

Rain - Soaked Engineers Top Western Hills, 25 - 8

by MIKE WISEMAN
Estill Sports Contributor

The Estill County Engineers welcomed conference opponent Western Hills to Hoover Niece Lake, um, Field on Friday night, October 10th.

Trying to recover from last week's near miss, the "Neers splashed their way to a convincing win on a field that looked more suited for a swim meet than a football game. Estill's consistent running game and solid defense was just what the doctor ordered for this type of game.

Western Hills fumbled on their first possession of the game and Estill would cash in on the turnover. Two fourth - down conversions by Trevor Jones would be key as he scored from 18 yards out to give Estill the lead.

The Wolverines second opportunity ended with a 5 - yard punt to give Estill excellent field position. It looked as though Chipper Hitchcock's tough 25 yard run would spell six for Estill, but a fumble on the 5 yard line would squirt through the end zone for a touchback.

Estill's "D" continued to stymie Western Hill's running game as both teams traded punts. Estill continued to convert fourth downs and Jones would plunge in from 1 yard out to set the score at 12 - 0. After a Jones fumble recovery, Estill would take control of the game with a shove it down your throat drive that paid off when Hitchcock touched pay dirt to make it 18 - 0.

Hills' largest offensive explosion came next with a 47 yard run down to the

Estill 16 yard line, but, as usual, Estill's defense said "not tonight" and held on fourth down.

A fumbled snap on a punt would give the Wolverines some life and field position. They would score from seven yards and cut the lead to 10 points, 18 - 8. Estill recovered the onside kick and would put together a time - consuming drive only to fail on their fourth down conversion, their first of the night, at the Western Hill 10.

The defense came up big again as they yielded no ground and Hills gave the ball right back to Estill. Jones' 9 yard TD run and Levi Tipton's PAT would extend the lead, 25 - 8.

On Hills' last possession, the only pass attempt by both teams on the night was picked off by Kordell Day, and Estill

would see their record go to 6 - 2 (3 - 1 district).

Estill Stats: T.Jones - 28 - 169 yds. rushing, 3 TD.

C.Hitchcock - 20 - 69 yds. 1 TD. D.Spivey 7 - 23 yds. Defense - - Jones 9 tackles - 1 Fum. Rec., Hitchcock 7 tackles, Spivey 5 tackles, Day 5 tackles - 1 Int., T.Tate 4 tackles, 1 Fum. Rec.

Big kudos should go out to #99 Brevin Bogans with every snap being spot on in such nasty conditions. Great job, Brevin!

Estill will have an open week to rest, recover and prepare for their next game on October 24th as they travel to Lancaster to take on the district front runner and #8 team in 3A, Garrard County.

Get rested, Guys, and let's get ready to take it to 'em.

Estill Lady Patriots Make Plans For Post-Season

by MIKE WISEMAN
Estill Sports Contributor

The Estill County Middle School Lady Patriots began preparation for the post - season tournament this past week as they played three

non - conference opponents.

The 7th and 8th grade teams played on the road for three games during fall break.

The 8th graders would

continue to pad their win total by going 3 - 0 in their games.

They defeated Berea in a shortened game due to a leaky roof by the score of 15 - 7.

Scoring: M. Bellamy - 4, T. Duechle - 4, K. Flynn - 2, A. Farmer - 2, S. Stewart - 2, S. Danyour 1.

Estill 31 - Paris 21. M. Bellamy - 15, K. Flynn - 8, T. Duechle - 5, S. Stewart - 3.

Estill 36 - Owsley Co. 26. T. Duechle - 10, K. Flynn - 9, A. Farmer - 6, M. Bellamy - 5, S. Danyour - 4, L. Lewis - 2.

The 7th graders would win 2 of 3 this past week including an OT thriller against Owsley Co.

Estill 32 - Berea 6. L. Lewis - 10, K. Riddell - 10, M. Hale - 6, C. Smith - 2, L.

Mills - 2, H. Walling - 2.

Estill 25 - Paris 30. L. Lewis - 17, K. Riddell - 4, M. Hale - 2, H. Walling - 2.

Estill 28 - Owsley Co. 26 OT. L. Lewis - 9, K. Riddell - 8, H. Walling - 7, L. Mills - 2, M. Robinson - 2.

The 6th graders were idle this week as they prepared for their opening round game of the tournament. They will open play Thursday at ECMS gymnasium @ 5:30. Come out and support these girls!!!

The 8th graders will open their tourney on Monday, Oct. 20th @ ECMS as the #1 seed. 5:30 game time.

The 7th graders will open their tourney on Tue., Oct 21 @ ECMS. Game time 5:30.

Come out and support the ECMS Lady Patriots!!!! They will not disappoint.

Estill County Middle School Girls Basketball Tournament Schedule

Thursday, October 16th (5:30)

6th grade - Estill v. Madison Middle
Foley v. Clark Moores

Monday, October 20th (6:00)

8th grade - Estill v. Model

Tuesday, October 21st (6:00)

7th grade - Estill v. Clark Moores

*Wednesday, October 22nd (6:00)

6th grade - Estill v. _____

*Thursday, October 23rd (6:00)

8th grade - Estill v. _____

*Friday, October 24th (6:00)

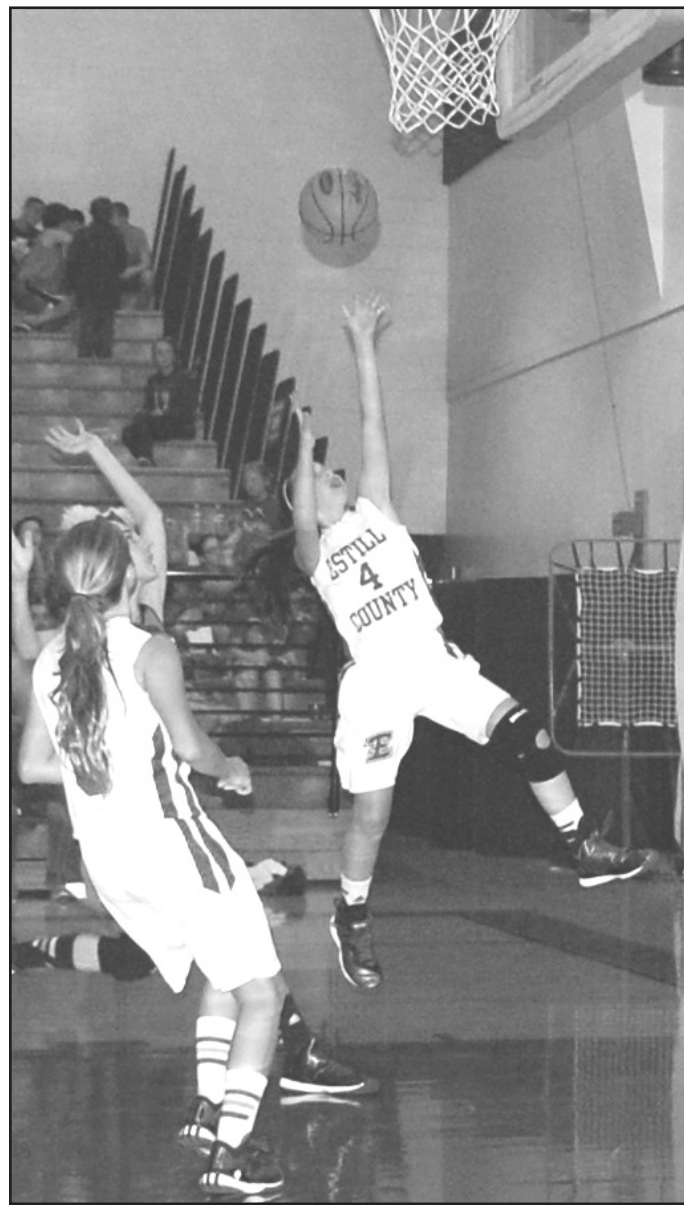
7th grade probably at Foley

Saturday, October 25th - at Estill County
Conference Championship Games

6th grade - 10:00 am

7th grade - 11:15 am

8th grade - 12:30 pm



Meaghan Bellamy (#4) puts up a shot on a break during recent Estill Lady Patriots' action.

Bob Watkins' Sports In Kentucky

'SEC contender' Kentucky is flying at 5 - 1, but hold the phone!



Bob Watkins

Remember the hitch in Cawood Ledford call during a Kentucky football game? Following a productive play by the home team, "... hold the phone!"

Fits today. Last time Kentucky won five games to open a season was 2010 and the Wildcats finished 5 - 7.

Halfway mark in this season ... Mark Stoops' team is one play from unbeaten, half - game behind Georgia in the SEC East, and own more wins than two previous UK teams combined.

Big Blue Nation is buzzing and, on the EKG graph to gauge heart rate before Big Blue Madness this week, is still reasonable.

It follows that some in the media herd have (to be noticed) gleefully moved - the - chains, ignored ruffians still on schedule, even indulged in bowl game happy talk.

This week, pollsters took a step toward climbing on the band wagon too - Kentucky is 26th, says ESPN, 29th says The Associated Press, and 31st say the Coaches.

Hold the phone! Kentucky is 1 - 0 against the MAC, 2 - 0 against Sun Belt teams, struggled with Vanderbilt, and South Carolina (3 - 3) was overrated.

Bowl projections at mid-term, CBS Sports' analyst

Jerry Palm bowl bid possible for SEC teams are practical if too big a bite. Alabama and Ole Miss will get bids, so will Georgia, Florida, Texas A&M, Auburn, Missouri, Tennessee, LSU and South Carolina. And, Mississippi State could be in the national championship game.

Using logic and schedule, I would trim off Tennessee and perhaps Missouri. If Kentucky still has health and momentum the Wildcats can beat both.

Still, Kentucky's All - New - People cover is blown. The Wildcats are on video. Good reason then, to Hold The Phone!

LA - MONROE NOTABLES

Louisiana Monroe jumped out 14 - 3 and experts said Kentucky "is flat" ... "suffering fat head" after its South Carolina win. I preferred the assessments of first year tackle Matt Elam and Monroe quarterback Brayle Brown's too.

"We came out and played at their level," Elam said. "Then, we started playing at our level."

Brown: "(Kentucky) adjusted to everything we were doing and they played a good game."

Best wrap - up quote came from Javess Blue. "... our chemistry just keeps building up. We're really bonding every week so it's an amazing feeling. I (have) never had a family and a team like this that can just get down and talk to each other without the coaches being in the room and just have a group meeting and get to understanding (each other). It's pretty amazing when we all come together and work."

Notables ...
√ See if 'breaks' stay the Wildcats' way:

• Deflection off Elam's helmet becomes an interception - and - touchdown by Josh Forrest.

• Javess Blue went for one - hand circus catch and came down with loaf - of - bread touchdown instead of another coulda been.

√ See if quarterback Patrick Towles heeds good advice from SEC Network analyst Andre Ware about eliminating happy feet?

√ More of the platinum helmets, please.

√ Before LSU's first tailgate in August, Tiger coaches and fans wrote in a win - over - Kentucky in ink not pencil.

√ A two touchdown underdog at Death Valley in late October, not bad for Kentucky's All - New - People who acquitted themselves well enough at The Swamp.

√ SEC - East intrigue. Georgia comes to Lexington November 8. See how many arms Georgia officials twist to get SEC premier running back Todd Gurley reinstated.

CAL'S CATTLE SHOW

Craft Center. No media allowed, no fans either, but University of Kentucky - at - Euclid (across the street from campus) let its ball coach invite an army of NBA vultures to a basketball practice last week. An ESPN camera crew was on hand too naturally.

Never mind that professional league scouts can see Kentucky play on television 32 times this season - SEC Network, ESPN, ESPN2, ESPNU and CBS.

After the practice, John Calipari whined that the NCAA would probably ban his NBA scout combine because it was his idea.

Question rises for you: Does Cal's Cattle Show give Kentucky an unfair re-

cruiting advantage over rivals Florida, Kansas, Duke and others?

Interestingly, little more than a month ago Calipari was complaining that Mike Krzyzewski coaching Team USA at FIBA World Cup amounted to an unfair recruiting advantage for Duke.

WORTH REPEATING DEPT.

From Bleacher Report web site: Since Kentucky's basketball program has been a de facto training ground for future NBA lottery picks since John Calipari took over as head coach in 2009, it's surprising that it took this long for the team to hold a scouting combine for NBA teams and scouts.

MAXIMIZE PLAYER TALENT?

On subject of ball coaches and the NBA, which college coaches maximize their player' skills for professional basketball? Since Kentucky is a pipeline to the NBA big money trough these days, its coach must be number one, right?

According to a Bleacher Report: "these are the guys who, if given John Calipari's talent, would win the (NCAA) championship nearly every year." - Tom Izzo, Michigan State; Mike Krzyzewski, Duke; Bo Ryan, Wisconsin; Mark Few, Gonzaga; Shaka Smart, VCU; and Bill Self, Kansas.

PARTING SHOT

"Some people try to find things in this game that don't exist, but football is only two things - blocking and tackling." - Vince Lombardi on football.

And so it goes. You can reach me at bob. Watkins24@aol.com

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