

West KY Sports

Mustangs win Christian County Invitational



McCracken County won the Christian County Invitational at Western Hills Golf Course on Friday, July 24.
(Photo courtesy of McCracken County High School)

Staff Report

HOPKINSVILLE — McCracken County won the Christian County Invitational at Western Hills Golf Course on Friday, July 24.

The Mustangs shot a 295 in their first-place

finish.

Jack Farmery, Evan Hack, Brently Gregory, Peyton Courtney and Cooper Webb competed for the Mustangs.

Farmery shot a 71 and tied for second individually.

Following Farmery,

Hack shot a 72 and finished in the top five.

Courtney and Webb each finished with a 76 while Gregory delivered a 79.

McCracken County is a perennial title contender.

Godwin named Calloway County baseball head coach



Grant Godwin has been named the Calloway County High School baseball head coach.
(Photo courtesy of Calloway County High School)

Staff Report

MURRAY — Calloway County High School has announced the hiring of Grant Godwin as its new baseball head coach.

Godwin is a former collegiate baseball player with experience as both a pitcher and a position player. He began his career at McCracken County High School, where he was a two-year varsity starter and competed

in two state championship appearances.

Godwin continued his playing career at Eastern Kentucky University as a two-way player before going on to play two seasons at Motlow State Community College. He finished his playing career at Kentucky Wesleyan College.

In addition to his playing experience, Godwin spent two

summers working with Prep Baseball Report Kentucky (PBR), evaluating talent and gaining valuable insight into player development at multiple levels of the game.

Godwin was an assistant coach for Calloway County in the 2026 high school baseball season. He is excited for the opportunity to lead the Calloway County baseball program.

Taylor named Graves County softball head coach



TJ Taylor has been named the new head coach of the Graves County High School softball program.
(Photo courtesy of Graves County High School)

Staff Report

MAYFIELD — TJ Taylor has been named the new head coach of the Graves County High School softball program.

For the past four years, Taylor has been an assistant coach on the Graves County High School softball team's coaching staff. In addition, Taylor has served as the softball head coach for Graves County Middle School for four years.

"Through the years, I've had the privilege of coaching several great athletes," said Taylor. "It has been a joy to watch them develop into great middle, high, and college softball players."

"Our goal this year and every year will be to win district and regional championships! That starts with building a strong program from middle school up through high school. Whatever the skill

level of the player, it's about getting the girl as many reps as possible.

"Being a GC alum, I take pride in all our sports programs being successful. I'm thankful for the support of my family, my extended softball family, and the community as a whole."

The Graves County High School softball team will open pre-season practice in mid-February 2027.

Murray State Athletics selects development partner Campbell Coyle for capitalization plan of Racer Entertainment Village

Staff Report

MURRAY — Murray State Athletics, through an extensive request for proposal (RFP) process, has selected Campbell Coyle to manage the feasibility study and implementation of the team for the future Racer Entertainment Village (REV), which was previously approved by the Murray State University Board of Regents at their meeting on June 12.

This cutting-edge, mixed-use entertainment district that will be located on 32 acres within the footprint of the athletics sports park and will be brought to life with input from city and state leadership, along with members of the Murray-Calloway County and campus community.

"This new project represents a transformational investment in the future of our university and our community," Murray State University President Dr. Ron Patterson said. "In a small college town, projects like the Racer Entertainment Village create energy, opportunity and connection for our students and community members."

"Our vision for Racer Entertainment Village is that it will be more than just restaurants, retail and attractions. It will become the heartbeat of Murray," Vice President & Director of Athletics Nico Yantko said. "We are building an enterprise that creates memorable experiences, generates sustainable revenue and positions Murray State Athletics for long-term success. Campbell Coyle brings the experience, creativity and strategic mindset to help transform this vision into an action-

able roadmap. Racer Entertainment Village has the opportunity to become one of the most innovative campus entertainment districts in collegiate athletics while remaining true to who we are as Racers."

Racer Entertainment Village is designed to establish a long-term vision for a vibrant campus district that strengthens the University's identity through a live-work-play-cheer mixed-used experience.

The visionary development reflects Murray State's ongoing commitment to implementing a sustainable model of athletics to impact the community and region through innovative and transformative experiences that will serve Racer Nation for generations to come.

"Strong communities are built through thoughtful investments that bring people together," President/CEO of the Murray-Calloway County Chamber of Commerce Michelle Bundren said. "We're excited to see Murray State Athletics exploring opportunities like Racer Entertainment Village that can enhance quality of life, support economic growth, and further strengthen the partnership between the university and our business community."

Athletics will serve as the cornerstone of REV, creating opportunities to elevate the game-day experience, strengthen the Racer brand and establish an active, mixed-use environment that extends the energy of campus beyond competition.

By thoughtfully integrating new development with existing

university assets, Murray State aims to create a destination that supports enrollment growth, enhances economic development and reinforces the University's role as a regional leader through new commercial activity.

Racer Entertainment Village will be able to evolve over time through thoughtful integration of athletics, housing, hospitality, commercial opportunities and other complementary developments that strengthen campus life while supporting the University's strategic priorities and positioning the department with a sustainable ecosystem with access to future NIL opportunities and other competitive resources.

Unlike a traditional campus planning exercise, the project will utilize a development-led approach, bringing together planning, design, infrastructure, financial analysis, market demand and capital strategies from the beginning of the process.

This integrated model ensures that every concept is evaluated not only for its vision, but also for its longterm feasibility and ability to be successfully implemented.

Throughout the planning process, proposed development opportunities will be assessed using key criteria including market demand, financial sustainability, institutional priorities and infrastructure requirements. This disciplined approach will create a realistic framework that balances innovation with responsible implementation while positioning Murray State for future growth.



Marshall County placed fourth in its first tournament in the 2026 girls' high school golf season at Western Hills Golf Course on Friday, July 24. The individual scores for Marshall County were Cecelia Ray, 78; Kelli Roberts, 82; Charlee Murphy, 86; Reese Duncan, 111; Millie Wiseman, 144.
(Photo courtesy of Marshall County High School Athletics)