

KENTUCKY HIGH SCHOOL ATHLETIC ASSOCIATION



SPORTS NEWS

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE: **MAY 27, 2003**

WEEKEND OF CHAMPIONS

The KHSAA State Tennis Tournaments and State Track Meet highlight a "Weekend of Champions" this weekend. The State Tennis Tournaments begin Thursday, May 29 and continue through Saturday, May 31 at the Boone/Downing Tennis Complex on the University of Kentucky campus in Lexington. The State Track Meet is slated for Friday and Saturday, May 30-31 at the Shively Track Complex, also on the UK campus.

Admission for the State Tennis Tournaments is free Thursday and Friday. General Admission for Saturday's semifinals and finals will be \$6 each with children six and under admitted free. Saturday's action will take place at the main stadium courts. For a complete schedule of events, check out the tennis link on the KHSAA website.

General admission for the State Track & Field meet will be \$6 per day with children six and under admitted free. Gates will open for fans at 7:30 a.m. each day. Schedule of events by class will be Class AA at 8:30 a.m., Class A at 12 p.m. and Class AAA at 4 p.m. for both days. For an event-by-event breakdown, check out the track link on the KHSAA website.

Fans attending either event are advised to park at Commonwealth Stadium across the street from both complexes. In addition, fans are reminded to allow plenty of time to park and walk to the complexes in time for events.

Results for both events will be posted nightly on the Association website.

LLOYD MEMORIAL REPEATS AS SLOW PITCH CHAMPIONS

Defending State Slow Pitch Champion Lloyd Memorial rallied from a 6-3 deficit with eight runs in the fourth inning en route to a 13-10 win over Campbell County in the 2003 KHSAA State Slow Pitch Softball Tournament that was completed last Friday in Hebron.

The Lady Juggernauts had defeated Campbell County in the winner's bracket final earlier in the day, holding off a rally for a 5-4 win. The Camels then held off Newport Central Catholic with a 3-2 win in the consolation bracket final to earn a rematch with Lloyd Memorial.

Ashley Bryant of Lloyd Memorial was named to the All-Tournament Team and received Most Valuable Player honors. Other All-Tournament Team selections included Jessica Stewart (Holy Cross-Covington), Meredith Schweitzer (Campbell Co.), Olivia Stamper (Dayton), Erica Owens (Lloyd Memorial), Jenna Zeigler (Newport Central Catholic), Heather Gordon (Grant Co.), Jessica Wendelin (Scott), Kassie Brock (Campbell Co.), Amber Kinnett (Campbell Co.), Jordan Mize (Lloyd Memorial), Beth Fields (Lloyd Memorial), Ashley Bryant (Lloyd Memorial).

DISTRICT FAST PITCH SOFTBALL

Brackets for this week's District Tournaments are posted on the KHSAA website under the scoreboard link. Scores are updated as received. Brackets for next week's regional tournaments will be posted as received.

FAST PITCH SOFTBALL COACHES ASSOCIATION STATE POLL

(As of 5/19/03)

1. Christian Co. (21) 395; 2. Owensboro Catholic (8) 374; 3. Greenwood (4) 368; 4. Elizabethtown 227; 5. DuPont Manual 223; 6. Middlesboro 199; 7. Ballard 195; 8. North Laurel 189; 9. Paul Dunbar 184; 10. Grayson Co. 163; 11. Boone Co. 158; 12. Mercy 152; 13. Henderson Co. 143; 14. Eastern 140; 15. Larue Co. 119; 16. North Hardin 102; 17. Hopkinsville 98; 18. Lone Oak 93; 19. Madison Central 87; 20. Reidland and Lafayette 77; 22. Conner 76; 23. Russell 56; 24. South Laurel 54; 25. Sacred Heart 49.

STATE FAST PITCH DRAW HELD

The State Tournament is scheduled for June 13-14 at Tie Breaker Park in Hopkinsville. Following are first-round Region vs. Region match-ups for the event. The full bracket is posted on the Association website at www.khsaa.org/fastpitchsoftball.

Tie Breaker Park, Hopkinsville

Friday, June 13 – All Times Central & Local to Site

9 a.m. Games – Region 3 vs. Region 14 (F1), Region 10 vs. Region 8 (F2), Region 12 vs. Region 6 (F5), Region 16 vs. Region 4 (F4); 11 a.m. Games – Region 1 vs. Region 7 (F1), Region 5 vs. Region 9 (F2), Region 15 vs. Region 2 (F5), Region 11 vs. Region 13 (F4).

Play continues Saturday, beginning at 9 a.m. The State Championship is game slated for 5 p.m. (CT).

DISTRICT FAST PITCH SOFTBALL

Brackets for this week's District Tournaments are posted on the KHSAA website under the scoreboard link. Scores are updated as received. Brackets for next week's regional tournaments will be posted as received.

STATE BASEBALL BRACKET

State Baseball Tournament draw information is complete and posted on the Association website. The format for the event changes beginning this year with the eight semi-state winning teams advancing to Applebee's Park in Lexington to battle for the State Championship.

The semi-state format will be a best of three series to be played June 12 and 13. The third, if necessary game would be played on Friday, June 13.

Following is the State Baseball Tournament Bracket (Bracket reads top to bottom):

Semi-State Action – June 12-13

Semi-State 2 at Apollo – Region 4 vs. Region 3; Semi-State 8 at Johnson Central – Region 16 vs. Region 15; Semi-State 1 at Murray – Region 2 vs. Region 1; Semi-State 6 at Tates Creek – Region 12 vs. Region 11; Semi-State 4 at Ballard – Region 8 vs. Region 7; Semi-State 7 at Corbin – Region 14 vs. Region 13; Semi-State 5 at Campbell County – Region 10 vs. Region 9; Semi-State 3 at Central Hardin – Region 6 vs. Region 5.

State Baseball Finals – at Applebee's Park

Wed., June 18

Semi-State 2 Winner vs. Semi-State 8 Winner, 6 p.m.; Semi-State 1 Winner vs. Semi-State 6 Winner, 8:30 p.m.

Thurs., June 19

Semi-State 4 Winner vs. Semi-State 7 Winner, 6 p.m.; Semi-State 5 Winner vs. Semi-State 3 Winner, 8:30 p.m.

Fri., June 20

Semi-finals at 6 and 8:30 p.m.

Sat., June 21

State Championship at 7 p.m.

BASEBALL COACHES ASSOCIATION STATE POLL

(As of 5/19/03)

1. Paul Dunbar 322; 2. Lexington Catholic 290; 3. Pleasure Ridge Park 266; 4. Elizabethtown 250; 5. West Jessamine 225; 6. Larue Co. 203; 7. Trinity (Louisville) 196; 8. Covington Catholic 188; 9. Pulaski Co. 175; 10. Boone Co. 160; 11. Lafayette 155; 12. Glasgow 144; 13. Ballard 140; 14. Eastern 132; 15. Christian Co. 109; 16. Nelson Co. 103; 17. Rockcastle Co. 98; 18. Sheldon Clark 88; 19. Boyle Co. 72; 20. St. Xavier 65; 21. Green Co. 56; 22. Lone Oak 44; 23. Taylor Co. 35; 24. Greenwood 30; 25. Male 25.

KHSAA STATE FOOTBALL FINALS MOVING TO PAPA JOHN'S STADIUM

The Board of Control of the Kentucky High School Athletic Association unanimously voted Thursday to move the 2003 and 2004 State Football Finals from the Kentucky Fair & Exposition Center's Cardinal Stadium to the University of Louisville's Papa John's Cardinal Stadium.

The move is contingent on UofL completing installation of a new artificial surface. Should the surface not be installed in time, the games would remain at the KFEC.

"Papa John's Cardinal Stadium is a first-class venue and we look forward to continued support from the City of Louisville and the University of Louisville in continuing to make this a great two-day event for everyone," DeVries concluded.

The city and the Greater Louisville Sports Commission were awarded the event in 2000 for three years. The 2003 games were to be the final year of a three-year deal with a one-year extension.

"We have enjoyed a great relationship over the years with Harold Workman, Debbie Burda and rest of the staff and the Board of the KFEC. We are eternally grateful for all they have done for all of our student-athletes and fans that have attended the State Football Finals at the KFEC over the years," KHSAA Commissioner Brigid DeVries said.

"The KFEC has continued to work with our Association in providing the best environment for our football finals from installation of new artificial turf to the time and hard work by its staff in snow removal prior to this past year's finals.

"It is great to see all three groups (KHSAA, UofL and KFEC) working together and allowing a situation to provide what is best for our Association, added DeVries.

Papa John's Cardinal Stadium, which opened in 1998 at a cost of \$63 million, is a state-of-the art facility with a seating capacity of 42,500. It will be the seventh venue to host a KHSAA State Football Championship game. Previous State Football Championship games have been played at Manual Stadium (Louisville), WKU Field (Bowling Green), Commonwealth Stadium (Lexington), Stoll Field (Lexington), ECU Hanger Field (Richmond) and KFEC Cardinal Stadium (Louisville).

The Fair & Exposition Center's Cardinal Stadium had been home to the four class championship games since 1979 and for 24 years overall. Since the adoption of a four class system in 1975, all but one (1976 – Commonwealth Stadium in Lexington) of the Class AAAA Championship games have been played in the facility.

In other Board action, the City of Owensboro and Jack Fisher Park were awarded the 2004 and 2005 State Fast Pitch Softball Tournaments. Owensboro has hosted the event four previous times, twice at Fisher Park and twice at Panther Creek Park. The first two KHSAA State Fast Pitch Tournaments were played at Jack Fisher Park back in 1995 and 1996.

Hopkinsville, site of this year's State Fast Pitch Tournament and Jeffersontown, also a previous host, also submitted proposals to host the event.

Paul Dotson of Belfry was elected Board of Control president for the upcoming 2003-04 schools year. Jim Sexton of Louisville, current Eastern High School principal, was elected vice-president.

The Board approved a \$2.7 million operating budget for the Association for 2003-04 that included the continuation of the catastrophic insurance program for its member school students-athletes during the playing season at a cost of nearly \$140,000.

HOW TO GET INFO/NOTES IN RELEASES

The KHSAA requests assistance from its member schools and media outlets to aid in the compilation and dissemination of notes of interest, coach's association polls and upcoming events in all sports. Information should be forwarded to the KHSAA, attention Butch Cope. You may e-mail (bcope@khsaa.org) the information or fax it to the KHSAA at (859)293-5999. Information received will be reviewed and published at the discretion of the Association. The KHSAA strives to publicize all of its sports to the fullest extent and appreciates any and all assistance.