

# Engineers play great defense but drop district opener, 18-13

The Estill County Football Engineers just finished their fifth game of the season in which four were played away. The last game was their first district contest and Estill came up short 18-13 at Mount Vernon against the Rockcastle County Rockets.

"This game was a tough one to swallow," comment Estill head coach Jordan Marcum. "We had our chances to win the game at the end and we just couldn't finish. We played an excellent ball game on the exception of two plays that resulted in touchdowns for Rockcastle; a punt returned for a touchdown and a deep pass at the end of the half that resulted in a touchdown.

"But our overall effort was phenomenal," he continues. "We played a really good game on defense. We allowed less than 200 yards of total offense which is usually a recipe for victory."

Freshmen Braden Waddle had an

unreal game at linebacker with a total of 19 tackles and senior Eli Haskell contributed with a total of 12 tackles. Sophomore Jonathon Short came up with 11 tackles, and senior Wyatt Francisco added 8.

"Our kids didn't give up and kept fighting," said coach Marcum. "That has become a common theme with our kids and that is one of the things I was going to change coming in here was to build a love for the game and taking losing personally. When you take it personal it makes you want to be better."

Offensively, junior Coben Clem, stepped up and had a huge game himself scoring 2 TD's on passes from sophomore quarterback Ty Niece.

"We need him (Clem) to continue the trend of stepping up offensively and making things happen for us," said Marcum. Clem had 48 yards rushing and senior Justin Stamper had 43.

"With Micah Swim out with a hurt elbow, we have to find some consistency in the passing game and Coben provided that," added Marcum. "We didn't run the ball as good as we usually do but we did nearly double the rushing average that Rockcastle allows per game, so that says something about how good we actually played."

Estill fell to 2-3 on the season and started the district run 0-1.

"Again proud of our effort," said coach Marcum. "This one is going to sting for a bit but if things play out the way we think it will, we will see them again and have a different result."

Estill opens a five-game home stretch on Thursday night, October 3rd, against Jackson County's Generals. They are also 2-3 and 0-1 in the district.

Bell County leads the 6-team district in wins with an unbeaten 5-0 slate and is tied with Rockcastle and Garrard

counties for a 1-0 record. McCreary Central is winless after five games and is 0-1 in the district.

Game time is 7:30 p.m. as usual but will be played on Thursday rather than Friday this week.

## Estill Middle Football

The Estill County Middle School Engineers football team has finished up regular season and were playing for the conference championship on Tuesday night against Caudill in what most thought would be a tough opponent.

"We have had a very successful season to this point," said head coach Cade Berryman. "We have a record of 6-2. They have competed well and I could not be more proud of them. We play for the conference championship on Tuesday, October 1st at 7:30 p.m. against Caudill Middle School at Madison Central.

# Estill soccer teams finishing up one of best seasons yet

The Estill County Engineers and Lady Engineers boys and girls soccer teams are finishing up one of Estill's best seasons yet as they get ready to play in districts. Both teams are undefeated in regular season and are regular season champions.

The Lady Engineers are coached by first year coach Emily Walton, a former outstanding player for Estill. They are 12-3-4 with a 4-0 district record and

have one game to play in regular season, at Morgan County on Thursday, October 3rd. The Lady Engineers last games were a tie 4-4 against Fleming County and an 8-1 win over district rival Powell. Estill is currently ranked 61st in the state with a .541 in the KHSAA's new RPI ratings. The Lady Engineers have five seniors.

Estill's girls' districts begin on Saturday, October 5th at Wolfe County

with the homestanding Wolfe County Wolves taking on the Powell County Lady Pirates. The winner will face Estill County who earned a bye, on Tuesday, October 8th at Wolfe County for the championship.

The Estill County Engineers are coached by veteran coach Ryan Sutter who along with his assistants have done a great job with the help of ten Estill County seniors.

Estill's boys are rated 68th in the state with a .542 in the new KHSAA RPI ratings. They finished the regular season with a 14-6-1 record and the regular season with an 8-0 slate. They are also 9-0 in the region.

The Engineers take on homestanding Wolfe County (3-12) at 11:00 a.m. on Saturday, October 5th in Campton. The winner will play the victor of the Powell-Jackson City contest at 5:00 p.m.

# Estill County leader Joe Crawford honored with award for service

Estill County leader and Executive Director of the Estill Development Alliance, Joe Crawford was honored with the John B. Stephenson Service Award for his service to Estill County, the region, and Appalachia during the 2019 Brushy Fork Annual Institute on September 19, 2019.

For more than two decades, Brushy Fork Leadership Institute has recognized a person or people who have provided exemplary service to communities in the Appalachian Region. In 2012, this award was created in honor of Brushy Fork's founder, John B. Stephenson.

Brushy Fork offers this award based on the values that inform their work and a vision for the future of leadership in the mountains. Recipients of the award have demonstrated that they honor the voice and vision of local people, uphold equality by asserting the kinship of all people, and engage community members for mutual learning, growth, and service. Additionally, they promote learning, innovation, and results through hands-on work, and encourage mindful living, have a zest for learning, and show con-

cern for others.

Director of the Brushy Fork Leadership Institute, Donna Daniels, presented Crawford with the award, remarking, "The person to whom Brushy Fork is awarding the John B. Stephenson Service Award might be called something like a community's dream come true. How often do we hear that we want our educated young people to return home? This year's award recipient is a person dedicated to employing his education, enthusiasm, and innovation for the good of his community. This year's John B. Stephenson Award recipient is Joe Crawford."

Joe Crawford has a long history with the Estill Development Alliance and it's variety of operating divisions and partners. After first participating in high school on the phone-a-thon to found the organization, Joe Crawford returned home to Estill County after attending college and began working for the EDA in 2005. He has been the Executive Director since 2006.

"I have worked with Joe on various community development projects over 15 years. There have been many ups and downs, surprises and pitfalls, but Joe's devotion to

his family and community has kept our organization always moving forward." Yvonne Harrison, Chair of the Estill Development Alliance Board of Directors said, "It is an honor to us all that Brushy Fork, an organization that has taught and fostered community and economic development throughout the Appalachian region for more than 40 years, has recognized Joe leadership and work to progress Estill County. I can't wait to see what happens over the next 15 years!"

Each year, the recipients are gifted a painting. This year's award features a painting of a train trestle that can be found near the Estill, Clark, and Powell County lines. Daniels' said, "Just as this trestle has made connections among communities, so has Joe in his work with leadership and economic development. The imagery of trains also suggests the success of one of the latest Estill County projects in which Joe has had a hand—the Kentucky Rail Heritage Center in Ravena and the homecoming for —a project with the potential for tourism development, education, and logistics, all based on steam rail service."

The Brushy Fork Lead-

ership Institute, a Strategic Initiative of Berea College, has worked to strengthen local and regional leadership in Central Appalachia for more than 30 years. Brushy Fork believes in the power of local people to lead the development of their communities. They strive to increase the number of people assuming leadership roles in Appalachian

communities and organizations and seek to support people who are also working to accomplish this goal.

The Estill Development Alliance where Crawford serves as Executive Director has a mission to improve the quality of life for the citizens of Estill County, Kentucky, through conducting, promoting, and supporting

civic, cultural, economic, educational and social activities and programs which maximize citizen and community involvement. Operating divisions can be seen throughout a variety of facets of the community with the Estill County Chamber of Commerce, the River City Players, Leadership LEAP, and the Estill Action Group.



Brushy Fork Institute Director Donna Daniels, Joe's wife, Becky Crawford, Joe, and his daughter, Cambel, holding the painting mentioned.

# KHSAA unveils first official RPI ratings

The first official KHSAA Ratings Percentage Index (RPI) Rankings are now available on the Association's website (<https://khsaa.org/rpi-ratings-percentage-index/>) following a thorough development and implementation process. Approved by the Board of Control in January of 2018, the RPI will be incorporated into the football competition rules as a means of seeding Rounds 3, 4, 5. The RPI is simply an informational tool in the other team sports and is provided as a means to increase publicity, interest and promotion.

"It has been an important period the last few weeks experimenting with output formats and screen layouts, while determining what documents were needed to ensure both

transparency and replicability. We have continually stressed that as the only official results source, any other data outside of our website should be regarded with skepticism," said KHSAA Commissioner Julian Tackett. "We are very thankful to our friends with the Colorado High School Athletic Association who have been invaluable in troubleshooting our implementation questions. From the beginning, our goal was to internalize this project and not outsource to third parties in order to avoid creating duplicate reporting for our schools and opportunities for confusion."

"Our office is uniquely positioned to implement the RPI Rankings in Kentucky high school sports because of our membership requirement to

enter schedules and scores on the KHSAA/Rihersds.com Scoreboard. The RPI is fully integrated with the Scoreboard, allowing for accurate and updated rankings on an hourly basis," said KHSAA Communications Director Joe Angolia. "As our programmer and database consultant, Frank Riherd has made literally hundreds of trials and calculations to ensure accuracy in this system and we appreciate his commitment to this endeavor."

RPI is used to measure a team's strength relative to other teams, based largely on the strength of their schedules (margin of victory is not a factor). RPI is calculated from the team's Winning Percentage (WP), the Opponent's Winning Percentage (OWP) and the Opponents' Opponents' Winning Per-

centage (OOWP). These three components are combined to produce the RPI using the following formula:  $RPI = (WP * WPVAL) + (OWP * OWPVAL) + (OOWP * OOWPVAL)$ .

The KHSAA has adopted its RPI using the following final calculation: WPVAL shall be .35 (or 35 percent) OWPVAL shall be .35 (or 35 percent) OOWPVAL shall be .30 (or 30 percent)

For football only, a game value factor is included in each WP calculation as described in the football calculation example. The game value factor is based on the class of the team being played for each calculation and is only relevant to instate games. This weighting is based on a 15% difference for the game value as class sizes become larger.