

Garrard County Secures Victory Over Mercer County Behind Caldwell's Dominant Shooting

By Ted Cox

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In a strong display of defense and key individual performances, the Garrard County Golden Lions earned a 51-42 win over the visiting Mercer County Titans on January 17, 2026. The victory improved Garrard's campaign behind a balanced effort, highlighted by senior Hunter Caldwell's efficient offensive outing.

Caldwell led all scorers with 23 points on an impressive

8-of-11 shooting from the field, including a scorching 3-of-4 from beyond the arc. He also went 4-of-6 from the free throw line and added four rebounds, anchoring Garrard's scoring attack with a 72.7% field goal percentage.

Senior Samuel Montgomery contributed 14 points and a game-high 14 rebounds, notching a double-double despite a lower shooting efficiency. Montgomery connected on 5-of-16 field goal attempts and went 4-of-5 from the line. His

impact on the boards proved crucial as Garrard dominated the rebounding margin, 36-24.

While the Golden Lions struggled from the field overall—shooting 36.4%—they found consistency at the free throw line, converting 16 of 23 attempts (69.6%). Freshman Ryan Noe was a bright spot off the bench, chipping in three points and grabbing eight rebounds, while seniors David Grubbs and B.J. Faulkner added three and four points, respectively. Faulkner contributed at

the stripe, going 4-of-6 despite a 0-for-6 night from the field.

Defensively, Garrard held Mercer County to 32.5% shooting from the field and just 30% from long range. The Titans leaned heavily on junior Caden Brogli, who poured in 16 points, including 4-of-5 from three-point range. Gage Phillips added 10 points and seven rebounds, while Jackson Doughty posted nine points and five rebounds, but struggled from deep, hitting just 1-of-9 attempts from beyond the arc.

Mercer County managed just 13 made field goals in the contest and committed to the perimeter, launching 20 three-point shots—double that of Garrard—while only converting six. Their rebounding efforts, limited to 24 boards, were outpaced by Garrard's interior presence.

Garrard's defensive pressure and rebounding advantage proved decisive, as they controlled the paint and outscored Mercer despite being outshot from three-point range. The Golden Lions also benefit-

ted from more trips to the free throw line, earning 23 attempts compared to Mercer's 15.

With the win, Garrard County demonstrated the value of efficient scoring and interior toughness. Caldwell's accuracy and Montgomery's rebounding served as pillars in the team's success, as they continue their push through the 2025-26 season with contributions from a senior-heavy roster.

Lady Lions Fall to Boyle County in Tough Matchup on the Road

By Ted Cox

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The Garrard County Lady Lions suffered a difficult loss on January 13, falling to Boyle County 72-26 in a district matchup that highlighted struggles on both ends of the court. Despite notable individual efforts, the team was unable to overcome Boyle's efficient offense and aggressive rebounding.

Freshman Karsten Powell led

Garrard County with 9 points, all coming from beyond the arc, as she hit 3-of-5 from three-point range. Her shooting from long distance accounted for more than a third of the team's total scoring. Sophomore Bristol Powell matched that total with 9 points of her own, delivering a balanced performance that included a perfect 1-for-1 from three-point range and 4-for-5 from the free throw line. She also grabbed three rebounds.

Sadie Agee, a sophomore, was the most efficient scorer for the Lady Lions, converting 2-of-3 field goal attempts for 4 points. Freshman Keziah McWhorter added 4 points as well, all from the free throw line, though she struggled from the field, going 0-for-6.

The Lady Lions shot 23.3% from the field (7-of-30) and 53.3% from the free throw line (8-of-15). Their strongest shooting came from behind the

arc, where they converted 4-of-9 attempts for a 44.4% clip. However, limited scoring contributions from the rest of the roster proved costly. Nine players were held scoreless, including starters and key rotational players.

On the boards, Garrard County recorded just 15 total rebounds, well below Boyle County's 33. Austyn Bolton led Garrard with four rebounds, while Karsten and Bristol

Powell each added three.

Boyle County applied pressure from the opening tip, shooting 50.0% from the field and 90.9% from the free throw line. Ellery Taylor led all scorers with 20 points, followed by Addison Yates with 18. Boyle's inside presence and second-chance opportunities also made a significant impact, led by Kynslee Leffew's eight rebounds.

Garrard County will look to

regroup and build on the individual progress shown by its underclassmen, particularly the Powell sisters, as they continue through the 2025-26 season. With a young roster featuring multiple freshmen and sophomores, the Lady Lions will aim to use these experiences to develop greater consistency and competitiveness in future district contests.

Garrard County Falls Short in Hard-Fought Contest Against Somerset

By Ted Cox

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In a tightly contested matchup on January 16, 2026, the Garrard County Golden Lions came up just short against Somerset, falling 56-51 despite a strong shooting performance from beyond the arc and standout efforts from senior leadership and a rising freshman talent.

Garrard County entered the game with high hopes and delivered a solid offensive performance, shooting 44.2% from the field and an impres-

sive 46.7% from three-point range. Senior guard Samuel Montgomery led the scoring effort with 16 points, including four of five makes from long distance. Montgomery also contributed on the boards with a team-high five rebounds.

Freshman Ryan Noe continued to show promise in his debut season, notching 12 points on 4-of-7 shooting from the field, including one three-pointer and three of four free throws. He added four rebounds, proving effective on both ends of the court. Senior B.J. Faulkner added 13 points,

making a balanced contribution with both inside and outside shooting—going 5-of-11 overall and 2-of-4 from three-point range.

David Grubbs chipped in six points on an efficient 3-of-4 shooting night and added three rebounds. Senior Mason Agee and senior Hunter Caldwell each scored two points, with Caldwell also going 2-of-2 from the free throw line.

While Garrard was efficient offensively, especially from the perimeter, rebounding proved to be a key difference in the game. Somerset

outrebounded Garrard 31-20, securing extra possessions and limiting second-chance opportunities for the Golden Lions.

On the Somerset side, senior Aedyn Absher was dominant, scoring a game-high 20 points on 8-of-16 shooting and grabbing four rebounds. He received scoring support from sophomore Brock Stevens and junior Josh Lewis, who each contributed 12 points. Somerset made 21 field goals on 46 attempts (45.7%) and converted 9 of 16 free throws.

The game remained close throughout, with Garrard show-

ing strong execution from long range but ultimately unable to overcome the rebounding deficit and late-game free throw disparity. Somerset's ability to capitalize on second-chance points and maintain composure in the closing minutes helped them seal the narrow victory.

With this result, Garrard County will look to regroup

and continue building on their efficient offensive strategies while addressing rebounding and late-game execution moving forward in the 2025-26 campaign.

Golden Lions

From Front

Montgomery led the scoring effort for Garrard County, contributing 10 points on 5-of-11 shooting. He also collected 6 rebounds. Freshman Ryan Noe made an impact with 7 points, including a three-pointer, and pulled down a team-high 11 rebounds, showcasing poise and versatility in a tough matchup. Senior Hunter Caldwell added 8 points and 4 rebounds while making 4 of 5 free throws.

Senior David Grubbs posted 8 points, going 3-of-11

from the field with a single three-pointer, and recorded 5 rebounds. B.J. Faulkner added 6 points and was a perfect 2-for-2 at the line, but like most of the team, he struggled from long range, going 0-for-4. Collin Noe was limited to a single point, while Mason Agee was held scoreless in limited attempts.

Garrard County found some rhythm at the free-throw line, converting 8 of 12 attempts (66.7%), slightly outperforming Boyle County's 64.3% (9-of-14). However, the disparity in three-point shooting proved decisive, with Boyle's seven

made triples creating the separation in an otherwise even contest.

Boyle County's Sawyer Pittman led all scorers with 14 points, fueled by 2-of-3 shooting from deep and 6-of-8 free throws. Seneca Driver followed with 9 points and dominated the glass, grabbing a game-high 19 rebounds. Boyle outrebounded Garrard 30-32 but benefitted from Driver's individual dominance in the paint.

Defensively, Garrard County remained competitive, holding Boyle to just 45 total shot attempts,

three fewer than their own. However, the Lions' inability to convert key possessions and capitalize on outside looks ultimately stalled their comeback efforts.

The loss adds to the learning curve for Garrard County as the team continues its 2025-26 campaign. With standout efforts from both upperclassmen and underclassmen, including the emerging presence of freshman Ryan Noe, the Golden Lions will look to improve their shooting consistency and build on their defensive intensity moving forward.

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Garrard County High School

Athletes of the Week

Hunter Caldwell
Boys Basketball

Karsten Powell
Girls Basketball

Lady Lions

From Front

team struggled to overcome inefficiencies in shooting and capitalizing on offensive opportunities.

Garrard County finished the game with a 30.8% field goal percentage, converting 16 of their 52 attempts from the floor. The team's struggles were particularly evident beyond the arc, where they made only one of 11 three-point attempts for a 9.1% success rate. Free throw shooting also proved costly, with the team hitting just 43.8% (7-of-16) from the line.

Freshman Karsten Powell led Garrard County's offense with an impressive 19 points, shooting 8-of-18 from the field, including the team's lone three-pointer, and going a perfect 2-for-2 from the free throw line. She also contributed significantly on the boards, pulling down 8 rebounds.

Sophomore Bristol Powell provided additional scoring support with 10 points and was the most active Golden Lion at the free throw line, converting 4-of-8 attempts. She added 1 rebound and went 3-of-8 from the field overall. Sophomore Braylei Wade scored 5 points on 2-of-7 shooting and added 2 rebounds, while also drawing two trips to the line.

Rebounding was one of the few statistical categories in which Garrard County kept pace with Somerset, finishing just two shy of their opponents with 33 total boards. Sophomore Austyn Bolton emerged as a dominant presence in this area, leading the team with 13 rebounds despite not scoring. Stella Bolton, a freshman, also contributed defensively

with 6 rebounds and 2 points.

The team's offensive execution, however, remained an area of concern. Four players—Keziah McWhorter, Austyn Bolton, Aubree Vanwinkle, and McWhorter—were held scoreless. Garrard's shooting percentage was dampened by cold spells from multiple players, including 0-for-6 from the field by McWhorter and 1-for-7 by Stella Bolton.

Somerset, meanwhile, capitalized on their chances at the charity stripe, going 20-for-27 from the line (74.1%), a key difference in the game. Junior Sarah White led all scorers with 20 points and added 11 rebounds, while 8th-

grader Maci Huff contributed 12 points and 6 rebounds. Somerset made just 30% of their field goals overall but compensated with better free throw shooting and timely three-pointers.

With this loss, Garrard County continues to develop its young core, with freshmen and sophomores occupying nearly every key role. While the defeat underscores the need for improved shooting consistency and execution under pressure, standout performances—especially from Karsten Powell—signal potential for growth as the season progresses.

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SPORTS SCHEDULE

Week Of January 22 - January 30, 2026

BOYS BASKETBALL			
Jan. 23	Lincoln County	H	7:30 p.m.
Jan. 27	Danville	A	7:30 p.m.
Jan. 29	Madison Southern	A	7:30 p.m.
Jan. 31	Southwestern	H	9:00 a.m.
Feb. 3	Danville Christian Academy	H	7:30 p.m.

GIRLS BASKETBALL			
Jan. 23	Lincoln County	H	6:00 p.m.
Jan. 27	Danville	A	6:00 p.m.
Jan. 29	Casey County	H	7:30 p.m.
Feb. 3	Danville Christian Academy	H	6:00 p.m.

ARCHERY			
Jan. 23	Farriston Flyers 3D State Qualifier	Kingston Elementary, Berea KY	
Jan. 23	Lincoln Patriot State Qualifier	Lincoln County High School, Stanford, KY	

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MASTER COMMISSIONER'S SALE

FRIDAY, JANUARY 23, 2026 AT 10 A.M.

GARRARD COUNTY JUSTICE CENTER

54 STANFORD STREET

In order to comply with judgments and orders of the Garrard Circuit Court, the Master Commissioner of the Garrard Circuit Court will sell the properties identified below in the Garrard County Justice Center, District Courtroom, 54 Stanford Street, Lancaster, Kentucky. The properties will be sold to raise funds to satisfy the amounts of judgments set forth below plus interest and other costs. The sale of said properties are subject to the following terms and conditions:

The winning bidder must pay a minimum of ten (10%) percent of the purchase price by check drawn on a recognizable bank (preferably local) at the time of sale. The balance of the purchase price is due in 30 days. **If the purchaser elects to pay less than the full purchase price, then the purchaser will be required to post bond and furnish acceptable surety thereon.** Said bond shall be for the unpaid balance of the purchase price and bear interest at the rate set forth in the judgment from the date of sale until paid.

The purchaser is responsible for all taxes levied against said property for the current tax year and all subsequent years. The sale of the real estate is subject to all zoning and building regulations, restrictions, ordinances, easements, covenants, and rights-of-way, of record, or otherwise. All properties are sold "as is", and possession shall pass to the purchaser upon delivery of deed. Risk of loss passes to the purchaser upon execution of bond of sale or payment of the purchase price whichever should occur first. A right of redemption may exist in favor of any party.

Possession of the real property will be given to the purchaser upon confirmation of the report of sale by the Garrard Circuit Court, delivery of a Commissioner's Deed to the purchaser and full payment of the purchase price plus interest as herein before described.

IF WINNING BIDDER IS NOT ABLE TO DELIVER DEPOSIT AND SIGN BOND WITH SURETY IMMEDIATELY FOLLOWING SALE, PROPERTY WILL BE IMMEDIATELY RE-SOLD.

PROPERTIES ARE IDENTIFIED HEREIN BY PARCEL/MAP ID AND ADDRESS ONLY. COMPLETE LEGAL DESCRIPTIONS ARE FOUND IN THE COURT FILE. IF THE MAP/ID ADDRESS IS DIFFERENT IN ANY WAY FROM THE LEGAL DESCRIPTION, THE LEGAL DESCRIPTION CONTROLS.

Johnny O. Bolton, Master Commissioner
Garrard Circuit Court
(859) 792-8844

PROPERTY TO BE SOLD:

SALE NO. 1:

Case No: **25-CI-00058: FIFTH THIRD BANK, NATIONAL ASSOCIATION vs DERON RAYNARD BRYANT, AKA DERON R. BRYANT, ET AL;** Judgment Date: **August 14, 2025;** Judgment Amount: **\$130,911.01;** Property Address/Description: **107 COWDEN CT., LANCASTER, KY; Parcel ID: L3-21-064**

SALE NO. 2:

Case No: **25-CI-00141: SELENE FINANCE LP vs UNKNOWN HEIRS, LEGATEES AND DEVISEES OF BILLY CONNER, DECEASED, ET AL.;** Judgment Date: **October 30, 2025;** Judgment Amount: **\$59,256.57;** Property Address/Description: **27 CHARLIE BROWN ST + MH, PAINT LICK KY; Parcel ID: 57-35**

SALE NO. 3:

Case No: **25-CI-00183: CHARTER GROUP, LLC vs UNKNOWN HEIRS, ASSIGNS, DEVISEES, LEGATEES AND BENEFICIARIES, IF ANY, OF MARY K. HURTE, ET AL.;** Judgment Date: **December 5, 2025;** Judgment Amount: **\$ 7,009.94;** Property Address/Description: **126 HILL N DALE DRIVE + MH, LANCASTER KY; Parcel ID: L2-01-006**