

# Engineers 8th Wins Third 56th District Title

## 56th District Finals

### Estill 8<sup>th</sup> 55 – Owsley 23

The Estill County 8th Grade Engineers won the 56th District Tournament on Saturday, December 17, 2016, at host Powell County with a 35-18 victory over Lee County in the semi-finals and a decisive 55-23 win over the Owsley County Owls in the finals.

“We came out strong (against Owsley) and the boys played a great game, winning the title by 32 points,” said Coach Seth Martin.

Cobbe Click, Will Isfort and Logan Riddell all scored in double figures before exiting the game near the end of the third quarter. Isfort led Estill with 12, and Click and Riddell had 10 each.

Estill led 17-6 after the first quarter and the Engineers’ starters headed for the bench as Estill finished the third quarter, leading by 31, 48-17. Every player on the Engineers squad scored.

This squad has won this title in 6th, 7th, and now 8th grade years. “This group of young men has worked very hard over the past three years,” said Coach Seth Martin. “They have a great work ethic and are a great group of kids to coach. I have had the privilege to coach this group all three years they have been in middle school.”

After this game they named an all-district team. Three Estill players made this team, Coben Clem, Cobbe Click and Will Isfort.

“Clem only scored four points,” said Martin. “But was very important in our defense. He helped lead our team by stealing passes and grabbing rebounds that helped us win both games.”

“Cobbe scored ten points in the championship and also was very important on defense and rebounding to help lead us to victory,” added Martin.

Isfort was the leading

scorer in the championship game with 12 points. “Will is a great attacker on the basket,” noted Martin. “He drove the ball to the basket and was able to score or draw a foul and score by shooting free throws.”

“One other thing that I am very proud of about the championship game,” added Martin, “Is that every member of the team was able to score during that game.”

The Engineers are halfway through their season. They are 13-7 overall and their conference record is 4-6. Their next game is on January 3rd against Breathitt County at home. The first game will start at 6:00 p.m.

“Please come out and support your ECMS boys basketball team as we continue our season and look to win the Conference Championship for a second straight year,” added Martin.

## 56th District Semi-Finals

### Estill 8<sup>th</sup> 35 – Lee 18

The Engineers got into

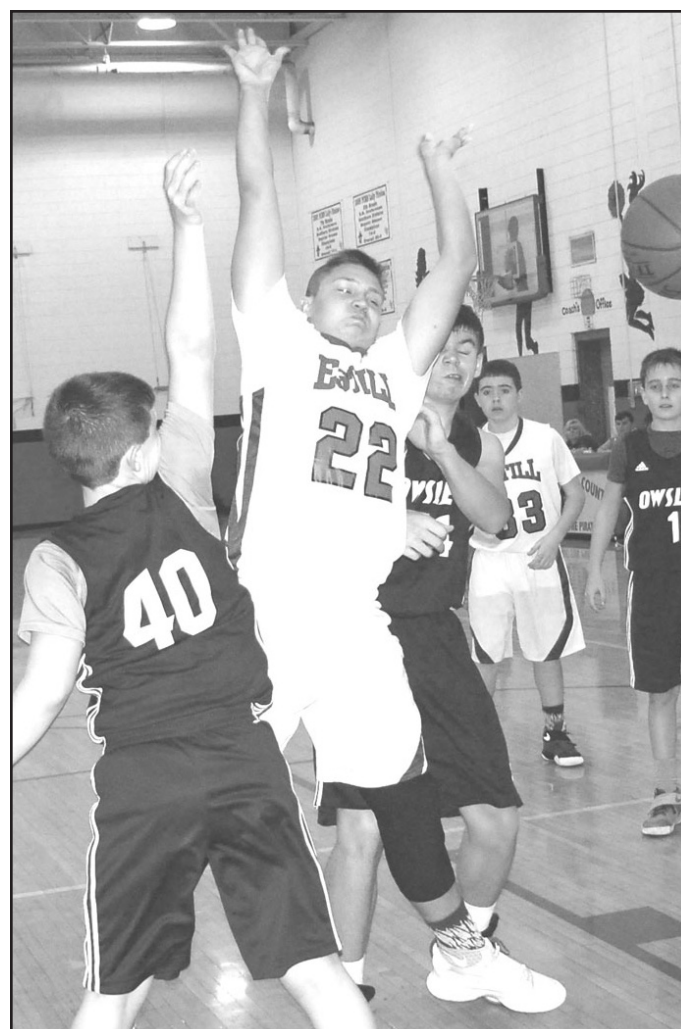
the finals with a 35-18 win over the Lee County Bobcats, also on Saturday. “They came out strong and won moving on to the championship game for the third straight year,” said Martin. “After this game I told them that they would be able to make their middle school career complete by winning the tournament.” Click led Estill against Lee with 14 points and Isfort added 10.

### Estill 8<sup>th</sup> 35 – Foley 33

Estill’s 8th picked up two wins last week, first over Foley, 35-33. The Engineers were leading Foley 31-18 at the end of the third quarter but let them pull back with a 15-4 scoring advantage in the 4th. Estill held on for a 2-point win. Click was also the leading scorer against Foley.

### Estill 8<sup>th</sup> 29 – Garrard 18

On Thursday night the Engineers won over Garrard County, 29-18. Will Isfort poured in 18 points to lead Estill.



Eighth grade Estill Engineer Josh Ledford is fouled hard at he shoots against Owsley County’s Owls.



Estill Engineers, 2016 56th District Middle School Champions -- Left to right, front: Isaac Napier, Keadon Wilburn, Logan Riddell, Andrew Elam. Back: Coach Seth Martin, Waylon Puckett, Dean Tucker, Coben Clem, Cobbe Click, Will Isfort, Kamden Powell, and Josh Ledford. Not Pictured-Trevyn Niece, Dustin Beeler.



Estill Engineers 8th graders, left to right, Will Isfort, Cobbe Click and Coben Clem were named 56th District All-Tournament on Saturday at Powell County.

# 7th Graders Fall To Lee For 1st Loss in District

## 56th District Finals

### Lee 47 – Estill 7<sup>th</sup> 45

The Estill County 7th Grade Engineers had earlier beaten a scrappy Lee County Bobcats team twice and were 6-0 in the district but fell in defeat 47-45 in the 56th District Championship in an unusual finish.

The Engineers trailed early but were able to come back and led during part of the game. Estill was ahead by as much as 4 in the second quarter but Lee led most of the third quarter and the Bobcats were leading 30-29 at the end of the third. They extended their lead to 3, 32-29 in the fourth but Estill was able to come back and even went ahead by 1, 33-32 with 4:01 to go with two free throws by Ty Niece.

The Bobcats promptly sank a 3-pointer to regain the lead, 35-33; then stole and scored again to lead 37-33. Lee forced an Estill turnover and scored again at 2:45 with another 3 to go up 40-33. Another field goal put them up 42-33 and with only 2:21 remaining it looked like they were going

to run away with it.

However, with a nine point lead, the Lee County coach protested a little too loudly after the Bobcats were called for a foul at 2:07 and received a technical. Estill got 3 of 4 free throw attempts and the ball and eventually cut the lead to 2, 42-40 with 1:01 remaining.

Estill actually got the lead again, 45-44, on 1-2 free throw shooting by Landon Napier. But the Bobcats got an easy basket inside to regain the lead in the closing seconds; then stole the ball and hit 1-2 free throw attempts for the 47-45 finish.

“The first loss of the season in district play came at the wrong time,” remarked coach Joe Smith. “The boys fought back but came up just a little short. Congratulations to Lee County, they played hard.”

Napier scored 20 points to lead Estill, including 8/10 free throw shooting. Keaton Henry scored 8 and Niece had 7.

Estill will be looking to improve in conference play with a 4-6 record in the

Commonwealth Conference.

## 56th District Finals

### Estill 7<sup>th</sup> 42 – Powell 34

The 7th Grade got into the championship on Friday night with a 42-34 win over the host Powell County Pirates. Napier scored 15 in that one, including three 3-point shots. Henry added 9 and Niece and Kade Benton had 7 each.

### Estill 7<sup>th</sup> 57 – Powell 24

On Thursday night, Estill’s 7th got a big win over Garrard County, 57-24, in Lancaster. Napier had 15 points in that one, including another three 3-pointers, and Niece put in 12. Benton had 9 and Elliott Hardy scored 7.



Estill 7th Grade Engineer Keaton Henry is heavily guarded by the Lee County Bobcats during action on Saturday, December 17th in the 56th District Tournament championship at Powell County.



Ty Niece (#3) puts up a shot against Lee County on Saturday at Powell County.



Estill 7th grader Landon Napier shoots an off-balance shot against Lee. He led Estill with 20 points.

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