

## HARRISON COUNTY CIRCUIT COURT RECORDS

Items published in court news are public record. Juvenile court cases are not published. Crime reports are provided by local law enforcement agencies. Charges or accusations reported to The Democrat do not imply guilt. Cases being heard in circuit court by the Hon. William J. Verax, IV on March 3 were Commonwealth versus:

- James D. Alexander, 1942, status hearing. Theft by failure to make required disposition of property.

- Amanda Deshea Bryant, 1988, status hearing. Assault (third degree, police/probation officer, identified), resisting arrest, assault (fourth degree, child abuse), alcohol intoxication in a public place (first and second offense), disorderly conduct (second degree), attempt fleeing or evading police (third degree) and criminal mischief (second degree).

- Richard Troy Clayton, 1962, pretrial conference. Convicted felon in possession of a handgun.

- Todd Darrell Cockley, 1968, pretrial conference. Possession of a controlled substance (first degree, first offense, methamphetamine), drug paraphernalia—buy/possess, operating a motor vehicle under the influence (substance), failure to wear seat belts and improper equipment. A guilty plea was entered to all charges except the charge of operating a motor vehicle under the influence, which was dismissed on motion of commonwealth attorney.

- Kenneth Collins, 1987, pretrial conference. Two counts criminal possession of a forged instrument (second degree) and persistent felony offender (first degree). Guilty plea entered on criminal possession charges. Persistent felony offender dismissed on motion of commonwealth attorney.

- Alan Christopher Fields, 1977, pretrial conference in two separate cases of bail jumping (first degree).

- Alan Christopher Fields, 1977, pretrial conference. Two counts possession of a controlled substance (drug unspecified) and possession of a controlled substance (second degree, drug unspecified).

- Quineth Lee Fitzgerald, 1997, preliminary hearing. Probation violation (for technical violation).

- Joseph Lee Hensley, 1984, pretrial conference. Possession of a controlled substance (first degree, third or subsequent offense, methamphetamine) and drug paraphernalia—buy/possess. Guilty plea entered to both charges.

- Joseph Lee Hensley, 1984, pretrial conference. Trafficking in a controlled substance (first degree, second or subsequent offense, greater than or equal to two grams methamphetamine) and persistent felony offender. Guilty plea entered to trafficking charge. Persistent felony offender dismissed on motion of commonwealth attorney.

offender dismissed on motion of commonwealth attorney.

- Joseph Lee Hensley, 1984, pretrial conference. Trafficking in a controlled substance (second offense, carfentanyl or fentanyl derivatives), trafficking in a controlled substance (first degree, second or subsequent offense, less than two grams methamphetamine) and persistent felony offender (first degree). Guilty plea entered to trafficking charges. Persistent felony offender dismissed on motion of commonwealth attorney.

- Joseph Lee Hensley, 1984, pretrial conference. Trafficking in a controlled substance (first degree, second or subsequent offense, less than two grams methamphetamine) and persistent felony offender (first degree). Guilty plea entered to trafficking charge. Persistent felony offender dismissed on motion of commonwealth attorney.

- Kevin Baker Holbert, 1970, pretrial conference. Possession of a controlled substance (first degree, second offense, methamphetamine—amended to first offense), drug paraphernalia—buy/possess, possession of open alcohol beverage container in a motor vehicle and possession of marijuana. Guilty plea entered to all charges.

- Nathan Young Howard, 1984, to enter plea. Assault (third degree, police/probation officer, identified), assault (fourth degree, minor injury), enhancement possession of a controlled substance (first degree, third or subsequent offense, methamphetamine),

enhancement drug paraphernalia—buy/possess, two counts menacing, two counts terroristic threatening (third degree), resisting arrest and persistent felony offender (second degree). Guilty plea was entered for 3rd degree assault, enhancement possession and persistent felony offender. All other charges dismissed. Order drug court assessment.

- Nathan Young Howard, 1984, to enter plea. Convicted felon in possession of a handgun (amended to firearm) and persistent felony offender (second degree). Guilty plea entered to both.

- Christopher Clint Hunt, 1979, pretrial conference. Six separate cases of trafficking in a controlled substance (first degree, first offense, less than 10 dosage units, drug unspecified). Guilty plea entered to all.

- Hadan Earl Johnson, 2003, status hearing. Strangulation (first degree, domestic violence related), wanton endangerment (first degree), assault (fourth degree, domestic violence, minor injury) and terroristic threatening (third degree).

- Donovan Ray Kiskaden, 1989, pretrial conference. Strangulation (first degree, domestic violence

related). Amended to second degree. Guilty plea entered.

- Adam Knipper, 1984, probation revocation hearing. Probation violation (for technical violation). Probation is revoked. Sentenced to incarceration.

- Adam Ray Knipper, 1984, sentencing. Possession of a controlled substance (first degree, third or subsequent offense, drug unspecified), controlled substance prescription not in original container, drug paraphernalia—buy/possess, public intoxication (controlled substance, excludes alcohol) and possession of marijuana. Sentenced to two years and one day incarceration.

- Makenzi Rae Lewis, 1984, status hearing. Possession of a controlled substance (first degree, carfentanyl or fentanyl), possession of a controlled substance (first degree, third or subsequent offense, methamphetamine), possession of a controlled substance (third degree, drug unspecified) and drug paraphernalia—buy/possess.

- Makenzi Rae Lewis, 1984, status hearing. Bail jumping (first degree).

- James McFarland, 1980, preliminary hearing. Probation violation (for technical violation). Extend probation five years.

- Michael Israel Mullen, 1975, preliminary hearing. Probation violation (for technical violation). Extend probation five years.

- Cody L. Porter, 1989, status hearing. Sexual abuse (first degree, victim under 12 years of age) and sexual abuse (first degree).

- Stephen Earl Prather, 1983, preliminary hearing. Two cases of probation violation (for technical violation).

- Stephen Earl Prather, 1983, pretrial conference. Convicted felon in possession of a handgun and persistent felony offender (first degree). Guilty plea entered to handgun charge. Persistent felony offender charge dismissed on motion of commonwealth attorney.

- Stephen Earl Prather, 1983, pretrial conference. Wanton endangerment (first degree, discharge of firearm), two counts wanton endangerment (first degree), two counts kidnapping (adult), two counts unlawful imprisonment (first degree), robbery (first degree), terroristic threatening (third degree), two counts menacing and persistent felony offender (first degree).

- Ryan Keith Richie, 1999, probation revocation hearing. Two separate cases of probation violation (for technical violation).

- Joshua David Riley, 1994, disposition hearing. Probation violation (for technical violation). Continue probation on condition of longterm (six-plus months) in-patient treatment.

- Nathaniel Joe Ritchie, 1978, pretrial conference. Criminal possession of

a forged instrument (second degree) and persistent felony offender (first degree).

- Nathaniel Joe Ritchie, 1978, pretrial conference. Tampering with physical evidence, unlawful transaction with a minor (second degree) and persistent felony offender (first degree).

- Randy Timothy Roberts, 1985, pretrial conference. Trafficking in a controlled substance (first offense, carfentanyl or fentanyl derivatives).

- Candace Lace Slade, 1985, arraignment. False report which generates an emergency response and criminal mischief (second degree). Not guilty plea entered.

- Kyler Lee Snapp, 1998, show cause hearing.

- Thelma June Stevens, 1961, sentencing. Trafficking in a controlled substance (third degree, second or subsequent offense, greater than or equal to 20 dosage units, drug unspecified). Sentenced to two years, probated for three years.

- Zackery Tyler Joe Turner, 1998, motion hour.

- Richard Lee Vanderen, 1956, pretrial conference. Two counts wanton endangerment (first degree), fleeing or evading police (first degree), operating a motor vehicle under the influence alcohol/substance, resisting arrest, disorderly conduct (second degree), two counts menacing, possession of open alcohol beverage container in a motor vehicle and contempt of court.

- Darrell Wayne Vastine, II, 1989, pretrial conference. Nine counts promoting a sexual performance by a minor under 18, nine counts possession of matter portraying sexual performance by a minor over 12 but under 18, two counts prohibited use of electronic communication system to procure minor/PE sex offense, distribution of obscene material to minors (first offense) and possession of matter portraying sexual performance by minor under 12.

- Darrell Wayne Vastine, II, 1989, pretrial conference. Nine counts promoting a sexual performance by a minor under 16, nine counts use of a minor under 16 in a sexual performance, nine counts possession of matter portraying sexual performance by minor over 12 but less than 18, two counts prohibited use of electronic communication system to procure minor/PE sex offense, distribution of obscene material to minors (first offense) and possession of matter portraying sexual performance by minor under 12.

- Thomas Wayne Whirls, 1981, review X3. Remove from docket; waive costs.

- Thomas Wayne Whirls, 1981, preliminary hearing. Probation violation (for technical violation). Extend probation three years.

- Thomas Wayne Whirls, 1981, review. Extend probation three years.

- Jonathan Edward Willis, 1974, sentencing. Possession of a controlled substance (first degree, second offense, cocaine), drug paraphernalia—buy/possess, excessive windshield/window tinting and license to be in possession. Sentenced to one year imprisonment.

- Jonathan Edward Willis, 1974, sentencing. Three separate cases of trafficking in a controlled substance (first degree, first offense, less than four grams cocaine). Sentenced to five years imprisonment, consecutive.

- Jonathan Edward Willis, 1974, sentencing. Trafficking in a controlled substance (first degree, first offense, greater than or equal to two grams methamphetamine), trafficking in a controlled substance (first degree, first offense, less than four grams cocaine), possession of marijuana and drug paraphernalia—buy/possess.

Willis was sentenced to a total of eight years incarceration in all of the above cases.

- Harvey Dallas Woosley, 1950, pretrial conference. Five counts sexual abuse (first degree), three counts rape (third degree), sodomy (third degree), unlawful transaction with a minor (first degree, illegal sexual act, under 16), human trafficking (commercial sexual activity, under 18 years of age).

- Amanda Lynn Fannin, 1980, to enter plea. Possession of a controlled substance (first degree, second offense, methamphetamine) and drug paraphernalia—buy/possess. Guilty plea entered.

- Amanda Lynn Fannin, 1980, to enter plea. Bail jumping. Guilty plea entered.

- Tara Jade Harmon, 1985, to enter plea. Bail jumping (first degree) and persistent felony offender (first degree). Guilty plea to bail jumping. Persistent felony offender charge dismissed on motion of commonwealth attorney.

- Tara Jade Harmon, 1985, to enter plea. Possession of a controlled substance (first degree, third or subsequent offense, methamphetamine), drug paraphernalia—buy/possess, criminal trespass (first degree), criminal mischief (second degree) and resisting arrest. Guilty plea entered to all charges.

- Tina Marie Kolosky, 1970, arraignment. Trafficking in a controlled substance (first degree, first offense, less than two grams methamphetamine), complicity trafficking in a controlled substance (first degree, first offense, less than two grams methamphetamine) and conspiracy trafficking in a controlled substance (first degree, first offense, less than two grams methamphetamine). Not guilty plea entered.

# Grand Jury hands down eight indictments

The Harrison County Grand Jury handed down the following eight indictments Tuesday, March 3:

- Jennifer Lynn Claypool, 41, was indicted for theft by unlawful taking (more than \$1,000 but less than \$10,000) and persistent felony offender (second degree). The alleged offenses occurred between July 1, 2025 and July 31, 2025.

- Joshua Matthew Hall, 41, was indicted for possession of a controlled

substance (first degree, third or subsequent offense, fentanyl), possession of a controlled substance (first degree, third or subsequent offense, cocaine) and possession of drug paraphernalia. The alleged offenses took place Dec. 9, 2025.

- Morgan Ashley Korb, 23, was indicted for trafficking in a controlled substance (first degree, second or subsequent offense, carfentanyl or fentanyl), trafficking in

a controlled substance (first degree, second or subsequent offense, methamphetamine, two grams or more), public intoxication (controlled substance) and persistent felony offender. The alleged offenses took place Oct. 1, 2025.

- James Joseph Scherder, 41, was indicted for possession of a controlled substance (first degree, first offense, methamphetamine) and

possession of drug paraphernalia. The alleged offenses took place Feb. 27.

- Candace Lace Slade, 40, was indicted for burglary (second degree), theft by unlawful taking (less than \$500), criminal mischief (second degree) and criminal trespass (third degree). The alleged incidents took place Feb. 18.

- Cody Christian Stanley, 36, was indicted for theft by failure to make required

disposition of property (\$1,000 or more but less than \$10,000). The alleged offense occurred between Sept. 18, 2025 and Dec. 30, 2025.

- Zackery Joseph Strahm, 36, was indicted for intimidating a participant in the legal process, assault (fourth degree, domestic violence, minor injury), two counts wanton endangerment (second degree), nine counts unlawful imprisonment (second degree), operating

a motor vehicle while under the influence (first offense), menacing and violation of a Kentucky E.P.O./D.V.O. The alleged incidents occurred Jan. 16.

- Christopher Warren Williams, 43, was indicted for theft by unlawful taking (more than \$1,000 but less than \$10,000). The alleged offense took place Oct. 22, 2026.

# UConn, UCLA set as top seeds; Bruins push for No. 1

BY DOUG FEINBERG  
AP BASKETBALL WRITER

UNCASVILLE, Conn. — There's little doubt that UConn and UCLA will be the top two seeds in the women's NCAA Tournament when the bracket is revealed Sunday.

They were 1-2 in both of the selection committees top 16 reveals over the last month with the Huskies No. 1 both times. Both have been dominant since the last reveal on March 1, winning their conference tournaments convincingly.

Still there's an argument to be made that UCLA should be in the conversation for the top overall seed, especially after an eye-popping 51-point win over Iowa in the Big Ten championship game Sunday.

The Bruins picked up three first-place votes in the AP Top 25 poll Monday, ending UConn's eight-week run as the unanimous No. 1 team.

UConn coach Geno Auriemma said he's fine with

whatever the committee decides.

"I wouldn't be surprised and I would be OK with it," he said. "I don't really care one way or the other, you know, I don't know, the last time we've been a number one seed, it's been a couple of years. ... If you said UCLA is the number one, number one, I would say, wow, they're really damn good and I would have absolutely no problem with that. I mean, look what they did the last game they played."

History is on UConn's side though as 12 teams have entered the tournament unbeaten in the last 25 years and 10 of those have earned the No. 1 overall seed. The only exceptions, Princeton in 2015 and Notre Dame a year earlier. The Tigers had no claim to be the top overall seed despite having their best season ever.

The Irish were second overall in 2014 because UConn also was undefeated that season. The two teams met for the national championship and the Huskies won.

If the selection committee decides to buck that trend it won't change which region UConn is in. UCLA will play in the Sacramento Regional and the Huskies would be in the Fort Worth Regional since geography is big factor in placing teams.

Where it potentially could make a difference would be that the overall No. 1 team would play its regional final on Sunday giving that team an extra days' rest before the Final Four on April 3. There would still be a chance for the No. 2 team to still play Sunday as well.

UConn won last year's NCAA championship as a No. 2-seed and played the Saturday-Monday schedule. The Huskies beat UCLA in the Final Four by 34 points — the largest margin in the national semifinals history. The Bruins were the top overall seed last season.

The committee uses 12 criteria to determine who belongs in the field and where teams should be seeded. One of those is the NET ranking

system. The Huskies are No. 1 in the NET and the Bruins are second.

UConn played the hardest nonconference schedule in the country, but the Big East has had a down year. The Huskies have been dominant all season

**LEGAL NOTICE**

**PUBLIC NOTICE**

Notice is hereby given that Harrison County Fiscal Court has filed an application with the Energy and Environment Cabinet to replace a bridge on Whitson Road, Cynthiana, KY. The structure is located approximately 1.3 miles southwest of KY Hwy 356 crossing S. Fork Raven Creek. Any comments or objections shall be submitted via email to: Floodplain@ky.gov and must be received by February 26, 2026. Contact Kentucky Division of Water, Floodplain Management Section at 502-564-3410 with questions.

**LEGAL NOTICE**

**Invitation to Bid**

The Harrison County Board of Education will receive sealed bids for: 2026 UPS Equipment. Sealed Bids will be opened on: April 1, 2026 at 11:00 a.m. 308 Webster Avenue, Cynthiana, Ky. 41031. From 8:00 a.m. until 4:00 p.m. daily. Contact: Richard Harris, District Technology Coordinator 859-234-7110, richard.harris@harrison.ky-schools.us. An Equal Opportunity Employer.

**LEGAL NOTICE**

**Invitation to Bid**

The Harrison County Board of Education will receive sealed bids for: Harrison County 2026 Equipment Maintenance. Sealed Bids will be opened on: March 26, 2026 at 3:00 p.m. 308 Webster Avenue, Cynthiana, Ky. 41031. From 8:00 a.m. until 4:00 p.m. daily. Contact: Richard Harris, District Technology Coordinator 859-234-7110, richard.harris@harrison.ky-schools.us. An Equal Opportunity Employer.

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