

# Turley headed to KHSAA Hall of Fame

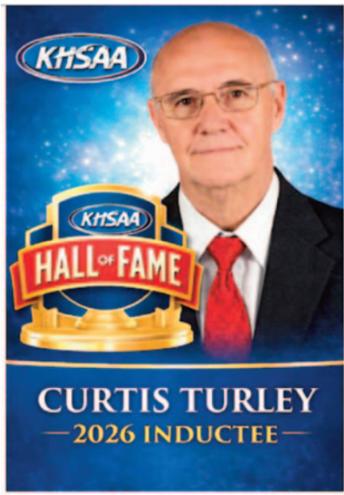
Caldwell's Talley, Mayfield's Morris are among others

STAFF REPORT

Crittenden County native Curtis Turley is among a distinguished Class of 2026 that will be inducted into the Dawahares/KHSAA Hall of Fame presented by Roberts Insurance on Sunday, April 26, at the Central Bank Center Ballroom in Lexington.

With the addition of this year's 13-member class, the Hall of Fame grows to 542 all-time inductees since its inception in 1988. Tickets for the induction ceremony will be available at a later date at khsaa-tickets.org.

Turley, 72, now lives in Bowling Green, but he grew up in Marion and graduated from Crittenden County High School in 1972. He carved out a 32-year career as a head basketball coach across the Commonwealth, including at Lyon County and Graves County in western Kentucky, and won 624 games with 17 seasons with 20 or more victories. Beginning his head coaching career at age 22 in 1976, he made stops at a dozen Kentucky schools and is one of a select few coaches to lead three different programs to the Sweet 16 appearances - Warren Central (1982, 1983), Henderson County (1990) and Daviess County (2003). He was named Coach of the Year by both the Lexington Herald-Leader and Louisville Courier-Journal in 1996 and has previously been inducted into



multiple state basketball halls of fame, including the Kentucky High School Basketball Coaches Hall of Fame and the Marion-Crittenden County Athletics Hall of Fame. He also spent time as a director of operations with the women's basketball program at Western Kentucky University.

"To me Curtis Turley has long been a legend in the coaching community," said former Crittenden County coach Denis Hodge. "He is a gentleman's gentleman and a mentor to so many. He has always been so willing to help other coaches, and no one is more passionate about high school basketball."

Also among this year's inductees is Caldwell County golf standout

Emma Talley, one of the most decorated players in state history. A 2012 graduate, Talley competed in seven consecutive state tournaments and won six straight regional titles. She famously self-reported a scorecard error at the 2009 state tournament, resulting in disqualification in a moment widely praised for sportsmanship. Talley went on to win the 2013 U.S. Amateur and the 2015 NCAA Championship at Alabama before retiring from the LPGA in 2025.

Mayfield football coach Joe Morris is also part of the 2026 class. Morris compiled a 299-56 record over 25 seasons from 1999-2024, leading the Cardinals to seven state championships and 14 state finals appearances. His teams reached the state semifinals 21 times, and his career winning percentage of 84% ranks among the best in state history.

Other inductees include Makayla Epps (Marion County), Gwen Doyle Howard (duPont Manual), James Haire (Elizabethtown), Jody Hamilton (Raceland, Boyd County, West Jessamine, Owensboro Catholic), Chuck Medley (Saint Xavier), Glenn Napier (M.C. Napier), Larry Pursiful (Lone Jack/Bell County), Lynn Ray (Covington Catholic), the Riherd Family (contributors), and Bill Mike Runyon (Paintsville).

The Class of 2026 represents athletes, coaches and contributors whose combined impact has shaped generations of Kentucky high school sports.



## Very Hospitable

For the third year in a row, Crittenden County was awarded the Second Region Basketball Officials' annual Hospitality Award at last week's district tournament at Rocket Arena. The award goes to the school that provides general hospitality to basketball referees when they are on site, including providing professional game administration, showers, refreshments and other measures of courtesy. Making the presentation is referee representative Misty Porter to CCHS Athletic Director Madison Carter.



Members of the Crittenden White third- and fourth-grade girls' basketball team finished runner-up in the Fifth District Tournament championship game on Feb. 21. They had advanced to the title game out of a seven-team field. Crittenden White defeated Trigg County 12-5 in the opening round and edged Lyon County 7-5 in a semifinal before falling to Caldwell County 33-13 in the championship game. Team members are (front from left) Madison Winterrowd, Brighton Guess, Sadie Gobin, (back) Coach Landon Driver, Faith Crotty, RaeLynn Forsythe, Chiles Trail and Charlestyn Driver.

## DRY

Continued from page 1 water supply. She expressed confidence that the city will work through the current challenges and remain committed to seeing its efforts through to completion.

The dryness extends well beyond Crittenden County. According to the National Weather Service office in Paducah, the city recorded its driest winter on record. Only 3.27 inches of precipitation fell during December, January and February, which is 8.8 inches below the seasonal average. A typical winter in western Kentucky brings 9 to 13 inches of precipitation.

It was also the driest winter ever recorded in Carbondale, Cape Girardeau and Poplar Bluff. Most of the region received only 2 to 4 inches of precipitation during the three-month period. In western Kentucky, only Ballard and Calloway counties topped 4 inches, while parts of southeast Missouri saw less than 2 inches for the entire season. Even January's 4- to 14-inch snowfall contributed less than an inch of liquid equivalent in most locations.

As a result, nearly the entire region is now classified in moderate drought, with portions of Illinois and Missouri experiencing moderate to severe drought conditions.

"Stream flows are running below average across western Kentucky and farther north of us in Illinois, and soil moisture conditions are also lower than normal," said Sean Poulos, a meteorologist specializing in climate at the Na-

tional Weather Service in Paducah.

Poulos said the precipitation deficit over the past several months, typically among the wettest of the year, is leading to a lower water table. He said it is difficult to predict how significant the long-term impact may be or how it compares to other dry stretches over the past 25 to 30 years.

Crittenden County's unusually dry fall and winter likely mean the local water table is lower than normal heading into spring. Groundwater recharge in western Kentucky generally occurs in late fall and winter, when vegetation is dormant and more rainfall can infiltrate the soil and replenish shallow aquifers. With rainfall running nearly 9 inches below normal since September, significantly less water has filtered into the ground.

If dry conditions persist into the growing season, the consequences could become more pronounced.

The negative effects would first be felt in agriculture, Poulos said, as worsening soil moisture could reduce crop yields.

"If we don't see some significant shift in the weather pattern and go into the growing season below normal, there could be noticeable impacts" on agriculture, he added.

Longer-term effects could extend beyond farm fields. Poulos said extended dryness can eventually create navigation issues on rivers and strain raw water supplies if stream flows and reservoir levels continue to decline.

There is some optimism in the short term.

## FEBRUARY 2026

### Weather Yearbook



| Coldest Temp  | Warmest Temp  | Wettest Day   |
|---------------|---------------|---------------|
| 11.3          | 73.7          | 0.2           |
| Thur., Feb. 4 | Sat., Feb. 28 | Sun., Feb. 15 |

|               | 2026 | 2025 | 2024 | 2023 | 2022 | 2021 |
|---------------|------|------|------|------|------|------|
| Average Temp  | 41.3 | 38.1 | 46.9 | 45.9 | 42.1 | 30.5 |
| Coldest Temp  | 11.3 | 2.3  | 16.2 | 16   | 12.2 | 0    |
| Hottest Temp  | 73.7 | 74.6 | 74.3 | 76.3 | 66.6 | 66.8 |
| Precipitation | 0.5  | 6.0  | 1.7  | 3.1  | 6.3  | 6.3  |
| Wettest Day   | 0.2  | 3.97 | 0.69 | 1.88 | 2.63 | 1.85 |

Beyond the abnormally dry conditions in February that produced just 0.46 inches of measurable precipitation locally, with only five days recording any rainfall at all, here are other highlights from last month's weather: Temperatures fluctuated sharply throughout the month. The warmest reading reached 73.7 degrees on Feb. 28, while the coldest low dipped to 11.3 degrees on Feb. 5. The monthly average high was 51.5 degrees and the average low was 31.2, for a mean temperature of 41.3 degrees. Several mid-month days pushed into the upper 60s and low 70s, including Feb. 18-19 when highs reached 68.2 and 72.1 degrees. Humidity levels frequently climbed to saturation, hitting 100 percent on multiple mornings (Feb. 15, 16, 18, 19 and 27), despite the lack of rainfall. Heating Degree Days remained elevated early in the month, peaking at 45 on Feb. 1 and again on Feb. 5, before tapering off during the late-month warm spell. The combination of limited precipitation, wide temperature swings and repeated dry cold fronts underscores just how unusually dry and variable February proved to be.

## PAM TODD

For District 3 Magistrate

Greetings Crittenden County! I am Pamala Todd, and I am excited to announce my running as District 3 Magistrate. I am a lifelong resident of Crittenden County and graduated from CCHS in 1980. I am married to Roy Todd, who worked for both the city and county for 27 years. We are blessed with two children and three grandchildren. I have worked various jobs, and I am currently employed as the manager of our local H&R Block. I am a consistent volunteer for Relay for Life and H&R Block community service activities.



I would be honored to serve our community as District 3 Magistrate. We need people who have a desire to stand firm for what is right for the constituents of Crittenden County. I hope to work productively with the judge-executive and other magistrates to find practical solutions to issues facing Crittenden County. This will not be easy, but solving problems has to start somewhere, and it starts with your vote.

★ ROADS ★ BUDGETS ★ VISION ★

Committed to Crittenden County

REPUBLICAN PRIMARY | Paid for by Candidate Pam Todd

**VENDORS WANTED**  
**SAVE THE DATE** Saturday, April 11  
 @ the Crittenden County Community Recreation Center (Former Armory)  
 Don't miss this opportunity!  
 Contact The Chamber today!

## 4-H Shooting Sports is open to ages 9-18; safety course Tuesday

Crittenden County 4-H will host a mandatory informational and safety meeting for its 2026 Shooting Sports shotgun program at 5:30 p.m. Tuesday, March 10, at the Extension Park on Hwy. 91, formerly the Crittenden County Gun Club.

The program is open to youth ages 9-18. Participants must attend the designated safety meeting in order to take part in shooting sports activities.

Organizers said the March 10 session will focus on firearm safety and will serve as the required orientation for the season. Shotgun practices will be held on Tues-

days throughout the summer.

Youth are asked to bring their firearms to the meeting, but they should be left in vehicles until after the safety session. A beginner practice will follow the meeting.

The program emphasizes learning and practicing firearm safety, developing proper marksmanship techniques, building self-resilience and leadership skills, and participating in optional county and state competitions.

For more information, contact the Crittenden County Extension Service at 270-965-5236.

Crittenden County High School  
**Class of 1970**  
**Reunion**  
 Saturday March 14, 2026  
 2:00 P.M. TO 5:00 P.M.  
 Game Day Pizza & Wings  
 Class Friends Invited!  
 Please RSVP to 270-210-8009