

Campbellsburg Day returns



Campbellsburg Day returns for a third straight year this Saturday, May 18 with a parade, petting zoo, bounce houses, live music throughout the day, food trucks and vendors. The event starts downtown at 10 a.m.

WIZARDS

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events at schools and various non-profits. The group has visited nearly all 50 states, as well as several countries around the world.

Different ticket packages offered an array of experiences for those in attendance. One package allowed kids to warm up with the Wizards before the game, engage in a meet-and-greet session, take part in a 3-minute basketball game at halftime and receive a Harlem Wizards "Wiz Kid" jersey.

The Wizards also signed autographs for the kids before the game, at halftime and immediately following the game.

On Tuesday night, the Wizards were comprised of six players from three different "units" within the organization.

Four players represented the Broadway unit, including Lloyd Clinton aka "Loonatik," Devon Curry aka "Livewire," Arnold Bernard aka "A-Train" and Eric Jones aka "Broadway."

Kamil Brown aka "Dragon" represented the King Arthur Unit and Bakari Copeland aka "Glitch" represented the Road Runner Unit.

The voice of the Wizards was Jamel Thompson.

The Henry County Hoopers, coached by Brandon Finnell, featured about 16 teachers, staff members and administrators from each of the five schools in the district, including Henry County girls basketball coach Landon New.

"This is my second time participating in the event and I'm always excited to be able to. It's always a good event to bring the community together for a different form of entertainment and something the kids always get excited for," said New.

As the game began, the Hoopers put the first points on the board with a layup from Tyler Gray. The Wizards easily responded with a monster dunk, but the Hoopers broke the tie with a 3-pointer from Dr. Jim Masters.

Every few minutes, the Hoopers rotated a new set of five players into action. One Hooper stepped in and took a hard foul from Broadway in the first quarter, prompting two Wizards to carry him to halfcourt to ensure he was alright.

After play resumed, the Wizards selected one kid from the crowd to take a shot for the Hoopers. If the kid made the shot, the Hoopers would get 10 points.

Six-year-old Liam was chosen, and with the help of several Wizards, was hoisted in the air for a dunk to give the Hoopers their 10 additional points on the scoreboard.

With the score boost, Henry County led 27-20 going into the second quarter.

The hilarious theatrics on and off the court kept fans engaged throughout the night. At one point, the Wizards lined up at halfcourt for a pretend football game and eventually tossed a football into the crowd. In another instance, one Wizard carried a kid from the crowd onto the court and ran around with him in his arms before returning him safely to the bleachers.

At the end of the night, the Wizards



Henry County assistant superintendent Chelsey Tingle looks for an open shot against the Harlem Wizards' defense.



Dragon and Glitch lift six-year-old Liam to the basket for a dunk. His basket gave the Hoopers 10 additional points on the scoreboard.

brought every kid across all grade levels onto the court for a big dance party.

"As a basketball coach, you always like to see kids being engaged and having fun with it at those young ages," said New. "From an education standpoint, students being able to see their teachers in different environments and connected to a fun event like that has a lot of value as well."

Despite the antics, the Hoopers kept the lead and went into halftime with a 39-36 advantage.

A minute into the third quarter, the Wizards stopped play, evened the score and swapped players with the Hoopers. Henry County's squad took Livewire and Glitch, while the Wizards selected Dr. Masters and Tristan Whalen.

After the trade, the Hoopers caught fire from 3-point range to create some separation from the Wizards.

Yet, the Wizards stormed back with great play on both ends of the floor and took the lead late in the fourth quarter.

The Hoopers kept the game close, but the Wizards ultimately prevailed 77-72.

Eminence robot gladiator team runner-up at 2024 state championship

BY DAYOU CHOI
EMINENCE STUDENT INTERN

The interscholastic Robot Gladiator League's first-ever tournament season held its grand finale Championship Battle at Morehead State University on April 30. The event featured eight different schools from Kentucky, with Eminence High School's very own team competing as one of the first teams to be a part of the league.

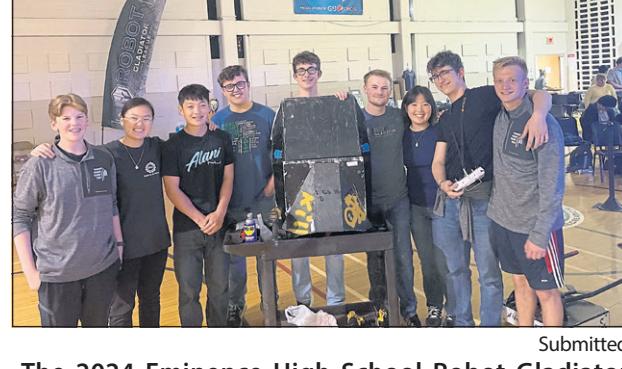
Each team was provided three base robots designed by the founders of the league and given months in preparation to design weapon systems. Student teams are given the opportunity to use ramp wedges, spinners, pneumatic systems, and have almost complete engineering freedom within safety and battle regulations. The battles are played in three-minute halves, with a 10 minute halftime. Three bowling pins are set at opposite ends of the battle arena, where robots fight to knock down the most pins in exchange for scoring points.

Representing Eminence High School at the State Championship was coach Sherry Curtsinger and the following students: Jackson Curtsinger, Gus Curtsinger, DaYoung Choi, DaYou Choi, SungHyun Choi, Truman Gilbert, Harrison Gilbert, Anthony Wayman and Beau White.

The Eminence team showcased a ramp robot designed for flipping opponent bots and two dual-pronged spear robots designed for offensively scoring points.

As a sixth-seed ranked team based on results from previous matches this season, Eminence first battled Jackson Independent and won a hard-fought victory. This was Eminence's first battle win during the league season and it advanced them to the semifinal round.

Following the first rounds of tournament battle, the following



Submitted
The 2024 Eminence High School Robot Gladiator League Team finished runner-up in the state championship held last month at Morehead State.

teams advanced to the semifinals: Eminence, Russell County, Nelson County and West Carter High School.

Eminence battled West Carter in the semifinal round, winning a close victory after a fierce battle fighting for advancement to the championship round. Eminence was ahead by 13 points, with the final score at 81-68.

Team member and driver for the ramp robot, Truman Gilbert, had this to say: "Advancing to the final round was an amazing experience and I was able to learn a lot. By playing multiple matches in the same day, I think I was able to better adapt to the robot and how it moves."

At the final battle for the Robot Gladiator League State Championship, top seed Nelson County and Eminence were set to battle. By gaining a quick lead of just two points, Nelson County had the advantage at the start. Eminence overtook the lead about halfway through the battle and set a close distance ahead in points.

With less than 30 seconds left in the last half of the match, Nelson County scored the last few points. The exciting final battle for the first Robot Gladiator League State Championship resulted in Eminence's loss to Nelson County at 49-45.

Eminence was named 2024 Robot Gladiator League State Runners-Up. The team was awarded the People's Choice Award for crowd favorite robot designs and the Rotational Excellence Award to Jackson

Curtsinger and DaYou Choi for building one of the league's first spinner robots.

Jackson Curtsinger, Eminence senior and student at the Craft Academy, said this about the team's success: "We went from zero earned wins in the regular season, to second overall in the League."

Excellent teamwork and engineering talent from the Eminence team was proudly showcased during the championship, where team members quickly worked together in addressing broken robot weapons, technical struggles and driving strategy.

Beau White, Eminence senior, shared this about his first year on the team: "There were so many great and awesome things that happened at our championship match that allowed us to make it to the final match and only fall short by four points. Not bad for a sixth seed!"

Eminence's successful season reaped impressive awards and taught students valuable skills to prepare for next year's season.

Gus Curtsinger commented about this year's tournament: "I learned how to overcome adversity and learn from my mistakes. And because of the competitions, I have grown a lot closer to my teammates. The Robot Gladiator season has made a lasting impact on me, and I will remember it for the rest of my life".

The Robot Gladiator League is projected to have more teams join the league as additions to the tournament season, and Eminence is geared up for another excellent year.

Harlem Wizards bring hoops tricks to Henry County



A "Wiz Kid" runs through a tunnel of Henry County Hoopers before Tuesday's Harlem Wizards game.

Abby Hooven

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