

Engineers get easy win over Powell Pirates, 65-34

The Estill County Engineers picked up a 65-34 win over district rival Powell Pirates on Friday night in a double-header with the girls' teams.

Most expected the game to be a close fought one despite the Pirates having only won three games and having lost seven.

But the only Pirate lead of the contest was when they scored the opening basket to lead 2-0.

Estill went up 3-2, 5-2, 7-2, 9-2 but the Pirates managed to scrap back into the game and tied Estill 9-9 with a minute to go in the quarter.

The Engineers showed a lot of patience against Powell and it paid off in the second quarter as junior Cobbe Click and sophomore Landon Napier got some key baskets that pushed Estill out by 11, 24-13 after two straight baskets by Napier.

From that point on, Estill controlled the game and doubled the Pirates many times even until the final seconds before winning 65-34.

Senior Joe Benton is always one of the stars of the game for Estill but when his brother, freshman Kaden Benton put in a three in the final seconds, the Engineers fans came alive.

Scoring is not available for the Powell County game, but Joe Benton

leads the Engineers for the season with 17 per game, followed by Napier with 15, junior Dyllon Long with 10, and juniors Click and Will Isfort with 6 each. Joe is also the top rebounder with 8 followed by Long with 6.

Complete stats are as follows: Joe Benton: 17 ppg, 8 rpg, 6 assists pg, 2 blocks pg, 2 steals pg; Landon Napier: 15 ppg, 2 rpg; Will Isfort: 6 ppg, 2 rpg, 1 assist pg, 1 steal pg; Cobbe Click: 6ppg, 4 rpg, 2 assists pg, 2 steals pg; Dyllon Long: 10 ppg, 6 rpg; Ethan Webb: 2 ppg, 2 rpg; Dustin Beeler: 3 ppg, 3 rpg.

The 2019-20 Engineers have the best start in recent years with their 10-4 record, including the 2017-18 state tournament team which had lost six by this time of the season. They went 16-6 before they lost their 7th game.

Estill is away this coming Friday night, January 10th at Woodford County before returning home on Tuesday to face Southwestern.

The Engineers are 2-0 in the district after the overtime win over Owsley and Friday's win over the Pirates to lead the 56th district. Those two teams are 1-1 in the district with the Lee County Bobcats falling in 4th with an 0-2 district record.

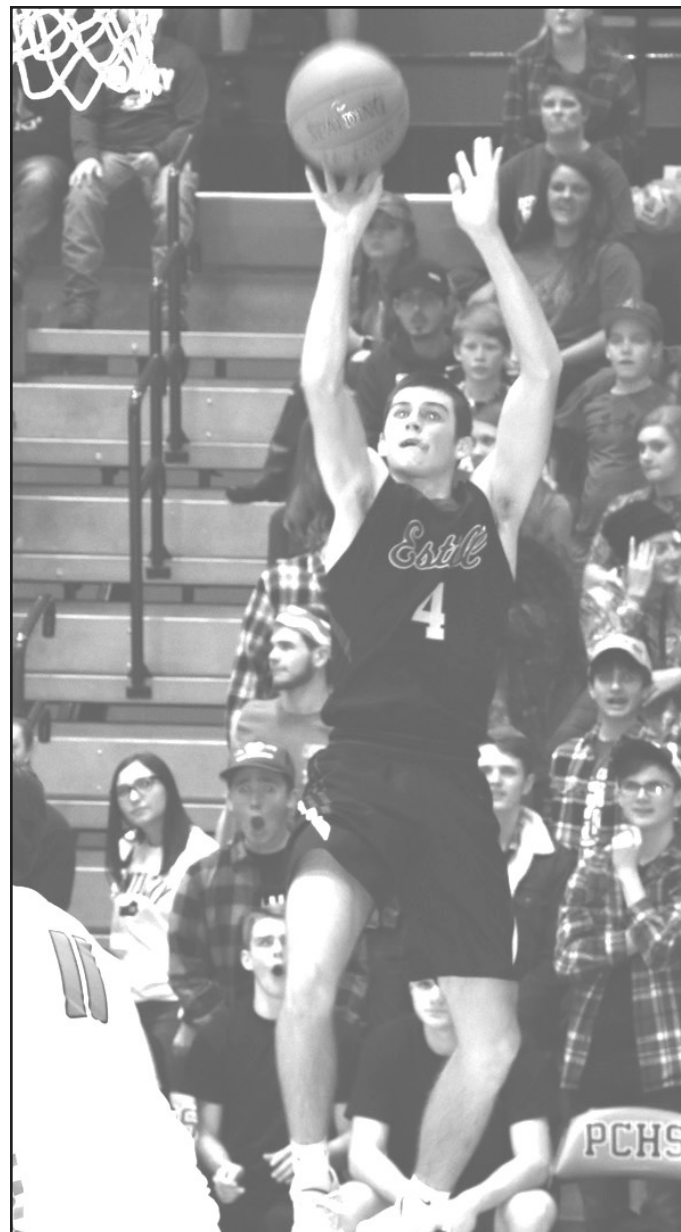
Estill is currently in 4th place in the 14th Region.



Sophomore Landon Napier (#32) takes a hard hit after a basket. Junior Dyllon Long (#33) looks for the rebound.



Junior Will Isfort (#23) puts up an acrobatic shot



The Estill County Engineers leading scorer and rebounder, senior Joe Benton, puts up a shot.



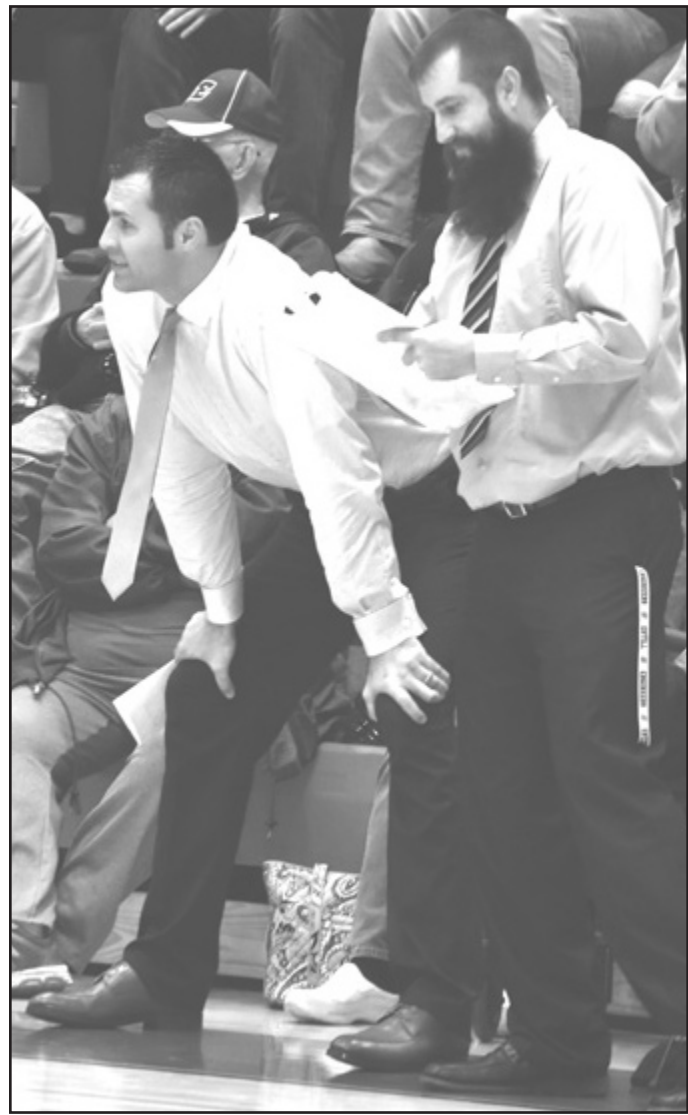
Just Hunting
by Steve Brewer

A decade is behind us, a new beginning ahead. Welcome back hunters of our county, let us not only start our new decade on a happy note, but looking for even a better future.

My first question to you is, "Are you any better off than you were mid-way of the decade just passed?" I will leave that for you to answer, but I would think not. I left the last decade with a confirmed case of the flu, although I had, at the orders of my Union, to take the shot. I did and caught another strain of the flu. I have taken the shot many years; this is my first 'catching it anyhow.' I will take another shot next year, playing on the law of average. As type meets paper today, I know better, but we are here to talk hunting; enough living in the valley of tears.

Although I have hunted almost all of the states, for everything from elk to wild boar, my favorite season is rabbit season. That not only does my memories good, but it brings me into my present world. Those childhood memories are hard to shake, but who would want to. Those days, growing up in McRoberts, Kentucky, listening to the beagles run, looking at the frost-covered snow; those where the days. Back those days we used a beagle called a saddle back. I haven't hunted with a saddle back in years. They are now tri-colored, Bluetick, black and tan, and the list goes on, for the most part. I love sitting on a fallen tree stump, the tailgate of a truck, a stone, and take my thermos bottle full of black coffee, and listen to the beagles run a rabbit, letting them pass a few times, then pulling the trigger.

I have lived here for seven years, and not once have been asked to go hunting with a neighbor while running the beagles. That is a good way to start friendships and a way to welcome into your community a new neighbor that pays his taxes the day after they arrive, their bills the day after they arrive, their car insurance, and doesn't trash this beautiful county. Although it may take me a day more, or so, to get well, I would welcome, a good ole fashion rabbit hunt before season goes out in February. Just notify this newspaper, they can get up with me, and we would enjoy a day in the field. Let us start the new decade with hunting to our heart's content. I hope for some invitations, see you soon.



Head coach Jon B. Bentley watches the game while assistant coach Ricky Joe Benton studies strategy.

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ABSOLUTE AUCTION

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We have been authorized to sell, at absolute auction, this unique river-front property located in Irvine with all city conveniences.

The "A" Frame house with over 1,300 square feet sits high on the river bank with gorgeous river and sunset views from the large deck. Property includes river access with a 24'x24' concrete dock. The home features 3 bedrooms and two baths. This would be an awesome AirBnB property, getaway cabin or residence. Current owner has lived there since 1976 and has retired and relocated. Great opportunity to buy, at your price, a house with lots of upside potential. For more information, or pre-sale viewing, contact Auctioneer Willis Estes at 859-582-3731.



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