

Estill 4-H Members Do Well In Robotics, Speech and Communication Contests

Estill County 4-H participated in Speech and Communications Contests and hosted a Robotics Contest on Saturday, April 18th at West Irvine Intermediate School. The Contest had 23 teams there, of those 23 Estill County had six teams. Estill 4-H had teams that placed 1,4,5,7. Photos for the Robotics Contest are on Page 15.

Here are the results of the Estill County 4-H Communications Contest. Demonstration Champions are awarded by category and Speech Champions are awarded by age. Those that received a Champion ribbon will go on to compete at the District Communications Contest in Bourbon County, Thursday April 30th.

Demonstrations Results

Kirston Kelley/Kaylee McIntosh, Blue; Kassidy Clowers/Henlee Hunter, Blue; Macy Reed/ Mia Hale, Blue; Kristin Caudill, Blue; Mark Baisden, Blue/Champion; Luke Fletcher, Blue/ Champion; Sage Bainter, Blue/ Champion; Casey Howell, Blue/ Champion; Addison Beard/ Alyssa Clark, Blue; Gabe Hall/ Landon Napier, Blue; Riley Baker/ Mia Lynch, Red; Malorie York/ Ana Gonzales, Blue; Dakota Owens, Blue/ Champion; Hayden McIntosh, Blue/Champion; Cameron Townsend Blue; Aiden Owens, White; Riley Watkins, Blue/Champion; Gabriel Merritt, Red; Marlowe Hardy/Jaycee Hail, Blue; Mariah Riddell/Katy Johnson, Red;

Chesney Tipton/ Haley Harris, Blue/ Champion; Gavin Holloway, Red.

Speech results

Malea Abney, Red; Peyton Maybrier, Blue/Champion; Kiely Flynn, Blue/Champion; Ethan Dixon, White; Aimee Powell, Red; Gary Grace, Red; Ethan Lynch, Blue/ Champion; Evy Brandenburg, Blue; Aiden Childers, Red; Libby Tipton, Blue/Champion; Lauren Mullins, Blue; Hunter Walters, Blue/Champion; Tyler Sutton, Blue; Kendall Whitt, Blue/Champion; Sara Epperson, Red.



Estill 4-H members Andrew Samples and Colby Lynch prepare for the Robotics Competition held Saturday at West Irvine.

Estill Students Receive Regional Class Awards

Thirty-two regional winners have been selected as part of the 2015 Forcht Bank/KHSAA CLASS Awards Recognition Program and both the girl and boy selections from the 14th Region are from Estill County.

Estill County High School seniors Bethany Hall and Brandon McKinney were named among the 32 regional winners that will each receive a \$350 scholarship, an award from Forcht Bank and the KHSAA, and an invitation to the Awards Banquet on Sunday, April 26.

One male and one female from the pool of regional honorees will be selected as the statewide winner at the

Awards Banquet, with each individual receiving a \$3,000 scholarship.

Bethany Hall was a varsity basketball and is currently a fast pitch softball player. She was selected to the 56th District All Tournament Team. Bethany is a member of the Leadership Council, the UK Rising Scholars, is Beta Club president, FCCLA, and the National Society of High School Scholars. She hopes to attend college and earn a Master's Degree in education.

Brandon McKinney played football and is a current player on the Estill County Engineers baseball team. He was named to the 56th District All

Tournament Team in 2013. McKinney is a member of the Beta Club, FBLA, FCCLA and the Leadership Club. He assists Helping Hands and the Community Backpack ministries. Brandon plans to attend college and focus on studies related to sports medicine and advance training while continuing his baseball career on the collegiate level.

Their photos are on Page 15.

The Forcht Bank/KHSAA CLASS Awards Recognition Program (Citizenship, Leadership, Athletics, Sportsmanship, Scholarship) honors deserving senior student-athletes across the state. This is the 19th year the KHSAA has recognized student-athletes

through a scholarship program, which is open to all seniors that have participated in sports and/or sport-activities (competitive cheerleading, bowling, archery and bass fishing).

One male and one female are recognized from each school, with the local school honorees narrowed down to 32 regional winners, one male and one female from each of the 16 regions. To qualify for consideration in the program, a student must have a minimum cumulative GPA of 2.5, verification of no game disqualifications for unsportsmanlike conduct, and be involved in leadership roles within the community.

Wanderings from the Woods & Water

by Jay Bicknell

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The Turkinator

It was opening morning of turkey season and everybody was up well before daylight. It was time to go after those spring gobblers. Jordan Covey was hunting with me, opening morning. I dropped him off at the farm he was going to hunt. I went down the road to another farm.

It was pretty early when I got the text from Jordan "I GOT ONE!" I was excited for him and wanted to see the picture of the beast. The next text was that the gobbler was hurt real bad and Jordan was watching him die! I texted don't let him get up, shoot him again. Jordan's reply was I only brought three shells, and they are gone!

A little later, I got a text that Jordan had lost the turkey and he texted me the following story. As soon as I read "The Turkinator" I knew it had to go in my column. My co-writer this week is Jordan Covey who will from this point on carry three boxes of shells!

The Turkinator by Jordan Covey

It was unusually foggy as I slipped across ridges on the opening morning of spring Turkey season. I had no idea what that morning held in store for me, but how could I? I was young and foolish at just 21 years old. But on that morning I would face the most dangerous gobbler East of the Mississippi, some say in the entire country.

Just as daylight broke I heard a thunderous gobble, one ridge over from where I sat, so I grabbed my trusty old smooth bore and headed in that direction. As I approached, cattle shuffled out of the way, not sure what this camouflage creature before them could be; just then, through the dense fog I saw him.

He was full strut with his fan facing me about 50 yards in front of me and I could just make out his outline. I dropped to my knees and called to him, but this gobbler was no fool, he knew the hens would come to him and all he had to do was put on a show.

I decided to put the moves on him and began to crawl on my knees closer and closer; every time he turned his back to me. Finally I was within 30 yards of the behemoth longbeard and sat patiently

on my knees, gun up, waiting for him to turn and expose his white head to me.

After what seemed like an eternity he gave me shot and I loosed 2 ounces of #5 shot directly at his cranium.

The beast flopped and I naively thought this hunt was over. As I lowered my gun he bounced back to his feet and I let him have another shot, once again he hit the dirt hard. Then, much to my surprise, he rose to his feet yet again and began to fly just as my third, and final, shot returned him to the ground. These three shots would surely have killed any ordinary turkey. But not the Turkinator.

Now being out of shells I could only watch as the beast returned to his feet yet again, and though obviously severely wounded, flew over into the holler and splashed hard in the creek.

I rushed to where he fell and lo and behold there lay my prize right before me. I foolishly believed that he was moments from death as I watched him take labored breaths from a mere 5 feet away.

Just as I thought he was about to give up the fight this monstrous bird raised his head and looked me square in the eye. Then before I had time to act he rose from the creek bed, flapped his mighty wings and flew up in front of my very face, his giant talons snatched the gun from my hand before he dropped it to the ground and took off threw the thick woods, never to be seen again.

I learned a valuable lesson that day; sometimes, three shells isn't nearly enough.

Until next week, get out and enjoy God's creation!



50 Shades of Red-Wing
The other day about 50 hungry red-wing blackbirds came to chow down on some white proso millet I tossed on the ground. It was a quite a sight when they all took flight at once, exposing their bright red patches. It was stunning, to say the least.

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Bob Watkins' Sports In Kentucky

State's prep winners head elsewhere; For UK, media & fans were clutter, says Barnhart



Bob Watkins

Tale of two winners. Both leaving our old Kentucky home

Mr. Football Elijah Sindelar, Caldwell County quarterback, off to West Lafayette and Purdue.

Mr. Basketball Camron Justice, Knott County Central shooting, guard headed to Nashville and Vanderbilt.

ELIJAH SINDELAR

Q&A session with an internet reporter recently, Elijah Sindelar offered straight talk.

√ Why did he choose Purdue?

"Engineering department was the biggest deciding factor," Sindelar said. "I based my decision where education came first, not just football.

√ How would Sindelar describe his style to a fan who hasn't heard much him?

"Perfection," he said. "I'm an athlete (who) gets mad when I throw a pass and it misses what I was aiming at by inches. I like everything to be perfect. My drop, my footwork, my throw, everything. I like to be in command of the offense, facilitating the ball. I don't like having one favorite receiver, I like to use the whole field to pick defenses apart."

√ Goal after four years?
"To have led Purdue back to the Rose Bowl, to limit my interceptions to less than seven per season, having a completion per-

centage of 65 percent or higher, and hopefully entering the NFL Draft."

Stay tuned.

CAMRON JUSTICE

Prize for Vanderbilt basketball and vice-versa ... down the road.

Camron Justice, a sturdy 6-3 shooting guard previously headed to Tennessee (until he snapped out of it), can be model for watch-grow-succeed.

Vandy's glory days are forever tied to good-shootin' Kentuckians migrants. Al Rochelle (Guthrie) and Babe Taylor (Frankfort) in 1950s, Barry Goheen (Calvert City) 1970s, Brett Burrow (Radcliff) 1980s, and the last Kentucky Mr. Basketball to go south and succeed, Phil Cox, Cawood in 1981.

Role for Justice?

Emphasis on no-give-in-to-home sickness, embrace supreme education, maintain "plays hard all the time" reputation, and patience.

Role early? Presuming no red shirt, Justice can push sophomores Wade Baldwin IV, Riley LaChance and Matthew Fisher-Davis. Nolan Cressler, transfer from Cornell (averaged 16.8 points), will sit out a year. Nathan Watkins will be a senior and Shelton Mitchell transferred to Clemson.

UK's BARNHART & CLUTTER

After Kentucky's loss to Wisconsin, UK director of athletics Mitch Barnhart posted an open letter on the 38-1 season. Following are a few points (his), and a few observations (mine).

Barnhart: "... was an incredible group of young men."

Yes. From poise and focus-on-goal and sportsmanship, the Wildcats skipped macho and preen and played extraordinarily well ... together. Off court, from Bahamas' trip to end, only red flag incident I can

recall, Andrew Harrison's ugly remarks about college player of the year Frank Kaminsky.

Barnhart: "The spotlight is always bright here."

Yes, and Kentucky fans love it. Ashley Judd does too.

Barnhart: Team was "... dissected and analyzed from every possible angle, with experts breaking down how (it) could be beaten and wondering whether (it) would be able to stay together."

Yes. Dissected and analyzed from every angle! By experts-on-UK across the Commonwealth. We call them assistant coaches, to whom talking heads Seth Greenberg, Charles Barkley, Jay Bilas et al, can't hold a candle.

Footnote: Also part of Big Blue Tradition: Dissect-and-analyze for next season started two minutes before Badgers' coach Bo Ryan called his last time out.

Barnhart: "(UK player) fielded question after question in facing an unprecedented media blitz, never saying a word to start even the smallest controversy."

Unprecedented? Disingenuous, cynical and appeals to the worst in us, UK's AD alleging media queries are intended to stir controversy. All NCAA tourney teams attract extraordinary attention in March. Certainly an unbeaten, top ranked and top seeded one.

Barnhart: "The clutter was everywhere but they (players and coaches) tuned it out"

Clutter? A choice of words to make transparent Barnhart's arrogance, ignoring that consumer dollars are why CBS pays billions for the tournament; media reporting that helps make it The Big Dance. Also, not mentioned: It balloon's Barnhart's budgetary largess. Clutter indeed.

Portion of Barnhart's open letter with which UK fans

can sorely identify:

"... the end came before I could even process it. One moment we were up four, the next Wisconsin was celebrating. Everything our players had worked for all season was over in a blink. The emotions were overwhelming for me."

"I refuse to let a single bad night take away from everything this team accomplished both on and off the floor this season. These players have given a great deal not only to the fans that followed them. ... I believe history will reflect that."

NAME DEPT.

Under heading: *Okay, kid, with a moniker like this, you'd better be good!*

√ Phabian Glasco committed to Western Kentucky's coach Ray Harper last week.

A 6-7 forward from Tulsa, Glasco joins Marlon Hunter, 6-2 from Memphis, Tenn., Chris McNeal, 5-11, Jackson, Tenn.) and Fredrick Edmond 6-3, Lansing, Mich.

Glasco averaged 12.5 points and 10.6 rebounds as a sophomore at Connors State (Okla.) College helping his team to a 32-2 record and a 17-0 conference mark. He shot 63.5 percent from the field.

√ And, Skyler Hunter, 6-7 forward helped Calloway County High to a 30-4 record is headed to Bellarmine U.

BALONEY DEPT.

ESPN talking head Stephen A. Smith told viewers recently, if Kentucky had not advanced to the 2014 NCAA Tournament title game (against UConn), the Wildcats' coach would have been fired.

Utter nonsense from a talking head who's first priority has always been and is bringing attention to himself.

And so it goes. You can reach me at Watkins24@aol.com.