina (9/28) … Recorded 24 shots and 10 shots on goal … Recorded a season-high four shots in a 2-1 win over South Carolina (10/19) and the SBC Quarterfinal win over Coastal Carolina (11/9) … Logged 963 total minutes … Played the full 90 minutes in three games.

2024 (Freshman): Named All-Sun Belt Conference Second Team … Scored final goal at Georgia State (11/5) … Recorded two assists at Georgia State (11/5) … No. 35 in Top Drawer Soccer's Midseason Freshman Top 100 … Scored first Wildcat goal versus Virginia Tech (9/2/24) … Saw action in 18 matches with two goals and two assists for six points … Recorded 30 shots with 10 on goal.

Thomas Berteotti

SO. · MF · 5-9

Wallonia, Belgium

Prior to UK: Berteotti joins the Wildcats from RAAL's U23 squad in Belgium. He brings vision, flair, and strong technical ability in the final third. He is comfortable operating between the lines, unlocking defenses with precise passing, and creating scoring opportunities for both himself and his teammates. Developing in a competitive Belgian environment has sharpened Thomas' tactical awareness and composure in tight spaces. His ability to read the game, combine quickly, and impact play in advanced areas makes him a constant offensive threat and a valuable piece in the attacking phase.

Off the field, Thomas is equally ambitious academically and plans to study Business at the University of Kentucky, demonstrating his commitment to excelling both in the classroom and on the pitch.

Gustav Renman

So. · FWD · 5-9

Stockholm, Sweden

Academic Accolades:
SEC First Year Academic Honor Roll – 2026

2025 (Freshman): Made 10 appearances for the Wildcats during his freshman season, including six starts … Recorded his first career assist in 4-0 win over Detroit Mercy (9/9) … Finished the season with one assist, seven shots and three shots on goal … Recorded a season-high three shots against Bowling Green (/14) … Logged 439 total minutes on the season, including a season-high 67 against Detroit Mercy (9/9).

Michael Lee

Jr. · FWD · 5-9

Toronto, Ontario, Canada

2025 (Louisville): Played in 17 games, starting 15 of them for a total of 971 minutes… Scored three goals, tied for first on the team, and recorded two assists for a total of eight points, also tied for first on the team… His three goals came against Southern Indiana, UAB, and Evansville… Selected to the CSC Academic All-District Team.

2024 (Louisville): Played in 15 of 17 matches with 13 starts as a freshman … Finished with two goals, three assists and seven points while playing 861 minutes … Made his collegiate debut against Bellarmine … Tallied his first career point with an assist at Pitt … Assisted on the opening goal at Boston College … Notched an assist at Cal … Scored his first collegiate goal against Lipscomb … Scored Louisville's first goal vs. SMU.

Fredrik Skilberg

5-Yr. · FWD · 6-1

Johns Creek, Ga.

Career Accolades:
All-AAC Rookie Team (2022)

2025 (SMU): Made three appearances on the season … Recorded two shots and one shot on goal.

2024 (SMU): Made three appearances for the Mustangs … Recorded three shots and one shot on goal.

2023 (SMU): Played in all 19 matches including 15 starts … Scored game winning goal versus Yale in final minutes of play… Assisted one in season opener against UTRGV… One weekly honor roll nod … Saw six shots on goal after logging 933 total minutes of play.

2022 (SMU): Played in 16 games and started 13… Scored seven goals… Recorded two assists… Shot 26 times with 14 landing on goal… Earned a hat trick against Temple (Sep. 30)… Logged 880 minutes.

Bains Smith

Jr. · FWD · 6-1

Johns Creel, Ga.

2025 (Sophomore): Saw action in 14 matches, making three starts … Lifted the Wildcats to a 2-1 win over South Carolina (10/19) with a game-winning goal in the 81st minute, his first of the season … Recorded two assists in 2025, one in a 3-2 win over UCF (9/19) and one in a 2-2 draw against Louisville (9/23) … Ended the season with 15 shots and 10 shots on goal, including a season-high three against South Carolina (10/19) … Logged 518 minutes on the pitch during his sophomore season … Played a season-high 69 minutes in the SBC Quarterfinal vs. UCF (11/12) … SBC Academic Honor roll.

2024 (Freshman): Recorded first Wildcat assist at Georgia State (11/5) … Saw action in seven matches … Recorded one assist and three shots.

Bertil Alban

Jr. · MF · 6-0

Skovlunde, Denmark

2025 (Sophomore): Appeared in 16 matches for the Wildcats in 2025, including 14 starts … Scored three goals on the season, along with six points, nine shots and three shots on goal … Got on the scoresheet with three goals in three consecutive against Detroit Mercy (9/9), Bowling Green (9/14) and UCF (9/19) … Logged 1,019 total minutes on the season … Played the full 90 minutes in five of his 16 appearances … SBC Commissioner's List … CSC Academic All-District.

2024 (Freshman): Recorded assist at Georgia State (11/5) … Assisted Mateo Franzotti's goal at Indiana in 36' (10/8) … Assisted Nick Zielonka's goal vs. Virginia Tech (9/2) … Assisted game-winning goal in season opener vs. Oral Roberts (8/22) … Saw action in 17 matches recorded four assists to tie for the second most on the 2024 squad … Recorded 12 shots with five on goal.

Marcus Andersen

So. · MF · 5-11

Greve, Denmark

Career Accolades:
2025 All-Sun Belt Freshman Team

Academic Accolades:
SEC First Year Academic Honor Roll – 2026

2025 (Freshman): Named to the 2025 All-Sun Belt Freshman Team … Appeared in 18 matches and made 12 starts … Recorded one assist and five shots on the season … Assisted on the Wildcats' opening goal in a 2-0 win over James Madison … Logged 1,145 total minutes, including a season-high 106 in the Sun Belt Quarterfinal win against Coastal Carolina … Played 80+ minutes in seven of his 18 appearances.

Max Schrader

Jr. · DF · 6-1

Cherry Hill, N.J.

2025 (Rider): Appeared and started in 16 matches during his sophomore season, playing the full 90 minutes in each appearances … Scored his first career goal at Mount St. Mary's (11/05) … Logged a total of 1,440 total minutes on the season.

2024 (Rider): Started all 19 matched played on the Broncs' back line, playing 90 or more minutes 16 times and no fewer than 76 minutes in any match … Played a total of 1,688 minutes on the season … Played an invaluable role on a Rider defense that allowed just 14 goals, posted a 0.69 goals-against average (3rd – NCAA) and 10 shutouts (.500 shutout percentage – 4th – NCAA), all league bests … Assisted on Bryan Akongo's game-winning goal in a 2-0 win over Quinnipiac (Oct. 12)

High School: Played for Real Jersey FC, MLS Next… Scored two goals and added an assist in his senior season at Scholar Athletes Leadership Academy… Also played for Real JFC.

Ilan Ettinger
Fr. · DF · 6-1
Atlanta, Ga.

Prior to UK: Through his development at Atlanta United, Ilan has competed in one of the top professional academy environments in the country. Facing elite competition in MLS NEXT has helped shape his tactical understanding, discipline, and consistency at a high level. His experience in a professional development system has prepared him well for the demands of the collegiate game. Off the field, Ilan is focused on his academic future and plans to major in Business at the University of Kentucky, continuing to pursue excellence both in the classroom and on the field

Tom Keller
Fr. · FWD · 6-1
Neunkirchen, Germany

Prior to UK: Tom developed at FC Ingolstadt's U19 squad, competing in the highly competitive U19 Bundesliga—one of the top youth leagues in Europe. During his time there, he scored an impressive 17 goals, showcasing his quality against elite academy opposition. He now competes in Germany's 5th division with Hertha Wiesbach, where he has already added four goals, continuing to demonstrate his ability to impact games at the senior level. His experience in demanding German environments has helped shape his professionalism, work rate, and competitive mentality

Costa Iliadis

Fr. · FWD · 6-0

Toronto, Ontario, Canada

Prior to UK: Transferring from Clemson University, Costa has progressed through a diverse soccer journey that includes youth training across Canada and Europe, giving him a strong tactical foundation and high-level comfort on the ball. Costa began his development in Canada with Serbian White Eagles, Sigma FC, and Rush Canada SA before spending formative years in the Panathinaikos FC academy in Greece. His international background has helped shape him into a well-rounded midfielder capable of influencing the game in multiple phases, whether dictating tempo, progressing play, or contributing in the final third. Since signing with Toronto FC II, Costa has continued his development in MLS NEXT Pro, gaining valuable experience in a competitive environment and competing against top young
talent. His exposure to different playing styles and competitive levels has strengthened his adaptability and overall game intelligence.

Off the field, Costa plans to study Business at the University of Kentucky, demonstrating his commitment to excelling both academically and athletically.

Mats Brune

Fr. · MF · 5-9

Witten, Germany

Prior to UK: Mats developed in the youth academies of Borussia Dortmund and RW Essen, two highly respected German programs known for producing technically sound and tactically sharp players. He currently competes in Germany's 4th Division with SC Wiedenbrück, gaining valuable experience in a competitive senior environment that has accelerated his maturity, physicality, and game understanding. As a German citizen, he brings a strong footballing background shaped by one of the world's most demanding development systems.

Off the field, Mats is committed to continuing his education in Business at the University of Kentucky, aligning his academic goals with his ambition to compete at a high level.

Benjamin Rasmussen

Fr. · GK · 6-3

Haderslev, Denmark

Prior to UK: Rasmussen joins the Wildcats from Sønderjyske Fodbold's U19 team in Denmark. A confident presence between the posts, Benjamin brings strong shot-stopping ability, good command of his area, and the composure needed to build play from the back. His technical foundation and understanding of the position reflect his development in a professional academy environment. Competing at the U19 level for Sønderjyske Fodbold has allowed Benjamin to face high-level opposition and grow within a structured, competitive setting. His experience in Danish youth football has sharpened his decision-making, communication, and consistency, preparing him well for the next stage of his career.

Off the field, Benjamin is focused on his academic development and plans to study Business at the University of Kentucky, balancing his athletic ambitions with strong educational goals.

JJ Vozar

So. · DF · 6-1

Pittsburgh, Pa.

2025 (Freshman): Did not play

Prior to UK: Vozar joined the Wildcats last fall

Ari Saliu

Fr. · MF · 5-11

Chicago, Ill.

Prior to UK: As captain at Nashville SC, Ari developed within one of the nation's top academies, competing against elite opposition and playing a crucial role in his team's success at the MLS NEXT level. His experience leading high-level teammates has shaped him into a well-rounded player with a strong understanding of the professional game and the mentality required to excel at the next level.

Off the field, Ari is equally ambitious—he plans to study Business at the University of Kentucky, reflecting his drive to succeed both academically and athletically. We're thrilled to have Ari join our program and believe he has the talent, leadership, and character to make a lasting impact here in Lexington.

Dillon Griner

So. · GK · 5-11

Atlanta, Ga.

2025 (Freshman):

Prior to UK:

JOHAN CEDERGREN

HEAD COACH - 15TH SEASON

2022 Sun Belt Conference Coach of the Year and head coach of the NCAA DI Southeast Region Staff of the Year, Johan Cedergren, enters his 14th season at the helm of the University of Kentucky men's soccer program for the 2024 season.

Kentucky has reached the NCAA Tournament in 10 of Cedergren's 13 seasons leading the Wildcats. In addition to recognition as 2022 Coach of the Year in the Sun Belt, he was also named Conference USA Coach of the Year in 2014, 2015, and 2018. Cedergren became the fastest head coach in program history to win 100 career matches at UK on April 10, 2021.

In 2024, produced Kentucky's 10th winning season in Sun Belt Conference play under Cedergren with a record of 5-3-3, including wins over South Carolina (twice), Old Dominion, Coastal Carolina and Georgia Southern. The Wildcats earned four Sun Belt weekly honors in 2024, including two defensive awards from goalkeeper Ryan Jack and two offensive honors for forward Logan Dorsey. The Cats also claimed two Sun Belt All-Tournament Team honors and four academic All-Americans.

In 2023, Cedergren led the Wildcats to the second round of the NCAA tournament for the fifth consecutive season becoming one of the three NCAA DI men's soccer programs in the nation to accomplish the feat next to Indiana and Georgetown. The 2023 season featured an away upset of No. 1 Marshall followed by a home defeat of No. 2 West Virginia to change the trajectory of the match slate. Sophomore Max Miller was named Sun Belt Second Team All-Conference with Ben Damge and Casper Mols named to the All-Tournament Team.

Kentucky men's soccer's inaugural year as a Sun Belt affiliate, proved to be the best season to date for the Wildcats. UK went undefeated in the regular season achieving the conference double winning both the Sun Belt regular season title and conference tournament. The Cats entered the postseason with its first ever No. 1 national ranking. The postseason run was cut short in the Sweet 16 where Kentucky made its fifth-ever NCAA Sweet 16 appearance and fourth consecutive season.

The Wildcats proved to be a powerhouse on the pitch and were no strangers to award recognition. Louis Grassow earned Sun Belt Defensive Player of the Year while freshman Casper Mols was voted Sun Belt Goalkeeper of the Year. The conference first team featured both Grassow and Mols, as well as Eythor Bjorgolfsson, Enzo Mauriz, Robert Screen with the second team featuring Casper Grening, Clay Holstad (tournament MVP), Nick Gutmann, Andrew Erickson and Lucca Rodrigues.

Following the conclusion of the 2022 campaign, a record number of three Wildcats, Bjorgolfsson, Grassow and Mols, received first team All-America honors. Bjorgolfsson and Grassow were also announced as MAC Hermann Trophy semifinalists. Two Wildcats, Grassow and Ben Damge, were also were selected for the 2022 College Sports Communicators Academic All-America Men's Soccer Team due to their academic and athletic efforts. Erickson and Martin Soereide received All-District honors.

For the first time in program history, three Wildcats were drafted in the 2023 MLS adidas SuperDraft. Bjorgolfsson was signed to Seattle Sounders FC as the 38th overall pick, Holstad was signed as the 43rd overall pick to Columbus Crew and Grassow went to Orlando City SC as the 46th pick. In addition to the three drafted in the SuperDraft, goalkeeper Isaac Walker received a first-team contract with Charlotte FC. Screen was also signed to Madison Forward FC.

Cedergren's 10th season in Lexington in 2021 was one to remember as he led the Wildcats to their second C-USA Tournament championship title in school history after defeating Florida Atlantic, 2-1, in an overtime thriller. Kentucky then went on to its fourth-ever NCAA Championship Sweet 16 appearance.

Kentucky's award haul in 2021 was nothing short of impressive. The Wildcats landed three players on the All-C-USA First Team, one on the Second Team, three on the Third Team, two on the All-Freshman Team, and four on the All-Tournament Team. Goalkeeper
Jan Hoffelner was named the C-USA Goalkeeper of the Year and earned the Golden Boot Award, while he joined Grassow and Marcel Meinzer on the USCA All-Region First Team.

Under Cedergren, Hoffelner became the third UK player to ever earn United Soccer Coaches First-Team All-American in 2021. Hoffelner was also a MAC Hermann Trophy semifinalist and concluded the season as the NCAA Division I outright leader in goals-against average (.417), also tied for first with 12 shutouts.

During an extended 2020 season that was played in Spring 2021 due to COVID-19, Cedergren led the Wildcats to their third NCAA Championship Sweet 16 appearance in school history, marking the second such showing in the last three seasons. Between the fall 2020 and spring 2021 semesters, redshirt senior Aimé Mabika was selected with the 26th pick in the first round of the MLS SuperDraft by Inter Miami FC. One week prior, Kalil ElMedkhar signed a two-year contract with FC Dallas after his Homegrown Rights were acquired from the Philadelphia Union.

At the conclusion of the spring, Mabika earned United Soccer Coaches All-Southeast Region honors and six Wildcats received C-USA postseason accolades, including first-team All-C-USA performer and C-USA Co-Midfielder of the Year Marcel Meinzer. Redshirt junior Leon Jones earned All-C-USA First Team and United Soccer Coaches Scholar All-Region distinctions before embarking on his professional career with Dunfermline Athletic FC in his home country of Scotland.

In 2019, Cedergren led Kentucky to an NCAA Tournament victory at home for the second consecutive season with a 2-1 overtime victory over Loyola Chicago. Four Wildcats received United Soccer Coaches All-Southeast Region recognition while seven earned C-USA honors at the end of the season. Mabika was named C-USA Player of the Year and a United Soccer Coaches

JOHAN CEDERGREN, CONT.

Three Wildcats – JJ Williams (First Team), Enrique Facusse (Second Team), and Mabika (Third Team) – were named All-Americans by the United Soccer Coaches for the 2018 season. Williams was a finalist for the MAC Hermann Trophy, the highest individual award in college soccer, as he went on to sign a Generation Adidas Contract and be a first-round pick of Columbus Crew in the MLS SuperDraft.

As of the beginning of the 2024 season, Cedergren has coached a Kentucky player selected in the MLS SuperDraft five of the past seven years. Napo Matsoso went 31st in 2017 to the New England Revolution and Alex Bumpus was taken 52nd overall in 2018 by New York City FC. The most recent draftee, Casper Mols, was picked 77th overall in the 2024 adidas MLS SuperDraft by Atlanta United FC. Kentucky currently has 23 former players in the professional circuit across the MLS, USL and international leagues.

In 2016, Cedergren led UK to the program's first NCAA Tournament national top-16 seed, which followed the 2015 C-USA Regular Season Championship. He guided the Wildcats to a second-place league finish during a 2014 season which saw the Wildcats pick up multiple program-changing wins, including one on the road versus the top-ranked reigning NCAA champion Notre Dame.

Cedergren also coached one All-American each season from 2014-2016 as goalkeeper Callum Irving earned the honors in both 2014 and 2015 while Matsoso picked up recognition in 2016.

Becoming just the third head coach in Kentucky men's soccer history, Cedergren arrived in Lexington in December 2011. The 2012 season, his first, saw the Wildcats post one of their best seasons in school annals, as UK hosted the first round of the NCAA Tournament after ending the regular season sporting a top-25 NCAA RPI. In his first 11 months on the job, Cedergren directed the Wildcats to their first NCAA berth since 2003 and its best team GPA in program history.

The Wildcats excelled under Cedergren's aggressive attacking style of play during his inaugural season in 2012. Kentucky's offensive attack was speared by goal-scoring threats Matt Lodge and Tyler Riggs as UK finished with the 10th most points in single-season history, also ranking fourth in corner kicks.

Following the season, Cameron Wilder – an All-C-USA midfielder in 2012 – was drafted in the MLS Supplemental Draft by FC Dallas. Senior midfielder Charley Pettys was also inked to his first professional contract with the Los Angeles Blues in the USL. Senior forward Gabriel Conelian signed with the Portland Timbers of MLS, playing on the U-23 development team.

A native of Sölvesborg, Sweden, Cedergren came to UK after spending five years at Dartmouth as an assistant coach and associate head coach, leading the Big Green to the NCAA Tournament in each season – an impressive feat at an Ivy League program without athletic scholarships and significant academic requirements.

Cedergren helped pace Dartmouth to the Sweet 16 in two of his five years there, including two Ivy League Championships. In total, Cedergren helped lead the Big Green to a 52-30-12 overall record, including a 22-9-3 mark in league play, with consecutive NCAA Tournament appearances from 2007-11. Dartmouth was one of just 10 programs to play in five straight NCAA Tournaments, the eighth-longest streak in the nation, winning the Ivy League title in 2008 and 2011.

Cedergren played collegiality for former Dartmouth and current Penn State Head Coach Jeff Cook at Cincinnati after playing at the highest youth level in Sweden for Kalmar FF, also participating in the national development program. At Cincinnati, Cedergren was a three-year letter-winner and an All-C-USA honoree. A former team captain, he helped lead the Bearcats to its first-ever NCAA Tournament appearance in 1998 and a top-20 ranking at the end of the year.

After concluding his playing career with a business-finance degree, Cedergren attained his master's in business administration from Xavier while also working full time in finance. Before beginning his coaching career, he spent eight years working in business, including time spent with U.S. Bank (2004-07) and the Johnson Investment Counsel (2001-04). He also coached with the Cincinnati Classics Soccer Club.

Cedergren is the proud father of two children, Gavin and Abigail.

CEDERGREN YEAR-BY-YEAR AS UK HEAD COACH

Before Cedergren	Kentucky	During Cedergren
20	Seasons	14
14	Winning Seasons	11
74	Conference Wins	71
4	NCAA Tournaments	11

Year	Team	Overall Record	Conference Record
2012	Kentucky	10-9-2	4-3-1
2013	Kentucky	7-10-2	3-4-2
2014	Kentucky	11-6-4	6-1-2
2015	Kentucky	12-5-2	7-0-1
2016	Kentucky	11-5-3	5-3-0
2017	Kentucky	8-6-4	4-2-2
2018	Kentucky	19-2-1	12-1-0
2019	Kentucky	13-5-8	4-2-1
2020	Kentucky	12-5-2	3-3-1
2021	Kentucky	15-2-4	3-1-4
2022	Kentucky	15-1-5	5-0-3
2023	Kentucky	8-8-4	3-3-3
2024	Kentucky	6-6-6	5-3-3
2025	Kentucky	10-4-5	7-1-1
At Kentucky (14 years)		157-75-52	71-30-24

Coaching History:
2007-12: Dartmouth, Assistant Coach, Associate Head Coach
2012-Present: Kentucky, Head Coach

2026 RADIO/TELEVISION CHART

Gilles
MONTI

Ben
NASH

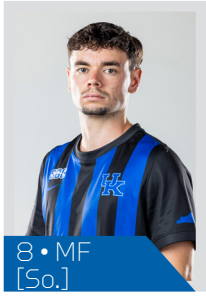
Max
MILLER

Sinan
SOLMAZ

Bernardo
BUCCI

Cianole
NGUEPISSI

Eric
ONOS



Yasha
SCHAERER

Thomas
NIELSEN

Agustin
LOPEZ

Thomas
BERTEOTTI

Gustav
RENMAN

Michael
LEE

Fredrik
SKILBERG

Bains
SMITH

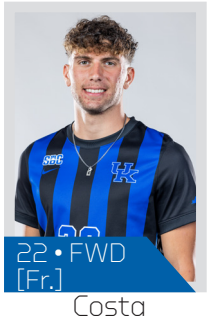
Bertil
ALBAN

Marcus
ANDERSEN

Max
SCHRADER

Ilan
ETTINGER

Tom
KELLER



Costa
ILIADIS

Mats
BRUNE

Benjamin
RASMUSSEN

JJ
VOZAR

Ari
SALIU

Dillon
GRINER