

Lady Dragons take District Runner-Up Honors

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After losing the last 11 games of the regular season, the Lady Dragons upset Hart County in the first round of the district tournament and then narrowly lost the championship game to LaRue County.

Green County is 9-25 following the district tournament and heading into this week's 5th Region Tournament, scheduled for LaRue County.

According to the KHSAA website, Green County High School began playing fast-pitch softball in the 2004-2005 season. Since that time, they have dominated the district tournament, having never missed the 5th Region Tournament. They have won the district championship 16 times and have been the runner-up team five times.

In 2020, there was no softball season because of Covid.

But even before starting fast-pitch, the Lady Dragons were very successful in slow-pitch softball.

In this year's district tournament, Green County upset Hart County 4-3 to advance to the championship game as well as this week's region tourney.

During the season, the Lady Dragons had already played the Lady Raiders two times and lost both games. They lost 12-2 and 14-8 but the squad looked like a different team in the

district tournament. Hart County scored one run in each of the second and third innings before Green County tied the score at two in the top of the fourth inning.

Ava Hickerson began the fourth with a single to left field. Kylee Hargan doubled to right field, but Hickerson was thrown out advancing to third.

Hayli Milby singled to right field, scoring Hargan.

Jaidyn Darnell singled to right field and Milby scored to tie the game at two.

The Lady Dragons took their first lead in the game in the top of the sixth inning.

Hargan started the inning with a triple to right field. Milby grounded out to the second baseman but that let Hargan score from third, to put the Lady Dragons up 3-2.

Hart County evened the score in the bottom of the sixth inning.

The Lady Dragons scored the winning run in the top of the seventh inning when Milby doubled to center field, scoring Mackenzie Johnson from second base.

The defense shut down the Lady Raiders in the bottom of the seventh, including securing the upset victory.

The championship game against LaRue County was everything a district championship should be, including the game going into an extra inning.



The Green County High School Lady Dragons were named KHSAA District Runner-Up Tuesday night after a hard-fought championship game against the LaRue County High School Lady Hawks. The Lady Dragons battled until the end, falling by one run in the bottom of the eighth inning with two outs on the board.

The game began with Green County scoring two runs in the top of the first. Brooklyn Jewell reached first on an error. Hazel Sharpe was hit by a pitch, moving Jewell to second. Hickerson walked, loading the bases with just one out. Hargan lined a single to center field, scoring Jewell and Sharpe.

LaRue tied the score in the bottom of the first inning.

The Lady Dragon offense continued in the second inning. Catcher Hayden Garrett led off with a single, followed by a double by Jewell. With one out, Johnson singled to center field, scoring both base runners.

With the score still 4-2 in the top of the third inning, Milby singled to start a rally. Kathryn Robertson



Members of the Lady Dragons were recognized Tuesday night with 18th District honors for their outstanding performances during the 2026 season. Pictured from left are Hayli Milby and Kenzie Johnson, who were named to the 18th District All-Tournament Team, along with Hazel Sharpe and Brooklyn Jewell, who earned spots on the 18th District All-Regular Season Team.

Photos by Dale Curry & Abbey Griffiths

bunted to move Milby to second base.

Kaylee Sharpe singled, moving Milby to third base. Garrett hit a sacrifice fly to score Milby, making the score 5-2.

Jewell then hit a shot to the LaRue shortstop, who fumbled the ball and K. Sharpe scored to make the lead 6-2.

The LaRue offense exploded for five runs in the bottom of the third inning to retake the lead at 7-6.

The fourth and fifth innings were scoreless for both teams.

In the top of the sixth, third baseman Johnson smacked a two-run homerun over the left field fence. This was the senior's first ever home run and her shot made the score 8-7 in favor of the Lady Dragons.

In the top of the seventh inning, Green County added yet another run.

After Garrett and Jewell singled, Johnson picked up another hit, a single to center field that scored Alexandria Sloan, a courtesy runner for Garrett. That put Green County up 9-7.

LaRue County responded with two runs in their half of the seventh to force an extra inning.

Hickerson walked to begin the eighth inning. Hargan hit a sacrifice bunt that moved Hickerson to second but that was as far as she could get.

With two outs in the bottom of the eighth inning, LaRue scored the winning run on a single to center field.

Green County had lots of other opportunities to score in the game. They left runners on base in every inning except for the fifth inning. A total of ten base runners were stranded for the Lady Dragons.

18th District Hitting stats:

Milby—4 of 6, Garrett—3 of 5, Johnson—5 of 9, Hargan—4 of 8, Hickerson—2 of 7, H. Sharpe—2 of 8, Jewell—2 of 9, K. Sharpe—1 of 6, Darnell—1 of 7, Robertson—0 of 1.

Extra-base hits:

Doubles: Hargan, Jewell, Johnson, Milby

Triple: Hargan

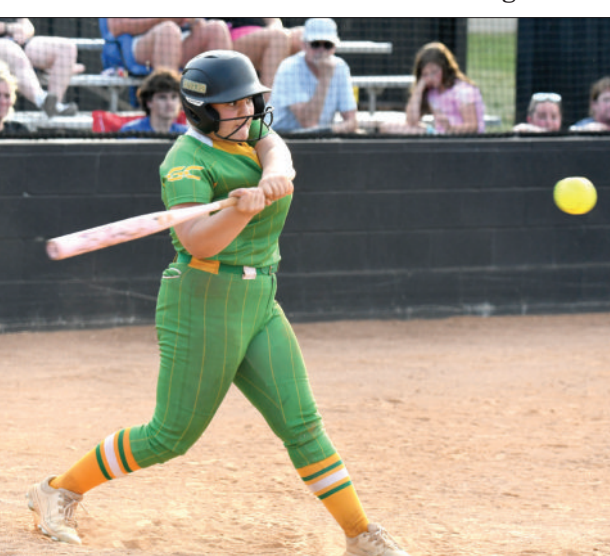
Home runs: Johnson

18th District Pitching stats:

H. Sharpe—12.1 innings, 14 hits, 7 runs, 8 walks, 7 strikeouts

Ava Kate Spowles—2.1 innings, 7 hits, 6 runs, 1 walk, 1 strikeout.

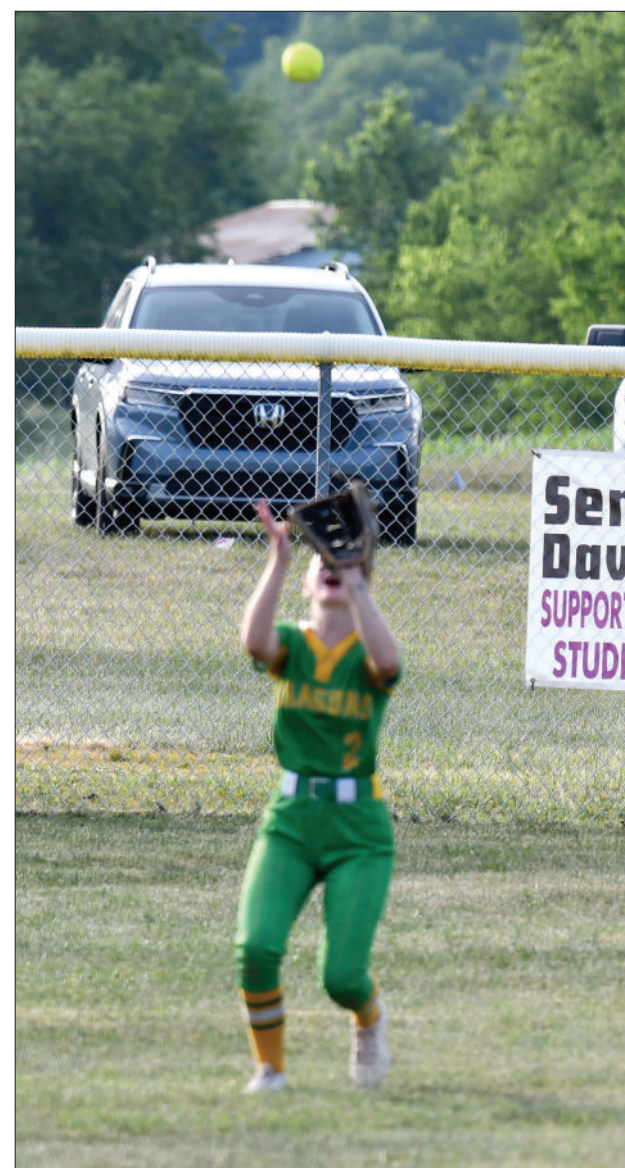
Because the winner and runner-up in each district tournament advance to this week's region tournament, the Lady Dragons will play at LaRue County this week.



Mackenzie Johnson powers this pitch over the left field fence for her first career home run in the game against LaRue County.



Freshman Alexandria Sloan crosses the plate for a score against LaRue County in last week's district championship game.



Faith Ray, playing left field against LaRue County, settles under the ball for a Lady Hawk out.

District Champs—Dragons draw Elizabethtown

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Despite having lost to LaRue County twice during the regular season, 9-2 and 3-1, the Dragons were ready for redemption in this game.

Squires and Curry combined on the mound to give up just four hits by the Hawks.

Green County loaded the bases to start the top of the second inning. Andrew Houk scored from third when Durrett bunted and

LaRue's catcher committed an error.

Jones scored a few minutes later on a wild pitch, giving the Dragons a 2-0 lead.

In the top of the third inning, the Dragon offense exploded with five runs.

Singles by Corbin and Squires gave the Dragons two base runners with no outs. Houk hit his 12th home run of the year to give the Dragons a 5-0 lead.

Jones was hit by a pitch and Ty Bonta singled and Curry sacrifice bunted to move the runners into scoring position. A wild pitch allowed Jones to score.

Another sacrifice bunt by Durrett scored Braxton Judd, a courtesy runner for Bonta.

With the bases loaded in the top of the fourth inning, Bonta was hit by a pitch, scoring Larson Matney, who had doubled to begin the inning.

Curry came to bat with the bases loaded and he too was hit by a pitch, scoring Houk.

Durrett was up next and he hit an RBI single, scoring Jones and giving Green County a ten-run lead.

The Dragon defense was strong in the bottom of the fourth and fifth innings and Green County secured their second straight district championship.

18th District Tournament hitting stats:

Bonta—2 of 4, Durrett—2 of 4, Houk—2 of 4, Corbin—3 of 7, Matney—2 of 7,

Squires—2 of 7, Curry—1 of 4, Jones—1 of 5, Reece Mitchell—1 of 5.

Extra-base hits:

Doubles—Houk, Matney

Home runs—Houk, Squires

Pitching stats: Thomas—7 innings,

3 hits, 0 runs, 0 walks, 5 strikeouts

Squires—4 innings, 3 hits, 0 runs, 4 walks, 1 strikeout

Curry—1 inning, 1 hit, 0 runs, 0 walks, 0 strikeouts

The Dragons drew Elizabethtown in the first round of the 5th Region Tournament taking place at Lindsey Wilson University. All first round games were scheduled for Monday, Memorial Day.