

# Defending District Champion Lady Dragons play tonight

## Lady Dragons play LaRue

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STAFF WRITER

District tournaments have begun across the commonwealth in all 64 districts with the winner and runner-up from each district advancing to the region tournaments.

In all four districts in the 5th region, the opening round opponents are decided by seeding from games played throughout the season.

In the 18th District, three of the girls' teams finished in a tie for first place. Green County, Hart County and LaRue County ended the season at 2-1 against district opponents. The fourth team, Caverna, was 0-3 against the three top teams.

The tie-breaker, using the Rating Percentage Index (RPI) determined that Hart County is the number one seed, with Green County finishing at

number two. The RPI was complete as of Thursday morning last week so even though Green County's win over Glasgow Thursday night pushed them ahead of Hart County in the RPI, it was too late to be counted.

That means that Hart County played Caverna last night in the opening round and Green County squares off with host LaRue County tonight at 5:00 p.m. CT.

The Lady Dragons lost to LaRue County by six points, February 22, in a contest at Hodgenville. This game came during a plague of injuries for Green County. Kylie Jackson returned to the court for the first time since being injured during the Russell County game on January 22. Tanlee Hudgins, a GCHS junior, was injured in a game against Adair County, February 2 and missed several games, including the LaRue County game.

Since that loss to LaRue County, the Lady Dragons have piled up seven consecutive wins, including a 70-35 walloping of Hart County.

Green County puts a lot of experience on the floor with five seniors normally getting the starting spots. Madi Corbin, Emma Howell, Jackson, Haley Judd and Katlyn Milby are responsible for about 80% of the points that Green County scores. Jackson leads the team with just over 17 points per game.

Hudgins, who usually comes off the bench as the first sub, has the team's best field goal percentage, hitting almost 53% of her shots. Howell is the top rebounder on the team, pulling down eight rebounds per contest.

Green County, the defending district champion, has won the tournament five of the last six years and Head Coach Chris Blaydes would like to add another tournament title to his impressive list of championships. Blaydes is in his 22nd year as head coach and his overall record is 372-259, with ten district championships.

LaRue County enters the tournament with an 8-12 record but they've lost four of their last six games. Ironically, their only

win this season over a team with a winning record was their win over Green County.

The Lady Dragons will have to find a way to stop LaRue's Paige Evans who had 18 points against them in their previous contest. That night, LaRue County hit eight three points shots and all ten of their free throws.

Natalie Gentry, a sophomore, leads the Lady Hawks with eleven and a half points per game. She is also their top rebounder, pulling down just over eight boards per game.

Hart County played Caverna last night in the other first round game.

Caverna, who only won two games this year, lost to Hart County during the regular season, 74-38.

Caverna is a very young team with three eighth graders and one seventh grader on their roster.

Hart County is 10-5 on the year and they are led by Dea Bradley's 17 points per game.

The winners of both first round games play each other Saturday night at LaRue County High School.



Photos by Angelina Alcott

Madi Corbin squeezes through traffic to score her final running jumper on her home court, in her high school career.



A couple quick dribbles and a smart turn of the body to avoid a charge call, Emma Howell sinks a field goal. The senior finished the game with 6 points and 5 rebounds. Howell led the team against Marion County with a double-double, 13 points, 12 rebounds.



A bounce pass by Summer Scott for the assist. The Lady Dragons step on the hardwood in LaRue County High School's gym tonight at 5 p.m. CT. Green County will play LaRue County in the semi-finals of the 18th District Tournament.



A physical game played out in the Lady Dragons' favor with their determined mindset. Katlyn Milby showcase her strength and control as she was able to divert Glasgow's physical approach. Lady Dragons regular season ended with a 64-49 win over the Lady Scotties.



Tanlee Hudgins scored a team-high 16 points against Marion County last week. The Lady Dragons have won seven in a row heading into the 18th District Tournament.



Senior Kylie Jackson was announced as one of the players named to the Fifth Region Coaches Girls All-Region Team. This is Jackson's third consecutive year to earn the honor.

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