

# “BEARCATS”

## EVOLUTION OF THE KCD MASCOT



DURING THE FALL 1972, THE NEWLY FORMED COED KCD STUDENT BODY ELECTED A MASCOT. IN A VERY CLOSE VOTE, THE STUDENTS SELECTED THE MASCOT NICKNAME “BEARCATS” OVER THE NAME “THOROUGHBREDS”. THIS NEW NICKNAME, “BEARCATS” (along with selection of Royal Blue and Gold as the new school colors) WAS NECESSARY TO REPLACE THE NICKNAMES OF KCD’S PREDECESSOR SCHOOLS, LOUISVILLE COUNTRY DAY - “DAYMEN” (navy and gray) AND KENTUCKY HOME SCHOOL - “TIGERS” (black and gold)



**FIRST DRAWING**  
1975

KCD STUDENT BECKY GRAVES (1977) PAINTED THE FIRST SKETCHING OF A “BEARCAT” FOR FANS TO ENJOY AT THE FORMER LCD AND KCD ROCK CREEK LANE GYMNASIUM



**BEARCAT I**  
1975-1983

THE ORIGINAL BEARCAT I HAD A CERAMIC PLASTIC HEAD COVER WITH A SUIT, BEARCAT I WAS DESIGNED FROM THE GYM DRAWING BY BECKY GRAVES IN 1975.



**BEARCAT II**  
1984-2000

THE DARK COLORED CHOCOLATE BEARCAT II HAD A SNUGGLY “BEAR” APPEARANCE AND WAS SEEN OFTEN WITH THE CHEERLEADER SQUAD. BEARCAT II IS DISPLAYED IN A GLASS CASE IN THE GARDNER GYMNASIUM.



**BEARCAT III**  
1990-2005

BEARCAT III WAS SIGHTED OFTEN AT HOMECOMING GAMES AND CARPOOL LINES, BEARCAT III HAD A FIERCE “CAT” FACE WITH A FAKE FUR SUIT. BEARCAT III IS DISPLAYED WITH BEARCAT II IN THE GARDNER GYMNASIUM.



**BEARCAT IV**  
“BAXTER”  
2005-PRESENT

BEARCAT IV WAS FINANCED BY THE KCD ATHLETIC BOOSTER CLUB. THE STUDENT BODY VOTED AND SELECTED THE NICKNAME “BAXTER”. BAXTER’S JERSEY NUMBER IS “72” REPRESENTING THE FIRST YEAR OF KCD -1972.



THE ACTUAL RENDERING OF BEARCAT IV, “BAXTER” (AUGUST 2005) BEFORE ITS CREATION AND FIRST APPEARANCE (OCTOBER 2005)



THE LITE DISPLAY OF TWO MASCOTS, BEARCAT II AND BEARCAT III ARE LOCATED IN THE GARDNER GYMNASIUM



**WHAT IS A “BEARCAT”?**  
THIS ANIMAL IS NATIVE TO SOUTHEAST ASIA WHERE IT LIVES IN THE RAINFOREST. IT HAS CATLIKE QUALITIES SLEEPING IN TREES, BUT IS LARGE (20-30 POUNDS) AND SMELLS LIKE POPCORN.