

Schnellenberger's ire down as U of L players fired up

By RUSS BROWN
Staff Writer

It didn't take long for the University of Louisville football team to show it meant business during yesterday's scrimmage.

On the first play, linebacker Chris Sellars and offensive guard Mike McKinney engaged in a little extracurricular fisticuffs.

Not long afterward, McKinney and nose guard Phillip Green scuffled briefly.

No big deal. Just part of a spirited practice.

"That just comes from being fired up," Sellars said.

McKinney was able to laugh about it later. "It's nothing we hold against each other," he said. "Those things happen on the field and they stay on the field. You get kind of fired up and things happen you don't mean."

After tempers flared early, the Cardinals settled down and, for the most part anyway, gave coach Howard Schnellenberger the kind of practice he was looking for.

It was Final Scrimmage, Part II. Schnellenberger decided Part I Wednesday was a failure, which was what necessitated yesterday's exhausting 3½-hour workout.

And if yesterday's scrimmage still wasn't exactly what Schnellenberger wanted, it was close enough that the Cards will now move on to preparations for Tulane, their opening opponent Sept. 5 in Cardinal Stadium.

Unquestionably, Schnellenberger was in a better mood than he was after Wednesday's scrimmage. His disposition doesn't get much worse than it was then, according to defensive tackle Chris Thieneman.

"The last time I saw him that mad was in his first spring, 1985," Thieneman said. "I was injured and on the sidelines watching

all my buddies run about thirty 100-yard sprints, then a couple of gassers after that. There weren't too many smiles on his face that spring, but we try to forget about that."

In contrast to Wednesday's 51-22 "win" by the offense, the defense prevailed yesterday 41-33 as free safety Clayton Patton intercepted two passes.

"The defense just let the offense run through them Wednesday," Schnellenberger said. "The whole day Wednesday I heard one loud hit. Today I could hear some leather popping.

"It wasn't a thing of beauty, but it was better. There was a lot more effort by a lot more people. I'd loved for it to have been a bloodbath out there where both teams really got after it. They did that to a point, but it wasn't what I was hoping for. But time waits for no one, so we've got to get honed in on Tulane."

Sellars and Thieneman said the players needed the extra scrimmage and long practice, even though they weren't happy about it.

"Sometimes it's hard to get yourself up, hitting the same people over and over," Sellars said. "Today it was very important to get up, hit hard and play the best we could. It was hard, but it was something we needed to do."

Despite the improved performance by the defense, quarterback Jay Gruden had another good day, though he wasn't quite as sharp as Wednesday when he completed 24 of 30 passes, including eight in a row. Yesterday he connected on 22 of 41 for 313 yards and threw a 19-yard touchdown pass to wide receiver Joey Hamilton.

Third-string halfback Lattrell Ware, a freshman, was the leading rusher with 61 yards on 21 carries and scored on a one-yard run.

■ Schnellenberger said junior tackle Da-

See GRUDEN
PAGE 6, col. 1, this section

U of L unveils its 1987-88 basketball schedule. Page D 6

Chris Thieneman interview on Schnellenberger 8 28 1987 pg 1 of 2

