

**Wanderings
from the
Woods
& Water**
by Jay
Bicknell
WetStoneKennels@Yahoo.Com



Team Trophy Quest



The Trophy Quest Bus

Several months back I contacted TQ Land Group to get more information about conservation easements. TQ Land Group is also part of Team Trophy Quest who has Trophy Quest and Beyond the Battlefield hunting shows. I spoke with TQ Land Group many times over the last several months. I decided to invite them up to deer hunt.

On November 9th the TQ bus arrived in my driveway around 5 PM. Lance Mauffitt of TQ had made it to hunt a few days in Estill County. Joining Lance was two cameramen James and Steve. As soon as they got out of the bus, we loaded up in my truck and did a quick scouting run to prepare for an early morning hunt.

I also invited a good friend and Wounded Warrior Lt. Col. Dale Patterson to hunt a few days. I let Dale know he was going to be part of a hunting show about an hour before he made it to Estill. He made it into Irvine around 9:30 p.m. and we put the plan together for the next morning's hunt.

At 5:30 a.m., Monday morning, TQ and Dale Patterson pulled in my driveway. I took Lance and James and got them set up in a tree stand. Then Dale and Steve got in the truck with me and we went to a ground blind. Monday was slow with just a few doe seen. Monday afternoon was no different; it was very slow with a couple of doe and no bucks.

We all met back at my house Monday night. Monday November 10th was the Marine Corps' birthday. Lance Mauffitt, being a career Marine, we celebrated the Marine Corps birthday at the house. It was great time with some great friends. After everything was over we planned for Tuesday morning hunt.

Tuesday morning came early as everyone met at the house. Lance and Steve headed to a stand they hunted Monday afternoon. I took Dale and Steve to a new ground blind. For the morning hunt. Dale didn't see any deer all day Tuesday or that Wednesday morning either. Now for Lance, you will have

to tune in to Sportsman Channel next fall to see what happens. I will give you a hint, an Estill County buck will be a movie star.

Tuesday the guys come back to the cabin for a break. James the cameraman is also an excellent bow shot. He does all kinds of trick shots on Trophy Quest. My boys love watching James shoot on TV. So it didn't take Jake and Josh long until they broke out their bows and asked James to show them how to shoot. Jake now is shooting his bow behind his back and with his feet. He hits the target most of the time so James did a good job. You might see the boys shooting their bows on TV this fall.

I was surprised the amount of work involved in filming a show; The after-the-shot filming. The interviews with everyone involved with the show. Making sure that deer is on camera when it gets shot. The shooting the deer is when the work begins. Once all the season footage is done the hours of editing begin.

Team TQ will be back in the spring for the Kenton Bray Memorial Wounded Warrior Turkey Hunt. TQ is a huge supporter of the military and Wounded Warriors. I think they will be surprised how much Estill County supports our Wounded Warriors. I have told them I live in the best small town in the world. Seeing is believing and this spring they will see.

Congrats to all those that have harvested deer this season!

Until next week, get out and enjoy God's creation.



A Thankful Heart
Sometimes I like to sit on a stool in front of my patio doors and watch the birds while I eat dinner. I think about how grateful I am for the good life I have, and how a yard full of songbirds makes it even better. They fill me with joy.
E-mail: birdingbits@jlr.com
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Estill's Playoff Hopes End Again At Russell

by **MIKE WISEMAN**
Estill Tribune Sportswriter

Estill's road through the playoffs came to an abrupt dead end Friday night with a 32-9 loss to Russell, for the second year in a row.

The Engineers failed to see the endzone for the first time this year as Levi Tipton's three field goals would be the only scoring for Estill on this night.

A stout Russell defense would contain Estill's senior quarterback Trevor Jones and Chipper Hitchcock and not allow any quick strike scores that we have been accustomed to seeing all year.

Estill's defense would come to play and hold Russell to 3 and out on their first possession and after a Jones scramble to convert a third down, he would find Hitchcock with a beautiful pass up the middle of the field to put Estill 1st and goal from the 3 yard line.

After three straight stops by Russell's defense, the 'Neers would have to settle for a Levi Tipton 20 yard field goal and a 3-0 lead.

After another three and out, Estill would find some success from the air as Jones connected with senior classmates Taylor Tate, Logan Edmonson, and Deron Miller on consecutive plays to move the offense to the 30 yard line. Jones's next pass would find the wrong set of hands and would be returned 65 yards for a Russell touchdown and a 6-3 lead.

Estill would be forced to punt on their next possession and after a 15 yard unsportsmanlike conduct penalty, Russell would find the endzone again from 22 yards out and take a 12-3 lead.

With more penalties than points (4-3), Estill seemed rattled. But after both teams traded punts, Jones would

scramble for 21 yards, throw a laser to Tate for 20, and add another scramble of 16 yards to move Estill inside the 20 with under 2:00 to play in the first half.

Russell's defense would be stubborn again and force the Engineers to settle for a Tipton 30 yard three pointer. Still, Estill would have momentum on their side at the half trailing only 12-6.

The second half started with Estill pounding the ball on the ground to the tune of four consecutive first downs but would be held yet again inside the 20, and Tipton's toe from 30 yards out would trim the lead to three points, 12-9.

With 5:11 left in the third quarter, Russell would complete their only pass of the night and it resulted in a 66 yard touchdown that would put the home team up 19-9.

With an excellent KO return by Miller, Estill would take over on the 33 yard line

but would be held on 4th and 1 and turn the ball over on downs.

The "D" would have to step up and they did by foiling a fake punt attempt, but Estill would once again be stopped on fourth down and on the first play of the fourth quarter, Russell would run it in from 63 yards and extend their lead to 26-9.

After turning the ball over on downs again, Estill's defense would hold tight and get the ball back. Russell would get another pick six and set the final score and send Estill to a long ride home.

Estill's offense would outgain Russell 360-240 but could not find the end zone against a stingy defense.

Hitchcock would rush for 40 yards and catch 3 passes for 41 yards. Jones would rush for a hard 125 yards and completed 14 of 33 passes for 152 yards. Edmonson

would catch 5 balls for 42 yards and Tate would grab 3 for 46 yards. Junio Dylan Spivey would rush for 22 yards on 4 carries. Defensively, Jones would have 7 tackles followed by juniors David Hunt and Kordel Day with 5 each. Senior Sean Davis would add 4 tackles for Estill.

Estill would finish the season with a record of 9 wins and 3 losses and a very proud fan base.

We all are so proud of this team and what they accomplished this year. For me, it has been an honor to cover the games for my good friend and former teammate, Coach Mike Jones. A big shout out to the coaching staff for all the help they have given me this year.

Hold your heads high 2014 Estill County Engineers, this county is proud of you. Congratulations on a great season!!!



Estill senior Taylor Tate (#24) catches a pass but is quickly pushed out of bounds by the Russell defender.

Bob Watkins' Sports In Kentucky

Governor's Cup: A flute will do; Platoon problem at UK: Energy?



Bob Watkins

College football soars toward its grand finale games with titles.

Iron Bowl ... Egg Bowl ... Old Oaken Bucket ... Army-Navy.

And trumpets please across our Commonwealth, for the Governor's Cup two days after Thanksgiving. For this Gov's Cup, a flute will do. For Kentucky — media herd had Wildcats bowl-bound six weeks ago — Taps might be appropriate.

Louisville's boast has been a defense being largely responsible for 7-3 record heading to South Bend this week. The other encampment: Mark Stoops' team has surrendered more points in two Saturdays than its basketball brethren did in 72 hours, 97 (Grand Canyon, Buffalo), 113 (Georgia, Tennessee).

STOOPS SHOULD TAKE THE 5TH

After Tennessee humiliated Kentucky (again) 50-16, Stoops sat down with reporters and should have stopped at: "... give (Tennessee) credit. They took

care of business." Then, the coach should have pled the Fifth, but didn't.

Instead, Stoops showed his glaring inexperience as a head man-at-presser. Asked the most embarrassing question a coach can hear: "How he knows he hasn't lost (his) team?" Stoops replied, "I know, I really do. ... 'Y'all will point out all the negatives, and that's your job, I understand that, believe me. I'm a big boy and that goes with the territory."

Bad form. Too early to the bunker.

Two years in, and a losing streak with skid marks, a big boy ball coach should not even hint defiance toward still-in-honeymoon-media. At success-starved Kentucky, nobody, save Big Blue Nation cynics, wants Stoops to succeed more than reporters and analysts, all the way to SEC Network and CBS Sports.

UK ENERGY?

Lemme Get This Straight Dept.: Nation's top ranked and much ballyhooed two-platoon basketball team Kentucky comes out for its second home game against a mosquito opponent on national television and is out-hustled, pushed around and trailed at halftime because the team lacked energy? Second game in and No. 1 lacked energy?

✓ Best platoon? Tyler Ullis, Devin Booker, Marcus Lee, Trey Lyles and Dakari Johnson.

✓ Better platoon: Willie Cauley-Stein, Trey Lyles, Karl Anthony Towns, Andrew Harrison and Ullis.

✓ 17 assists to 14 turn-

overs against Buffalo ... won't feed the bulldog.

✓ Devin Booker projects to be next in a very long line of remarkable Shootists at Kentucky.

✓ Cauley-Stein. In seven months, will be sign for enough money to match his coach's pay for couple weeks (just kidding). Yet, Cauley-Stein will have a college degree.

✓ Tyler Ullis. Straw that stirs a drink also stirs the hearts of fans who appreciate quick-and-crafty Kentucky ball dating back more than half a century.

✓ Trey Lyles. Yep, one and done.

✓ Seeing UK's first 20 minutes against Buffalo brought to mind an old axiom: "... with this kind of talent the coach need only roll the basketballs out and let 'em play."

'SECOND COMING'?

In a perfect hoops world (Big Blue Nation), the Kentucky Wildcats are ranked No. 1 in America and the Second Coming is at hand in Lexington for next year. About to eclipse the names Anthony Davis, Michael-Kidd Gilchrist and DeAndre Liggins, are Skal Labissiere, Isaiah Briscoe and Charles Matthews.

Of Kentucky signees (so far) the head ball coach said last week ...

• Labissiere. "Skal is in the same mold of Marcus Camby and Anthony Davis because he went from 6-2 to 6-11 and he has guard skills."

• Briscoe. "a big, strong guard with great ball skills that are beyond the norm. He can score the ball at

will, but he's an unselfish player who makes plays for his teammates."

• Matthews. "He's a 6-5 wing player with a lot of athleticism and is already an excellent defender and he's going to end up being a great player."

WORTH REPEATING DEPT.

✓ Milestones Dept. Western Kentucky's 77-70 win over Austin Peay was the 1,700th in Hilltopper hoops history. Sixteen other programs in NCAA history have more.

✓ Coach Will Muschamp is out at Florida. The thundering herd you hear this week is not politicians hurrying back to Washington to conduct the People's Business, but is a stampede to queue up to interview for one of the Top 10 football jobs in America, in Gainesville.

Lest we feel badly for Muschamp's embarrassment with the Gators," let us remember the \$6 million Florida owes him for three years still on the contract. Muschamp's coaching staff could cost Florida another \$2 million.

Comment: We wonder why college tuition continues to rise.

✓ Intrigue Dept. At Florida's Swamp this week, how will Eastern Kentucky do against the Gators?

✓ Wildcats win at South Bend. Northwestern 43, Notre Dame 40. Coach Pat Fitzgerald's Wildcats need wins over Purdue and Illinois to become ... bowl eligible.

And so it goes.

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