

Zoe Deaton Signs With Ky. Christian

On Thursday, December 17th, Zoe Deaton, a senior at the Estill County High School signed a letter of intent to play softball for Kentucky Christian University next fall.

Deaton has been playing softball since she was four years old and began playing at the Kiwanis Ballpark in Ravenna. Over the years she continued her softball career at the Estill County Middle School and then at the Estill County High School. She also played on several all star teams as well as playing for travelling softball teams.

Deaton has also been very active in cheerleading and competed with All Star cheer teams all the while cheering on her school squad. This was the first year that Deaton had ever played volleyball for the Estill County High School but she really enjoyed the experience.

Throughout her softball career Deaton says that she has had many coaches that have taught her good sportsmanship, how to be a good player, as well as being an all around good leader. She is very excited about playing softball at the next level.

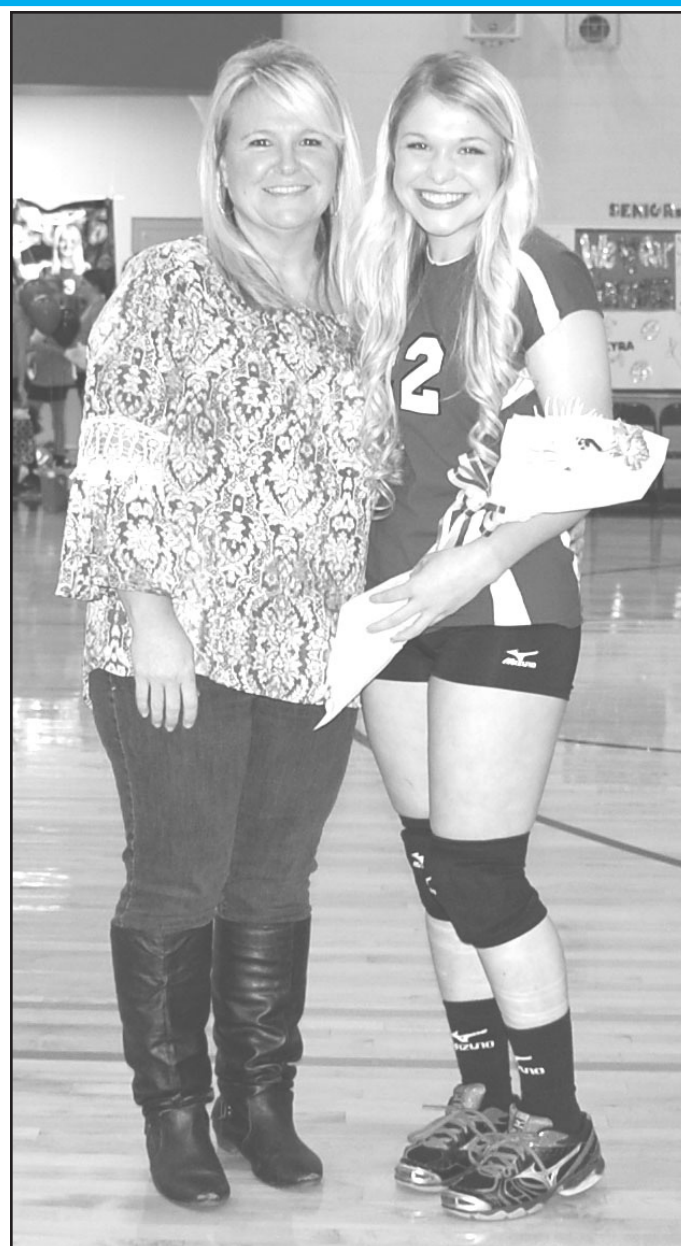
Deaton will attend the Kentucky Christian University in the fall and plans to major in nursing. She then plans to become a nurse practitioner and work in a family practice or in a hospital.

KCU head softball coach Dave Miller said that they are very excited to have Deaton on board. He said that the university is based on Christian values and he knows that she will work hard on the field and in the classroom.

Deaton is the daughter of Missy Deaton and Steve Deaton. Maternal grandpar-

ents are Pam Case and the late Carl Cole and Tammy Cole Smith. Paternal grandparents are Nevyle Deaton and Wanda Allen.

Present at Zoe's signing on Thursday, December 17th were former Estill assistant coach, now KCU assistant coaches Mike Travis, head coach Dave Miller, ECHS assistant coach Danny Wood, ECHS principal Chris Winkler, Estill superintendent Jeff Saylor, Estill's county athletic director Arthur Ballard, Estill head coach Shirley Beard, Zoe Deaton, and her mother, Missy Deaton.



Missy Deaton & Zoe Deaton



Kentucky deer hunters surpassed 150,000 deer harvested for the first time ever this season with the free youth weekend on Dec. 26-27, crossbow season until Dec. 31 and archery season until Jan. 18 still remaining. Kentucky hunters set the previous record with 144,409 deer harvested during the 2013-2014 deer seasons. They also set monthly harvest records this past September, October and November.

Kentucky's deer hunters continue setting records

Kentucky often comes up in discussions about the best places in the country to hunt whitetail deer.

It's no wonder. The deer are plentiful, permits can be easily obtained and the state produces several trophy class bucks each year.

The 2015-16 deer season is reinforcing Kentucky's reputation by breaking records at just about every turn. Two more fell this past weekend when black powder hunters finished a record late muzzleloader season and sent the state's overall harvest total soaring to unprecedented heights.

Kentucky's deer season harvest now exceeds 150,000 for the first time, and the tally will continue to rise with Free Youth Weekend on tap Dec. 26-27, crossbow season open until

Dec. 31, 2015 and archery season not closing until Jan. 18, 2016.

"It's our highest harvest on record which is great," said Gabe Jenkins, deer program coordinator for the Kentucky Department of Fish and Wildlife Resources. "The herd is healthy and deer are reproducing. We had a couple of bad winters but we had good mast that got us through. It's all come together."

The previous record harvest of 144,409 deer occurred during the 2013-14 season. After a slight dip last season to 138,898 whitetails - then the second highest harvest total on record - hunters have taken advantage of their opportunities this year.

Hunters set monthly harvest records in September,

October and November. By Wednesday, the December harvest total stood less than 400 deer shy of a new record for the month.

The modern gun season in November drives the annual harvest total. This year, hunters telechecked a record 44,314 deer on opening weekend and 105,440 overall during the firearm season.

Other highlights: A record 5,558 deer were telechecked during the statewide youth firearms weekend in October; the harvest of 8,262 deer during the October muzzleloader weekend was the second highest on record.

Roughly 300,000 people hunt deer each year in Kentucky and biologists estimated the state's deer herd at 1 million before archery season

opened in early September.

A variety of factors have been in the hunters' favor since then. Among them, good weather during key hunting timeframes and a spotty mast crop that put deer on the move and made them more vulnerable to hunters.

"A big harvest leaves hunters happy and is good for the economy," Jenkins said. "We also have to realize there are a lot of deer on the landscape and we need to continue to manage the resource properly."

"We're reaping a lot of rewards as far as the quality of the deer herd, but the quantity can get out of hand pretty quickly, which can decrease the quality of your herd. We want to make sure we're good stewards of the resource by managing our numbers."

Every day, all day

I've got a New Year's resolution for both parents and children, "Make it your goal to get to school on time every day and stay all day." No excuses, just make it happen! Our kids' futures depend on it. Think about it this way, when students miss school, they lose out on instruction. Lost instructional time due to missed class is impossible to make up. You might be able to make up the work for a grade, but that is not close to receiving the actual instruction. Our teachers and staff are very good! They plan out the day and work very hard on instruction, don't miss it!

Statistics show a child who misses ten days of instruction, will test an average of one grade level behind their peers who rarely miss. This is easily curable, be at school every day, all day. Our schools are going to feed children twice, give them a chance to interact and make friends, instruct them with new skills, and keep them safe! We are going to keep them from 8:00 until 3:00 five days a week to do this. Parents don't have to worry, the schools are well ran and have things under control. Accept no excuses, send kids to school every day, all day!

If you don't? I'm coming to see you and figure out how we can make it happen! Once a student has accumulated 3 unexcused absences or tardies, they are considered truant. After 6 unexcused absences or tardies, Kentucky's compulsory attendance laws (KRS 159.150) state that court proceedings against the parent and/or student may be forthcoming. I try to work with students/parents but

when that doesn't work, I have to go after parents. In Estill County, we charge elementary aged student parents with Unlawful Transaction with a Minor, third degree. This almost always results in a guilty plea and jail time. Middle/high school students are treated differently. I charge the students with truancy and they have to report to the court designated worker (CDW). This is a six month period of supervision by the court, commonly referred to as diversion. If students, complete the program successfully, charges are dismissed. If not, students are sent on to court for prosecution for truancy and a failed diversion. Finally, 16 or 17 year old students with a driver's license may lose their privilege if they have nine or more unexcused absences or are failing more than one class.

To avoid any of these repercussions, here are some tips: 1. Make doctor's appointments early in the morning or late in the afternoon and encourage checking in 2. Parents should monitor student attendance regularly, the schools will provide record upon request 3. "Not feeling good" should be backed up by a fever or other visible signs 4. No transportation is not acceptable, call the school and we will provide 5. Ask doctor about signing form for Home Health (Homebound) services if child is going to be out more than 3 days (the child is actually counted present and the school sends out teacher during this period).

Any questions, Dickie Arthur
Pupil Personnel Director/Safe Schools
Estill County Schools, 606-723-2181

Irvine Police Log

An Irvine woman has been charged on an arrest warrant for theft of electrical services.

Alida J. Strange of 221 Noland Court was arrested on the warrant on December 22 by IPD Sgt. Michael Gross.

The warrant was obtained by Daniel Wright of Jackson Energy. It states that on Aug. 26, 2015, Strange intentionally diverted electricity in the amount of \$60.00 to avoid paying for it. It adds that she also took an IHD box valued at \$106.25.

The electric cooperative also charges a \$25.00 tampering fee.

Strange was charged with theft of services, a Class A misdemeanor.

* A bench warrant was served Dec. 27 by IPD Chief Brad Smith on Christopher A. Thacker, 20, of Wisemantown Road, Irvine.

The bench warrant was issued by Trial Commissioner G. Allgeier of Fayette County District Court.

The trial commissioner said that Thacker was found guilty in Fayette County on Sept. 24 of speeding 10 mph over, but failed to appear or to pay a fine. The warrant said that Thacker could be released from custody after paying \$163.00 in cash.

* Irvine Capt. Adrian McKinney charged a South Irvine resident with criminal trespassing and alcohol intoxication in a public place, first and 2nd on Saturday evening.

The officer stated that James C. Neal, 28, of South Irvine Road, had been at an apartment at 106 Court Street for approximately two and a half hours and refused to leave. The resident had told him to leave twice in McKinney's presence but he refused.

The officer stated that Neal was extremely intoxicated. He had a strong odor of alcohol on his person.

When he was told to get into the cruiser, McKinney

said Neal refused and he had to forcefully put him into the back seat.

* Irvine Officer John Sturniolo made an arrest for driving under the influence of alcohol on Christmas Eve afternoon.

The officer said an ATL (Attempt to Locate) was issued for a 1994 blue Chevrolet.

He stated the he observed the vehicle crossing the fog line on River Drive.

The officer added the driver failed the five finger count and was unsteady on his feet. Sturniolo said the driver's breath registered .171, more than twice the legal limit.

The driver, Roger D. Collett, 61, of Broadway, was arrested and taken to the Estill County Jail. His vehicle was towed.

* On Dec. 22, Sgt. Michael Gross served Charles J. Nutter, 36, of Hood Ave., Irvine with a criminal complaint from Madison County.

The complaint says that on March 7, 2014, Nutter issued or passed a check which had insufficient funds or was on a closed account. The check was to pay for services at D&G Marathon and was for \$107.71.

A merchant's bad check fee of \$50.00 has been added along with the county attorney's fee of \$50.00. The complaint says that Nutter now owes \$207.71.

He has been scheduled to appear in court in Madison County on January 14.

* On December 23, Glenn D. Rawlins, 60, of Dark Hollow Road, Irvine was charged with public intoxication of a controlled substance.

Chief Brad Smith said that he responded to a call at Estill Medical Center about an intoxicated male. He said that Rawlins continued to pass out in the lobby.

He said that Rawlins told him he had taken narcotics that morning.

Candidates are filing for Primary Election

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Andy Barr, the republican incumbent, has filed for re-election as 6th district U.S. representative.

Janice Odom (D) of Clay City has filed for 21st district state representative. The 21st district includes Estill, Jackson, Laurel, Menifee, Powell, and Bath Counties.

Cluster Howard (D) of Jackson filed for re-election as representative of the 91st district state representative. Randall S. Christopher (R) of Irvine has also filed to run.

The 91st district includes Estill, Lee, Owsley, and Breathitt counties.