



Robinson signs with UPIKE

Congratulations to Wolfe County Wolves senior soccer player Brady Robinson, seated center, who has signed with University of Pikeville to continue his soccer career at the collegiate level. Present for the signing were family members and coaches.

Update on 7 cats plus



The six cats in the house: To start out with they are all doing so great with each other—hardly any growls or hissing this week. Willow and Bell rubbed noses and walked right next to each other and got along really well. Jerry still likes playing with their tails and they don't really like that, but they still play nice and no growling and hissing. They are growing they are realizing they aren't that dif-

ferent from one another—their color is different.

Lucifer is still doing so amazing with Bell and Jerry. Just yesterday, Lucifer was laying there and Bell was cleaning his forehead and Lucifer was cleaning her. It was so sweet and cute.

Tails and Rose are still struggling with getting along with Bell and Jerry but they are working on it.

Lefty is still doing great, letting me pet him and rubbing up against the door acting like he wants inside, but when I open the door he walks away. He's got to work up to gaining his trust of that we are not going to hurt him and would love for him to come in and be with his other siblings.

On on March 17th I made sure they all had their green on for St. Patrick's Day—all but Lefty and I didn't want to chance getting scratched.

The four: Lucifer, Willow and Tails and Rose—were pretty okay with the bracelets for a few seconds for the pics but Bell—she didn't like it too well and Jerry was so easily distracted and looked away, which was okay.

The other cat of the family I was going to talk about last week was my grandma's cat up at her house. You might as well

GUEST COLUMN

Legalized gambling: a poison that infects everything

When a single drop of poison is added to a glass of pure, clean water, the entire glass of water becomes deadly.

That is essentially what has happened to a piece of legislation in Frankfort.

Kentucky Baptists are on record as opposing any expansion of gambling. So, we were hopeful that a bill filed by Rep. David Hale that would raise the legal sports betting age from 18 to 21, and ban some so-called "prop bets," would help stem the wave of legalized sports gambling in the commonwealth.

Then the poison was added to the glass.

Hale's proposal was folded into another bill, HB 904, that — far from limiting sports betting — would actually amount to an unconstitutional expansion of gambling.

Yes, HB 904 would raise the sports betting age to 21. Yes, it would limit prop-betting. But it would also legalize so-called "fixed odds" wagering on horse racing.

Kentucky's constitution allows for parimutuel wagering, in which bettors, essentially, compete against each other. But, as the Family Foundation of Kentucky explains, fixed odds betting is even more insidious.

"Fixed odds wagering allows bettors to lock in a price on a horse the moment they place a bet.

Unlike parimutuel wagering, the odds don't change based on the total pool of bets. You're now betting against 'the

say she's also apart of our group of cats, too. She sometimes will come to the top of the hill next to the house looking down and I try not to let my cats out when I know she's out but sometimes I never know when she's outside or inside. Most of the time Smoky and all of my cats get along—it's only Lefty and she don't get along very well. Smoky is a very beautiful straight and fluffy grey cat. She is kind and sweet but she can be mean and claw. But she loves attention and will let me know when she wants it.

Smoky also looks identical to Rose but she has more fluffy fur than my Rose does. Smoky lives with two dogs in the house named Buddy and Misty and she gets along with them pretty good—she keeps them lined in that's for sure and they don't pick on her.

That's all for now on the seven cats and Smoky.

—Angelica Fraley

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a profit margin. The odds are deliberately shaded to favor the house, ensuring bettors receive less value over time."

The organization goes on to say that fixed-odds wagering increases the risk of manipulation and insider advantage, and encourages faster, more addictive betting patterns.

That is the poison pill that has been added, presumably by pro-gambling interests, to a proposal that would have placed common-sense restriction on sports betting.

Did they think we wouldn't notice?

Did they think gambling opponents would drink the poison?

We call on lawmakers to reject HB 904. Pour out the glass of poison and replace it with a clean bill that would help protect our youngest and most vulnerable from becoming ensnared in the trap of sports betting.

And stop taking us for fools.
—KentuckyToday

**ADVERTISEMENT FOR BIDS
CONTRACT 559-23-02
WATER TREATMENT PLANT IMPROVEMENTS - REBID
CITY OF CAMPTON
CAMPTON, KENTUCKY**

Sealed proposals for the following work will be received by the City of Campton, Wolfe County, Kentucky, at the city hall until 1:00 p.m. local time, Thursday, April 23, 2026, for furnishing labor and materials and performing all work as set forth by the Advertisement, General Conditions, Specifications and/or Drawings prepared by Bell Engineering. Immediately following the scheduled closing time for the reception of bids, all proposals which have been submitted in accordance with the above conditions will be publicly opened and read aloud.

The work to be bid is described as follows:

Water treatment plant improvements.

Drawings, Specifications and Contract Documents may be examined at the following places:

City of Campton 698 Main Street Campton, Kentucky 41301	Bell Engineering 2480 Fortune Drive, Suite 350 Lexington, Kentucky 40509
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or may be obtained from Lynn Imaging, 328 Old Vine Street, Lexington, Kentucky 40507, phone 859/255-1021, upon receipt of non-refundable deposit as follows:

CONTRACT 559-23-02--\$400.00 (electronic or hard copy)
All Contractors and equipment suppliers who purchased a contract set for the original bid on January 22, 2026 will be allowed a free "pdf" download.

Sealed proposals for this Contract shall be clearly marked on the outside of the envelope as follows:

"Sealed Proposal for Contract 559-23-02. Not to be opened until 1:00 p.m., local time, Thursday, April 23, 2026."

If forwarded by mail, the sealed envelope containing the proposal must be enclosed in another envelope and mailed to the City of Campton, P.O. Box 35, Campton, Kentucky 40301, allowing sufficient time for such mailing to reach this address prior to the scheduled closing time for receipt of proposals.

Bids shall be accompanied by a certified check or bid bond made payable to the City of Campton, Kentucky, in an amount not less than the percent of the base bid indicated in Specification Section 00200, Instructions to Bidders, Bid Security. No bidder may withdraw his bid for a period of 90 days after the date bids are opened. He may, however, withdraw his bid at any time prior to the time and date scheduled for opening of same or any authorized postponement thereof. Any bid received after the time and date specified shall not be considered and will be returned unopened to the bidder.

The attention of all contractors is called to the fact that any contract awarded under this Advertisement for Bids is expected to be funded in part by a grant from the Appalachian Regional Commission (ARC), the Cleaner Water Program, a federal funds line item grant, H.B. 723, and local funds on hand.

Work to be performed by contractors involved in this project is subject to the minimum wage rates established by the U.S. Department of Labor under the provisions of the DavisBacon Act and the Kentucky Department of Labor, as set forth in Chapter 337 of the Kentucky Revised Statutes (per amendments adopted by the Kentucky General Assembly). Contractors will be required to pay whichever minimum wage rate is higher for the individual crafts.

The federal wage rate determination will be incorporated into the Specifications by an addendum issued prior to the scheduled bidding date, if applicable.

A non-mandatory prebid meeting will be held at the Campton City Hall, 698 Main Street, Campton, Kentucky, on Thursday April 9, 2026, at 12:30 p.m. local time.

Bidders must comply with the President's Executive Order Nos. 11246 and 11375, which prohibit discrimination in employment regarding race, creed, color, sex or national origin. Where the President's Executive Order No. 11246 is shown, Executive Order No. 11375 also applies.

Bidders must make positive efforts to secure small or minority owned business enterprise participation in this Project.

Bidders must comply with Title VI of the Civil Rights Act of 1964, the AntiKickback Act, the Contract Work Hours Standard Act, and the DavisBacon Act.

Bidders must certify that they do not and will not maintain or provide for their employees any facilities that are segregated or based on race, color, creed, or national origin.

Bidders must show a certification of prior work under Executive Order 11246 (Equal Employment Opportunity) as amended.

All contractors and subcontractors must comply with 41 CFR 60-4, in regard to affirmative action. This is to ensure equal opportunity to females and minorities, and apply the time tables and goals set forth in 41 CFR 60-4.

Neither the United States nor any of its departments, agencies or employees is or will be a party to this Invitation for Bids or any resulting contract. This procurement is subject to the requirements outlined in the Kentucky Infrastructure Supplemental General Conditions.

This Project is subject to the Build America, Buy America (BABA) Act requirements.

The City of Campton may consider informal any bid not prepared and submitted in accordance with the provisions of this advertisement and/or the Specifications and may waive any informalities or reject any and all bids.

CITY OF CAMPTON
Kathi May, Mayor

He is Risen

WISHING EVERYONE A HAPPY EASTER!

THE BUSINESS OFFICE OF MOUNTAIN TELEPHONE WILL BE CLOSED FRIDAY, APRIL 3RD IN OBSERVANCE OF GOOD FRIDAY. OUR TECHNICAL SUPPORT WILL BE AVAILABLE FROM 8AM-8:30PM.