



The Kittens and coaches pose with the 16th Region championship trophy while holding up six fingers for their sixth title in a row after beating Boyd County 7-2 Thursday at the Russell Softball Complex. KEVIN GOLDY / THE INDEPENDENT

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Ashland coach Dave Miller and the Kittens marked each day off the calendar between a district final loss to rival Boyd County and their rematch in the 16th Region championship game. "We know exactly how long it's been, nine days," Miller said after Ashland beat the Lady Lions 7-2 on Thursday night for another trip to the State Tournament. No longer can the Kittens count their consecutive regional championships on one hand. They held up six digits for postgame photos at Russell Softball Complex after handling every challenge in a four-day gauntlet consisting of East Carter, Russell and finally Boyd County.