

From the Press Box

By Bill Tom Stone

Well, the high school sports season is coming to an end, but the truth is, it never ends for the coaches who try to help kids sharpen their skills and improve year after year. Summer leagues, weight training, and other conditioning activities keep everyone busy. Back in the "good old days," once the season was over, we had fun with our friends or worked on each other's farms. The fun we had came from playing sandlot baseball or pickup basketball games, often beside an old barn with a hoop. Those days are gone, for better or worse—I'm not sure—but it felt like there was less pressure and more fun. But let's face it: how many kids are putting up hay these days? Without organized sports, many kids might be left without direction or find something to do that may be harmful. Times change, and our memories tend to grow sweeter over time. So, coaches keep kids active and focused during the off-season. Let's look at what has been happening in Lewis County sports this past week.

Last week, we had to submit our column a little early, so I want to bring you up to date on Alex Russell, who competed in the Class 2A State Track Meet on May 22 in Lexington. Alex qualified for the state meet in three events, entering with the 10th-best time in the 100-meter dash at 11.14 seconds, the sixth-best time in the 200-meter dash at 22.48 seconds, and the fifth-best time in the 400-meter dash at 50.86 seconds statewide. But no matter how well you have performed in the past, you must deliver on the day of competition. Mother Nature gave the participants a challenge with rain throughout most of the day, but that was not going to keep Alex down. At 10:20 a.m., he competed in the 100-meter dash and placed 13th with a time of 11.44 seconds. Just before noon, Alex ran the 400-meter dash and placed fifth with a time of 50.56 seconds. Around 1:00 p.m., he competed in the 200-meter dash and placed fifth with a time of 22.80 seconds. Overall, Alex was pleased with his performance and grateful for the supporters who traveled to Lexington to watch him compete. Congratulations to

Mr. Russell, and thank you for representing Lewis County so well.

We would also like to acknowledge the accomplishment of Teegan Trombley, who placed third in the KTCCCA State Track and Field Championship this past Saturday. Coach Bloomfield is excited about the future of Lewis County Track and encourages more athletes to come out for the team next year.

The rain finally let up—not that we're complaining, because we needed it—and the Lewis County Little League was able to finish its season. The fields at Central were crowded with players and fans as they soaked up the final days of the season and enjoyed some great games. The next phase of the Little League season will be the All-Star tournaments, which will take place in the coming weeks and eventually culminate in a Little League championship game. Good luck to the teams representing Lewis County.

Now, just a little commentary on the next step in Little League, the All-Stars, and all the travel-ball players out there: make sure the kids are having fun! We all love the movie *The Sandlot*, but we rarely let our kids just have fun. Maybe that is part of the reason some of them quit before they reach high school. Maybe we make it too much about winning and not enough about learning to love the game. We all want to win, and we want our children to win, but life isn't always about winning. It's about loving what you do and loving those around you. Now, I'll stop preaching and get back to talking about sports.

The Lewis County football supporters, loosely known as the Lionbackers, have formed a committee to establish a "Ring of Honor" for former football players who were standouts during their time at Lewis County High School. Not many football players will ever make the Lewis County High School Athletic Hall of Fame because of the nature of the game and the many contributors whose efforts never show up in the statistics. This "Ring of Honor" will attempt to recognize players whom their teammates viewed as standouts on the field. If you would

like to nominate a player for the "Ring of Honor," please email me the player's name and a brief description of his playing days at epb_bill_tom_stone@hotmail.com, and I will make sure the nomination is discussed. The first class will be announced at the first home game on September 4 against Nicholas County.

David Iery joined the WKKS Saturday Morning Radio Show to discuss David Iery Foundation Day at Great American Ball Park, which was held on May 31 as the Cincinnati Reds took on the Atlanta Braves. The Reds have hosted this day honoring David and his foundation for the past 13 years. David spoke about his love for the game of baseball and his passion for passing that love on to the next generation. Through his foundation, he has awarded tens of thousands of dollars in scholarships to players around the state and takes pride in its efforts to spread awareness about spinal cord injuries. David also brought along former Major League Baseball player Herm Winningham, who played on the Cincinnati Reds' 1990 World Series championship team. Herm shared stories about the 1990 team and his baseball career.

I want to thank the readers who have given me input about what they would like to see in this column. I'm going to start adding a few items similar to what Gary Kidwell used to do in "Kidwell's Keynotes." So, start looking for mentions of newborns (future Lions), people returning home to visit whom I happen to run into, and accomplishments by athletes with connections to Lewis County. I can guarantee that I will not be as well-traveled as Gary, and I was not part of the school system where he developed so many great relationships, but we will sprinkle some of those items into the column.

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School Sports
All Year
Long In
THE LEWIS
COUNTY
HERALD

Tax Cuts are Delivering for the American People

By Eduardo Gutierrez

With Tax Day behind us, we are seeing a significant impact from Working Families



HERALD
Eduardo Gutierrez

lies Tax Cuts on everyday workers and families across the nation. Those affected, including service workers like myself, are experiencing the benefits of legislation tailored to support hardworking Americans, including those in retirement. No Tax on Tips, Overtime, and Social Security are helping ease the burden many felt from the high inflation of the Biden era.

This year, I received

~\$1,100 back, which is a 20% increase from what I received in 2025. Many people close to me have felt this impact as well, including coworkers, friends, and family. One friend told me he received roughly double what he got in 2025. Another friend said she received ~\$1,400, and that money is going toward paying bills and debts. She shared that the extra money is real help as she balances school, an internship, and a serving job.

This year's tax season is providing meaningful relief for many. People who have had to pay in for years are finally catching a break and getting more money back. Money that is better spent by the hardworking Americans who earned it than by the federal government.

For college students and young adults like me, this money is crucial. We juggle many obligations that limit our ability to earn income, and what money we do receive back can make a real

difference.

Personally, the money I received this year will go toward my student loan payments so I can get a head start on paying down debt. For others, that money may mean groceries on the table, a new pair of shoes for their children, or help covering everyday expenses. For many in my generation, it goes toward debt reduction and long-term financial stability.

Money being put back in Americans' wallets is improving the well-being of thousands of families. For some, it can mean the difference between getting ahead and falling behind.

The Working Families Tax cuts are a historic victory for American families and provide a clear example of how fiscally conservative policies are making a real difference in people's lives. It shows what happens when policy is designed to support workers, strengthen families, and let Americans keep more of what they earn.

LETTER TO THE EDITOR

Dear Editor,

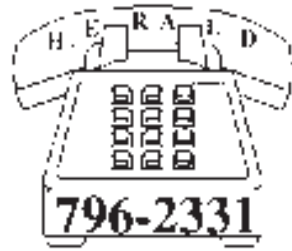
I'm having a hard time understanding that a year ago six council members voted to buy a tract of land by the Vanceburg Housing in south end to give the children of Vanceburg Housing a much needed playground. What a great idea to clean up an abandoned piece of property and turn it into a park for the children and a walking trail for adults.

Fast forward six months and three of those six council members decide it's a good idea to sell this property as surplus and take away the park this is much needed for the kids and adults alike.

What amazes me more is one council member lives right across the road from the Vanceburg Housing. An-

other council member owns a business directly across from the housing. The third council member lives downtown and must be oblivious to what the children's needs are in south end. I don't understand how they can just take away the parks from these kids. Evidently the children don't matter.

Dana Blankenship
Vanceburg



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NOTICE CONCERNING ANNEXATION BY THE CITY OF VANCEBURG

Pursuant to Kentucky Revised Statutes and Kentucky Case Law, notices given to all parties who may be affected that any landowner or citizen who is registered to vote in property being annexed by the City of Vanceburg (and this is only property owned by Southern Ohio Medical Center) has a right to petition the Mayor for an election concerning the question. The petition must be received by the office of Mayor sixty (60) days from the date of publication of the first Ordinance. The first Ordinance was published on the 21st day of April, 2026.

Public Notice 22c

Get texts of Lewis County breaking news, school closings and severe weather notices on your cellular phone.

Text "lewiscounty" to 78015.



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SHOW STARTS AT
★ **5:00 P.M.** ★

★ **RAIN DATE: SATURDAY, JUNE 13** ★