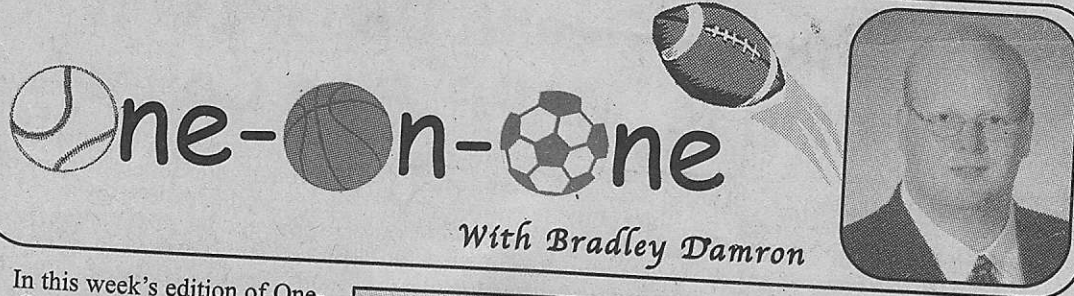


Cassandra Akers

- 1998-1991 Alice Lloyd College
 - College Basketball: 4 years
 - College Softball: 1 year
- 1988-1991
 - Teacher and girls basketball coach at McDowell High School
 - District Runner-Up (2 years)
 - 15th Regional Tournament Final Four
- 1992-93
 - Started teaching at Betsy Layne
 - Head softball coach
- 1999-2008
 - Betsy Layne head girls basketball coach
 - Record: 165-102
 - Floyd County Conference Champion (6 years)
 - 58th District Champion (4 years)
 - 58th District Runner-up (1 year)
 - 15th Region All "A" Classic champion (2002, 2003, 2004)
 - 15th Region All "A" Runner-up (1 year)
 - 15th Region Champion (2003, 2005)
 - 15th Region Runner-Up (2004)
 - KHSAA Sweet Sixteen Elite Eight (2003)
- 2007
 - Betsy Layne High School Assistant Principal
- 2008-2017
 - Betsy Layne High School Principal
- 2009
 - Inducted into Betsy Layne High School Athletic Hall of Fame

ne-n-one



With Bradley Damron

In this week's edition of One-on-One, Betsy Layne High School girls basketball coach Cassandra Akers talks about last year's 15th Region championship season, her expectations for the upcoming year and goals for the future of the program.

Bradley Damron: Coach, you're coming off a Sweet 16 appearance. Last year was a very successful season. I think a lot of people already had Magoffin County penciled in as the 15th Region champs, but it was your team that came away with the title. What are your thoughts about last year's team and how the season ended?

Cassandra Akers: Even with our record, I think we under-achieved with all of the talent and experience we had. We had a lot of internal problems that we had to deal with early and severely. When we were in the All "A" tournament, I don't think we deserved to make it to



Cassandra Akers

the championship game. Paintsville should have beaten us, but we were lucky and made it to the finals. Then we took a whipping from Pikeville. At that point, our season turned around.

When we got back into the gym, everybody seemed to buckle down and work harder. We

lost a couple of games, but we kept getting better. Our internal problems seemed to go away. You can have all of the talent in the world, but if everyone's not on the same page and doesn't have the same goal, it doesn't matter. Everybody mentioned how shocked I appeared after we won the region, but if they knew the adversity we'd been through, it would have surprised them.

I also think people overlooked us all season, too. They were talking about Magoffin County, Pike Central and Belfry. After Pikeville beat us, everyone forgot about us, and we needed that.

BD: You've lost some key players off last year's team. What are your thoughts about the girls you have on your squad this season?

CA: I really don't know. We have 10 high school girls on the team right now. A couple have been injured, so I've not had 10

KABC hands out awards

LeMASTER
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association of
(KABC) has
Regional Coaches
Fear. The players and
ognized at the State
ay, with an on-the-

floor awards presentation at halftime of
the first games at the afternoon session.
The Regional Players of the Year will
receive an automatic tryout for the
Kentucky All-Star Team and the Coaches
of the Year will act as evaluators at the
tryouts.
From the 15th Region, South Floyd
senior Michael Hall won the top player

award. Veteran Paintsville Coach Bill
Mike Runyon was voted as the region's
top coach.
The KABC has also announced its
2003 Coaches Court of Honor award-
winners. The Court of Honor is made up
of 16 boys' coaches. They are selected on
an annual basis and will be honored
between games on Friday afternoon at

the Boys' State Tournament in Rup
Arena. Nominations are taken each
January on a regional basis and fin
selection made by the KABC Awar
Committee. The KABC Court of H
will be developed in the Brick Yard
KHSAA building in Lexington. Ea
(See AWARDS, page

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EDITOR
- Even as a
at Betsy
Kim Clark
thes and play-
ers take
notice.
Clark, now a
sophomore
at Betsy
Layne High,
continues to
add to an
impressive
playing
resume. She
is the newest
Girls' 15th
MVP.
goffin
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Johnson

- REGIONAL CHAMPION -



The Betsy Layne girls' basketball team shocked host Johnson Central for a 15th Region championship.

BETSY LAYNE STUNS

JOHNSON CENTRAL