

Lady Marshals host annual kids camp ahead of season

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The Marshall County Lady Marshals soccer team hosted their annual kids camp at Colburn Stadium, presenting an opportunity for children from the area to connect with the team with some instructional drills and activities. The three-day event was held on Monday, Tuesday, and Thursday, with campers learning the fundamentals in every aspect from one of the region's top teams.

Throughout the three days, campers rotated between drills focusing on the fundamentals of soccer, such as passing, shooting, and dribbling. They also learned more of the intangibles of any sports, like teamwork and sportsmanship.

"Every year we do this

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provided

The Lady Marshals soccer squad hosted a three-day kids camp this week, a way to interact with the community and help raise funds for the upcoming season.



MSU Athletics

With some offseason work completed, the Murray State men's basketball team will put that work to the test with four games overseas next week.

Racers add early test overseas with four-game European tour

BY MIKE WALSH
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MURRAY, KY — Murray State men's basketball is heading across the pond for some international competition.

The Racers will depart August 12 for a 10-day European tour, traveling through Barcelona, Spain; Mykonos, Greece; and Paris, France. During the trip, Murray State will play four exhibition games across three countries as the team continues preparation for the upcoming season.

European Game Schedule:

- Wednesday, August 5 vs. Barcelona Select
- Saturday, August 8 vs. Maroussi BC
- Monday, August 10 vs. French Team
- Tuesday, August 11 vs. Levallois

For head coach Ryan Miller, the trip provides an opportunity for the Racers to compete against a different level of competition



MSU Athletics

While the start of the 2026-27 season is still a few months away, the Racers will have a chance to see what they bring to the table with four exhibition games scheduled next week in Europe.

while continuing to grow the program on an international stage.

"It's awesome," Miller said. "To be able to go overseas, go against the competition and continue to market our brand, Racer basketball."

While the trip provides a unique experience off the court, the biggest focus will come once the Racers step onto the floor.

Murray State will face international competition featuring older players and professional experience, giving the team an early measuring stick before the start of the season.

"Then, obviously, you get the competition," Miller said. "To go against pros overseas, to compete against older guys, just to

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Ahead of their third season under head coach Jody Wright, the Murray State Racers resumed practice on Tuesday ahead of the 2026 season.

Wright, Racers football resume practice ahead of new season

BY PATRICK CONNOR
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With the 2026 college football season fast approaching, the Murray State Racers are getting back to work on the gridiron, as the program prepares for its third season under the guidance of head coach Jody Wright.

"We had a great summer, and a great spring, and the guys have been working really hard. We're excited to get to work again, and get the pads on soon," said Wright, looking ahead to the home stretch of the offseason. "We feel like we've upgraded the roster, and there's a lot of positive things happening here on the football field. It feels different, and hopefully it's going to look different this fall."

While players only officially reported on Monday, the work for the Racers has been underway for months, often behind closed doors. One key to the Racers' strides forward

over the offseason has been the availability of players earlier in the spring, as opposed to Wright's prior seasons.

While 2025's squad was heavily made up of high school recruits unable to join up until July, much of this year's roster is comprised of returning and veteran players, who seem to have benefited from a full offseason working under Wright's staff.

"There's been a lot of positives we're hoping to build off of from having them around since spring, and being able to put in a lot of work with their development," Wright said, reflecting on the Racers' offseason. "It was huge for us having that many guys [in the spring]. We've had a full off-season with them, had them in the weight room, whereas last year we didn't have a lot of our guys until July."

Along with their work in the weight room, Wright also

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Lone Oak Park to host Special Olympics Region 1 Softball Tournament

BY TRIBUNE COURIER STAFF

More than 325 athletes will take the field at Lone Oak Park in Paducah on Saturday for the 2026 Special Olympics Kentucky Region 1 Softball Tournament, with state tournament berths on the line.

A total of 24 teams from across western Kentucky will compete in seven divisions beginning at 9 a.m. The final games are scheduled to start



at 2 p.m. Ten teams will earn automatic bids to the Special Olympics Kentucky State Softball Tournament, set for Sept.

11-12 in Owensboro. Paducah will be represented by two teams. Other participating programs include

Barren County, Bowling Green, Christian County, Hopkins County, Marshall County, Murray, Owensboro and Trigg County.

Softball remains one of Special Olympics Kentucky's most popular sports, with more than 1,000 athletes competing on 78 teams statewide. Teams participate in leagues, invitational events and regional tournaments throughout

the year before qualifying for the state tournament. Teams that do not advance will have the opportunity to compete in the Team Skills Competition, held alongside the state tournament in Owensboro.

The Region 1 Tournament is supported by Special Olympics Kentucky's year-round partners, Jersey Mike's Subs, Texas Roadhouse and Toyota Motor Corporation.