

# Engineers Golfers Playing Strong

## Estill finishes second to defending state champ

The Estill County High School Engineers Boys Golf Team continues to play strong, this past week finishing as runner up in the Pikeville Invitational Tournament to the defending state champions, the West Jessamine Colts.

West Jessamine finished with an amazing score of 2-over par 290 while Estill posted a season's best of 292, just 4 shots over par. Engineers coach Rick Benton said this was the best score his teams have ever posted.

The Colts were led by Fred Allen Meyer who fired a 7-under par 65 for their second straight Pike-

ville Invitation, played this year at Stone Crest Golf Course in Prestonsburg.

West Jessamine withstood a late charge by the Engineers who were led by senior Phillip Webb who shot a 2-under par 70 which was good enough for individual 4th place.

Junior Andrew Farmer was next for Estill with a 1-over par 73, while senior teammate Travis Adams shot 74. Completing the scoring was Ryan Freeman with a 3-over par 75, and senior Benton Kirby had 76.

The Engineers are off to a great start, having finished second to another

top-10 team, Mason County, the previous week at Eagle Trace Golf Course in Morehead.

Estill also had finished second to yet another top-10 team, Scott County, in the Engineers' own tournament played at Estill County Golf Course.

Estill's first boys team will travel to Nevel Meade Golf Course in Louisville on Saturday to compete in the most prestigious high school tournament in Kentucky, the Kentucky Invitational Tournament. This will be the 50th edition of this historic event.

While the first team was

playing in the Pikeville Invitational, the second team was hard at work in Powell County for their invitational at Beechfork Golf Course. Although it was not Estill's best tournament to date, the boys still managed a 6th place finish with a team score of 360.

Estill was led by senior Trent Spark's 82, followed by junior Jay Winkler and 6th grader Joe Benton's 92, and junior Caleb Click's 94. Sophomore Makane Short rounded out the scoring with a 113.

Estill's second team had previously finished 5th at London.

# Estill Sports

Tuesdays & Thursdays

## Estill County Youth Football League

Estill County Youth Football League signups continue. If your child is interested in playing, please be at the Kiwanis Ball Park before 6 p.m. on Tuesdays and Thursdays. Flag Football is for Kindergarten through 2nd grade - \$40 Tackle Football is 3rd - 6th graders - \$60

Tackle teams are already practicing at 6 p.m. on Tuesdays and Thursdays. Please wear cleats to practice. Flag players began practice on August 12th at Kiwanis.

Stay tuned for additional information regarding cheer-leading information.

Friday and Saturday at Hardee's

## Estill County Youth Soccer Signups

Estill County Youth Soccer signups will be held at Hardee's on Friday, August 16, 6 to 8 p.m. and Saturdays, August 17, 11 a.m. to 1 p.m. The cost is \$50 per child. A sibling discount is available.

Children eligible to play soccer must be born between August 1, 2001 through July 31, 2009.

For more information, please call Staci Owens (606) 726-9686.

Saturday at Hoover Niece Field

## Meet The 'Neers Night

Meet The 'Neers Night will be held this coming Saturday, August 17, 2013, starting at 6:00 p.m. at Hoover Niece Field. Come meet the "Present and Future Neers"!

The Estill County High School Football Boosters will be hosting a fun-filled night of excitement. We invite you to come out to Hoover Niece field and meet your 2013 Estill County High School Engineer football team and all of Estill County's talented young athletes. We plan to showcase football, soccer, cheerleading, golf, volleyball, ROTC, our award winning Marching Engineers and more! There will be great concessions, booths to purchase all things Engineer/Patriot etc., KONA Ice, and Inflatables. Come join the fun and help support your Engineers! Admission is \$3.00. Kids, kindergarten & under, free!

# Biologists battling invasive plants

Imported plants which have established footholds in Kentucky's fields and forests can pose a threat to the state's native plants and animals.

Employees of the Kentucky Department of Fish and Wildlife Resources are fighting back at wildlife management areas throughout the state.

"A habitat team from the department's Wildlife Diversity Program has completed hundreds of acres of invasive species removal and over 1,000 acres of other habitat work," said Chris Garland, an assistant director in the wildlife division for Kentucky Fish and Wildlife. "Additionally, our staff on wildlife management areas (WMAs) focuses a portion of their time and annual budgets on invasive species removal."

Recent projects include removal of bush honeysuckle and autumn olive on Clay WMA and Griffith Woods

WMA; and aerial spraying on White City and Peabody WMA to take out the European common reed, an invasive, exotic grass.

Reeds, which thrive in wet soils and can grow taller than 10 feet, clog streams and wetlands.

Exotic, invasive plants can damage to natural systems. The effects are cumulative. "It's much easier and cost effective to remove and control invasive species before they become established," said Garland. "I urge private landowners to take action if they have invasive species on their property."

In the U.S., it is estimated that the financial and environmental impact, loss of productivity, costs of herbicides and other control measures for invasive species exceeds \$120 billion annually.

At Clay WMA, there are ongoing efforts to remove invasive bush honeysuckle

and autumn olive shrubs. "We had several fields that were completely grown up," said Area Manager Nathan Gregory. "We used a forestry cutter. It grinds up the whole plant until what you've got is bare ground and mulch."

Later, the area is sprayed with herbicide to prevent the stumps from sprouting. "We cleared the fields and forested areas with the densest stands of invasive plants first, including one 10-acre field," said Gregory.

Bush honeysuckle impacts wildlife by shading out everything in the understory, eliminating other plants that wildlife need to thrive. "Once the treated area was opened up, we started getting a lot of native plants that are beneficial to rabbits, quail, songbirds and other wildlife," said Gregory.

Some of the invasive species of most concern in Kentucky include bush honeysuckle, tall fescue, multiflora rose, kudzu, and autumn-olive.

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