

# HeadLions

August 2009

THE OFFICIAL NEWSLETTER OF LEWIS CO. FOOTBALL



## THE LIONBACKERS SUMMER UPDATE!

This past offseason was a busy one for the Lionsbackers and the Coaching staff of the Lions. The coaching staff has undergone a major overhaul with some new faces and some oldies but goodies coming back into the huddle. Head Football Coach Josh Hughes has the following coaches for the 2009 campaign: Coach Corky Prater, Coach "Pudge" Stafford, Coach Kenny Hilger, Coach Chad Clark, Coach Richard Pope and Coach Bill Melton (Coach Melton is the son-in-law of former Coach Mike Edington....sorry about that Coach Melton). With this new mix of coaches and a more experienced team the staff is excited about the upcoming season.

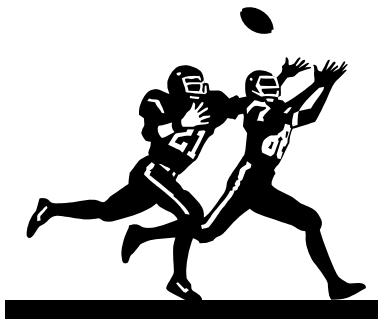
The Lionsbackers' summer was busy as well. We helped out with the golf scramble and ran the concession booth at the Boys and Girls Club Car Show sponsored by the Lions Club of Vanceburg. We would like to thank all the alumni that came out to help in these endeavors. We also ran a booth at the Lewis County Fair this year to help raise money for the team. There I go again, raising money.....money, money, money..... I know that you're tired of hearing about raising money, but it's for the boys and they do need stuff.

Speaking of making money for the team, we have three fundraisers going on right now:

1. Calendar Sales: Years ago the team sold these "Birthday Calendars" but gave them up to the Cheerleaders. Now we have the calendars back and working with the Athletic Boosters we have a mission to sell over 700 calendars.
2. McDonald Cards: This is a great fund raiser and could be one of our best money makers, but we must get the word out.
3. Shirt sales: This is the team shirt sells.

If a boy comes asking, help him and the team out.

In closing I would like to say that we are excited about this year and we hope that you come along for the ride.



## The 2009 Football Schedule

**August 28th - Knott Central - Away**  
**September 4th - Bath Co. - Home**  
**September 11th - Powell Co. - Home**  
**Sept. 18th - Fairview - Away**  
**Sept. 25th - Fleming - Away**  
**Oct. 2nd - Mason - Home**  
**Oct. 9th - Nicholas - Away**  
**Oct. 16th - Russell - Away**  
**Oct. 23rd - West - Home**  
**Oct. 30th - Magoffin - Away**

With only four home games this year we will be having something at each game that will be of interest to all in our community and especially our alumni.

Our first home game on September 4th will be a great time to come out and support the team. This will be the Paul Westerfield Bowl and should be an exciting game.

September 11<sup>th</sup> is homecoming and should be another good game. We really encourage all of our alumni to come out and stop by the hospitality tent for some food, drinks and fun. This would also be a great game to make a little donation to the team and purchase some "Lionbacker" merchandise. We are hoping to celebrate the 40<sup>th</sup> anniversary of restarting the Football Program at Lewis County by inviting the members of that first team to be our honored guests at the game and introducing them at halftime. If you were a member of that team or know a member of that team, please call Bill Tom Stone at (606) 541-0305 or Bub Lee at (606) 301-1048.

On Oct 2nd we will host the preseason #3 ranked Mason County Royals. Always a big crowd and good time when these two schools get together.

Senior night will be on Oct 23 vs. West Carter. This could be a game with playoff implications and your last chance to support the boys at home, so make plans to come out to all four games and become a real LIONBACKER!!!!

## A night that changed an attitude

It was a warm August afternoon as we piled off the bus at the Raceland football field, but our spirits were high and our minds were focused. The previous week we had played at the EKC grid-o-rama at Grayson and the coaches had experimented with both our offensive and defensive schemes. This year was going to be a rebuilding year and no one had any idea what kind of year that it would be, but if the area newspapers were right, not a very good one. Little did we know that this game was going to set the tone for the remainder of year.

Coach Robinson knew that he had to find out what we were made of early in the season. He had a couple of returning starters and some good athletes (good, not great), but he had very little experience. The first grid had him running 3 or 4 different defenses, 4 or 5 different back fields and countless substitutions at all positions. He and the other two coaches, Roberts and Edington, were hoping that somehow they could keep this band of inexperienced players together and maybe build for the next year.

The night started off pretty good as we were matched up with an opponent that was also not overpowering, Morgan County. Coach Robinson for the most part had decided to play two squads of young men, one on offense and one on defense, with only a couple of guys playing both ways. With an inexperienced sophomore QB he had decided to stick to the running game early. Our lineman made some good holes and our backs hit them in time to make a few first downs and even score to give us an early lead.

The coaches made the decision to go with a 5-3 defense and use our quickness to try and keep our opponents at bay. The defense was a little shaky but was doing a workman's type of performance. However with a little more than a minute left in the game, the defense gave up the go ahead score and it looked as if this band of inexperienced misfits were going down to defeat.

Then the offense took the field with a calm that seemed a little strange based on their experience. A sophomore QB, a line with only one guy with varsity experience and time running out was not the predicament that most coaches want to see their team in at this point in the season, but that was the setting. They took the ball on their own 40 yard line and after about a minute they still had around 40 yards to go for the winning score. On the last play of the game the young QB threw a bomb to a streaking first year split end for a touchdown and a victory in the NEKC game.

As the celebration started to die down, we began to see our team in a different light. We may have been inexperienced and not overly talented, but we **were** a team. Each member was willing to do what it took to accomplish the job. No one person was so caught up in himself that he did only what was in his interest, but sacrificed his interest for that of the team. I still remember feeling that we had something special with that team.

As most of you may have already guessed, it was the late summer of 1978 and that team went on to have a perfect regular season. Sometimes we are pawns of fate and sometimes we make our destiny, but that year we helped each other **FIND OUR DESTINY.**

## ANNUAL DONATION CAMPAIGN

### *Lion Pride Challenge*

Each year, the Lionbackers have hosted a donation campaign called the Lion Pride Challenge. In order to support our team on an annual basis, pledges will be sought from all football alumni and totaled according to graduating class.

From January through September, former football players will be asked to send their annual pledge amount to Coach Hughes at the address provided below. Please be sure to include your current contact information and class of graduation with your donation. The donations will be totaled before kickoff and winners will be honored at the Homecoming game on September 11.

The class that has the best percentage of donations, e.g. 18 out of 20 classmates for 90% donation percentage, will receive the prestigious ***Leland Roberts Trophy.***

The ***Corky Prater Award*** will be presented by Coach Prater to the class who contributed the most total donations.

The ol' spirit stick, newly re-named, ***Lionbackers Spirit Stick***, will make its return and rest with the class that has the most in attendance at Homecoming 2009.

This is a great way to give back to our program and provide our coaching staff with positive, stable support on a yearly basis. It's also a great cause to consider when making a donation in honor of a deceased teammate.

We can help lay a foundation that will have a positive affect on many young lives for many years to come. Please consider any amount of annual donation that you feel is appropriate, we really don't care whether it's fifty cents or five grand!!! Your generous support would be sincerely appreciated and deeply needed.

These funds will only be spent at the discretion of the Lewis County High School football program as determined by Coach Hughes and his staff. Annual pledge reminders will be mailed in January of each year. By receiving this newsletter, you have been "challenged." Tap into your Lion Pride and help make this an annual event that will benefit our program for many years.



## "Lionbacker" Merchandise available

Lionbacker merchandise is now available!!! We will have pictures and order forms in the September issue of our newsletter. But if you can't wait, and I can't, call Bub Lee or Bill Tom Stone and they will fix you up. We also have some old jerseys to sale. Support the team and look sharp in doing so by purchasing some "Lionbacker" merchandise.



## HOMECOMING 2009

September 11<sup>th</sup> is the date of this year's Homecoming game and we will be taking on Powell County. The night should be filled with excitements as we will be honoring the team that rekindled our program. This year marks our 40<sup>th</sup> year of varsity football since the program was restarted in 1969.

The Lionbackers are planning to host a great Homecoming this year, be sure to save some vacation time for September this year --- the hills are calling you home, back where it all began!!!

One thing you won't want to miss is the presentation of the Lion Pride Challenge awards. Awards will be given to the classes who donate the most by percentage and amount and in attendance at Homecoming.



## Winning Big at Greentownship

The boys won big in their warm-up game on August 21 at Greentownship by a score of 22-8. Cole Cooper passed for three touchdowns and our varsity defense forced their opponent to punt each time they had the ball. Our running game looked strong and our receivers showed that they could catch passes and run. The offensive and defensive lines showed that the experience from last year is paying off. The only negative part of the night was our numerous penalties, but as the season continues we should gain control of our emotions and remember our assignments.

## ANNUAL DONATION CAMPAIGN

# *Lion Pride Challenge*

Name: \_\_\_\_\_ Class: \_\_\_\_\_

Address: \_\_\_\_\_

City, State & Zip: \_\_\_\_\_

Phone Number: \_\_\_\_\_

E-mail: \_\_\_\_\_

I would like to make my pledge in honor and appreciation of the following (current or former coach, player, teammate, etc.): \_\_\_\_\_

*I accept the challenge!*

Annual Pledge Amount: \$ \_\_\_\_\_

Comments: \_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_

### MAIL DONATIONS TO:

Lewis Co. Lionbackers  
114 River Road  
Vanceburg, KY 41179



## Help the Lionbackers Grow

We need your help to make the Lionbackers grow and spread the word about our efforts to support our boys. We all remember our old teammates, but we usually only keep up with a few. We need those few. It is like that old shampoo commercial "I told a friend and they told someone and they told someone and on and on and on". By sending your friends e-mail address or mailing address, you will give them the opportunity to keep up with the Lions and their old home town. Please send your information to:

[billtomstone@yahoo.com](mailto:billtomstone@yahoo.com) or mail it to:

Bill Tom Stone  
114 River Road  
Vanceburg, KY 41179

If all else fails call me at (606) 541-0305 or in the evenings at (606) 796-6595.

Since we restarted the program forty years ago, we have had over four hundred young men suit up and play, but we only have around fifty that have joined the Lionbackers. We even have a few guys from the thirties that have joined and support the team as alumni and we really appreciate their contributions. But we need more. So please send the information to me and we will welcome them back into the pride.

## Work days on the Field

The coaching staff will be needing help to line the field and get the stadium ready for our home games. Don't be shy, we need your help. Right now the tentative dates are:

Thursday September 3<sup>rd</sup> @ 5:30  
Thursday September 10<sup>th</sup> @ 5:30  
Thursday October 1<sup>st</sup> @ 5:30  
Thursday October 22<sup>nd</sup> @ 5:30

The coaching staff could really use your help and it is neat to look out at the field on Friday night and know that you had a little hand in making it look great.

## Current year Roster

Num	Player	Off /Def	Position	HT	WT	Class
1	Parker Logan	WR	DB	5'8"	140	FR
2	Blake Kilgore	RB	DB	6'	160	SR
3	Bud Burriss	WR	DB	5'10	140	SR
5	Zach Zornes	WR	DB	6'	160	JR
7	Cole Cooper	QB	DB	6'	170	SR
10	Lathan Rigdon	WR	DB	6'	170	SR
11	Matt Bonner	WR	DB	5'8"	140	FR
12	Codi Lewis	WR/TE	DE	6'2"	230	SR
13	Levi Clark	QB	DB	5'10	155	FR
14	Jack Bane	QB	DB	5'11"	180	JR
15	Nick Ruark	RB	LB	5'11	165	FR
16	Brandon Lung	TE	DL	5'8	155	FR
18	Kristian Conway	RB	DB	5'11"	160	SO
20	Devon Richmond	RB	DL	5'9"	160	FR
21	Cory Christy	RB	LB	5'9	150	FR
22	Adam Wills	TE	DL	6'	150	FR
24	Cody Stapleton	WR	DB	5'11"	160	JR
25	Kasey Riley	RB	LB	5'7"	170	So
26	Nate Stone	RB	DE	5'11"	170	SR
29	Shawn Lawhun	WR	DB	5'11	155	JR
32	Jarrett Parker	RB	DB	5'8"	155	SO
34	Dustin Bradford	RB	DB	5'8"	150	FR
37	Laithan Davis	RB	LB	5'8"	150	JR
42	Dalton Carver	WR	DB	6'	140	Fr
44	Jon Everman	RB	LB	5'8"	170	SO
45	Andrew Prater	RB/TE	LB	6'	155	SR
48	Zach Mustard	RB	LB	5'10"	165	SR
50	John Yates	OL	DL	5'8"	230	Jr
51	Michael Roe	OL	DL	5'8	160	FR
52	Caleb Enix	OL	LB	6'1"	180	SR
53	Damian Hill	OL	DL	5'10"	175	FR
55	Tyler McAdams	OL	DL	5'8"	230	JR
56	Drew Truesdell	OL	DL	5'8"	175	Sr
59	Andrew Garber	OL	DL	5'6"	160	FR
60	Cody Lewis	OL	DL	5'9"	180	So
61	Kyle Thomas	OL	DL	5'9"	180	FR
64	Dalton Cooper	OL	DL	5'11"	185	FR
65	Robert Harris	OL	DL	5'10	175	JR
66	Dalton Jordan	OL	DL	5'7	180	FR
67	Cole Boden	OL	DL	5'10	175	FR
68	Matt Lewis	OL	DL	5'8"	170	SR
69	Roger Morgan	OL	DL	5'9"	210	SR
71	Cody Lawhun	OL	DL	5'8"	170	SO
72	Mike Mustard	OL	DL	5'9"	165	SO
75	Harold Lee	OL	DL	5'10"	160	SO
76	Nathaniel Lightner	OL	DL	5'11	275	So
77	Derrick Miller	OL	DL	5'9"	170	FR
79	Jarred Carver	OL	DL	5'10	240	FR
80	Cody Fite	WR	DB	5'11"	170	JR
84	Randy Wills	TE	DL	6'2"	175	SR
85	Matt Harlow	WR	DB	5'8"	160	FR
86	Jarrett Noble	WR	DB	5'8"	160	JR
88	Kyle Ruggles	TE	LB	5'8"	150	Fr

