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CAROL MURPHREE
 Board of Education District 4
 Republican Primary Tuesday, May 24

Kiel recipient of Hall of Fame Award at Partnership Awards Banquet

John Pilati
 Franklin Free Press

As Jamie Kiel reflected on his being presented with the Franklin County Hall of Fame Award, he thought about some of the recipients who preceded him.

Names like Cecil Batchelor, Kaye Hutcheson, Judy Pounders and many others whose lifetime accomplishments are both outstanding and historically significant to Franklin County.

"There's been a variety of people who have won this award who were very involved and made a lasting impact on Franklin County, and I

appreciate the Chamber of Commerce recognizing me tonight," Kiel said.

Kiel received the 2022 Hall of Fame Award at Thursday's Franklin County Partnership Awards Ceremony, held at the A.W. Todd Centre.

The annual event recognizes business and individuals whose service to Franklin County stands out. The banquet is jointly sponsored by the Franklin County Chamber of Commerce and the Franklin County Development Authority.

Kiel, a Russellville High School graduate, received his Associate's Degree in Business from Northwest

See 'KIEL,' page 3

Have a seat? Canida says no chairs available for public at REB meeting

John Pilati
 Franklin Free Press

After a Russellville resident asked Russellville Electric Board Manager Charles Canida if the REB has a program in place to allow elderly or fixed income customers to make partial payments in order not to have their power disconnected, Canida told her he'd 'get you something back on that.'

Florence Randolph appeared on the agenda of the REB's March 21st meeting.

"Is there a way to put something in place where the elderly, or folks on fixed income, can not get their lights cut off because they couldn't pay it all, but pay some of it?," Randolph asked. "Or people who have small children. Is there anything like that in place?"

Canida's response to Randolph's inquiry indicated he did not know whether such a hardship policy exists with the Russellville Electric Board.

"I can get back with you and we'll see," Canida said.

Randolph said there are a lot of people struggling to pay high electric bills and she's concerned about children getting sick or having to go to the hospital. Once again, Canida's response was brief.

"I can get you something back on that," Canida said.

Randolph was one of nine citizens and/or media members present at the meeting. There were no chairs provided for the public, and that didn't sit well with Randolph, a 71-year-old disabled grandmother.

See 'REB,' page 7

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CURTIS BAKER
 Board of Education, District 2
 May 24, 2022
 Republican Primary

Pd. Pol. Adv. By: Curtis Baker • 322 Austen Dr, Phil Campbell, AL

TAX LIEN SALE

Franklin County Revenue Commissioner Stratt Byars will be holding the 2021 Tax Lien Auction on May 3, 2022 at 10 am CST on the website www.govease.com. In accordance with Title 40, Chapter 10, Code of Alabama 1975 (§40-10-180 through 200), the Franklin County tax collecting official has authority to auction and sell tax liens on properties for which ad valorem property taxes are delinquent.

An updated list of delinquent parcels from the 2021 tax year is posted and can be found inside the Franklin County Courthouse on the first floor bulletin board and inside of the Red Bay office.

All potential bidders are required to register at www.govease.com before the auction commences.

For more information about the upcoming tax lien auction, please contact the Franklin County Revenue Commissioners Office at 256-332-8841.



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Janice Faye Allen, 70, of Russellville, passed away on Tuesday, March 22nd. Interment at Frankllin Memory Gardens.

Nellie Ruth Hovater, 80, of Spruce Pine, passed away on Wednesday, March 23rd. Interment at Gravel Hill Cemetery.

Sheila Maxine Brown Saint, 63, of Russellville, passed away on Thursday, March 24th. Interment at Colbert Memorial Gardens.



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‘KIEL,’ from page 1

Junior College, where he was Student Government Association President. He earned a dual degree in Management and Marketing from the University of North Alabama.

Kiel serves on the Foundation Board of UNA and NW-SCC. He has served as the voice of Tharptown athletics as the public address announcer, and he served 20 years as the Music Director for Tharptown Baptist Church.

Kiel is in his first term in the Alabama House of Representatives, representing District 18. He is running unopposed for reelection this year.

He started his own small business, Kiel Equipment, while still in college at UNA. That business remains a Russellville mainstay more than 30 years later.

Kiel and his wife Melissa have three daughters.

Other Chamber of Commerce Award Winners at the 2022 Partnership Awards Banquet include:

—Beautification Award: Phil Campbell High School (Phil Campbell), Bay Tree Park (Red Bay), 306 Barbecue (Russellville) and Belgreen High School Baseball Field (Franklin County At Large).

—Business of the Year: 43 Grill.

—Franklin County's Best Kept Secret: Go Vertical Aviation.

—Distinguished Service Award: Curtis Baker (Phil Campbell), Mark Massey (Red Bay), Patricia Cox (Russellville) and Susan Hall (Franklin County At Large).

—Volunteer of the Year Award: Cotton Flats Cruisers.

—Roger Bedford Jr. Unsung Hero Award: Bert Fowler.

Chamber Director Cassie Medley also recognized her retiring Board of Directors board members Emily Mays, Mark Tucker, Ann McDermott and Kelly Barnett. Brett Bendall was honored as Past President of the Chamber.

The Franklin County Development Authority recognizes businesses each year who have demonstrated excellence in growth, support of local industry and outstanding contributions to Franklin County, as well as two local educators.

The 2022 FCDA Award winners were:

—Excellence in Industrial Growth Award: Sunshine Homes, Inc.

—Industrial Support Award: Russellville City Schools Career Tech Department.

—Industry of the Year Award: Clayton Homes.

Caleb Beason was honored as the Franklin County Schools Educator of the Year and Jill Bonds received the honor for Russellville City Schools.

The event organizers expressed their appreciation to Annette Oliver and Tammy West with the A.W. Todd Centre, and 306 Barbecue, Florence Trophy Company, Franklin County Junior Leaders, Russellville Florist & Gifts and the Russellville Park and Recreation Department.



COURTESY PHOTO
Brett Bendall, left, presents Jamie Kiel with the 2022 Franklin County Hall of Fame Award.

For updates on news and sports throughout the week, visit us on the web at www.franklinfreepress.net!

Send your creative submissions to franklinfreepress@yahoo.com.

Books fit for royalty: plenty of options to appease your royal itch

Lori Skinner
Franklin Free Press

Bridgerton on Netflix has enthralled viewers with the glamorous opulence of the bon ton during the Regency era.

The Regency, officially the period from 1811 to 1820, occurred when George, Prince of Wales, governed Great Britain and Ireland as Regent during the illness of his father, King George III. While vast social inequalities and political turmoil existed, many works of fiction focus on the social aspects of the period and the antics of the social elite.

For your youngest readers, there are several fun books that are inspired by Jane Austen. Lit for Little Hands: Pride and Prejudice adapted by Brooke Jordan and illustrated by David Miles is a fantastic choice for early introduction to a classic work. The illustrations are colorful, and the story stays true to the original version. The interactive elements will engage motor skills as well.

Lit for Little Hands has many additional classics in the series. Pride and Prejudice: A BabyLit Counting Primer Jennifer Adams and illustrated by Allison Oliver is another fun take on

the story of Lizzie and Darcy. Readers will count their way to ten as they stroll through one English village and meet two wealthy gentlemen. Be sure to check these out if you want to share one of your favorite works with a young audience.

For slightly older readers, Little People, Big Dreams: Jane Austen by Maria Isabel Sanchez Vergara and illustrated by Katie Wilson is a biography that highlights her literary achievement is portraying young women making their own choices.

Additional titles in this series highlight important feminine figures and their impactful achievements. Another fun series, Wicked History, looks at America's relationship with King George III. King George III: America's Enemy simplifies the events around the American Revolution and provides a look at King George before his incapacitating illness. There are additional titles in this series that examine notorious figures throughout history.

Young Adult readers will enjoy Julie Klassen's The Tutor's Daughter. The hero of the story, Emma Smallwood, accompanies her father to his new position in Cornwall, England where he will become the tutor of four brothers. When they arrive, things become

SEE 'BOOKS,' page 6

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Correction Policy

The *Franklin Free Press* strives for excellence and accuracy, and we will be pleased to correct any error in our newspaper. To request a correction or clarification, call or e-mail our office.

Letters to the editor

The *Franklin Free Press* is published by hometown people, for hometown people. We urge contributions of all kinds, including guest columns, picture submissions, cartoons or letters to the editor. Send any letters to our office via U.S. Postal Service or e-mail, and we will gladly publish them. Letters must be signed and contain the hometown and phone number of the author. The *Franklin Free Press* reserves the right to edit letters for style, length and content.

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EVENTS OF INTEREST • FAMILY REUNIONS • PLAYS • CHURCH GATHERINGS • EDUCATIONAL • CLUB MEETINGS

Osborn Hill Cemetery -Decoration Day will be on May 7, 2022. The first Saturday of May has been observed as Decoration Day for well over 100 years. All old flowers will need to be removed off the graves. Please make plans for that special day to come to the cemetery. Also its time again for annual donations. If you would like to donate to the Osborn Hill Cemetery Fund, please send your donations to: Osborn Hill Cemetery Fund, c/o Mrs. Lana Duncan 2330 Colburn Mtn. Road, Tuscumbia, AL 35674.

Bethlehem Missionary Baptist Church, 305 Bethlehem Road, Russellville, has changed its Decoration Day to the first Sunday in May. This year that date will be Sunday, May 1st.

The 13th annual Coats Farm Benefit Trail Ride and Auction will be held on Friday, April 8th and Saturday, April 9th at Coats Farm at 1458 Co. Road 298 in Florence. Yard sale begins Friday at 8 a.m. in the barn with the trail ride beginning on Saturday at 9 a.m. There will be no silent auction. However, there will be restaurant, hotels and business gift cards sold at a discount. Chicken and goat stew, hamburgers, hot dogs, BBQ, and ham and beans will be served beginning at 11 a.m. Homemade peach and apple fried pies will be sold as well. There will be a big auction held outside beginning at 12:15. New & used furniture, sports memorabilia, antiques, tools, appliances, horse and horse tack, grass seed and much more will be auctioned off. For more information, call NACCH Director Don Williams at (256)-366-3327. All proceeds go to North Alabama Christian Children's Home.

Russellville Masonic Lodge #371 is selling Smoked Hams for Easter. Hams are \$35 each and may be ordered by dialing 256-810-1970. Pickup is Saturday, April 16, between 8-10 a.m., at the Lodge on Coffee Avenue.

You are invited to Spring Revival at Bethlehem Missionary Baptist Church, 305 Bethlehem Road, Russellville, March 27-30, 2022. Sunday night at 5 p.m., Monday—Wednesday at 7 p.m. Pastor is Bro. Jeff Fleming. Evangelist is Bro. Terry Pace from Scottsboro. Everyone is welcome.

Jerred Price will return to Russellville's Roxy Theatre for his Almost Elton John concert on Saturday, April 23 at 7 p.m. Reserved tickets are \$35, \$30, \$25 and \$20 and may be purchased by calling 256-577-9932. Proceeds benefit the Historic Roxy Theatre.

'BOOKS,' from page 4

complicated as mysterious events unfold.

To complicate matters, she develops feelings for one of the older brothers who may be a danger to her life.

To uncover the real lives of famous figures of the Regency, be sure to check out Georgette Heyer's Regency World by Jennifer Kloester. This work covers fashion, slang, and actual scandals of the Regency.

If you have read Julia Quinn's backlog, be sure to check out the Ravenel Series by Lisa Kleypas, Love by

Numbers Series by Sarah Maclean, or the Spindle Cover Series by Tessa Dare. All three will offer an emotionally satisfying story with elements of humor and potential scandal.

Contributor Lori Skinner is the Head Librarian for Northwest-Shoals Community College (NW-SCC). For more information, she can be contacted at 256-331-6288 or lori.skinner@nwsc.edu. NW-SCC Libraries are open to the public and look forward to serving your library needs.

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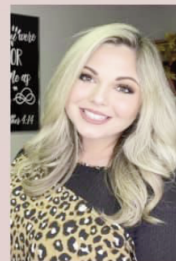
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An application and job description may be picked up, faxed or emailed upon request from the Franklin County Commission Office, located at 405 N Jackson Avenue, Monday – Friday, 8:00 AM to 5:00 PM or applications are available at www.franklincountyal.org under the Careers tab.

Franklin County is an equal opportunity employer and does not discriminate on the basis of race, color, national origin, sex, religion, age or disability in the employment or provision of services.

‘REB,’ from page 1

“Don’t you have any chairs in here?,” Randolph asked Canida moments before the meeting began.

“No ma’am we do not,” Canida replied.

According to at least two sources, there are hundreds of folding chairs at the Electric Board Warehouse, the location of the meeting and the location of the REB’s chili/stew cookout where seating is provided for more than 200 guests.

Randolph informed Canida she is disabled and that federal law requires seating accommodations for disabled residents and reasonable accommodations for the public must be made in order to avoid a hostile environment for government meetings.

Canida told Randolph she should have mentioned her disability when she called and got on the agenda.

Canida told board members there have been numerous calls the past month from citizens concerned about higher utility bills. He said Russellville Utilities Office Manager Amy Rickard told the callers it was their gas bill that increased.

“Most everyone that called she was able to point out to them it was their gas. Their electric went up relatively small amounts and their gas was actually what went up and increased,” Canida said. “And most all of which apologized for calling because they did not realize that. And we’re glad they called so we could set that straight because some just didn’t know.”

Board member Bill Jackson brought up the issue of board compensation and said he had heard another utility board went up on board members’ monthly payments to \$600/month.

He asked Canida to look into compensation for the city’s other utility boards.

“It’s been brought to my attention one board raised its compensation to \$600/month,” Jackson said. “If they have, I think we should do the same thing.”

The next meeting of the REB is set for April 19, 2022, at 6 p.m., at the Electric Board Warehouse.

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Willingness to: work overtime, irregular hours, weekends and holidays; travel and attend seminars and workshops.
Ability to do the essential functions of the job as directed in this description.

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Pay Range is from \$31,951.92 - \$49,292.88.

Gore seeking Democratic nomination for Alabama Congressional District 4

John Pilati
Franklin Free Press

Rhonda Gore has qualified to run for the Democratic nomination for United States House of Representatives, Fourth Congressional District of Alabama.

Gore will face Franklin County resident Rick Neighbors in the May 24, 2022 Democratic Primary, with the winner challenging Rep. Robert Aderholt, the Republican nominee, in November.

Gore has taught in DeKalb and Marshall Counties and worked at Johnson's Hosiery in Fort Payne. Gore believes she has built a solid relationship with the residents of District Four.

Gore graduated from Ider High School and Northeast Alabama Community College. She earned a Bachelor's Degree in Social Science from Jacksonville State University, where she was a member of a leadership fraternity, Omicron Delta Kappa.

Gore is certified to teach English as a member of Sigma Tau Delta, an English honor society.

Gore earned her Master's Degree in Political Science from the University of Alabama, graduating with honors.

She has served in various positions within the Alabama Education Association and on the Alabama Democratic Executive Committee.

With the primarily rural composition of the Fourth Congressional District, Gore said she possesses an understanding of the people and their needs, including the priority need of bringing higher paying jobs to District Four.

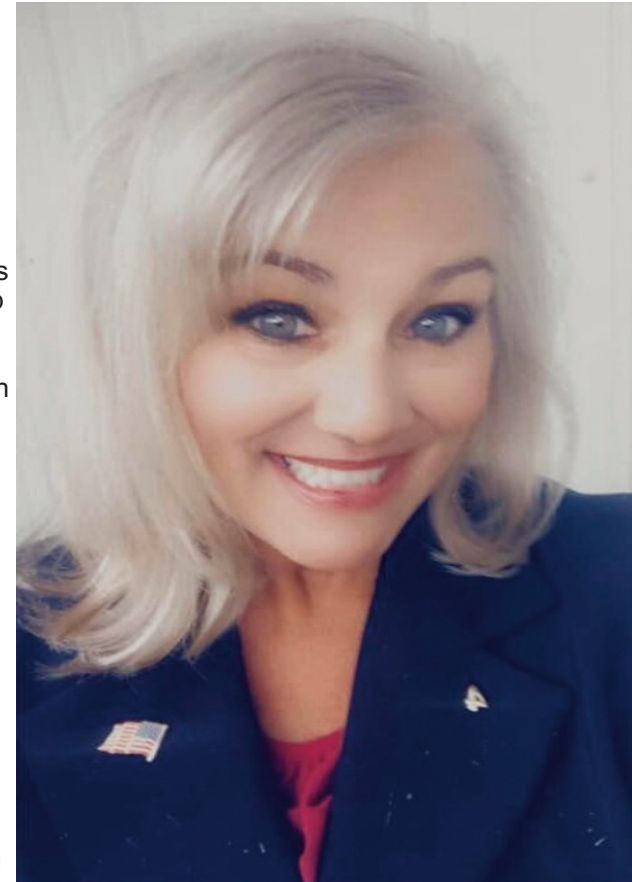
"I will work to improve our infrastructure, ensure safe and clean communities and to broaden high speed Internet to rural Alabama," Gore said.

She also plans to bring back town hall meetings to make sure people are well informed of what's going on in Washington, D.C.

"The time has come that District Four needs a full-time Representative, not just when it's election time," Gore said. "Aderholt lives in Arlington, Virginia, and after 26 years, he has lost touch with the common people and their needs.

"I'm here and I've heard what the people want—someone to listen to them and they want a voice in Washington. I'm that person!" she added.

Gore has one son, Tyler Dennis, a graduate of Plainview High School who now lives in West Hollywood, California.



COURTESY PHOTO

Gore, above, recently announced her qualification to run for U.S. House of Representatives in Alabama's Fourth Congressional District.

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 Multi-Family Giant Yard Sale. Friday/Saturday, April 1/2. 7 a.m.-until. Oak Hill Subdivision. 101 Gail Avenue. From Russellville, turn right just before

From 6 a.m. - until. Yard sale, Saturday, April 2nd from 7 a.m. - 12 p.m. 1347 Hwy 48 in Russellville. Mens and womens clothes, etc.
 Large, multi-family yard sale, Saturday, April 2nd. Starts at 8 a.m. on the corner of College Ave. and Burgess St. behind the house facing college.
 Multi-family garage sale, Friday and Saturday, April 1st and 2nd. 810 Scott Ave. Tons of clothes for adults and kids, vintage toys/lights, crafts, wreaths, sock monkeys, hand and body scrubs, household items, etc. Great deals!
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SPORTS

3.30.22

Golden Tigers take series over Lawrence County to begin campaign towards area title defense

Staff reports

Banks Langston threw six innings of two-hit ball for Russellville on Tuesday afternoon, and the Golden Tigers got multiple hits from four different players on their way to opening area play with a 9-1 rout of Lawrence County.

Langston (2-1) was locked in from the outset, retiring the first eight men he faced (four on strikeouts) before hitting a batter with two outs in the top of the third. Leadoff man Tripp Engle followed with the Red Devils' first hit of the day, but Langston got Cameron Gholston to ground to second for the final out of the inning.

Already leading 2-0, Russellville (9-7, 1-0) added two more runs in the bottom of the third. Canyon Pace drew a leadoff walk, and Reed Hill followed with a single. After both runners moved up on a sac bunt by Ethan Oliver, Shayden Romans came through with a two-run single to center to make it 4-0.

Langston worked around an error in the top of the fourth, and the Golden Tigers pushed across another run in the bottom half when Romans drew a bases-loaded walk. After Langston pitched a one-two-three top of the fifth, Russellville added to its

See 'GOLDEN TIGERS,' page 14

Editor's Note

Check out next week's issue of the Franklin Free Press which will feature our 2021-22 all-county boys basketball team!

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Sweeping the series

Brady Petree
Franklin Free Press

Bryant Anthony matched his career high with four hits for Phil Campbell on Thursday, and Cam Habada struck out 10 in six innings of two-hit ball as the Bobcats opened area play with a 13-4 win at East Lawrence.

Phil Campbell (9-5, 1-0) had just one extra-base hit (a double by Hunter Baker) but took advantage of 14 walks issued by East Lawrence pitchers. Three of those walks came in the top of the first, helping the Bobcats grab an early 3-0 lead. Habada and Cole Pace each had an RBI single in the inning, and Baker was hit by a pitch with the bases loaded to force home another run.

Habada worked around a hit batter and a single in the bottom of the first, striking out three. He then came through with his second RBI single of the day in the top of the second and later scored on a steal of home to push the lead to 5-0.

The Eagles took advantage of an error and a sac fly to get on the board in the bottom of the second and then cut the lead to one in the bottom of the third. Habada hit the first two batters of the inning, and then a bunt single loaded the bases. A wild pitch and two errors allowed East Lawrence to score three runs and make it a 5-4 game.

With the tying run on second, Habada struck out three consecutive batters to end the inning and keep Phil Campbell in front. That started a dominant finishing stretch during which the senior lefty retired the last 12 men he faced. Habada (5-1) retired the Eagles in order in the fourth, fifth and sixth before turning things over to reliever Eli Taylor in the seventh.

With their lead down to a single run, the Bobcats scored four times in the top of the fifth to regain control. Baker led off the inning with a double to center, and Jacob Barnwell singled to right. Anthony, the team's junior catcher, followed with an RBI single, and Mason Swinney walked to load the bases. Two runs scored when Habada reached on an error, and Swinney came home on a wild pitch to make it 9-4.

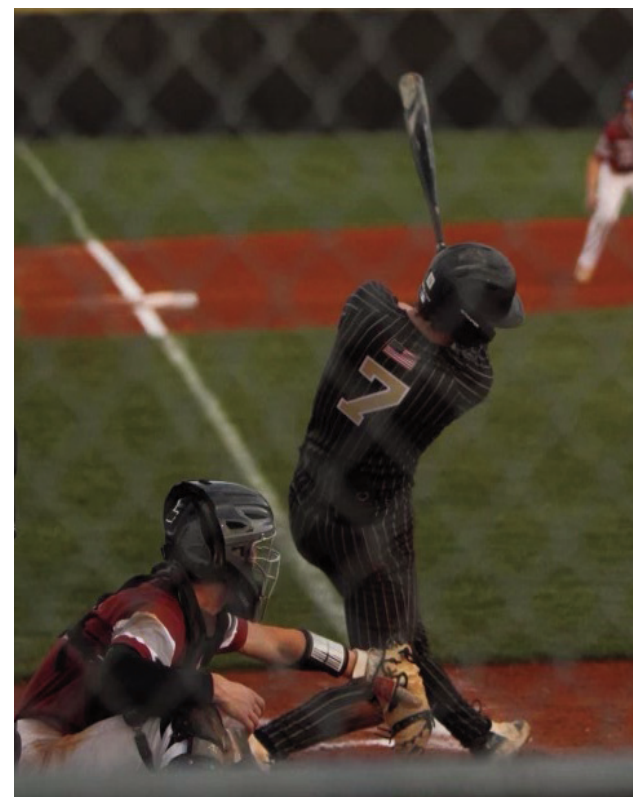
Phil Campbell added two more runs in the top of the sixth, getting an RBI single from Sage Raper and a bases-loaded walk by Habada. The Bobcats tacked on two more runs in the seventh to finish off the scoring.

Habada allowed four runs (one earned) on two hits in six innings, striking out 10 and walking one. He threw 67 of his 104 pitches for strikes and now has 58 strikeouts on the season in 27.2 innings. Habada improved to 8-1 in his varsity career with 82 K's in 46.2 innings.

Anthony went 4-for-4 with four runs scored and also walked twice, reaching base all six times he came to the plate. He's now batting .324 (12-for-37) on the year with a .583 OBP, thanks to a team-high 21 walks.

Habada went 2-for-4 on Thursday with three RBIs, two runs scored, two walks and two stolen bases. He's batting .439 (18-for-41) on the season with 14 RBIs.

Cole Pace was 2-for-5 on Thursday with an RBI and a run. Baker was 1-for-3 with an RBI and a run,



COURTESY PHOTO

The Bobcats kicked off their area title repeat campaign with a sweep of East Lawrence in which they outscored the Eagles 24-5 across two games.

and Barnwell went 1-for-4 and scored twice. Swinney walked four times and scored two runs, and Raper was 1-for-4 with an RBI. Kyle Pace drew three walks.

Taylor was sharp in his scoreless seventh, allowing one hit and striking out one.

Phil Campbell 11 East Lawrence 1

Mason Swinney came within one out of throwing his second career no-hitter for Phil Campbell on Saturday, finishing with 11 strikeouts in a one-hitter as the Bobcats wrapped up an area sweep of East Lawrence with an 11-1 win.

Making just his third appearance on the mound this season, Swinney (3-0) dominated the visiting Eagles from the start. The senior right-hander, who has signed with the University of Alabama as a shortstop, buzzed through the first four innings on Saturday, retiring all 12 batters he faced and striking out eight of them. He was especially impressive in the top of the second, striking out the side on just 11 pitches.

Trailing 9-0, East Lawrence got its first base runner of the day on an error by the Bobcats (10-5, 2-0) to open the top of the fifth. Swinney walked the next batter on four pitches, and a sac bunt followed by a wild pitch got the Eagles on the board.

Swinney, who struck out 14 batters in a no-hitter against Vina as a freshman in 2019, closed out the fifth inning on Saturday with a groundout and a strikeout to keep the no-hit bid intact. He then got a strikeout and a fly-out to start the sixth before Dawson Terry, the No. 2 hitter in the Eagle lineup, lined the first pitch he saw to center for a single.

See 'SERIES,' page 13

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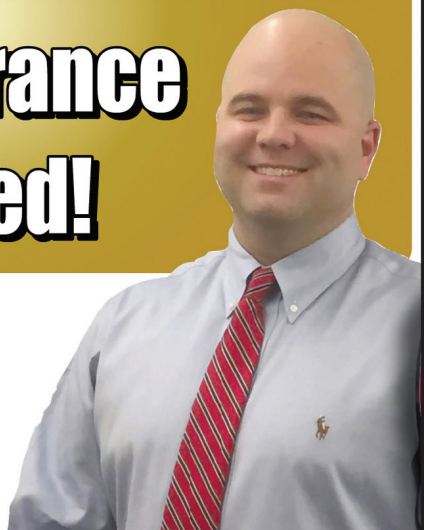
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'SERIES,' from page 11

Swinney recovered to record his 11th and final strikeout of the day, and Phil Campbell finished off the win with a run in the bottom of the sixth to make it 11-1.

Swinney walked just one batter on the day while posting his ninth career game with double-digit K's. The run he allowed was unearned, and he threw 58 of his 80 pitches for strikes. Swinney is now 17-2 in his varsity career with a 1.40 ERA and 191 strikeouts in 115.1 innings.

Swinney also drove in Phil Campbell's first run of the day with an RBI single in the bottom of the first. He then stole second and scored on an RBI single by Kyle Pace to make it 2-0.

The Bobcats added three more runs in the bottom of the third, loading the bases on walks to Bryant Anthony, Swinney and Cam Habada. Kyle Pace drove in Anthony with a sac fly, and Cole Pace came through with a two-run single to make it 5-0.

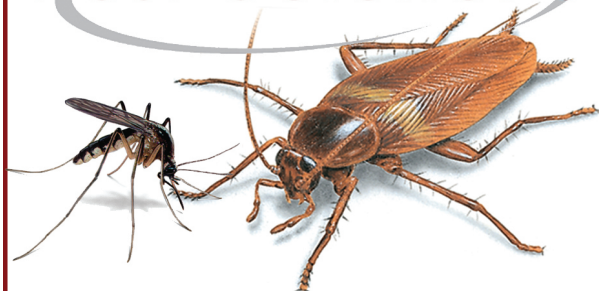
Phil Campbell put together two hits, a hit batter, a walk, four stolen bases, a passed ball and a wild pitch to manufacture four runs in the bottom of the fourth. Jacob Barnwell and Sage Raper each had a single in the inning, and Cody Quinn drove in a run with a sac fly.

Hunter Baker had an RBI triple in the bottom of the fifth, and the Bobcats finished off the win with a run in the bottom of the sixth. Anthony led off with a double, moved to third on a single by Raper and then scored when Swinney reached on an error.

In addition to his double, Anthony also walked three times and has now reached base safely in his last 10 plate appearances, going 5-for-5 with five walks. He stole four bases on Saturday and also scored four runs.

Raper went 2-for-4 with a run and a steal, recording his fifth multi-hit game of the year. Swinney was 1-for-3 with an RBI and two runs scored, and Cole Pace was 1-for-2 with two RBIs. Kyle Pace went 1-for-2 with an RBI, and Baker was 1-for-1 with two stolen bases, an RBI and a run scored. Barnwell went 1-for-3 with a run.

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'GOLDEN TIGERS,' from page 11

lead in the bottom of the inning when Grayson Thorpe singled with two outs and then scored on Eli Gipson's triple to right.

The Red Devils broke up Langston's shutout bid in the top of the sixth, putting together a double, a wild pitch and a squeeze bunt to score their only run. Langston capped off his day with a strikeout before turning things over to reliever Samuel Pace, who recorded three K's of his own in a scoreless seventh.

Langston finished with six strikeouts and no walks in six innings, allowing one earned run on two hits. He threw 50 of his 70 pitches for strikes and induced 10 groundball outs.

Thorpe had a two-run double in the bottom of the sixth and finished 3-for-5 with a run and a stolen base. Gipson went 2-for-4 with an RBI and a run, recording his sixth multi-hit game of the season and the 18th of his Russellville career.

Andrew Hatton had an RBI single in the bottom of the sixth and finished 2-for-4 with two runs scored and two stolen bases. Romans went 2-for-3 and drove in three runs. Hill was 1-for-3 with a walk and a run, and Oliver was 1-for-1. Nathan Brockway walked twice and scored a run, and Karson Hyde stole a base and scored a run. E.J. Jones was hit by a pitch and scored a run.

The Golden Tigers, winners of four straight games and six of their last seven, will look to finish off a series sweep of Lawrence County on Thursday in Moulton.

Russellville 10 Lawrence County 0

Canyon Pace and Nathan Brockway hit bookend home runs for Russellville on Thursday, and three pitchers combined to throw a four-hit shutout as the Golden Tigers

stretched their win streak to five and finished off an area sweep of Lawrence County with a 10-0 rout of the Red Devils in Moulton.

Pace started the scoring with a two-run homer (his fifth of the season) in the top of the first, and Brockway finished it off with a solo shot (his second of the year) in the top of the sixth. In between, Russellville (10-7, 2-0) got excellent work on the mound from starter Emitt Green (3 IP, 0 ER, 2 hits, 4 K's, 0 BB) and reliever Reed Hill (2 IP, 0 ER, 1 hit, 1 K, 0 BB).

Brayden Spurgeon finished off the win with a scoreless sixth.

Pace continued his season-long tear at the plate, going 2-for-2 with a pair of walks and three RBIs. The senior DH now has nine multi-hit games on the year.

See 'GOLDEN TIGERS,' page 15

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'GOLDEN TIGERS,' from page 14

and is batting .426 (23-for-54) with 13 extra-base hits (five homers, eight doubles) and 24 RBIs in 17 games.

Brockway had a double and a single to go along with his homer on Thursday, finishing 3-for-4 with a stolen base and three runs scored.

Grayson Thorpe led off the game with a single to left, and one out later Pace whacked a 2-0 pitch over the fence in left for his eighth career homer and a 2-0 lead. Green hit leadoff man Tripp Engle with a pitch to start the bottom of the first, but catcher Shayden Romans threw out Engle attempting to steal. Green struck out the next two batters to finish off a strong first inning.

Brockway led off the second with a single to left, and a hit batter and a walk loaded the bases. Brockway scored on a wild pitch, and then Hill came through with a two-run single to make it 5-0.

Green put up another zero in the bottom of the second with more help from Romans, who threw out another runner trying to steal. The Golden Tigers put the game out of reach with three more runs in the top of the third. Romans led off with a single, and courtesy runner Karson Hyde stole second. Hyde scored when Brockway reached on an error, and then two walks and two hit batters forced home two more runs and made it 8-0.

Green (1-3) worked around a hit batter and a single to put up another zero in the bottom of the third. The senior right-hander left after three scoreless innings, throwing 31 of his 49 pitches for strikes. He improved his career record at the varsity level to 17-5.

Russellville added to its lead in the fourth when Brockway doubled, stole third and scored on an error. He capped off his big day in the top of the sixth, smacking a 1-2 pitch over the fence in center for a 10-0 lead.

Thorpe finished 1-for-4 with a run, and Hyde was 1-for-1 with a double. Hill was 1-for-4 with two RBIs, and Romans also went 1-for-4. Spurgeon was 1-for-1, and Eli Gipson had a walk, a run and an RBI. Andrew Hatton walked and scored twice, and Casen Heaps walked and scored a run.

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