Sports

Bob Watkins

UK Sports Report

People ...

Kentucky coach Jerry Claiborne on spring football practice, said last week, "The weather has hurt us bad. We're not where I'd like us to be. We've just really got a lot of work to do, especially in our offensive line and right now we're a long way from where we want to be with our linebackers."

Claiborne added, "I'm an optimist, you know. But I'm a realist too. Our athletes are bigger and stronger than last year. But we're looking at trying to compete with folks like Auburn and Florida and while we're stronger, we're not as strong as the teams in our conference and that's how you've got to approach it."

A report ...

Quarterback Bill Hansdell, "Last year we had Randy (Jenkins) and Billy," Claiborne said. "This year we have Billy. Billy has played pretty well this spring although he didn't play well in last Saturday's scrimmage. His problem is still concentration."

Meanwhile, in the absence of injured Tim Jones and the departure of Tony Lanham, redshirt quarterback Mike Whitaker has come to the fore. The 6-2, 224-pound sophomore turned in a solid effort in a scrimmage last week completing 12 of 17 passes for 146 yards and a touchdown.

Quarterback coach Jerry Kinaman said Whitaker is reading defenses well and doing a better job with screen passes.

Plus and minus Claiborne says he feels good about UK's running back corps that includes experienced and talented hands, George Adams, Mark Logan and Chris Derry.

But on defense we're going to miss Kerry Baird's leadership," he said. "Paul Calhoun is consistent, but he's not a leader the way Baird was for us."

The coach heralded the work of defensive ends Brian Williams, Stary Burrell and Steve Mazza. "But we've got two new people on defense who played offense last year," Claiborne said. Frank Hare is listed as a starter at left guard and Cam Jacobs at right linebacker.

One of UK's most critical rebuilding areas is the offensive line. Cited for outstanding play in last week's scrimmage was 6-4½, 241-pound junior Tom Richey.

On the defensive side the UK coaches report that high school All-American tackle Jerry Beene has not performed up to his potential this spring. The Hopkinsville native who suffered a broken ankle in the third game last autumn, "has the aggressiveness and the talent," says assistant Rod Sharpless. "He needs some good work this week."

UK's annual Blue-White spring game is Saturday, Apr. 21 at 2 p.m. in Commonwealth Stadium.

Olympic tryouts

Indiana coach Bobby Knight, who will run the U.S. basketball team in the 23rd Olympic Games this summer in Los Angeles has set forth the criteria for the kind of players he wants on his team.

He has put a premium on those who can pass the ball, can rebound, play defense and who are quick.

Knight invited 64 players to the tryout camp that opened in Bloomington, Monday. The squad will be selected by the end of the month, reassembled in May for four days of intensive workouts, and then go through a series of practices scheduled in mid-June. Those will be last preps for a series of exhibition games against a collection of NBA players in July. The most ballyhooed clash with the pros comes Monday, July 9 at the Hoosier Dome in Indianapolis. Some of those greeting the opposition for the Olympians will be Boston Celtics Larry Bird, Kevin McHale and Robert Parish.

Recruiting

Kentucky, Louisville and Western Kentucky already well stocked with fresh new basketball talent for next season, have managed to keep their fans in suspense a bit longer. Here are some reasons why:

■ Kentucky is still courting 6-2 point guard Gary Grant from Canton, Oh. Grant says he will chose Illinois, Michigan or UK. But he may wait until his birthday on late April to announce.

■ Louisville is one of "five schools" being considered by 6-8 220-pound John Williams of Crenshaw High [illegible] is on the hunt although one report from Los Angeles last week indicated Williams is not seriously considering the Tigers. Houston is still courting him. And UCLA's new coach Walt Hazzard has mounted a new campaign to sign Williams.

Williams reneged twice in two weeks on making his decision public. He told LSU assistant Hon. Abernathy last Friday that he might wait until the end of April before announcing.

John says he's considering UK and Louisville and he's leaning to UK. LSU sports information czar Joe Yates said last week. His mother is from Baton Rouge and this is where she wants him to come to school.

■ Western Kentucky is looking for a point guard, but assistant coach Don McFarlane quashed speculation this week that the Hilltoppers will take on 6-4 Johnny Ford who quit the Iowa squad last month.

We're not involved with Ford at all," McFarlane said. That rumor got started because Johnny played high school ball with Tellis (Frank and Brian (Asberry).

Stretching it out

Rachel Herrington, seventh grade student at Nicholas County Elementary School, placed fourth in the long jump during last week's meet with Bath County, Morgan County, Frankfort Ind. and Manchester. Ohio schools. — Photo submitted

Clearing the hurdle

Derek Zachary clears the hurdle on his way to a fourth place finish in the 300 meter low hurdles. He also placed second in the 110 meter high hurdles. The Nicholas County team placed second out of five teams in the meet. — Photo submitted

Bat Jackets off to 8-1 start

The baseball Bluejackets upped their record to 8-1 last week playing six games in a four-day span, including two back-to-back twinbill sweeps.

The big win, according to Coach Billy Anderson, was a 9-8, extra-inings game against "a real good" Franklin, Ohio team, played in Paris Friday at noon.

With the score tied 8-8 and two outs in the bottom of the ninth, Steve Anderson singled, advanced to second on a sacrifice bunt by Kevin Wells and came home on a clutch single by pitcher Greg McNabb.

Steve and his younger brother Chris collected five of the Jackets' 11 hits. Each had a home run.

Following this win the Jackets boarded a bus for a late-afternoon make-up game here Friday against Harrison County. Chris, coming off a slow start, cracked out two more home runs as the Jackets trotted past the Thoroughbreds, 16-6.

Billy Sosby was the winning pitcher in the five-inning affair. Carl Whitson and McNabb each hit safely twice.

IN DOUBLEHEADER action Thursday afternoon, the Bat Jackets walloped visiting Bath County 14-4 and 16-9. In the opener, Whitson picked up the win, allowing seven hits and striking out eight.

Darren Robinson led the 11-hit attack with a pair of homers, including a grand slam. Steve Anderson collected three hits, one a home run, while Doug McCord had two.

In the nightcap, the Jackets broke open a see-saw game with 10 runs in the last two innings enroute to the 16-9 win.

Todd Hedges, who relieved starter Kenny Payne with one out in the third, picked up the win.

The Jackets' home run bata powered the late inning surge. Robinson connected with his second grand slam of the afternoon, and drove in six runs, two coming on still another four-bagger.

Eric McGuffey cracked out a pair of homers. Steve Anderson and McNabb also hit for the circuit.

The lone loss of the season came Tuesday at Bourbon County. The Colonels scored three runs in the third inning and held on to win, 3-2. Anderson took the loss, despite a nine-strikeout performance. The Jackets could muster but four hits, their lowest output of the season.

In an April 9 slugfest, NCHS scored in every inning to defeat Bracken County, 15-4. McNabb was the winning pitcher. Anderson and Whitson each had three hits. Hedges homered in the 12-hit attack.

IN NINE GAMES to date, the Jackets had homered 19 times, only nine shy of the season record of 28.

Going into play this week, Kevin Wells had hit safely in all nine games.

Statistics through games of April 13:

Batting average — S. Anderson .600, Robinson .461, Wells .417 and Whitson .400.

Runs batted in: S. Anderson 21, Robinson 15, Whitson 12 and C. Anderson 10.

Home runs — Robinson 5, S. Anderson 4, McGuffey and C. Anderson 3 each.

Correction

The list of delinquent taxpayers which inadvertantly appeared in last week's Mercury was scheduled to run only three weeks, beginning with the March 22 issue. The Mercury regrets its inclusion.

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Fri.-Sat.-Sun.
High School Honor Student by Day. Hollywood Hooker by Night.
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SCREWBALLS
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Join The Fun
Come to the Buckeye
Donkey Basketball Show
Saturday, April 21
7:30 P.M.
Nicholas County High Gym
*Sponsored by Nicholas Co. Lions Club
Advance Adult/High School Student $2.50. — Door $3.00
Children (Under 14) Advance $2.00 Door $2.50
Under 6 FREE
Advance Tickets on Sale at:
Carlisle Drug & Garrett's Restaurant

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April 20, 21, 22
Friday, Saturday, Sunday
Admission $2.50 - Under 12 FREE
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Passing the baton

Phillip Coldiron takes the baton from Robert Hopkins during the 1600 meter relay. The Nicholas County team finished second in the event. — Photo submitted

Fastest finisher

Scott Ramey, Nicholas County High School sophomore, finishes first in the 100 meter dash during last week's five-way meet. Ramey also placed third in the discus throw. — Photo submitted

Saltwell ..... by Mrs. Fred Hollar

Mr. and Mrs. Harvey Wagoner, Mr. and Mrs. Jim Henry, Mr. and Mrs. Donnie Wagoner and baby and Everett Ritchie visited Mr. and Mrs. Roy E. Snapp during the week.

Mr. and Mrs. Paul Snapp and daughter Betty Jo of Indiana spent several days the past week with Mrs. John Barrett, Carlisle, and spent time with Mr. Barrett, who underwent major surgery at Good Samaritan Hospital several days ago. He was able to return home on Sunday.

Mr. and Mrs. Chester Mattox and Rasgina were in Lexington on Thursday to consult with his doctor. He received a good report.

Our community extends sympathy to the families of Jasper Wills, Mason Holland and Millard Asbury, who passed away during the past several days.

E.V. Delaney was a visitor of Mr. and Mrs. James Snapp for lunch the past Sunday. They also visited Mr. and Mrs. Victor Kappeler in Lexington and accompanied Aaron home after spending the weekend with his grandparents.

Mrs. Dede Mattox of Neave spent Wednesday and Thursday with Mrs. Hazel Snapp and also dined at a Flemingsburg restaurant on Thursday honoring Mrs. Snapp's birthday. They also visited Mr. and Mrs. Stanley Cropper and Mr. and Mrs. C.P. Lukins, Ewing.

Mr. and Mrs. Asa Daily and daughter Amanda, formerly of Ohio, have moved to the mobile home of Mr. and Mrs. Frank McCoy here at Saltwell.

Mrs. Roberta Howard visited Mrs. Martin Feeback, Carlisle, on Thursday afternoon.

Mrs. Carolyn Snapp spent Tuesday with E.V. Delaney.

Mrs. Della McCoy spent the past week with her mother, Mrs. Russell Fultz and stepfather Mr. Fultz, who is very ill at his home in Olive Hill.

Mr. and Mrs. Larry Wooley, Carlisle, entertained with a birthday dinner on Sunday honoring Mrs. Richard Cain's 69th birthday. Those present were Mr. and Mrs. Cain, Mr. and Mrs. Dickie Cain and family, Cynthiana, and Mr. and Mrs. Gary Cain and Tracy, Millersburg, and Bobby and Tracy Woosley.

Miss Kathy Taylor and Jock who have spent the past several weeks with Mr. and Mrs. Phillip Price and children of Falmouth returned to the home of Mr. and Mrs. Lowell Fryman and children of Dog Walk Road on Saturday.

Mrs. Jobie Howard, Traci, Shane and Aimee visited Esther Eden, Chad, Brad and Heather of Harrison County Thursday.

Jim Fryman, Millersburg, spent the weekend with Mr. and Mrs. Louis Fryman and Tim.

Mrs. Bobby Brady visited her uncle, Charles "Doc" Pope and Mrs. Pope at Paris on Thursday afternoon.

Mr. and Mrs. David Doyle, Mr. and Mrs. A.J. Doyle, Mrs. Linda Murphy and children, Mrs. Margie Fryman, Mr. and Mrs. Donnie Doyle visited Mr. and Mrs. Orville Doyle on Sunday.

E.V. Delaney spent Sunday with Mr. and Mrs. Jeff Snapp and baby Danielle, Carlisle.

Make maximum use of spring grazing

As pastures begin to turn greener and start the rapid spring growth phase, many farmers are thinking about how to make maximum use of this forage with their cattle.

Here are some pointers for grazing cattle on spring grass from Dr. Warren Gill, livestock Extension specialist at the University of Kentucky:

— Be ready to stop turning cattle too soon.

— Check fences and consider additional fencing.

— Implement a health and parasite control program.

GILL SAYS the average date that Kentucky cattle can begin depending on pasture as a major source of nutrients is April 15, but even this may be too soon.

"Cattle that are lactating have very high needs for energy and other nutrients," said the specialist. "Immature, high-moisture forages often cannot supply enough energy to allow the cattle to maintain their body weight, supply milk for the calves and rebreed."

Gill said this is especially true with first-calf heifers. He recommends continuing to supplement the diets of cattle with silage, high-quality hay or 3-5 pounds of grain, and continuing to supplement with a mineral mix containing magnesium and phosphorus.

RELATIVE TO his second pointer, Gill notes that "the grass is always greener on the other side, so before turning cows into spring pastures, check your fences and water gates to make certain they haven't developed new weak places over the winter."

He also advises cattle producers to consider whether cross fences for developing a pasture rotation plan would allow more efficient utilization of pastures. County agricultural Extension agents have more information on rotation plans and benefits.

Finally, Gill recommends working with a local veterinarian and Extension agent to develop a health program.

"Parasite control is of primary importance at this time of year," he said, noting that pasture rotation helps control internal parasites. Cattle should be wormed using any of several types of commercial worming products, and a program to control face and horn flies should be developed.

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Prelote Pink, 16 oz. can SALMON $1.59
Parkay, 1 lb. Quarters MARGARINE 2/$1
Stokely, 16 oz. can GREEN BEANS 3/$1.19
IGA, 12 oz. cans SOFT DRINKS 6/$1
Stokely, 17 oz. can GOLDEN CORN 2/89¢
IGA Chopped, Frozen, 10 oz. BROCCOLI 2/$1
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