

Lady Engineers Pick Up Steam With Back-To-Back Wins

The Estill County Lady Engineers are starting to pick up steam as they picked up back-to-back wins to start the month of February.

Last Friday night, the Lady Engineers hosted district rival Owsley County. In a must win for the ladies – they played inspired basketball.

The Lady Engineer defense held the Lady Owls to 11 points at the half. Despite a subpar third quarter, the Estill ladies prevailed 45-33.

Junior Kennedy Flynn led all scorers with 20 points, 4 rebounds, 4 assists, and 5 steals.

Bethany Hall also had a good game with 13 points and 9 rebounds. Four players added three points apiece . . . Jordyn Rose who also had 6 rebounds, Sarah Barnes who also had 3 rebounds and 2 assists, Taylor Young who also had 1 steal and 1 assist, and Kaley Treadway off the bench who also had three rebounds.

The Lady Engineer bench continues to improve as the season continues . . . along with Treadway is fellow freshmen McKenzie Flynn, and Sidney Danyeur.

Saturday, the ladies hosted a dangerous Hazard team whose record doesn't reflect their talent and ability. They have played a very tough schedule and are battle-tested.

The JV began the afternoon with an exciting come-from-behind 35-33 win with 8th grader Savannah Brewer leading all scorers with 16 points.

Kaley Treadway had 5 points, Amelia Farmer had 2 points, McKenzie Flynn had 6 points, Sidney Danyeur had 4 points, Abby Reed had 2 points, and Megan Bellamy

had 3 points.

The varsity then took the floor and won 3 out of 4 quarters and won the contest 68-55.

Kennedy Flynn again led all scorers with 37 points – 9 rebounds – 4 assists; Bethany Hall netted 14 points and five rebounds, Jordyn Rose scored 7 points – 3 rebounds – and 3 steals, Taylor Young had 3 points – 5 rebounds, and Kaley Treadway also had 3 points, Sarah Barnes had 2 points and 6 rebounds, and Sidney Danyeur had 2 points to round out the scoring.

The Lady Engineers were scheduled to host Jackson County on Monday night, however inclement weather forced that game to be canceled.

Next up the Lady Engineers travel to Meniffee County on Thursday the 6th; and then to Leslie County on Saturday the 8th.

Just a reminder . . . the girls and boys travel to Lee County on Monday the 10th for a big district match-up; and the make-up date for the girls game with Powell County is scheduled for Friday the 14th.

Patriots Beat Berea; Win Big, 59-38, Over Madison Middle

Last Wednesday, January 29, the ECMS Patriots honored 8th grade cheerleaders, dance team members, and boys basketball players as they would soundly defeat the Berea Pirates by a score of 51-23.

The 8th grade team overcame a sluggish first half, leading only by seven at halftime, with a big third quarter where they would outscore Berea

by 11 points and finally pull away.

Estill was led in scoring by Caleb Bonny with 18 points; Joe Benton added 14, continuing his red hot shooting with four three-pointers -- Joe knocked down an amazing eight three-pointers two days earlier against Model.

Will Burkhart and Kevin Richardson both had 6, Andrew Doty 3, and Logan Beck-

ler and Dylan Evans would round out the scoring with 2 each. The eighth grade team has a record of 22-5, with a conference record of 11-2.

The seventh grade team also won, by a score of 44-20. They would be led in scoring by Logan Napier with 17 points, Matt Rowland 6, Trevor Evans 5, Trent Taylor and Noah Williams would both score 4, Trent Walker 3, Lee Mills and Justin Rison added 2 each, and Parker McCreary 1.

The seventh grade posts a record of 9 – 17, with a conference record of 5-8.

The sixth grade team would win as well by a score of 58-10. Joe Benton would lead Estill in scoring with 14 points, Micah Adams, Coben Clem, Lucas Puckett and Ethan Webb would score 6 points each, Conner Hall and Chase Muncie 4

each, Cobbe Click 3, Cody Hatton, Chase Rawlins and Micah Swim would add 2 each.

The sixth grade team's record stands at 22-5, with a conference record of 9-4. The Estill County Middle School 8th grade boys, with leads approaching 30 points, would fast break their way to victory Thursday night at the "Purple Palace" in Richmond by a score of 59-38.

"This was the best we have played in about three weeks," said Coach James Bonny. "We were running the floor well and sharing the ball; everyone played extremely hard on both ends of the floor."

Estill was led in scoring by Caleb Bonny with 31 points; Joe Benton would add 12, Will Burkhart 6, Dylan Evans 4, Kevin Richardson, and Logan Beckler and Lane

Doty would each add 2.

The 7th grade would play exceptionally well but fell by a score of 44-46. They were led in scoring by Logan Napier with 15 points, Connor Chaney 13, Trent Taylor 6, Micah Adams and Cobbe Click would both add 4, and Trent Walker put in two.

The 6th grade team would continue their excellent play and win by a score of 52-28.

Joe Benton was top scorer with 25 points; Cobbe Click had 7, Ethan Webb 6, Justin Stamper 4, Micah Adams and Chase Muncie would each add 3, and Chase Rawlins and Conner Hall would each add 2.

The Patriots will finish up regular season play next week as they prepare for the conference tournament which will be played February 7-15. The championship games will be hosted by

ECMS on Saturday, February 15.

"All three of our teams are really coming together and playing some of their best basketball of the season as we are getting ready for our conference tournament next week," added Coach Bonny. "I expect us to show ourselves very strong this year in tournament play."

The Patriots are finishing up regular season play this week with two home games, Farristown on Tuesday (after press time) which will be the "white-out game," and a long awaited rematch with number one seed Foley on Thursday night.

The 7th and 8th grade will close out regular season play on Saturday evening as they travel to Wolfe County. The 6th grade will open tournament play on Saturday morning.

FBLA Students Help Keep Graves Clean In Local Cemeteries

As you have driven past or visited loved ones at Sunset Memorial Gardens or West Irvine Cemetery, you may wonder why you periodically see teenagers scattered about. FBLA members saw a need, and they have chosen to fill this need.

Often graves are littered with the remnants of grass from moving and weed eating. Not anymore. With brooms in hand, this group of students can be seen periodically meeting to clean headstones and markers as they divide and conquer this ugly sight on far too many graves.

While many have loved ones who are able to tend to

this task, far too many go untouched. Even those with family members able to visit the graves, have expressed their gratitude to these students, while they have been working as some family and friends have visited.

A wife whose husband is buried at Sunset Memorial Gardens was so moved by this project that she donated money toward the purchase of hand-held brooms.

Cemeteries are meant to be a place of respect, and that is exactly what these FBLA kids are attempting to do by this project -- show respect to those who have gone on.



ABOVE: FBLA member Jackie Miller tends to a grave at West Irvine Cemetery. BELOW: Zoe Deaton and Deron Miller do their part to care for the graves at West Irvine and Sunset Memorial Gardens.



Soccer Signups

Estill County youth soccer sign-ups are going to be held at Hardee's starting Fri. Feb. 7th 6-8 p.m. and Sat. Feb. 8th 11-1 p.m. And also Fri. Feb. 14th 6-8 p.m. and Sat. Feb. 15th 11-1 p.m.

A child must be born on or between dates of August 1, 2001-July 31, 2009 to be able to participate.

The fees for returning players from Fall are \$25 and new players are \$50 with sibling discount available.

If you have any questions please call Staci Owens at 726-9686.

Bob Watkins' Sports In Kentucky

One day in February, one news cycle, college football flies over Road to Final 4



Bob Watkins

That Super Bowl thing ... what was that?

Television commercial, \$4 million for 60 seconds? Some heist. First play third quarter, across America we could hear teevee remotes clicking to The Beatles special on CNN.

This week: For one day, one news cycle, followed by marathon analysis, college football flies above college basketball's road to the final four.

Signing day. College Haves reload – Florida State, Alabama, Ohio State; wannabe(s) Louisville, Duke and others, then the flashing street sign: Under-Construction – Kentucky.

Wildcat football is in its best stretch since Tim Couch was drawing raves for Air Raid in the '90s.

The calendar ...

√ Two weeks ago, an arms race update. UK announced another multi-million dollar investment in football. Privately funded.

√ A week ago, Matt Elam chose the blue helmet.

√ Kentucky had beaten Alabama for something besides a basketball game.

Elam isn't just any player. Here is a man-child with potential to rare up at scrimmage and shout to his defensive fellows, "Hey, guys, I got this side."

Elam is a kid with Cherub grin and block top and sculpted at 360 pound 6-foot-six. He is Donte Rumph with wheels, personality of Sweet Pea Burns and promise of Art Still. Arguably, the

new face of another football renaissance at Kentucky.

Reflecting a bright mind beyond his years, Elam came home from visits to Alabama, Notre Dame and the rest then, with wisdom beyond his years, said "they all have nice facilities," but (in the end) "it comes down to relationships."

Here. here.

FOOTBALL SIGNS

Rivals.com and other recruiting services are a like a teevee commercial for Super Bowl, a hustle, a mirage for wishful thinkers. They are to high school athletes what polls are to politics – pick what pleases you, dismiss the rest.

Consider University of Kentucky.

PICK. Coach Mark Stoops' incoming class is rated ahead of Texas, Penn State, Oklahoma, Stanford, USC and Michigan. Upside – other prospects are impressed; Big Blue fans' hopes rise, season ticket sales go up.

DISMISS. Ratings that project UK's class is only seventh best among teams it must play, the SEC. Media loves underdog (UK); Stoops loves his bolstered red-shirt options; and Big Blue fans love 2014 schedule.

GROUNDHOG DAY AT UK?

Kentucky's 5-point take-down at Missouri was an RPI boost, but ended more Whew! than Wow!

"We're so young ..." ... "we're learning to play together ..." we're so young." ... "we're still learning."

Groundhog Day again and again for the Calipari(s).

The Wildcats purred to a 16-point lead, then Mizzou guards Jabari Parker and Jordan Clarkson discovered the right side of Kentucky's defense was soft as a lamb's bottom but ran out of possessions. Kentucky escaped by five.

With three winnable games before Florida comes to Rupp Arena February 15, UK's win at Missouri could

be the grow-up fans have waited to see. Or, it could add more fuel to the argument:

"... these kids are NOT ready for the next level. They all need another year in college!"

As opposed to:

"These kids ARE definitely ready for the next level! The NBA's developmental league."

DAKICH DELIGHT

Amusing, the criticism and praise lavished on ESPN analyst Dan Dakich after Kentucky's fiasco at LSU January 28.

Straight-talking Dakich told us what we've seen for ourselves – Andrew and Aaron Harrison are whiny and pouty college freshmen whose best advice would be, "best thing we can do is become sophomores."

By last week Dakich was being exalted for his courage and candor and forthrightness. Say what?

He seemed puzzled by the (media) love as if to say, "isn't that what I'm here to do?"

Irony is this question, how long until Indiana U. graduate Dakich becomes Second Coming of ... Billy Packer

Ah, the politically correct times we live in.

NEWS & VIEWS

NEWS. During the Kentucky-LSU game coach John Calipari walked onto the floor during the game, which he does often, grabbed Andrew Harrison and shoved him into the play.

VIEW. Perception becomes reality. When Bob Knight grabbed a player during his tenure at IU, seemed everybody noticed. He was criticized mightily. Calipari got a free pass.

NEWS. Eastern Kentucky's Glenn Cooney got himself and Colonels fans one shining moment last week. Ahead of the final horn, the senior banked in a 37-foot shot and Eastern earned a 79-78 win over SE

Missouri.

VIEW. ECU owns a shiny 16-7, 7-3 in OVC record; Across the state, Western Kentucky is 15-7 and on a five game win streak. That two old rivals don't play each other home and home cheats fans and deprives both schools of (ESPN) television revenue.

NEWS. Knott Central High junior Camron Justice withdrew his commitment to Tennessee last week. The 6-2 guard reportedly has scholarship offers from Vanderbilt, Butler, Western Kentucky, among others.

VIEW. Justice's decision to step-back is opportunity come knocking. Chance to twitter or e-mail with, say, Luke Hancock at Louisville and Chris Harrison-Docks at Western Kentucky. Get advice on finding the right school and best fit to play before making a final decision.

NEWS. Latest attempt to re-ignite interest in the Kentucky-Indiana summer all-star series on this side of the Ohio River: Move it to central Kentucky, Transylvania University.

VIEW. Good move. Now, the hard part.

√ Convince state media the Indiana-at-Kentucky game at Transy in June is newsworthy to convince fans to spend their entertainment dollar.

√ Underpinning it all: Convincing high school seniors to try out, to wear a Kentucky jersey "against those Hoosiers" is a one-time in life-time honor.

WORTH REPEATING DEPT.

Internet fan rant following Kentucky's game at LSU.

"Over-rated! Harrison twins got away from high school ball and have no idea.

"Time to put a 'For Sale' sign in Calipari's front yard.

"I'm tired of turning rosters over every year. Where's Tubby Smith when UK NEEDS him?"

And so it goes.