

Young but ready Jayhawks tackle tough schedule

By Jim Rasmussen
Daily Nebraskan Senior Reporter

- * — Feb. 2 in Lincoln
- * — Feb. 27 at Lawrence

The Kansas Jayhawks will try to blend young talent with a few familiar faces as they try to dethrone Oklahoma for the 1984-85 Big Eight basketball championship.

After guiding his team to a 22-10 record and NCAA tournament appearance last year, second year coach Larry Brown went far and wide to recruit some speedy freshmen. Brown has several racehorses on hand this year.

Brown's biggest recruiting catch is Danny Manning, a 6-11 forward from Lawrence, Kan. (formerly of Greensboro, N.C.). Many observers have called Manning the best college prospect in the nation. If Manning doesn't start at first, he should move into the lineup early in the season, Brown said.

"We'll be awfully good even if he doesn't start," Brown said. "But it's safe to say right now that Danny will start for us."

Other freshmen who are expected to help: Milton Newton, a 6-4 guard from Washington, D.C.; Tyrone Jones, a 6-6 forward from Washington; Antonio Campbell, a 6-1 guard from St. Louis; Anthony Hull, a 6-9 forward from Chicago; and freshmen redshirts Jim Pelton and Chris Piper.

The new recruits will join several key holdovers. 7-1 junior center Greg Dreiling returns, along with Calvin Thompson, a 6-6 forward, who averaged 11.3 points and 3.1 rebounds per game last season. Mark Turgeon and Cedric Hunter give the Jayhawks two proven guards, and Omaha forward Ron Kellogg could crack the starting lineup.

Brown said he's optimistic about the season, but cautioned KU fans not to expect too much from the young Jay-

hawks early in the season. The non-conference schedule is sprinkled with toughies: Houston, Kentucky, Maryland, Memphis State, Wichita State and Michigan, among others.

"We play a lot of great teams," Brown said. "But we don't worry about who we play or where we play them."

Brown said he likes to play tough teams early in the season because it readies his team for the Big Eight schedule.

"We'll have as tough a schedule as anybody," he said. "I just hope we don't lose confidence. I just want to see this

team play as well as we're capable of playing."

Brown said the Jayhawks have been inconsistent in pre-season practices. Much of that inconsistency is coming from the freshmen, he said, who are still trying to adjust to a new system.

"They really haven't jumped out at you," Brown said of his young players. "It's going to take them a while to get going."

Brown said he plans to use most of the youngsters sparingly at first, but said they should work into the lineup as the season progresses.

Inexperienced Jayhawks have 'nothing to prove'

By Brent Cobb
Daily Nebraskan Staff Reporter

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"We don't have a thing to prove but everything to gain," said University of Kansas women's head basketball coach Marian Washington. And with one senior, one junior, two sophomores and eight freshmen that's about the only attitude a team as young as KU can have.

The Jayhawks tied for fifth in the Big Eight last year ending the season at 11-16.

The hawks suffered one substantial loss because of graduation — that of All-Big Eight performer Angie Snyder.

Another All-Big Eight performer, Vickie Adkins, returns to anchor the KU squad.

Adkins lead the conference in rebounding at 9.9 per game and her 16.9 points per game ranked her 6th among the conferences top scorers. In addition, she earned a spot on the Kodak All-Regional team.

Sole senior Mary Myers returns to guard spot averaging 8.3 points and a team leading 55 steals in her junior campaign. Rounding out the KU upperclassmen

are a pair of sophomores: Toni Webb, 3.6 points 1.5 rebounds; and Evette Ott 5.7 points and 2.5 rebounds.

"We've been working very hard to develop a good solid foundation and with these eight freshmen I believe we've done that," Washington said.

With the eight frosh, at least one will have to fulfill a starting role, but Washington believes that most all will see some extended playing time before the season is over.

"With each game we'll have to experiment with different combinations until we can find a set that works real well," Washington said.

The top freshmen candidates are Lisa Doherty, Jackie Martin and 6-5 Kelly Jennings.

"With such a young team, if we're patient we're going to have a lot to look forward to in the future," Washington said. "Our inexperience is our greatest weakness, but we have some great athletes who have good overall quickness and great desire, they are a close unit with a good team attitude."

In addition to the tough conference games, Kansas will play Vanderbilt, Drake, and Louisiana Tech — all are ranked in the top 20.



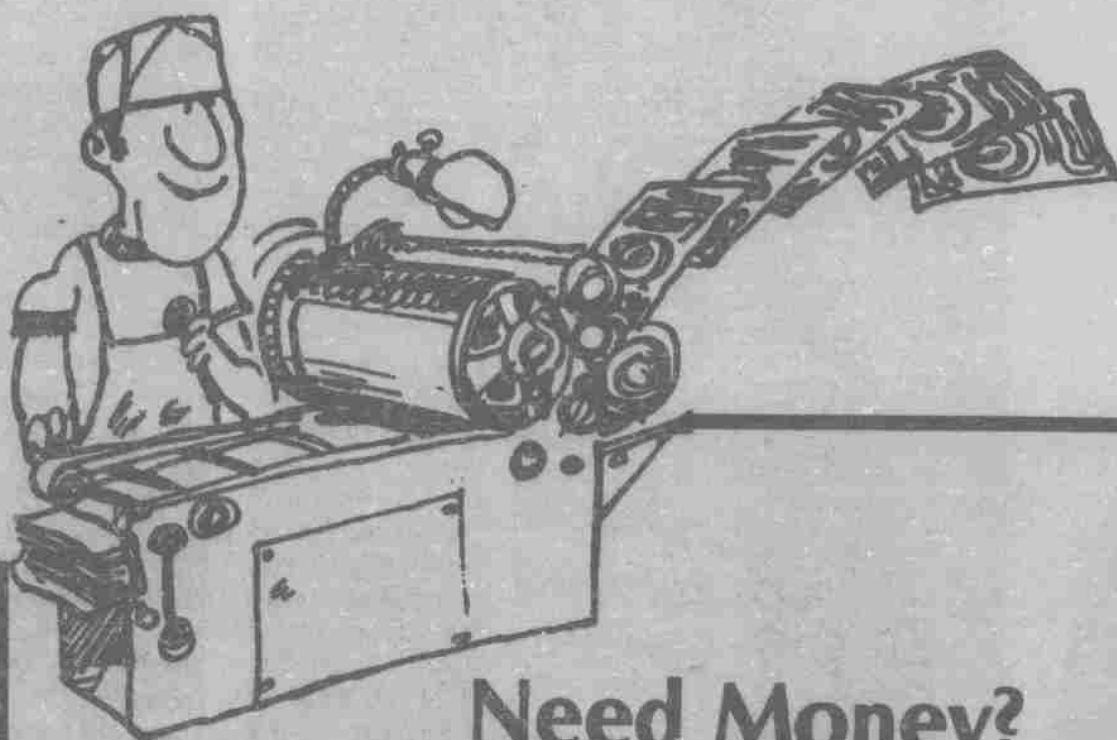
Kansas Coach Larry Brown enters his second year in Lawrence.

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