# Bob Watkins' **Sports In Kentucky**

### Louisville to ACC is sports story of new millennium so far



**Bob Watkins** 

University of Louisville's entry to the Atlantic Coast Conference last week is, I think, the most important sports story of the new millennium in Kentucki-

Among the high, if least all premier programs." mentioned, positives: Economic impact possibilities regionally; and, the nearest NBA franchise will remain at a distance, Indianapolis.

New league, new television option for fans, new everything. Included, Rick Pitino spin/coach-speak.

"Rick Pitino could charm the gold out of your teeth and not even leave you a toothache," a friend said awhile ago.

If a poll were done ranking most eloquent ball coaches of our time, on any list, Pitino would be first, and second, everyone else tied for third.

He can be Sound Bite Rick for Chris Mathews on MSNBC or how-to-builda-watch incisive for five minutes on Pardon The Interruption.

In this context, Pitino gave fans a mini-seminar in charm last week. When a Louisville Courier-Journal reporter asked him a may-I-kiss-your-ring question about joining the ACC: "What will it be like to be part of this coaching Mount Valley Conference. Rushmore, Mike Krzyzewski, Roy Williams and Conference and Confer-Jim Boeheim?", Pitino ap- ence USA parently resisted gagging and a Pontiff-on-high response too.

"... the programs are much bigger than the ers with Louisville's league coaches," he said. "North change? Carolina, Syracuse, Duke and Louisville stand far ketball. Cardinal football above the coaches."

Above the coaches. Nicely correct.

Then, response to an- et.

other question put him and UofL in stark contrast with our state's other basketball Titan down I-64.

going to the ACC?

slipped in a genuflect to ners, students. UofL president Dr. James Ramsey whose new mission is finding ways to big dogs.

said. "We're looking to really improve our image ac-(being) middle of the road we become an elite univer- ship?

Forest, Duke and Boston Billy Donovan at number College, "because they're'

Deciding if Pitino's remarks are genuine or coachspeak baloney, is your option. That he used his bully pulpit to mention academic growth, be an academic rival for Boston College and the rest, is, well, charming.

#### **LOUISVILLE LEAGUE HISTORY**

in the Atlantic Coast Conference is one of the most remarkable journeys in college conference history.

Once upon a time Coach Peck Hickman's Louisbasketball team played Western Kentucky for the Ohio Valley Conference championship. Was 55 years ago. The Hilltoppers

Home and home regulars days: Kentucky Wesleyan, Morehead, Murray, Eastern and Western Kentucky (and no UK). Football program was weak and women's basketball non-existent.

 $\sqrt{1963-1974}$ , Louisville belonged to the Missouri

 $\sqrt{1975-2005}$ , Metro

 $\sqrt{2005-2012}$ , Big East.  $\sqrt{2013}$  American Ath-

Big winners and big los-

Winner: Women's basand baseball.

Winner: ACC member schools. UofL IS a hot tick-

Winner: Landed-on-hisfeet again, Bob Petrino. Loser: Charlie Strong.

Winner-in-waiting: Q. (What) other benefits' academic rivalries with Duke, Boston College are Pitino waxed collegial, established, biggest win-

#### **SALESMANSHIP?**

College basketball aficompete with Academia's cionados enduring the Summertime Slows needed "We're also going to something to stir the heavy take off academically," he air and a television sports network obliged.

A list of the game's top ademically. So, instead of 50 coaches. Criteria? Ap-

one. Nada.

credibility straight out of the box by listing anybody not named Mike Krzyze-

Using any and all measures, the best coach in college hoops is one with most wins, most Olympic gold medals (2), NCAA titles (4), place in the Hall of Fame, and on Duke's cam-Louisville's membership pus the number one rated recruiting class this year, adding to a steady flow of blue chip student-athletes over more than two decades who bought into Coach K's salesmanship.

But hey, it's summertime. The network got what it wanted from its coachrank exercise. Buzz.

### DIS 'N DATA

 $\sqrt{\text{Watch this: The NCAA}}$ on UofL's schedule in those reopened an investigation (academic fraud) at University of North Carolina. down and talk" with (whis-

The Sage is an herb that

41/4 fragrance, in cooking and

problems such as stomach pain, bloat-

ing and heartburn, and for reducing

perspiration and saliva. It is also used as

a treatment for depression, memory

loss, and Alzheimer's disease. It can be

The case has parallels to scandals at Kentucky, mid-1980s.

√ Decisions. Madison Southern prize running back Damian Harris, 5-10, 205-pound senior, will choose a college soon – Alabama, Oregon, Michigan. Ohio State, Kentucky, Florida, Florida State or Notre Dame.

√ Money Dept. Ex-Kentucky student-athletes Jodie Meeks signed with the Detroit Pistons, \$19.1 million for three years; Patrick Patterson to the Toronto Rapparently one: Salesman- tors, \$18 million for three

sity academically ..." The sports television net-Compete with Wake work tried to sell Florida's LeBron James will go back to Cleveland Cavaliers, ESPN predicts. Wonder if The network killed its John Calipari thinks how he could've gotten his man, \$70 million and a C-135 rental to airlift both their egos to Cleveland.

#### **WORTH REPEATING** DEPT.

Dunk contests. Most allstar game watchers believe they're a waste of time and much ado about nothing. The following fan view

"This sort of gaga nonsense ranges between disgust and 'how stupid is this?' A dunk shot. Two points. Not three, but TWO

"Entertainment? It's a sham, a scam, a joke, an example of dumbing down America by media-types probably too short, too fat and too easily impressed – gone bonkers when a big on alleged rules violations ole kid in short pants shows off his 'ME game' in a team sport with a 3-6-0 or UNC officials "want to sit a pogo-stick, or a high flyer, and now a jaw-dropper tle blower?) Rashad Mc- between the legs dunk! So what? Still TWO points."

And so it goes.



applied directly to the skin for swelling and to relieve pain. - Brenda Weaver Source: www.webmd.com

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garden feature, as a

also medicinally.

It is used for digestive

### **Family Tradition Continues** as A New Record is Set at the 4th of July Tournament

See top finishers in photo at right on Page 15

County High School graduby winning the Championship Flight at the Estill County Golf Club 4th of July Invitational Tournament.

in the Club's history to win of match play. this tournament.

family tradition. He has kept ing in the tournament. A large the title in his family follow- crowd gathered to watch the ing his brother Scott's back- last holes with anticipation of to-back championships.

Scott held the title for 2011 tournament was held in 2013.

Aaron Morrison and Kelby in the Championship Flight. Marty Anderson of Nicholasville finished in 3rd place.

Phillip Webb, a 2014 Estill cool breeze blowing, teams began tee-off at 8:00 a.m. on ate, set a new record Sunday Friday with 88 entrants from across Kentucky and several other states as well. The competition was stiff in all flights with several sudden death At 18 years of age, Phillip holes played to determine the became the youngest player winners in the 1st – 4th flights

The championship flight Along with setting a record, was especially tough with Phillip is also continuing a several former winners playthe flight's medal play winner.

After being medalist on and 2012. Due to rain, no Day 1 of the tournament finishing 5 under par, Phillip Two other Estill Countians, maintained his composure with a smile on his face to Robinson, tied for 2nd place complete the 3-day event 10 under par. After the win, Scott Webb said, "I couldn't be happier. If I had to lose, With the sun shining and a I'm glad it was to Phillip."

### Other tournament results are as follows:

#### 1st Flight: 2nd Flight:

1st: Butch Coleman, Irvine 1st: B. J. Kirby, Irvine 2nd: Brad King, Berea 2nd: Rick Floyd, Irvine **3rd:** Jordan Grayson, 3rd: Mark Patrick, Irvine

Maysville

#### 1st Flight Consolation

1st: Buster Begley, Clay City

2nd: Gary Meadows, Stanton

#### 3rd Flight: 4th Flight: 1st: J.R. Fields, Owensville 1st: Justin Dixon, Irvine

2nd: Bill Jones, Irvine 3rd: John Henry, Richmond 3rd: Robert Stepp, Irvine

### 3rd Flight Consolation

1st: Kenneth Henry, Winchester 2nd: Happy Osborne,

Owensboro

2nd: Randy McMillen,

**2nd Flight Consolation** 

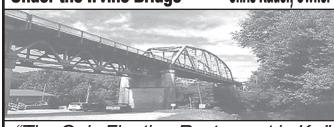
1st: Benton Kirby, Irvine

2nd: Dickie Arthur, Irvine

**4th Flight Consolation** 1st: Mickey Toll,

Chesapeake, VA 2nd: Bill Walters, Irvine





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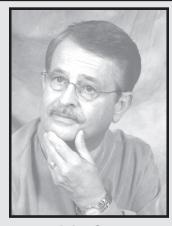
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| Car Make              | Model | Year |
| Color                 |       |      |

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