

# Bob Watkins' Sports In Kentucky

## In spite of drone and the Wobblies, Commonwealth is gorgeous



**Bob Watkins**

Any angle, any time of day or night, even if a drone is buzzing around somewhere, Commonwealth Stadium is gorgeous.

Gorgeous too, was Mikel Horton's 12-yard run near the end to save Kentucky's bacon.

Still, if a word to best describe Kentucky's season opener with Louisiana Lafayette, mine would be, wobbly.

√ The visitors' offense had the football for 37-plus minutes, UK for 22.

√ Play calling by man wearing the head sets was wobbly too – 26 rushes while Lafayette had 47. Establish the run idea got lost.

√ Quarterback decision-making was wobbly.

√ Defense against the run: 5.6 yards average per rush by the Cajuns could be Steve Spurrier's first order of business.

√ Blowing a 23-point lead was worse than wobbly.

√ And the apologist idea, "Well, Kentucky played real good except for maybe 18 minutes," is wobbly too and just what the Spurriers are counting on.

Bottom line: Best treasure from a season opener? Game film to critique before Game two.

### ABOUT THAT DRONE

That the drone-flying culprit at Commonwealth Stadium before the UK opener last Saturday was a student is no surprise. What could be a surprise: The answer to this question: How can a college kid be smart enough to operate one of these things, be dumb enough to fly it over the heads of 60,000-plus people, including police, as well as in the vicinity of flag carrying skydivers parachuting into the stadium before the season opener?

Imagine the kid's call home.

"Well, Mom, I'm comin' home."

For WHAT?

"I've been expelled. I'll (try to) explain when I get there."

### STATE D1s

For Hilltopper, Wildcat and Cardinal fans, bottom lines on openers rate somewhere between curious, bizarre and make-mine-a-turkey sandwich.

• Western Kentucky survived Vanderbilt because its defense stopped the Commodores' 2-point try to tie. A year ago the Hilltoppers' defense couldn't stop a bad rumor.

• Louisville's debut against Auburn was perfectly Walt Kelly. "We have met the enemy and he is us!"

Auburn's 17-0 lead was pure Santa Claus and the coach who gave green light to UofL's first offensive play ought to be ordered to run stadium stairs at Papa John's for a day or so.

That Louisville righted itself, played respectably to the end sounds good, but blanched ambitions for Top 25 entry any time soon.

• Kentucky bull-rushed

Louisiana-Lafayette, then shifted gears to coast, while (too many) Big Blue fans coasted toward the parking lots.

Meanwhile, Lafayette regrouped, revved up, played on and took home pluses to build on.

• The Wildcats showed a how-to-fritter-away a 23-point lead, make video clips for South Carolina scouts to examine this week.

**This week ...**

√ Western's Hilltoppers, comes home from another SEC win to face rival for Conference USA top spot, Louisiana Tech. With weather turning more autumn-like, the Toppers-Bulldogs match this Saturday should attract a record-crowd. LA Tech put 62 points on the board last Saturday.

√ Louisville hosts Houston. Should be Cardinals' first win, but, the Cougars scored 52 last week, thumping Tennessee Tech.

√ Kentucky's script is like Bill Murray's Groundhog Day. For the umpteenth time, Wildcat football has a pivot game on the schedule. A win in Columbia would launch Kentucky beyond its tiresome orbit of If-Only This ... If-Only that.

Home opener for the Steve Spurriers, the Gamecocks are fresh off a road win over North Carolina.

### UK FUTURE IS NOW DEPT.

Kentucky played 14 freshmen in its opener last week. Most notably, well, all of them – tackle Asaf Adjei, tight end C.J. Conrad, Denzil Ware, cornerback Chris Westry, linebackers Jordan Jones, Josh Allen and Nico Firios; defensive ends Adrian Middleton and Tymere Dubose; defensive backs Derrick Baity, Mike

Edwards and Darius West, wide receiver Thaddeus Snodgrass and kick returner Sihiem King.

### PREP GAME OF YEAR EARLY?

Louisville Trinity at Male Friday, 7:30 kickoff. One month in, this could be high school game of the year.

The Rocks and Bulldogs are 3-0 and average more than 50 points a game.

Trinity is fresh from a 70-14 beat-down of Lexington Lafayette while Male rolled up Fairdale 64-6.

A sidelight: A look at the list of college coaches attending this one.

Male High School officials may have to create a special section for college coaches.

### WORTH REPEATING DEPT.

Emitt Holt was dismissed from Indiana basketball team last week. His apology included this little reality college officials don't like to talk about. "While my dismissal from the Indiana basketball team was a consequence of my own choices, I'm primarily guilty(sp) of doing what most young college students do on any given weekend which is participate in campus life which often includes engaging in the use of alcohol." Hmmm.

### PARTING SHOT

CBS Sports' Verne Lundquist comment on Old English script for names on back of Louisville football uniform shirts.

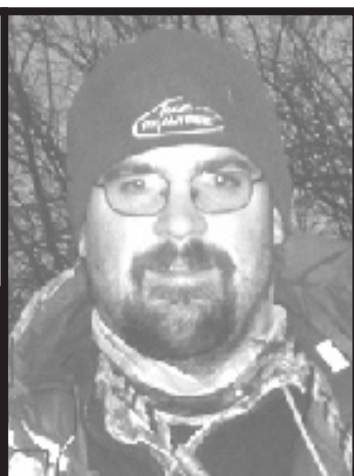
"Kinda nifty," Lundquist said, "Somebody's been reading the New York Times ... or Shakespeare."

And so it goes.

You can reach me at <bob.Watkins24@aol.com

## Wanderings from the Woods & Water

by Jay Bicknell  
WetStoneKennels@Yahoo. Com



## Deer Time Again

The opening day of bow season was Saturday. All those that braved the heat, I salute you. I can't wait to get in a stand when it cools down a bit. I decided that on Saturday I would clear shooting lanes and check trail cameras.

My boys followed behind my ever step. They helped brush in a blind. They carried pruners and trimmed up shooting lanes. It's so fun to listen to the boys talk about the deer they plan on shooting. Occasionally they would even get into a fuss over who shoots first. They both are ready to do some deer hunting!

We checked our trail cameras which is always a treat for the boys. We got a few small bucks on camera; and several doe with fawns. The boys have named the bucks. We have big boy, tall boy, and Trump. All three bucks in a couple of years will be good bucks. I have a feeling if they see my boys during season the young bucks might not get any older. Jake and Josh said they all were shooters.

These days, spending time with my kids in God's creation makes hunting so much better. I love watching them get excited about deer sign. It's even fun to hear the 10 thousand questions they ask about deer hunting while we are out. They are becoming really good woodsman.

The boys and I have come across a new product that we really like. Josh talked me into buying some Sugar Beet Crush. Actually he wore me out asking over and over and over can we buy this for the deer, Dad. I gave in and

bought it, and I'm glad I did.

We put it out a couple of weeks ago. When we checked our cameras on Saturday we had over 400 pictures. We had been averaging around 50 until the Sugar Beet Crush. The deer was on it every day from the first day we put it out. They chewed up the dirt where it was at.

We made another trip to the store after checking the camera. Josh again talked me into another batch of Sugar Beet Crush. It was an easier sale for him this round.

If your kids like to see trail cam pics of deer, then get The Crush. Seeing is believing; and since using our picture count has gone way up. It is so much more fun when you've got a lot of pics. My kids gets more excited with every pic. When a buck shows up, their level of excitement goes through the roof.

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



### Chickadees

A Carolina Chickadee graced my yard the other day. These tiny birds are easy to identify by their black cap and white cheeks. While chickadees love suet, sunflower chips and peanuts, this little fellow feasted on safflower seed from a hanging tray feeder. I was thrilled to have him.

E-mail: birdingbits@cfl.rr.com  
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## Waste Tire Amnesty September 10-12

A waste tire amnesty sponsored by the Kentucky Division of Waste Management and the Estill County Fiscal Court will be held Thursday, Sept. 10; Friday, Sept. 11; and Sat., Sept. 12 at the Kentucky Highway Maintenance Garage on Cow Creek. Tires can be dropped off from 8:30 - 3 on Thursday and Friday and from 8 - noon on Saturday. For more information, contact Kim Dawes 723-7524.

## SCRAMBLERS

Unscramble the letters within each rectangle to form four ordinary words. Then rearrange the boxed letters to form the mystery word, which will complete the gag!

Grow

TROUPS

Ruling

DIRECTV

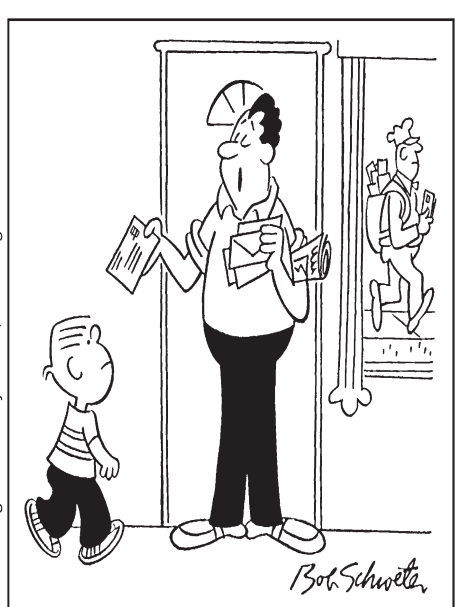
Bright

NONE

Gather

CURACE

TODAY'S WORD



"Must be for you—it's addressed to \_\_\_\_\_, Jr."

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### top ten Most Misspelled U.S. Cities

1. Meeteetse, Wyo.
2. Kaunapau, Hawaii
3. Saguache, Colo.
4. Skaneateles, N.Y.
5. Champaign, Ill.
6. Pflugerville, Texas
7. Worcester, Mass.
8. Ketchikan, Ark.
9. Winnemucca, Nev.
10. Aquebogue, N.Y.

Source: Ipsos survey

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