

EAGLES

Continued from A6

and Semaj Deshields had a pair of rushing TDs as Southern rolled to a 35-7 win. The Eagles were up 21-0 at halftime and were denied a shutout when the Golden Lions (0-1) scored in the final minute of the fourth quarter. “Our goal every week is to go 1-0. and they accomplished that goal,” Kirk said. “They put in the work — and it showed. The boys did what they were supposed to do.” The Eagles hadn’t opened the season with a 1-0 record in almost a decade.

Their last win in the first week was in 2016. “It’s been more of a mental block than anything,” Kirk said of losing openers. “Now, we got a sense of accomplishment and now is the goal is to go 1-0 next week. and if we do that, we’ve got a winning streak.” The Eagles still led just 7-0 before scoring twice late in the first half — once on offense and once on defense. Senior Bryant Brock came up with an interception and returned it 13 yards for a score with 3:17 left. “It was a passing situation. We had him in as a pass defender and he just made a play on the ball,” Kirk said of Bryant. “That

helped secured the lead. That made a big difference.” The Eagles got the ball back after a Garrard County fumble and Beard hit Caden Winkler on a 30-yard touchdown pass in the final seconds of the half. On the first play of the fourth, Deshields scored on a 1-yard run push Southern’s advantage to 28-0. The senior running back scored an an 11-yard run later in the quarter. “If we have the lead, I like to keep the ball on the ground and keep the clock running,” Kirk said. “We know that Semaje is going to get those hard yards.” The Golden Lions scored with 10 seconds left after calling a timeout to stop the running

clock. “We just couldn’t finish it off,” Kirk said. “But, I’m still proud of those young guys who were in there.” The game marked the first showdown between the rivals since 2018. The Eagles have won three of the past four meetings. Beard was 9-of-13 for 169 yards and two touchdowns. Brock had a team-best four catches for 52 yards. Semaj Deshields had two catches for 24 yards and rushed for 55 yards. Southern had 215 total yards of offense (169 passing, 46 rushing). Elliott Smith had a team-best 10 tackles for the Eagles. Dalton Maynard had seven tackles

(one TFL), Brenon Livingston, Cayden Chasteen, Gabriel Kaelin each had six tackles. Livingston and Chasteen each had a sack. Southern is set to return to action this Friday at Henry Clay. The Eagles beat the Blue Devils, 18-6, last season in Berea. Henry Clay opened the 2026 season with a 48-6 loss at home to Collins. The Blue Devils had only 196 yards of total offense (135 passing), while giving up 423 yards (305 rushing). Cooper Dickerson was 17-of-31 passing for 135 yards and one touchdown. Zac Hollein had a team-best 48 yards on nine carries.

CENTRAL

Continued from A6

10.7 yards a carry. “We have a lot of guys back from last year, which really helps,” Herbst said. “Our full-back is back and we just reloaded with our wings. We have so much depth.” Central beat Conner, 43-0, in last year’s Roy Kidd Bowl. On Friday, the Indians scored just two minutes into game after a big kick-off return by Hairston. “He has so much heart and

he gives it all on every play,” Herbst said of Hairston. “I think he is the best return man in the state.” Herbst capped a short drive with a 2-yard TD run. The quarterback scored on a 31-yard run with 6:15 left in the first quarter. Hairston made it 21-0 with a 19-yards TD run. After Collins got on the board with a 15-yard TD pass, Herbst found the end zone again, this time from 39 yards out. Corinthian Barnes — who had a team-best 22 rush TDs last season — scored on a 20-yard run in the second quarter.

Herbst had a 32-yard run with 4:37 left before half to push the lead to 36 points. “It just happened to be that my number got called the most tonight,” Herbst said. “You read the defense. You realize you are free and your family carries you to the end zone.” Hairston had a 20-yard TD run in the third before Herbst scored his final touchdown on a 1-yard run. Herbst finished with 131 yards on nine carries, while Barnes had 87 yards on 11 carries. Hairston had 70 yards on four carries, Gavyn Kinley and Case Thomas

each had 25 yards rushing and Wylie Mathis had 20 yards on the ground. Liam Dailey finished with a team-best eight tackle (six solo). Colten Johnson had five tackles and one sack. Karter Heyer added three tackles. Conner finished with only 109 yards of total offense (58 passing). Central is set to return to action this Friday in Richmond against Johnson Central. The Indians and Golden Eagles have played in each of the past three seasons, with the home team winning each time

— Johnson Central in 2023 (28-21) and 2025 (15-14) and Central in 2024 (25-14). “It’s one of our favorite games on the schedule each year,” Herbst said. “It’s always a very physical game and we are blessed to have it at home this year.” Johnson Central opened the season with a 30-6 win over Letcher County Central. The Golden Eagles rushed for 487 yards and got three rushing TDs from Collin Cantrell (12 carries, 87 yards). Bryson Music had 146 yards on 18 carries and Brennon Daniels had 126 yards rushing and one touchdown.

INDIANS

Continued from A6

Central’s Peyton Ritchie (18:26.11) took second place, just edging out teammate Easton Martin (18:26.88). Central’s Jake Bell (18:38.70) was fourth. Central’s Zachary Smith (19:12.13) finished ninth. Evans Ngetich (21:18.68) was 28th. Kenneth Lehrman (22:32.25) finished 43rd. Williammichael Mutuse (23:51.83) was 53rd. Baraka Rotich (25:45.65) finished 72nd. Nathan Campbell (27:02.46) was 85th and Stephen Schmitt (30:04.49) was 99th.

Model Laboratory’s Shadow Smith placed 25th with a time of 20:46.22. Other top finishers for the Patriots included: Liam Embree (23:22.99 — 51st), Nolan Corman (25:50.09 — 73rd) and Walker Howell (26:33.52 — 80th).

GIRLS

The Madison Central girls cross country team open the 2026 season with a third-place finish on Saturday at the Montgomery County All-Comers Race. The Lady Indians had 64 points. Bourbon County (59) took the team title, while Bryan Station (60) was second.

Ashland Blazer (76) took fourth place. Central’s Alejandra Ramirez (24:15.35) and finished fifth, individually. Lila Mullins (25:01.94) was seventh. Central’s Kathryn Ritchie (27:26.11) took 21st place. Sarah Wilhite (28:19.00) was 30th and Shiwarta Acharya (28:27.46) was 31st. Leah Ravellette (30:01.21) took 44th. Gloria Kipelio (33:04.68) placed 50th. Belindah Yegon (33:55.99) was 52nd and Addilyn Bolton (41:24.62) placed 61st. Model’s Lily Bramlage (34:29.75) finished 53rd. Aryana Hale (35:07.44) was 57th. Rowan Vallender (37:35.34) finished 59th.

PATTERSON

Continued from A6

Central also had a trio of players in the event as individuals — Presley Rice (99), Anna Jordan (103) and Lauren Trimble (109). Madison Southern shot a 425 on Sunday at Peninsula. Elizabeth Daniel had a team-low 97. Abigail Williams shot a 101. Kenleigh Grant finished at 102 and Delaney Gabbard shot a 125. Taylor County’s Kenzie England and Kynleigh Young tied for second, individually, after finishing with scores of 77.

MADISON COUNTY BOARD OF EDUCATION
Proposed Tax Notification

The Madison County Board of Education is proposing a general fund tax levy of 61.6 cents plus 0.1 cents for exonerations on real property and 63.2 cents plus 0.1 cents for exonerations on personal property.

The General Fund tax levied in fiscal year 2026 was 61.8 cents on real property and 63.2 cents on personal property and produced revenue of \$50,359,073.68. The proposed General Fund tax rate of 61.7 cents on real property and 63.3 cents on personal property is expected to produce \$53,527,592.91. Of this amount, \$6,568,614.62 is from new and personal property. The compensating tax for 2027 is 59.3 cents on real property and 63.2 cents on personal property and is expected to produce \$52,689,375.70.

The proposed rate is expected to generate more revenue than received in the preceding year. The general areas to which revenue of \$3,168,519.23 above 2026 revenue is to be allocated are as follows: Cost of collections \$74,932.13; building fund \$890,476.10; instruction \$1,762,488.80; transportation \$264,373.32; and maintenance of plant \$176,248.88.

This information is published pursuant to KRS 160.470. The proposed tax rate is not subject to recall under KRS 132.017. The General Assembly has required publication of this advertisement and information contained herein.

NOTICE OF VACANT BEREA INDEPENDENT BOARD OF EDUCATION SEAT

The Berea Independent Board of Education is seeking applications for appointment to fill a vacancy on the Board representing the District at large. This appointment will be effective until December 31, 2026.

Responsibilities include: setting policy to govern the District; hiring/evaluating the Superintendent; and levying taxes and adopting the District budget.

Board members must:

- * Be at least 24 years old and a Kentucky citizen for the last three years;
- * Be a registered voter in the Berea District;
- * Have completed the 12th grade or have a GED certificate;
- * Meet all other legal qualifications (KRS 160.180); and
- * Complete required annual in-service training.

Applications are available at the Berea Board of Education (3 Pirate Parkway, Berea, KY) or online at <https://www.berea.kyschools.us>. Mail applications to: Superintendent, ATTN: Board Vacancy, 3 Pirate Parkway, Berea, KY 40403. Applications are due no later than September 18, 2026.

Proposed Tax Notification
Berea Independent - School Year: 2026 – 2027

The Berea Independent Board of Education is proposing a general fund tax levy of 87.8 cents on real property and 88 cents on personal property.

The General Fund tax levied in fiscal year 2026 was 86.7 cents on real property and 88 cents on personal property and produced revenue of \$2,977,530.24.

The proposed General Fund tax rate of 87.8 cents on real property and 88 cents on personal property is expected to produce \$3,056,296.62. Of this amount, \$234,898.23 is from new and personal property.

The compensating tax for 2027 is 84.5 cents on real property and 86.7 cents on personal property and is expected to produce \$2,946,491.77.

The proposed rate is expected to generate more revenue than received in the preceding year. The general areas to which revenue of \$78,766.38 above 2026 revenue is to be allocated are as follows: Cost of collections \$1181.50 & instruction \$77,584.88.

This information is published pursuant to KRS 160.470. The proposed tax rate is not subject to recall under KRS 132.017.

The General Assembly has required publication of this advertisement and information contained herein.