

**BASEBALL,**

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From left, Lakers Isaac Roy, Cody Luttrell, and Nathan Lawson among teammates after earning the state runner-up title Saturday. (Photo by Chris Zollner/ Carpe-Imago Studio)

First of all, these young men have spent countless hours practicing and competing from a very young age.

Most of this team began playing together during T-Ball, and all of the Seniors (except Cody Luttrell, who suffered an injury) played together at the Babe Ruth World Series - along with Aiden Antle.

Late nights often led to early mornings, back at school or a return to the road.

They've undoubtedly missed out on a few things while chasing their passion.

Being an athlete takes a tremendous amount of dedication and discipline.

One of my favorite quotes has always been, "Hard work beats talent when talent does not work hard."

Secondly, the parents, siblings, and

grandparents...

How about those moms?

Washing uniforms, preparing coolers, encouraging, supporting, and loving unconditionally.

I can tell you there's no bigger fan than the mommas - they are fierce, even when the score doesn't reflect a win.

To the dads who always said "yes" when their son asked them to pitch to them, in the rain, in the cold, when they've worked all day and just sat down to rest.

The grandparents, who along with the rest of the family, would travel anywhere to watch their favorite player.

The siblings who've tagged along, sitting through the games and trips, for the most part, without complaining.

To the schools and the board members and all of those involved in providing

the funding to continue supporting athletics.

To the coaches and coaching staff who tirelessly give their time because they see the potential in the players, and encourage them to be the best they can be on and off the field.

Last but not least, the fans and the community.

To the businesses, fans, and all of those who financially support these teams.

Their support helps pay for uniforms, traveling expenses, and equipment.

Russell County is so proud of these young men, win or lose!

So, let's not forget all that goes into achieving what these players have accomplished.

Now for the recap...

On Friday, the Lakers defeated Woodford County, 10-0 to advance to the finals of the state

tournament held on Saturday.

Russell County secured the win thanks to six runs in the fifth inning.

Maxon Gosser, Mayes Gosser, Nathan Lawson, Isaac Roy and Evan Hammond each had RBI's. Nathan Lawson, again, delivered an outstanding performance from the mound, lasting six innings, allowing zero runs on four hits, striking out eight and walking zero.

Trace Stringer and Mayes Gosser led the Lakers in scoring.

The semifinal win secured the spot for the Lakers to take on the Tigers of St. Xavier.

The Lakers accumulated seven hits on the day - with Trace Stringer and Nathan Lawson having two hits for Russell County.

Unfortunately, at the end of the game, the Lakers historic run came to an end.

The Lakers finish their season as 16th District Champions, 4th Region Champions, and Runner-Up State Champions. At the end of the game, Nathan Lawson, Nick Aaron, and Cody Luttrell were named to the all-tournament team, and Alex Reynolds was awarded the Logan Billings Memorial Scholarship.

Russell County is so very proud of this team and they have no doubt left an impactful memory in our community.

EDITOR'S NOTE-Please visit SmugMug for an amazing documentation of the Lakers at state by Chris Zollner/ Carpe-Imago Studio

**Russell Co. Fair**  
**Floral Hall**  
**Grand Champions**

**4-H Division**  
 Elizabeth Hoskins -- Sewing  
 Abby Fox -- Arts  
 Dalton Foley -- Photography  
 Gunnar Coe -- Entomology

**Open Class Division**  
 Bea Massengill -- Flowers  
 Donna Tucker -- Baked Goods  
 Charlene Perkins -- Photogrpahy  
 Tyler Hoskins -- Art  
 Rhonda Hammond -- Food Preservation  
 Christy Martin -- Needlework  
 Cynthia Mills -- Quilts  
 Tony Kerr -- Agriculture  
 Freddie Roy -- Arts & Crafts  
 Tammy Pickett -- Home Furnishings

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**There's a new doctor in town.**

*"I am so excited to join the Russell Family Medical Center team. I am blessed and honored to provide care to the people of south-central Kentucky."*  
 -Dr. Erika Kelly

**Erika Kelly, DO**, is now accepting new patients at Russell Family Medical Center. As an internal medicine physician, Dr. Kelly joins Dr. Holly Von Gruenigen; Dr. Stefanie Dolen; Sharon Benson, APRN; John Partin, APRN; Shannon Young, APRN-CPNP; Miranda Jewell, APRN-CPNP; Susan Wilson, MSW, LCSW; Jana Bowmer, LCSW; and Anthony Holmes, LPCC-S. Dr. Kelly is passionate about internal medicine and treats patients age 18 years & older.

Schedule an appointment  
**270.866.3161**

 Holly Von Gruenigen DO	 Stefanie Dolen DO	 Sharon Benson APRN	 John Partin APRN	 Shannon Young APRN-CPNP	 Miranda Jewell APRN-CPNP
 Susan Wilson MSW, LCSW	 Jana Bowmer LCSW	 Anthony Holmes LPCC-S			

**Russell Family Medical Center**  
 404 Steve Drive • Russell Springs  
 Monday - Friday: 7:00 AM to 4:30 PM CT

**Bill Twyman's Gospel Sing**

**Saturday, June 18, 2022**  
**6:30 CT -- 7:30 ET**

**Bernard Ridge Church of God**  
 170 Stephens Ridge Road, Russell Springs, KY 42642

 Joymakers Quartet	 Leland Humphrey Family	 CumberlandThunder	 Family Legacy
 Commonwealth Quartet	 Victory Road	 Revelators	 Jody Wheeler
 Community Quartet	 Kenny and Laura Roberts	 Jay and Sandra Boyd	 New Harvest Singers
 Bill Twyman and Kelly Cruze	 The Noblemen	 Denise Watts-Wilson	 Presented by: <b>The Blakey Quartet</b>

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Join us for an evening of Homecoming style singing by an invitation-only choir of your favorite Local Southern Gospel Groups and singers.

POC - Junior Blakey: 270-566-1943 -- Keith Blakey: 270-507-8322