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# What's the score? In Ludlow, ask Ben Clary

BY RICHARD SKINNER • ENQUIRER CONTRIBUTOR • MARCH 28, 2010

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When the next high school basketball season gets under way, a fixture at the scorer's table at Ludlow games won't be in his usual place.

That's because on Feb. 17, timer and scoreboard operator Ben Clary opted to step away after 50 years on the "job."

To Clary, however, it wasn't a job, it was something he did out of his love for sports and especially for Ludlow.

Clary, 73, retired years ago from his real job as operations director for a brokerage firm and he's still a ticket taker at Great American Ball Park, Paul Brown Stadium, US Bank Arena, Cincinnati Gardens, Cintas Center, Nippert Stadium, Aronoff Center, Music Hall and Taft Theater.

Until a few years ago, he also served as the clock operator at Northern Kentucky University games.

He always made sure, though, that he kept certain nights open to help out at his beloved Ludlow, where he graduated high school in 1955 and has lived nearly his entire life.

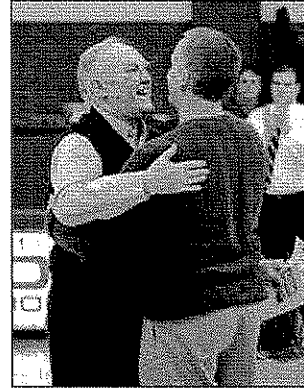
"Obviously, he just has a tremendous love for high school sports and in particular for Ludlow and just a real love of the community," said Ludlow Principal Joe Beard, who was formerly the boys' basketball coach at the school.

"Generation after generation of people have come through here, and he's known every one of them and he's just a beloved guy. I've been here for 16 years, never heard a bad word about him. Not one."

Clary was admittedly too skinny to play sports in high school. He weighed 115 pounds when he graduated.

But soon after getting out of the Air Force in 1960, then-boys' basketball coach Carl Wenderoth asked him if he would keep the team's scorebook and help coach grade-school teams.

He eventually went on to run the clock and scoreboard and did the same at Ludlow football games for years until turning that duty over to sons Mike and Mark several years ago.



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Jim Osborn for The Enquirer  
**Benny Clary gets a hug from referee Tim O'Hara as Ludlow High School honors him at halftime in his final game as clock keeper.**

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Wednesday, February 17, 2010

# Boy/Girl Basketball Doubleheader To Be Broadcast From Ludlow Tonight

Contributed By: [Matt Buttelwerth](#) | [Tri State Internet Sports Radio](#)



Tri State Internet Sports Radio will broadcast tonight's Northern Kentucky High School Boys & Girls Basketball game doubleheader at Ludlow.

The first game will be the Boys Division III matchup with the Dayton Greendevils taking on the Panthers on Ludlow's Boys Senior Night.

The Nightcap is a makeup game from last week as the Silver Grove Lady Trains come in to take on Coach Stamm & the Lady Panthers.

Tonight's games also mark a very special occasion for longtime Ludlow supporter, Benny Clary, whose 50 years of service to the Ludlow programs will be recognized.

We'll kick off the night with the Window World of the Queen City Pregame Show at 5:30 with Tipoff at 6:00 for the Boys game. Join Matt Buttelwerth & Aaron Turner & "The Coach" Aaron Stamm for all of the action tonight.

The game can be heard online at [www.tristateinternetsportsradio.com](http://www.tristateinternetsportsradio.com). We will also be shooting video of the games. That along with our game broadcast audio and pictures will be available on the girls basketball page at [www.tristateinternetsportsradio.com](http://www.tristateinternetsportsradio.com) on Thursday.

We will also take your e-mail during the night's game. The e-mail address is [gameday@tristateinternetsports.com](mailto:gameday@tristateinternetsports.com).

Tri State Internet Sports is celebrating 5 years of broadcasting North Central & Northern Kentucky High School Sports.

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# Tri State Internet Sports & The Northern Kentucky High School Sports Report

The BROADCAST Home of North Central and Northern Kentucky High School Sports



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Saturday, March 27, 2010

## Northern Kentucky Boys Basketball Player Awards

Here are the NKY Boys Basketball Awards that were handed out a couple of weeks ago. Story from Ryan Ernst - nky.com

The Northern Kentucky Boys' Basketball Coaches Association on Sunday honored Holmes senior guard Ricardo Johnson with its player of the year award. Johnson, an Ohio University recruit, won the award last year as well.

Coach of the year awards went to Rick Shumate, Beechwood; Tom Dilts, Dayton; Aric Russell, Newport; David Henley, Holmes and Alan Mullins, Ryle.

Players of the year by division were

Blake Bryan, Villa Madonna (Division III);  
Grant Pangallo, Newport Central Catholic (Division II)  
Ricardo Johnson, Holmes (Division I).

The group inducted former coaches Stan Steidel (Dayton) and Mike Swauger (Bellevue) into its Court of Distinction. It also honored long-time Ludlow scorer Benny Clary and ICN-6 sports anchor Don Weber.

Other all-star awards were:

DIVISION I: Ricardo Johnson, Elijah Pittman, Jeremiah Johnson, Holmes; Mikey Gabbard, Boone County; Jake Thelen, Covington Catholic; Kellen Smith, Jake Niederegger, Scott; Mitch McLeish, Bobby Stauffer, Ryle; Tim Lang, Conner; Brady Jolly, Campbell County; Casey Sorrell, Simon Kenton

Defensive player of the year: Elijah Pittman, Holmes  
Dave Cowens Mr. Hustle award: Greg Geiman, Campbell County  
Academic award: Erich Sinclair, Campbell County



DIVISION II: Grant Pangallo, Jake Giesler, Newport Central Catholic; Jacob Reiger,

Bishop Brossart; Damarkco Foster, Casey McDaniel, Newport; Stephen Kowolonek, Highlands; Ben Bessler, Ryan Anderson, St. Henry; Donnie Cheatum, Lloyd; Jake Burger, Holy Cross

Defensive player of the year: Jordan Armstrong, Bishop Brossart  
Dave Cowens Mr. Hustle award: Cody Collins, Newport  
Academic award: Louie Tobertke, St. Henry

DIVISION III: Blake Bryan, Villa Madonna; Jonny Pohigeers, Tyler Fangman, Beechwood; Chase Vander Meer, Pierce Kohls, Calvary Christian; Cody Turner, Shawn Eastin, Dayton; Ryan Vogel, Silver Grove; Alex Hall, Ludlow; David Schuh, Villa Madonna

Defensive player of the year: Jesse Simmons, Dayton  
Dave Cowens Mr. Hustle award: Cody Turner, Dayton  
Academic award: Sam Thompson, Calvary Christian

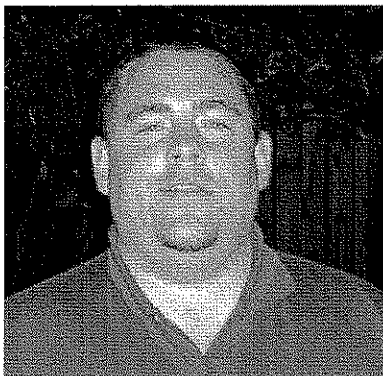
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To the committee,

I am recommending my dad to the KHSAA hall of fame because he has retired from keeping the clock or book at Ludlow High School for 50 years [1960-2010]. My dad was selected also to keep the book or clock at district and regional basketball games for the past 25 years. He also volunteer his time for over 20 years coaching youth athletics at Ludlow. My dad has put his time in and has dedicated his services for the past 50 years and if there someone deserving to be in KHSAA hall of fame my dad does as well as anybody that goes above and beyond because of there dedication. I like to thank you for reading this and hopefully we will be hearing from you soon.

Thank You,  
Mike Clary[son]

*Mike Clary* 8/18/10

To the Committee;

My dad has given 45 years to Ludlow High School, he has given up alot of side job's making more money to do what he loves the best and that is keeping the clock and being around coaches, players and officials.

I don't think you will find anyone like him that takes his job seriously. He is so dedicated to the high school. You can ask any high school coach or official, and they will tell you there is no one better than Benny Clary. If there is a spot for someone like my dad in your Hall of Fame for keeping the clock, then know one deserves it more than him.

Thank you,

*Mr Mike Clary*  
Mike Clary