

Bob Watkins' Sports In Kentucky

Wooden Award? Coach might say, "Ulis is my guy. Knows how game should be played!"



Bob Watkins

That Tyler Ulis is first team All-American is as surprising to Kentucky fans as the Commonwealth's caucus outcome.

If John Wooden were here he might say, "Ulis is my guy. Knows how game should be played!"

With attitude as a starting point, Kentucky's starting point (guard) is embodiment of why we watch this game, shout at the teevee, referee it, dissect it, discuss it, record it.

Ulis is a 160-pounds, 5-foot-9 presence who takes us away from political pontifications, show-off coaches and analysts who call a basketball a rock. I hate that, don't you?

Tyler Ulis is us. He and we can walk across a parking lot unnoticed. But then, between lines at Rupp Arena, he ain't us. In a tall man's game he analyzes, times a gear-change (don't blink) and zip.

"Guys play well off me," platoon leader said the other day (but if you want the ball, then move!).

After dealing 14 assists and as many points in last game at Rupp, one thing more gratifying than honors for Ulis would be if he stayed in college another season.

Observations.

1. Wooden Award cre-

dentials? 16.7 points, 7.1 assists, 3.6 assist-to-turnover, scored 20+ points in 11 of last 19 games and ... goes to class. Tyler Ulis.

2. Alex Poythress's last hurrah at Rupp Arena was nice. Seven shots, made six and three rebounds. Best part? Fans gave the Academic All-American ovation for a lifetime.

3. Spoiler. John Calipari let his tongue flap too long again. "... our fans are the best. And you know what, they love senior night in this state. It's a big deal. Senior night's a big deal."

4. Full stop? Calipari: "Bigger deal for our fans than those players. They'd rather have been drafted already. If you want me to lie, I'll lie. And then come back and get their degree."

5. Rick Pitino. Had no inkling Andre McGee was up to no good, but yes, he is responsible. And team made scapegoat is shameful.

6. Whether or not he will return to UofL next season Pitino said recently, he "left the cupboard full" when he left Kentucky and same applies at Louisville.

7. Tracy Patrick, Irvine.

8. Ben Simmons. On a Thursday, a media projection - his first shoe contract may be worth \$100 million. On a Saturday, asked about being disqualified for the Wooden Award? LSU's seven-month rental shrugged, said he knows who the best college player for 2016 is.

9. Tweak? Calipari strata-gem to tweak his team, he won't say, but seems to be "pass the ball to Poythress on first or second possession before pout sets in."

10. Dan Manley, Mt. Sterling.

11. 2016 Wooden Award Legends of Coaching Trophy goes to Dr. Orlando 'Tubby' Smith. Presentation at ESPN Awards Show April 8.

12. LSU's bunch was reminiscent of Pete Maravich at LSU 1970. It's ME and you guys can play too.

Coach Johnny Jones might as well have said in October, "... our season is about one thing, showcasing Ben Simmons."

13. Kentucky and Texas A&M should not have tied for SEC regular season title. UK-A&M game was decided by a referee. And, how did the Wildcats lose to Auburn?

14. Kelly Warnick, Warsaw.

15. Kentucky's first 3-pointer Saturday (Derek Willis) pushed its streak of a triple-a-game to 970.

16. John Calipari's son Brad will walk-on at Kentucky next season. Interesting to see if Big Blue Nation's reaction is as scathing as criticism leveled at Eddie Sutton then Tubby Smith when their sons played for dad.

17. Steve Wimmer, Hawesville.

18. Lionized for much of their careers, Larry Brown, Jim Boeheim and Rick Pitino have been re-defined as NCAA symbols for: "you as coach are responsible for all that goes on in his program."

This is new? Logic (and pay grade) tells us captain of the ship, business CEO, or ball coach, is fully responsible.

19. Alan Gibson, Albany.

20. Beyond Ulis and Poythress, brightest sparkle in Kentucky hoops galaxy this season has been Derek Willis.

21. Makayla Epps, All American? Kentucky's star guard averaged 16.5 points, 4.8 rebounds and 4.5 assists in 29 games.

22. My Tiger Woods Award this week goes to Peyton Manning. As Woods was praised, profited and lifted to the infallible heav-

ens by gushing media in 1999 then torn asunder, NFL poster boy Manning is retired and come to his crucifixion.

23. Worth Repeating Dept. Villanova's coach. "Jay Wright has done this without professionals. We haven't done enough as a basketball community to recognize what Jay has done. When you start talking about, 'Well, Kansas does it this way, Arizona this way,' Jay has done it for years without pros. He had a first-team All-American, Scotie Reynolds, (who) wasn't a pro. That's phenomenal. It just absolutely blows my mind how good he is at what he's doing." - Phil Martelli, St. Joseph coach.

24. Having written a sports column for better part half-century - my first was in 1970 - principles-to-go-by I embraced early began with: "Be honest, step back and recognize then balance personal biases, and stay true to who I am."

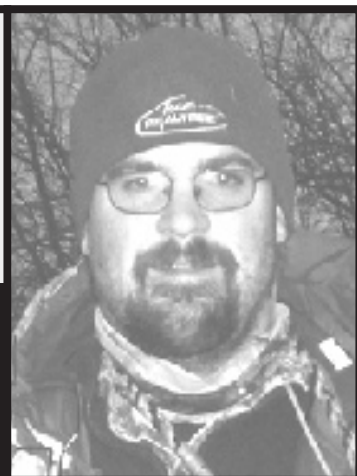
Old acquaintance, Dave Kindred said: "Readers (will) learn your likes and dislikes, your flaws and strengths, capabilities and spirits and prejudices. In time, these pieces of the puzzle come together in a portrait of the writer. Writing reveals you. Better, I think, for readers to think of you as rock-headed in your opinions than to consider you as a cynical opportunist trading yesterday's beliefs for new ones that better fit today's argument."

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

BOB'S RETIRING

Bob Watkins has announced that he is retiring at the end of March. If you've enjoyed his column, send him a message at the email address above.

Wanderings from the Woods & Water by Jay Bicknell CorridorHR@Gmail. Com



God's Wink

"Cast your cares upon him because he cares for you." 1st Peter 5:7.

That is a verse I try my best to live by. Give all my anxieties and stress to God because no matter what He will take care of me. All I have to do is keep the faith!

We finished the biggest job we have had so far. The job required 330,000 trees to be planted by March 1st with a start time of December 1st. So the window for planting is very short. If the ground is frozen or snow covered then no planting! This job was two hours away from home. So it was early to leave and late getting home.

I try living by the scripture 1st Peter 5:7 and not get stressed out. I would be lying if I said I wasn't stressed out over this job. We battled the weather, access to job site, contractors, long days, and long hours away from family. The drive to the work site was no picnic. Curves on top of curves! One morning I hit a spot I now call black ice pass/brown pants pass when my truck and a 16 foot gooseneck trailer started sliding sideways down the road. Scary sight in the mirror to see the back of your trailer making its way to the front of your truck. After a terrifying few seconds of screaming like a little baby and waking everyone in the truck up I got traction!!!

The job requires a 90% survival rate of the trees. I worried if the trees got too dry, or if they got too cold. I was just stressed and worried the past few months. The final days of the job I was really stressed out. I was having myself a real pity party. It was close to the end of the job and I felt like a candle burning at both ends.

We were doing our final walk through double checking trees. I noticed just about every tree was budding. I made my way up a steep tributary where a big rock overhang was. I sat down a minute under the overhang to breathe. I was sitting there looking at the trees we planted. Every tree I could see was living and budding out. I got a little choked up as I sit there, because that's when I saw God's wink. The trees were budding out! Almost every tree I saw was budding out. Now I didn't cast all my cares on Him, but He sure does care for me. He made all the trees bud. I even found trees that had been dropped weeks back on bare ground budding. They had been through multiple freezes and they were still living. God is so good! I walked out at the end of the day stress free because I know how much He cares for me!

Big Thanks to my little Granny Bick for all of her BIG PRAYERS!

Know God Know Peace! No God No Peace! Until next week, get out and enjoy God's creation!



Migration Madness

Bird activity is picking up in my backyard bird garden. The other day warblers, cardinals, brown-headed cowbirds, red-wing black-birds, blue jays, wrens and more all showed at my tray feeder for peanuts, sunflower heart chips and white proso millet. Migrating birds are fun to watch and feed!

E-mail: birdingbits@clrr.com © 2016 King Features Syndicate, Inc.

Estill County Engineers 2016 ECHS Boys Baseball

Mar 11	Menifee County	H	6:00
Mar 14	Breathitt County	A	6:00
Mar 15	Jackson County	A	5:30
Mar 17	Bourbon County	H	6:00
Mar 18	Buckhorn	A	6:00
Mar 19	Lee County	A	12:00
Mar 21	Madison Southern	H	5:30
Mar 25	Berea	A	5:30
Mar 26	Perry County Central	A	12:00
Mar 28	Jackson City	H	6:00
Mar 29	Rockcastle County	H	6:00
Mar 31	Montgomery County	H	5:30
Apr 1	Hazard	A	6:00
Apr 2	Breathitt County	H	12:00
Apr 4	George Rogers Clark	H	5:30
Apr 5	Owsley County	H	5:30
Apr 5	Owsley County	H	7:30
Apr 7	Montgomery County	A	5:30
Apr 8	Lee County	H	5:30
Apr 9	Letcher County Central	A	1:00

Estill Lady Engineers 2016 ECHS Girls Softball

Mar 17	Boyle County	A	6:00
Mar 21	Paul Laurence Dunbar	A	6:00
Mar 22	Madison Southern	A	5:30
Mar 24	Henry Clay	A	6:00
Meredith Buscher Mem. at Madison Cen.			
Mar 25	Somerset		6:00
Mar 26	Anderson County		11:00
Mar 26	Woodford County		2:00
Mar 28	Lee County	H	5:30
Mar 29	Bourbon County	H	6:00
Mar 31	Wolfe County	H	5:30
Apr 14	Owsley County	H	5:30
Apr 19	Garrard County	H	6:00
Apr 21	Lee County	A	5:30
Apr 22	Jackson City	A	6:00
Lady Rocket Triangle at Rockcastle			
Apr 23	Russell County		12:30
Apr 23	Rockcastle County	A	3:00

Estill County Engineers 2016 ECMS Boys Baseball

Mar 7	Jackson County	A	5:30
Mar 10	Madison Middle	A	5:30
Mar 16	Wolfe County	A	5:30
Mar 18	Rockcastle County	H	5:00
Breathitt/Estill/Knott Triangle at Estill			
Mar 19	Breathitt County	H	11:00
Mar 19	Knott County	H	3:00
Mar 23	Owsley County	H	5:30
Mar 24	Model	A	5:00
Mar 25	Caudill	H	5:30
Mar 26	Bath County	H	11:00
Mar 28	Clark County	A	5:30
Mar 30	Garrard County Varsity	A	5:30
Apr 1	Wolfe County	H	5:30
Apr 4	Foley	A	5:30
Apr 5	Clark-Moores	A	5:30
Apr 7	Owsley County	H	5:30
Apr 8	Farristown	A	5:30
Apr 9	Fleming Co. Tourney	A	

Estill Lady Engineers 2016 ECMS Girls Softball

Mar 15	McNabb	A	5:30
Mar 17	Bourbon	A	5:30
Mar 18	Farristown	A	5:30
Mar 19	Boyle Tournament	A	
Mar 21	Clark Moores	H	5:00
Mar 22	Madison Middle	H	5:00
Mar 24	Caudill	H	5:30
Mar 25	East Jessamine	A	5:30
Mar 26	Bondurant	K	1:00
Mar 28	Garrard County	K	6:00
Mar 29	Rockcastle County	A	5:30
Mar 31	McNabb	H	5:30
Apr 1	Garrard County	A	6:00
Apr 9	Foley (C Tournament)	A	
Apr 9	Clark/Powell (Clark)	A	11:00
Apr 11	Farristown	K	5:30
Apr 14	Foley	A	5:30
Apr 15	Rockcastle County	K	5:30



Trifolium repens

The word shamrock comes from *seamróg*, the Irish name for the white clover plant, also known as trifolium repens ("creeping three-leaf"). Native to Europe and central Asia, it is widely known as a cultural symbol of Ireland, being famously used by St. Patrick to symbolize the Holy Trinity. The plant is important as food for bees, and also the caterpillars of many butterfly and moth species. It has been used medicinally in treatments for coughs, colds and fevers, in ointments for treating gout, and in making infusions of its flowers to treat eye infections.

- Brenda Weaver

Source: www.forrent.com, wikipedia, www.pfaf.org

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UK COOPERATIVE EXTENSION SERVICE University of Kentucky - College of Agriculture



Estill County 4-H Youth Development

Isaac L. Hollon
Estill County Extension Office

Thursday, Friday & Saturday, March 24-26

Hunters Education Safety Course

There will be a Hunter's Education Safety Course (orange card) at the Estill County Extension Office. The 3-day class will be Thursday and Friday, March 24th & 25th from 6-9 p.m., and Saturday, March 26th starting at 9 a.m. at the Estill Co. Sportsmen's Club. You must attend all 3 classes to obtain your orange card. Ages 9 and older (as of March 26). Effective March 1, 2014, KY Dept. of Fish & Wildlife requires online pre-registration for all hunter education courses statewide. Following is the registration link for the Estill Co. class: <http://www.register-ed.com/events/view/74137>.

For more information, call the Estill County Extension Office at 606-723-4557.

Educational programs of the Cooperative Extension Service serve all people regardless of race, color, sex, religion, disability or national origin.