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Estill Band named Grand champions



The Marching Engineers with their Grand Champion Trophy on Saturday

The Estill County Marching Engineers have been named Grand Champions in competition for the first time in the school's history.

The Marching Engineers got off to a fantastic start in their first competition, in Bourbon County, with a second place in division and won "Best Visual" caption and a pit crew award.

They traveled to Montgomery County on September 13th and outscored four other bands in their class to take first place in their division. In finals, they placed third overall, only behind

Madison Central and last year's 3A champs, Bourbon County.

Estill's score improved almost 10 points from the first week. "I have never had a group improve this much over the course of a week," remarked band director Jason Bowles.

Then, this past Saturday, the Estill County Marching Engineers traveled to Mason County for their third regular season competition.

It was "less than a stellar preliminary performance," according to Bowles, but Estill still managed to win (for the second straight week), first place in their class.

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This year's ECHS Homecoming Queen is Whitney Innis. 1st runner-up Courtney was Plowman, and 2nd runner-up Odessa Taylor. Photo by Cathy Dawes

Moped operator is charged with drunk driving

A West Irvine resident has been charged with driving a moped under the influence of alcohol.

Deputy Randy Farthing reported that someone was involved in a wreck at 250 Garrett Street in West Irvine around 11:35 p.m. on Saturday, Sept. 20. The driver on the moped left the scene.

The report states the moped struck a parked truck.

Farthing said he located the moped and its driver about a half mile down the road.

He said the driver smelled of alcoholic beverages and was unsteady on his feet. Farthing said the moped driver blew .211, over twice the legal limit, on a breathalyzer.

He took the driver to Marcum & Wallace Hospital for a blood draw before placing him in the Estill County Detention Center.

The moped operator was identified as James Neal, 27, of Bond Street. Farthing also charged Neal with leaving the scene of an accident.

Railroad Festival Queen



Jessarae Stone, daughter of Jesse and Shonna Stone, was crowned 2014 Queen of Ravenna Railroad Festival on Friday evening. She led the parade to open the festival on Saturday. Photographs of other pageant participants will be in next week's Tribune.

Firefighters upset over pay by city

by DELORES ROWLAND

The Estill County Tribune

Paid firefighters addressed the Irvine Council Monday about a proposed pay scale for new-hires.

"We give and give, and we get nothing in return," said Captain Tim Riddell, part-time firefighter for the Irvine Fire Department.

Riddell said the firemen washed the streets before the Mushroom Festival and put up Christmas decorations, in addition to their firemen's

duties.

He reminded the council that Irvine's fire department dropped to an ISO rating of 3 on Sept. 1.

"You're starting out somebody more on the street department than on the fire department," Riddell told the council.

He added the firemen must get hours of training at their own expenses and meet many other qualifications to become a firefighter.

Riddell said he has only gotten one 25 cent an hour raise in 14 years.

Mayor Ernest Farmer added that Riddell will be getting a 50 cent an hour raise. He also said that when he became mayor, the city started paying for the uniforms for firefighters.

He said the higher rate for street and sanitation workers was for CDL drivers.

He added the city had a lot of volunteer firefighters who were never paid anything.

Safety Officer Chad Neal made a remark about how city firemen were treated.

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Tim Riddell

School board denies requests for audit

by TRACY R. PATRICK The Estill County Tribune

It was business as usual on Thursday night at the regular meeting of the Estill County Board of Education except for the continuation of prior requests by board member Jon Bicknell and former Irvine mayor Leon Roberts to have the system's finances audited.

Early in the meeting Bicknell was given time to include his request and he asked that the state auditor Adam Edelin be called to audit the finances of the Estill County System as had been done recently in Fayette County.

After some discussion, board chair Patty Hood told him that they needed at least three members to vote to request that; and then she asked if any members wished to second Bicknell's motion. None did.

Superintendent Bert Hensley told all attending that if anyone had questions about the Board's finances that he would provide a telephone number for them to contact the Board's auditor.

Later in the meeting, Roberts was also given time to address the Board

and he asked about a certified letter he had sent the Board on September 4th. Board attorney Jerry Gilbert was in attendance and replied that he received the letter and responded on the 8th.

Roberts told that Board that 80% of the people don't trust the Board. He was asked who those 80% were. Boardmember Amy Thomas said they were elected to do their job; to which Roberts replied that what had happened was between the time they were elected and now.

Thomas told Roberts that "we pay every year for an audit," to which Roberts replied that it was illegal to use the same auditor for three years. Thomas replied, "That is not true!" He was also told that the State approves the local board's audit.

Bicknell had objections, also, to board members lingering in the Board room after the meeting was adjourned and made some statement as he was leaving the room following adjournment.

A report on ACT results for Estill County juniors showed continued improvement with local students com-

paring favorably to statewide results in some areas.

Local students averaged 19.5 in mathematics compared to 19.2 statewide. Fifty-two per cent of Estill students met benchmarks in English (56% statewide) while 32% met benchmarks in math (29% statewide).

Results were less than statewide in reading and science with only 11 per cent of local students meeting benchmarks in all four areas (17% in state).

The board approved a request for Kentucky Chautauqua speakers to appear in five events (twice at Estill Middle and three events at Estill High).

Jim Sayre will portray Abraham Lincoln in two performances at Estill County Middle School (October 1st).

Estill High School performances will include L. Henry Dowell as Colonel Sanders on November 10th, Robert Brock as Mark Twain on November 18th, and Dr. Edward Smith as Adolph Rupp on December 12th.

These events are made possible by Citizens Guaranty Bank and Toyota Motor Manufacturing.

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Obituaries: Janie Halcomb, 58; Kathy McCarty, 50; William T. Orme, 86; Juanita Calmes, 88; Gary Tipton, 66; Sadie Shepherd, 93. See Page 6