Year's Team Will Center Around Poythress



Larry Vaught

Alex Poythress missed most of last season with a knee injury, yet Kentucky coach John Calipari insists that the success of this year's team will "center around Alex" and his performance at power forward.

"We do not have a beast, and that can be Alex," said Calipari. "There is no one else like him (on our team). No one that physical and tough. Just the ability he has to get balls and make plays. Nobody else on the team is like that. If he does what he can do, the rest of the guys will fall into what they are.

"He's doing good, he's doing good. He's about 75 percent. We need him to be be a beast. Now he's got to preseason interview. get healthy, he's got to get more confident in his body. I can make a shot, it's that

big for us."

Poythress to a small forward last season to enhance sphere in Lexington for the his chances in the NBA. However, the NBA going to ever at Commonwealth. smaller lineups, Poythress forward at the next level and night, fans were up, I saw move back to what Calipari them standing," Stoops. this season.

(power forward) and a beast just could never get that mo-4," Calipari said. "He has mentum and get on top and grown so much as a person that's probably what's goand graduates in three years. He's grown as a player and then he got hurt and that set him back. I just want this to just couldn't do it. work for him."

So does Poythress.

Clarksville, Tenn., as a fivestar player many projected as another one-and-done player for Calipari. The start a fantastic environment." of his freshman season was spectacular before his numbers tailed off. The slide continued his sophomore UK officials have made this year and then he was injured last year.

"I am past the frustrated that stuff. Everything is on schedule and I am making sure I do all I can to be 100

* * *

For the second time this It's not just confidence in season, coach Mark Stoops' Cats failed to deliver a seahe's confident that I can son-changing win when come down hard and I'm they had a chance at Com-

going to be fine. But he's monwealth Stadium. However, the loss to Auburn Calipari tried to convert last week did not take away from the big-time atmofirst Thursday night game

"I thought it was great. can not possibly play power It was great. Really special feels is his natural position "And again, we just were so close (like they were "He can be a skilled 4 against Florida earlier). We ing to bother you. We have had opportunities to get the game tied or get ahead and

"Couldn't get the fans really juiced up and really into He came to UK from it. But they were. We could have really done our part, but really appreciate the atmosphere and the effort. It was

The atmosphere started with a Montgomery Gentry concert, another effort year to help the pregame atmosphere.

"I was just blown away part. I can run, jump, all by the crowd," Montgomery Gentry guitarist Bo Gar-rett said. "You come out and just see all that blue out something, like he's got to percent," Poythress said in a there. I didn't know exactly what to do. But it was a beautiful thing to see."

The show had one surprise for fans — Marlana VanHoose of Denver, Ky. She has been blind since birth and has cerebral palsy, but can certainly sing. She

biggest hits, "My Town." She was scheduled to sing the national anthem before the game and since she is a Montgomery Gentry fan, they had her come on stage to sing and later posed for pictures with her. She also led the crowd in the "CATS" cheer as Montgomery and Gentry urged her on.

"She's a great singer and a remarkable person," Eddie Montgomery said.

Again, another smart move by UK officials to have her at the game. * * *

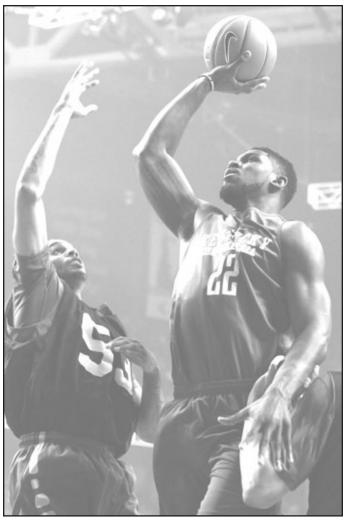
Even thought it has been a week, I am still not sure I'll ever understand why UK running back Stanley Williams didn't touch the ball the second quarter of the Auburn loss. You might remember that Williams turned a busted play into a 60-yard run in the first quarter. He's also the same back who took the opening play of the season for a 75-yard scoring run.

"All of us know he's very explosive. I know he can make plays," receiver Garrett Johnson said.

Offensive coordinator Shannon Dawson said he the way UK's offense strug- me now," Murray smiled didn't know why Williams, gled in the second quarter. who finished the game with 16 carries, didn't get the ball the second quarter. If he and Jamal Murray often go didn't know, wonder who against each other in pracdid.

"He was tired. We took will be in the starting lineup him out for a little while because he was tired. He had a the season. big first quarter. He's not a

Maybe, but I doubt he said. was so tired that he could joined Montgomery Gentry not have carried the ball a he stop me? There are not on stage to sing one of their time or two, especially with many people that can stop him."



Alex Poythress was back on the court for Big Blue Madness and Kentucky coach John Calipari says the team needs him to be a "beast" this season.

(Vicky Graff Photo)

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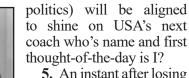
Ulis laughed when he Ulis heard what Murray said.

"I don't know how to explain that. Once Jamal gets hot, he gets hot," Ulis said. "So if he is on a hot day, when Calipari's team opens there is no stopping him even if I am right in front Can Ulis guard the big- of him. He is just going to Nintendo little guy. He gets ger Murray? "Anybody can throw it up and it is going to tired," Dawson said. guard anybody," Murray go in. But I can stop him. I don't know what he is talk-Can he stop you? "Can ing about. But some days if he is hot, it's hard to contain

Pals Students Attend **ARC Conference**



Bob Watkins' Sports In Kentucky **Remembering Laettner Moment; Can Stoops team get beyond kiss-your-sister?**



to Michigan State, did faces player was poor. Instead ning with (35-4) national of Michigan fans remind of letting Brown own his championship run in 1998. anyone of the Christian La- mistake (and half-game

to shine on USA's next change-the-subject defense win, coach who's name and first of Cardinal linebacker Keith Brown for being ejected for cade of SEC titles and aver-5. An instant after losing targeting a Florida State age 26 wins a season begin-

Tyler

tice even though both likely

Guards

11. A Bobby Petrino nessed a relentless will to

 $\sqrt{1}$ Tubby Smith. A de-

17. Prize. D'Aaron Fox

Abby Winkle and Kayla McKinney

PALS (Promise Appalachia could do to strengthen our Leadership in Service) stu- region with both short and dents, Kayla McKinney long term goals. After that, and Abby Winkle attended Kayla and Abby attended the Appalachian Regional the Bringing Our Best Prac-Commission Conference tices Forward: Cultivating that focused on transforming the Next Generation sesthe region's economy. The sion. This session focused PALS students participate in on young leaders across various GEAR UP (Gaining Appalachia who are help-Early Awareness and Readi- ing create vibrant, econominess for Undergraduate cally diverse, and healthy Programs) activities, then communities. The panelists act as liaisons to the school discussed how these young by sharing what they have leaders as business owners, learned with the student educators, health profesbody. The conference be- sionals, and local farmers, gan with an opening session are bringing a new energy focusing on Appalachia's and entrepreneurial spirit future with Kentucky Gov- to the Region's economic ernor Steve Beshear, U.S. future. Overall, the ARC Congressman Hal Rogers, and Earl F. Gohl (Federal Co-Chair, Appalachian regional Commission) as panelists who reflected on the done to transform the Appacurrent state of Appalachia lachian region, and develop and the goals for the future. their leadership skills so that They discussed various eco- they can make a positive nomic, social, and cultural impact on the future of Aptrends that were impacting palachia.

On Thursday, two of our Appalachia and what we Conference was an amazing opportunity for Kayla and Abby to meet new people, learn about what is being

AIRFORCE

Bob Watkins

Things I noticed and you did too.

1. Bowl game projections are beginning to surto the Liberty Bowl, Kentucky to the Music City. But for a play or two, could be other way round.

close to 6-0 and first place in SEC East? One dropped pass in endzone against the Gators and War Eagles.

A win at Mississippi \sqrt{A} break on through to cyanide."

the other side (SEC).

Tennessee's Halloween visit to Commonwealth Stadium. SEC Television ment room and start chugcrew also.

 $\sqrt{\text{Would all but eliminate}}$ chance for kiss-your-sister Blake O'Neill ... the new 6-6 season (Vandy (2-4) and Charlotte (2-4) ahead).

for Big Blue fans. Follow the bowl-bound Wildcats or stay home to watch everygame-televised basketball team.

3. Commonwealth's Unbeaten? Lindsey-Wilson U. Wins over Cumberlands tucky (6-1) be prime for and Georgetown in their pockets, the Blue Raiders are 6-0. On the road this week Lindsey plays No. 8 Reinhart College (8-0) at against No. 5 LSU. Waleska, Georgia.

Krzyzewski will not coach Parts, quarterback Brandon generated to "... play to not Franklin (better known as Team USA after the 2016 Doughty will get an up- lose," and become NCAA Olympics. We wonder if close-and-personal look at bad boy. Replaced it with planets, moons and aster- a Heisman Trophy favorite, joy seeing players grow oids in the Milky Way (and LSU's Leonard Fornette.

ettner moment in 1992?

6. From I-Never-liked-Michigan Dept. The angry the flagrant foul by arguing Katy, Texas. Kansas, Ari-American thing we see the FSU receiver was "not zona, Louisville and LSU often with politicians, religionists, flag-wavers and fire-arm folks, reared its the Port-au-Prince, Haiti ugly face in sports. After native has a legitimate high Michigan lost, Wolverine school transcript, an NCAA women's coach Matthew fans tweeted death threats solution is clear, Free Skal. and more to college kid Let the kid go to college Blake O'Neill.

face. Among them Auburn from-center, State recov- contact. Period. ered, scored and won. Reactions via twitter were sion lights go full power at lionaire Lamar Odom took merciless, sad and moved Kentucky games this winus to whisper, "Gosh! I ter, the step-up-his-game 2. Kentucky is how would never behave like spotlight player will be Jathat."

Tweets.

as well cut your hands off." • "... jump off of a cliff State this week would be ... into a pool of spikes and

 $\sqrt{}$ Set a grand table for ble person. Way-to-go you Australian rugby player."

• "... go back to the equipging bleach, my friend."

Steve Bartman.

 $\sqrt{\text{And}}$, create hard pick Melvin Douglas may not pionship trophy into a new play college football again, glass case at Durham. Fifth but the '77 senior nose title for Duke and college guard is the new gold stan- winningest coach, Mike Alvin Gentry is learning dard for a student-athlete Krzyzewski. rising to make the college experience pay off.

9. Will Western Ken- all-time and why ... 24 date in Death Valley

10. Real Sheriff-in-

suspension this week), defenseless."

and play and ban guardian O'Neill botched a snap- Gerald Hamilton from all

mal Murray.

• "dip---t loser, you might Price tag – more than half a million dollars to impress a ville star and UK comhandful of 17-18 year-olds mit tweeted after Auburn •"I hate you, you horri- image introductions was what though, I'll stand by clever.

was preaching to the choir (and visiting recruits) at Big Blue Madness about his er of the year? Too early to 7. Michigan punter program being Gold Stan- tell by six weeks. dard for men's college basketball, old nemesis Duke Orleans Pelicans coach: "I 8. Kentucky nose guard was sliding the 2015 cham-

> 16. Asked to rank basketball coaches at Kentucky

prime time next week? The of precision basketball. De-Hilltoppers have a week to voted 42 of his 76 years to prepare before an October UK game and dragged SEC today.

4. This just in. Mike These-Here-Kentucky- an environment that had dewhile fans in our state wit-

is a top of the market 6-3. Louisville's coach justified 185-pound point guard at want him. Scuttlebutt this 12. Skal Labissiere. If week: Fox will announce for Kentucky.

18. Report: Kentucky Mitchell tried to retire from dancing/singing at Big Blue Madness.

Comment. Try harder.

19. Lemme get this 13. Hunch. When televi- straight, 35-year-old milhimself to a brothel in Nevada, spent \$75,000 on a good time, was found unconscious and we're sup-14. Big Blue Madness. posed to feel sorry for him?

20. Kash Daniel, Paintsis Sign of the Apocalypse beat Kentucky. "Damn, for me, but full-court player that stings. No matter Coach Stoops and his staff. 15. While John Calipari Wouldn't want to play for anyone else. Just wait."

21. SEC basketball play-

22. Alvin Gentry, New was at Kansas. Great program. Thisplace(Kentucky) is Kansas on steroids.'

23. Behind the curve. what Kentucky fans knew three years ago, "Anthony Davis's knowledge of the game, that's where people $\sqrt{\text{Adolph Rupp. Father}}$ really don't understand."

PARTING SHOT

24. If a lie is repeated programs to where they are often enough all the dumb jacks in the world not only $\sqrt{\text{Rick Pitino.}}$ Reversed get to believe it, they even swear by it. - Billy Boy Billy Graham).

And so it goes.

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