

Andrew Houk breaks Home Run Record

DALE CURRY
STAFF WRITER

Andrew Houk broke the Green County High School baseball home run record, Monday night, April 27 in a home game against Russell County High School.

"It was so surreal," Houk said. "At the beginning of the season, I had heard how many home runs I needed to break the record and I said to myself, 'That's the way I've got to finish my high school career by breaking the record,'"

The round-tripper was the 28th of Houk's career, breaking a 44 year old record that had been shared between Mike Jones and Kevin "Yogi" Milby. This was Houk's ninth homer during his senior season so far. He hit nine home runs in 2025, seven in 2024 and three his freshman year in 2023.

Houk's home run campaign got off to a great start his freshman year during the

opening game of the season against Metcalfe County.

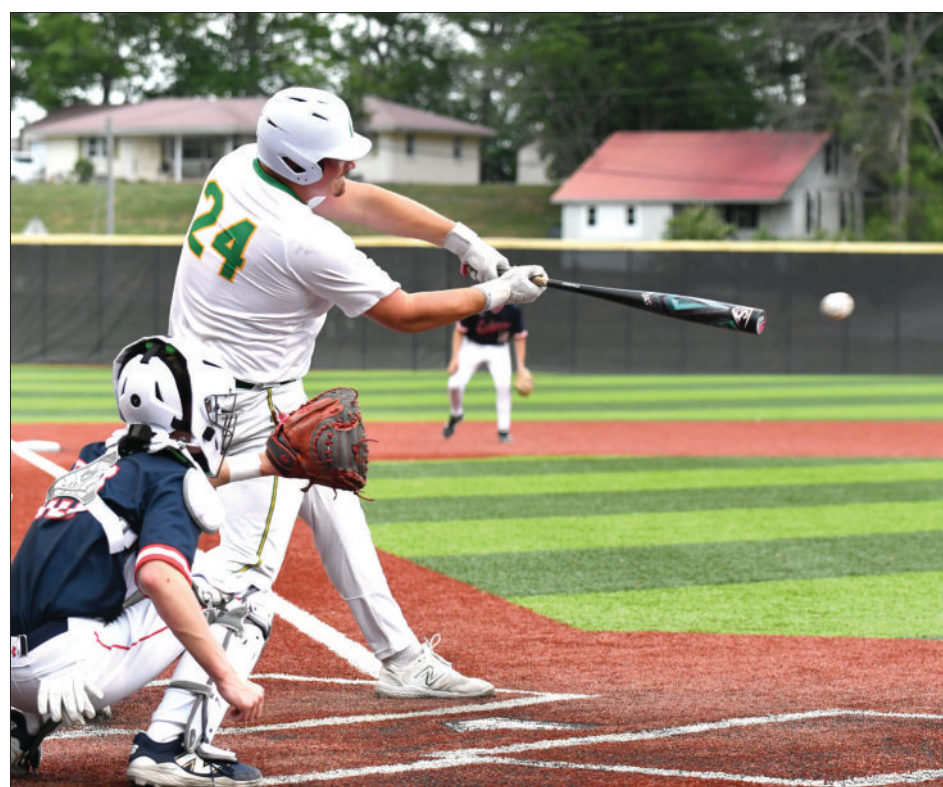
"It was my first at-bat in high school, and it was the first strike I saw in that at-bat," Houk said, in reference to his first home run.

Houk began playing baseball in tee-ball and has played every year since that tee-ball league.

Houk is an imposing-looking batter when he stands at the plate. His size and his knack for hitting home runs sometimes results in him getting passed over and intentionally walked rather than the pitcher trying to throw to him.

He has walked 19 times just this year alone, leading the team with base on balls.

Houk normally plays first base for the Dragons and will handle almost any throw that comes to him from anyone in the infield. But he has also had a chance to pitch. Currently he is 1-0 as a pitcher, having pitched



Photos by Dale Curry

Andrew Houk set the Green County High School home run record last week against Russell County. Houk's 28th career blast came in the bottom of the fifth inning. His two-run shot gave the Dragons a 12-3 lead over the Lakers.

4.1 innings, giving up just two hits and six runs, walking seven and striking out five.

He said that a highlight of his baseball career, in addition to breaking the home run record, is just being

around his teammates.

"It's about the most fun ever," he said. "I've made some really good friends playing baseball."

Houk also played football for the Dragons, where he had an

outstanding career on the line. He played basketball for a while but according to him, that sport hurt his knees too much.

He plans to attend Southeast Missouri State to obtain an

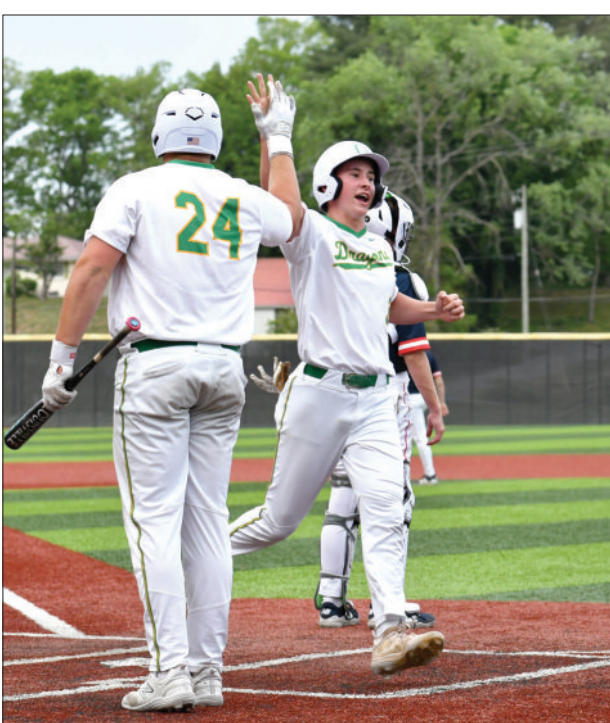
electrical engineering degree and while he is a student there, he will be playing football for the Redhawks. Their biggest opponent they will face this Fall is Iowa State.

Houk knows he has had a lot of support from tee-ball to high school but one person stands out for him.

"My grandpa (Larry Hedgespeth) calls me after every game and tells me what I need to work on," Houk said. "He also gives me an opportunity to get help with my swing and things like that."

While his high school baseball career will soon be ending, he still has five more games plus the post-season to enjoy being with his friends and maybe hitting a few more homeruns.

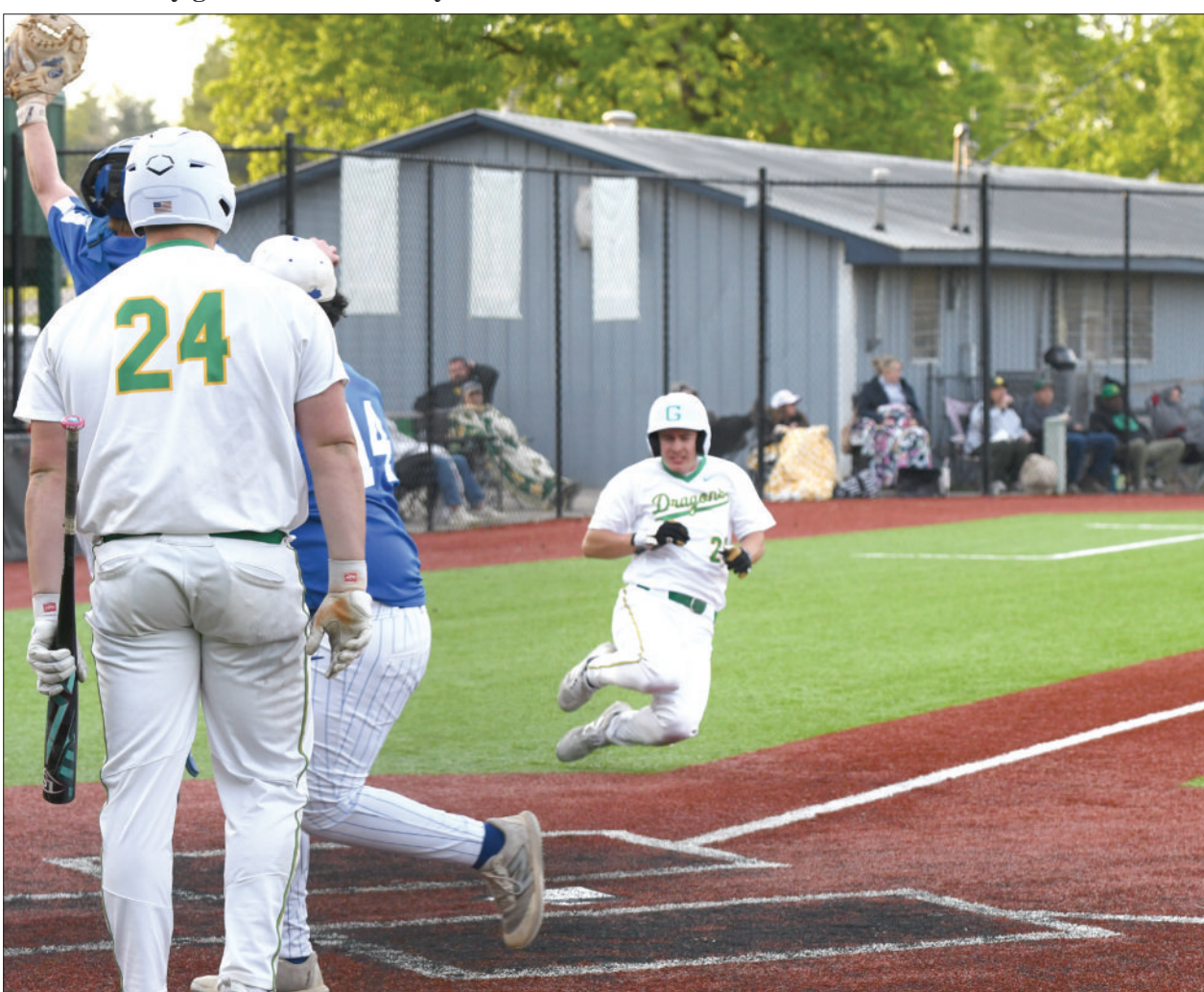
He and two other seniors, Carter Allen and Tatum Durrett, will be honored Friday night prior to the game against Elizabethtown at Larry "PeeWee" Gumm Field at American Legion Park.



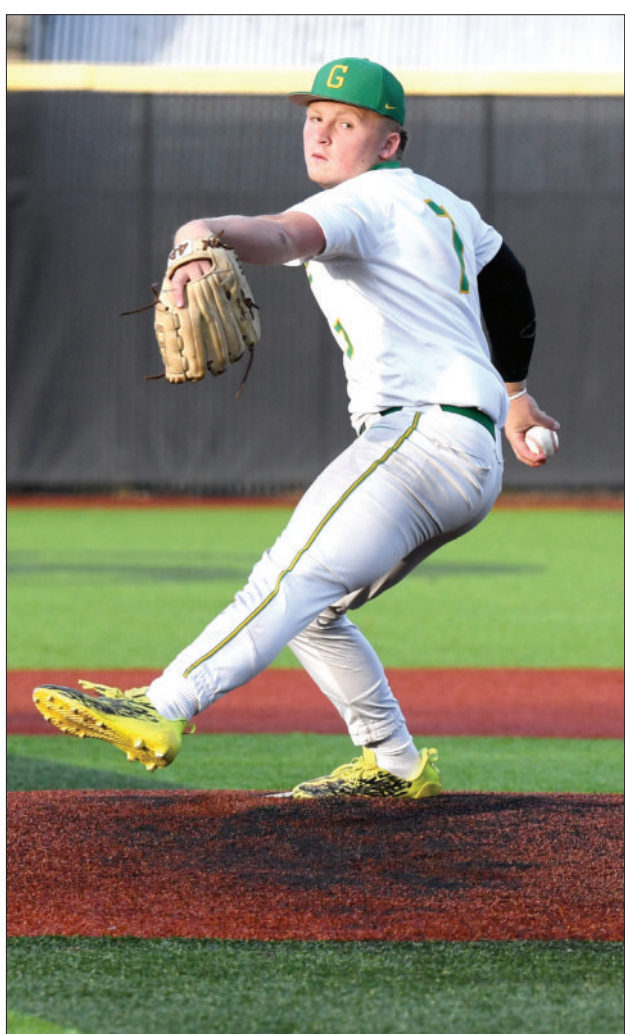
Cash Jones celebrates scoring one of his three runs against Russell County. The Dragons won 13-3 over the Lakers.



Keelan Curry slides safely into home plate ahead of the throw during the Russell County game. Green County won 13-3.



Larson Matney scored one of three Green County runs Friday night against Adair County. Keelan Curry and Ty Bonta scored the other two runs in the Dragons' 3-0 victory.



Drew Squires pitched a one-hit shutout against Adair County Friday night. The Dragons defeated Adair County 3-0.

Dragons win 2, lose 2 last week

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The Dragons split their games last week, beating Russell County and Adair County, while losing to LaRue County and Boyle County. The Dragons are 16-9 with just two more home games remaining in the regular season.

Green County started last week with a mercy-rule five inning 13-3 win over visiting Russell County. In addition to notching another win, the highlight of the game was Andrew Houk becoming

the school's leader in home runs.

Houk, Larson Matney and Drew Squires all had extra base hits in the game as the offense was clicking.

Squires continued the home run derby by homering in the Dragons' next game against LaRue County on Tuesday night of last week. The Dragons lost to LaRue 3-1 but the Dragons were only out-hit 6-5 in the game.

This loss means the Dragons will be the number two seed in the upcoming district tournament. LaRue County is rated the number two team in the region right now.

Against Adair County on Friday night, the Dragons only got three hits but they made the most of their scoring opportunities by beating the Indians 3-0 as Squires pitched a one-hit shutout.

Matney had the only extra-base hit with a double in the game.

Green County had a short turnaround for their Saturday morning game against visiting Boyle County. Boyle is the top-rated team in the 12th Region.

The Rebels won the game 12-6 but the scoring is a little misleading because the game could have very easily been much closer.

Green County left 13 base runners stranded in the seven-inning game. They had two runners on the basepaths in the first, second, third, sixth and seventh innings and then ended the fifth inning with the bases loaded.

Cash Jones and Squires had doubles in the game for the team's extra base hits.

Last week's batting stats:

Jaxson Robertson—1 of 1, Houk—5 of 10, Squires—6 of 12, Matney—6 of 14, Grif Thomas—1 of 3, Carter Allen—2 of 7, Jones—3 of 11, Ty Bonta—2 of 9, Tatum

Durrett—1 of 8, Keelan Curry—1 of 9, Reece Mitchell—1 of 11.

Last week's pitching stats:

Durrett—7.2 innings, 10 hits, 4 runs, 0 walks, 2 strikeouts

Squires—7 innings, 1 hit, 0 runs, 2 walks, 7 strikeouts

Curry—6.1 innings, 8 hits, 6 runs, 4 walks, 1 strikeout

Jones—2 innings, 1 hit, 1 run, 2 walks, 4 strikeouts

Thomas—2 innings, 8 hits, 7 runs, 2 walks, 1 strikeout.

The Dragons play at Allen County-Scottsville tomorrow night and then return home Friday and Saturday for games at American Legion Park. Friday at 5:00 p.m. the Dragons take on Elizabethtown on Senior Night. Saturday morning at 11:00 a.m., Green County plays Nelson County.

The regular season then ends with two away games at Russell County and Monroe County.

Photos by Dale Curry