**UK AT THE HALF featuring Mark Shanda**

**Friday, Nov. 17 – East Tennessee State University (ETSU) at UK men’s basketball**

**CARL NATHE:** THANKS, KEITH.

**Mark Shanda:** Was originally planning to be a lawyer, but I found I was having far more fun in the theatre building than I was the law library.

**CARL NATHE:** MARK SHANDA, WHO BECAME DEAN OF UNIVERSITY OF KENTUCKY’S COLLEGE OF FINE ARTS, ON SEPTEMBER 1st, TALKING ABOUT HIS STUDENT DAYS AT IOWA STATE UNIVERSITY. SHANDA CAME TO UK THIS SUMMER AFTER 31 YEARS AS A FACULTY MEMBER AND ADMINISTRATOR AT OHIO STATE. HE IMMEDIATELY LIKED WHAT HE SAW AT UK.

**Mark Shanda:** When I came to campus, I was extremely impressed by the energy that was on campus, the quality of the faculty and staff and students and the administrative leadership. The president convinced me while sitting in his office about the trajectory of this university.

**CARL NATHE:** THE COLLEGE ENCOMPASSES A FULL RANGE OF OPPORTUNITES FOR STUDENT MAJORS AND MINORS.

**Mark Shanda:** The College of Fine Arts has four academic units: The School of Art and Visual Studies, The School of Music, The Department of Theatre and Dance and The Department of Arts Administration. Additionally, within the college is the Singletary Center for the Arts and the University of Kentucky Art Museum.

**CARL NATHE:** THE COLLEGE IS DEDICATED TO TEACHING, SCHOLARLY RESEARCH, ARTISTIC EXERIMENTATION, PERFORMANCE AND EXHIBITION. WHAT CAN STUDENTS GAIN?

**Mark Shanda:** Arts develop critical skills. They develop things like collaboration. They develop skills like analysis; how do I look at something? They produce skills that are value-based; how am I going to spend my time?

**CARL NATHE:** MARK SHANDA’S CAREER BACKGROUND WAS BUILT BACKSTAGE AND HE CURRENTLY SERVES AS NATIONAL PRESIDENT OF THE UNITED STATES INSTITUTE FOR THEATRE TECHNOLOGY.

**Mark Shanda:** The US ITT is the largest organization of theatrical designers and stage hands. Think of all the people who work behind the scenes to support live entertainment and it includes Broadway, theme parks, cruise ships - anything where there’s a live entertainment aspect. It’s about a 5,000-member organization.

**CARL NATHE:** THE UK COLLEGE OF FINE ARTS SCHEDULES A CONSTANT STREAM OF WONDERFUL ENTERTAINMENT THROUGHOUT THE YEAR FOR PEOPLE YOUNG AND OLD. THE SCHOOL OF MUSIC IS PRESENTING ITS ANNUAL COLLAGE CONCERTS IN EARLY DECEMBER AT THE SINGLETARY CENTER.

**Mark Shanda:** It’s a showcase for multiple groups within the college and, helps sets the holiday season in a positive way for many family that make it a tradition.

**CARL NATHE:** FOR MORE, GO TO UKY.EDU AND TYPE IN, “FINE ARTS.” PLUS, THERE’S OUR UKNOW NEWS PAGE AND ENGAGEMENT OPPORTUNITIES FOR OUR SOCIAL MEDIA PLATFORMS: FACEBOOK, TWITTER AND INSTAGRAM. SEEING BLUE, I’M CARL NATHE WITH UK AT THE HALF.