



BREVEN WALKER

Owensboro's Kalil "Tre" Shemwell (6) set a state record with his 84-yard punt return touchdown in the first quarter of the Class 5A UK HealthCare Sports Medicine State Football Finals on Saturday at Kroger Field.

# Quick-strike Owensboro overwhelms Pulaski County in Class 5A championship

BY JARED PECK  
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Owensboro waited 39 years between Kentucky high school football state championships.

But it took less than a minute for the Red Devils to execute two touchdown plays that virtually assured its 35-7 win over Pulaski County Saturday in the Class 5A UK HealthCare Sports Medicine State Football Finals at Kroger Field.

With a 14-7 lead and the clock running out in the second quarter, senior running back Evan Hampton hurriedly took back-to-back direct snaps — first from 3 yards out and then scoring from 2 yards out .

Hampton took the second snap with five seconds on the clock, swept right and fought through the grasp of a Maroons defender in the backfield before diving forward onto a pile of players with the ball outstretched to break the plane of the goal line.

"In my mind, there was no way they were going to stop me," said Hampton, a Vanderbilt signee who topped 2,000 yards rushing for the season in the championship game and was named the game's MVP to go with his Kentucky Gatorade Player of the Year honor from the day before. "To be honest with you, I thought about (Notre Dame's) Jeremiah Love and the one run that he had at the goal against Penn State (in last season's Orange Bowl). I thought I needed to do something like that."

At the outset of the third quarter, Hampton's 20-yard run on the second play from scrimmage set up DaMarcus Ganaway Jr.'s 41-yard touchdown pass to ChadyN Morris that helped give Owens-

boro a 28-7 lead just 41 seconds into the second half.

"Getting into the end zone, we knew was going to be crucial heading into halftime," first-year Owensboro head coach DaMarcus Ganaway Sr. said. "And then getting the ball back (to start the second half). It was basically a 14-point swing. And we got it done."

## RED DEVILS DEFENSE TOOK EARLY LOSSES TO HEART

Owensboro (13-2) began the season with blowout losses to Class 3A champion Christian Academy-Louisville and Class 6A powerhouse St. Xavier before leaving its Class 5A division in its wake.

"We started 0-2 and our defense said, 'You know what? We're going to have an identity. We're going to beat you at the line of scrimmage. We're going to be faster in the backfield.'" said Elijah Hampton, Owensboro line-backer/offensive lineman and twin brother of Evan. "And that's what it was today."

Pulaski County's only score came with the help of a muffed Owensboro punt return that the Maroons recovered on the Red Devils' 22-yard line in the first quarter. Kasen Brock capped a five-play drive with a 3-yard TD run to tie the game at 7-7 with 1:06 left in the period.

Owensboro turned Pulaski County over on downs three times and got interceptions deep in their own end by Tee Green and Amare Roney to help even the turnover battle at three apiece.

## STATE RECORD PUNT RETURN TD SHOWED OWENSBORO'S SPEED

Though a special teams miscue helped let the

Maroons get on the scoreboard, it also gave the Red Devils a 7-0 lead before its offense had stepped on the field.

Kalil "Tre" Shemwell set a state championship game record with an 84-yard punt return TD barely four minutes into the game.

Combined with the touchdowns on each side of halftime, Owensboro tallied 21 points in less than five plays. Coach Ganaway said his team's quick-strike ability is part of its mindset.

"It's just about starting

fast by whatever we can do — special teams, defensively, offensively," Ganaway said. "We've got guys that can make plays with the ball, and (Shemwell) did exactly what his potential allows him to do."

## SOFTWARE GLITCH MAKES HAMPTON'S TOTALS UNOFFICIAL

Due to errors caused by a glitchy new statistical software used by the Kentucky High School Athletic Association this weekend, Evan Hampton's rushing total won't be official until bugs are worked out of the



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Pulaski's Kasen Brock (8) gets tackled by a swarm of Owensboro defenders during the Class 5A UK HealthCare Sports Medicine State Football Finals on Saturday at Kroger Field.

system sometime next week.

The Herald-Leader had Hampton with 108 yards on 11 carries with three touchdowns, including a 43-yard score on his third touch of the game that gave the Red Devils a 14-7 lead.

Those numbers give Hampton 2,035 yards and 31 TDs rushing and 288 yards and three 3 TDs receiving for his senior year. His unofficial career total of 5,289 rushing yards would put him among the top 50 high school rushers in KHSAA history.

Hampton is a lock to be among the finalists named for the Kentucky Football Coaches Association's Mr. Football award when they are announced next week. And they should go a long way toward Hampton earning that honor for the state's most outstanding senior player.

## COACHES PAY TRIBUTE TO PLAYERS AND PROGRAMS

Under second-year coach Travis Burns, Pulaski County (12-3) made its first run to the state finals since 2016 and did it without senior quarterback Zak Anderson, who was lost for the season due to injury after one of his best passing perform-

ances of the season against North Laurel on Oct. 17. The Maroons had to change how they played offense and still won six straight to get to Kroger Field.

"Hats off to Owensboro. They were the better team tonight," Burns said. "I'm just proud of my guys. When I took over two years ago, we were 4-8 and now, we're state runner-up. I know our guys aren't going to be satisfied, but they can hold their heads high."

Coach Ganaway, who previously had head coaching stints at Ohio County and a school in Indiana, paid tribute to the Owensboro coaches who came before and the support system his the program has today. Owensboro earned its third state title in its eighth finals appearance.

"From top to bottom, this program is tailor-made for success. It's an expectation," Ganaway said. "So to be here today is a combination of all the work that everybody's put together. ... That continues to set you up when you know you've got the foundation, and we're proud to stand upon it and be here today. ... We want to continue this. We don't want it to be another 39 years before we get back here."

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Legals

Legals & Public Notices

Norfolk Southern Requesting Proposals for CNOTP Stabilization Project

Norfolk Southern is requesting proposals for the CNOTP Stabilization Project. Please complete the survey confirming your participation for this project HERE: <https://forms.office.com/Pages/ResponsePage.aspx?id=9kaXfMuYkyBu2eykf-P-P1of0NzJ8B0ohRZGZqgRz9UOU8zVlZRFMyVDJSWDJC-MOM2SVM0STVJWS4u> by **December 12, 2025** if you plan on participating. Do not respond if you are not attending. **To request the project documentation, please email Leah Fletcher at Leah.Fletcher@nscorp.com.** The mandatory pre-bid meeting and job showing for this project will be held at **1:00 PM EST on Monday, December 15, 2025** at 233 Shoreland Dr, Walton, KY 41094 (38.92230085720402, -84.62505589257181). Any questions can be directed to Manager Construction Services, Will Graham at (404) 245-0097. The contractor's scope of work is to include:

- Roadbed Grouting at MP 12.5 - Rice Industrial Lead - Florence, KY
- Roadbed Grouting at MP 16.6 - Richwood Industrial Lead - Richwood, KY

Pre-bid meeting attendees should bring Personal Protective Equipment (PPE) including safety hardhat, eye and hearing protection, reflectorized vest, flashlight, and steel-toed footwear and plan on inspecting the worksite. Attendees without PPE available for their use may not be allowed onto the worksite location. Pre-bid meeting attendees are restricted to the meeting location listed above and are not permitted to enter other areas of Railway's property without proper escort by an Officer of Norfolk Southern.

**Bids are due via email to Leah.Fletcher@nscorp.com by Noon EST on December 23, 2025.** In order for your bid to be considered, you must submit the following documents: Completed Proposal Form Completed Bid Sheet Certificate of Insurance to comply with Tier 1 Requirements (must include CGL coverage within 50ft of a railroad) List of 3 completed projects similar in scope to this project. In addition, you must submit the following required affidavits with your bid or it will be disqualified:

- Illegal Immigrants - required
- Subcontractors - required
- Annual Bidder Status - required
- Qualified Bidder Status - as applicable
- Resident Bidder Status - as applicable

**Bids will be scored on price and time to complete. Contractors must be enrolled in ERailsafe, have completed Roadway Worker Protection training, have experience with on-track equipment, and meet the requirements under 49 CFR 214, 49 CFR 243 or the drug testing requirements of 49 CFR 219.** Please contact **Will Graham via email at William.Graham@nscorp.com**, with any technical questions concerning this project. Please contact Leah Fletcher with any contracting questions. IFL0294267 Dec 5,8,10 2025

Local Notice of Environmental Notification Process for the Registration of Antenna Structures

All interested parties are invited to review and request further environmental processing of an FCC application for Tag Towers III, LLC proposing the following telecommunications antenna structure located at 1300' NE of Royster Road and I-64 Lexington, Fayette County, Kentucky (N38 03 47.6 W84 23 49.6) FCC filing number A1348086 proposes a 199 ft lattice tower with no lighting. This application may be reviewed by entering the above file number at this website: [www.fcc.gov/asr/applications](http://www.fcc.gov/asr/applications). Interested persons may raise environmental concerns by filing a "Request for Environmental Review" with the FCC within 30 days of this posting. Instructions for filing requests are contained on the following website: [www.fcc.gov/asr/environmentalrequest](http://www.fcc.gov/asr/environmentalrequest). The FCC strongly encourages requests to be filed online; however, written requests may also be sent by mail to the following address: FCC Requests for Environmental Review, Attn: Ramon Williams, 445 12th Street SW, Washington, DC 20554 IFL0295902 Dec 10 2025

Invitation to Bid

Notice is hereby given by the Lexington-Fayette Urban County Government that bids will be received until 2:00 pm, local time on 1/7/26 at the LFUCG procurement website, [ionwave.net](http://ionwave.net) (below), for: Bid 134-2025 East Vine Street Wall Replacement. Only online bids will be accepted for this solicitation. Additional information may be obtained at <https://lexingtonky.ionwave.net> or by calling (859) 258-3324. IFL0297101 Dec 10,31 2025

PUBLIC SALE

Available 12/22/25 9am. Units available for public bidding will be announced on the block. Public bidders must arrive between 8 & 8:30am, show photo ID, & pay a refundable \$1,000 cash deposit plus non-refundable \$50 registration fee per car. ADESA- 672 Blue Sky Pkwy, Lexington, KY 40509, Consumer Portfolio Services: KND-PM3AC9H7174861- 17 Sportage, 2FMFK4K8XJBB62071 - 18 Edge First Bank of OH: 567697 - 2016 Compass, C89843 - 18 Explorer, A58791 - 11 F-150, 010563 - 13 Pilot, 710747 - 17 Frontier, 134335 - 10 Tundra, 280149 - 12 Charger IFL0296949 Dec 10 2025

Legals & Public Notices

LEGAL NOTICE

Versailles Road Storage hereby advertises the following storage units for sale for non-payment of rent. This sale is in compliance with KRS Chapter 359. An operators lien has been placed against the contents of these units and the contents will be sold to satisfy said liens on Saturday, December 13, 2025 beginning at 8:30 am and continuing until the last unit is sold. Each unit will be sold off on a per unit basis. Owner reserves the right to accept or decline any or all bids. Sale will be held at Versailles Road Storage, 1216 Versailles Road, Lexington, KY 40508. Contact Lori Harris, Manager, for further details at 859-259-1235 at the rental office on site.

UNITS TO BE SOLD AS FOLLOWS:

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RICHARD LAMZ  
IFL0296518  
Dec 10 2025

NOTICE OF PUBLIC AUCTION

StoreLocal Lexington, 2640 Sandersville Rd Lexington, KY 40511 Notice is hereby given pursuant to Chapter 359 of Kentucky State Lien Law StoreLocal Lexington will sell contents - Arieves Hampton - 5209. Unit Sale ends on 12/22/25 @ 1 pm. To place a bid, please register at "storagetreasures.com". For more information or to resolve this claim, please contact manager at StoreLocal Lexington at 859-269-7867. IFL0297149 Dec 10 2025

Legals

Beverage Notice

Notice of Intent to Apply for Alcohol License

The Partner Group, LLC hereby declares its intention(s) to apply for a Quota Retail Package License, Non-quota Malt Beverage Package License, and Sampling License no later than January 8, 2026. The licensed premises will be located at 1400 Versailles Road, Lexington, Kentucky 40504, doing business as Keeneland Way Liquor. The Partner Group, LLC is a limited liability company. The members of The Partner Group, LLC are (i) Yuba Raj Dhungana, 1393 Angus Trail, Lexington, KY 40509, (ii) Janardan Rijal, 604 Bunchberry Row, Lexington, KY 40509, and (iii) Sita Kumari Shahi, 4361 Walnut Creek Drive, Lexington, KY 40509. Any person may protest the approval of the license by writing the Department of Alcoholic Beverage Control, 500 Mero Street, Frankfort, Kentucky 40601, within thirty (30) days of the date of legal publication. IFL0297265 Dec 10 2025

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# Louisville women beat NH behind turnovers

Field Level Media

Tajianna Roberts and Skylar Jones scored 15 points apiece and Mackenly Randolph had 11 for No. 22 Louisville in a home victory against New Hampshire, 94-43.

The Cardinals (8-3) posted a lopsided 25-4 lead after one quarter and finished the day with a

whopping 40 points off 21 New Hampshire turnovers.

Maggie Cavanaugh led the Wildcats (3-7) with 12 points and seven rebounds.

Louisville Athletics reported that with five rebounds in 18 minutes, Laura Ziegler recorded her 1,000th career rebound.

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