

Lady Braves run over Lady Demons in lopsided crosstown contest

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On Friday, April 17, the Williamstown Lady Demons and Grant County Lady Braves softball teams faced each other in a district seed game. During a four-inning matchup, the Lady Braves got the upper hand for their second district win. At 15-0, Grant run-ruled Williamstown at the Lady Demons' home field with a total of 10 hits against their opponent.

This showdown puts Grant at a record of 3-13 and the Lady Demons at 0-6 with just under a month remaining in the season.

The Lady Demons started in the field with Addison Workman opening on the mound. In the first at bat,

Williamstown gained an early out with a flyout to Kilynn White. After this, however, the Lady Braves' offense built steam with Peyton Gosney, Calleigh Hammons, and Emmy Kinman all securing base hits.

Thanks to a double from Kinman, Grant scored their first run of the game as Gosney advanced. Although Ava Alexander grounded out not long after, it bought enough time for replacement runner Sophia Huhn to make it 2-0. Kinman then stole home prior to Kirsten Kinkelo making a catch to close the top of the inning.

Hammons pitched for the Lady Braves during the game and proved to be a challenge for the Lady Demons' offense with seven

strikeouts. Two of these occurred in the bottom of the first inning, where Grant shut down Williamstown's attack. Without allowing a single hit, the game advanced to the second inning, where the Lady Braves continued their onward march.

In the second inning, the Lady Demons walked five batters and lost further ground to six base hits from Grant. While Workman managed to score a kill in the inning, and the Lady Demons' center fielder and White made two additional catches, it wasn't until after nine runners had scored.

Several of the Lady Braves scored throughout the barrage as Mattie Brinker, Aubrey Issacs, Hammons, Gosney, Madison Utter, Riley Harloff,

Rylee Williams, Clairra Strange, and Alexander ran up the score.

Meanwhile, Williamstown once again struggled to break through in the bottom of the inning with two strikeouts and a groundout, preventing any recovery.

In contrast, the third saw the Lady Demons begin to slow the Lady Braves' momentum as they shut them out at the top of the inning. Combining catches from White and Chloe Kinman, with a groundout thanks to Abigail Lamson finding Kinkelo at first, the game moved onward.

Chole was then the first Lady Demon to get on base as she was walked in the first at bat. Grant didn't relent on defense despite this, as Hammons rang three more kills

afterwards.

The fourth and final inning saw the Braves pull away by a further three runs as they made it 15-0. Hits from Emery Hull, Strange, Issac and Hammons enabled the difference to grow at the top of the inning.

Williamstown stopped the bleeding much sooner in the fourth as two catches and a groundout once again concluded the inning. Kinman and Kinkelo both secured outs for the Demons while Taylor Verbeck found Kinkelo at first for the groundout. After a decisive performance, two groundouts and one final flyout to Ava Alexander finished the game with a second consecutive win for Grant.

A humanoid robot sprints to victory in Beijing, beating the human half-marathon world record

ASSOCIATED PRESS

BEIJING — A humanoid robot that won a half-marathon race for robots in Beijing on Sunday ran faster than the human world record in a show of China's technological leaps.

The winner from Honor, a Chinese smartphone maker, completed the 21-kilometer (13-mile) race in 50 minutes and 26 seconds, according to a WeChat post by the Beijing Economic-Technological Development Area, also known as Beijing E-Town, where the race kicked off.

That was faster than the human world record holder, Uganda's Jacob Kiplimo, who finished the same distance in about 57 minutes in March at the Lisbon road race.

The performance by the robot marked a significant step forward from last year's inaugural race, during which the winning robot finished in 2 hours, 40 minutes and 42 seconds.

But the competition, which was held alongside a race for humans, wasn't without hiccups — one robot fell flat at the start line, another bumped into a barrier.

Du Xiaodi, Honor's test development engineer, said his team was happy with the results. Du said its robot design was modeled on outstanding human athletes, with long legs of about 95 cm (around 37 inches), and was equipped with what he called a powerful liquid-cooling system, which was largely developed in-house.

"Looking ahead, some of these technologies might be transferred to other areas. For example, structural reliability and liquid-cooling



Haruna Furuhashi/Pool Photo via AP

Runners take pictures of a humanoid robot in the second Beijing E-Town Half Marathon and Humanoid Robot Half Marathon in Beijing on Sunday, April 19.

technology could be applied in future industrial scenarios," he said.

While it will still take time to achieve widespread commercialization of humanoid robots, spectators were already impressed by the robots. Sun Zhigang, who had been in the audience last year, watched Sunday's race with his son.

"I feel enormous changes this year," Sun said. "It's the first time robots have surpassed humans, and that's something I never imagined."

Wang Wen, who came with his family, said robots seemed to have stolen much of the spotlight from human runners in the event.

"The robots' speed far exceeds that of humans," he said. "This may signal the arrival of sort of a new era."

Beijing E-Town said about 40% of the robots navigated

the course autonomously, while the others were remotely controlled.

State media outlet Global Times reported that a separate, remotely-controlled robot from Honor was the first to cross the finish line in 48 minutes and 19 seconds. But it said the winning one used autonomous navigation and received the championship under the event's weighted scoring rules.

State broadcaster CCTV reported that the runners-up, which were also from Honor and used autonomous navigation, finished the race in about 51 minutes and 53 minutes respectively. A robot served as a traffic officer to direct the participants with its arm gestures and voice, CCTV added.

In China, technology has evolved into an area of competition with the U.S.

with national security implications. Beijing's latest five-year plan vows to "target the frontiers of science and technology." Speeding up the development of products like humanoid robots and their applications is part of the 2026-2030 plan for the world's second-largest economy.

London-based technology research and advisory group Omdia recently ranked three Chinese companies — AGIBOT, Unitree Robotics and UBTECH Robotics Corp. — as the only first-tier vendors in its global assessment for shipment numbers for general-purpose embodied intelligent robots.

They all shipped more than 1,000 units of the robots last year, with the first two companies shipping more than 5,000 units, the report said.

BENGALS

FROM PAGE B1

condition of anonymity because the deal is pending a physical.

The Giants now have the fifth and 10th picks in the first round. They're heading into their first draft under new coach John Harbaugh after finishing 4-13 last season.

The Bengals paid a hefty price for the 28-year-old Lawrence, who asked for a trade because he wanted a new contract. He's in the middle of a 4-year, \$90 million extension signed in 2023.

Barring a trade, it'll be the first time Cincinnati doesn't have a first-round pick since 1989, when the Bengals traded the next-to-last pick in the draft (No. 27) to Atlanta for a second-round pick (No. 35), a fourth (No. 89) and a 10th (No. 256).

The 6-foot-4, 340-pound Lawrence had a career-high nine sacks in 2024, but only registered a half-sack last season. He made the Pro Bowl in 2022-24 and was a second-team Associated Press All-Pro in 2022 and 2023.

The Bengals ranked near the bottom in several defensive categories last season. They were 31st in

yards allowed, 30th in points allowed and 30th against the run.

With Joe Burrow, Ja'Marr Chase and Tee Higgins leading a dynamic offense, improving the defense was a must this offseason. Lawrence gives Cincinnati a proven star in the middle of the defensive line, though the cost was steep.

The Giants will be the 22nd team in the common draft era (since 1967) to have two top 10 picks and fifth in the last five years. They did it in 2022 with Kayvon Thibodeaux (fifth) and Evan Neal (seventh). The Bears took Caleb Williams first and Rome Odunze ninth in 2024. The Texans selected

C.J. Stroud second and Will Anderson Jr. third in 2023. The Jets got Sauce Gardner fourth and Garrett Wilson 10th in 2022.

On Tuesday, Giants general manager Joe Schoen said the team was having productive talks with Lawrence's camp.

"We'd like for Dexter to be here, and at some point we'll come to a resolution here, whatever that may be," Schoen said. "We'll see. But conversations have been really good, they've been productive and we'll see what happens here down the road."

But owning two top 10 picks was too good to pass up.

TENNIS

FROM PAGE B1

in the final points to secure a victory.

Regardless of this last-minute win from their opponents, the Lady Braves still concluded the meet with another great win. Whereas the girls finished 4-1 on the night, the boys had a much tougher time with their opponents.

The first boys' singles match proved to be the closest game of the night, with Ethan Bordelon going into a tiebreaker. Following a 7-7 opening battle, the Brave was eventually defeated 5-7 in overtime play.

Outside of this heartbreaking loss, the boys' team didn't put up much resistance in the remaining single nor doubles matches. Jaxson Stovall was also defeated by the Camels in the singles before both boys competed in a doubles match.

Here, Campbell County finished the meet with an 8-0 sweep to mark the 3-0 loss for the Braves. With four meets remaining in the regular season, both teams are preparing for their postseason starting in the second week of May.

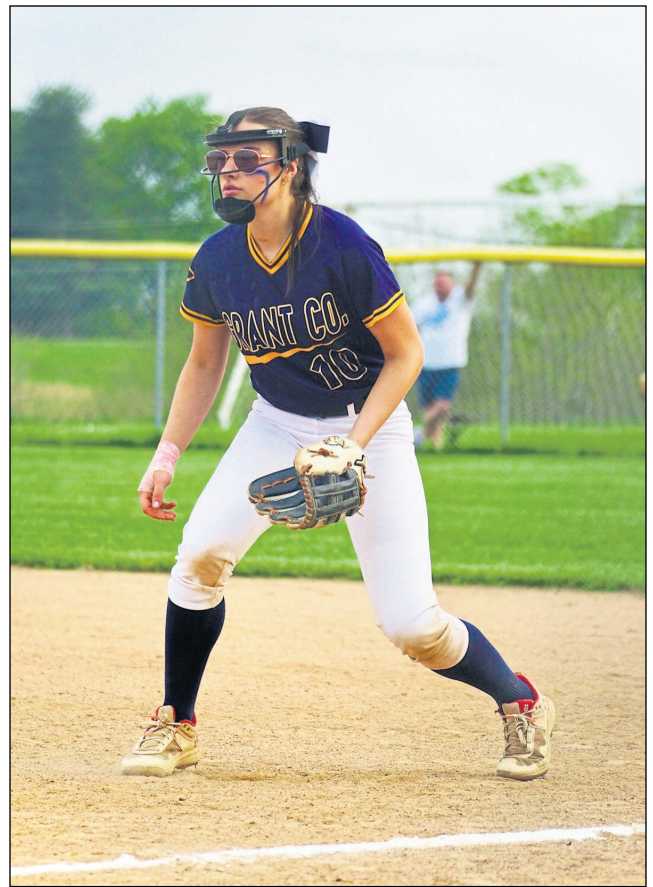


Photo submitted

Madison Utter follows the action in the Lady Braves' 7-6 win over Walton Verona.



Photo submitted

Peyton Gosney is poised to act in the Lady Braves' game against Walton Verona on April 15.

LADY

FROM PAGE B1

to score another run as Grant made it 7-6.

Hammons would hit a triple moments later, but the game's fate was already sealed. With three strikeouts in the top of

the seventh, Hammons concluded the final inning for a Lady Braves victory. Performing well on defense and making the most out of errors from Walton, Grant took a well-earned second win for the season. Utter and Gosney both had two base hits for the Braves, while Kinman likewise had two RBIs to advance the offense.

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