

SHELBY COUNTY'S RECORD UNDER TOM BECHERER

Year	Overall record	Playoff record	Summation
1975	11-2	1-1	Lost to Franklin-Simpson 28-0 in second round
1976	10-4	2-1	Lost to Erlanger Lloyd 24-0 in AAA final
1977	8-6	2-1	Lost to Highlands 6-0 in AAA final
1978	5-7	0-1	Lost to Woodford County 24-7 in first round
1979	7-3	---	Lost to Franklin Co. 16-14 in district game
1980	8-4	1-1	Lost to Paducah Tilghman 7-0 in second round
1981	10-3	2-1	Lost to 4-A champ Henry Clay 36-14 in semifinal
1982	2-8	---	One of only two losing seasons in 13 years
1983	7-5	0-1	Lost to North Hardin 34-7 in first round
1984	10-1	---	Lost to unbeaten Oldham Co. 10-7 in district
1985	8-4	1-1	Lost to Owensboro 14-7 in second round
1986	7-3	0-1	Lost to Warren Central 16-14 in first round
1987	8-4	2-0	Play Holy Cross in 4-A semifinal Friday
Totals	101-54	11-9	Made playoffs 10 times; state runner-up twice

Shelby County plays well enough

Continued from Page D 1

only 19 of 70 passes for 273 yards and two TDs, and has had seven passes intercepted.

Shelby County has a strong kicking game, too. Lee Hankins has booted six field goals, three of them against Lafayette, with the longest being 42 yards. Stoner carried a 41.8-yard average as a punter after six games, but that has dipped slightly below 40 now.

"He's a pretty good punter," Becherer said. "He has a good hang time on his kicks."

Defensively, Shelby County is always quick and tough. Maybe that's because Becherer played college ball under Charlie Bradshaw at Kentucky. However, tackle Brian Stivers, a 6-foot, 250-pound senior, thinks there's another reason.

"We mix it up on defense," Stivers said. "We blitz some. We play a 4-4, a 6-2 and a 5-3. We mix them all in."

The other defensive tackle, Darrell Perry, a 6-3, 210-pound junior, blocked an extra-point attempt with 59 seconds to play that helped win

the Henderson County game.

Warfield and Stoner are the linebackers on defense, with Warfield the team's leading tackler. Hicks plays left cornerback on defense, and he likes going both ways.

"I'd rather play like that," he said. "You're more into the game."

Hicks leads the team with three interceptions.

Shelby County's defensive game plan against Holy Cross is simple.

"We have to stop Payne," Becherer said. "They pretty much go to him. He's the type back who doesn't need a big hole. He finds a crack and he's gone."

Holy Cross (9-3) advanced to the semifinal by ousting last year's 4-A champion, St. Xavier, 7-0.

"We scrimmaged Holy Cross (before the season), so I knew they were good," Becherer said. "I didn't surprise me that they won. Holy Cross is a strong defensive team. They're hard to drive the ball on. That's a challenge for our offense — to keep a drive going."

The Holy Cross-Shelby County winner will play the survivor of Saturday's semifinal between Boone County and Fairdale in the 4-A final at 3:30 p.m. Saturday, Nov. 28, at Cardinal Stadium in Louisville.

Becherer got a first-hand look at Boone County (12-0) four weeks ago when the Rebels crushed Shelby County 28-0.

"Boone County is the team to beat (for the title)," Becherer said. "They're physical and they're quick. Their defense is so quick. They have the best team quickness I've seen in a long time."

Would Becherer like to play Boone County again?

"It would be nice," he said. "I'd play anybody in the final."

Wimbledon turned profit of \$12.5 million this year

WIMBLEDON, England (AP) — This year's Wimbledon Championships, the only Grand Slam tennis event played on grass, made a profit of more than \$12.5 million.

The All England Club announced yesterday that the profit was \$12,592,782, which will go to the British Lawn Tennis Association for the benefit of the game in Britain.

The figure is up some 15 percent over last year's profit of \$10,913,492.

Becherer brings winning tradition to Shelby County

By CARTER PENCE
Special to the Times and Courier

SHELBYVILLE, Ky.—Just this year, two schools put brackets apart in distance were made apart in their respective football programs.

Shelbyville High, a Class A school, was rich in football tradition. It had been to the playoffs several times.

Shelby County has never won a state championship. It's not even a district title. Football at Shelby County was little more than something to pass time between the opening of school and the basketball season.

"Shelbyville had a great football tradition," said Tom Becherer, who, with consolidation of the two schools this year, took over the helm at Shelby County after spending three seasons at Shelbyville. "It was often said that Shelbyville was a football school and Shelby County was a basketball school. We're trying to make it both."

The basketball program, of course, is left in other hands. Becherer stands just to football. And very tall, that Sha Sha

By County now boasts a 70 record in six years that people wanted to see several factors.

Becherer began building his program gradually. As he walks across the track that surrounds the football field, he usually points to the various parts of the 110,000 facility.

"We started all this last December. They're just putting the final seal on the track," he said in a piece of equipment built by spraying a green coating over the asphalt. "We need the entire football field, put in 3,000 new seats and a six-lane, all-weather track. We're rehabbing the baseball field."

"The kids came out and saw the facility and found that people wanted a first-class program. That's helped the attitude around here a lot."

Becherer also notes that there are a lot more boys around to help. At Shelbyville, he worked with squads of about 20 to 25. Now, with his freshman program included,

he works with some 65 boys.

"We're doing things you just can't do at smaller schools. We're playing a better brand of football," he said, noting he is using the platoon system. "We can't do it enough more varied. Rather than limit our boys to a couple of series on offense and a couple of series on defense, we can rotate them much more."

Becherer's most notable accomplishment has been here and the team and the community to believe in the Shelby County football program. It's been a far from over and Becherer's team doesn't open district play until the Friday night.

"We haven't had time to celebrate yet," he said. "But those who have given us some confidence and brought the boys together, in the past, Shelby County has been in the position of knocking off a contender. It used to be the strongest of the district — a leader. But now, the others have to get ready for us."

Marcus Robinson, a 5-foot-11 junior quarterback has directed the Shelby County offense in all of its wins. Robinson, through the first six games, completed 24 of 47 passes for 619 yards and five touchdowns.

Ivan Chambers, a split end, has handled 11 of them for 289 yards and two TDs. Chambers' brother, Vince, an All-State last season, has missed much of the season this year due to an aggravated neck injury. "They only played one full game all year," Becherer said.

Bernard Stone and Mike Baker have picked up for Vince, however. Stone, a junior, has led the team in rushing with 293 yards in 45 carries. "He's been the team's leading scorer with 72 points."

Boach, who is a junior, has been the rushback defender with 253 yards in six carries.

But the runners' success may be attributed to Tom Hall and Jim Stout, both three-year starters at offensive guard. Both are also good linemen but they're made up for it with strength and experience, Becherer said.

Lester Moore, Donnie Moore and defensive tackle Lester Mack and Gary Robinson "have been the mainstay of the defense," Becherer said. "Moore weighs only about 180 pounds but he's the best hitter on the team. He was our leading tackler at Shelbyville last year. He's the kind of player coaches love."

Friday night will pose the strongest test yet for Shelby County. It then began practice play against Elizabethtown, a team it has never beaten, said Becherer.

In the following two weeks, it faces district five Meade County and Otwell County.

"We haven't beaten any of them in the past five years," Becherer said. "I think we have as good a run as Fellers but they may have a prearranged advantage."

"I'd say that what we're doing here, that is our best chance to win the district, but that any of these games are going to be breathers. The kids just understand what district games mean. Our whole season is ahead of us."



Quarterback Marcus Robinson (right) poses with the Shelby County backfield that has led the school to its best start ever. From left are Vince



Chambers, a fullback, and halfbacks Bernard Stone and Mike Baker, taking the handoff from Robinson.

Asland wins seventh straight as Stone rushes for 254 yards; Prestonsburg wins Sorghum

Asland High, the state's third-ranked football power according to *The Courier-Journal's* Litchens Ratings, had little trouble picking up its seventh victory without a loss Friday night, topping Russell 20-7 at the track.

Jeff Stone, Asland's outstanding runner, amassed 254 yards rushing. He scored twice on runs of 81 and 69 yards.

Gary Thomas, who also had two touchdowns on runs of 20 and 20 yards, gained 120 total yards. Asland as a team had 404 total yards.

Russell, losing 3-0, got its touchdown in the first quarter after getting the ball at the Asland 16 on a fumble recovery. Gene Gibson scored from 11 yards out.

Pikeville also extended its unbeaten record to eight victories by defeating Paintsville 36-6 mainly on the running of Joe Vestalino.

Vandlenne ran for three touchdowns, covering distance of 20, 30 and 12 yards.

Bain fell during the first half of the game, which ended with Pikeville on top 7-6. But the weather was clear the second half when Pikeville scored 28 of its points.

There wasn't any playtime in the quarter, but Prestonsburg and Morgan County made a sticky time of it, just the same in the Sorghum Bowl at West Liberty, Ky.

A steady rain turned the field into a quagmire of mud as Prestonsburg, scoring 20 of its points in the last quarter, came out the winner by 24-0 in the third round of the Sorghum.

Dwight Moore scored two touchdowns for the winners, both of the short yard variety. William Goble finished 10 yards for another. Jeff Burkett took a 30-yard pass from Greg Elzing for an answer and Sam Shell got a six-pointer on a 30-yard run after intercepting a pass.

Morgan County drove the Prestonsburg 20 twice but couldn't score.

Two players named Johnson made most of the noise as Russell County shut out Lynn Camp 28-0. Jim Johnson scored twice, the first on a three-play run and the other on a 45-yard pass interception.

35

Jeff Johnson had three interceptions and carried the ball 40 yards in 19 tries. Joel Skaggs had been manhandled and three scattered tackles for the winners.



Spearheading the Shelby County defense to its 7-0 record are defensive tackle Gary Robinson (69), Lester Mack (70) and linebacker Donnie Moore. Coach Tom Becherer says Moore is "the best hitter on the team."

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Staff Photos by Bill Lester

Shelby County split Dean Chambers has handled 11 passes for 618 yards in his team's first six games. Two of those passes from quarterback Marcus Robinson have gone for touchdowns.

Christian Academy football takes root

Continued from Page E 1

title in 1987, brings credibility and experience as the team's other co-head coach.

"He's probably the single biggest factor right now in the advancements we've made since last year," said Bosworth, a former University of Louisville offensive lineman. "He has something there's no substitute for — experience. I'm picking his brain night and day."

Becherer retired in December after 25 years at Shelby County, where he compiled a 177-118 record and two runner-up finishes in Class AAA.

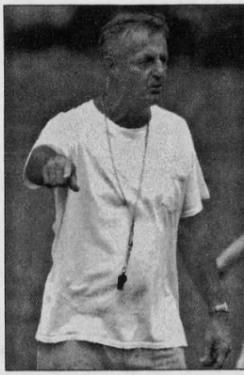
"I had planned to retire, but with the idea that I'd do something," Becherer said. "Everything just sort of fell into place here. It's close to home, it's a young team with a lot of potential and I was impressed with the kids and the facilities."

A friend with a child attending Christian Academy put Becherer in touch with Jeff Imlay, the school's athletic director. By Kentucky High School Athletic Association rules, Imlay needed a state-certified teacher to run his football team, and after talking with Becherer, he realized he'd found the perfect complement to the young staff led by Bosworth.

Becherer will concentrate on defense and special teams, while Bosworth will run the offense. Becherer defers to Bosworth, who was co-head coach with Jeff Smith last season, and contends he's just there to help out.

His players and fellow coaches say he's more involved than he lets on, however.

"He's really a hands-on kind of



BY PAT McDONOGH, THE COURIER-JOURNAL
Tom Becherer, who was coach at Shelby County High School for 25 years, brings experience to the sideline at Christian Academy.

coach," said Brandon Byers, a senior offensive lineman/middle linebacker. "If you don't run a play right, he'll show you how to run it. He really counts as three coaches because he knows everything."

Becherer is part of a five-man staff, two more coaches than the Class A team had last year. With so few coaches and so many players new to the game, most of practice time the past two years was spent on fundamentals. That's changed this season.

"Last year, we were building a

good foundation," said junior lineman Jason Smith, in his third year with the program. "Now we're putting in a more complex offense."

Bosworth said this team is as far along as last year's squad was in the third week of the regular season. The Centurions held their first full-contact drill last week, and Bosworth called it the best practice he'd seen in two years.

"When I go out there now and watch them practice, they're starting to look and act like a real football team," Imlay said.

Of course, progress in this case is relative. Christian Academy has yet to win a game, going 0-6 in 1998 and 0-9 last year. The Centurions were shut out six times last season and were outscored 390-42. Their players still lack experience, and the Region Two, District Three schedule contains no pushovers.

Still, Bosworth remains optimistic. He said the players never got down on themselves last year, and the team improved, narrowly missing a victory in a 22-16 loss to Frankfort in the season's penultimate game.

"With the efforts we've put in this off-season, if the ball rolls our way a few times I think we've got a really good shot at picking up a few wins," Bosworth said. "I know this much: If heart and desire have anything to do with it, we're going to get them. These kids are hungry."

Byers made that clear.

"This will all be for nothing if we don't win a game, but I think we'll win at least two this year," he said. "And when we get that first win, it's going to be a celebration of James Brown proportions."

Prep Talk

By GARY YUNT
Herald Sports Writer

Revival At Maysville

It may be stepping out of character, but today I am going to tell you about a revival.

Like most revivals, this one has its hand-clapping and hoopla, but it has nothing to do with religion.

This is a football revival and the sight of the blessed happening is Maysville, Ky.

High school football first appeared in the Mason County community in 1921 but didn't pick up full steam until the 1930s when Earl Jones took over as coach.

Interest gradually began to dwindle and in 1941 and 1942 the Bulldogs played six-man football at a competitive level.

"It was a basketball community then and it still is now," Jones said. "They were all interested in basketball but I had some good years."

"Paris was our biggest rival then and we split the games I coached against Elston Collier, Paris' coach, then," Jones added.

When the fall of '43 came around, there was no football program to speak of, just bas-

ketball, basketball and more basketball.

While some of the boys played for the independent team last year, most of the starters were getting into football gear for the first time in their lives when practice started in August.

One of these was quarterback Henry Boone, a 5-foot-11, 150-pound junior.

"I've been a quarterback now for three weeks and I'm picking up knowledge real fast," Becherer said.

Becherer's top back, though, is left halfback Glen Bishop, a 5-foot-10, 130-pound senior who has four touchdowns to his credit.

Completing the backfield is sophomore fullback Jackie Snapp, a 5-foot-8, 205-pounder, and alternating at the right halfback slot are Richard Ciever and Bobby Sargent.

The most reliable performer on the line is junior end David Wise who doubles as middle linebacker on defense. Wise is 5-foot-9, 185 pounds.

Completing the line are Junior Ronnie Rigs (5-foot-11, 185), junior Donnie Wilson (5-foot-9, 185), senior Gordon Cies (6-foot-2, 230), senior Jim Rossman (5-foot-10, 200), senior Phillip Weaver (5-foot-11, 205), senior Robert Jones (5-foot-10, 210) and Charles Bishop, a junior (5-foot-10, 205).

Becherer and Gints both are making their first steps at coaching. In fact, Gints had another year of football eligibility at Kentucky but chose to graduate this summer and go to Maysville.

"I think I made a good choice," Becherer said. "I didn't know what I was getting into but I'm glad I came."

"We had more than 2,000 people for our first game and we surprised a lot of people by winning," Becherer said.

The Bulldogs surprised a lot more people the second week when they defeated Clinton and quite a few members of the Maysville congregation had visitors dancing in the stands.

But Friday, Bath County's rank jocks did all the dancing. The yards worth in it carries for three touchdowns as Maysville fell for the first time since 1941.

In four more games remain on the Bulldogs slate, and they should come home with a win. Becherer says it is about as solid a foundation as any team could want.

Becherer has one junior varsity game scheduled this year and next year plans to start a junior high program in addition to expanding the grade school program.

"We've got a lot of material to work up with here and give us two or four years we'll have men in the vamps of those other schools," Becherer said.

"I've got 20 years in coming, this revival, and like most other revivals it takes a little time to get things going.

"I'm a preacher, the day of reckoning is coming."

Walton's Finest Hour -- Win



'Got It Straight, Son?' Intense Roy Walton gives instructions to one of Tate's Creek's players during the Commodores game with Lafayette, Friday night. It was one of the biggest and most satisfying victories Walton has recorded in coaching. (Staff Photo by E. Martin Jesse.)

By MIKE RUEHLING

More than likely, Roy Walton pinched himself yesterday morning after he got up, just to make sure he wasn't dreaming.

He wasn't. Tate's Creek's shocking 27-0 upset of Lafayette was for real in what was Walton's greatest coaching moment.

He's had his share of glory and excitement, but none can surpass what happened Friday night when Tate's Creek, deemed to defeat before the kickoff, defied all the odds to upset the undefeated Commodores.

No one needed to ask how the general meant to Tate's Creek. Words could not express his feelings. The smile on his face and the tears of happiness in his eyes said enough.

"I believe I'm the happiest man in the world from that moment on," Walton said in between hugs from players and fans. "I didn't think it could be done."

He admitted it was the toughest challenge he had ever encountered, likening it to a backyard scuffle between two brothers.

"Guess who usually comes out on top?" Walton asked. "Once it is a while the little brother does," he said, the winner.

Tate's Creek, fielding its third football team in the school's young history, fit the role of a little brother perfectly.

Completed in 1966, it drew half of its pupils from then over-crowded Lafayette. The rest came from Bryan Station.

But Friday's victory had more meaning than just an stunning upset to Walton.

Revenge is not the best word to call it satisfaction. Walton earned it Friday night.

You see, Walton is the boy who originally guided Lafayette to unprecedented football from when he took over in 1957 until relieved of his duties in 1962.

Until this year, Lafayette's best living on the reputation in the United States" owed that Walton, of a pile, should be the one to track the General's hopes, gaining its lost stature.

After three straight wins, Lafayette looked like it was on its way to accomplishing what that was until Walton Tate's Creek stepped into picture.

"I would rather have Lafayette than any other team in the United States," over assistant coach David Prater played on ton's 1961 State Class AA

"There wasn't a way I would we could have done was the reaction of Harry on, the team's line coach, we did."

The only Commodore who credited a Tate's win was basketball aide Campbell. "I thought they're by one point but I've never."

"Before the team returns the boy to leave Stoll. Walton asked in Lafayette."

"Listen, boys, I'm as of you as I've ever been of body. You've made me the man in the world."

"Someone up there," he teased, pointing up in the "smiled on us tonight."

The team was quiet for cond, the full impact of they had done still not able.

"We had to do it for I



TOM BECHERER
"Would De R Again?"

kebab, basketball and more basketball.

Still the spirit of past gridiron glory was in the air at Maysville, and four years ago the town got behind an independent Boys Club team.

When head coach Tom Becherer and assistant Homer Jones arrived at Maysville in the first week of August from the University of Kentucky, they found much town support, about 200 people and 30 boys ready to play football.

"I'm sort of surprised that we have started off so well," said Becherer. "We've got a lot of size but we speed. At least we're not 100 per cent green."

Becherer wasn't kidding when he said there were size. His offensive front line averages more than 200 pounds and that's not bad for any year.

"Lord, yes, they're big," said Jones about this revival outfit. "When I was coaching, we had 100-pound tackles and we thought they were big."

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Football Schedule

'Got It Straight, Son?'

Intense Roy Walton gives instructions to one of Tate's Creek's players during the Commodores game with Lafayette, Friday night. It was one of the biggest and most satisfying victories Walton has recorded in coaching. (Staff Photo by E. Martin Jesse.)

Leathers, Dyehouse Staying Quiet Until Nov. 3 District Showdown

By MIKE RUEHLING

Both Ohio Leathers and Coy Dyehouse have been around the game of football long enough to know when a coach should keep his mouth shut.

And now is one of those times. Just like last year, the Class A, Region II, District Two race coming down to a dead-heat between Frankfort, coached by Leathers, and Dyehouse's Garrard County eleven.

They'll probably wait until the last game of the season to decide the matter when Frankfort visits the Golden Lions on Nov. 3.

So, you can understand why neither Leathers nor Dyehouse, by setting any traps for their first by way of the mouth, right now.

Each of the 20-year coaching veterans intends to be as revealing as an old cigar store Indian, about what the future could or should have in store.

"I don't really know what to say," lamented Leathers. "We've won four straight and I'll admit it's been a pleasant shock."

"Garrard County has been surprising some people but I figured they'd be tough. The district will probably come down to that last game if we get by Berea (Oct. 20)."

Leathers lost nine lettermen

from last year's 92 district champions.

"Our defense has been keeping us in business," he continued, singling out linemen Greg Maynard and Mike Clark as being two of the major factors in its success.

He also had words of praise for end Tommy Clay, a ninth-grader who was moved to half-back temporarily to fill the spot vacated when Larry Robinson discarded his shoulder.

Leathers expects Robinson, a 140-pound sophomore speedster, to return in the near future.

Junior David Cheek remains the Panthers' No. 1 quarterback with halfback Mac Quarles and fullback Clark completing the backfield.

Then, you can't forget Garrard State tackle candidate Grant

Satterly and center Ben Smith, both playing consistently well.

"Our line's shaping up well," said Leathers.

"We've had two things going for us that have really made a difference."

"One is that we haven't given when we've been down. The other is that we're in pretty good shape physically which has proven beneficial in the late stages of a game."

Dyehouse agrees with Leathers about the district race coming down in the final game.

Last year Frankfort romped, 64-0.

One Garrard County returnee is end Ernie Browning, who scored the Golden Lions' only touchdown. Also around is half-back Wayne Lee, who led Garrard County's rushing attack

most of last season and is the same thing this year.

Dyehouse thinks that Golden Lions could receive stiff challenge from an district foe, Boyle County week before they lost 7-0.

After four games, Frankfort and Garrard are still tied for first place in the offensive and defensive statistics.

Frankfort has scored 88 and given up seven. The Golden Lions have recorded 67 and their opponents' 20, all in the son openers.

So, it looks like anybody interested with have to wait Nov. 3 to get a complete down on either Frankfort or Garrard County.

It should be worth waiting

Tates Creek's Success Shared By Assistants

By DAVID THOMPSON

Just listening to Roy Walton rave about his coaching staff, one would get the impression that Tate's Creek is one of the best in the state.

With three veterans familiar with the Commodores' personnel, style of play, etc., and another gaining valuable experience with every practice session and game, Walton sounds like he has a "top ranked" staff.

"They've really been a big help to me," said the coach.

without them, I feel like I'm just putting it in.

Walton has great praise for the four assistants and claims that they do the job of preparing the boys for a game.



Johnson also coaches the boys varsity.

(Fourth In A Series)

They open Monday at Berea. Station we used a majority of them will be ready to next season," said Walton.

"We're happy, awfully happy with these coaches. I just thank them enough."