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Cover Story

8 All in the Life of An Official

Jerry Kimmel didn’t know where officiating would lead when he became one in 1956. Fifty-six years later it gave him a career, friends and memories - a life.

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Would you like to see a menu?

Since the launch of the new-look KHSAA.org in late July the first thing many people notice is the absence of links in the blue bar at the top of the page, replaced by a cleaner look with collapsible menus. All the information found previously in the links are now in the menu options, organized under the headings labeled General, News/Stats/Pubs, Coaches/Officials, Directory/Data, Sports/Activities, and Special Programs.

Featuring

15 Archery Joins Growing List of Sanctioned Sports Activities

In a press conference on Thursday, August 23, KHSAA Commissioner Julian Tackett as well as officials from the Kentucky Department of Fish and Wildlife Resources and the National Archery in the Schools Program welcomed archery as a sanctioned sport activity.

16 Participation Numbers Set Another All-Time Record

Student-athlete participation reached another all-time high during the 2011-2012 school year, in data released by the NFHS.

This photo of Kentucky’s assigning secretaries was taken in 1972. They were front row (l-r): Bob Gour, Bowling Green; Bob Miller, Fort Thomas; Cleophus Pursifull, Middlesboro; Howard Gardner, Elizabethtown. Second row: Howard Rogers, Winchester; Tommy Runyon, Belfry; Bob Cravens, Louisville; R.B. Singleton, Hindman; Rex Alexander, Murray. Third row: Bob Foster, Science Hill; Norman Hammons, Hopkinsville; Frank Firestine, Russell; and Jerry Kimmel, Beechmont.
COMMISSIONER’S LETTER

One of the great things about technology is it allows us to package our message however we like in a format that is almost limitless. No longer are we limited to the constraints of bound publications. The days of limited space and expensive press runs are long in the past.

Today we are able to have a publication that is tailored to our needs and message, not the other way around. A publication that has as many or as few pages as we need to deliver the message in a quality way is something we have never had before and is, quite frankly, a refreshing change.

This edition of the Athlete harkens back to another time before the constraints of the printing market took hold - a time when the Athlete was a monthly publication. Now it shall be again, complete with color photos, informative features on the people and places that make our state so unique as well as vital information from our staff that every athletic administrator, principal, and superintendent needs to know.

With that said, we hope you enjoy this issue as well as the issues yet to come each month. It’s something we are more than a little excited about and as always, we value any feedback you may have to make it a better product.

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Credits

This month’s cover image is a photo of Jerry Kimmel, a Kentucky officiating icon who has dedicated more than a half-century in the vocation as an official and an assigner at the high school and collegiate levels. The photo was taken by Jim Osborn, Jim Osborn Photography. Osborn also took the image of Kimmel that appears on page 8, as well as the image at the bottom of page 9.

The action images on pages 6 and 7 were taken by Tim Webb, Tim Webb Photography.

The images of Jerry Kimmel at the top of page 9, as well as the photos on pages 10 and 11 were taken by Elden May, KHSAA. The image of Jason Hewlett on page 12 was taken by Elden May, KHSAA.

The images of Roy Grimes, President of the National Archery in the Schools Program and Julian Tackett, KHSAA Commissioner on page 15 were taken by Elden May, KHSAA.
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KHSAA Staff: Julian Tackett, Michael Barren, Darren Bilberry, Rob Catron, Chad Collins, Butch Cope, Elden May, Angela Passafiume, Marilyn Mitchell and KDE Liaison David Couch.

Guests: Present: David Henley and Ken Trivette, Executive Director KABC.

Attachments can be found at the following link: http://www.khsaa.org/boardofcontrol/agenda/20112012/bocmay2012.htm

Orientation for New Board Members
The Commissioner coordinated an orientation session for the new members along with the Executive Staff and the President and Vice President of the Board of Control.

Board convene in working session for 2011-2012 review with the Commissioner per 702 KAR 7:065, Section 2 (9)

The Board conducted the annual personnel review of the Commissioner. Alan Donhoff, Bill Beasley and Boyd Randolph will meet to review the Commissioner at a subsequent meeting.

Call to Order: The Board of Control Meeting was called to order at 1:00 p.m. by President Alan Donhoff following the completion of committee meetings.

Reflection: Was given by Ozz Jackson.

Pledge of Allegiance: Was led by Dave Weedman.

Executive Session to Review Legal Matters
Motion Passed: Consider approval of going into executive session per KRS 61.810 subsection (c) passed with a motion by Stan Steidel and a second by Jerry Keepers.
John Barnes Yes, Bill Beasley Yes, Anita Burnette Yes, Ron Dawn Yes, Alan Donhoff Yes, Dana Guyer Yes, Ozz Jackson Yes, Marvin Moore Yes, Lea Prewitt Yes, Boyd Randolph Yes, Kelley Ransdell Yes, Steve Riley Yes, David Weedman Yes

No action was taken during executive session.

Discussion of Potential Hall of Fame Inductees
The Commissioner provided information on the procedure for balloting of the selection of inductees for the 2013 class of the KHSAA Hall of Fame. Balloting will be available to done online after the meeting.

Board Members discussed regional individuals with which they were especially familiar.

Review Consent Agenda
1. Approve Minutes of the April, 2012 Regular Meeting
2. Reports for Approval
3. Transfers, July 1 to April 30, 2012 (W)
4. Appeals Detailed Report to Date
5. Other Eligibility Rulings including fines and Penalties, July 1, 2011 Through April 30, 2012 (W)
6. HB 327 Coaches to date (W)
7. Approve Bills, April 1 to April 30, 2012

Motion Passed: Consider approval of coming out of executive session per KRS 61.810 subsection (c) passed with a motion by Jerry Keepers and a second by David Weedman.
John Barnes Yes, Bill Beasley Yes, Anita Burnette Yes, Ron Dawn Yes, Alan Donhoff Yes, Dana Guyer Yes, Ozz Jackson Yes, Marvin Moore Yes, Lea Prewitt Yes, Boyd Randolph Yes, Kelley Ransdell Yes, Steve Riley Yes, David Weedman Yes

Committee Report from Executive Committee
Presentation by iHigh.com Fund Raising Program Revisions
KHSAA marketing partner ihigh.com representatives, Rick Ford, David Fatzinger and Adam Endorf, presented an update on programs and options available to the Association to begin the negotiation process of a contract extension. Their programs represent a strategic change in available inventory as sponsors desire electronic fulfillment more than static signage.

Motion Passed: Authorize the Commissioner on behalf of the Board of Control to negotiate an extension of the agreement with iHigh.com for video streaming of KHSAA events, such contract to be reviewed and concurred with by the President and Vice President of the Board of Control passed with a motion by Alan Donhoff and a second by Stan Steidel.
John Barnes Yes, Bill
Beasley Yes, Anita Burnette Yes, Ron Dawn Yes, Dana Guyer Yes, Ozz Jackson Yes, Jerry Keepers Yes, Marvin Moore Yes, Lea Prewitt Yes, Boyd Randolph Yes, Kelley Ransdell Yes, Steve Riley Yes, David Weedman Yes.

Approve Legal Counsel Contract
Consider the renewal and extension of General Counsel Agreement as presented by the Commissioner.

Motion Passed: Motion passed as presented with a motion by Alan Donhoff and a second by Marvin Moore. John Barnes Yes, Bill Beasley Yes, Anita Burnette Yes, Ron Dawn Yes, Dana Guyer Yes, Ozz Jackson Yes, Jerry Keepers Yes, Lea Prewitt Yes, Boyd Randolph Yes, Kelley Ransdell Yes, Steve Riley Yes, Stan Steidel Yes, David Weedman Yes.

Extension of KHSAA Trophy Contract with Ridders.com
Empower the Commissioner to move ahead with negotiations to extend the awards agreement with current trophy vendor.

Motion Passed: Authorize the Commissioner on behalf of the Board of Control to negotiate an extension of the agreement with Ridders. Com for providing KHSAA medals and trophies, such contract to be reviewed and concurred with by the President and Vice-President of the Board of Control passed with a motion by Alan Donhoff and a second by David Weedman. John Barnes Yes, Bill Beasley Yes, Anita Burnette Yes, Ron Dawn Yes, Dana Guyer Yes, Ozz Jackson Yes, Jerry Keepers Yes, Marvin Moore Yes, Lea Prewitt Yes, Boyd Randolph Yes, Kelley Ransdell Yes, Steve Riley Yes, Stan Steidel Yes.

Presentation of Fiscal Year 2010-2011 Audit Report
Lori McCready of Hicks and Associates presented the 2010-2011 KHSAA audit for review and approval.

Motion Passed: Approve the audit report, management correspondence and IRS Form 990 for FY 2011 as presented by Hicks and Associates including the requisite journal entries passed with a motion by Alan Donhoff and a second by Jerry Keepers. John Barnes Yes, Bill Beasley Yes, Anita Burnette Yes, Ron Dawn Yes, Dana Guyer Yes, Ozz Jackson Yes, Marvin Moore Yes, Lea Prewitt Yes, Boyd Randolph Yes, Kelley Ransdell Yes, Steve Riley Yes, Stan Steidel Yes, David Weedman Yes.

Revisions to KHSAA Employment Benefits
Amend the KHSAA Employment Policy Manual to cap accrued vacation leave at three weeks for all employees after five years of uninterrupted employment unless otherwise stipulated in an employment agreement.

Motion Passed: Approve the recommended revisions to the KHSAA Employment Policies passed with a motion by Alan Donhoff and a second by Bill Beasley. John Barnes Yes, Anita Burnette Yes, Ron Dawn Yes, Dana Guyer Yes, Ozz Jackson Yes, Jerry Keepers Yes, Marvin Moore Yes, Lea Prewitt Yes, Boyd Randolph Yes, Kelley Ransdell Yes, Steve Riley Yes, Stan Steidel Yes, David Weedman Yes.

Committee Report from the Regulation Adoption and Legislative Committee
Second Reading - Proposals for 2012 Annual Meeting
Discussion of the second reading of Proposals 1 and 3 through 10 for the Annual Meeting agenda for approval as stated with continued discussion of Proposal 2 at the July Meeting.

Motion Passed: Approve Board of Control Proposals 1 and 3 through 10 to be put on the agenda for the Annual Meeting. Give first reading, and continue discussion of proposal 2 at the July Board of Control meeting. passed with a motion by Boyd Randolph and a second by David Weedman. John Barnes Yes, Bill Beasley Yes, Anita Burnette Yes, Ron Dawn Yes, Alan Donhoff Yes, Dana Guyer Yes, Ozz Jackson Yes, Jerry Keepers Yes, Marvin Moore Yes, Lea Prewitt Yes, Kelley Ransdell Yes, Steve Riley Yes, Stan Steidel Yes.

Discuss Policy - Transgender Participation
Staff submitted a draft to the Board of a policy to define and clarify transgender athletic eligibility parameters.

Motion Passed: Approve the draft of the transgender policy passed with a motion by Boyd Randolph and a second by David Weedman. John Barnes Yes, Bill Beasley Yes, Anita Burnette Yes, Ron Dawn Yes, Alan Donhoff Yes, Dana Guyer Yes, Ozz Jackson Yes, Jerry Keepers Yes, Marvin Moore Yes, Lea Prewitt Yes, Kelley Ransdell Yes, Steve Riley Yes, Stan Steidel Yes.

Committee Report from the Team Sports Committee
Review and Discussion, Football Enrollment Figures
Further discussion at the July Board Meeting as the final alignment statistics will not be available until September.

Discuss Boys Basketball Seating Configuration
The Commissioner presented the Rupp Arena seating configuration for upcoming Boys’ Sweet 16® Tournaments beginning with 2013. All press row seating could move to one side of Continued on Page 13
Folks who drive through Greenville in Muhlenberg County might be surprised to see Jerry Kimmel happily puttering on the back fields at the school, using his improvised striping machine, at one with his surroundings.

In reality, he wouldn’t have it any other way. The latest chapter in Kimmel’s life is not radically different from those already written – a need existed and through quick, sometimes unconventional thinking, he was able to fill it. First as an official and now in his spare time, Kimmel not only understands how things work, but he usually finds a way to make things work better.

Given a worn out zero-turn lawn mower, a seven horsepower air compressor and several dozen gallons of paint, he created a one-of-a-kind machine – a machine that can spray paint the lines at all the school’s athletic facilities in a fraction of the time it would normally take by hand. He delighted in the accomplishment as he demonstrated it for small audience one afternoon on the school’s band practice field.

The feeling of building something lasting has been with him all his life and has fueled his desire to make something greater than the sum of its parts.

“I used to be an ironworker for the TVA. That was the most enjoyable work I’ve ever done,” Kimmel said. “You didn’t know if you were going to work eight hours, 10 hours, 12 hours or 16 hours. Once I worked a stretch of 63 straight days without a day off. But it was so much fun because you could see what you accomplished when you were done. You had built something with your hands. Something people were going to use.”

With those same hands, Kimmel used them to become one of the preeminent basketball officials in the Midwest at the high school and college levels before turning his attention to assigning for more than four decades.

Kimmel retired in 2012 after spending the past 40 years assigning basketball games. He worked another 16 years prior to that as both a referee and baseball umpire, as well as a decade as a regional representative, recruiting new officials at a time when the state sorely needed numbers.

He had no delusions about the profession he was about to enter as a 21 year old in 1956. He certainly did not know 56 years later, a lifetime of games, from the 3rd grade Saturday leagues in Greenville to the highest levels of college basketball, it would provide him with friends, a career and enough knowledge to fill volumes of encyclopedias. In other words, a life.
“He has been a good mentor to a lot of people. He is so dedicated to his profession and has made a tremendous impact,” said longtime friend and colleague Dale Kelley, a supervisor of officials for five NCAA Division I conferences, including the Southeastern Conference. “I got to know him through the OVC and SEC and it didn’t take too long to become good friends and share experiences. Jerry is such a genuine person. He took the avocation of officiating very seriously. Take that and his personality in general. He never met a stranger. All those characteristics have made him tremendously successful in his career and in life.”

At the time, Kimmel, just a young pup only three years removed from the playing floor himself at Hughes-Kirk High School in Muhlenberg County, wanted to stay involved with the game he loved.

“Well I just wanted to try it in 1956. My high school coach got me into it,” Kimmel recalled. “It paid $2.50 a game and that was big money in 1956. I got into it and fell in love with it. It’s been great to me. I’ve made some long lasting friends. I always said if I’m going across the country and if I have trouble I can stop and call somebody. I know somebody in just about every town.”

Had he never gotten involved in officiating, chances are Kimmel and his never-met-a-stranger personality would likely still have more friends across America than AAA. Only the stories may not be as interesting.

And what stories he has! From the games he has seen to the mechanical advancements he has made to the sport to countless inventions he’s tinkered with around the house, Kimmel has a yarn for almost every occasion.

One of his favorites describes the situation facing the sport of basketball in the state before a federally mandated court order in 1971 took assigning of officials out of the hands of the local school and into the hands of regional assigning secretaries.

“Before (the 1971 court order) the home team was in charge of getting the officials. You knew there were some places where you weren’t going to win,” Kimmel said. “The coach up at Hughes-Kirk one time took his team over to Hanson in Hopkins County and he met their coach during the warm-ups. The Hanson coach asked him if he believed he was going to win that game that night. The Hughes-Kirk coach said, ‘Well, we go into every game believing we can win.’ And the Hanson coach said, ‘Well good. I just wanted you to know my brother is calling the game tonight.’”

Kimmel can’t help but laugh as he recalls the tale. One thing he is serious about is the sport entrusted to his care, whether it was basketball or baseball.

“If the ball is round, work it. If they pay you, fine. If they don’t that’s still fine. You get paid in experience.”

Jerry Kimmel

“Soon after his officiating career began he proved to be a natural. He combined his natural ability with a burning desire to improve. Luckily he found valuable mentors in his area willing to teach the finer points of officiating. His fire was stoked even more when he

Above, Jerry Kimmel takes a moment to rest while sitting on his improvised field striping machine at Muhlenburg County High School in Greenville. Right, Kimmel laughs as he recalls a story from early on in his officiating career. Kimmel retired in 2012 after 40 years as a basketball assigner and 56 years as a KHSAA licensed official.
attended the 1959 Boys’ State Basketball Tournament, the first in a string of 54 consecutive tournaments he has attended.

“I knew it was something I wanted to do. I saw my first state tournament in 1959 and at that point I had been doing it for three years. At that point I said, ‘I want to do that. I want to be one of those guys out there,’” Kimmel said. “I worked at it, I asked questions, I went in and picked everybody’s mind to anybody who could help. I was fortunate enough the second year I was eligible (back then KHSAA officials had to be licensed for six years to be eligible to officiate the state tournament) I was selected to work the tournament in 1963. It’s something that just gets in your blood. Once you work a state tournament, you want to work another, then another. There’s no end to it.”

He still recalls his first state tournament assignment like it was yesterday. He recalls the feeling of pride in representing his region, the excitement of being on one of the biggest stages in the nation for high school basketball and the feeling in the pit of his stomach as he walked on onto the floor at Louisville’s Freedom Hall. In those days the tournament’s first round was played on a single day and started at eight o’clock in the morning.

“That first game I was assigned with Roy Winchester and I made sure I got me a little glass of water and sat on the scorer’s table because my mouth was so dry,” Kimmel recalled. “I tell everybody I got my first call right because a team asked for a time out and I gave it to him.”

The 1963 state tournament appointment was just the beginning of one of the most decorated careers for any official in Kentucky history. In his 16-year career behind the whistle, Kimmel worked 15 district and 14 regional tournaments, as well as state tournaments in 1963, 1965, 1966, 1967, 1968 and 1972.

The exposure on the state’s largest stage helped open doors for him at the collegiate level. After calling his first collegiate game in 1960, Kimmel worked his way through the ranks until in 1967, he began calling games in the Ohio Valley Conference. Over the next 19 years, he also worked in the Kentucky Intercollegiate Athletic Conference (KIAC), the Metro and Missouri Valley conferences from 1975-82 and the Southeastern Conference from 1972-1982.

“Jerry Kimmel is a perfectionist on everything he does,” said longtime friend and KHSAA Hall of Fame Official Marvin Moore. He also worked under Kimmel in the Great Lakes Valley Conference for nearly 20 years. “He wanted officials to go by the book and use the signals well. He believes there is no excuse for not knowing the rules and mechanics and don’t deviate from them. He always told his officials that if they wanted you to call it that way, they would change the book. It was so much fun traveling with him because for the time you leave till you get back, it was all about officiating. You couldn’t help but learn.”

He took what he learned as an official and used it to help others when he accepted the position as basketball assigning secretary for the 3rd Region in 1972.

“Jerry gave up on some of his own personal ambitions as an official to answer the calling to help the entire state,” said KHSAA Commissioner Julian Tackett. “The KHSAA was in dire need of individuals to take charge and recruit and train officials following our Federal Court order, and he decided to jump right in.”

He came along at a time when the sport and the state were undergoing great procedural change. Gone were the days when the local school found officials, replaced with a more centralized system of assigning officials. Along with this came the opportunity to provide more training opportunities for officials.

Kimmel took what he had learned and set about the task of providing improved instruction to the state’s officials, much of it he learned from Kelley. Kelley admits the timing was perfect to strike the correct chord with the audience.

“When we first got into (supervising), a lot of officials were football officials filling in. We came along at the right time to make an impact,” said Kelley. “We started using observers and critiquing each game. We were one of the first to start having basketball camps. In those early days you just refereed by the seat of your pants and hoped to take the best from your fellow officials. No doubt there was better ways to improve as basketball improved. We always said the coaching

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Basketball - 15 districts, 14 regions, 6 states
Baseball - 16 districts, 14 regions, 3 states
is better, the players are better and that dictated that the officiating had to get better.”

Among the innovations Kimmel brought to the game almost immediately were reviews for officials as well as courtside charting of officials calls. He was a pioneer in the use of video for evaluating and training officials, and was the first to organize an officials camp in Kentucky, in 1983. The camp has grown each year and regularly attracts instruction from some of the country’s best officials.

“People do not realize how far officiating has come in the sport of basketball and a lot of it is made possible by the innovations that Jerry brought to the table,” said Tackett, himself a former collegiate referee for nearly two decades.

“There were great officials before but the overall mechanics and quality of the group has gotten so much better. I remember when I was a young official there were times I thought I did pretty darned well on a game but that videotape sure has a way of humbling you. But that’s also part of the reason why so many other states look to us when it comes to the way we train officials.

Jerry has always been way ahead of his time. He was one of the very first to develop and utilize computerized assigning system to ensure confirmation of game assignments, and his use of video technology is well known.”

He again set his local interests aside for statewide involvement when he became one of four statewide Sectional Directors of Officials in 1988.

“Giving up the local level assigning was hard,” Kimmel said, “but Commissioner (Tom) Mills and Assistant Commissioner (Billy) Wise said I was needed in the entirety of Western Kentucky so I accepted that position to help recruit, develop and train regions 1 through 4, an area that extended from the Mississippi River long past Bowling Green.”

Though the budget situation at the KHSAA eliminated those positions in 1992, Kimmel had already made his mark with his efforts in those regions, including training meetings and camps, and increased number of officials.

While he was responsible for innovations in the way officials were trained, he always coupled this complex view of the game with the ability to see the simplest of things through the eyes of a fan.

Spectators at a basketball game now could not imagine a time when a player stepped into the lane early on a free throw and a referee blew the whistle and stepped in, only to struggle to communicate what he had just seen to the crowd. Such a time actually existed in the first few years of Kimmel’s officiating tenure.

“Charlie Vettiner and I were big buddies and he was the coordinator for the high schools at that time,” he said. “He and I got to talking and one thing that came up was lane violations. We didn’t have any mechanics for a lane violation. So a brainchild hit me that we needed a signal to put in the book so I came up with the hand held out so everybody knew it was a lane violation. I came up with two or three others but we had never had one before so somebody was going to do it. Once suggested to the NFHS, these were almost always implemented nationwide.

“I’ve always been big on mechanics. I think you can get to the top quicker with good mechanics. You’ve got to make the call but you’ve got to have good mechanics to go with it.”

The lessons he learned didn’t only apply to basketball. One of the state’s best baseball umpires and one of only two in the entire state to pass the national baseball rules certification test when it was first administered in the late 1950s, Kimmel worked state tournaments in 1965, 1967 and 1970.

One of those games, a 22-inning marathon between Madisonville and Lafayette, still stands as the longest game in state history.

“We did that game, sat out one and then came back and did another one,” Kimmel remembered. “Back then we got $10 a game for doing the state tournament. Buddy, that was the love of the game.”

Much like his officials, who were trained to see everything, the only way he could stay ahead was by seeing as many games and as many officials as possible. A meticulous planner, Kimmel still has notebooks filled with observations from hundreds of games each season.

Last season for instance, his notebook indicated he watched 212 games and 192 the season before. He estimates that over the course of his career he has traveled well over a million miles and seen more than 10,000 games.

During one particular stretch, while serving as assigner for the NCAA Division II Great Lakes Valley Conference from 1985-2005, Kimmel said that during each of those years, he found himself at home on a Saturday night twice during a six-month stretch. Even then he opened his home to referees whom he scheduled to work.

Jerry Kimmel shares a copy of a basketball officials camp photo with KHSAA Assistant Commissioner Darren Bilberry during a visit to Kimmel’s home in July. Kimmel retired after spending 56 years as an official and assigner for the KHSAA.
He is perhaps the proudest of his efforts in the 4th Region. In 2004, at low point for the region in terms of the number of officials, the 4th Region Policy Board came calling, asking if Jerry wanted to get back into high school assigning.

"When I took over that Association, the KHSAA staff told me they only had about 40 to 50 officials," Kimmel said. That just wasn’t satisfactory given that right in the middle of the region lied the fertile officials’ recruiting ground of the state’s 3rd largest university (Western Kentucky). “In a matter of a couple of years, we had their numbers up to nearly 100 officials, which is where it should be able to stay. I always did like beating the bushes and finding those young enthusiastic officials eager to learn the game."

More than the calls or the contests, it’s the lifelong connections he has made with other officials that still puts a gleam in his eye.

"It is a close knit group. People don’t realize how close knit it is to helping one another out. I had a guy call me one night and he was on his way from Louisville to Paducah and his car broke down,” Kimmel recalled. "I said, ‘Where are you?’ and he said I’m at Beaver Dam at a filling station and I said, ‘I’ll be there in 30 minutes.’ So I met him and he came back home with me and spent the night. The next morning we took him back and got his car fixed and he was back on the road again.

"Of course you might have some people that are willing to step on others to move up the ladder. They might get to the top but they won’t stay there long. They will come down real quick."

Through it all, the road trips, the state tournaments, the nights spent in a far away gymnasium, Kimmel’s wife of more than 55 years, Maxine, made sure things operated smoothly at home. Without her love and support, Jerry admits his journey would have been much less rewarding. "Without her love and support, Jerry admits his journey would have been much less rewarding."

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Through it all, the road trips, the state tournaments, the nights spent in a far away gymnasium, Kimmel’s wife of more than 55 years, Maxine, made sure things operated smoothly at home. Without her love and support, Jerry admits his journey would have been much less rewarding. "Without her love and support, Jerry admits his journey would have been much less rewarding."

In the early years Maxine tended to the couple’s two children and in later years often joined him on the road. The pair have operated an unofficial hospitality room for officials at the boys’ and girls’ state basketball tournaments for years, a meeting place for officials to get away from the intensity of the event and build some camaraderie with their fellow officials. In fact, it has become of the most anticipated traditions of the tournament for first-time officials.

"Remember the old saying - behind every good man, there’s an outstanding woman? Maxine is an outstanding lady. I can’t count the times she has sat in the car and even driven,” Moore said. "A lot of times she has driven while he slept because he cares so much about the game. Like we say, it’s not fair to the kids and the coaches who have worked so hard if the officials are not prepared the best they can be."

The concept of retirement seems foreign to Kimmel and those who know him. While he may not see 200 games this season, old habits die much too hard for him to quit cold turkey. He has already volunteered to continue to help evaluate contests in the KIAC this season as he prepred the best they can be.

For any good official, it pays to be a quick and resourceful thinker. Refine these qualities with repetition and experience and it produces someone ready to take advantage of the opportunity when it is presented. Kimmel often wonders if the payoff gets in the way of the process. If so, he says it’s a mistake of short-sightedness.

"If the ball is round, work it. Work it, work it. Carry a whistle with you all the time. Things happen slower and you’ve got time to think about it. If a game is played and you can work it, work it. Carrying a whistle with you all the time. You never know."

"Jerry has given his lifetime to officiating," Tackett said. "He sacrificed his own advancement in the avocation to help our entire Commonwealth. No honor he receives or recognition bestowed will truly be able to thank him for the many people he has helped along the way, with his main objective to make these games the best they can be for the students."

"The best call he ever made was to get into officiating, and our entire Commonwealth could not be more grateful."
the arena while Sweet 16® Club Members are given the opportunity to purchase seats on the opposite side along with the Board of Control.

Report on Nelson County Draw Results

With the opening of Thomas Nelson HS in the fall of 2012, there was a need to adjust the football alignment to accommodate Nelson County district play. The results of the random draw:

- 9/7 Bardstown
- 9/14 LaRue County
- 9/21 North Bullitt
- 10/19 Central Hardin

Committee Report from the Ad Hoc Emerging Sports Committee

Progress report and final recommendations, Cheer competition

Staff recommends member schools be divided into two enrollment divisions with one group from 1 to 800 students and the second group 801 students and above.

Motion Passed: Approve the member schools to be divided into two enrollment-based divisions for cheer competition, with one group from 1 to 800 students and a second group at 801 students and above. In addition, the draft competition divisions would be revised to require a minimum of two boys to compete in the coed competition. Passed with a motion by Boyd Randolph and a second by Jerry Keepers. John Barnes Yes, Bill Beasley Yes, Anita Burnette Yes, Ron Dawn Yes, Alan Donhoff Yes, Dana Guyer Yes, Ozz Jackson Yes, Marvin Moore Yes, Lea Prewitt Yes, Kelley Ransdell Yes, Steve Riley Yes, Stan Steidel Yes, David Weedman Yes.

Progress Report and Review, Bass Fishing Championship

The Commissioner updated the Board on the progress of the implementation of Bass Fishing which includes a $10,000 first year commitment from FLW and a second year $5,000 pledge.

Reports of Business (single motion to approve reports)
1. Bylaw 13 Financial Aid Survey
2. Review of KHSAA Title IX Revisit Report to KDE
3. Program Sales Report
5. Board Income Statement, July 1, 2011 to April 30, 2012
6. Review of Working Budget Status

Motion Passed: Following discussion, accept the reports as presented passed with a motion by David Weedman and a second by Jerry Keepers. John Barnes Yes, Bill Beasley Yes, Anita Burnette Yes, Ron Dawn Yes, Alan Donhoff Yes, Dana Guyer Yes, Ozz Jackson Yes, Marvin Moore Yes, Lea Prewitt Yes, Kelley Ransdell Yes, Steve Riley Yes, Stan Steidel Yes.

Approve Draft Working Budget Status for Operation Through July meeting

Motion Passed: Approve the draft as written passed with a motion by Stan Steidel and a second by Anita Burnette. John Barnes Yes, Bill Beasley Yes, Ron Dawn Yes, Alan Donhoff Yes, Dana Guyer Yes, Ozz Jackson Yes, Jerry Keepers Yes, Marvin Moore Yes, Lea Prewitt Yes, Boyd Randolph Yes, Kelley Ransdell Yes, Steve Riley Yes, David Weedman Yes.

Motion Passed: Approve Board Meeting Schedule with the last meeting on May 7 passed with a motion by Alan Donhoff and a second by Stan Steidel. John Barnes Yes, Bill Beasley Yes, Anita Burnette Yes, Ron Dawn Yes, Dana Guyer Yes, Ozz Jackson Yes, Jerry Keepers Yes, Marvin Moore Yes, Lea Prewitt Yes, Boyd Randolph Yes, Kelley Ransdell Yes, Steve Riley Yes, David Weedman Yes.

Motion Passed: Consider approval of adjourning meeting passed with a motion by Stan Steidel and a second by Jerry Keepers. John Barnes Yes, Bill Beasley Yes, Anita Burnette Yes, Ron Dawn Yes, Alan Donhoff Yes, Dana Guyer Yes, Ozz Jackson Yes, Marvin Moore Yes, Lea Prewitt Yes, Boyd Randolph Yes, Kelley Ransdell Yes, Steve Riley Yes, David Weedman Yes.
KHSAA Board of Control Committees - 2012-2013

PERMANENT COMMITTEES

Executive
Boyd Randolph, Chairperson
John Barnes
Bill Beasley
Carrell Boyd
Alan Donhoff
Kelley Ransdell
Stan Steidel
Henry Webb
David Weedman

Audit/Finance
Carrell Boyd, Chairperson
Bill Beasley
Michelle Dillard
Jerry Keepers
Boyd Randolph
Kelley F. Ransdell
Jeff Saylor
Stan Steidel
Henry Webb

Officials Policy
Jerry Keepers, Chairperson
Art Davis
Ron Dawn
Michelle Dillard
Dana Guyer
Gene Norris
Lea Prewitt
Steve Riley
Jeff Saylor

Regulation Adoption/Legislative
Bill Beasley, Chairperson
John Barnes
Carrell Boyd
Alan Donhoff
Boyd Randolph
Kelley F. Ransdell
Steve Riley
Stan Steidel
Dave Weedman

Title IX Education
Lea Prewitt, Chairperson
Art Davis
Ron Dawn
Michelle Dillard
Dana Guyer
Jerry Keepers
Gene Norris
Jeff Saylor
Henry Webb

Team Sports
Dave Weedman, Chairperson
John Barnes
Bill Beasley

Carrell Boyd
Alan Donhoff
Lea Prewitt
Boyd Randolph
Kelley F. Ransdell
Steve Riley

Individual Sports
Stan Steidel, Chairperson
Art Davis
Ron Dawn
Michelle Dillard
Dana Guyer
Jerry Keepers
Gene Norris
Jeff Saylor
Henry Webb

Sport Activity Committee
Alan Donhoff, Chairperson
John Barnes
Art Davis
Ron Dawn
Dana Guyer
Gene Norris
Lea Prewitt
Steve Riley
Dave Weedman

SPECIAL PURPOSE COMMITTEES

Hall of Fame Screening
THIRD YEAR (2014 CLASS) AND FIRST YEAR (2016 CLASS) OF BOARD OF CONTROL (voting)
Bill Beasley
Art Davis
Ron Dawn
Michelle Dillard
Alan Donhoff
Jerry Keepers
Lea Prewitt
Jeff Saylor
Henry Webb
Dave Weedman

STAFF
Butch Cope (Permanent)
Julian Tackett (Permanent)
Darren Bilberry
Chad Collins
Media
Jennifer Smith (Newspaper)
Wes Strader (Radio)
Steve Moss (Television)
2 additional media reps to be appointed
Dawahare Representative

Hall of Fame Selection Committee
All Board Members Meet in Work Session to Discuss Inductees
SECOND YEAR (2015 CLASS) and FOURTH YEAR (2013 CLASS) (voting)
John Barnes
Carrell Boyd
Dana Guyer
Gene Norris
Boyd Randolph
Kelley Ransdell
Steve Riley
Stan Steidel
Five Designated Executive Staff Members
Five Designated Media Representatives
Dawahare Representative

Museum/Hall of Fame Development
(inactive at this time)
Bill Beasley, Chairperson
Carrell Boyd
Ron Dawn
Dana Guyer
Jeff Saylor
Lea Prewitt
Boyd Randolph
Kelley F. Ransdell
Dave Weedman

Whistle Blower (4th year members)
John Barnes
Carrell Boyd
Gene Norris
Boyd Randolph

NFHS Summer Meeting (2nd year members, plus President, President-Elect)
Bill Beasley
Dana Guyer
Kelley Ransdell
Steve Riley
Boyd Randolph
Stan Steidel
TBA (VP)

Members of the Board of Control
John Barnes (2013)
Bill Beasley (2016)
Carrell Boyd (2013)
Art Davis (2014)
Ron Dawn (2016)
Michelle Dillard (2016)
Alan Donhoff (2014)
Dana Guyer (2015)
Jerry Keepers (2014)
Gene Norris (2013)
Lea Prewitt (2014)
Boyd Randolph (2013)
Kelley Ransdell (2015)
Steve Riley (2015)
Jeff Saylor (2016)
Stan Steidel (2015)
Henry Webb (2016)
David Weedman (2014)
Kentucky’s elementary, middle and high schools have enjoyed archery competition for nearly a decade. Beginning with the 2012-2013 school year the chance to compete for a KHSAA state championship will become reality.

The KHSAA will add archery as a varsity sport-activity starting this year, Commissioner Julian Tackett announced in a Thursday morning press conference. Archery joins competitive cheer and bass fishing, which are holding their first KHSAA-sanctioned state championships in late January and April, respectively, as the newest sport-activities offered by the Association along with bowling that had its first KHSAA championship in 2012. Kentucky becomes one of the first states nationally to offer archery as a varsity sport-activity. The regional and state competitions will take place in late February and early March.

“We are thrilled to be able to add archery to our growing list of sport-activities,” said Tackett. “It’s another activity that seems like a perfect fit as it adds a group of students who may not already participate in an extracurricular activity representing their school and it gives them a chance to compete and become a part of a team. Kentucky’s rich outdoor heritage certainly helps but the work done by Roy Grimes, President of the National Archery in the Schools Program®, and his team of experts in helping the sport reach a wider audience has been phenomenal. Students who have participated have a lifelong love for archery.”

The NASP program, launched by the Kentucky Department of Fish and Wildlife Resources in 2002, quickly gained widespread popularity. Kentucky ranks No. 1 among 47 NASP states in both number of participating schools and students.

“Expansion of NASP® will accelerate as students of all shapes, sizes, backgrounds and genders enjoy success in archery,” said Ches Riddle, President of the Kentucky NASP® Foundation.

The first KHSAA sanctioned state championship for archery will be held in Louisville at the Kentucky International Convention Center in conjunction with the KYNASP tournament on March 18-19, 2013. The venue has already played host to numerous high school and middle school competitions, including last year’s state NASP® state competition, which attracted more than 3,000 competitors. Overall more than 10,000 students statewide participated in school sponsored club teams last year at the elementary, middle and high school levels.

“The NASP® has been wildly successful from the day it started back in 2002,” said Jon Gassett, Commissioner of the Kentucky Department of Fish and Wildlife Resources. “To see what the championship has grown into is very satisfying and I’m sure it will only continue to grow with the help and sanctioning of the KHSAA. At the same time it has served an important strategic purpose for us. The numbers have shown that students who have participated in archery develop a deep appreciation for the sport as well as the large number of other shooting sports the Kentucky Department of Fish and Wildlife Resources supports. These students are the lifeblood and the future of our effective fish and game management efforts in the Commonwealth.”

Since the formation of the NASP® a decade ago, Kentucky’s educational leaders have noticed the strong bond forged between archery and classroom success.

“The My favorite thought as an educator is that NASP® involves students that sometimes do not get involved with their school. Student achievement data from multiple sources proves that students that are connected to their schools perform better academically,” said Tommy Floyd, Superintendent of Madison County Schools. “While they are connected to NASP®, they also form relationships with the NASP® coaches/teachers and receive multiple opportunities to develop 21st century skills that will make them even more successful in their transition to adulthood.”

More information about the National Archery in the Schools Program® may be found at www.archeryintheschools.org
Girls sports lead participation numbers to all-time high

INDIANAPOLIS — Boosted by continued growth in several girls sports, participation in high school sports increased for the 23rd consecutive year in 2011-12, according to the annual High School Athletics Participation Survey conducted by the National Federation of State High School Associations (NFHS).

Based on figures from the 51 NFHS-member state high school athletic/activity associations, which includes the District of Columbia, sports participation for the 2011-12 school year reached an all-time high of 7,692,520 participants — an increase of 24,565 from the previous year.

“In this time of ever-increasing financial challenges in our nation’s high schools, we are greatly encouraged to know that participation in high school sports continues to rise,” said Bob Gardner, NFHS executive director. “With more than 55 percent of students enrolled in high schools participating in athletics, the value of these programs in an education-based setting continues to be significant.”

An additional 33,984 girls participated in high school sports last year, making the all-time record total 3,207,533. This also marks the 23rd consecutive year for an increase in the number of female participants. Outdoor track and field (468,747), basketball (435,885) and volleyball (418,903) continued to be the top three participatory sports for girls, with volleyball up 9,571 participants from 2010-11.

Soccer (370,975) surpassed fast-pitch softball (367,023) as the fourth most-popular girls sport, up 9,419 from last year, while cross country (212,262), tennis (180,870), swimming and diving (160,456), competitive spirit squads (108,307) and lacrosse (74,993) completed the top 10. Along with soccer and volleyball, cross country, competitive spirit squads and lacrosse all had increased participation from 2010-11.

While girls participation continued to climb, boys participation figures dipped for the first time since the 1992-93 school year, down 9,419 from last year’s number of 4,494,406 to 4,484,987. Seven of the top 10 boys sports registered drops in participation, with 11-player football (1,095,993), outdoor track and field (575,628), basketball (535,289), wrestling (272,149), tennis (159,800), golf (152,725) and swimming and diving (133,823) all down from last year. Baseball (474,219), soccer (411,757) and cross country (248,494) all had increases from the previous year, with soccer registering the largest increase of 13,406.

Lacrosse, which ranks No. 11 in participation among boys sports, topped the 100,000 mark (100,641) with about 5,000 additional participants. Wrestling continued its rise in popularity among girls, with almost 1,000 additional participants up to 8,235.

Participants by state stayed true to last year’s order, as Texas and California once again topped the list with 808,806 and 781,912, respectively, followed by New York (389,475), Illinois (346,896), Ohio (333,349), Pennsylvania (317,869), Michigan (308,080), New Jersey (259,219), Florida (257,282) and Minnesota (238,363). Twenty states registered increases in participation in 2011-12.

The participation survey has been compiled since 1971 by the NFHS through numbers it receives from its member associations. The complete 2011-12 High School Athletics Participation Survey is available on the NFHS Web site at www.nfhs.org.

In Memoriam

Smith beloved as Wildcat, made lifelong mark as Cardinal

It isn’t often in the basketball crazed state of Kentucky that the words Wildcat and Cardinal can coexist in the same sentence, much less claim the same man as their legend.

G.J. Smith managed to do both, becoming a beloved member of the Super Kittens at the University of Kentucky that reached the NCAA championship game in 1975 and later made a lifelong mark as a Cardinal, first at Laurel County and later at South Laurel as a coach and athletic director.

Smith died unexpectedly from a heart attack on Aug. 18. He was 59 years old.

Smith first rose to stardom in Laurel County as a member of the Hazel Green High Bullfrogs, where he was a second generation star. His father, Charles, helped lead the school to the state championship in 1940. Smith led Hazel Green to the 1970 Sweet Sixteen® where it advanced to the quarterfinals. Smith finished his playing career at the new Laurel County High School once all the county schools consolidated before his senior season in 1970 and led the Cardinals to the 1971 12th Region title.

His play attracted the attention of Adolph Rupp and he joined one of the school’s most anticipated recruiting classes, which featured Kevin Grevey, Jimmy Dan Conner, Mike Flynn, Jerry Hale, Bob Guyette and Steve Lochmueller.

After finishing 13-13 as juniors the team advanced to the 1975 NCAA championship game before falling to UCLA. Smith played in 49 games and averaged 3.3 points per contest. Smith also had the unique distinction of playing in the final games for both Rupp and John Wooden.

As it turned out Smith’s heart was in coaching and what better place to do it than his hometown? Smith returned to Laurel County where he spent his entire career as a teacher, coach and athletic director until his retirement in 2008. Smith made his mark on the diamond as his teams at Laurel County and South Laurel compiled a 696-232 record in 28 seasons with seven regional championships. He was elected into the first class of the Kentucky Baseball Coaches Association Hall of Fame in 1997.

Smith served 18 years as athletic director at Laurel County and South Laurel.

“During all the years he spent teaching, coaching and directing athletics, he always made his students the first priority,” detailed Raymond Reed, Smith’s coach at Hazel Green and Laurel County in a letter to the KHSAA. “Coach Smith demonstrated the highest level of professional commitment and competency in his work with students and colleagues. G.J. never failed to rise above and beyond the call of duty.”

Smith is survived by his wife Judy and sons Cameron and Trey.
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