

Sports Corner

By Gary Kidwell



This week we are going to give a little history about the NCAA Tournament, since we are now in the middle of this tourney.

The first tournament was held in 1939 and was won by Oregon. It was the idea of the Ohio State coach Harold Olsen. The National Association of Basketball Coaches operated the first tourney for the NCAA.

From 1939-1950 the tourney consisted of eight teams, with each selected from a geographical district. This method left out some top-ranked teams. The issue came to a head in 1950, when the NCAA suggested that 3rd ranked Kentucky and 5th ranked North Carolina State compete in a play-off game for a bid, but Kentucky refused, believing they should be given the bid as the higher ranked team. In response, the NCAA doubled the field to 16 in 1951. Conferences still could have only one team in the tourney, but there were also six at-large teams chosen to play.

In 1953 the tourney expanded to include 22 teams and added a fifth round, with 10 teams receiving a bye to the regional semifinals. It still had only two regions, East and West, until 1956, when regions were named East, Midwest, West, and Far West. In 1957, the regions were renamed East, Mideast, Midwest, and West. In semifinals the two East teams met in one semifinal and two West teams in the other. Then the top two teams met for the championship.

In the 1970's there were two major changes made. The first change was it banned teams who declined an invitation to the NCAA tourney from participating in other post-season tournaments. The second change in 1975 was allowing multiple teams per conference to participate. This was a result of some conferences having several top-ranked teams. In 1979 the tourney expanded to 40 teams and 24 teams received byes to the second round. Eight more teams were added in 1980 with 16 teams receiving byes. In 1983, a seventh round with four play-in-games was added. Also in 1973, the regional pairings for the national semifinals were rotated

on a yearly basis instead of the two eastern and two western regions always playing. Seeding was also started during this era, adding drama and ensuring better teams had better paths to the Final Four. The national semifinals were moved to Saturday and the championship game was moved to Monday night. Also the third place games were eliminated, with the last one played in 1981.

In 1985 the tourney expanded to 64 teams, eliminating all byes. For the first time, all teams had to win six games to win the tourney.

The 1996 Final Four was the last to take place in a venue built specifically for basketball. Since then, the Final Four has exclusively been played in large indoor football stadiums.

In 2001, the field of teams was expanded from 64 to 65 teams, adding to the tourney what was informally known as the "play-in game." They play in the opening round game on Tuesday preceding the first week-end of the tourney. This game was always played at the University of Dayton Arena in Dayton, Ohio.

In 2004 the selection committee revealed the overall rankings among the #1 seeds. Based on these rankings, the regions were paired so that the #1 overall seed would play the #4 overall seed in a national tourney if both teams made the Final Four. This prevents the top two teams from meeting before the finals.

In 2011, three more play-in games were added to make the field of 68 teams. All teams are seeded in the tourney. Also in 2016 the NCAA introduced a tournament-wide logo so every floor at every location has the same composition and logo, rather than using the venue's existing floor.

In 2020 the NCAA canceled the tourney, due to COVID-19 pandemic. In 2021 the tourney was held entirely in the state of Indiana to reduce travel. All teams were required to stay in NCAA provided accommodations until they lost. The tourney returned to its regular

format in 2022.

That leads us to where we are now, having watched the play-in games and the first round of the 2025 NCAA "March Madness" Tourney. Enjoy!

Kidwell's Keynotes

This week is the KHSAA Boys' State Basketball Tournament, being held at Rupp Arena in Lexington. The tourney begins on Wednesday, March 26 and runs through the finals on Saturday night, March 29. The 16th Regional Champions are the Ashland Tomcats. They will be led by the Kentucky Mr. Basketball candidate, Zander Carter.

K-K-K-K-K

Coach Rick Pitino has an amazing collegiate coaching career. He has won the tourney championships in six different conferences (American East (1), SEC (5), CUSA (2), Big East (4), AAC (1), and MAAC (2)). Also Coach Pitino has won two NCAA Championships (one at Kentucky), and reached the Final Four seven times. He and his team are again in the 2025 NCAA Tourney.

Sportstumper: What team is Coach Rick Pitino coaching in the 2025 NCAA Tourney?

Answer: St. Johns from the Big East Conference.

Until next week this is the Old Righthander leaving you with this thought, "The struggle you're in today is developing the strength you need for tomorrow."

To reach Coach Kidwell e-mail garykidwell@hot mail.com.

Central News ...By Megan Spence



LEWIS COUNTY HERALD

Lewis County Central Elementary Student of the Month winners.

Trace Creek Construction announces \$20,000 in scholarships for high school seniors

By Dani Bradley

Trace Creek Construction is proud to support the next generation of students by awarding twenty \$1,000 scholarships to high school seniors in the communities we are fortunate enough to have construction projects. This one-time scholarship can be used toward tuition, books, or fees during the recipient's first year of study at a college, university, or trade school. One scholarship will be awarded to a student from each of the following schools:

- Augusta Independent High School.
- Boyd County High School.
- East Carter High School.
- Elizabethtown Independent High School.
- Garrard County High School.
- Great Crossing High School.
- Greenup County High School.
- Harrison County High School.

School.

- Jenkins Independent High School.
- Knott County High School.
- Letcher County High School.
- Lewis County High School.
- Madison Southern High School.
- Madison Central High School.
- Mercer County High School.
- Owsley County High School.
- Scott County High School.
- Taylor County High School.
- West Carter High School.
- Woodford County High School.

To qualify, applicants must be graduating seniors from one of the eligible schools and must be enrolled and accepted as a full-time student

at a higher education institution or technical/trade school.

Deadline to Apply: April 25, 2025, by 3:00 p.m. Application Link: <https://forms.gle/6z4QVNdMT-dyn4fh8>

For more information or questions, please contact scholarships@tracreek.net. About Trace Creek Construction

Founded in 1993, Trace Creek Construction, Inc. is a leading construction company offering quality services throughout Kentucky and the surrounding states. We are committed to quality, and your job is our reputation. We offer the highest standards of service with passion and professionalism. We are the largest construction management company in Northeast Kentucky, yet we never miss out on providing personalized attention to every client.

Bid Notice:

The Garrison Water District will accept sealed bids on the following equipment:

1. 2007 F-150 FORD 4WD. 4.7L motor (\$500.00 minimum bid)

The equipment will be located at the Water District's office at 284 Murphy Lane.

All items are sold as-is and the buyer would have to arrange for their own transportation for the purchased equipment. Bids must be received by 12:00 p.m. on April 8, 2025 and will be opened that day at 3:15 during the regular monthly business meeting.

Bids can be mailed to:

ATTN: Equipment Bids
Garrison Water District
PO Box 279
Garrison, KY 41141

Bids can also be dropped off at our office at 284 Murphy Lane in Garrison. **The Garrison Water District reserves the right to reject or accept any and/or all bids.** If you have any questions, call Trent Underwood at 606-757-4898.

Public Notice 12,13c

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PUBLIC NOTICE

The second reading of a proposed ordinance amending the Lewis County budget for fiscal year 2024-2025, to include unanticipated receipts from Animal Shelter in the amount \$1,146.00 and increasing expenditures in the area of Animal Shelter will be held on April 14th at 3 p.m. A copy of the proposed ordinance with full text is available for public inspection at the office of the county Judge/Executive during normal business hours.

BUDGET SUMMARY

An Ordinance Relating to the Fiscal Year 24-25 annual budget and amendment thereof. Whereas, the Lewis County Fiscal Court realized unbudgeted receipts from the following funds. Be it ordained by the Lewis County Fiscal Court of the Commonwealth of Kentucky.

SECTION ONE. The budget for Fiscal Year 24-25 is amended to:

Increase/Decrease the receipts of the following funds to include unbudgeted receipts from:

A. Receipts

Fund	Account Number	Description	Amount
ANIMAL SHELTER	75-4510-000	SPAY/NEUTER GRANT	\$1,146.00
Total Amended Revenues			\$1,146.00

B. Appropriations

Fund	Account Number	Description	Amount
ANIMAL SHELTER	75-5205-384	SPAY/NEUTER GRANT	\$1,146.00
Total Amended Appropriations			\$1,146.00

SECTION TWO. The amounts adjusted the revenue accounts in Section One are for governmental purposes.

Public Notice 12c

Licking Valley Senior Center Has Relocated to Their New Facility.

We are offering at Auction for the benefit of Fleming Fiscal Court and the City of Flemingsburg Commercial Building and 1.8 +/- acres On-Site Location

100 West Elm Street
Flemingsburg, KY 41041

Thursday, March 27th, 2025 @ 5:00 P.M.

OPEN HOUSE SATURDAY, MARCH 22, 2025, 2:00 p.m.-4:00 p.m.

Some Personal property will be sold

Scotsman ice machine, 2 meat slicers, gas range, boilerless steamer, South Bend B-series oven, Groen oven, CMA dish machine, tables, chairs, desk, filing cabinets, dishes, plus more miscellaneous kitchen and office equipment.

Inspection: For inspection prior to auction, please contact auctioneers Chuck Marshall 606-782-0374, or Kevin Boling 606-748-2696 or Ronnie Lawson 859-494-9305.

Real Estate: 10% of purchase price (non-refundable) is due on the day of auction for the purchase of the property. Balance due at closing in 30 days, on or before **Monday, April 28, 2025**. Property selling is subject to all recorded or unrecorded easements, restrictions and covenants.

Although all information in all advertisements is obtained from sources deemed reliable, the auctioneer/broker and owners make no warranty or guarantee actual or implied as to the accuracy of the information. The prospective buyers should avail themselves of the opportunity to make inspection of property (real estate or personal) prior to bidding. Our company is not responsible for accidents. All property to sell in "as is condition". Agency Disclosure: Buyers understand that auctioneers are agents of the seller.

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