

Engineers And Lady Engineers Playing Well Despite Rains

The Estill County Lady Engineers fast-pitch softball team and the Estill County Engineers baseball team are both playing well as the season winds down, despite some cancellations and postponements because of rain.

The Lady Engineers, coached by veteran coach Shirley Beard, have one of the toughest schedules in years, playing top teams from throughout the Central Kentucky area.

The ladies lost two games at the Lady

Rebel Triangle at Boyle County, against Boyle and Bullitt East, both state contenders.

Estill's ladies came home for a district contest against the Powell County Lady Pirates and won 7-1, continuing to dominate the district as well as the region. The Lady Pirates are always a contender for district and regional titles but have been dominated by Estill for the past 10 years.

The ladies from Estill came from behind

to beat Richmond Model, then defeated Lee County, 14-6.

Estill was set to play one of the toughest teams in the area, East Jessamine, at home on Tuesday. They follow that with a full schedule including Owsley County at Booneville on Wednesday, Madison Southern on Thursday at home; then the Lady Rocket Triangle at Mount Vernon on Friday followed by the Bart Rison Classic at Mount Sterling on Saturday.

The Engineers started off poorly for first-year coach Brian Crowe, but have won 11 of the last 14 games to improve to 12-8. They will be hosting the Powell County Pirates tonight (Wednesday) in Irvine. The Pirates are once again a team to beat in the region as well as the 56th District. They are 17-4 overall and 2-0 in the district while Estill is 3-0 in the district and 12-8 overall.

Good luck, Estill teams!



McKeely Muncie runs hard for the base but is short during Estill's match with Model on Thursday.

Estill Students Attend Leadership Conference

Estill County High School sophomores Kayla McKinney and Abby Winkle (pictured at right on Page 15) attended a leadership conference in Berea earlier this month as part of their participation in Promise Appalachian Leaders in Service or PALS.

Through an application/interview process, students were selected for the program by Service Coordinators who serve the county schools as

part of Berea College's Gaining Early Awareness and Readiness for Undergraduate Programs (GEAR UP) partnership that serves 28 eastern Kentucky counties. The students were selected based on their academic achievement, commitment to service, and demonstrated leadership ability.

The leadership conference began on a Wednesday night with a special dinner at histor-

ic Boone Tavern where an etiquette expert showed students what to expect at a formal dinner. The students then spent the night at the historic hotel. Thursday morning, students attended classes that focused on writing techniques and the setup and maintenance of blogs and websites. The students committed to putting their newfound expertise to work by writing blog entries that chronicle their academic

journey from high school to college.

GEAR UP is a federally-funded education program administered by Partners for Education at Berea College. GEAR UP works to increase school success, high school graduation, college enrollment, college success, and career success. For more information about GEAR UP or Partners for Education, visit <http://partners.berea.edu>.

UK Player To Be In Irvine On Thursday

University of Kentucky Wildcats player Jarrod Polson will be at Irvine Health Mart Pharmacy, 905 Richmond Road in Irvine, 4-6 p.m., tomorrow, Thursday, April 30, 2015.

Polson will be signing his new book, "Living Beyond The Dream." You may also get to try on Polson's 2012 NCAA Championship ring.

Jarrod Polson's journey to the University of Kentucky began with a dream in elementary school. Living beyond the Dream offers an inside look into Polson's life as he describes that dream to play basketball for his beloved Wildcats.

This memoir narrates the lows and highs and speaks to the lessons Polson learned throughout college. In a world

of talent and fame, he understands the choices one makes are more important than the gifts one has been given.

Praise for Living Beyond the Dream

"Jarrod Polson is Kentucky basketball. [He] turned down Division I schools to live out his dream of playing for the Wildcats. He was given little chance of playing . . . But not only did he play, he was an integral part of UK's 2012 National Championship. To me there is something more important. Jarrod Polson lives what he believes."

-Cameron Mills

"Following UK's miraculous run in the 2014 NCAA Tournament, Jarrod Polson and I were given the opportunity to visit thousands of . . .

school kids throughout Kentucky. Those kids saw that a UK National Champion who got to live his dream can be humble, patient, and kind and still be a champion. You will love getting to know him through Polson's book Living beyond the Dream."

-Jeff Sheppard

"In my time here at Kentucky, I've been fortunate to have been around some of the strongest character kids in the country. JP is at the top of that list, his faith in how he lives his life, his dedication to team and winning spirit made it fun and a joy to coach. He will always be one of my favorite wildcats."

-Kenny Payne

"Jarrod Polson writes about the honor to wear a Kentucky uniform and the thrill of being



a part of BBN."

-Dick Vitale

Irvine Health Mart Pharmacy owner John Spencer invites Kentucky Wildcats fans to come out on Thursday to meet Polson, get your book signed, and try on Polson's NCAA championship ring.

Estill Lady Engineers 2015 Girls FP Softball

Apr 28	East Jessamine	H	6:00
Apr 30	Madison Southern	H	5:30
Lady Rocket Triangle (at Rockcastle)			
May 1	Rockcastle County	A	8:45
May 1	Mercer County	A	7:00
Bart Rison Derby Classic (at Montgomery)			
May 2	Montgomery County	A	
May 4	Powell County	A	5:30
May 6	Lexington Catholic	H	6:00
May 7	Somerset	A	6:00
May 11	Garrard County	A	6:00
May 12	Model	A	6:00
May 14	Breathitt County	H	6:00
May 15	South Laurel	H	6:00
Lady Thoroughbred Triangle (at Harrison)			
May 16	Johnson Central	A	2:00
May 16	Harrison County	A	12:00

Estill County Engineers 2015 Boys Baseball

Apr 29	Powell County	H	5:00
Apr 30	Lee County	A	5:00
May 4	Montgomery County . . .	H	5:30
May 5	Powell County	A	5:00
May 6	Madison Central	A	5:30
May 8	Menifee County	A	5:30
May 11	Berea	H	5:30
May 12	Rockcastle County	A	6:00
May 14	Jackson City	H	5:30
May 15	Perry County Central . .	A	6:00

Estill County Patriots 2015 Boys Baseball

Apr 30	Caudill	H	5:30
May 2	Lincoln	H	Noon
May 5	Clark Moore	H	5:30
May 6	Foley	H	5:30
May 8	Lincoln	A	5:30
May 11	Conference Tournament .	TBA	

Home games played at ECHS Danny Wood Field

Estill Lady Patriots 2015 Girls FP Softball

Apr 29	Madison Middle	A	5:00
Apr 30	Berea	A	5:30
May 1	Rockcastle	H	6:00
May 2	Nicholas	K	12:00
May 2	C Tournament	TBA	
May 4	Campbell	A	5:30
May 5	Model	A	5:30
May 6	Madison (8th Gr. Night) K		5:30
May 7	Rowan	A	6:00
May 8-	Conference Tourn @ Rockcastle		

H games played at ECHS J. L. Thomas Field
K games played at Kiwanis Park
A Team and B Team doubleheaders on each date except C Team games are C doubleheaders

Bob Watkins' Sports In Kentucky

Ticket for Carpe Diem, please, and pass the rum-and-coke, Murphy



Bob Watkins

Kentucky Derby. Ticket, please: Carpe Diem across-the-board. And, pass me a rum-and-coke, Murphy.

Last time I picked a Derby winner Ronald Reagan was still here, UConn men and women teams won the NCAA, Tubby Smith was still in Lexington and Smarty Jones would also win the Preakness.

My methodology for picking a Derby winner is quicker than Calvin Borel's silver tongue, but less scientific than bracketology. **The name.** Carpe Diem is four syllables, a Latin aphorism for all of us, *seize the day!* Pass me another rum-and-coke, Murphy.

Our Kentucky Derby. Between the Slows (hot air balloons, paddle-wheelers and "did ya see who's here?" and the Quicks (Julep or a few brews, a few ogles at pretty ladies under wacky hats). At around 6 o'clock, a horse race after a portly guy with the long horn primes our pride for **My Old Kentucky Home.**

Meanwhile, pass us 'nother ruth-and-roke, Murphy.

Our Run for the Roses. Put away your cell phone or

you will see Derby 141 on the 11 o'clock news. Folks who shrug at the overdone pageantry, a teevee replay is quite enough.

For more than a century our Run for the Roses has inspired more elegant prose (and not), bad poetry, books written and movies made, than any two minutes about anything on the planet.

Native born Kentuckian, Irvin Shrewsbury Cobb, born in Paducah, gone to New York in the early 1900s, wrote,

"Until you go to the Kentucky Derby with your own eyes, behold the Derby, you ain't never been nowhere and you ain't never seen nothing."

Having witnessed a handful of Derby runs, (with my own eyes), I find that Cobb's logic doesn't quite stick on the wall. (until you see a Derby) "... you ain't never been nowhere and you ain't never seen nothing," moves me to review. Gee, if I'm to believe I "ain't never been nowhere and ain't never seen nothing," because I missed a two minute horse race, well . . .

Or, maybe Murphy passed one too many cups of cheer my way at the wrong times.

Either way, Derby 141 is another chance to get it right. Make mine Carpe Diem across-the-board.

And "hey, Murphy, pass pass me nother rum and coke, will ya? There's a good lad."

NBA FEED TROUGH

For those touring ex-Kentucky players who cashiered UK fans (money-for-autographs) last few weeks, while waiting for

the NBA Draft in June, reality awaits.

√ Feed trough the NBA. Run by plantation profiteers willing to dump regular season games to elevate draft positions and sign the next new toys.

√ Washington Wizard Paul Pierce on teammate Otto Porter's lack of attitude required in the NBA, told ESPN: "... kid just needs to get mad. If he came to practice ticked off and to games ticked off, he'd be fine. ... I should punch him one day just to get him riled up."

And, for the next crop of one-and-doners . . .

√ Former Big Ten basketball player at Michigan e-mailed a UK hoops website: "... last couple of years I've been a great Kentucky fan. I wish the kids would have stayed in school longer and really learn college basketball. One year and out is not good for any program. This year's team had its moments, but believe me there are a lot of teams that could have beaten Kentucky.

"When and if (those who declared for the NBA draft) get to the big league they will find out how much more they could have learned at the college level. Plus education should come first."

NCAA HOOPS 'SUCKERS?'

What's wrong with men's college basketball? Nothing maybe, but then again . . . UConn women's coach Geno Auriemma says fans who pay to men's games are suckers.

"People have to decide, do I want to pay 25 or 30 bucks to see a college scrum where everybody misses six

of out every 10 shots, or do I want to go to a movie?'"

Auriemma added, "there are only like 10 teams in the top 25 that play the kind of basketball that you like to watch. And every coach will tell you it's because of great defense, great scouting, a lot of film work . . . Nonsense. Nonsense."

FARE-THE-WELL

38-1. Members of Earlington High's basketball dream season, state championship in 1967, lost their coach recently. Bob Fox left at 84.

A sterling resume'. In nine seasons his teams won 227 of 284 games. He was Kentucky coach of the year in 1967 with name is in the Kentucky Hall of Fame.

The best part? Fox's legacy: He earned a Doctorate in Education from the University of Kentucky, and retired as a tenured professor at Murray State University. Dr. Bob Fox.

WORTH REPEATING DEPT.

Before the Wisconsin-Kentucky game, a former Lexington Bates Creek High basketball player living in Arizona called home to ask what sort of team the Badgers were.

"... think of five Darwin Horns," Tom Kring replied, knowing son David had been Horn's friend and teammate.

Now at ESPN, Horn was relentless and team first. An all-stater at Bates Creek, he led the Commodores to the Sweet 16 finals in 1991.

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