

# Phelps speaks to Rotary

From page 1A

Phelpssays the team has already made a lot of gains since his arrival in March, strength gains, speed gains, and he says grades are looking better, too. “We are student athletes, not just football players. The grades have improved and we will continue working on that.”

Phelps says he’s been surrounding himself with good quality people and coaches. “I have hired Hunter Jackson, Seth Jones, Israel Slinker and Kyle Milby as assistant coaches,” Phelps said.

“That’s one of the first things I needed to do—surround myself with good people, good coaches. I know how important it was in Ashland to have a good quality staff.”

Coach Phelps says the word *TEAM* is the acronym his players will follow and be.

“T: We are going to be Tough and we’re gonna use Tempo.

E: We are gonna be Efficient and give great Effort.

A: We are gonna be Accountable to each other and Adapt to our surroundings.

M: We are gonna be Multiple and Motivated.”

“Those things make great people, not just great football players,” he added.

Coach said so far, the Dragons have had 24 workouts. The average amount of poundage lifted has increased by 30 pounds a player, in a little over a month.

He went on to describe off season competition, 6 a.m. training session availability and Fun Wednesdays—competition, tug-of-war—something fun for the players.

Phelps also touched on the rewearing of former uniforms, leaving funds for needed equipment and supplies.

“I’d rather play a certain way than look a certain way,” he said.

Coach Phelps has intentions of getting lifting boards in the weightroom, so athletes can gauge their progress and use it as motivation, along with other incentives for being strong and/or fast.

The team is working on fundraisers including a bass fishing tournament on May 29 at Green River Lake (see page 10A).

A golf scramble will be held June 12 (see page 10A).

“I’m hoping in July or August, we can get a Legacy Dinner together to bring in the old-time greats—people that have been in the program, and have a nice dinner, silent auction, something like that,” the coach said.

Phelps spoke on an upcoming football camp that will be held at the school for several continuous days to strengthen the brotherhood of the team. He mentioned any support and donations for this event would be appreciated.

Highlighting the



Photo by Walt Gorin

**GCHS Principal Ben Davenport told Rotary members Phelps brings ample opportunity to students.**

youth, the coach has high hopes for the youth football program.

“Little League is pivotal moving forward; the little league is the backbone of any program, no matter where you’re at,” he said.

Little League was cancelled in 2020 due to Covid. Phelps hopes to build that program up even more than before.

Reverting back to his current goals, he is looking forward to the upcoming season.

“We are hoping for Midnight Madness, the very first day we can go full pads and hit each other,” Phelps, “I think it’s August 1, Saturday night and Sunday at midnight.”

Currently, 28 players are coming regularly to off-season workouts. There are between 10-12 in track/baseball, but Phelps thinks they will have 40 players, give or take.

The schedule will boast five home games and five away games, including the opening game against Nelson County at Dragon Stadium.

“The first week we can play is our bye week,” Coach said. “I look at it as we have an extra week to prepare; we get an extra week of film that other teams won’t get on us.”

The football boosters are great and steady support.

“Shelley Bishop, Karie Milby, Angie Scott, all of them... they’ve done great,” he said. “We have been selling old jerseys; if anyone wants to buy an old jersey, let me know.”

Last, but certainly not least, Phelps touched on the engineering classes he will be teaching at the Area Technology Center.

This will be Phelps’ 7th year of teaching. He has a math degree, along with certifications to teach engineering

A pathway of four classes will be offered for students at the ATC, including a Basics of Engineering class. The introductory class will consist of civil and mechanical engineering. The class will also utilize CAD programming—designing, drawing, 3D printing, etc.

Principles of Engineering, a more in-depth course, will focus on everything from statics and dynamics and more.

The third class will likely be a robotics class, Phelps said, with the fourth class possibly being a co-op or a capstone.

Principal Ben Davenport is looking forward to the opportunities Phelps will bring to the students.

“If you are in automotive classes and you fulfill that pathway, then jump over to Coach Phelps’ classes and take engineering, you’re all of a sudden an automotive engineer,” Davenport said. “Everybody knows when you start tackling things on, money goes up.”

“It’s going to be a huge opportunity for our students in Green County.”

Phelps seems confident in his abilities, both in education and football.

“I’m ready to set my roots in,” Phelps said. “I don’t want to go anywhere that doesn’t have high expectations, so I have high expectations for me, high expectations for the kids, and I want you to have high expectations for us. If you’re okay with us losing, we are not ever going to be successful.”

Rotary Club members shared his sentiments across the board:

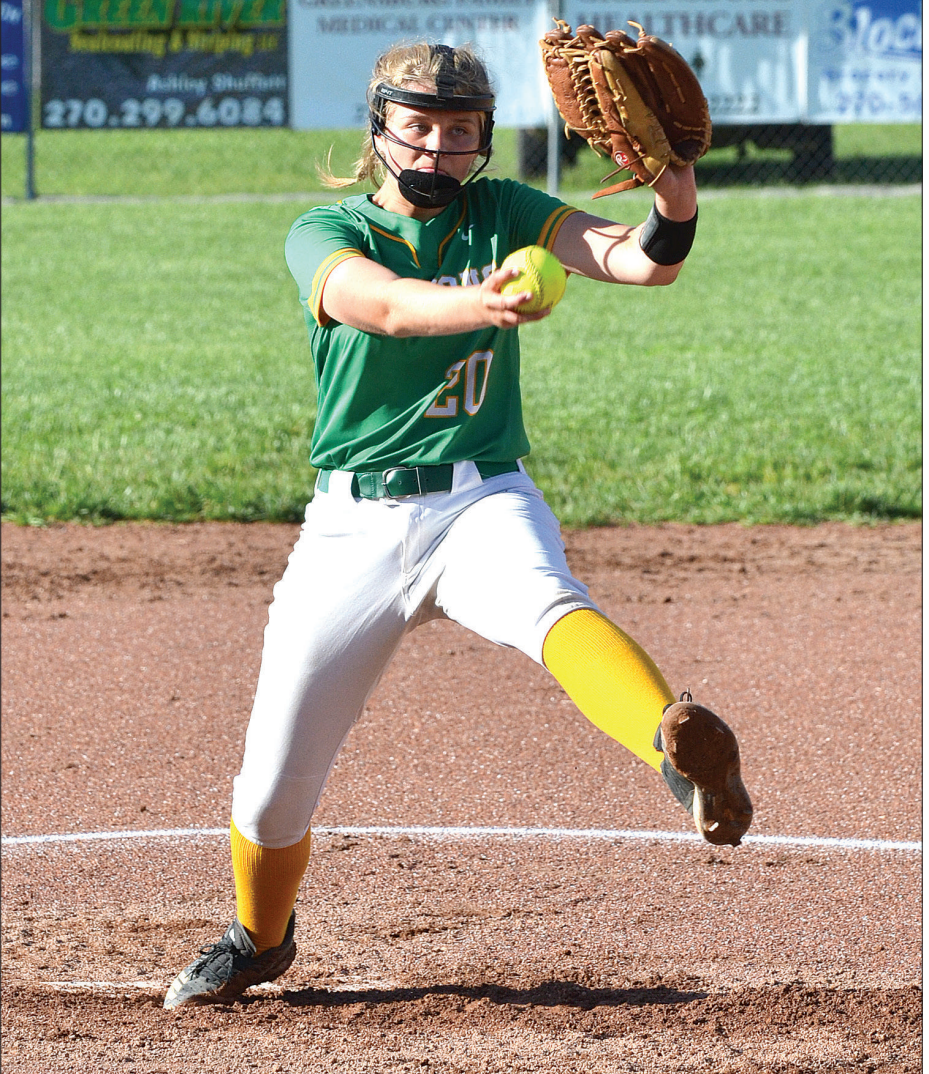
“Go Dragons,” a Rotary member said, “And beat Campbellsville.”

# SOFTBALL



Photos by Dale Curry

**Katlyn Milby makes the throw from shortstop to throw out the runner at first base. Green County scored six runs in the bottom of the sixth inning to take the 8-2 victory over Metcalfe County. Story unavailable at presstime.**



**Allie Burris was the starting pitcher for the Lady Dragons in their 8-2 over visiting Metcalfe County last week.**



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