

Estill Engineers, Lady Engineers Resume Games After 2-Weeks Off

The Estill County Engineers and Lady Engineers resume play this week after being idle about two weeks because of snow and cold weather.

The Engineers last played on Tuesday, February 9th when they won over Bluegrass United Homeschool, 54-50. Their next game against Owsley County's Owls was cancelled because of Covid. Games have been cancelled since because of the snowy weather.

Estill is currently 8-4 and leads the 56th District with a 4-0 slate. The Engineers are 4-2 in the 14th Region.

They are scheduled for Wednesday, February 24th at home against the Berea Pirates followed by a trip to Jackson City on

Thursday, February 25th; then games against Buckhorn and Wolfe County.

Estill's Lady Engineers are 8-7 and are tied for second in the District with Powell County at 4-4.

The Owsley County Lady Owls continue to dominate the 56th District (5-0) and are one of the top two teams in the 14th Region (12-1) and are 13-1 overall.

Estill won easily 67-30 on February 9th against Bluegrass United Homeschool and will resume play at home on Thursday against Menifee County, followed by road trips on Friday and Saturday on Jackson City and Nicholas County and Knott County Central. They will play Jackson City at home on Monday, March 1st.

Estill Lady Engineers 2020-21 Girls Basketball

Jan 7	Model	(W)	57-49
Jan 9	Rockcastle County	(L)	37-52
Jan 12	Owsley County	(L)	42-68
Jan 16	Casey County	(L)	38-50
Jan 20	Bourbon County	(L)	41-48
Jan 21	Powell County	(L)	47-48
Jan 23	Buckhorn	(W)	45-33
Jan 26	Lee County	(W)	62-25
Jan 29	Jackson City	(W)	73-45
Jan 30	Leslie County	(L)	39-52
Feb 2	East Jessamine	(W)	62-58
Feb 5	Lee County	(W)	57-24
Feb 6	Morgan County	(W)	56-52
Feb 8	Wolfe County	(L)	36-39
Feb 9	Bluegrass United	(W)	67-30
Feb 25	Menifee County	H	7:30
Feb 26	Nicholas County	A	7:30
Feb 27	Knott Central	A	5:30
Mar 1	Jackson City	H	6:00
Mar 3	Owsley County	H	7:30
Mar 6	Powell County	H	7:30
Mar 9	Berea	A	7:30
Mar 10	Frederick Douglass	H	7:30
Mar 12	Breathitt County	A	7:30

Coach Ruth Hughes

56th District

	Overall	Region	District
Owsley County	13-1	12-1	5-0
Powell County	6-6	4-4	2-2
Estill County	8-7	4-4	2-2
Lee County	3-12	3-9	0-5

Estill County Engineers 2020-21 Boys Basketball

Jan 8	Menifee County	(W)	56-33
Jan 12	Owsley County	(W)	45-34
Jan 14	Wolfe County	(L) (OT)	54-56
Jan 16	North Laurel	(L)	59-89
Jan 19	Trinity Christian		0-0
Jan 22	Powell County	(W)	62-24
Jan 25	Wellspring Guardians	(W)	59-29
Jan 26	Lee County	(W)	50-29
Jan 28	Great Crossing	(W)	56-49
Feb 2	Breathitt County	(L)	46-52
Feb 4	Garrard County	(L)	51-57
Feb 5	Lee County	(W)	58-41
Feb 9	Bluegrass United	(W)	54-50
Feb 19	Owsley County		0-0
Feb 24	Berea	H	7:30
Feb 25	Jackson County	A	7:30
Mar 1	Buckhorn	H	8:00
Mar 2	Wolfe County	A	7:00
Mar 5	Powell County	H	7:30
Mar 8	Nicholas County	H	7:30
Mar 9	Menifee County	A	7:30
Mar 12	Model	H	7:30

Coach Jon B. Bentley

56th District

	Overall	Region	District
Estill County	8-4	4-2	4-0
Owsley County	7-3	7-3	3-1
Lee County	7-11	5-8	1-3
Powell County	1-13	0-6	0-3

Playing football at Kentucky a no-brainer for Scott Padgett's son, Lucas



by Larry Vaught

When his junior season at Homewood High School in Birmingham ended, Lucas Padgett had several offers to play college football from various Ivy League and Conference USA teams.

The 6-4, 285-pound center figured to attract even more attention after spring and summer camps as he had several big-time invitations to camps but those were all cancelled by COVID-19.

If that wasn't enough, his father, former UK basketball standout Scott Padgett, lost his job as head coach at Samford in Birmingham and took a job on the New Mexico staff.

"We moved to New Mexico and then he did

not get a football season at all (in 2020)," Scott Padgett said. "He was second team all-state as junior and would have been preseason first team in Alabama and been on a good team. Knowing what I know now, I wish I had just told him and his mother to stay in Alabama for the fall, take classes to graduate and get a football season.

"Who knew COVID would keep going on like this and they are very strict in New Mexico. We got here August 1 and we have not sat down in a restaurant and ate yet. We ate on patios but not in restaurants."

Obviously there has been no way to make visits to college campuses but Lucas Padgett knew where he wanted to go — the University of Kentucky. Not only did his dad play there and win a national title in 1998, but his mother, Cynthia Dozier, played volleyball there. That's why he verbally committed to play football for UK coach Mark Stoops as a preferred walk-on.

Padgett's current school, La Cueva High School in Albuquerque, N.M., may have a short-

ened spring season that could open other college opportunities but Scott Padgett says his son was ready to be a Wildcat.

"Because he has been out of football, me and Cynthia talked to him about college. We have money put away for his education. We just told him we believed in him and you tell us where you want to go and we will try to make it happen," Scott Padgett said.

"It was a no-brainer for him to go where he wanted. Nobody will say no to as good a player and teammate as he is. I asked him if he could go anywhere where would it be and he said he always wanted to go to Kentucky.

"I think UK is getting a steal that just fell in their lap. When he is done playing he will be a football or basketball coach. He's really smart. He's also too good not to have anything set for college. I did not want him to get left out and I just told him to do what he needed to do. We got together (with UK), talked, they watched his film, liked him and here we are now with him going to UK."

Scott Padgett knows

how good UK's offensive lines have been the last five years. His son will also have family close by along with a lot of family friends.

"Everybody in our family is ecstatic. My parents, Cynthia's brother and wife and son all live in Louisville," Scott Padgett said. "All my friends are happy. A lot are Louisville fans but they are buying UK jerseys."

Scott Padgett says his son, who played in the Blue-Grey All-American Bowl in January, is the "ultimate teammate" who picks guys up when they are down.

"He is really smart (3.93 grade-point average) and calls coverages. He gets hyped for guys when they make plays. He is the guy everybody likes being around. You won't meet anybody who doesn't like him," Scott Padgett said. "He has a good personality. He's really smart like his mom but the rest of him is a lot like me."

Lucas Padgett does play basketball like his dad and older brother, Logan, who is a sophomore at New Mexico playing for his dad like he did at Samford last year.



Lucas Padgett, left, will be a preferred football walk-on at Kentucky where his father, Scott, played basketball and his mother, Cynthia, played volleyball.

"Lucas played basketball. He played with Logan for two years in Alabama. He played again last year as a junior and would have been a four-year varsity player if they had a season but there was no basketball season here, either," Scott Padgett said. "He is straight post up, has a good hook hook. He can post or pass."

Lucas' father is glad he's found his niche as a football player.

"It's a way for him to make his own name and do his own thing," Scott Padgett said. "He loves basketball but the way he

is built he is ready made to be a football player.

"I am just now (seeing) his dream is becoming a reality. Kentucky is where he always has wanted to go. His dream was to play at Kentucky and then if he was good enough to play for the (Indianapolis) Colts. If you grew up in the Padgett family you were a little blue. My dad instilled Big Blue Nation in me. Maybe if I was a football coach he would want to play where I am coaching like my older son. But Lucas is all football and all Kentucky."

UK Women's Swim Team Wins SEC

While the UK men's basketball team is not having the season most expected, the Kentucky women's swimming team is having a historic season and won its first Southeastern Conference Swimming & Diving Championships last week.

The team broke five school records and produced 12 top three finishes to outscore traditional SEC powers Florida, Georgia and Alabama.

"We've been building this over a few years now. The alumni from

years passed established it, our coaching staff, our administration. So many people had terrific efforts this weekend, it was really fantastic. I couldn't be more thrilled for our institution and for our girls," coach Lars Jorgensen said.

Riley Gaines (200-meter freestyle) and Lauren Poole (400 individual medley) both won their events along with the 800 freestyle relay team. Gillian Davey was second in the 200 breaststroke and 400 individual medley while Sophie Sorenson was second in the

200 backstroke.

Caitlin Brooks had third-place finishes in the 100 and 200 backstroke along with Izzy Gatti in the 100 butterfly and Kyndal Knight in platform diving. The 200 medley and 400 medley relay teams both placed third.

Gaines and Davey — who both set school records — both reached automatic qualifications for the NCAA Championship along with three relay teams.

"We got our trophy and we all jumped in the pool to celebrate," Gaines

said. "Last year we got to see Tennessee do it and had kind of been bitter thinking about their celebration. It was awesome that we got to do it."

The celebration included Kentucky athletics director Mitch Barnhart jumping in the pool with the team and coaches.

"He showed up for the last session Saturday night. We had no clue he was coming and it was super special," Gaines said. "Just seeing him there was special but seeing him jump in the pool with us was so cool."

LAFF - A - DAY



"It's from the pickpocket that stole my wallet, dear. He returned your picture."