

Estill Wins District Opener, Beats Magoffin, 46-8

by **MIKE WISEMAN**
Estill Tribune Sportswriter

The Estill County football team would shake off a heart-breaking loss in their home opener with a 46-8 drubbing of Magoffin County on Friday in Salyersville.

In the district opener for both teams, Estill would christen Magoffin's spectacular new football complex by rushing for an eye-popping 419 yards.

Estill's "D"efense would show up this night as well. They would be a stingy bunch by allowing Magoffin only 122 yards of offense.

On the first play from scrimmage, Kordel Day would bust one up the middle for a 54-yard TD run (See page 15) and would set the tone for the rest of the game.

After Estill's "D" held on a fourth down, Michael Abner would cash in with a 26-yard scamper to paydirt. (At right)

A fumbled snap on a Hornets punt attempt would give Estill excellent field position and a chance to put this one away early.

Estill would put the ball on the ground near the goal line and Magoffin would recover. With the defense holding tight, Estill's next possession seemed to stall on a failed third down attempt, but a Magoffin penalty would give the Engineers a first down and "Day would make them pay" with a 1 yard TD.

The home crowd would have something to cheer about on the next series as Magoffin would convert a 4th and 23 from near midfield with an out and up route pass down to the 1. A rushing TD and 2-pt con-

version later, they were back in the game, 21-8.

Both teams would trade turnovers for the remainder of the half, and a River Kelley bone-crushing sack would force Magoffin inside their own 5-yard line, only to be saved by the halftime horn.

Magoffin would mount a first series drive in the second half only to come up empty on fourth down as Estill's defense would knock down a pass in the end zone.

The Engineer offensive line would take over and open a hole for Blake Francisco to take it 65 yards to the house. A Dylan Spivey sack and forced fumble would give Francisco another chance and he would take this one in from 3 yards out.

Dawson Bingham would not be left out of the action as he scored from 5 yards out, and, after a Colten Chaney interception, Bingham would add a little salt to the wound with a 29 yard burst for six. When the dust settled, Estill would get their first "W" on the year by the score of 46-8.

Stats: Rushing: Day 11 att. 117 yds. 2 TD, Francisco 6-91 2 TD, Bingham 5-65 2 TD, Abner 6-59 1 TD, Spivey 10-47, Ethan Casada 2-24, Cody Lafountain 2-10, Logan Beckler 4-6.

Defensive: Bingham 18 tackles, Spivey 8 tackles 2 Fum Rec., Day 8, Francisco 7, Beckler 6, Kelley 6, Chaney 1 Int.

Estill will travel next week to the Capitol City to take on the 0-2 Frankfort Panthers. Come out and support the 2015 Estill County Engineers! Go Big Blue!!!!



Estill Engineers senior running back Michael Abner (#10) cashes in on a 26-yard scamper to paydirt in Estill's 46-8 win at Salyersville over district rival Magoffin County Hornets. Estill is now 1-1.

Lady Patriots 8th Grade Wins Thriller Over Madison

by **TRACY R. PATRICK**
Estill Tribune Sportswriter

The Estill County Lady Patriots basketball team, coached by Ruth Hughes, picked up a big win, 28-27, over Madison Middle on Thursday after trailing by as much as 10 late in the game.

Madison's key player, Todd, dominated the first half of the game and pushed them out to a 20-10 lead but got into foul trouble and had to go to the bench in the third quarter.

Estill struggled at first but managed to tie the game at 21-all before Todd went back to work for Madison.

The Richmond school took the lead again, 23-21, but Estill's Kaylee Riddell hit to notch the game back at 23-all with 3:40 to play.

After trailing or being tied for most of the game, the Lady Patriots finally got a lead with 1:57 to go when Britney Mason sunk one of two free throw attempts.

Madison had a chance to tie or go ahead but missed two free throws at 1:38 to go. However, Todd immediately

stole the ball and hit to give the Richmond school a 25-24 lead with 1:04 left in the game.

A timeout was called at 30.3 with Estill in possession, but Todd stole the ball on the in-bounds play and scored to put the Madison lead up by 3, 27-24.

Estill scored to cut the lead to one, 27-26, and Madison had possession of the ball. However, they were called for walking and Estill's Leeann Lewis was fouled and hit both to give the Lady Patriots the lead with 2.6 seconds to go.

Madison's last second shot missed and the Lady Patriots took the hard-fought 28-27 win.

Todd led all scorers with 17 for Madison and Lewis had 11 to lead Estill. Kaylee Riddell added 10 and Mason and Hale had 3 each.

Estill's 6th grade, coached by Mike Long, totally dominated Madison with a big win, and Bob Young's 7th grade won also, 28-15, with mostly Estill's 6th graders playing since the Lady Patriots have only two 7th graders.

Mariah Riddell had 11 and Mia Hale had 10 in that game.



Isabella Riddell goes high over the Madison player with a shot in the 8th grade game on Thursday.



Lady Patriot Sarah Baker (#2) puts up a shot over the Lady Panthers of Madison Middle on Thursday.

Cadets Host Spartan Crucible

The Estill County High School Junior ROTC hosted its 2nd Annual Spartan Crucible on Saturday, August 29th, and it was one of the biggest events of this type ever held, according to Estill County High School JROTC cadet Rachel French.

The all-day event was planned, organized, and ran by the JROTC cadets with as many as 600 people there and at least 170 cadets from 16 schools in Kentucky and one team from Tennessee.

According to Lt. Colonel Lance Patterson, the idea for this event came from the Spartan Games that was held three years ago. Last year there were only six teams that came to the Spartan Crucible.

The Crucible involved multiple events ranging from a 5K run to a Spartan "Dirk" Challenge where competitors were challenged to do

a "small" workout with an 800 pound telephone pole.

A ten-cadet team had to lift the pole, carry it around the track and then perform various lifting motions with it, including lifts executed while lying flat on their backs on the ground.

Another event involved the team running from the high school parking lot through the woods, over various steep hills, to the Kentucky River. There, cadets were assisted by various volunteer safety officers as they climbed into inflatable rafts and rowed upstream to buoys stationed there. After rowing back, the cadets had to return on the same steep course they had come there on.

Cadets who could not complete certain assigned tasks including the rope climb had to do push ups.

The winner of the event was Team 1 from Clarkrange, which is south of Fort Campbell in Tennessee. Second place went to Warren County Team 1, and third place went to Grant County Team 1.

Teams traveled as much as 4 hours to the event and came from all parts of Kentucky plus the team from Tennessee.

The 17 teams included Clarkrange #1 and #2, Fort Knox #1 and #2, Grant County #1 and #2, Warren County #1 and #2, Pike County Central, Lewis County, Madison Central, GRC (George Rogers Clark), Sheldon Clark, Shelby Valley, East Ridge, Jackson and Montgomery.

Congratulations to the ECHS Junior ROTC staff, cadets and volunteers for a great job hosting the event. See photos on Page 15



Estill Lady Patriot Mary Robinson (right) scrambles for the ball against one of the Lady Panthers from Madison Middle School in Thursday night's 8th grade game.