

ECMS Lady Engineers End With 71-14 Record

The winningest group of basketball players in Estill County Middle School history completed their final season on Saturday in a losing cause to Farristown Middle School in the championship game of the Commonwealth Middle School Athletic Conference tournament.

Estill's Lady Engineers went into the tournament a 3rd seed behind Farristown and Rockcastle County but defeated the Lady Rockets to move into the title game.

The Lady Engineers opened up with a basket to lead 2-0 but that was the last lead they held. Farristown quickly scored a 3-pointer, then went on to score 14 unanswered points to lead by 12, 14-2.

Estill made several valiant runs to catch up but Farristown seemed to always find a way to push the lead ahead and led by as much as 16 before winning the game by 15.

It was a tough loss for the Lady Engineers but

this group of Estill girls and their coaches deserve a lot of special recognition for what they have accomplished.

They were pretty downhearted after the game but should be proud that they won one tourney championship and were runner-up twice in the past three years and accumulated a 71-14 record.

They ended the 2017 regular season with a 22-5 record and were 12-4 in the conference regular season and were seeded #3 behind Farristown and Rockcastle.

They previously won the CMSAC tournament and regular season as 6th graders (24-3) and were runners-up in the tournament and regular season as 7th graders with a record of 25-5. This year they finished 3rd in regular season and were runners-up in the championship game on Saturday to Farristown. Estill was the only team to beat the champion, Farristown during regular season.

Estill's top player, Mia Hale, scored 26 points on Saturday, which unofficially gives her 1,586 points for

her middle school career. This squad was coached under Mike Long in the 6th grade, Cassidy Flynn in the

7th grade and Ruth Hughes in the 8th grade. Hughes has been head coach of the middle school program all

three years. Congratulations, players and coaches! See team photo on Page 15.



Estill County Middle School Lady Engineers 8th grader Mariah Riddell looks for an opening during the championship game of the CMSAC tournament final on Saturday at Estill. Farristown Middle won both the tourney and season.

Marching Engineers are State Runners-Up!

The Marching Engineers traveled to Louisville this past weekend to participate in the KMEA State Marching Band Championships.

The top 16 bands in class AA met at Elizabethtown

High School to compete in state semi-finals. From this group of 16, only 4 would advance to state finals at Papa John's Cardinal Stadium that evening.

After a fantastic semis-

run, Estill County's name was called once again as a State Finalist. Garrard County, Larue County, and Adair County rounded out the top 4.

Under the lights at Papa

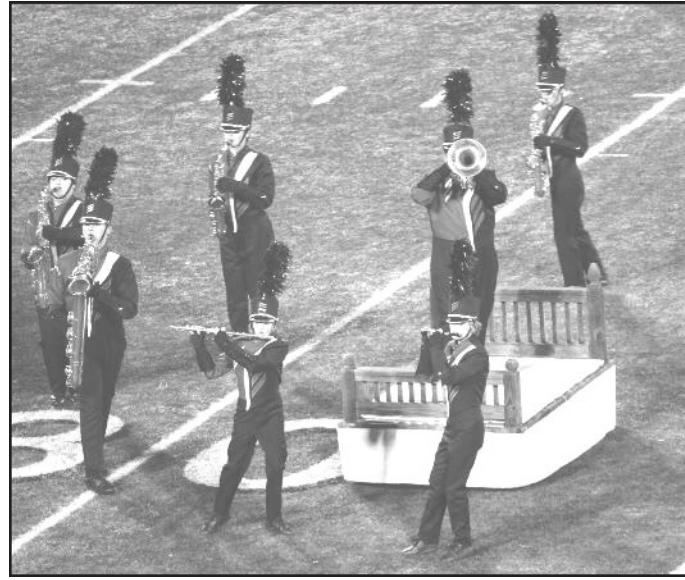
John's Cardinal Stadium, the Marching Engineers delivered the best performance of the season earning them a second place finish and the title of State Runner's Up. This is the

13th consecutive year that the band has advanced to state competition, and the 5th straight Regional Championship.

The Marching Engineers advanced to State Fi-

nals four years in a row, being State Runners' up twice, and winning 2 State Championships.

Congratulations BAND, on another outstanding season!!



Senior girls Eve Watkins, Shelby Barnes, and Paige Hollenbeck enjoy four years of winning. Photos courtesy of Michelle Danyear and Sarah Watkins

