Bob Watkins

Sports In Kentucky

'Cats and (NCAA) Kings open basketball camps for 1986-87

Eddie and the 'Cats ... Denny and the Kings.

Kentucky's Eddie Sutton and his players; Louisville's Denny Crum and his players met the media last week and they already agree on something. Two things.

First, there are no dominating teams in college basketball for 1986-87. And second, Sutton and Crum put North Carolina at the top of the heap. For now anyway.

This week, a visit to two of college basketball's highest camps.

Eddie and the 'Cats

Sutton: "I was talking to Dick Vitale the other day and I asked him, 'How they heck can you rate us fourth? That's way too high.' And he said, 'Because you've got good players and you're a good coach.'"

Sutton grinned. Surrounded by reporters, the Kentucky coach was relaxed, enjoying himself.

So, how does the UK coach see the college basketball pecking order?

"I think we belong in the top 20, somewhere 15 to 20," he said.

Since it is an up year for the state's Big Three schools, how does Sutton see it?

Want me to pick 'em? I think Louisville would be in the top 10. Say, Louisville fourth, Western Kentucky 11th and Kentucky 19th. How's that?"

No. 1 in the country? Sutton puts the monkey on North Carolina.

The Southeastern Conference? With a passe between each, he likes "Alabama Auburn LSU Florida. Now, this is excluding us. Overall, I think the SEC this year won't have the individuals it had last year, but it'll be as good a league as it was last year."

About the Kentucky Wildcats after Kenny Walker?

"I think our backcourt is all right. Our guards are fine. But how well we do this season depends on how well four players come along—Rob Lock, Cedric Jenkins, Richard Madison and Irv Thomas. If two of those guys come through we'll be a good ball club."

UK's first blue-white scrimmage is Nov. 1 at Rupp Arena.

LOOKING BACK. Reflecting to last year's NCAA Tournament loss to LSU, a reporter reminded Sutton that had the Wildcats beaten the Bengals, "Louisville was waiting for you.

We'd have loved to have played Louisville again," the coach shot back. "Loved to. Even though they were better in March than they were at December (when UK beat the Cardinals).

REX CHAPMAN There was something perhaps symbolic in a letter I received last week. A gentleman from Radcliff, Ky. was answering a *Sports Fantasy* question, what he would like most to be in sports: "The thing I would like most to be is Rex Chapman's agent."

Exaggeration? Certainly, but compared to what? This kid's future is golden. And so it was little wonder that UK Coach Sutton talked about the freshman first. "I've never had one like him. Rex is not just *any* college freshman. He has a tremendous advantage because he comes from a coach's family. He's like (Sutton's son) Sean in that he's grown up around the game of basketball. He understands it. His dad's an excellent coach. Rex knows the game.

"But right now he doesn't even know our system, can't even run the drills. He's got things to learn and I just hope the people of the Commonwealth don't expect too much too soon. It's just like Kenny Walker going to the Knicks; he's got some adjustments to make. Rex has too, coming from high school to college.

To drive the point home, the UK coach gave a little history lesson. "I always hear the words 'impact player.' Well, Sidney Moncrief was the best player I ever coached and he didn't start till his ninth game as a freshman. And Rex has got some people he's going to have to contend with for playing time and he understands that."

Chapman himself?

The kid projects himself much the way he did as a high schooler, soft-spoken, a bit bashful, a little uncomfortable with the ballahoo and attention he gets.

"It puts me in a bad position with my teammates," he says. "I'm a freshman and they've been here a long time and deserve it (attention) for what they've done for Kentucky basketball. I haven't even played yet. So, I just feel it could be resented by teammates. But they don't make me feel resented and I appreciate it. I've got work to do and they're helping me along."

It remains true, however, that Chapman is a homestate kid (Mt. Basketball), a skilled player with enviable ability on the court as well as off it. Too, there is the ongoing record the fact that Chapman is a perfect fit into the central Kentucky scene where sprightly young colts are cuddled, appreciated and, yes, even loved upon with special adoration.

He knows how to handle it and that makes him special too.

"They (the other players) know it makes me uncomfortable and they tell me not to worry about it. And I really appreciate that coming from them because I respect them so much and look up to them."

Denny and 'the kings'

Denny Crum, coach of the national champion University of Louisville Cardinals toed the line with reporters last week too, and with a bit more than his characteristic half smile.

Until next April in New Orleans, Louisville is king of college basketball.

Graciously, Crum admits to having enjoyed immensely the flag waving, hoopla and attention he and his basketball program received during the offseason.

Basking in the glow of an NCAA title has been nice, demands on his time formidable, Crum said.

"You could be gone four, five times a week doing things (charities, speaking engagements, etc.) I guess the hardest thing you have to learn in this business is learning to say 'no.' I've had to say 'no' this year because there are just so many days. But I'd rather have it this way than the other way."

To some of us (in the media) at least, it seems only a few weeks ago that we were watching the Jim Crawford Gym listening to Crum talk about the season ahead. He also was worried about Mill Wagner's foot, Kevin Walls' knee, Billy Thompson's inconsistent play, and how "the rookie" might react to his first year of college basketball.

We all know of course, that Wagner's foot was fine, as was his shooting touch in Dallas Thompson, at the Final Four, metamorphosed into a wonderful player. And the rookie? By the time last season was over Pervis Ellison not only had a nickname (Never Nervous Pervis), he was also selected most valuable player at the Final Four, leading Louisville to the national championship.

Seems to have happened just a few weeks ago, right?

Well, it seems like a long time ago to be honest with you," Crum said. "Seems like a lot of things have happened between then and now. It's been a real busy off season and, on a way, I kind of regret that's over because, playing Oklahoma State and they beat us by one point on a shot from midcourt by a little guard who was oh for five at the time. This was their second game of the year and they cut the nets down. For them it was a major thing."

So, now it is time to start all over again.

I have several areas of concern with this team," Crum said. "When you lose three seniors (Thompson, Wagner and Jeff Hall) that's a major loss. Our strength last year was our defense and when you lose three guys who played as many minutes as they did you've got some replacing to do. That's my biggest concern right now."

UofL's coach went on "we've got some questionable outside shooting at this point. We might prove that we're a very good outside shooting club, but we haven't proven it yet. We lost our two best outside shooters in Milt and Jeff."

The heart around which Crum hopes to build his 1986-87 team would be a called Pervis Ellison.

To put perspective on how fans see Ellison and how Crum sees him, one reporter wanted to know if the 6-9, 200-pound sophomore will be "a dominating force" this season.

"I like to think he could," Crum said politely. "But he was not a dominating player last year. What helped him was those three seniors. This year the demands on him are going to be tremendous and he'll have to be a whole lot better than last year to be as effective."

What about the national college basketball scene?

I don't think there's any dominant team this year because there aren't any (Magic)ians or Ralph Sampsons or Patrick Ewings around," Crum said. "But I think there are a lot of good teams. This year maybe North Carolina. They should be a really strong team."

Interestingly, two national publications, Street & Smith and The Sporting News, puts Louisville and North Carolina at the top of the heap.

As if he needed to be, Crum was reminded that his 1981 team, the year after Louisville's NCAA title, started its season 2-7. No doubt he will remind the players on this team of that fact, right?

"Yeah, I can point that out to 'em," he said. "But you can tell people that they shouldn't smoke because they'll get lung cancer too, but you know, there are still people who smoke.

"You don't drink and drive because you'll get in an accident, but people still drink and drive. Telling young people what happened a few years ago usually goes in one ear and out the other. I know it did with my kids."

But a new season of hoops is here. New hopes and dreams. And for now anyway, Denny and the Kings are still just that. National champions.

People and things

■ Rex Chapman on his roommate Winston Bennett: "He's like a big brother to me. I've known him for five or six years now and if I ask for advice he gives it to me. Sometimes even when I don't ask, he gives it to me."

And what was the last piece of advice Chapman got from Bennett?

"Make my bed," he replied. "We keep our room nice and neat. It's working out real well. We like the same TV shows too."

■ Winston Bennett on his new roomie: "We're roommates. We just kind of hang around together. Nothing special. He likes my (albums) music. Wham and Luther Vandross, but I wish he'd put the records back in their covers."

■ Robert Lock, UK's 6-10 center is up to 240 pounds (from 225) and has improved his strength. But he did not get to workout with Dan Issel during the summer. "I played ball a lot against Rick Robey. We really went at it. He weighs 255 so he banged me around pretty good. My strength has improved a lot. I'm more confident too. I know I can play."

■ UK freshman Derrick Miller on being in the Bluegrass: "My mother's lives in New York and I told her last week she wouldn't be seeing me for awhile because I appreciate Kentucky. It's a place you can live at your own pace. I love it here."

Parting shot

University of Louisville student assistant coach Bubbie Valentine was flashing his NCAA championship ring around last week and bragging that a few weeks ago he chanced to run into Winston Bennett of Kentucky, and I showed him my ring' the brash one said. "And I told him, hey man, look at this. You're never going to have one of these. Never. I enjoyed that."

And so it goes. ■

NCHS coach suspended one game

Nicholas County football coach Robbie Barr was not present on the sidelines for homecoming festivities Friday night.

Instead, he was sitting out a one-game suspension handed out by the Kentucky High School Athletic Association last Wednesday for removing his team from the field Oct. 10 in a game with Woodford County.

The school issued the following statement regarding the matter.

"With 12 left in the third quarter, a personal foul was called on a Woodford County player for a late hit on a Nicholas County player. From that point a fight erupted on the field involving both teams. As a result Tip Fryman, Dwaine Curran, David Willoughby (Nicholas County players) and two Woodford County players were ejected from the game.

"Even though the officials wanted to try to continue the game the Nicholas County school system felt that the safest thing for all involved (players, fans, and coaches) was to leave the Woodford County facility. Coach Barr directed his players off the playing field, and when we broke a KHSAA rule. Meetings were held this week at the KHSAA office in Lexington to discuss the problems that arose Friday night.

"The Nicholas County Athletic program suffered no penalty or suspension. However, Coach Barr will be suspended from Friday night's game against Harrison County and will not be on the sidelines. Coach Greg Letcher will guide the Bluejackets."

Barr was scheduled to take his team off the field was shared by a number of local fans in the stands who felt that the game had gotten out of hand and feared for the safety of the players.

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The Bluejackets suffered their eighth defeat in as many outings, falling to Raceland 26-6 Friday night in a district contest which also served as 1986 Homecoming.

Senior Cinda Ritchie, daughter of David and Linda Ritchie, was crowned Homecoming Queen. Other contestants were Nikki Earlywine, Rhonda Frye, Paula Hamm and Leslie Thornton.

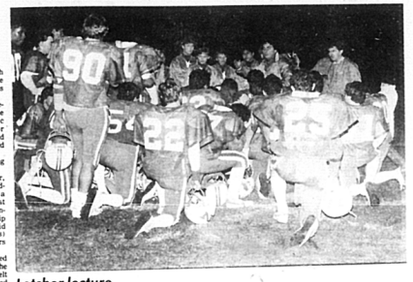
Raceland was on top 6-0 at the end of the first quarter, 12-0 at halftime, and 20-0 after three quarters.

The Jackets got on the boards in the final quarter on a 40 yard pass from quarterback Todd Day to Tip Fryman.

Nicholas County is on the road the next two weeks. They visit Bath County Friday night and Frankfort the following Thursday before closing out the season at home against Fleming County. All games are scheduled for 8 p.m.

Raceland	6	14 0—26
Nicholas Co.	0	0 0 6—6

Raceland scoring: Todd Day (run failed); Day to Tip Fryman 40 pass (pass failed); Day to Fryman 40 pass from Todd Day (run failed).



Letcher lecture

Assistant coach Greg Letcher substituted for head coach Robbie Barr, who was sitting out a one-game suspension Friday night. Letcher is shown gesturing at the back of the huddle. Players identified by numbers are Wendell McNabb (90), Travis Sims (54), Jarrad Wills (22) and Tip Fryman (25). Fryman scored Nicholas County's only touchdown on a 40 yard pass from Todd Day, as Raceland spoiled NCHS homecoming 26-6.

Almost like new

The work on the Nicholas County High School gymnasium has been essentially completed and is in use. The new floor, installed as a result of water damage from last March's tornado and the drop ceiling have added to the appearance of the gym. Installers say the energy savings on heating from the new ceiling will more than pay for its installation costs over the next 2-3 years.

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Saltwell.....by Mrs. Fred Hollar

Mr. and Mrs. Kenneth Gaunce, Lexington and Mr. and Mrs. Stanley W. Caswell, Carlisle spent Sunday with Mr. and Mrs. H. A. Gaunce and Amanda.

Mrs. Violet Sunby, Covington spent Tuesday and Tuesday night with Mrs. Gladys Kenney.

Our community extends sympathy to the families of Mrs. Mary Belle Sams who passed away on Wednesday at Nicholas County Hospital and Roy B. Livingood who also passed away there on Wednesday. These are both lovely people and will be greatly missed in their home, church and communities.

Mr. and Mrs. Rickie Price, Chad and Kyle, Mr. and Mrs. Jimmie Price, Bobby and Bradley, Mrs. John Stacy and Jetta Nell, and Mrs. Fritz Gaunce enjoyed supper with Mr. and Mrs. Bobby Price the past Saturday night.

Mrs. Mary Stubbs, Jackie and Brandi Roberts spent Thursday night with Mr. and Mrs. Jobie Howard and family.

Mrs. Della Dye visited Mrs. Alice Marie Freibach on Friday evening. Mrs. Hensel Grey also visited her on Saturday afternoon.

Mr. and Mrs. Fred Hollar visited Mrs. Carrie Asbury and several others at the Johnson-Mathers Nursing Home on Friday. They also visited Miss Frances Barlow at the George Nursing Home on Saturday afternoon. Others visiting her during the week were Phyllis Brady, Phyllis Hall, Gladys Kenney, Elizabeth Conyers, Alberta Snapp and Rev. Roy C. Hunt.

Bob Kenney of Covington spent Sunday night with Gladys Kenney.

Mrs. Mark Doyle and sons, Mr. and Mrs. David Doyle, Mr. and Mrs. A. J. Doyle, Mr. and Mrs. John Doyle and Jacob, Rev. Roy C. Hunt and Mr. and Mrs. Harold Mattox visited Orville Doyle the past week and on Sunday.

William J. Ritchie was laity speaker at Saltwell Church this Sunday. A potluck meal was also served at the church at the noon hour, following the service.

Mr. and Mrs. Harold Mattox, Lexington and Mr. and Mrs. Fred Hollar enjoyed a fishing trip and picnic at Foster Dam on Thursday. On returning home Harold and wife visited Mrs. Mildred Green and Jimmie in Carlisle and the Hollars visited Mr. and Mrs. Dede Mattox at Neave. Mrs. Mattox had suffered a severe hear attack recently but is slowly unproving.

Short graveside services were held at the Bald Hill Cemetery by James Gaunce on Saturday afternoon for Bennie "Mac" Dotson who passed away this past week during surgery at Veterans Hospital.

Our community extends sympathy to the family of Billy Duncan who passed away this past week of an apparent heart attack. Funeral and burial were on Thursday at Paris. He had many friends here who regret his passing.

The Headquarter Church closed out the revival on Sunday night with a gorgeous potluck meal at the noon hour. Rev. Harold Mattox, pastor of Lair Church brought some great messages and special singing was heard throughout the week. Rev. Roy Hunt is pastor.

The following enjoyed ice cream and cake at the home of Mr. and Mrs. Donald Stone on Friday night honoring the 18th birthday of Shelly Hamilton: Mr. and Mrs. Jerry Galbraith and Andrea, Mr. and Mrs. Gary Hollar, Chris and Tracy Hollar, Ron Allison, Mrs. Diane Smith, Phillip Childress, Denise Stone and Mark Conley.

Glenn Fryman and a friend from Birmingham, Ala. spent several days the past week with Mr. and Mrs. Tim Fryman, Bourbon County and Mr. and Mrs. Louis Fryman. On Saturday night they were all supper guests of Mr. and Mrs. Louis Fryman. Mr. and Mrs. Mike Gantly, Richmond and Jim Fryman, Paris were also supper guests.

Mrs. Bobby Brady visited Mrs. Carrie Asbury and others at Nicholas County Hospital the past week.

Miss Jamie Kenney spent Saturday and Saturday night with Mr. and Mrs. Terry Kenney and sons in Carlisle. They all spent Sunday with Mrs. Mae Kenney and Lewell. Afternoon visitors were Mrs. Ruby Morrus and Helen Gayle Spahr, Cincinnati and Mrs. O. M. Ritchie of Lake Road.

Mr. and Mrs. Allen Flora and children, Jonathan, Stephanie and Christie were Sunday dinner guests of Mr. and Mrs. David Earlywine, Millersburg, honoring Jonathan's 13th birthday.

C. L. Stone entered Harrison Memorial Hospital the past week and underwent surgery there on Wednesday as result of a fractured hip in a fall at Shady Lawn Rest Home, Cynthiana earlier.

Mrs. Alma Wilson, Mrs. Jean Wilson, Mr. and Mrs. Timmy Wilson and Billy Allison dined at the Ponderosa Steak House, Cynthiana Saturday night honoring Billy's birthday.

Mr. and Mrs. Sterling Hollar spent Friday and Saturday sightseeing in Charleston, W VA, Beckley and Bristol, VA and Knoxville, TN, and Mrs. Sunday night with Mrs. Lillie Patterson of Clarksville, TN.

Poster contest winners

Winners in last weeks poster contest for National School Lunch Week were Glenda Thacker, daughter of Mr. and Mrs. Glen thacker and Janella Sibert, daughter of Mr. and Mrs. Arnold Sibert. Both girls recieved Walkman cassette players for their prize winning entries.

Farm Bill

Continued from page 1

farmers who request certain USDA farm program benefits, and who are farming highly erodible land at least one year during the five years 1981-85, to plan and apply locally approved conservation plans. You have until Jan. 1, 1990, to have and begin actively applying a conservation plan on highly erodible cropland.

You have until Jan. 1, 1995, to have a conservation system fully applied to the land. If soil maps of your farm (or ranch) are not available, however, you have until two years after mapping to get a conservation plan in place.

The Swampbuster, or Wetland Conservation provision, denies eligibility for USDA farm program benefits to farmers who convert wetlands in order to produce agricultural commodities after Dec. 23, 1985.

These are your options: 1, You can produce crops on highly erodible fields without using a locally approved conservation plan and lose eligibility for the USDA programs; 2, You can produce crops on newly converted wetlands and lose eligibility; 3, You can develop and apply a conservation plan that will reduce soil erosion to a tolerable rate even though you continue producing crops, and retain eligibility; 4, You can bid to enroll highly erodible land in the Conservation Reserve Program.

For more information about the compliance issues, contact the local office of any USDA agency, the agricultural Extension Service, or your local conservation district at 368 East Main Street, Carlisle.

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Thank You!

To everyone who made possible the success of the Band Auction. From the merchants and people who donated items, to the people who worked and those who came and brought items.

A special thank you to our acutioneers, Mark Mattox and Jewell Vice. We appreciate everyone's efforts in making this project a success.

Nicholas County Band Members and Boosters

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