Sports

Bob Watkins

UK Sports Report

Grandstanding

The University of Kentucky athletic board's decision to extend coach Joe B. Hall's contract seems a nice enough gesture, but one is left to wonder why if President Otis Singletary was so concerned about flying rumors that had Hall being replaced by Al McGuire or Pat Riley last month, he didn't just make a statement giving Hall a vote of confidence and be done with it instead of waiting until April 24.

In fact the reason is clear. There was too much (basketball) news in March, plenty for sports writers to speculate about. April, yes, a good time for a little grandstanding.

All-star football game

The stage is set for the first annual Kentucky-Tennessee mid-summer all-star football game Saturday, June 30 at Commonwealth Stadium in Lexington.

The game, under the auspices of the Kentucky Coaches Association will replace the annual East-West high school game that had waned markedly in recent years for lack of interest.

"It's going to be a great game," Wilson Sears, president-elect of the Kentucky Coaches Association said last week. "We're getting the full cooperation of coach (Jerry) Claiborne (University of Kentucky) and Jim Hoot & Assiciates are putting the game programs. Everything is just going really well. We're very optimistic about it."

The Kentucky-Tennessee game could be a dandy. At least the roster of players for Kentucky looks "all-star enough."

Nine University of Kentucky signees dot the roster including All-Americans Joe Curry (Madisonville) and Mark Higgs (Owensboro). Others are Chris Chenault and Bo Smith (Henry Clay); Edgar Shearer (Bryan Station); Toney Mills (Tates Creek); Martin Pennington (Corbin); Billy Allen (Morgan County) and Mark Sellers (Lou. Eastern).

Head coach for Kentucky will be Mayfield's Jack Morris. "I'm really looking forward to the game," he said. "There's a lot of enthusiasm for it already."

UK loses Grant

Much sought after point guard Gary Grant of Canton, Oh. announced last week that he will attend the University of Michigan. A 6-3, 170-pound high school All-American, Grant averaged 23.2 points and 8.1 rebounds during his senior season.

According to a source close to Kentucky, Grant's case was similar to Ralph Sampson's when he was a senior in that down deep he wanted to sign with UK, but his mother wanted him to go someplace else.

Grant chose Michigan over UK and Illinois.

John Williams

The country's hottest (hotdog?) high school player finally made a decision last week, choosing LSU over Louisville and Houston.

According to reports from the west coast UCLA was not in the recruiting race for Williams because he could not qualify academically. The coaches were instructed by the administration not to pursue him.

Comment: What does that say about LSU's academic requirements?

A week before Williams announced, Nevada Las Vegas Coach Jerry Tarkanian threw up his hand and withdrew from the contest saying that Williams and his mother had told the player intended to sign with UNLV, but then reneged.

There is something comic about Williams' choosing LSU. At the end of last season Coach Dale Brown got rid of one maverick in Shelton Johnson and he has apparently replaced him with two more — Williams and the player's mother, Mabel Marie Mathews. A native of Baton Rouge, Williams mother has played an "active" role in her son's basketball career.

Also, for what it's worth, John Williams announced several weeks ago that he intends to remain in college for only two seasons. Long enough to make an impression on NBA scouts and then go in the hardship draft.

But the cat quick and powerful forward is apparently a player of immense talent. He averaged 26 points and 17 rebounds per game as a senior.

Backfired?

The withdrawals of UK's Bowie and Mel Turpin from the Olympic tryouts certainly backfired. One proposition is that the "twin towers" took the advice of people who worried that the two would look bad trying to play Bobby Knight's system and therefore compromise some of their NBA signing power.

Where Turpin is concerned it is simpler than that. Knight told reporters at the outset, "The first thing (we're looking for) is: Can you guard anybody?

Answer: No.

In fact, Knight posed three questions. Can you guard anybody? Can you play unselfish on offense? Can you get up and down the floor?

In Bowie's case, yes, yes and better than any big man left on the final list of 20.

In Turpin's case, no, sometimes, and not at 270 pounds.

Letters

From Hickman, Ky. James A. Whipple offers his all-time University of Kentucky basketball favorites. "for some time now I've intended to write to give who, I think are the best five basketball players ever to play at Kentucky. As you know it is no easy task, but I have been keeping up with UK basketball since the undefeated team in 1953-54.

"Realizing that very few will agree with me, I hereby pick Dan Issel, Cliff Hagan, Frank Ramsey, Kyle Macy, and for the fifth spot, a toss-up between Jack Givens and Kevin Grevey."

Whipple went on to say that his second five would include Burk Robey, Cotton Nash, Alex Groza and Ralph Beard. "I hesitate to mention Beard and Groza because I never saw them play," he added. "I would include Sam Bowie if he had not been hurt and been able to play all four years and had been at full speed his senior year. I hate to leave off Pat Riley, but as far as I'm concerned, he had just one good year (1965-66).

"Also, on the same team with Riley, Louis Dampier was to me, no good. He could shoot and score, but nothing else. He was too slow and couldn't run, he never played defense, and no one ever knew if he could pass because he never passed the ball. I might slip in the names of Tom Parker and Johnny Cox. To me, they were good players and might need to be included on the second team instead of Beard and Groza. (I still say the Fabulous Five couldn't make the team this year or the 1978 championship team or those Issel was on.)"

Comment: Thank you, sir. Anyone else?

If you have a question, comment or opinion you would like to share, write to Bob Watkins, Route 1, Glendale, Ky. 42740. ■

Jackets up record to 13-4; District play next week

Mother Nature has cooperated by giving us a few days of sunshine, and the batmen of Coach Billy Keene Anderson have gotten in seven games since last Wednesday to run their record to 13 and 4 during regular season play.

Home runs by Eric McGuffey, Carl Whitson and Greg McNabb weren't enough as the Jackets lost a heartbreaker 8-7 to Pendleton County in the first game of a twin bill last Wednesday.

McGuffey and McNabb came through with six of the nine hits in the second game to give Nicholas County a 7-4 win over Pendleton, and McGuffey slammed his second home run of the day.

Greg McNabb pitched a fine game on Friday as the Jackets edged Madison 9-8. Steve Anderson hit a home run in the second with one on.

"A win is a win, and we'll take it," said Coach Anderson, "but we left 15 men on base. We just couldn't come up with a hit when we needed it."

Estill County was certainly no match for the Bluejackets as the boys in blue pounded out 23 hits in the double header to cope away with 10-4 and 15-zip wins. McGuffey added three hits and another homer to keep his hitting streak going.

Steve Anderson pitched a two-hitter in the second game and struck out 12. Little brother Chris helped by hitting two out of the park to make his home run total five for the season.

On Monday the Jackets split with Powell County, losing the first game 3-1. Once again they couldn't come up with a hit when they needed it and left 11 men stranded.

In the nightcap the Jackets won big, routing Powell County 23-11. Steve Anderson came through with three triples, the first to be recorded this season.

The rest of this week finds the Jackets meeting Mayerille, Menifee and Fleming counties, and closing out the regular season on Friday against Pendleton County.

District play May 7-12

Monday, May 7, at 4:30 p.m. the Jackets will meet the Paris Greyhounds in the first round of the district tournament to be played in Paris.

On Tuesday, Harrison County will battle with MMI in a 4:30 contest, and the winner of the NCHS-Paris game will meet the Colonels of Bourbon County at 4:30 on May 9.

Big follow-through

Nicholas County pitcher Carl Whitson grits his teeth as he releases the baseball in recent action. Second baseman Eric McGuffey is in the background. The Bat Jackets open district tournament play next Monday in Paris. — Photo submitted

Local Park rules reiterated

David Zachary, in charge of scheduling events at the Recreation Park, announces the following guidelines:

— Little League, Monday, Thursday, 1½ hours Friday.

— Women's Softball League, Wednesday.

— Babe Ruth, Saturday, Sunday for a limited time.

— On open days please share the field by limiting your time to 1½ hours if another team is waiting to play.

The park will also be available this summer for softball tournaments on weekends. For more information call David Zachary at 289-5122 or 289-2566.

Transy gals softball champs; two from Carlisle all-tourney

The Transylvania Lady Pioneers softball team defeated Union College 9-6 by scoring five runs with two outs at their last time at bat to win the Kentucky Women's Intercollegiate Conference (KWIC) Softball Tournament held April 24-25 at Campbellsville College.

This is the third state title won by Transylvania women athletic teams this year as the Lady Pioneers have also won the state crown in tennis and field hockey.

In route to the championship, the Lady Pioneers defeated Campbellsville (6-1), Asbury (15-5), lost to Union (12-7), defeated Georgetown (11-0), Union (12-2), and defeated Union in the championship game 9-6.

Lady Pioneers named to the All-Tournament team were Missy Rawlings, a freshman, and Deanna Darrell, a senior, both from Carlisle, and Mary Rogers, a senior from Lancaster.

The Lady Pioneers are coached by Paul Fuller and Bill McGrath.

1984 39th District Baseball Tournament

May 7 - 12 — Paris High School

1. Harrison Co.
Tues., May 8 4:20

2. M.M.I

Officials
Tom Harklerood
Myron Hill

Thurs., May 10 4:20

3. Bourbon Co.
Wed., May 9 4:20

4. Nicholas Co.
Mon., May 7 4:20

5. Paris

*Rain Out Game Moves One Day

Time Schedule
3:15 - 3:35 Batting Practice
3:35 - 3:55 Batting Practice
3:55 - 4:05 Visitor Infield
4:05 - 4:15 Home Infield
4:20 Game Time

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An adult nightmare R
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Camps planned

GIRLS' BASKETBALL CAMP JUNE 17-22 AT EKU

Dr. Dianne Murphy has announced that Eastern Kentucky University's individual basketball camp for girls, ages 8-18, will be held June 17-22 at EKU's Alumni Coliseum.

Campers may attend camp if they are eight years old and have not begun their senior year in high school.

Cost for boarders is $140, which includes instruction, a full camp program and complete room and board. The day camper cost per camper is $95 and includes instruction, a full camp program and lunch daily. A $25 deposit is required with the application and the balance due upon arrival.

Application deadline is June 1. Brochures may be obtained by writing Dr. Dianne Murphy, Room 128, Alumni Coliseum, EKU, Richmond, Ky. 40475-0933.

TRANSY BASKETBALL CAMPS OPEN JUNE 4

Learning the fundamentals of winning basketball and developing individual basketball skills will be at center court when Coach Don Lane opens the 17th annual Transylvania University Basketball Camp June 4 on the Transylvania campus in Lexington.

Seven weekly sessions for boys and girls between the ages of seven through 18 will be held under the supervision of Don Lane and his staff of college and high school coaches from across the nation.

Tuition for the camp is $155 which includes room and board for the five day sessions. Tuition for campers who commute is $135.

For information write or call Coach Don Lane, Transylvania University, Lexington, Ky. 40508; phone 233-8270.

Citizens of Tomorrow . . .

Loren Clark
Son of
Jackie & Jerlyn Clark
118 Catherine St., Carlisle

Tina Green
Daughter of
Mr. & Mrs. Phillip Howard
Rt. 3, Carlisle

Aaron Snapp
Son of
Alan & Rhonda Snapp
Mockingbird Lane, Carlisle

Saltwell.....by Mrs. Fred Hollar

Julian Gaunce entered Harrison Memorial Hospital on Tuesday and remains a patient there for treatment. He had several visitors during the week.

Mr. and Mrs. Chester Mattox visited Mr. and Mrs. Willie W. Cook of Concord Road on Thursday afternoon.

Mr. and Mrs. Lloyd Graham and daughters spent Easter Sunday with Mr. and Mrs. Archie Feeback of Burgin.

Mrs. Phyllis Brady was among 11 ladies attending a Tupperware party at the home of Mrs. Brenda Nolan, Cynthiana, on Thursday.

Mrs. Hazel Snapp spent a few days with Mr. and Mrs. Keith McCord and Jodie and great-granddaughters Melissa and Amanda Pickrell, Chatham.

Mr. and Mrs. Eddie Ellington and son Hans of London spent the past Saturday with Mr. and Mrs. Donald Riggs and Sunday with Mr. and Mrs. Hansen Ellington, Carlisle.

Layne Hollar visited Mrs. Pearlie Morris in Cynthiana on Friday afternoon.

Mrs. Carol Mann, Glenda and Liza Feeback, Denise Stone and Helen Ruble visited Mrs. Martin Feeback on Sunday and during the week.

Mr. and Mrs. Gary Hollar were in Lexington on Saturday.

Mike Sewell, student at E.K.U., Richmond, spent Saturday night and Sunday with Mr. and Mrs. Bill George.

F.V. Delaney, Hildreth Platt, Layne Hollar and Mr. and Mrs. Fred Hollar visited Mr. and Mrs. Roy E. Snapp during the week.

Raymond Green returned home on Friday from Nicholas County Hospital after undergoing surgery there on Wednesday morning.

Tracy Hollar spent Saturday with Denise Stone in Carlisle.

Mr. and Mrs. Rocky Moore moved over the weekend to property they purchased recently from Mr. and Mrs. Allie Sexton on Salwell Road.

Mrs. Hazel Snapp and Mrs. Phyllis Brady attended revival services at Brooksville United Methodist Church on Tuesday night, where Rev. Bruce Sheffield was evangelist.

Chris Hollar spent Friday night with Mr. and Mrs. Donald Stone and Denise in Carlisle.

Mrs. Hazel Snapp was honored by the United Methodist Women at their regular monthly meeting on Wednesday night, the occasion being near her birthday.

Mr. and Mrs. S.B. Ellis, Milford, were Sunday evening supper guests of Mr. and Mrs. Fred Hollar.

Mr. and Mrs. Donald Riggs were Sunday dinner guests of Mr. and Mrs. Osborne Riggs, near Carlisle.

Martha and Daley Kennedy visited Mr. and Mrs. John Barrett in Carlisle Saturday night.

Bob Kenney, Covington, spent Sunday with Mrs. Gladys Kenney.

Mr. and Mrs. Sterling Hollar spent Monday and Tuesday with Mrs. Lillie Patterson and other relatives at Clarksville, Tenn.

Mr. and Mrs. Raymond Kennedy and Mrs. Herbert Blakeman, Dana and Penni, Lexington, spent Sunday with Martha and Daley Kennedy, honoring Daley's birthday.

Mr. and Mrs. Roy J. Snapp, Cincinnati, spent Sunday with Mr. and Mrs. Roy Snapp. Mrs. Ann Kiskaden and Mrs. Pauline Sosby were also afternoon visitors.

Mr. and Mrs. Vaughan Mattox visited Mr. and Mrs. Phillip Mattox and Brandon on Sunday.

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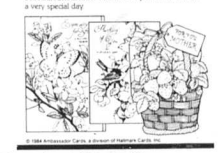

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