

Lady Engineers open up with ten straight wins

It's hard not to notice the big sign on the back of the visitor dugout as you enter James Lonnie Thomas Field. The sign says it all, showing 1985 11th Region, 1985 State Runner-Up, and 1990 11 Region champions, during slow pitch softball days under Coach Thomas; with a whole series of regional wins in fastpitch times, starting in 2005 with a 10th Region win before Estill was moved to the 14th.

From Estill's first 14th Region Championship in 2006, it would be an understatement to say the Lady Engineers have dominated the region. Since 2005, Estill has 329 wins with 203 losses. Since 2008, the Lady Engineers regional record is 144-6. The 56th District Estill record is even more incredible with 97 wins and only one loss in the past 13 seasons.

Estill's only loss in the 56th District since 2006 was in 2011 to Powell County's Lady Pirates. One day shy of ten years later, the Lady Pirates were facing the Lady Engineers once again and went away with a 4-0 loss on Monday night.

Shirley Beard coached the Lady Engineers to that first fastpitch regional win in 2005 in the 10th Region and continued to lead Estill through 2018. Amy E. Kayler led Estill to a 19-11 record in 2019 before Lynn West took over for the Covid-idled season in 2020.

West has a young team continuing the Lady Engineers' "Tradition Never Graduates" as it says on the sign on the field. And, these young Lady Engineers have done it well thus far.

Monday's game was Estill's best start ever with

ten straight wins which is also their longest win streak that could be found in the record books.

Only two current players were on the last state tournament team, juniors Emma Winkle and Mariah Riddell who played as 8th graders in 2018, but the state is already likely on the minds of many.

Estill won over Somerset last week, 6-4, with freshman outfielder Savannah Newton getting 3 hits and one rbi and junior Lauren Farmer getting four hits and one rbi.

The Lady Engineers bested Frederick Douglas 3-2 in Lexington; then won over Madison Southern, 3-1. Farmer had two hits against Southern and Jesse Tuttle got 2 rbi's. Maci Muncie and Lexi Muncie each brought in a run.

Estill blasted defending 2019 14th Region champion Wolfe County, 13-0 in five innings. Winkler had five rbi's, juniors Neesa West and Henlee Hunter and sophomore Jesse Tuttle had two rbi's each against the Lady Wolves.

Winkle has been pitching extremely well for Estill and leads the state in strikeouts including 17 in the win over Powell. She also scored two runs on three hits and Katie Johnson had two hits against the Lady Pirates.

Estill will be at home on Thursday against 4-3 Southwestern; then the Lady Engineers travel to 2-2 Bourbon County on Friday. The 8-2 Lady Wolves from Wolfe County will be coming to Irvine on Monday for a rematch.

The Lady Engineers ranked 21st on Kentucky Prep Softball's April 4th Top 25 and are rated tops in the 14th Region.

Good luck, Estill!



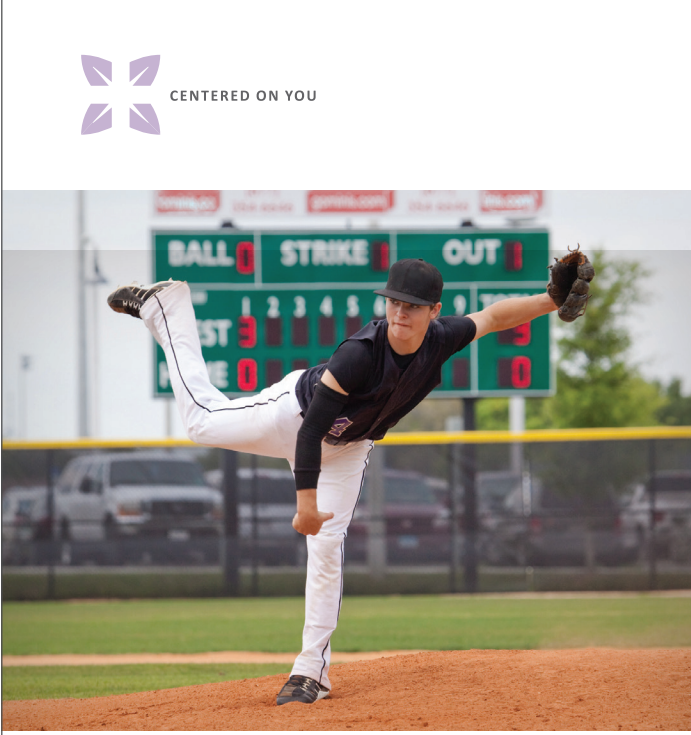
The Powell Lady Pirates (black) look for a way to stop the Estill Lady Engineers with one player on base.



Estill coach Lynn West gives some last minute instructions during Monday's big win over the Lady Pirates.



Lady Engineers get some pre-game warmups



ORTHOPEDIC CARE. CENTERED ON YOU.



BAPTIST HEALTH MEDICAL GROUP INTRODUCES BRENT MORRIS, MD.
For orthopedic surgery needs involving diseases of the musculoskeletal system, including shoulder and elbow conditions, sports injuries, traumatic injuries, degenerative or congenital diseases and more, Dr. Morris is here to provide skilled, thoughtful care. He has received national board certification in orthopedic surgery, and we're proud to have him on our team.

To schedule an appointment, call 859.899.7950.



Baptist Health Medical Group Orthopedics & Sports Medicine
1760 Nicholasville Road, Suite 101, Lexington, KY 40503 | BaptistHealthMedicalGroup.com