Bob Watkins

Sports In Kentucky

Kenny Walker, the University of Kentucky's brightest star is already being touted as top candidate for college player of the year. So, the pressure is on, right?

Yep. But it isn't all on the 6-8 all-purpose senior. It says here that Ed Davender (outside) and Winston Bennett (inside) will have a lot to do with whether or not Walker gets the award.

And college player of the year is not just a symbol for bragging rights either. It means big money in next spring's NBA draft.

Recruiting

Rex Chapman may be the player most on the minds of roundball fans in Kentucky these days, but the 6-5 player from Owensboro isn't the only hot talent on UK's shopping list.

It's only a hunch, but I believe, after Chapman and Terry Mills, the hot names on UK's list are these:

Kevin Pritchard, a 6-2, 160-pound guard from Tulsa; 6-3 180-pound Michael Christian of Denver, Colo.; 6-5, 180-pound Ron Huery from Memphis; 6-4 Ricky Jones of Pendleton, S.C.; and 6-4 Derrick Miller of Savannah, Ga.

Anything look familiar? How about Eddie Sutton's style — speed, quickness, finesse and (Sidney Moncrief) size over bulk and power.

(Late) recruiting notes

● Chapman, who says he has changed his mind about waiting till spring and will pick a college next month (Nov. 13-20 is early signing window), got a visit recently from a fellow who rarely hits the recruiting trail. Dean Smith.

Too, Chapman is reported to have received a (courtesy) telephone call last week from his basketball idol, Michael Jordan.

Comment: Little wonder it is so difficult for an 18-year-old kid to pick a college these days. Must be like being in a room full of adoring Dallas Cowboy cheerleaders and trying to pick, ah, just one, please.

● On Terry Mills of Romulus, Mich. University of Michigan coach Bill Frieder is reported to have said recently that Kentucky and other schools wooing the 6-10 player can "feel good" all they want for now. But when pressure is brought to bear to keep a blue chip Michigan kid at home, Ann Arbor is where he winds up.

UK-UofL basketball

Will the Universities of Kentucky and Louisville renew their contract to play a regular season basketball series when the pact comes up for renewal following the 1986-87 season?

It's only a hunch, but I don't think so.

Since the two agreed to a 5-year contract in 1982 some of the dew has gone off the rose.

"It isn't the same," one Louisville Cardinals devotee said this week. "I'd just as soon they didn't play in regular season and then met occasionally in the NCAA Tournament. A regular season game just doesn't come up to the atmosphere like the one in Knoxville at the NCAA Mideast Regional (so-called Dream Game, 1983).

"Besides," the fan added, "UK doesn't need Louisville and Louisville doesn't need UK."

Good reasoning it seems to me. What do you think?

Ex-Kentucky coach Joe B. Hall has remained adamant against a UK-UofL game as well. In fact, he told a Lexington reporter two weeks ago that he advocates changing the University of Kentucky Invitational (UKIT) to exclude out-of-state "dunks" from years past (Portland State, Alaska, Wyoming) and include in-state schools — Eastern, Western, Murray, Morehead — and perhaps Louisville.

Certainly a UKIT formatted as mentioned would sell out Rupp Arena. And the money would remain in the state.

Kentucky football

Four autumns ago some doomsayers posed the rhetorical question: "Can Jerry Claiborne can anybody win consistently at the University of Kentucky?"

Discounting Claiborne's first UK team that finished 9-10-1, the Wildcats are 19-10-2 including two bowl trips through the LSU game Saturday. Moreover, UK's image in the annual recruiting sweepstakes is markedly better than it once was as evidenced by good crops the last two seasons, with prospects being good for this year as well although the in-state talent pool is down.

"There are maybe three blue chippers in the state, kids who could play in the Southeastern Conference," a UK assistant coach said last week.

He would not identify the three of course because of NCAA rules, but they are believed to be running back Al Baker of Trigg County, defensive end-tackle Donnie Gardner of Louisville Trinity and one of the following: Steve Curry, linebacker from Jeffersontown, Paul McDowell, quarterback from Ballard, or defensive tackle Ravonne Effinger of Pleasure Ridge Park.

The talent level being down in nothing against the communities in Kentucky, UK assistant Rodney Stiles added. "It's simply the population isn't there."

Stiles said that five UK coaches are working Florida this week because, "Last year that state had 150 kids who went to Division I schools."

Stiles, who works with UK's offensive backs made some other observations:

● "Coach Claiborne likes to play mind games with the players," Stiles said. "Before the season he sends each player a book to read, called 'Psycho-cybernetics.' Also, during the season he asks them to lie down for about 20 minutes every Thursday night and think about the game coming up, think about making a big play, scoring the winning touchdown, something like that."

He said the players participate in a hypnosis session on Thursdays to help prepare them mentally for Saturday's game.

"So far it's been working," he said. "They believe in it."

● Bill Ransdell's collapsed lung in the Clemson game is totally healed. But the broken rib continues to cause severe pain at times when it touches nerve endings in his chest.

"But if Bill has surgery he's out for the season. He's told the coaches that he's willing to play with the pain to avoid that for now. Bill's one tough customer. And his teammates really respect him for it too.

"We expect Bill to be back for the East Tennessee game (Nov. 2)," he said.

● Kentucky's bowl chances this year?

The key for UK the rest of the way "is to stay injury free," Stiles said, adding that he hoped UK could win at LSU or Georgia, then get a win on our next road trip (Vanderbilt, Nov. 9). Then we could get another bowl bid. And that's what you always shoot for. Once you go to one you always shoot to go back."

"I was really hoping that Tennessee would be undefeated coming into Commonwealth Stadium (Nov. 2)," Stiles said smiling. "I wanted our kids to get a shot at them."

Louisville's Valentine

When 6-5 senior Bobbie Valentine's basketball scholarship was taken away last month it brought UofL down to the NCAA limit (13) - a shower of criticism came down on Cardinal coach Denny Crum for "dumping" a senior to make room for one of his (six) talented freshmen.

In interviews last week however, Valentine, now a nonscholarship walk-on member of the team, and Crum refuted the idea that the Radcliff native was dumped.

"UofL has not dumped on Bobbie Valentine at all," Crum said. "Bobbie is on the team, will practice with the team and will have a chance to play this season."

Crum added, "In fact, Bobbie wants to stay on next year as a graduate assistant. When we bring recruits to our campus it's Bobbie who takes them around. If he felt like he'd been dumped on would he do that?"

"People who talk about Bobbie being dumped don't know what they're talking about," the coach said. "He's been injured and not able to play most of the time he's been here."

Valentine echoed Crum's view, to a point, but did leave some doubt as to what has actually transpired.

"The fact is I went to coach (Crum) about the scholarship at the end of the summer," he explained. "It didn't matter that much because I'm going to graduate at the end of the (next) summer anyway. He didn't ask for it. The coaches asked me if I would agree to it. But I made the decision," he added.

Without his athletic scholarship how could Valentine afford to remain at UofL?

"I've got a Pell grant and that covers just about the whole thing," he said.

But Pell Grant money does not cover the entire cost of remaining in school at Louisville.

"Well, my mom helps me some and I had to pay about $200 or $300 myself. But the coaches are not giving me anything, because that would be illegal," he added. "When they recruited me they were straight with me and I was straight with them and that's the way it's stayed."

Meanwhile, Valentine said that he has a "better than 2.5 GPA (grade point average) and is carrying 15 semester hours this term."

"I've got about 95 hours now and I expect to graduate at the end of the summer," he added.

Majoring in sports administration Valentine hopes to coach one day. Currently he is doing his student teaching at Louisville Doss High School.

"I talk to alot of the student athletes about drugs in sports, things like that. I want to help if I can," he said. "Because I've got a little brother (Gary) who is a great kid. I really care about kids."

About remaining on at UofL:

"I've been asked about being a graduate assistant and it would be a great opportunity to work under coach Crum," he said. "I'd love to stay here and work with coach Crum and me have a great relationship."

Parting shot

Indiana basketball coach Bobby Knight on CBS-TV's college basketball analyst Billy Packer:

"Billy at least admits he doesn't know anything about basketball," Knight said. "I've never been able to get Al McGuire to do so."

Comment: Does anyone recall Bobby Knight ever crediting anyone, besides Hank Iba, of knowing anything about the game of basketball?

And so it goes.

If you have a comment write to Bob Watkins *Sports In Kentucky* Rt 1, Glendale, Ky 42740.

Winless Jackets face Bath here Friday

In the words of coach Robbie Barr, the winless Bluejackets face another tough opponent when "a strong Bath County team" comes calling Friday night. Game time is 8 p.m.

The Raceland Rams handed Nicholas County its ninth straight defeat, 36-6, Friday night at Raceland.

In the first quarter Jeff Holt made a touchdown to give Raceland six points. The extra point try failed. At the end of the quarter the score stood 6-0.

The second quarter was a rerun of the first. Only this time the touchdown was made by Tom Bishop. Again the extra point try failed. At halftime, the Jackets trailed 12-0.

During the third quarter the Rams added 12 more points on three touchdowns and four extra points.

BUT NICHOLAS got on the scoreboard during this period on a touchdown by Gary Dotson. The extra point attempt was no good.

In the last quarter the Rams added two more points to their total on a safety.

On defense Scott Ramey led the Bluejackets with the most tackles. Keith Howard had two interceptions.

Little League basketball scoreboard

Boys / Results
A-Team Boys

Hornets (8): Chadd Brown (2), Jason George 4, Mike Cain 1
Rookies (4): Jarrod Wills 4, Steve Mattox 4, Greg Gilvert 2
Bears (2): Bradley Trussell 4, Kevin Murrell 2, Charlie Warner 2
Raiders (1): Mike Smith 2
Hawks (4): Brad Aylmon 8, David Schanding 4, Brian Longmeyer 2
Jets (4): Travis Jones 4, Jamie Simone 2
Patriots (2): Israel Mary 12, Jason Judge 10
Colts (4): James Anderson 4, Robert Lang 2
Demons (4): Brad Beverly 18, Kevin Morris 12, Larry Ring 8, Raymond Brown 6, John Brown 2
Rebels (2): Jason Clark 2

A-Team Girls
Kats (5): Nikki Smoot 8, Amanda Galbreath 2, Anna Whalen 4
Phillies (4): Elizabeth Schanding 2, Jennifer Vice 2, Christie Hatton 4, Lavolia 2

B-Team Boys
Hornets (2): Mike Hughes 2
Rookies (0):
Bears (2): Jeremy Warner 2
Raiders (0):
Hawks (1): Anthony Schanding 2
Jets (1): Shawn Metcalf 2
Patriots (4): Bryan Dixon 4
Colts (4): Robert Lang 4
Demons (10): Larry Ring 8, Jody Barch 2, John Brown 2
Rebels (0):

B-Team Girls
Phillies (2): Jennifer Vice 2
Kats (0):

Games are played each Saturday beginning at 1 p.m. at the Nicholas County High School gymnasium. The public is invited.

Junior Jackets fall to Paris; face Bath here

The Nicholas County Junior Bluejackets will wind up the 1985 football season Monday, Oct. 28 in a 6 p.m. home game with Bath County.

Coach Greg Letcher's young Jackets were victimized by Paris 56-0 there Monday night. The Greyhounds, playing all freshmen including several varsity first stringers, showed no mercy, running up quarter scores of 15-0, 23-0 and 18-0.

"Our boys played hard but they were totally outmanned," Letcher said following the game.

The Junior Jackets take a 2-2-1 worksheet into next week's finale.

Fellowship of Christian Athletes leaders

Officers and chairmen of the Nicholas County High School chapter of the Fellowship of Christian Athletes posed last week at their meeting held on the third Thursday of each month. Front, l-r, Pat Pope, Phillip Coldiron, vice-president; Derek Zachary, Scott Ramey, president. Back, Gary Dotson, treasurer; Jody Duncan, Keith Howard, secretary; Johnnie Sibert, and coach and sponsor Rob Barr. Duncan, Zachary, Sibert and Pope are membership chairmen for the first-year FCA chapter.

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CONCERNED — about ALL the people of Nicholas County for this is their CITY.

Thank You,
Lee Bentz

Your Vote and Support on Tuesday, Nov. 5, would be greatly appreciated

Paid for by committee

UK (recruit) shopping list

Player	Ht.	Hometown	Schools considering
Kevin Pritchard	6-3	Tulsa, Okla.	Kan., Ill., UK, SMU, Ga Tech
James Murphy	6-11	Aiken, S.C.	Clemson, G Tech, NC, UK
Ricky Jones	6-6	Pendleton, S.C.	UK, Aub. S.C.
Derrick Miller	6-6	Savannah, Ga.	UK, Tenn. Ga Tech, Fla
Michael Christian	6-3	Denver, Colo.	Ga Tech, Vill., NC St, UK, Kan
Terry Mills	6-10	Romulus, Mich.	Mich., UK
Ron Huery	6-5	Memphis, Tenn.	Mem St, Tenn, NC St., UC
Scott Paddock	6-8	Plantation, Fla	ND, Clem., DePaul, UK
Duane Schintius	7-1	Brandon, Fla	Picked Fla last week
Gary Rembert	6-8	Omitte, Ala	Tenn, Aub, Ala, Geo, UK
Derrick Dennison	6-4	Atlanta, Ga.	Miss St., Aub, Ga Iowa, UK

Deli

16 Piece Bucket (Chicken Only $8.99) CHICKEN $9.99
(Includes 2 Reg. Potato Salad, 12 Rolls)
Superior Oval Dutch LOAF lb. $1.99
Continental Deli Boiled HAM lb. $1.99
Assorted CHEESE lb. $2.29
Homestyle, 8 Count ROLLS 79¢
Iced Oatmeal Raisin Cookie CAKES $1.59
Glazed or Iced Jenny Lind DONUTS 6/99¢
Cinnamon-Apple COFFEE CAKE $1.99

Produce

Golden Ripe BANANAS 3 Lbs. $1
White Seedless GRAPES lb. 79¢
TURNIPS lb. 39¢
Red or Golden Delicious Jonathon & Red Rome APPLES 3 lb. bag 99¢
Red Delty & Caramel APPLES 3 Pk. 99¢
TOMATOES lb. 49¢
Florida ORANGES 5 lbs. $1.99
Medium Yellow ONIONS 3 Lbs. 69¢
California CARROTS 2 Lbs. 59¢

$100 Payroll Winner: Beulah Cannon

Tablerite USDA Choice Full Cut Boneless Round Steak 1 Lb. 1.59 $1.69
IGA TableRite Meat Wieners 12 Oz Pkg 79¢
IGA Creamy Mayonnaise 32 Oz Jar 99¢ Limit Please
IGA Brown'N Serve Rolls 59¢
IGA Tomato Juice 46 Oz Can 69¢
Wilson's Corn King Sliced Bacon 12 Oz Pkg $1.39
Fresh Sliced 9-11 Ounces Quarter Pork Loins Lb $1.49
Frozen 4.7 Lb. Avg. Turkey Breast Lb $1.69
IGA TableRite Lunch Meats $1.49
Holly Farms Grade A Mixed Fryer Parts 43¢ Lb
Wilson's Corn King Boneless Flat Hams 1 Lb 1.59
Kraft Velveeta Cheese 2 Lb Box 2.99
Dairy Fresh Cottage Cheese 24 Oz Cntr $1.29
Regular Or Homestyle Tropicana Orange Juice 64 Oz $1.49
Tasty Weight Watchers Margarine Lb 89¢
Pillsbury Buttermilk Biscuits Hungry Jack 3 5 Oz Cans $1.00
IGA TableRite White Large Eggs Doz 69¢
Heinz Tomato Ketchup 32 Oz Btl $1.29
IGA Fancy Tomato Sauce 15 Oz Can 45¢
Chunk Sunshine Dog Food 2 Lb Bag $2.99
Glad Trash Bags 10 Ct Box $1.09
8-16 oz W. Bdls. Coke & Coke Products 1.69
Regular & Unscented 40¢ Off Label Tide Detergent 42 Oz Box 1.59 Limit Please
8 Varieties Banquet Dinners 11 Oz Btl 89¢
Minute Maid Orange Juice 16 Oz Can $1.69
Tyson Chicken Or Turkey Patties 12 Oz Box $2.39
Frozen Eggo Waffles 12 Oz Box $1.19
Birdseye Whip Or Extra Creams Cool Whip Topping 12 Oz $1.09
IGA 2% Milk Gal 1.59
5 Varieties Pepperidge Farms Cakes 17 Oz Box $1.59

Nestle Dinner Macaroni & Cheese 7¼ Oz Box 3/1.00 Limit Please
Planters 16 Oz. Dry Roasted Honey Roasted Peanuts $2.09
Cheez Balls & Curls & Corn Chips 89¢
Kraft Grape Jelly 3 Lb Jar 1.39 Limit Please
Carnation .70 Calorie Hot Chocolate 1 Lb Jar $1.49
Mix, Chocolate Marshmallow Rich Chocolate Carnation Cocoa Mix 12 Oz Can $1.19
Non-Dairy Borden's Cremora 16 Oz Can $1.49
Regular Or Quick Quaker Oats 18 Oz Box 89¢
Creamette Long Or Elbow Spaghetti & Macaroni 16 Oz Btl 59¢
Kraft Grated Parmesan Cheese 8 Oz Can $2.39
Chef Boy Ar Dee Lasagna Dinner 24 Oz Btl $2.29
Assorted & White Gala Towels 1 Roll Pk 59¢
Bean Sprouts 14 Oz Can 49¢
Nabisco Chili With Beans 24 Oz Can $1.29
Chicken Or Beef Sweet Sue Broth 3 14½ Oz Cans $1.00
Mini Ravioli Chef Boy Ar Dee Ravioli 15 Oz Can 79¢

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