

Lady Engineers open with 5 straight wins

The Estill County Lady Engineers have "sort of" been sitting on idle for the past year because of Covid which caused the entire 2020 season to be cancelled. But the Lady Engineers are certainly out of the starting block early this season, pounding out five straight wins to open the season 5-0 and have been named the top team in the 14th Region.

Lynn West took over the head coaching job for the Lady Engineers last year and finally is getting his chance to lead one of the state's leading programs and definitely the top program in the 14th Region. West most recently coached the Estill County Middle School Lady Engineers and prior to that has successfully coached several programs at the lower level including football.

Estill jumped out early and defeated East Jessamine 8-1 in their first game with singles and doubles to gain eight runs on 13 hits. Junior pitcher Emma Winkle picked up her first win of the season.

The Lady Engineers followed that up with a 12-3 win over Garrard County with Coach West's daughter, Neesa, get-

ting her first home run of the season. Junior Lauren Farmer had four rbi's with two doubles and a single, and another junior, Henlee Hunter, had two doubles with one rbi.

Estill entered the 14th Region competition against the Perry County Central Lady Commodores and blasted them with a 11-1 win. Neesa West and Rylee Friend picked up homeruns and had three rbi's apiece. Winkle pitched the Lady Engineers to their third straight win.

The Lady Engineers took on Clay County and put the Lady Tigers away 4-0 in five innings with all singles.

On Monday night, Estill bested the Rockcastle Lady Rockets, 4-0. Sophomore Maci Muncie had a triple, and Hunter and West each had doubles. Hunter had two rbi's and Savana Newton and Winkle each had one. Winkle once again went the distance for Estill.

The Lady Engineers have outscored their opponents 49-5 in the early season and were set to take on the 4-1 Somerset Briar Jumpers last night at Estill. Following that will be Frederick Douglas, Madison Southern and Wolfe.



The Estill County Lady Engineers second year, but "new" coach Lynn West has his team undefeated after five games and ranked at the top of the 14th Region after sitting out an entire season due to Covid. Above, West and his daughter, junior infielder Neesa West, shows off her home run ball scored against Garrard County. (Photo courtesy of Stephanie Patrick West)

Engineers are even 3-3 after hard battle at Breathitt

Estill County's baseball team is now even 3-3 early in the season after picking up a big 14th Region win on Monday night at Jackson.

The Engineers traveled to Breathitt County and came out on top 20-13 in a 3 1/2 hour contest. Both teams battled hard for 7 innings with Estill sealing the deal on a big 6th offensive explosion. Senior Andrew Elam, bruised up from a line shot to the pitching arm on Saturday, got credited with the win in relief.

Estill County had defeated Lexington Sayre 11-6 on Tuesday, March 30, 2021, in Lexington, with second year Coach Blake Crowe getting his first win as head coach. The entire season in Crowe's first year was cancelled by Covid.

Sophomore Thomas Forehand registered his first win of the year giving up 3 runs, 5k, four hits. Engineers junior Lucas Flynn came in relief for his 1st save. Estill County's offense came alive behind the bats of Braden Waddle, Kamden Powell and Whalen Puckett with extra base hits for the Engineers.

Crowe succeeds his father, Brian Crowe who coached Estill for five years, 2015-2019, to finish with a 100-60 record. Brian took his teams to 14th Region competition every year, finishing as 56th District runner-up twice, 2015 and 2019, and Estill won the district

championship in 2016, 2017 and 2018. Best wishes to new coach Blake Crowe.

Estill County fell to Perry County Central in an early Regional match up. Things started badly in the 1st inning after Engineer starting pitcher Andrew Elam took a hard hit line drive off his pitching arm and had to leave the game. Estill struggled at the plate all day leaving bases loaded a couple of times as Perry posted 10 runs to the Engineers' 6.

Estill County entered the final inning against 14th Region rival Hazard leading 4-0, but the Bull Dogs rallied to derail the Engineers 5-4 in a stunner. Rocky Hix had a strong outing and Kamden Powell's bat stayed hot in this Regional Battle.

The Engineers defeated Jackson County, 2-0, on Friday night. Lucas Flynn was on the mound for his first varsity start, throwing a NO HITTER! He ended the night giving up 0 runs on 0 hits with 11 strikeouts.

Estill plays at home on Thursday night, April 8th against 56th District opponent Powell County Pirates. Powell County is winless in three games and will be playing twice more before Thursday.

The Engineers then take on strong competition in Bryan Station, Lincoln County, George Rogers Clark, Bourbon County and Fleming County.



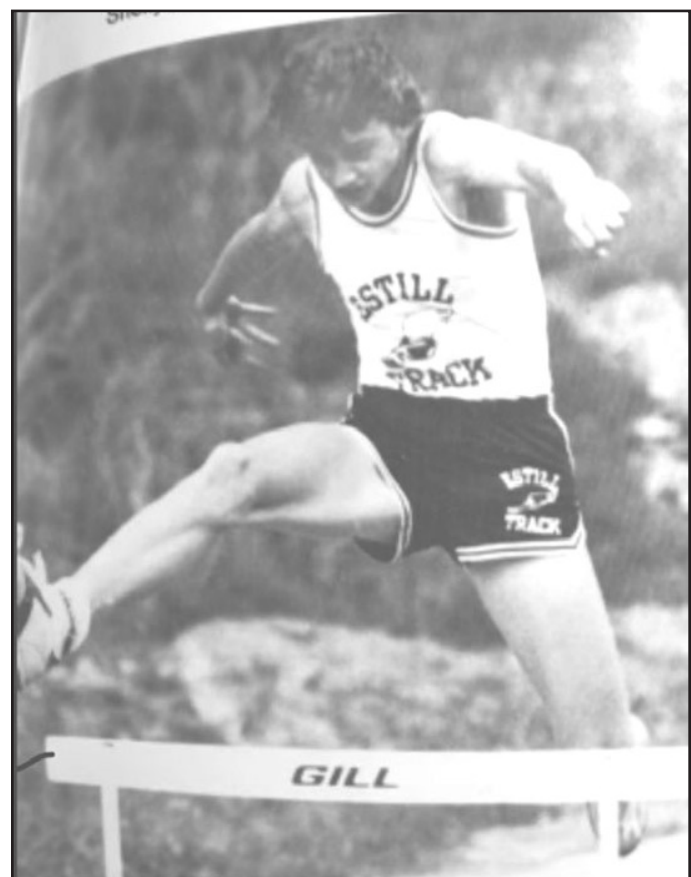
Estill junior Lucas Flynn came in relief for his first save of the season against Lexington Sayre in a 11-6 win for the Engineers. (Photo courtesy of G. Riter)



Sophomore Thomas Forehand pitches for the Estill County Engineers.



Freshman outfielder Vana Newton shows off her first dinger she scored in deep center field in a pre-season scrimmage for the Estill Lady Engineers. (Photo courtesy of Stephanie Patrick West)



A look back to the year 1983 as David Owens competes in the hurdles competition for the Estill County High Track Team. "David Owens makes strong leap over hurdle." That's the caption used in the Estill 1983 Yearbook. The picture was taken during a Track Meet held in Hazard, Kentucky, and is courtesy of William Owens.