

ECHS Basss Fishing Team Gearing Up for 2019 Season

The ECHS Bass Fishing Team is getting ready to kick into full swing! After finishing the 2018 season with some awesome opportunities and some great accomplishments, these young anglers cannot wait to hit the water and reel in some big bass! The season will get underway on Saturday, March 23rd at Lake Cumberland.

The high school bass team started in 2016 by Steve Tipton. During that time, one of the Estill County anglers, Hunter Osborne was given an opportunity to continue to do what he loves at Georgetown College while pursuing his degree!

In the fall of 2018, Hunter's dad, Chris "Hopper" Osborne agreed to coach the ECHS Bass Fishing Team. Osborne knew what an impact and opportunity that bass fishing had on his son and he wanted to see others who had a love for the same sport succeed. He did not want to see a program that was successful and dear to his own heart, fade out of existence.

The Bass Team grew to having 18 members in the fall of 2018 and they have had some great accomplishments! Although the fall schedule was tough, these anglers put Estill County on the scoreboard multiple times! In looking back at what our group accomplished in the fall, it's easy to see why these anglers can't wait to get started!

09-08-18 Green River, B.A.S.S. Tournament – Micah Adams/Chase Rawlins finished in 2nd place out of 46 boats.

09-22-18 Herrington Lake, B.A.S.S. Tournament – Micah Adams/Chase Rawlins finished in 6th place and Luke Fletcher/Hunter Flynn and Casey Howell/Summer Evans finished in the top 20 for the tournament.

09-27-18 Herrington Lake, Bradley Roy High School B.A.S.S. Tournament. Several of our Estill County anglers



Some members of the Estill County High School Bass Team including Brandon Vanderpool, Landon Canter, Casey Howell, Summer Evans, Chase Rawlins, Hunter Osborne, Luke Fletcher, Hunter Flynn, and Dean Tucker.

were able to weigh in, but none finished in the top 20. Over 100 boats participated in this event and the conditions were tough!

10-20-18 Guist Lake, B.A.S.S. Tournament - Micah Adams/Chase Rawlins finished 9th and Luke Fletcher/Hunter Flynn finished 11th.

10-27-18 Lake Cumberland, B.A.S.S. Tournament - Brandon Vanderpool/Lucas Flynn finished 3rd and also were awarded with the big bass trophy. Brenden Wright/Keadon Wilburn finished this tournament in 6th place.

11-03-18 Dale Hollow, SAF/FLW Tournament and national qualifier. Micah Adams/Chase Rawlins made the cut, finishing 8th. This allows them to advance to fish on Lake Pick Wick in Alabama June 18-22 2019.

12-01-19 Lake Norris, Tennessee, Brandon Card high

school and college fishing tournament. Over 100 boats participated in this event. Two of our Estill teams were able to weight in which was pretty impressive considering the volume of anglers at the event! Micah Adams/Chase Rawlins finished in 4th place, pulling out a nice check for their awesome finish!

As our bass team begins the spring schedule, they are hoping for some good weather conditions and some hungry bass! These anglers and boat captains have to be devoted to participate in this sport. The drives are often long, arrival times to the ramps often makes for long days and the weather is not always on their side! But as long as they're eager like Hopper has seen, he will continue to lead the team!

See photos on Page 15.

Tyler Herro Never Thinks About Missing At The Foul Line – And He Usually Doesn't

by LARRY VAUGHT

He's held the record for 40 years, but former Kentucky All-American Kyle Macy says he never really fretted about freshman Tyler Herro breaking his single season free throw accuracy record.

"He is doing a great job. A lot of guys don't spend time working on foul shooting like they should," said Macy, the starting point guard on UK's 1978 national championship team. "I don't know how much time he spends, but he's got it down with what he's doing. He gets the ball, shoots it and doesn't think about it."

Whatever Herro does, it's working just like it did for Macy when he always followed his ritual of wiping his hands on his socks before shooting.

"I think the routine puts you in a trance and you block out everything and do not worry about the crowd," Macy said. "When you put in shots and see results, you get more confidence. You want to be the one fouled because you have confidence to help your teammates. The more you make, the more confidence you get."

Herro is shooting 94.3 percent (83 of 88) at the foul line and made two in the final seconds of Saturday's NCAA Tournament win over Wofford to put UK into the Sweet Sixteen. He had tape on his wrist with the number 25 on it to remind him to win for PJ Washington, who was out with a knee injury.

Herro has made 66 of his last 67 free throws, including the last 36. Macy holds the single season record at 91.23 percent (104 of 114) from the 1979-80 season. He also made 115 of 129 (89.1 percent) in UK's 1978 national championship season. Macy is second on the career all-time free throw percentage list at 88.98 percent (331 of 372) behind Jodie Meeks' 88.99 percent (299 of 336). Travis Ford is third at 88.19 (239 of 271).

It's no fluke that Herro has his name in that elite company. The Kentucky freshman says he often works on his shooting three times a day. Even if anyone told him to consider getting more rest, he wouldn't.

Herro cannot really remember when he couldn't make free throws.

"You just step up there knowing that it is going to go in once you see a few drop. You never really think about missing at the line," Herro said. "You just have to be-

lieve you will make them and then you will."

Macy said that's the only attitude a player can have.

"If I missed one early in a game, I didn't miss again. I would get upset with myself and focus even more," Macy said. "I didn't have many games where I missed more than one free throw. It's 85 percent mental. The rest is about your routine."

Postseason pressure does not change the free throw routine, or accuracy. Herro has been in his best in the most pressurized situations just like Macy always was at the foul line.

"You are so focused on the game that you don't worry about a streak of how many shots you've made," Macy said. "You want to be the one to shoot the big foul shots. Most of my problems came in blowouts. In the postseason, you are not worried about individual goals. You are worried about the team. Some guys might worry more than others but it's pretty obvious pressure won't bother him."

Macy has not had a chance to meet Herro. The Kentucky freshman said he was not really sure who Macy even was until recently even though he was on the verge of breaking Macy's record.

"It has been fun to watch his streak and I hope he keeps it going," Macy said. "He doesn't even get a lot of rim (with his shot). It's all net. That's how good he is."

John Calipari went to a friend for strategy help last summer. The friend — Belmont coach Rick Byrd.

"I went up and was in his house this summer because I wanted him to tell me some five-out stuff, some back-door stuff, some shooting -- because I thought we had a skilled team and I wanted to learn some different stuff, and we ended up spending an afternoon together with he and his assistant," Calipari said.

Byrd got his team into the NCAA Tournament again this year and has over 800 wins in his coaching career.

"He's a Hall of Fame coach. He's 800 wins, he's ridiculous. But also for the game of basketball, he's been on the rules committee, he has spent time, and to be on those committees, it's like time-consuming. He was an athletic director on the committees coaching basketball. He finally gave up the AD stuff, he just wants to coach," Calipari said. "He's a coach's coach is what he is, and great at what he does, great for his

kids, has an unbelievable - he still has a fight and fire, but his kids love him."

Byrd said as many as 10 coaches from different levels have come to pick his brain in the last seven or eight years.

"We had one that came in and wanted to know how we defended, and I thought, this is the first time anybody has asked me that. You can come back any time you want to if you think we defend good. Everybody else wants to talk offense," Byrd said. "But it was great talking to him (Calipari). It's always fun."

Count former Kentucky point guard Roger Harden as a believer in Calipari.

"I will never worry with Cal about us having enough ability to win a national championship," Harden, who played for Joe Hall and Eddie Sutton, said. "I think we have probably had the talent every year but one that he has been here."

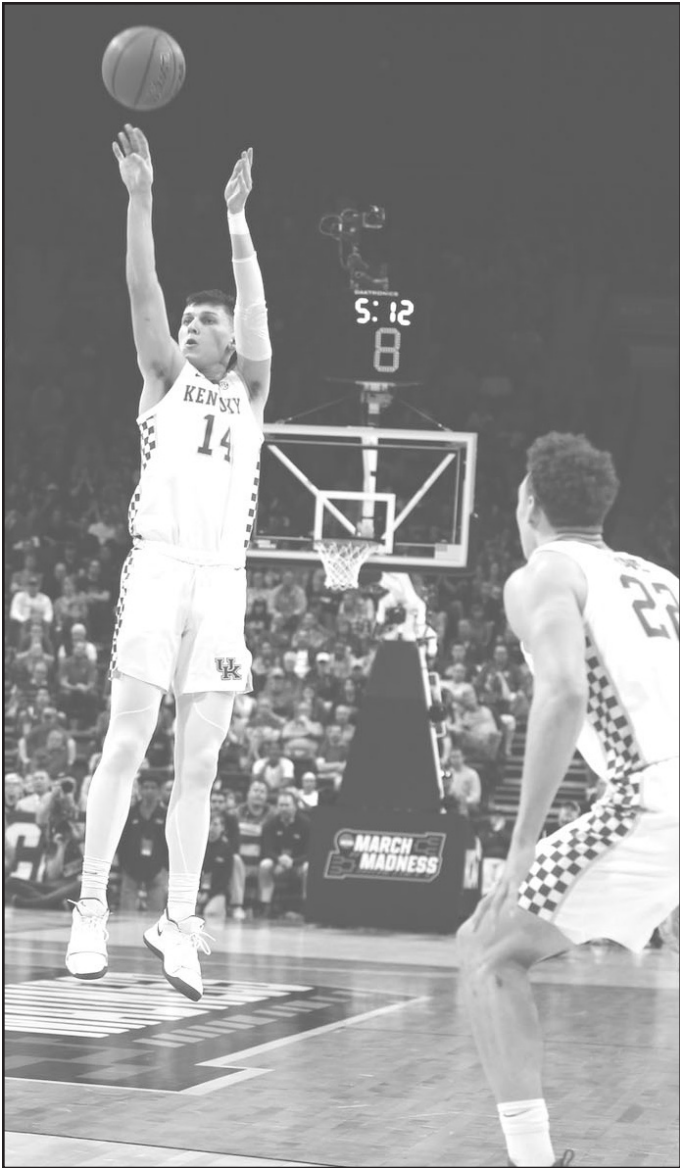
"He is one of the best coaches you could have and how he does it is amazing.

When these kids announce now they are coming to Kentucky, fans are tapped in. We take it hard when we do not get a top kid."

Harden says when he played 30 years ago, players didn't face the pressure to produce immediately and show they were a "world-class recruit" like players do now. Harden says it's none of his business how Calipari recruits, either.

"He's always delivered. There are some consequences with the fan base with one and done players, but he wins. That's what matters," Harden said. "Fans were connecting with players back in my time in the way players don't connect with fans now. That's just being honest. That's not anti-Cal or anti-UK. That's just a fan from the past pointing out how things have changed but Cal makes it work."

"He seems to also just have a knack for getting them to play their best at just the right time and hopefully that's what they are doing again right now."



Tyler Herro is ahead of Kyle Macy's single season free throw percentage mark set in 1979-80 and Macy doesn't see any postseason pressure bothering Herro. (Vicky Graff Photo)



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