







Top, McKenzie Lady Rebels won the TSSAA 1A State Championship and are pictured with the gold ball surrounded by cheerleaders, coaches, managers and fans. Left, McKenzie's Savannah Davis drives towards the goal as Gleason's Tinsley Parkins (41) and Ava Sawyers (21) block. Photos by Joel Washburn/The Banner. Center, Zach Aird (11) takes on four Peabody defenders. Right, War Eagle Josh Clark (35) defends the basket. Photos by Jim Potts/The Banner.



Gibson County were all up for the Miss Basketball Award. Savannah Davis was named Miss Basketball for 1A, and the young lady is only a sophomore. Now that the season is complete and trophies have been handed out, the staff of The McKenzie Banner says congratulations to our local

Rebels and West Carroll War Eagles made it to

Trenton-Peabody boys knocked the Rebels out of the tournament and made it to the finals before being defeated by East Robertson. Jackson-South Side's boys and girls made it to the championship round. The boys were beaten by Greeneville and the girls by Upperman. Milan's boys also made it to the big dance before

the quarter-finals in the tournament.

being knocked off by East Nashville.

teams (represented in this edition) who made the tournament; and special congratulations to the McKenzie Lady Rebels on a stellar season and making history. Securing a berth in the state tournament is

not an easy task. We are proud of all teams no matter the outcome.

Keep up the good work and keep your eye on the prize.

Best Wishes and Congratulations, Joel, Teresa, Brittany, Jason, Janna and Jim





To McKenzie Rebel fans and sup-

porters:

This has been an incredible year for both of our basketball teams. 2 district championships, 2 region championships, and both teams advancing to the state tournament at Murfreesboro with the girls team bringing home a Gold ball. We have been very blessed to take both teams to Murfreesboro in consecutive weeks and allow the players to have an experience they'll never forget.

None of this would have been possible without the overwhelming and extremely generous support from our community. These kids got to travel in comfort, stay in a nice hotel, and eat good food without worrying about what it cost.

I can not express to you how special that was to these student athletes and they were so blessed to make memories they will carry with them for the rest of their lives. We are so blessed to have such strong support from Mr. Spivey, Mr. Watkins and the rest of our school system and administration who love our kids and do everything they can to support not only the basketball team, but the cheerleaders, the other sports teams and just our students in general.

Many of our local businesses and individuals both donated generous amounts of money to make sure these kids had everything they needed. We are also very appreciative of the Rebounder's Club and the parents that spent many hours helping us fund-raise and plan/ organize for our trips. We are very blessed to have such a strong, supportive community and we thank you for your generosity.

We would not have been able to do it without your support both financially and also a huge thank you to those of you who showed up at the games and helped cheer us on our historic playoff runs. It's been such a fun year and we look forward to next year.

It's great to be a Rebel!

Sincerely from my family, John, Lauren, Claire, Hadley & Millie Wilkins

















1. McKenzie Lady Rebels Starters — (L to R) Briley Auvenshine, Kylie Reynolds, Dani Dyer, Mikaela Reynolds and Savannah Davis are all smiles after Saturday's championship win. Photo by Joel Washburn/The Banner 2. Senior Dani Dyer greets awaiting fans at McKenzie High School as she exits the bus. The reflections of the fans can be seen in the reflective ball. Photo by Jim Potts/The Banner 3. Coaches Ashley Barker Lowe and John Wilkins. 4. McKenzie Cheerleaders pep up the crowd. 5. Briley Auvenshine shoots from the foul line. 6. Katie Chesser (1) shoots. 7. 2021-22 McKenzie Lady Rebels team is joined by members of the 1960 and 1963 McKenzie Rebelettes, that competed in the state tournaments in the 60s. (L to R) Kay Brown, Paula Watkins and Diane Stafford. 8. Coach Wilkins and wife, Lauren, embrace after the Lady Rebels state victory. Photos by Joel Washburn/The Banner



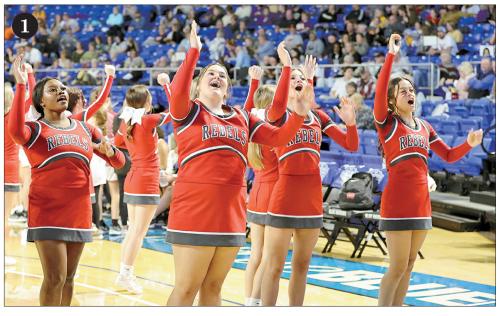
CONGRATULATIONS McKENZIE REBELS AND LADY REBELS ON A GREAT SEASON!



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Congratulations to all area teams! — The Banner













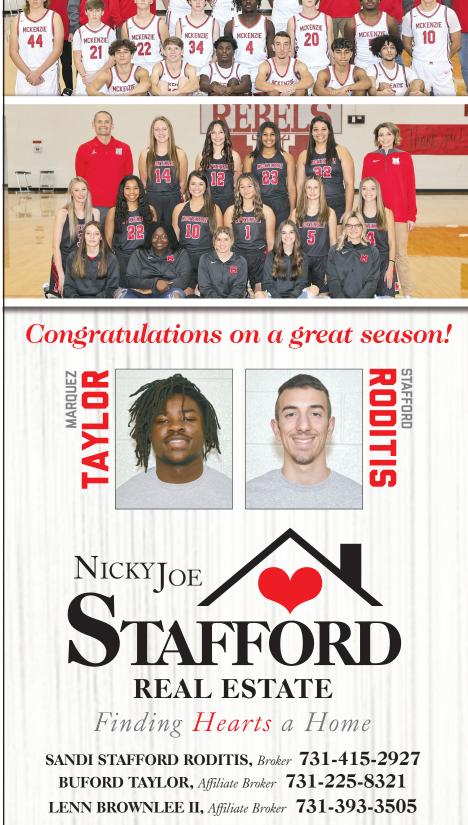






1. Rebels Cheerleaders get the crowd pumped. 2. Madison Gilbert shoots from the foul line. 3. Coach John Wilkins. 4. Dani Dyer moves into the lane. 5. Dani Dyer works around her opponent. 6. Mikaela Reynolds moves against North Greene players. 7. Rebel fans cheer on their team. 8. Lady Rebels order their championship rings from Balfour. Photos by Joel Washburn/The Banner

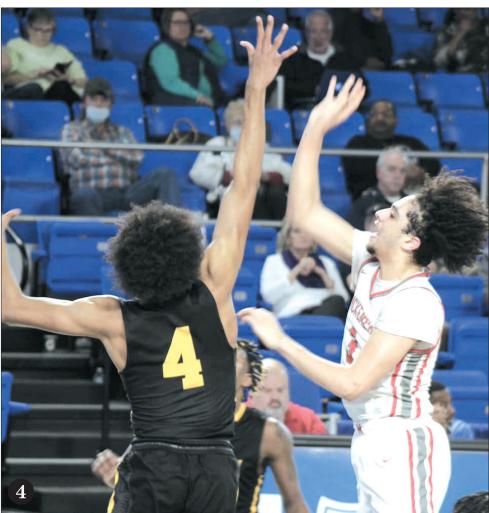








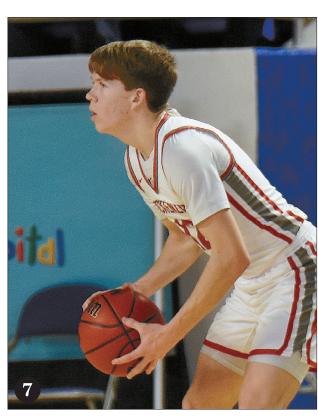




1. Coach John Wilkins concentrating on the action. 2. Zach Aird (11) works the ball through defenders. 3. Marquez Taylor shoots a jumper against Peabody. 4. Bryson Steele (3) goes up for the tip to start the game. 5. Tate Surber (10) ducks under a defender for a shot attempt. 6. Stafford Roditis (23) takes a three-pointer. 7. Zayden McCaslin (12) gets ready to shoot a three. Photos by Jim Potts/The Banner and Mallory Welch



















Lady Rebels Make History With State Championship

Gold Ball Comes to McKenzie

BY JASON R. MARTIN

jmartin@mckenziebanner.com MURFREESBORO (March 12) — The McKenzie Lady Rebels made team history Saturday night with their first state championship. The Lady Rebels defeated the Wavne County Lady Wildcats 46-42, McKenzie made it to the big dance with state championship series wins against North Greene and Gleason. Despite heavy snowfall and a delayed tipoff, McKenzie stayed focused and true to their game.

Both teams were evenly matched with a pair of Miss Basketball Finalists, Savannah Davis for McKenzie and Savanna Mc-Clain for Wayne County. And both teams faced their own struggles for the majority of the game, the Lady Rebels were out rebounded nearly two-to-one and the Lady Wildcats turned the ball over nearly two-to-one

Statistically, neither team dominated in other than the aforementioned categories. McKenzie was 18 of 50 from the floor shooting 36% with four of 17 three-pointers. From the foul line, the Lady Rebels shot 45.2% hitting six of 13. They had 24 total rebounds, 13 personal fouls and 10 turnovers.

Wayne County was 17 of 44 with a field goal percentage of 38.6% and went three for nine from beyond the arc. The Lady Wildcats shot 71.4% on free throws knocking down five of seven. Capping it off, they had 41 rebounds accompanying 13 personal fouls and 23 turnovers.

In the opening quarter. both teams seemed to struggle with a case of nerves. Wavne County was able to take an early 2-1 despite two turnovers. Blair Baugus nailed a jumper putting the Lake Wildcats up 4-1. Ladv Rebel Mikaela Reynolds came up with a steal and tacked on two points.

Wayne County increased their lead by six, following after two Lauren Bryant put up five points in less than a minute. The Ladv Wildcats led 11-5 with 3:40

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to go in the quarter. Kylie Reynolds drew a shooting foul, picking up one of two free throws.

After Baugus' seventh point of the quarter, Davis turned up the pressure putting the Lady Rebels on a seven-point run against Wayne County. Davis had a pair of buckets for five points and a steal and assist to Mikaela Reynolds tying the game 13-13 to send the first quarter.

The second quarter looked much like the first, as the Lady Rebels were unable to come away with the rebound, but capitalized off Lady Wildcat turnovers and fouls. Davis and Briley Auvenshine came to the line putting the McKenzie lead at 16-15 but were unable to hold it very long as Baugus worked her way inside the paint for two.

Dyer regained the lead for McKenzie (18-17) while putting McClain in foul trouble as she drew her third personal foul of the half. Davis increased the lead 22-19 with two consecutive buckets. Wayne County was back on top (23-22) as Cambree Camfield worked inside the paint for a deuce and then followed up with

Mikaela Reynolds took the lead back 24-23 followed by Dyer capitalizing off of Wayne County's fourteenth turnover starting a nine-zero run. Davis added her thirteenth point of the quarter with a put-back and Katie Chesser closed the half with a three-pointer from off the bench. The half ended with McKenzie leading 31-23.

At the halfway point, the Lady Rebels shot 46.2%, going 12 for 26 with eight rebounds, five turnovers, eight steals and three personal fouls. The Lady Wildcats shot 45.8% from the floor, going 11 of 24 with 20 rebounds, fifteen turnovers. three steals and five personal fouls.

The McKenzie lead would be challenged for the remainder of the game as both teams scored twelve points in the third quarter and Wavne County outscored McKenzie seven to

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three in the final quarter. The Lady Rebels made a

few halftime adjustments that improved their rebounding percentage, but Wayne County was still dominant inside the paint. After three minutes of play, the McKenzie lead was 35-

The remaining minutes of the quarter belonged to Davis, Chesser and Mikaela Revnolds, who combined for eight points. The McKenzie lead at the end of the third quarter was 43-33.

Eight minutes away from their first state championship, the Lady Rebels pulled out of the run-and-gun offense to a more methodical spread offense attempting to play keep away from Wayne County. The shift nearly cost McKenzie as they were outscored three-seven.

With less than a minute. Wayne County pulled to within three points as Baugus and McClain pounded the glass combining for four points. With 36 seconds remaining, McClain was called for her fifth and final personal foul. Kylie Reynolds picked up McKenzie's final point of the night from the foul line, topping the score off at 46-42 and a state championship.

Davis led the Lady Rebels with 17 points, five rebounds and three steals. Mikaela Reynolds had 11 points, two rebounds and three steals. Dyer had seven points, four rebounds and three rebounds. For Wayne County, Baugus had 16 points, 12 rebounds and one steal. Lauren Bryant had 10 points with three rebounds. McClain had three points with 12 rebounds and one steal.

The Lady Rebels finished the stellar season with a 32-2 record that included a district, region and state championship. This was the first state appearance for the Lady Rebels basketball team since 1963. Sophomore and Miss Basketball finalist Savannah Davis was named tournament MVP.

See photos on pages 1-3.

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Lady Rebels Continue State Run Against Lady Bulldogs

BY JASON R. MARTIN

MURFREESBORO (March 11) — On Friday evening, the #1 ranked McKenzie Lady Rebels and the #14 ranked Gleason Lady Bulldogs squared off in a winner-takes-all battle to play for the BlueCross Girls State Basketball Championship. After four quarters of hard-fought play, the Lady Rebels picked up the 58-46

McKenzie was forty percent from the floor picking up eighteen points from behind the arc. Gleason shot fifty percent with two three-pointers. The Lady Rebels were twelve of fifteen from the charity stripe, while the Lady Bulldogs were ten of thirteen.

The Lady Rebels turned the ball over nine times and the Lady Bulldogs lost the ball fifteen times. McKenzie had thirty rebounds to Gleason's twenty.

The first quarter of action was an even ebb and flow between the pair of opponents. The Lady Rebels took the first lead but Lady Bulldog and Miss Basketball Finalist Alayna Anderson tied things up at two apiece. At the 4:19 part, McKenzie's Miss Basketball Finalist Savannah Davis tied the game at 5-5 after hitting the andone foul shot.

Carrington Lifsey for Gleason reclaimed the Lady Bulldog lead only to have the Lady Rebels reclaim the lead 8-7 with a quick three from Davis. With less than three minutes to play in the quarter, Anderson drove the paint, drawing a shooting foul off Briley Auvenshine.

McKenzie's Katie Chesser hit a trey to retake the lead, 13-11 with under two minutes in the quarter. Lifsey squared things at 13-13 with under two minutes remaining in the first quarter.

In the opening minute-fiftv seconds both teams were scoreless but the second quarter favored the Lady Rebels fourteen points to the Lady Bulldogs' eight points. Davis regained the McKenzie lead 15-13 following putting up two points from the free-throw line after drawing the foul from Autumn Mingle.

McKenzie amped up their defense running a full-court press but was called for defensive fouls. Lifsey went to the line cutting the McKenfive minutes to play in the

Dani Dyer drove inside the key into the heart of the Gleason defense picking up two. She then picked up three points from long-range putting the Lady Rebels up 24-17 with under two to play in the half.

Lady Bulldog Daisv Blevins kept her team within range with a much-needed offensive and put-back. putting the score 24-19 in favor of the Lady Rebels. Hannah Dillingham came off the bench for McKenzie hitting a huge three-pointer from the corner. Lifsev scored the final points of the quarter as McKenzie closed the half with a 27-19

McKenzie led for a total of eight-and-a-half minutes in the half. Through six lead changes, Gleason led for just under three minutes.

The final two quarters worked in favor of the Lady Rebels as they outscored the Lady Bulldogs 31-25. Gleason worked to narrow the McKenzie lead in hopes of possibly knocking off the #1 ranked Lady Rebels. After a series of turnovers and blocked shots, it was inevitable McKenzie would advance.

Anderson logged the first points of the third quarter, but Dyer responded with an up and under at the baseline. Auvenshine was able to add three for the Lady Rebels after backing the basket and picking up the extra point from the foul shot. With under six minutes to go in the quarter, McKenzie led 32-25.

Dyer picked up the trey on a step-back jumper. The shot was met by a three-pointer from Gleason's Tinsley Parkins. With under one minute in the third quarter, Chesser picked up her secenzie went up 43-32. Lifsey drew the shooting foul off Auvenshine (her fourth of the game) as the quarter ended with the Lady Rebels up 43-34.

With one quarter remaining and a nine-point lead. the clock was the only obstacle standing in the way of a Lady Rebel state championship appearance. McKenzie went on the defensive working the time off the clock but still increased their lead.

Dyer and Davis were able to pick up points putting the Lady Rebels up 49-38 with under five minutes to play. Anderson and Lifsey worked with precision to cut the McKenzie lead to less

After a timeout called by McKenzie's Coach John Wilkins, the Lady Rebels were able to adjust and continue their march through Murfreesboro in hopes of a championship. As the buzzer sounded to end the game, McKenzie advanced to the championship round taking down Gleason by a score of 58-46.

Davis led the Lady Rebels with 24 points, nine rebounds, three assists and one block. During the game, she scored her 1000th career point. Dyer was four of eight for twelve points with seven rebounds and one assist. For Gleason, Lifsey had 19 points and Anderson finished the night with 14 points and 4 rebounds.

Saturday, March 12, the Lady Rebels hit the court for the last time this season in hopes of bringing home the gold ball. The McKenzie Lady Rebels played the Wayne County Lady Wildcats at the Murphy Center at 6:30 p.m. CST.

See photos on pages 1, 3

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Lady Rebels Advance to Semifinals

BY JASON R. MARTIN

jmartin@mckenziebanner.com

MURFREESBORO (March 10) — The McK-enzie Lady Rebels picked up an opening round win in the TSSAA BlueCross State Championship Tournament. The McKenzie 58-44 victory over North Greene, was the first championship series win for the Lady Rebels since 1960.

The McKenzie Lady Rebels controlled the game from tip-off to the final horn against the Lady Huskies of North Greene. McKenzie put up the first field goal of the game and lead the entire way. Looking at the stats, the Lady Rebels were 22 of 55 with fifteen points from three-point range with nine points off of the foul line. North Greene was 17 of 43 with five three-point shots and five points from the free

Lady Rebel Dani Dyer put up the first points for McKenzie as the Lady Rebels kept the foot on the gas for the majority of the game. McKenzie's swarming defense made it hard for North Greene to find their rhythm. As North Greene pulled within one point of the Lady Rebels, Briley Auvenshine and Katie Chesser knocked down a pair of threes putting McKenzie up 12-5 with just under a minute to play in the first quarter. Lady Husky Hailee English scored from behind the arc narrowing



the McKenzie's lead, but Mikaela Reynolds put up the duce to cap the quarter lead at 14-8.

McKenzie continued its aggressive play in the second quarter leading by as much as nine points. Savannah Davis led the offense down the court for most of the half, but went two for seven from the floor. Dver led the Lady Rebels in points scored with nine and Auvenshine led in total rebounds with six. The half time score was Lady Rebels 30, Lady Huskies 21.

The third quarter did little to help North Greene chances of winning. The Lady Huskies were three of seven from the floor. For McKenzie, Kylie Reynolds was able to pick up points from within the paint while Auvenshine heated up from three-point line. Davis began to heat up as she and the Reynold sisters put

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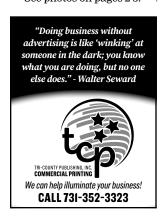
up the final six points of the quarter. The McKenzie Lady Rebels led 47-29.

The Lady Rebels spread out the offense eating up as much clock as possible in the fourth quarter. In a game of attrition, McKenzie worked the ball slowly down court working their way through North Greene traps and double teams. At game's end, the Lady Rebels picked up the 58-44 win over the North Greene Lady Huskies.

Auvenshine led McKenzie in scoring with 18 points (nine points from long-range) and in rebounds with 10. Dyer had 13 points and five rebounds. Davis had nine points and six rebounds. Kylie Reynolds had eight points and three rebounds. Mikaela Reynolds had six points

and three rebounds. For North Greene, Shelby Davenport led in scoring with 14 points and seven rebounds. Hailee English followed with 12 points and one rebound.

See photos on pages 2-3.



McKenzie's Davis Wins Class A Miss Basketball Award

MURFREESBORO (March 14) — Lady Rebel sophomore Savannah Davis was named Class A Miss Baskethall during a ceremony in the MTSU Murphy Center on Monday afternoon, March 14 after leading the Lady Rebels to their first-ever State Championship. She added to numerous other awards including All-District 11A Tournament Co-MVP and All-Region 6A Tournament

Davis has been a starter for two years and averaged 18.8 points, 6.4 rebounds, 3.1 assists, and 2.7 steals per game. Davis shoots 42 percent from the field, 42 percent from three-point range, and 75 percent from the free throw line. Savannah earned her 1,000th high school career point during the state tour-

The other two finalists for the award were Gleason's Alayna Anderson and Unaka's Lyndie Ramsey.

Anderson was a senior guard starting for the last two years. She averages 20.1 points, 4.1 assists, and 4.9 steals per game. Anderson shoots 52 percent from the field, 36 percent from threepoint range, and 75 percent from the free-throw line. She has scored over 1,100 points in her career at Gleason.

Ramsey is a junior guard and a three-year starter. She averages 25.9 points, 6.9 rebounds, 4.1 steals and two blocks per game. She shoots 42 percent from the field, 44 percent from three-point range, and 82 percent from the free throw line. Ramsey has scored over 1,800 points in her career at Unaka.



McKenzie Lady Rebel Sophomore Savannah Davis accepts her trophy as Class 1A Miss Basketball.

McKenzie Lady Rebels Built on Last Season's Success

BY JOEL WASHBURN

washburn@mckenziebanner.com

MURFREESBORO (March 12) — The loss to Loretto in the 2021 season was a motivator for the 2021-22 campaign and springboard to the 2022 state championship.

Coach John Wilkins, who coaches both the men's and ladies' program at McKenzie High School, said the Lady Rebels were bothered by last year's loss that denied them a trip to the state tournament in Class 2A. After reclassification to Class 1A for the 2021-22 campaign, the Lady Rebels spend countless hours in the gymnasium in the off season and shot 'thousands' of baskets readying themselves for the first-ever state championship for the Lady Rebels. The team defeated all Class 1A competitors this season, losing only to two Class 2A - Westview and Gibson County. Westview was the eventual state champion of

Class 2A The McKenzie team (Rebelettes) had made appearances in 1960 and 1963, but never earned a silver or gold ball. This year was 'our year' as the t-shirts read. In the first-ever time in Rebels' history, both the Lady Rebels and Rebels advanced to the state tournament.

Dyer, Davis, Briley Auvenshine, and Coach Wilkins participated in the post championship game interview.

During the interview, senior Dani Dyer, said this is a day she will never forget. "I could not ask for any better way for it to end. It is amazing."

But, she noted to reporters, it is also sad to end her play-

ing career. Savannah Davis, who was $named\ MVP\ of\ the\ game\ and$ (later named Miss Basketball on the following Monday), said the team members are close to one another. She said of her teammates, she would not want to do it with "anyone else."

When asked about playing Westview and Gibson County, Auvenshine said playing the two teams helped the Lady Rebels prepare for tough competitions.

The ladies were very complimentary of the hometown fans, who traveled 2.5 hours to watch them play. "It gives you chills to walk into the gym and hear the cheers,' said Dyer. It was also an unusual situation, with McKenzie fans traveling home Friday night in a blowing snow and then returning Saturday to a championship game, with a time delay because of the clearing of snow at the Murphy Center on the campus of MTSU.

In the championship game with Wayne County, the team's shooting percentage waned, but Coach Wilkins said that's where the team's defense was an advantage.

The team limited Wayne County's best shooter to three points.

In the fourth quarter, the Rebels scored only three points and worked to limit the success of Moore County. As the minutes waned, the Lady Rebels stalled the ball and practiced time management. Kylie Reynolds earned the final point for the Lady Rebels on a foul shot.

Wilkins said the Lady Rebels worked for it. They all bought in and did what they needed to do.

He praised Assistant Coach Ashley Barker Lowe for taking care of many things behind the scenes, including the lady players. He said she breaks down film and gets the team prepared. She does lots of work that nobody notices, said Wilkins, who noted she is a phenomenal asset.

Speaking of Savannah Davis, who was MVP of the district, region, state championship, Coach Wilkins said, Savannah, had a great freshman year and grown a bunch during her sophomore year. She draws the best defender every night. That leaves her teammates open, who can also land shots. I am proud of her and she was only get better in her last two years of high school.

When asked about his future teams, Wilkins said, once you leave the state tournament, vou never know when you get back.

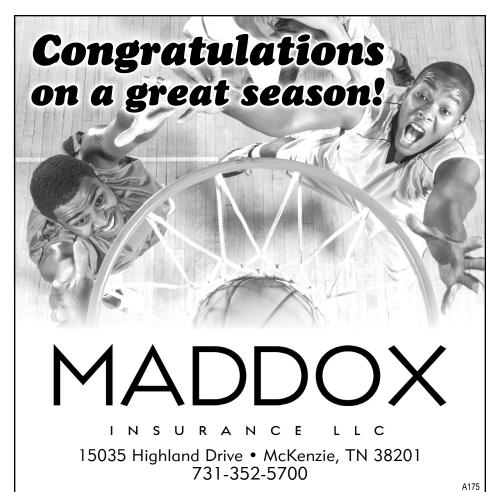


Allegion/Republic Doors & Frames would like to congratulate all the local teams that made it to the TSSAA basketball state tournament. We are especially proud of the McKenzie Lady Rebels basketball team for bringing home the **Class A Championship Gold Ball!**



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Rebels Fall Short in Quarterfinals

BY JIM POTTS

jpotts@mckenziebanner.com

MURFREESBORO (March 17) — McKenzie's Rebels drew another West Tennessee team in the first round of the boys' state tournament taking on Trenton Peabody's Golden Tide. The Tide came into the tournament with a 23-9 record while the Rebels posted a 21-8 record.

The first two minutes of the game was scoreless with Trenton jumping out to a 6-0 lead during the next two minutes. McKenzie answered with back-to-back baskets to make it a 6-4 contest. The Tide retook the lead until the Rebels tied it 10-10 with just under a minute to play in the first period. Trenton hit a last-second basket taking a 12-10 lead to close the period.

12-10 lead to close the period. Trenton hit a basket plus back-to-back three pointers while holding McKenzie to just one basket in the first four minutes of the second period taking a 20-12 lead. Points became scarce in the final minutes with both teams scoring five points each with the Tide leading 25-17 at halftime. Marquez Taylor led the way for the Rebels with nine first half points while Trenton's Demarkus Kee had 13 points for

the Tide.
Early in the third period, McKenzie trailed by 11 with shooting issues preventing them from gaining any ground and trailed 46-33 heading into the fourth period.

The fourth period was the closest with Trenton outscoring the Rebels 17-15 but already had a decent lead and eliminated the Rebels from the tournament 63-48.

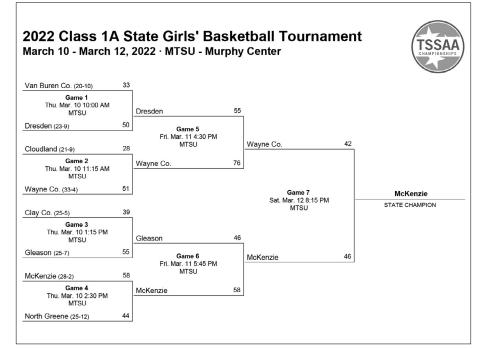
Marquez Taylor finished with 18 points while Bryson Steele had 10 points. Tate Surber added eight points and senior Zayden McCaslin closed out his Rebel career with seven points. Stafford Roditis and Zach Aird added three and two points respectively.

Peabody was led by Demarkus Kee with 21 points while Jason Hunt and Derek Kee added 16 and 14 points respectively. Malik Ganaway and Sidney Hammonds had three points each. Shon Williams, Isaac Dehaan, and Camari Bonds chipped in two points each for the Tide.

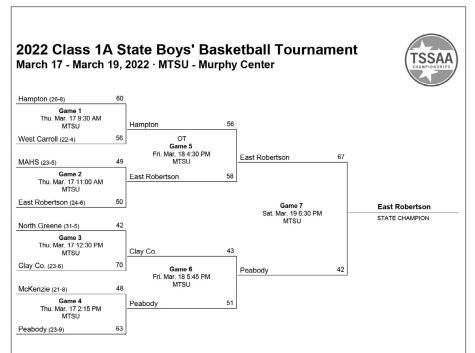
The Rebels finished with a 21-9 record for the season. There will be much to look forward to next season as McKenzie loses just one senior (Zayden McCaslin).

See photos on page 4.

West Tennessee Showed Well in TSSAA State Basketball Championship Series



In the Girls' Class 1A Division, Dresden, Gleason and McKenzie made it to the semifinal. Dresden was defeated by Wayne Count and McKenzie knocked out Gleason to advance to the championship. There McKenzie picked up its first state champions by a score of 46-42 over Wayne County.



In the Boys' Class 1A Division, McKenzie, West Carroll and Trenton-Peabody made it to the quarterfinals. West Carroll was knocked out by Hampton followed by McKenzie losing to Peabody. East Robertson won the championship defeating Peabody 67-42.

Several Local Players Win Awards

BY JIM POTTS

jpotts@mckenziebanner.com

Several local players from McKenzie and Gleason won post-season awards in basketball and more will be coming.

McKENZIE LADY REBELS

Savannah Davis — Hot on the heels of helping the Lady Rebels win their first State Championship, Sophomore Savannah Davis won the TSSAA Class A Miss Basketball Award during a presentation at the Murphy Center on MTSU's campus Monday afternoon, March 14. Davis ran the table on awards following the recent basketball season including winning All-District 11A Tournament Co-MVP and Region 6A Tournament

Dani Dyer — She was the lone senior on the team finishing her high school career with a state championship and was named to the All-District 11A team and the Class A Girls State All-Tournament Team.

Kylie Reynolds was named to the District 11A All-District Team and a member of the State Championship team.

Mikaela Reynolds was named to the District 11A All-District Team and All-Region 6A Tournament Team and was a contributer on the state Championship

Briley Auvenshine was named to the All-Region 6A Tournament Team and Class 1A Girls State All-Tournament Team.

McKENZIE REBELS

Zayden McCaslin — the lone senior for the Rebels and made the All-District 11A Tournament Team and All-Region 6A Tournament Team.

Marquez Taylor was named to the All-District 11A Tournament team and All-Region 6A Tournament MVP.

Bryson Steele was named to both the All-District 11A and All-Region 6A Tournament Teams.

WEST CARROLL WAR EAGLES

Jalen Anglin was named

to the All-District 12A and All-Region 6A Tournament Teams

Josh Clark was named to the All-District 12A and All-Region 6A Tournament Teams

Jaquan Adkins was named to the All-District 12A Tournament Team

GLEASON LADY BULLDOGS

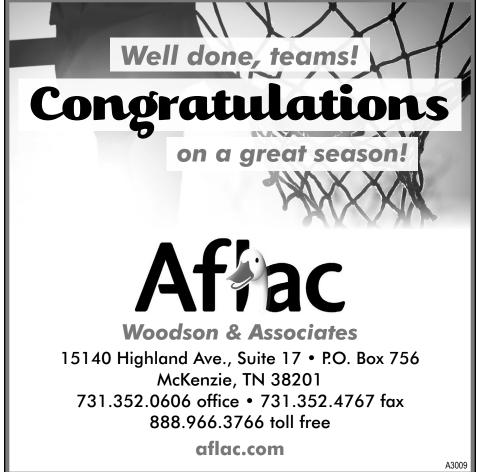
Alayna Anderson was named to the All-District 13A Tournament Team, All Region 7A Tournament Team, and Class 1A Girls State All-Tournament Team. Alayna was also a finalist for Class A's Miss Basketball Award.

Carrington Lifsey was named to the All-District 13A Tournament Team, All-Region 7A Tournament Team and Class 1A Girls State All-Tournament Team.

DRESDEN LADY LIONS

Paisley Pittman and Lucy Curry both were named to the Class 1A Girls State All-Tournament Team.

"Success is never final, failure is never fatal, and it's courage that counts." — John Wooden







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McKenzie Lady Rebels Roster

#	Name	Grd.	#	Name	Grd.
10	Dani Dyer	12	4	Hannah Dillingham	11
23	Kylie Reynolds	11	<u>14</u>	Savannah Davis	10
<u>12</u>	Briley Auvenshine	11	<u>22</u>	Mikaela Reynolds	10
1	Katie Chesser	11	3	Sophie Pate	9
32	Madison Gilbert	11	5	Ally Gibson	9

HEAD COACH John Wilkins | **ASSISTANT COACH** Ashley Lowe MANAGERS Allie Mansfield, Jaleah Moore, Anna Robinson, Jacey Pinson and Gracie Henderson

West Carroll War Eagles Roster

#	Name	Grd.	#	Name	Grd.
00	Dawson White	9	<u>21</u>	Xander Moon	12
1	Andrew Huff	12	<u>24</u>	Andre Iloff	12
2	JaQuan Adkins	<u>11</u>	<u>25</u>	Jaden Taylor	11
3	Jalen Anglin	12	<u>31</u>	Kaden Barber	9
4	Preston Bosley	9	33	Daelon Drasal	10
5	JD Pigue	<u>11</u>	<u>34</u>	Jayden Milton	9
<u>11 </u>	Will Murray	10	<u>35</u>	Josh Clark	12
14	Will Robinson	10	41	Cornelius Cannon	10
<u>20</u>	Nate Wykoff	10	42	Riley Duncan	12

HEAD COACH Ryan Mansfield | **ASSISTANT COACH** Clint Kee **MANAGERS** Hunter Lindsey, Jaden Ayers and Keagan Williams

Gleason Lady Bulldogs Roster

#	Name	Grd.	#	Name	Grd.
12	Alayna Anderson	12	40	Kaylee Tucker	11
<u>14</u>	Carrington Lifsey	12	41	Tinsley Parkins	11
<u>21</u>	Ava Sawyers	<u>11</u>	43	Grace Stafford	12
23	Addy Black	9			
31	Autumn Mingle	10	44	Sophie Wilson	<u>11</u>
32	Hallee Young	11	<u>50</u>	Jaeda Perry	10
33	Hannah Watson	11	55	Daisy Blevins	12

HEAD COACH Sean Stephenson **ASSISTANT COACHES** Luke Hughes, Mike Riggs PRINCIPAL Lee Lawrence | ASSISTANT PRINCIPAL Monica Rollins SCOREBOOK Stacy Trevathan

McKenzie Rebels Roster

#	Name	Grd.	#	Name	Grd.
12	Zayden McCaslin	12	<u>32</u>	Drew Chappell	10
<u>11</u>	Zach Aird	11	22	Hayden Garrett	10
<u>15</u>	Bryant Haynes	11	<u>23</u>	Stafford Roditis	10
3	Bryson Steele	11	<u>25</u>	Landon Brown	9
4	Marquez Taylor	11	<u>20</u>	Carson Hill	9
2	Etijay Tharpe	11	<u>21</u>	Carter Kee	9
5	Zay Webber	11	1	Cordell Orgain	9
30	Landon Allison	10	10	Tate Surber	9
<u>25</u>	Christopher Beck	10	<u>34</u>	Craegen Travis	9

HEAD COACH John Wilkins **ASSISTANT COACHES** Hunter Herrin and Preston Henderson

HEAD COACHES





Above, McKenzie Coach John Wilkins discusses the game with Gleason Head Coach Sean Stephenson during pregame warm-ups. The Lady Rebels defeated the Lady Bulldogs in the quarterfinals on their way to their first state championship. Left, West Carroll Basketball Coach Ryan Mansfield led the boys team to their second consecutive championship tournament. West Carroll lost in the quarterfinals to Hampton.

West Carroll Out After First Round Defeat By Hampton

BY JIM POTTS

MURFREESBORO (March 17) — West Carroll's War Eagles tipped off their second straight state tournament appearance against the Hampton Bulldogs on Thursday, March 17. The game started close and was close at the end but there were times in the middle where it looked as if Hampton would run away with it but the War Eagles fought their way back but lost 60-56.

ipotts@mckenziebanner.com

The first period was slow with a tight score. Points were scarce with the game tied 4-4 with just under six minutes to play in the period. West Carroll took a 9-6 lead halfway through and kept the lead until Hampton tied it 13-13 with just over two minutes left in the period. The War Eagles regained the lead and was up 20-15 at the end of the period.
The Bulldogs scored

two quick baskets in the opening minute of the second period to tie the game 20-20 as they started a 15-1 run which resulted in a 30-16 lead with just over two minutes until halftime. West Carroll's shooting was cold hitting 1-8 from the floor during the period. They scored only three points during the period as Hampton took a 36-23 lead by halftime.

The War Eagles came out of the half with a huge third period effort outscoring the Bulldogs 21-10 to make it anyone's game at 46-44 with Hampton leading heading into the final period. West Carroll opened the period hitting back-to-

back three pointers and tied the game 44-44 with 1:15 left in the period. Hampton got a last-second basket just before the buzzer ended the period.

West Carroll tied the game 46-46 with just under seven minutes left in the game. Hampton took a 54-50 lead with four minutes left. Jaquan Adkins scored and hit a free throw to cut the Bulldog lead to 54-53 with 3:15 left to play. Jalen Anglin drew a foul and hit a free throw to tie it up 54-54 with just over two minutes left. The Bulldogs hit a tie-breaking basket with just under a minute to play to lead 56-54 and nailed a free throw to make it 57-54 and hit a final basket and free throw to make it 60-54. West Carroll hit a last-second basket to make the final score

West Carroll senior Jalen Anglin closed out his high school career with 30 points while senior Andrew Huff added 12 points. Josh Clark, a senior, had seven points while JaQuan Adkins and Xander Moon, both seniors, contributed four and three points respectively.

Hampton had four players in double figures led by Morgan Lyons with 17 points followed by Cadon Buckles with 12 points along with Conor Burleson and Hayden Campbell with 10 points each. Logan Whitehead and Michael Harrison added six and five points respectively.

West Carroll closed their season with a 22-5

See photos on page 9.

"There are 86,400 seconds in a day. It's up to you to decide what to do with them." — Jim Valvano



ongrats

War Eagles!

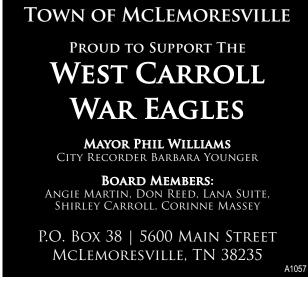
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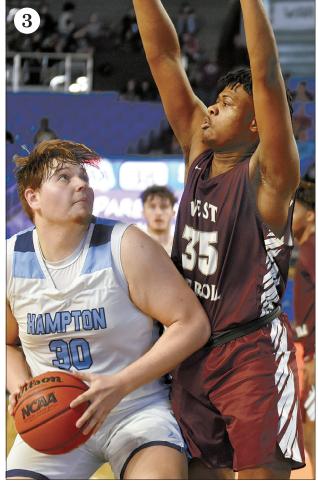
Congratulations to all area teams!

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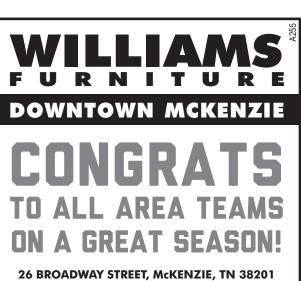




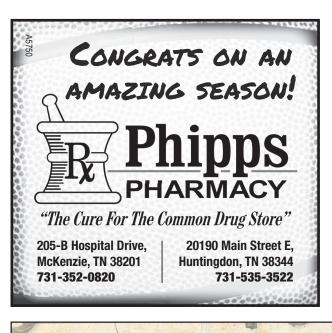


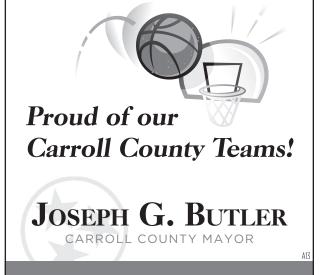


1. Jalen Anglin (3) goes up for two of his 30 points against Hampton. 2. Jalen Anglin (3) works the ball inside a Hampton defender. 3. Josh Clark (35) defends a Hampton Bulldog shooter. 4. Jaquan Adkins (2) works the ball setting up a play. 5. Xander Moon (21) sets up to shoot a three-pointer. 6. Andrew Huff (1) takes a baseline shot. 7. Jalen Anglin (3) works the ball across half court in a breakaway. Photos by Carol Odom and Jim Potts



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Left, The Gleason student section was on their feet rooting for the Lady Bulldogs. Center, Assistant Coach Luke Hughes provides a pep-talk to the girls before the game. Right, Alayna Anderson (Miss Basketball Finalist) goes up for the layup against a Clay County defender. *Photos by Joel Washburn/The Banner*

Lady Bulldogs Advance to Semifinals with Win Over Clay County

BY JASON R. MARTIN

jmartin@mckenziebanner.com

MURFREESBORO
(March 10) — The Gleason Lady Bulldogs picked up an opening round win in the TSSAA BlueCross State Championship Tournament. The Lady Bulldogs' 55-39 win over Clay County was their first victory and appearance in 15 years since their 2007 State Championship under Coach Randy Frazier.

The Gleason Lady Bull-

dogs and the Clay County Lady Bulldogs game was a back-and-forth battle with seven lead changes. Statistically, Gleason was 19 of 41 from the floor with twelve points scored beyond the arc with thirteen points picked up by way of free throws. Clay County was 13 of 55 from the floor hitting two three-pointers and adding eleven from the line.

In the first quarter, Gleason pulled led by as much as seven points with 5:05 on the clock. Alayna An-

derson, Sophie Wilson, and Carrington Lifsey led the offensive Gleason. Following a well timed timeout by Clay County, Gleason's momentum was stalled as their lead was cut to two. At the end of the quarter, Clay County led 13-12.

Wilson put Gleason back in the lead 14-13. As Gleason increased their advantage by 10 points (25-15) with less than five minutes remaining in the half, Clay County called timeout. Killing the Gleason momentum again, Clay County cut into the Gleason lead 27-24 at the half.

At the halfway point, Lifsey led with 10 points, followed by Wilson with seven, Tinsley Parkins with four and three points for Anderson and Daisy Blevins. Lifsey led in rebounding as well with four.

To open the third quarter, Clay County put up a quick four points but Gleason was able to respond with field goals from Anderson and Lifsey. With 4:11 to play in the quarter, Gleason led 35-28. Parkins hit a three pointer late in the third, increasing the Gleason lead by eight points. Anderson closed the quarter drawing a foul on a layup and hitting the and-one putting Gleason up 43-32.

Gleason worked out of spread offensive attempting to control the clock and protect their lead. Clay County began fouling in an attempt to pick up necessary points in the hopes of reclaiming the lead. With less than two

minutes, both Gleason and Clay County began inserting their substitutes. At the sound of the horn, Gleason took the win 55-39.

Leading Gleason in points scored were Anderson and Lifsey with 16, followed by Parkins with 11. Clay County's leading scorers were Abby Head with nine and Briley Burchett with eight. Lifsey led Gleason with eight rebounds, one

steal and one blocked shot.
See additional photos on

Congrats area teams on a successful season!

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Lady Bulldogs Dominate the Court











1. Ava Sawyers (21) shoots a 3-pointer.
2. Alayna Anderson (12) looks to pass the ball while she's defended by Kylie Reynolds (23).
3. Autumn Mingle

3. Autumn Mingle (31) guards Briley Auvenshine (12).

4. Gleason's Carrington Lifsey (14) moves to the basket as McKenzie's Briley Auvenshine (12) guards.

5. Daisy Blevins (55) protects the ball.
6. Tinsley Parkins works through the double-team of Lady Rebels Briley Auvenshine and Dani Dyer.
7. Tinsley Parkins shoots against Clay County. Photos by Joel Washburn/The Banner





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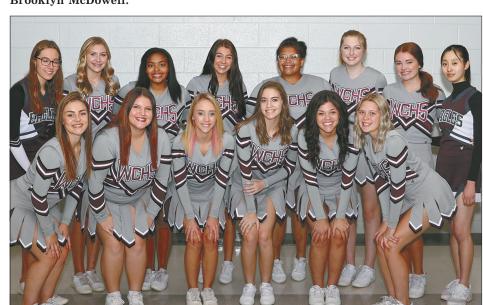
Meet the Cheerleader Squads Who Kept the Fans, Players Pumped During the Season



McKenzie High School Cheer — Front Row: Lydia Pate, Laila Scott, Kaida Walton, Macey Mayo and Emily McMullin. Middle Row: Abbie Young, Ava Jones, Jessica Moore, Taylor Hall, Parker Lyons and Brett Toombs. Back Row: Reese Gallimore, Alajah Gilbert, Abbi Sumrok, Belle O'Brien and Ava Warman.



Gleason High School Cheer — Back Row: Alex Pineda, Paris Smith, Paige Smith and Gracie Long. Front Row: Jaelynd Goad, Susana Solares, Olivia Perry and Brooklyn McDowell.



West Carroll High School Cheer — Front Row: Octavia Jones, Autumn Houston, Alexa Kerby, Kaylee Butler, Sydney Bosley and Brooklyn Polinski. Back Row: Lara Zylka, Mayce Mitchell, Jamiayah Estes, Abby Callins, Kennedy Hillsman, Dori Johnson, Natalie Moore and Haruna Takahashi. Not Pictured: Jayden Rader and Claire Bradley.

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McKenzie Rebels and Lady Rebels
West Carroll War Eagles
Gleason Lady Bulldogs



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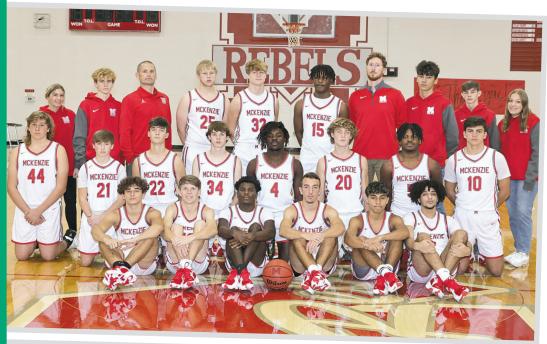
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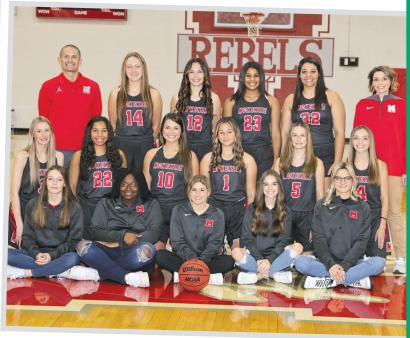
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Congratulations to McKenzie, West Carroll and Gleason for making it to State! We are so proud of you!











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Tanya Arnold, APN-BC Dawn Walker, FNP-BC





Holly Arnold, PA-C



Amy Smith, PA-C

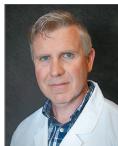


Mary Becky Wall, FNP-C Shelby Chapman, PA





Beth Graves, FNP-C



Scott Jackson, FNP-C



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Lakeshia Yarbrough, DNP, APRN, FNP-BC



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