



From the Press Box

By Bill Tom Stone

This past week was a great week for Lewis County High School football as the Lions beat Bath County 18-6 to go 1-0 in district play and 4-1 on the season. This victory does not guarantee us a playoff spot, but as of now, we are in the driver's seat. There are five teams in our district, and over the past few years, one victory almost always gets you into the playoffs, but back in 2021, we had three teams with one victory, and Lewis County made the playoffs because we had a better RPI (Ratings Percentage Index). So, enough talk about playoffs; we have a district title to go after.

The next three weeks will be district games, and we hope to see you at some of the games. First, we take on the Fleming County Panthers in Flemingsburg on October 2nd. Then we have an oddity as we play our next game on a Thursday night at home on October 8th against Russell. We then finish up district play, traveling over to East Carter to take on the Raiders. All the games are scheduled for 7:30 kickoffs.

Before we move on to some other sports from last week, I want to say it was great seeing such a large crowd at the game. The night was full of activities as it was Homecoming and the Paul Westerfield Bowl. Our 2026 Homecoming King was Cayden Stevenson, and our Queen was Ireland Kelly. We also had four football players receive awards for the bowl game. They were Everett Kamer, Jaidance Cottingham, Aaden Bloomfield, and Alex Russell. Congratula-

tions to everyone, and good luck in the upcoming games.

The Lady Lions volleyball team went 1-2 on the week as they defeated West Carter on Tuesday before dropping matches to Russell and Nicholas County. Lewis County is 8-10 on the season and will be having a big week this week. They play a big district game to start the week on September 29th on the road at Greenup. They hope to avenge an earlier loss and capture their first district win. The next night, September 30th, they will play Augusta Independent at home. The final game of the week has them traveling to Flemingsburg on October 1st to play the Lady Panthers. Good luck to Coach Bentley and his crew this week.

Our middle school football team was in action this past week against Mason County. Our 7th graders lost by a score of 14-0. This gives them a 2-4 record on the season. The seventh grade is getting better each week. Coach Fite feels confident that as they play together more, more victories will come. Our 8th grade lost their first game of the season, 30-12, and now sits at 5-1 on the season. Both teams are fun to watch, and we hope to see you at a game soon. This week, they will be at home to take on Greenup County on October 1st. The first game should kick off around 5:30, and we hope to see a large crowd to support the guys.

This week, the JFL football teams were home against the Rowan County teams. Those who came to the game had a great time. This week, we are on the

road to Bath County on October 3rd. Good luck to the teams as they travel to Bath.

Now some BT's Tidbits:

- Remember that you can reach out to me with comments and suggestions by email at epb_billtom_stone@hotmail.com, and my phone number is (606) 541-0305. I look forward to hearing from you guys with information and ideas.

- It was fun to talk with the Ring of Honor recipients this past Friday night at the game. Most of the ones who attended were able to meet up with some old friends and reminisce about the good old days.

- I know that a lot of people keep up with our teams utilizing the KHSAA/Rishers Scoreboard, and that feature is no longer available. However, the Kentucky High School Athletic Association has started a new partnership with Arbitersports to help keep the fans up to date. Just go to the KHSAA website and follow the Scoreboard. Still getting used to it, but it is better than nothing, and after we figure it out, it may be better.

The football season is half over, and it does not seem possible. Remember to get out and support the team over the next few weeks and encourage others to come out. By the way, if you know of a young man who would like to play football, it is not too late to talk with Coach Stamm. They may not be able to play this year, but he can help them get ready for next year and start becoming part of the team. We as adults can only encourage, but that is more important than you know.

The Lions Beat Bath County to Capture First District Victory

By Bill Tom Stone

Last Friday night was a beautiful night for high school football, and the crowd had turned out in force as Lewis County took on Bath County for the 2026 Homecoming Game. It was also the Paul Westerfield Bowl, and everyone was excited to see a great game. They were not disappointed.

Lewis County would come out on top with an 18-6 victory. This victory was important, as it was a district game and gives us an advantage going into the remainder of the season. There are only five teams in our district, and the top four go on to the playoffs.

The game was a hard-

fought affair, with the outcome in question right up to the fourth quarter. Lewis County would score on a 2-yard plunge by Aaden Bloomfield with 2:54 in the third quarter to put the Lions up by two scores. In years past, that would not have been enough to ensure a victory, but this year our defense is playing great. The defense is averaging only 13 points surrendered per game.

The Lions scored first on a 2-yard sweep by Jaidance Cottingham with 4:28 remaining in the first quarter. The extra-point attempt failed. But Bath would answer the score on the next drive as Parker Cox would score on a 2-yard dive. Bath's

extra-point attempt would also fail. So, with 2:02 in the first quarter, the game was knotted up at 6-6.

The Lions would take the lead in the second quarter on a 27-yard sweep by Alex Russell at the 6:39 mark. The PAT was no good, and the Lions would lead 12-6 at halftime. On this run, Ryder Montgomery had an outstanding open-field block that opened the way for Russell to score. On the night, the entire team blocked well.

This victory gives the Lions a 4-1 record on the year and a 1-0 district mark. They will travel to Flemingsburg on Oct. 2 to play the Panthers in their second district game. Kickoff is slated for 7:30.

God's Economy, Sowing, and Harvest

By Freddie Stamm

This has to do with Exodus 23, Joel 2, and covenant promises. But first of all, Genesis 8:22 speaks of seed-time and harvest. For some time now, one of the big news topics has had to do with finances, the economy, and being provided for. I confess that I am including myself in this situation, needing a breakthrough.

First of all, there are blessings and promises in Joel chapter 2. Exodus chapter 23 brings out some covenant promises. Verses 20 and 23 speak of an angel of the Lord assigned to protect us, the believers. When we are living by faith, the Lord will provide for us and bless us. In Exodus 23:27 and Joel 2:27, we will have favor with God. Young people, sons and daughters, will be blessed. Joel 2:28. Christian people will not die before the appointed time. God is an enemy to our enemies (Exodus 23:27). Again, there are blessings and promises in Joel chapter 2. Joel 2:32 teaches us that we will be delivered from harm or oppression—whosoever calls. Please see Joel 2:23-32 for blessings and promises.

I know that this is from the Old Testament, but in Malachi 3:6, the Bible says, "I am the Lord, I change not." God cannot lie (Titus 1:2).

"Jesus Christ the same yesterday, and to day, and for ever" (Hebrews 13:8).

By the way, "hornets" in Exodus 23:28 is probably a figure-of-speech term referring to terrifying panic. Now, I never did like to be stung by any insects—bumblebees, wasps, hornets, honeybees, yellow jackets, or anything that stings. It is not as bad for me as it is for some people. Some people are allergic and end up going to the emergency room when they get

stung.

Again, we as Christians need to live by faith, keep the faith, and trust in the promises of God. We have hope, faith, and assurance. November 26, Thanksgiving, is coming up. Please keep in mind: "Pray without ceasing. In every thing give thanks" (1 Thessalonians 5:17-18), and "Thanks be unto God for his unspeakable gift" (2 Corinthians 9:15).

Blessings in Christ,
Freddie Stamm

Notice is hereby given that the Kentucky Department of Fish and Wildlife Resources, #1 Sportsman's Lane, Frankfort, Kentucky 40601, has filed an application with the Energy and Environment Cabinet to conduct stream and wetland restoration activities at Staggs Branch, which is part of the headwaters of Kinniconick Creek, through the placement and grading of clean fill along a series of ephemeral and intermittent streams.

Stream restoration activities include 16,709 linear feet (LF) of re-establishment, 8,095 LF of rehabilitation, 2,804 LF of preservation (no construction), and 1,615 LF of sustainability (no construction). Additionally, 7.8 acres of wetlands will be established.

The site is located in Lewis County, off KY 59, approximately 8 miles northwest of Olive Hill and 15 miles south of Vanceburg.

Any comments or objections concerning this application shall be directed to:

Kentucky Division of Water
Water Resources Branch
200 Fair Oaks Lane, 4th Floor
Frankfort, Kentucky 40601
Phone: (502) 564-3410

Public Notice 38-40c

Legislative Update

State Representative Patrick Flannery



Week in Review: Housing, state employee health insurance, addiction recovery

It was another busy week for Kentucky lawmakers, with discussions on issues that touch the everyday lives of Kentuckians. We talked about jobs and workforce training, support for veterans and families, health care, child welfare and how the state spends taxpayer dollars. These discussions give us a chance to hear what is happening in communities across Kentucky and look for ways to make things work better.

Statutory and interim joint committee (IJC) agendas included:

Government Contract Review Committee: Legislators reviewed standard personal service contracts, amendments, memoranda of agreement, entertainment incentive agreements and contracts selected for further review. They also considered exemption requests from the Energy and Environment Cabinet to allow federally funded environmental, water quality, emerging contaminants, and electric-grid resilience agreements to extend beyond the current biennium. In addition, members reviewed an exemption to establish limited-term memoranda of agreement for fiscal year 2029 Civil Monetary Penalty projects.

Commission on Race & Access to Opportunity: Members received an update on Kentucky's workforce readiness efforts, highlighting expanding career pathways, rising CTE participation, increasing industry-recognized credentials, and strengthened apprenticeship opportunities. Members also heard about the statewide vision to make college accessible for every Kentuckian, emphasizing customized workforce training, essential student support services, and strong programs that fit employer needs. Finally, members reviewed youth workforce trends, noting the importance of early engagement, hands-on learning, and growing pre-apprenticeship models to better connect students with high-demand career pathways across the Commonwealth.

Capital Projects & Bond Oversight Committee: Members reviewed funding and project items involving postsecondary institutions, including medical equipment, campus infrastructure, and asset preservation. They also considered rest area and military facility improvements, dam repairs, water and sewer grant reallocations, transportation infrastructure rehabilitation, a Transportation Cabinet lease modification, and economic development grants for projects.

IJC on Local Government: Legislators heard about opioid use disorder treatment in county jails, including the potential benefits of monthly buprenorphine-naloxone injections to reduce withdrawal symptoms, cravings,

contraband, and staff time. The committee also received an update on Kentucky's manufactured home industry and implementation of HB 160 (2024 RS), which ensures qualifying manufactured homes are generally treated like site-built single-family homes under local zoning rules, expanding affordable homeownership options while preserving certain local compatibility standards. Members also discussed congressional term limits, including a proposal to amend the U.S. Constitution.

IJC on State Government: Members discussed the 2027 Kentucky Employees' Health Plan and the state's employer contribution costs, estimated at approximately \$1.7 billion in each fiscal year. Because all plan options have changed, all members must re-enroll. The enacted budget also requires actuarial projections and detailed income and expense information for plan years 2026-28, including claims, reserves, inflationary trends and the impact of benefit changes. The Native American Heritage Commission discussed efforts to promote Kentucky's Native American heritage and called for legislation to protect archaeological sites from out-of-state looters. Members also approved administrative regulations on unclaimed property.

IJC on Health Services: Lawmakers took a comprehensive look at how Kentucky is responding to substance use and addiction, including drug enforcement, how opioid settlement funds are being used, access to treatment, and the role of community-based programs in helping people achieve lasting recovery. The discussion also focused on the growing impact of social media on young people's mental health, including how Kentucky can use funds from the recent Meta settlement to support programs that help children build healthy relationships, stronger connections and the skills they need to thrive.

IJC on Veterans, Military Affairs, & Public Protection: Members discussed an overview of Kentucky's VALOR program, which recruits transitioning service members from across the country, helps them quickly earn professional licenses and connects them with jobs. Members also heard from USA Cares about its support and financial assistance for veterans, and from the Kentucky Autism Training Center about training to improve emergency re-

sponse for autistic individuals. The meeting also included updates on veteran-focused efforts by the Kentucky EMS Board and higher education institutions.

IJC on Families & Children: Legislators heard about Maryhurst's work to support Kentucky children and families, including community-based services and residential care for children with complex needs. They also discussed proposed legislation to give schools a foster care toolkit with resources to better meet the needs of foster children. Members discussed ways to support kinship caregivers through respite care, which provides temporary care for children while caregivers manage other responsibilities. The meeting also covered child abuse prevention efforts and updates from the Kentucky Upstream Academy and Social Welfare Foundation reports.

IJC on Economic Development & Workforce Investment: Members heard from the Kentucky Chamber of Commerce on housing needs across the commonwealth. The committee discussed availability and affordability of homes and how the potential legislation can make homeownership more accessible to Kentuckians. Members also heard updates on Kentucky Workforce Development initiatives and the positive impact of the programs in regions they serve.

IJC on Tourism, Small Business, & Information Technology: Lawmakers heard from Eastern Kentucky University about its Global Supply Chain Management program. Now in its 13th year, the program combines classroom instruction with industry partnerships, internships, and real-world experience. More than 350 students are taking supply chain courses, with 95% securing paid internships and 95% of graduates beginning their careers in Kentucky. ECU also highlighted partnerships with major employers, including Toyota, Lockheed Martin, Valvoline, and Fastenal, and its growing role in developing Kentucky's workforce and supporting economic development.

As always, I can be reached anytime through the toll-free message line in Frankfort at 1-800-372-7181. You can also contact me via email at Patrick.Flannery@kylegislature.gov and keep track through the Kentucky legislature's website at legislature.ky.gov.

NOTICE

The Lewis County Board of Elections will be inspecting election equipment Wednesday, September 30 at 9:00 a.m. on the 3rd floor of the courthouse.

Public Notice 39c

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