

KENTUCKY HIGH SCHOOL ATHLETIC ASSOCIATION



SPORTS NEWS

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE: NOVEMBER 17, 2003

NATIONAL CITY TO SERVE AS TITLE SPONSOR OF KHSAA BOYS' SWEET 16® STATE BASKETBALL TOURNAMENT

Kentucky High School Athletic Association Commissioner Brigid DeVries, along with representatives from the KHSAA Board of Control and staff announced that National City Bank of Kentucky has signed a three-year agreement to serve as title sponsor of the Boys' Sweet 16® State Basketball Tournament beginning with this year's event.

The announcement, along with the unveiling of a new tournament logo, was made at a press conference held Monday afternoon at Papa John's Cardinal Stadium along with National City representatives and iHigh, Incorporated, the KHSAA marketing representative.

"We are extremely pleased to be partnering with National City for sponsorship of our Boys' State Basketball Tournament," KHSAA Commissioner Brigid DeVries said. "We continue to look for ways to help the Association maintain the services it provides the student athletes of the Commonwealth, and this will help us accomplish that objective."

This is the first time in the history of the Association that a title sponsor has been secured for the Boys' State Basketball Tournament and only the fifth such title sponsorship for a KHSAA event. Valvoline was title sponsor of the KHSAA State Soccer and Football Finals in 1999 and Big Blue Nation served as title sponsor of the 2003 State Baseball Finals. Currently, Houchens Industries is the title sponsor of the Girls' Sweet 16® State Basketball Tournament, a partnership that began in 2003 and runs through 2006.

"Part of the Association strategic plan directed by our Board of Control is to continue to find ways to secure funds for the overall programs of the KHSAA to help offset rising costs," DeVries added. For example, this year our cost to continue to provide the athletes at each of our member schools catastrophic insurance increased by \$40,000. Hopefully, as corporations continue to recognize the value of high school athletics, we will continue to announce more beneficial partnerships in conjunction with each of our sports programs."

"We are excited to be participating with the KHSAA on the premier high school sports event not only in Kentucky but in our country, and one that is beloved statewide," said Ted Parker, President and CEO of National City Bank of Kentucky.

The National City package includes title sponsorship as well as support at the local school district level. In addition to supporting the KHSAA, National City will underwrite 32-\$500 individual scholarships. Sixteen \$500 scholarships will be awarded to boys and 16 will be awarded to girls – one from each region and the winners will be recognized during the state basketball tournaments.

Also, additional support at the local level includes underwriting the cost of the district and regional championship trophy in boys' and girls' basketball. The deal is a cost savings of an expense usually paid for out of gate receipts by the schools competing in the district and regional tournaments. The KHSAA does not receive any revenue from District and Regional Tournaments and receives its only postseason revenue in basketball from the State Tournaments.

The official title in all references is now the National City/KHSAA Boys' Sweet 16® State Basketball Tournament for the duration of the agreement.

About National City

National City Bank of Kentucky is the largest bank in the state with over 110 locations in the regions of Louisville, Lexington/central KY, Bowling Green, Owensboro, Ashland and London/southeast KY. National City Corporation, headquartered in Cleveland, Ohio, is one of the nation's largest financial holding companies. The company operates through an extensive distribution network in Ohio, Indiana, Illinois, Kentucky, Michigan, and Pennsylvania, and also serves customers in selected markets nationally. Its primary businesses include commercial and retail banking, consumer finance, asset management, mortgage financing and servicing, and payment processing. For more information about National City Corporation, visit the company's Web site at NationalCity.com.

About the Kentucky High School Athletic Association

The Kentucky High School Athletic Association was organized in 1917 and is the agency designated by the Kentucky Department of Education to manage high school athletics in the Commonwealth. The Association is a voluntary non-profit 501 3(c) organization made up of 283 member schools both public and private. The KHSAA sanctions state championships in 20 sports (10 for boys and 10 for girls), licenses and trains over 3,900 officials, provides catastrophic insurance for its member school student athletes as well as overseeing coaching education and medical symposium programs.

The marks Sweet 16® and Sweet Sixteen® are registered trademarks owned by the KHSAA. The Association has sub-licensed the NCAA for use of the term at the collegiate level. The Boys' State Basketball Tournament began in 1916 and the KHSAA assumed management in 1918. The 2004 event will be the 87th year the KHSAA has sponsored a Boys' State Basketball Tournament.

KHSAA BOARD OF CONTROL MEETING

The Kentucky High School Athletic Association Board of Control will conduct its annual November meeting Wednesday, Nov. 19 at the KHSAA office in Lexington. For a meeting agenda, contact the KHSAA.

FOOTBALL PLAYOFFS – WEEK #3

Eight teams in each of the four classes remain as the road to Papa John's Cardinal Stadium and a berth in the KHSAA State Championships continues with the third round of the football playoffs. Third round match-ups are posted on the KHSAA website at www.khsaa.org/football. You can track the scores of all games during the playoffs at www.khsaa.org/scoreboard.

STATE FOOTBALL MEDIA CREDENTIALS

Request forms for credentials for the 2003 KHSAA State Football Championships were mailed to media outlets Tuesday, Nov. 11. Forms are due back to the Association by Friday, Nov. 21.

STATE FOOTBALL FINALS TIME SCHEDULE

Following is the time schedule for the 2003 KHSAA State Football Finals scheduled for Friday and Saturday, Dec. 5-6 at Papa John's Cardinal Stadium in Louisville.

Friday, Dec. 5

Class A State Championship at 12 p.m.; Class AA State Championship at 3:15 p.m.

Saturday, Dec. 6

Class AAA State Championship at 12 p.m.; Class AAAA State Championship at 3:15 p.m.

FB PLAYOFF WEEK #2 NOTES

(As taken from member school reports)

In what many thought was an early basketball score, Pulaski County defeated Waggener 82-68 in the second round of the Class AAA playoffs. The contest broke a 90-year-old state record for points in a game, surpassing Male and Tharpe's 149 points scored in 1913. It also surpassed last year's Class AAAA State Championship shootout total of 115 between Trinity (Louisville) and Male. Cole Draughn helped Pulaski County rally from a 62-41 deficit, finishing with 303 yards and six touchdowns rushing on 31 attempts and passing for 177 yards and three more touchdowns.

Lonnell DeWalt of Warren Central caught five passes for 151 yards and a touchdown in a 44-10 win over Graves County. Brock Whitney completed eight of 11 passes for 210 yards and two touchdowns while Quentin Curry ran 12 times for 162 yards and two touchdowns (50 and 31 yards).

With a 28-24 loss to Oldham County, Lexington Catholic's Justin Burke closed out a good year. Burke completed 169 of 261 passes (64.8%) and twice completed five touchdowns in a half in a game (vs. West Jessamine and Bourbon County). Cornell Burbage added four punt returns for touchdowns to the Knights effort on the year.

Boyle County's Brandon Smith completed 13 of 19 passes for 277 yards and five touchdowns in a 47-0 win over Pulaski Southwestern.

Newport Central Catholic's defense continues to play pick-pocket with opponents. The Breds now have 31 interceptions on the year, including five in last week's 42-20 win over Holy Cross (Covington). On the year, NCC is a plus 29 in takeaway/giveaway (46/17).

Matt Johnson and Adam Clark of Ashland Blazer each ran for 100-plus yards in a 24-15 win over Boyd County. Johnson ran 18 times for 133 yards and a touchdown while Clark ran eight times for 100 yards and one touchdown for the Tomcats. Chad Cook also ran 15 times for 92 yards and a touchdown and kicked a 30-yard field goal.

HOW TO GET INFO/NOTES IN THE WEEKLY RELEASE

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, by 1 p.m. (ET) on Monday of each week. You may email (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.

THE NEXT RELEASE WILL BE MONDAY, NOVEMBER 24, 2003.