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Estill Engineers Play For Region Championship Boys basketball team is in finals for first time in 63 years

Estill fans swarmed the floor at Perry County Central on Monday night after the Engineers pulled a 61-52 overtime upset of Cordia in semi-finals of the 14th Region Tournament in Hazard for their first championship berth in 63 years.

The teams played close in the first quarter and Estill managed to tie the game 15-15 all after the buzzer when Estill senior Caleb Bonny sank three free throws to erase a 3-point deficit.

However, it was a different story in the second quarter as Cordia completely dominated the game and shut out Estill for a 30-15 halftime lead.

But the Engineers never quit and fought back in the second half and finally tied the score in the final minute of regulation 45-45.

Both teams had a chance to score in the final 37 seconds but the buzzer ended with the score tied and teams going into overtime.

In the overtime period it seemed like nearly everything went Estill's way as fine free throw shooting by Bonny continued.

Cordia threatened in the final seconds but Estill was able to hold on with excellent team play and even added a couple of points at the buzzer for the 61-52 win.

This was only the 8th time in Estill history that they had appeared in a semi-final game. Their last championship appearance was in the 11th Region in 1955 when the Engineers lost to Berea in the regional championship after also having lost to Berea in the district championship.



Estill fans swamp the floor at Perry County Central as the Engineers pulled a 61-52 overtime upset of Cordia in the semi-finals of the 14th Region Tournament on Monday in Hazard. Estill's boys will be in the regional championship game for the first time since 1955, 63 years ago.

Concerns about school safety

by CATHY DAWES
Tribune Staff Writer

A small crowd gathered in the Estill County High School auditorium on March 1st to discuss the safety of students within the district.

The last school shooting in Florida had parents as well as administration on edge and several students were suspended from the high school over threats and suspicious activity on social media.

Superintendent Jeff Saylor said that a principal meeting had been held last Friday to review procedures, address issues, and make changes as needed within the district.

He said that he could not give out any specific details on the changes that were made because he didn't want a potential perpetrator to know about the changes that had taken place and that he was sending out notifications

to the public because he wanted the people aware of what was happening.

Joyce Riftenbark, a mother of four, who spoke at the last school board meeting said that she had been thinking of ways to make the schools safer and she felt like an upgrade to the security camera system was a must.

She said that at her current job law enforcement is able to patch into the security systems and see what is going on at all times. She added that she didn't think students should be allowed to go to their vehicles after school was in session without supervision, and that free movement throughout the school needed to stop.

"I see changes that have been made and I commend you all for that," Riftenbark said.

Mr. Saylor said that capital outlay funds were being used to purchase a new security and camera system that would allow him access from Central Office. With the new security system he would be able to view footage and lockdown any school if need be. The new system would also equip staff with a badge similar to the Life Alert program and they could send an alert to Central Office by touching that badge. He said it would take several years to

get the entire system up and running but the district was making the purchase.



Brian Brooks

Brian Brooks asked if the district was equipped with mass casualty kits and if anyone had been properly trained in life saving skills.

Board member Donna Isfort said the board was working closely with CSEPP to purchase kits for the district.

Brooks said that he would be willing to assist with training staff on those life saving skills.

Charlie Tipton asked whose responsibility it was to look into situations when they occurred. Mr. Saylor said that they worked in conjunction with the SRO and that students that were suspended were required to follow up with mandatory counseling.

He added that in the 33 years of his career he had never been contacted by an FBI agent until last week. An agent from Lexington contacted him because he had heard of a situation and asked if it needed further investigation. He said he has the agent's personal cell phone number and can contact him if the need arises. Not only does he have to protect all of the children but also provide services to those in need.

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Grand jury indicts 16

Sixteen indictments were returned by the Estill County Grand Jury on February 23.

Brian O. Bowman, 48, of South Irvine Road was indicted on two counts of receiving stolen property over \$500 but under \$10,000.

The indictment says on December 13, Bowman was in possession of a Haulmark Box trailer valued at \$3,500 that belonged to Priscilla Sandlin and a trailer which had been reported stolen by Estill Gun & Pawn.

Bowman pled not-guilty at his arraignment on Feb. 23 in Estill Circuit Court. Judge Michael Dean scheduled a preliminary pre-trial hearing for April 5 and a status hearing for April 27. The judge will also review Bowman's

bond. KSP Trooper Ty Robinson investigated the thefts of the trailers.

Three were charged in separate indictments with bail jumping, first degree. They were William G. Eason, 44, Beattyville; Damien S. Young, 24, of Crestwood, Ky.; and Tina Estes, 51, of Stacy Lane, Irvine.

Eason's and Young's indictments say that on Dec. 22, they were released from custody by court order and did not appear at a specified time and place in connection with a felony charge.

Estes was accused of bail jumping on February 6.

Commonwealth's Detective Joie Peters investigated those three cases.

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Obituaries

Linda Adams, 64
Gene Allen, 82
Clayton Angel, 77
Charles Burton, 77
Bryant Clair, 88
Teddie Gentry, 81
JoAnn Stewart, 74
Theda White, 81
Clarice
Wolfenbarger, 63
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New Obits at
EstillTribune.com

SUNDAY
Daylight
Saving Time
begins
March 11
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The ECHS Academic Team traveled to Jackson County Jan. 28 to compete in the Governor's Cup District Tournament. The team came away with the championship trophy. The team traveled to Lee County in February for the regional competition. The FPS and 3 individuals advanced on to compete at state March 17-19. Pictured left to right: Libby Tipton, Hunter Walters, Stephen McQueen, Matthew Combs, Chase Wainscott, Dustin (Fez) Warner, Meg Wilson, Andrew Samplers. Not pictured: Garrett Abney, Haley Jones, and Mimi Richardson.