

*Pineville Independent Schools*  
*Paula K. Goodin, DPP/Supervisor*  
*District Assessment Coordinator*

401 Virginia Avenue  
Pineville, Kentucky 40977

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Phone: 606/337-4383  
Fax: 606/337-9983  
paula.goodin@pineville.kyschools.us

October 21, 2008

KHSAA/Dawahare's Hall of Fame Committee  
2280 Executive Drive  
Lexington, KY 40505

Dear Committee Members:

It is an honor to write this letter in support of the induction of Mr. Arthur "Ozz" Jackson into the KHSAA/Dawahare's Hall of Fame. I cannot image a person who has dedicated more of his life to improving athletics for high school students in Kentucky than Ozz.

Ozz has been employed as a teacher, coach and athletic administrator for 37 years, but his commitment to athletics goes far beyond his employment. He has volunteered many long and thankless hours serving on the Boards of both the Kentucky High School Athletic Directors Association (KHSADA) and the Kentucky High School Athletic Association (KHSAA). It was while serving with Ozz on the Board for the KHSAA that I witnessed first hand his dedication to high school athletics and, more specifically, high school athletes. He takes his role on the Board very seriously and never hesitates to speak out for what he believes is in the best interest of the student athletes.

Ozz is well respected in athletics in the 14<sup>th</sup> region having served as chairman of the 14<sup>th</sup> Region Policy Board since 2004. In 1988 he was selected as the 14<sup>th</sup> region Athletic Director of the Year and in 2004 to the 14<sup>th</sup> Region Basketball Coaches Association Court of Honor.

I dare say that over the past 37 years, Ozz Jackson has defined athletics in Letcher County, Kentucky. During his tenure with the Letcher Co. Schools he has been responsible for starting programs in golf, tennis, softball, soccer and wrestling, but perhaps his greatest accomplishment was coordinating the smooth transition and consolidation of the athletic programs of three county high schools into one. He now supervises programs and facilities in EASTERN Kentucky that are the envy of schools all across the state.

Mr. Jackson is a shining example of the positive influence an adult can have on the lives of young people. He represents everything the Dawahare's/KHSAA Hall of Fame stands for and would be an outstanding member.

Sincerely,



Paula K. Goodin



# Jenkins Middle High School



Brian Bentley, SBDM Teacher  
Hannah Harrison, SBDM Teacher  
Azure Wright, SBDM Teacher  
Jody Goodson, SBDM Parent  
Sharon Niece, SBDM Parent  
Eva Rae Bates, SBDM Secretary

Principal, Teresa C. Bentley  
PO Box 552  
Jenkins, Kentucky 41537  
Phone: (606) 832-2184  
Fax: (606) 832-4283

Karen Corbett, Guidance  
Karen Wilder, Secretary/Treasurer  
Sharyn Vanover, Secretary  
Jerry Bentley, Athletic Director

October 17, 2008

Dawahares/KHSAA Hall of Fame Committee  
2280 Executive Drive  
Lexington, Kentucky 40505

Dear Committee Members:

I am very pleased to recommend Arthur "Ozz" Jackson for the Dawahares/KHSAA Hall of Fame. I have known Ozz on a personal and professional level for 24 years. He has been both a mentor to me as young coach in 1985 and has served to assist me with my professional responsibilities as a Principal for the past 4 years.

Ozz brings many things to athletics: a genuine love for sports; devotion to his and others' student athletes; commitment to the KHSAA Policy Board and the 14<sup>th</sup> Region Policy Board. He has been involved in athletics for 37+ years both as a coach, fan, athletic director, booster supporter, KHSAA Board of Control member and member/chair of the 14<sup>th</sup> Region Policy Board.

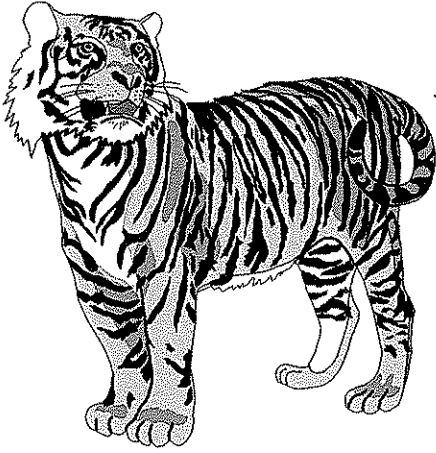
Arthur "Ozz" Jackson, although he doesn't know this, inspired me to become a coach and instilled in me the need to inspire others. I still remember traveling to Whitesburg High School during the late 70s and being welcomed by the sweetest man. He was talking to my coach and grabbed my arm and congratulated me for playing a good game. This may not seem like much, but for a young 15 year old, it made an impression of me that I have never forgotten. And if you watch Ozz today, he still continues to nurture and care for these young student-athletes by praising them, hugging them, and showing genuine compassion.

I could not vouch for the win-loss record that Ozz compiled during his years of coaching. I can only vouch for the impact he has had on me, other student-athletes, coaches, athletic-directors, and athletics as a whole in the 14<sup>th</sup> Region. He is truly an ambassador for 14<sup>th</sup> Region Athletics and the KHSAA.

For these reasons, it is without reservation that I recommend Arthur "Ozz" Jackson's induction into the Dawahares/KHSAA Hall of Fame. If I can be of any further assistance, please do not hesitate to call or email.

Respectfully,

Teresa C. Bentley  
Principal, Jenkins Middle High School  
Teresa.bentley@jenkins.kyschools.us



# Clay County High School

415 Clay County High Road  
Manchester, Kentucky 40962  
Michael J. White, Principal

Phone: (606) 598-3737

Fax: (606) 598-8976

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To: Dawahare's / KHSAA Hall of Fame Selection Committee  
From: Michael J. White  
Re: Mr. Arthur "Oz" Jackson

It is with great honor that I pen this letter of support for Mr. Arthur "Oz" Jackson. The honor is in the fact that I can speak about a man who has been a champion on behalf of the high school student-athletes in the state of Kentucky. Throughout the many years that I have known "Oz" his efforts and decisions have always been based upon what is best for the student-athlete.

He is a man of honesty, integrity, dedication and determination who strives each day to make the world a better place for his school and his fellow man. The number of people's lives who have been influenced in a positive way by Mr. Jackson over his long career is staggering. He would be a most-deserving member of the Dawahare's / KHSAA Hall of Fame because is simply a Hall-of-Fame man.

His career is one of enormous distinction and his character is above reproach. He is the type of person who would never seek acclamation for his efforts but instead would be trying to honor others. It is because of this type of humility, along with an incredible record of service, that I submit to you that the induction of Arthur "Oz" Jackson would bring as much honor to the Hall of Fame as it would to Mr. Jackson.

Sincerely in Education and Athletics,

Michael J. White, Principal  
Clay County High School

Philip V. Adams  
P.O. Box 306  
Neon, Kentucky 41840  
(606) 855-7018

Dawahares/KHSAA Hall of Fame  
ATTN: Nominations  
2280 Executive Drive  
Lexington, Kentucky 40505

To Whom It May Concern:

It is with great pleasure that I write a letter of support for Arthur "Ozz" Jackson's nomination to the Dawahare's/KHSAA Hall of Fame. I have known Ozz for over thirty years. For the first 24 years that I knew Ozz, ours was a relationship of sports fans, rivals and community members. Over the last six years, as I worked more closely with him through my son's involvement in sports, I gained a whole new appreciation for him not just as an athletic director, but as a man I consider one of my best friends.

Ozz's commitment to the youth of our county is immeasurable. Even before the consolidation of our schools, if Ozz saw a student athlete in whom he saw potential, he offered to help them in any way he could. As athletic director at Letcher County Central, regardless of the sport, the time of year or the weather, Ozz makes sure that those student athletes know they have his full support. That support is more than verbal; he attends games, matches, and meets to lend his encouragement to the participants.

As Athletic Director, Ozz leaves nothing to chance. He is in constant communication with the 13 head coaches of the sports Letcher Central fields. Each of those coaches knows that Ozz will do all he can to help them build successful programs. In 2007, Letcher Central hosted the Girls' Regional Basketball Tournament. Ozz's attention to detail to make certain that the tournament ran smoothly, efficiently and well was remarkable. Every detail from the printing of the tickets, to signage for the participants and the hospitality room had to meet his exacting standards. Everyone who attended the tournament remarked on how well everyone was treated and what a first class event it was. That also succinctly sums up Ozz. Treat everyone well, follow the rules and make sure that you conduct yourself in a manner that is honorable.

Ozz and I have lunch together at least once a week. I am always amazed at the lives he has touched. No matter where we go, we run into both current and former students who will thank him for helping them get a job or get into college or for his help with a problem they had. It is not only his former students or players who hold him in such high regard. As we travel throughout the state, I am amazed at the number of people he knows and the people who know him. It

is evident that he is held in high regard. The sheer number of phone calls and emails he gets weekly are a testament to the confidence people place in him.

The average sports fan attends an event and doesn't give much thought to what went into preparing for it. Only when you are close to the event or are involved do you see the work that goes into it. Who sees to parking arrangements, traffic control, ticket takers, chain gangs, announcers, the playing/singing of The Star Spangled Banner, a room for officials to change, refreshments for those officials at the half, places for visiting radio stations to set up and a myriad of other tasks? In Letcher County, it is Ozz Jackson. What we saw in Ozz's oversight of the 14<sup>th</sup> region is the standard of excellence he has set for every event at Letcher Central. I often tell people, they have no idea of how much work and effort Ozz puts into his job. He just makes it look easy.

I can't speak to what it was like to play for Ozz Jackson the coach, nor can I speak to what it is like to serve with him on the KHSAA Board of Control. What I do know is that Ozz Jackson is passionate about the student athlete and sports in Kentucky. As a member of the board, I know he weighs each decision carefully as to what is best for all concerned with an eye to the impact each decision may have on the future of sports. He considers it an honor and privilege to serve on the Board of Control.

I am thankful for a friend like Ozz. His long history of contributions to sports would be enough to warrant this honor. However, for me it's much more personal. Ozz's knowledge and insight for the various sports has enriched my enjoyment and experiences with my son's involvement and now as a fan. The dedication, passion and work Ozz has shown for athletes and athletics in Kentucky over so many years has never waned. Sometimes I'll give him a hard time and ask him when he's going to slow down or quit. His reply is usually something along the lines of, "As long as 'ol dad can do it and enjoy it, why quit? It's what I love." That's a person deserving of a place in the Hall of Fame.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "Philip Adams". The signature is written in a cursive, flowing style.

Philip V. Adams

# S

Jeff Perkins  
Principal

Tim Ham  
Assistant Principal

Amy Walters  
Guidance Counselor

Doug Grider  
Guidance Counselor

# Somerset High School

301 College Street ♦ Somerset, Kentucky 42501 ♦ Telephone (606) 678-4721 ♦ Fax (606) 677-0087

November 6, 2008

To: Dawahare's/KHSAA Hall of Fame Selection Committee

SUBJECT: Letter of Recommendation for Arthur "Ozz" Jackson

Please accept this letter of recommendation for Arthur "Ozz" Jackson for the Dawahare's/KHSAA Hall of Fame as a Contributor. "Ozz" has been involved in Education for over thirty seven (37) years as a teacher, coach and athletic director. "Ozz" has been a Head Coach in Basketball, Baseball, and Track and Field and has also assisted in Football. "Ozz" helped start Golf, Tennis and Softball at Whitesburg High School and also helped start Soccer and Wrestling at Letcher County Central High School. "Ozz" continues to serve as Athletic Director at Letcher Central.

"Ozz" has served on numerous Athletic organizations such as being a member of the KHSADA Board of Directors representing the 14<sup>th</sup> Region. "Ozz" was a finalist for the KHSADA Athletic Director of the year in 1987 and 1988 and was selected as the 14<sup>th</sup> Region Athletic Director of the year in 1988. "Ozz" has served as the 14<sup>th</sup> Region Policy Board Chair since 2004. "Ozz" has been elected to the KHSAA Board of Control three (3) times representing the 13<sup>th</sup> and 14<sup>th</sup> Regions. "Ozz" was selected to the 14<sup>th</sup> Region Basketball Coaches Association Court of Honor in 2004.

I give Mr. Arthur "Ozz" Jackson my highest recommendation and if I can be of further service to Mr. Arthur "Ozz" Jackson, please call me at 606-678-4721.

Respectfully,



Jeff Perkins  
Principal  
Somerset High School

"The Somerset Independent Board of Education is an equal opportunity organization that does not discriminate on the basis of race, color, national origin, sex, age, religion, marital status or disability in course offerings or employment practices at Somerset High School."

TRI-STATE SPORTS  
SERVICES, INC.

Ira D. Combs  
112 KY Hwy. 7  
Box 237  
Jeff, KY 41751  
Phone: (606) 436-3002  
Cell: (606) 438-8767



TRI-STATE SPORTS SERVICES, INC.

IRA D. COMBS  
icombsno14@tvscable.com

HAROLD A. COMBS  
hac1947@yahoo.com

Harold A. Combs  
Box 243  
Jeff, KY 41751  
Phone: (606) 439-1271

*(Tues.) Nov. 18th, 2008*

*To - KHSAA Dawahares Hall of Fame  
Selection Committee*



*It is my understanding Arthur "Ozz" Jackson is in the process of applying for induction into your prestigious athletic fraternity. Listed below is my honest professional opinion of his contributions to high school athletics to the commonwealth of Kentucky.*



*I have known "Ozz" for over 25 years and worked closely with him in various athletic endeavors as well as competed against him in the sport of mens basketball and baseball. The first three words that come to mind concerning him are (integrity, professionalism, and kids come first) all before winning. That ole ugly athletic phrase that the ends justifies the means never was associated with "Ozz" Jackson.*

*Everything was above the table with him and his teams.*

*Unfortunately, i can't say that about everyone i competed against in my career as a coach. Probably the most important thing "Ozz" did during his coaching career and still is in his A.D. career is work tirelessly to develop the whole person not just the athlete. I constantly run into Whitesburg athletes who are successful in the business world and a high percentage completed their college education*

- Gatorade Appalachian Senior All-Star Game
- Weekly Syndicated Sports Columnist on UK and Mountain Sports
- "Friday Night Live" Sports Call-In Show on WSGS 101.1
- KY Prep Classic - Kentucky's #1 Day of High School Hoops
- "Mountai Sports Review" TV Cable Talk Show Covering UK and Mountain High School Sports

**TRI-STATE SPORTS  
SERVICES, INC.**

**Ira D. Combs**

112 KY Hwy. 7

Box 237

Jeff, KY 41751

Phone: (606) 436-3002

Cell: (606) 438-8767

**Harold A. Combs**

Box 243

Jeff, KY 41751

Phone: (606) 439-1271



- Gatorade Appalachian Senior All-Star Game
- Weekly Syndicated Sports Columnist on UK and Mountain Sports
- "Fridy Night Live" Sports Call-In Show on WSGS 101.1
- KY Prep Classic - Kentucky's #1 Day of High School Hoops
- "Mountai Sports Review" TV Cable Talk Show Covering UK and Mountain High School Sports



**TRI-STATE SPORTS SERVICES, INC.**

**IRA D. COMBS**

icombsno14@tvscable.com

**HAROLD A. COMBS**

hac1947@yahoo.com

*Instilling discipline in an eastern ky. high school athlete's life is much more difficult than other areas of Kentucky because of their parents educational background and general attitude toward professional people or folks with authority .*

*Yet , when instilled with the proper attitude and foundation in life skills "Ozz" will tell you it's much more rewarding than winning and losing a game when you see the final product as a successful individual later in life knowing you had a part in it .*

*In closing you will notice that i haven't mentioned much about "Ozz" and his success as a coach / H.D and he did develop some solid winning basketball teams in mens basketball and won several district championships . He also was instrumental in creating an opportunity for the mountain athlete to experience sports not historically popular to the eastern ky. high schools such as golf , tennis , and softball .*

*But it's my understanding "Ozz" is being considered for induction as a contributor . In my eyes it should read "Special Contributor" because the contributions his athletes have made to society thru his coaching tactics has been much more valuable to our society than any state championship any coach has won in any sport .*

*He has taken many rough Appalachian athletes and molded them into productive citizens , you should induct him into KHSAA Davahares Hall of Fame on those merits alone .*



November 13, 2008

Kentucky High School Athletic Association  
2280 Executive Drive  
Lexington, Kentucky 40505

**Reference: Dawahare/KHSAA Hall of Fame - Arthur "Ozz" Jackson**

Dear KHSAA:

I would like to take this opportunity to recommend Arthur "Ozz" Jackson for induction into the Dawahare/KHSAA Hall of Fame.

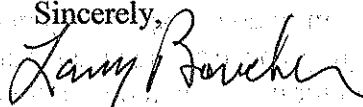
Over the course of my seventeen years of employment as an Assistant Commissioner with the KHSAA, I had the privilege of working with Mr. Jackson on a number of issues. In addition, I was a KHSAA employee during Mr. Jackson's tenure as a KHSAA Board of Control member, to include his tenure as the Board of Control's President.

I don't think I ever met an individual who I felt was any more desirous of adequately and appropriately representing his school, his coaches, his athletes, his area's sports officials, and all of the member schools of his representative Board of Control regions than Mr. Jackson. It was just so obvious that Mr. Jackson had spent a lifetime concerned about the current and future welfare of all those high school entities from his area of influence. And, not only his geographic area of influence, but as a Board of Control member he brought that same positive concern to high schools all across the state.

As Athletic Director, Mr. Jackson was constantly aggressive in his efforts to make sure Letcher Central High School was on the front end of Title IX compliance issues that addressed the equal athletic privileges afforded both boys and girls. He sought several discussions with me on how he could best ensure that was done to the satisfaction of all concerned. In addition, I was very impressed with the numerous years of service he devoted to the 14<sup>th</sup> Region's Regional Policy Board. Ozz, for many of those years, led that group as their Chairman. It is no secret that in the 14<sup>th</sup> Region, with those member school concerns and issues relating to officiating, it took a strong and capable leader....with a deft touch.....to make the progress that has been made over the years. We had many positive discussions about the directions his Regional Policy Board was pursuing. I found him to be extremely willing to lead that effort.

I think the KHSAA would honor the Dawahare/KHSAA Hall of Fame with the recognition of the "contributions" of Arthur "Ozz" Jackson and his deserving induction into the Hall of Fame.

Sincerely,



Larry Boucher

Larry Boucher

ANNA C. CRAFT  
SUPERINTENDENT

WILLIAM SMITH  
CHAIRMAN

TERRY CORNETT  
VICE-CHAIRMAN

## *Letcher County Public Schools*

224 PARKS STREET  
WHITESBURG, KENTUCKY 41858  
(606) 633-4455  
FAX (606) 633-4724

JOHN R. SPICER, SR.  
MEMBER

MIKE HARRIS  
MEMBER

SAM W. QUILLEN, JR.  
MEMBER

November 12, 2008

Dawahare's/KHSAA Hall of Fame  
Attn: Nominations  
2280 Executive Drive  
Lexington, Kentucky 40505

To Whom It May Concern:

It is with great pleasure that I offer this letter in support of Ozz Jackson's nomination for the Dawahare's/KHSAA Hall of Fame. He is indeed an educator and coach worthy of this recognition.

Mr. Jackson is in his 37<sup>th</sup> year as a teacher, coach and/or Athletic Director. During his lengthy career in the Letcher County Public School District he has served as Head Coach in Basketball, Baseball, Track and Golf, and also as Assistant Coach in Football, Basketball, and Baseball.

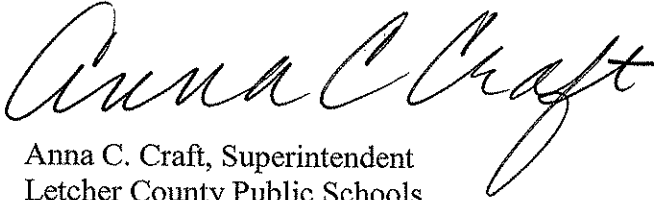
Further, Mr. Jackson has served as an Athletic Director in the Letcher County Public School District for 20 years. He was instrumental in launching golf, tennis and softball at Whitesburg High School and soccer and wrestling at Letcher County Central High School.

Additionally, Mr. Jackson has served on the KHSADA Board of Directors, was finalist for KHSADA Athletic Director of the Year in 1987 and was KHSADA 14<sup>th</sup> Region Athletic Director of the Year in 1988. Mr. Jackson was elected to the KHSAA Board of Control three times, representing the 13<sup>th</sup> and 14<sup>th</sup> Regions. He currently serves on the KHSAA Board of Control and serves as Chairman of the 14<sup>th</sup> Region Policy Board. Mr. Jackson was inducted into the 14<sup>th</sup> Region Basketball Coaches Association Court of Honor in 2004.

Dawahare's/KHSAA Hall of Fame  
November 12, 2008  
Page Two

I wholeheartedly agree with the nomination of Ozz Jackson and urge you to induct him into the Dawahare's/KHSAA Hall of Fame.

Respectfully,

A handwritten signature in cursive script that reads "Anna C. Craft". The signature is written in black ink and is positioned to the right of the typed name.

Anna C. Craft, Superintendent  
Letcher County Public Schools

ACC/gc

Superintendent's Letter 09-0014

# *Powell County Board of Education*

691 Breckinridge Street - P.O. Box 430  
Stanton, Kentucky 40380  
◆ 606-663-3300 ◆ FAX 606-663-3303



**EVELYN NEELY-Superintendent**

## **District Administrators**

*Asa Darryl Abner, CIO/DTC*

*Diane Davis, Title I/PPD*

*Kathy Merriman, Special Education*

*Earnie Smallwood, Vocational/Transportation*

*Lyn Stidham, Supervisor of Instruction*

*Sarah Wasson, DPP*

*Monroe Jones, Buildings&Grounds*

*Laura Young, Food Service*

The mission of the Powell County School System is commitment to preparing and inspiring ALL students to be life-long learners who are self sufficient, responsible and productive members of our community.

November 10, 2008

KHSAA Hall of Fame Committee  
2280 Executive Drive  
Lexington, KY 40505

Hall of Fame Committee:

I understand that the committee is selecting new members for the KHSAA Hall of Fame. I would gladly like to recommend Mr. Arthur Ozz Jackson for this membership of outstanding representatives of Kentucky high school athletic history. Ozz has demonstrated through his services in athletics over the past 37 years that he is dedicated to helping student athletes, schools and Kentucky athletic endeavors. He has served athletics in many capacities and is genuinely concerned about upholding the integrity of athletics. I have witnessed his leadership ability over the last 20 years and find him to be capable, cooperative and willing to move things forward for the good of all schools. He is a respected leader in the mountains of Eastern Kentucky and has worked diligently for the progress of all Kentucky sports.

I hope that he will be strongly considered for this membership and if you have any questions, please don't hesitate to contact me.

Respectfully,

Monroe Jones, CAA  
Director of Buildings and Grounds, Athletics  
Powell County Schools

*"IT'S ALL ABOUT KIDS"*

BOARD MEMBERS:

*Knott County Board of Education  
Hindman, KY 41822  
Kim King, Superintendent*

*Randy Combs, Chairman  
Anna Dixon, Vice-Chairwoman  
Rex Slone, Member  
Dennis Jacobs, Member  
Tim Smith, Member*

**January 22, 2009**

**Dawahare's/KHSAA Hall of Fame  
2280 Executive Drive  
Lexington, Kentucky 40505  
Attn: Nominations**

**To Whom It May Concern:**

**It is my pleasure to nominate Ozz Jackson for the Dawahare's/KHSAA Hall of Fame.**

**Ozz has been married 43 years to his wife Sandy and has 2 children, Michael and Shelli. He is in his 37<sup>th</sup> year as a Teacher, Coach and or Athletic Administrator.**

**Ozz made his mark as Athletic Director, helped start Golf, Tennis and Softball at Whitesburg High School and Soccer and Wrestling at Letcher County Central High. He has served as Athletic Director in Letcher County Schools for 20 years and continues to work.**

**Mr. Jackson was a member of KHSADA Board of Directors representing the 14<sup>th</sup> Region from the mid 1980's to mid 1990's. He was a finalist for KHSADA Athletic Director of the Year in 1987 and 1988. He was KHSADA 14<sup>th</sup> Region Athletic Director of the Year in 1988. He was appointed Chairman of the 14<sup>th</sup> Region Policy Board in 2004 and continues today.**

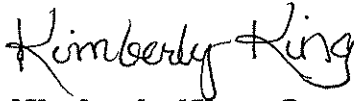
**Ozz has other accomplishments to be proud of also. He was elected to the KHSAA Board of Control three times, representing the 13<sup>th</sup> and 14<sup>th</sup> regions, President of Board of Control in 1996.**

**Selected to the 14<sup>th</sup> Region Basketball Coaches Association  
Court of Honor in 2004.**

**His enthusiasm, his innovativeness, and his genuine concern for  
Athletics are exemplary.**

**For these reasons I am proud to nominate Ozz Jackson for the  
DAWAHARE'S/KHSAA Hall of Fame.**

**Thank you,**

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "Kimberly King". The signature is written in a cursive style with a large, prominent "K" at the beginning.

**Kimberly King, Superintendent  
Knott County School District**

**INFORMATION SHEET**

**DAWAHARE'S/KHSAA HALL OF FAME NOMINEE**

**ARTHUR "OZZ" JACKSON**

**NOMINATED AS A CONTRIBUTOR**

**Birth Date: December 28, 1942**

**Spouse: Wife – Sandy – married 43 years – 2 children – Michael & Shelli**

**ACCOMPLISHMENTS:**

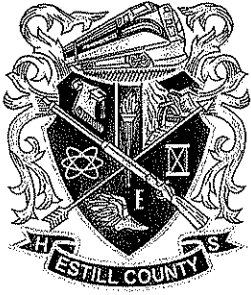
**In 37<sup>th</sup> year as a Teacher, Coach and or Athletic Administrator**

**Head Coach in Basketball, Baseball, Track & Golf, Assistant Coach in Football, Basketball, Baseball at various times at Whitesburg High School.**

**Made mark as Athletic Director, helped start Golf, Tennis and Softball at WHS and Soccer and Wrestling at Letcher County Central High School. Served as A.D. in Letcher County Schools for 20 years and is still working.**

**Member KHSADA Board of Directors representing the 14<sup>th</sup> Region (mid-1980's to mid 1990's) Finalist for KHSADA Athletic Director of the Year in 1987 & 1988. KHSADA 14<sup>th</sup> Region Athletic Director of the Year in 1988. Served as Chairman of the 14<sup>th</sup> Region Policy Board 2004 – to the present. Elected to the KHSAA Board of Control three (3) times, representing the 13<sup>th</sup> and 14<sup>th</sup> Regions. 1992-96, (President of KHSAA Board of Control in 96), 2004- 2008 & 2008 – 2012.**

**Selected to the 14<sup>th</sup> Region Basketball Coaches Association Court of Honor in 2004.**



Estill County High School  
2675 Winchester Road  
Irvine, Kentucky 40396

ARTHUR D. BALLARD  
ASSISTANT PRINCIPAL  
ATHLETIC DIRECTOR

JAMIE DAY  
GUIDANCE COUNSELOR

BLAIN CLICK  
PRINCIPAL

BRENDA PUCKETT

ADMINISTRATION SECRETARIES

CHARLOTTE SUTTER

KIM BARNES-HORN  
ASSISTANT PRINCIPAL

MELISSA NEAL  
GUIDANCE COUNSELOR

November 24, 2008

Dawahare's/KHSAA Hall of Fame

ATTN: Nominations

2280 Executive Drive

Lexington, KY 40505

To Whom It May Concern:

As Athletic Director at Estill County High School and as a friend of Mr. Arthur "Ozz" Jackson, I am writing to support his nomination as a contributor to the Dawhare's Kentucky High School Athletic Association Hall of Fame. "Ozz" has been involved in high school athletics as a teacher, coach, and athletic administrator for 37 years. He has served as head coach at Whitesburg High School in basketball, baseball, track, and golf. He has also served as an assistant coach in football, basketball, and baseball. "Ozz" has been an athletic administrator for over 20 years for the Letcher County Schools where he helped start several new programs at Whitesburg High School. He currently serves as athletic director at Letcher County Central High School, a brand new consolidated school, where he has initiated several new programs while bringing together three schools and their programs to make one of the most solid high school sports programs in the mountains.

As an athletic administrator, "Ozz" has served the State of Kentucky in several capacities. He is currently serving his third term on the Kentucky High School Athletic Association Board of Control, where he served as president in 1996. He has also been a long time member of the Kentucky High School Athletic Directors Association, where he served as the Region 14 Board Member for several years during the 1980's and 1990's. He was also a finalist for Athletic Director of the Year in both 1987 and 1988 for that organization. "Ozz" also currently serves as the Chairperson for the 14<sup>th</sup> Region Policy Board. As the leader of this group, he has greatly helped with the transition to the new basketball alignments and has been a huge support to our school, Estill County High School, as we have made the move to a new area of competition.

Arthur "Ozz" Jackson has been a true friend and leader in high school sports for Letcher County, the 14<sup>th</sup> Region, and the State of Kentucky. He is truly deserving of this great honor.

Sincerely,

Arthur D. Ballard, CAA

Estill County High School Athletic Director

KHSADA President



# News-Press **EXTRA**

Extra Edition of Wednesday, June 25, 2008

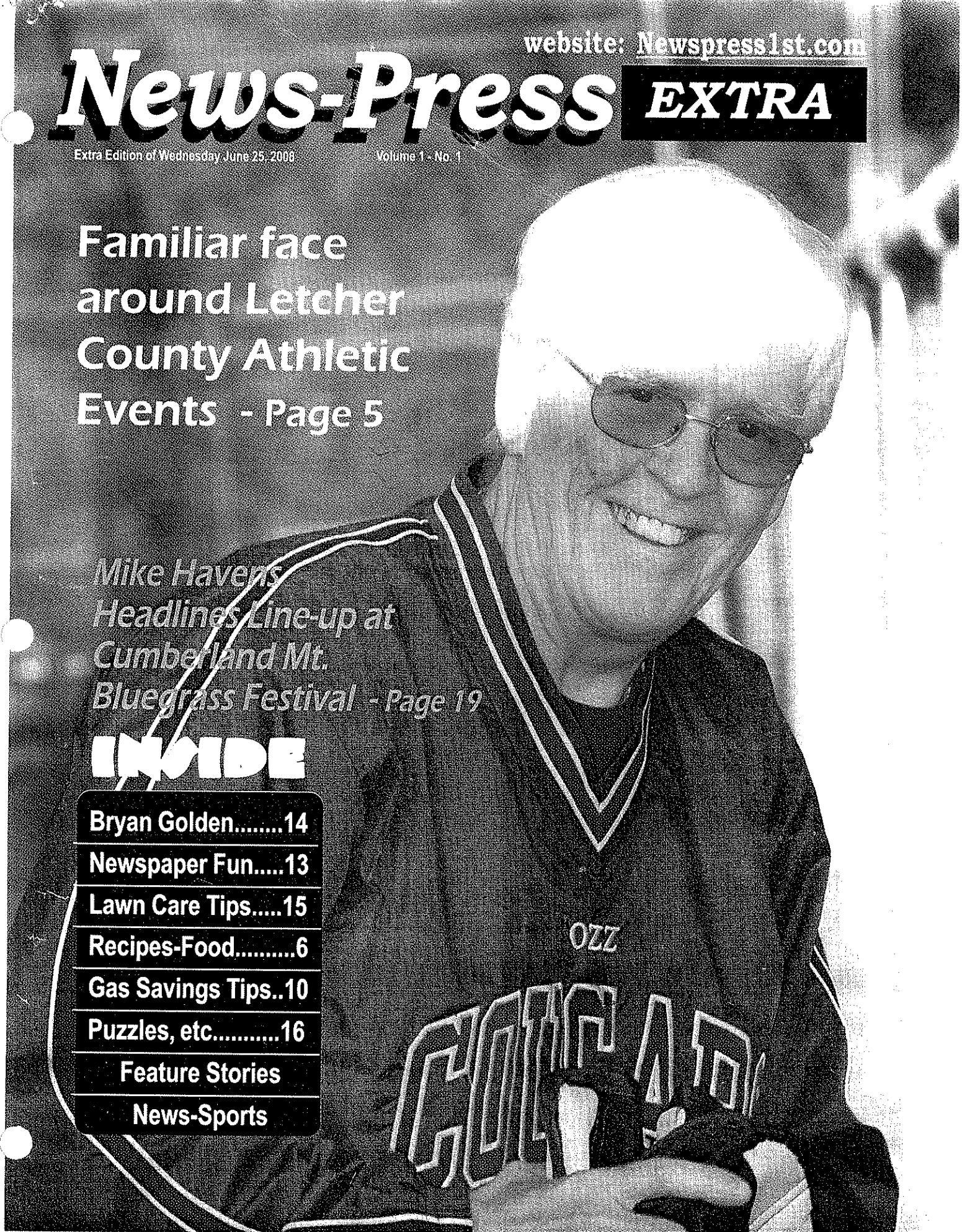
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# Ozz Jackson; A Familiar Face Among Kentucky Athletic Figures



*Ozz, always participating, joins (and does well) a foul shooting competition among coaches and AD's at a recent State Tournament.*

By Tina Whitaker

Think there's no one out there who really, really loves their job? Think again.

Letcher County Central's Athletic Director Arthur Jackson, known to all simply as "Ozz" considers himself to be one lucky guy. "I am thrilled to be here and I absolutely love what I do," says the region's authority on high school athletics.

To know just how Jackson came to earn his dream job, you have to go back to the 1960s when a young lab tech, who hailed from West Virginia was working in the Whitesburg Hospital and going to college at Southeast Community College at Cumberland. His basketball abilities were discovered by Calvary College who quickly wooed the young athlete to their nearby campus where Jackson continued to work, go to school and play college basketball.

A brief stint in California was followed by returning to Whitesburg where he went back to work at the Whitesburg hospital, where he met his wife, Sandy, who was also a hospital employee. While in Whitesburg, Jackson became involved in local sports, helping with the Little League baseball program.

Still, Jackson dreamed of teaching high school and coaching high school athletics. Before long, the young couple from Whitesburg moved

to Morehead where Jackson completed his teaching degree while working at a hospital there.

In the early 1970s Jackson showed up in Jenkins where he had been assigned to do his student teaching, but this was soon to change. Jackson was visited by two Whitesburg coaches, the late Goebel Ritter and the late James Gose,

who asked if Jackson would be willing to do his student teaching at Whitesburg. Jackson, who had resumed working at the

was needed to support his growing family. Still, the lure of coaching and the love of working with young people kept him in the classroom.

Before long, Jackson's love of the game of basketball translated to winning teams for Whitesburg High School, where he had finally found a permanent home. Throughout the 70s, Jackson's boys basketball teams were a force to be reckoned with. From 1976 through 1979, the Yellowjacket team was led by a talented group that became known throughout the 53<sup>rd</sup> district and 14<sup>th</sup> region collectively as "The Jackson Five."

This Jackson Five was known for its "string music" as the quick hands of Greg Thomas, Jeff Gose, Bill Witt, Greg Creech and Keith Combs eagerly guided the basketball to the net despite the best efforts of their opponents. Their appearance in the state's Sweet 16 was foiled by a talented Hazard team in the 14<sup>th</sup> Region Finals but not before the Yellowjackets upset heavily favored Lee County and M.C. Napier.

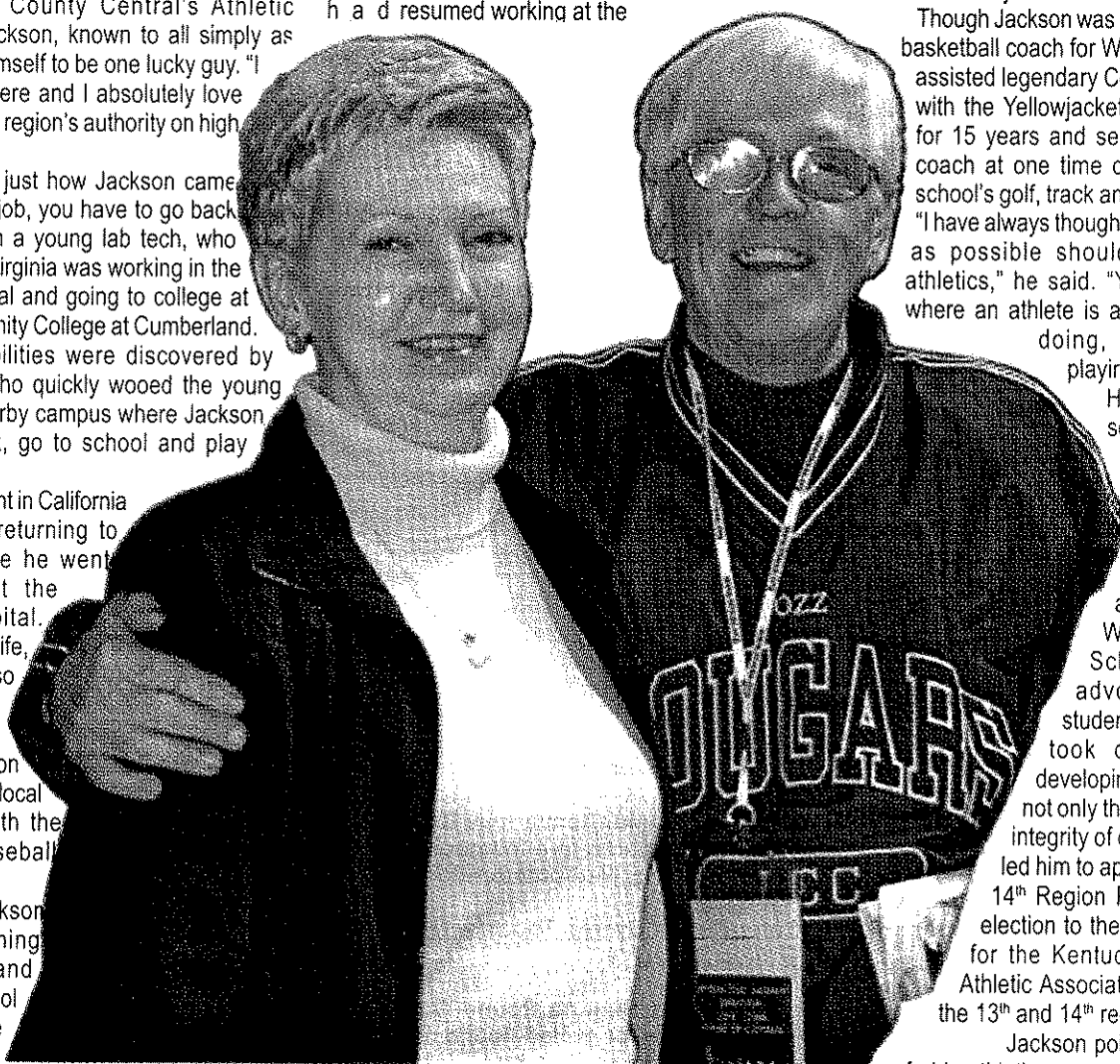
Though Jackson was known as the head basketball coach for Whitesburg, he also assisted legendary Coach James Gose with the Yellowjacket football program for 15 years and served as the coach at one time or another for school's golf, track and baseball teams. "I have always thought that as much as possible should participate in athletics," he said. "You always want to know where an athlete is and what they are doing, practicing or playing."

His love of high school athletics and the kids who play them, led Jackson to his true niche when he became the athletic director for Whitesburg High School. A staunch advocate for the student athlete, Jackson took on the role of developing policy to protect not only the athletes, but the integrity of competition which led him to appointments to the 14<sup>th</sup> Region Policy Board and election to the Board of Control for the Kentucky High School Athletic Association, representing the 13<sup>th</sup> and 14<sup>th</sup> regions.

Jackson points to the growth of girls athletics as a source of pride for himself and the region.

"Title IX which required schools to offer equal athletic opportunities for girls and boys was a burden for some school districts, but time has taken care of it, really," he said. "In Letcher County, we have always made sure that our girls teams went first class all the way and that is evident by their success in basketball and volleyball."

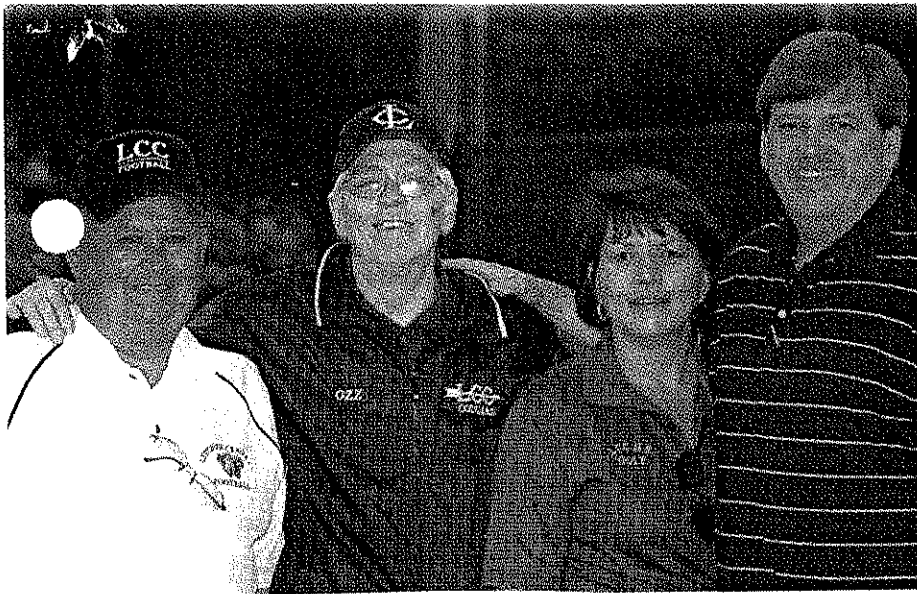
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**Ozz and Sandy Attend Many School Activities**

Whitesburg hospital jumped at the chance to be closer to his work that he would use to supplement his teaching salary for many years to come.

Jackson said that in his first year of teaching he clearly remembers being paid \$5,200 by the school district. So, the \$10,000 he earned from the hospital for his weekend work in the lab



Ozz laughs it up with several of his good friends and supporters of the county school system. On the left is David Setzer and Joan and County Judge Jim Ward are on the right.

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## Jackson...from page 45

He said that he looks forward to the future of both girls and boys athletics at LCC as the new school gains recognition and completes facilities that will enhance the athletes' abilities for practice in track and field, softball, baseball and tennis. There are even plans for a putting green on the school campus so that golfers can utilize free time to perfect that portion of their game without traveling to the course which is a twenty minute drive.

"We offer everything at LCC that we can," Jackson said. "And I encourage students to participate in as many athletic programs as they can."

The school's numbers prove that the emphasis on athletics is paying off. In the 2007-08 school year, 349 of the 929 students enrolled at LCC participated in at least one athletic program, many played in two or more sports.

Jackson credits a supportive environment for the success of the school's athletic programs.

"I have really watched athletics grow with the consolidation of the county's three high schools," Jackson says. "The kids have been super in coming together and they have had the support of the entire school district from Superintendent Anna Craft, the board of education, high school administrators and support staff as well as from countless volunteers, and the community as a whole with financial support and attendance at our



Part of the work that Jackson does for the KHSAA is making awards to athletes. LCC's Autumn Morris received the Joe Billy Mansfield Award at the 2006 Sweet 16 held at the E.A. Diddle Arena in Western KY. Assisting is KHSAA Commissioner Brigid DeVires. Morris is now a student at Alice Lloyd College.

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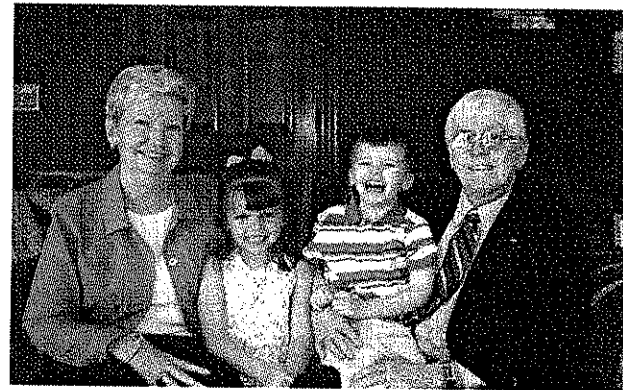
## Jackson...from page 7

athletic events."

Jackson said that the support of the school's major sports is truly phenomenal, making away games an easy sell to schools looking to boost their gate receipts. "I always tell a school when we're working on getting on their schedule that our fans love to travel and they will be there."

In addition to setting schedules for the boys and girls athletic teams LCC now fields, Jackson takes care of the seemingly mountains of paperwork that is required to qualify the hundreds of athletes for competition. This includes medical records, eligibility requirements and weekly grade checks to keep the school in compliance with the many state and federal requirements for high school athletics. But you won't hear Jackson complain. Instead, he meticulously logs each and every form into its proper notebook which he maintains in his office.

With the help of coaches, painstaking paper work completed by Jackson relieves coaches of that burdensome



"Ozz" Jackson and his wife, Sandy, reside in Whitesburg. They have two grown children, Michael and Shelli, and two grandchildren. Katie and Brady Robeson pictured here who recently spent a week in Whitesburg at "Camp Nana-Pappaw."

necessity and allows them to concentrate solely on their athletes, which is what Jackson wants them to do.

"Although it takes everyone involved to keep our athletics running, ultimately, it's the coaches who have the responsibility to mold their teams," he says. This, too, has been proven through success at LCC which has added three regional volleyball, one regional girls basketball, a regional football and regional baseball championships to its trophy case already in the three short years of its existence.

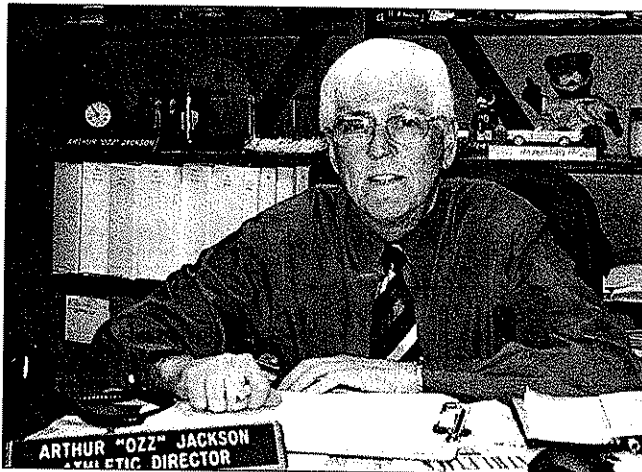
"I see nothing but good things in the future for our school," Jackson says. "We have facilities that are second to none in the state and our kids will benefit from that."

The success of LCC athletes is rewarding to Jackson who watches them progress right before his eyes. "It is what drew me to athletics in the first place and what has kept me working with them for all these years," he says. "To watch these kids grow into young men and women and for some to gain the opportunity to go on to college all because they participated in high school sports of some kind is really all the reward anyone should need. Certainly, it's been enough for me."

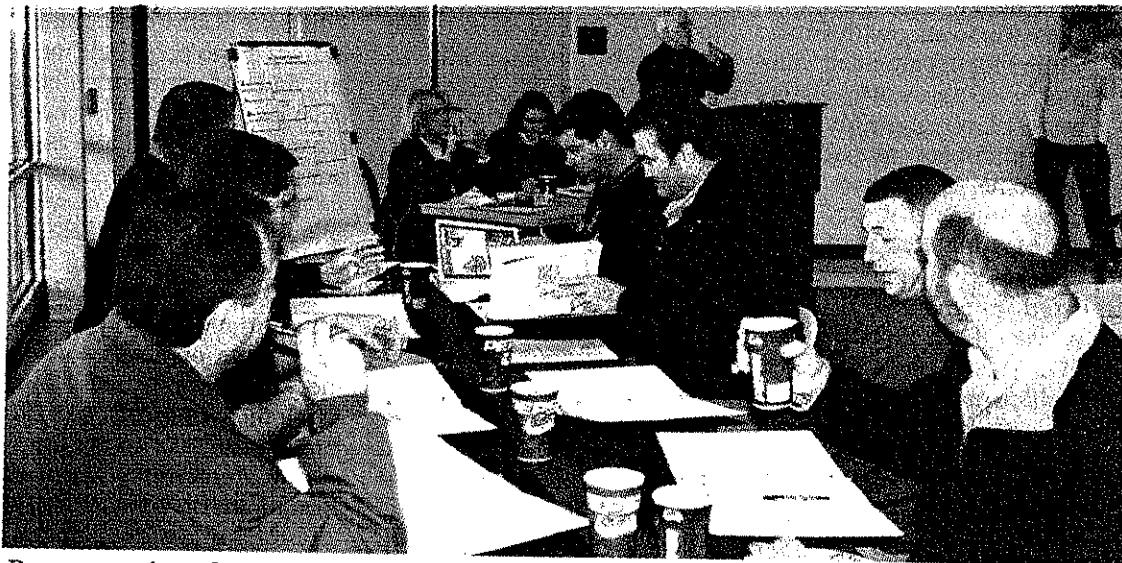
He grins as he says, "I'm athletics 24/7." And so he is.



LCCHS Athletic Director Ozz Jackson receives congratulations from Superintendent Anna C. Craft for organizing the opening game.



**Ozz Jackson** serves as the athletic director for all sports programs at Letcher County Central High School. Ozz, a true sports fan, brings his love of the games, his competitive nature and knowledge to help steer the course of the athletic programs at LCCHS. As a member of the KHSAA Board of Control, Ozz is in the fortunate position of helping direct Kentucky High Schools athletic programs as well as our school, teams, coaches and players. With all the tasks and programs to juggle, our Ozz demonstrates frequently he truly is a wizard.



Representatives from the eight 14th Region schools who earned their way into this week's boys' basketball tournament met Sunday afternoon at Letcher County Central High School to learn which schools would face each other in the opening round which begins this evening.

## LCC To Host 14th Region Basketball Tourney Beginning Tonight

History will be made, once again, at LCC this week as the county will host its very first 14th Region Boys' Basketball Tournament.

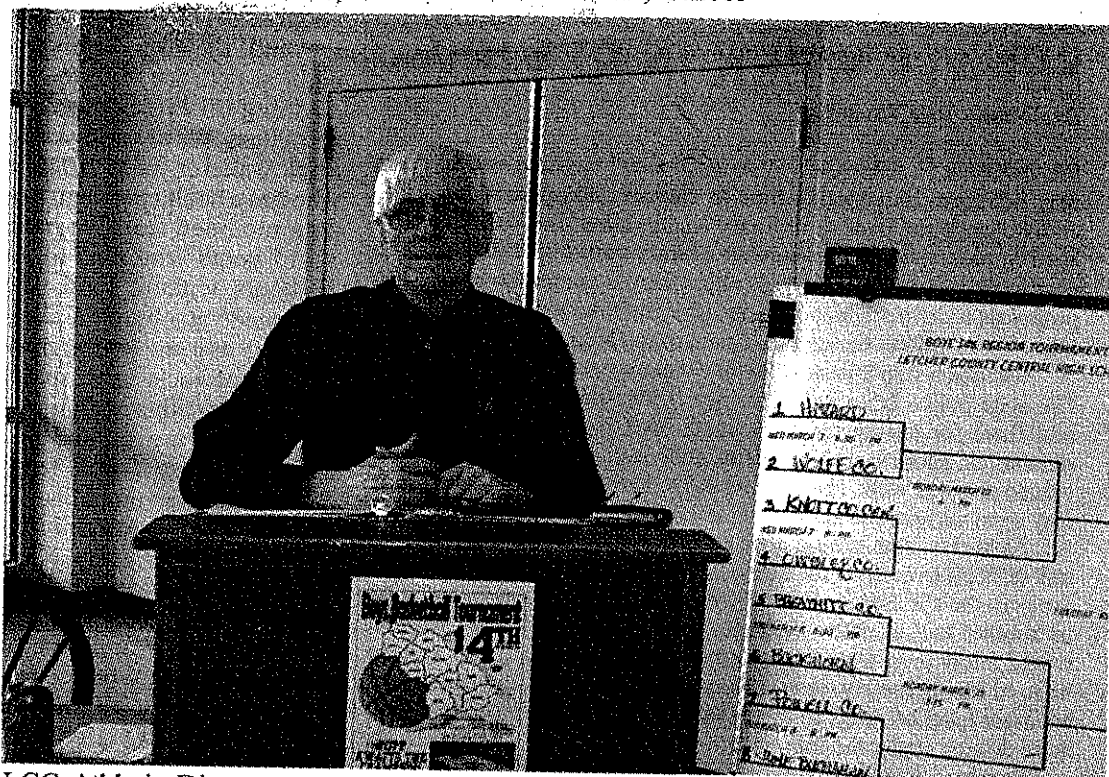
LCC Athletic Director and KHSAA Boardmember Arthur "Ozz" Jackson has been working for several weeks with a host of volunteers making preparations

for the thousands of visitors from throughout eastern Kentucky who will descend upon Whitesburg to route on their favorite team. The winner of the tournament will represent the region in the Sweet 16 State Basketball Tournament to be held at Rupp Arena.

In addition to organizing the tournament itself, Jackson said that he, school

officials and volunteers have been busy making sure everything from parking to concessions are easily available for those who attend the four-day event to be held March 7-8 and 12-13.

Tonight, Hazard takes on Wolfe County at 6:30 and Knott County vs. Owsley at 8:00.



LCC Athletic Director Arthur "Ozz" Jackson addresses the representatives of the regional tournament schools during the bracket drawing held Sunday at LCC.

