COUGARS

FROM PAGE B1

Moments later, McLean forced a turnover. Carter Howard stripped the ball from a Daviess County runner, and the Cougars recovered with just over five minutes left.

The chance to take the lead was there, but two costly penalties pushed McLean back. A deep pass attempt was intercepted by the Panthers and returned deep into Cougar territory. Daviess County capitalized with a short touchdown run, securing the 29-20 win.

Despite the loss, McLean showed it could compete with one of the region's largest schools.

Wagner credited his players' toughness afterward.

"We had too many selfinflicted penalties that put us the year with the loss, but will behind the sticks early," Wagner said. "Even though they were much bigger than us, I felt like we moved the ball on them. Again, it feels like another game where we just ran out of time."

COUGAR STANDOUTS Walker carried the offense

with 18 rushes for 163 yards and two touchdowns, averaging nine yards per carry. Stratton added 24 yards and a touchdown, while also contributing on defense with a game-high 21 tackles. Aden Bolden added 30 rushing yards and 42 passing vards, including a 42-yard connection to Weston Hodges.

The defense made several

big plays throughout the night. Along with Stratton's interception in the first half, Howard's fumble recovery in the fourth gave McLean a chance to steal the win late. Tackson Revnolds added a sack. while Stratton and Connor Ward each recorded tackles for loss.

In total, the Cougar defense tallied 71 tackles, led by Stratton, Carsen Ellis with seven, and Riley Walker and Ward with seven apiece.

MOVING FORWARD

The Cougars fell to 3-3 on now turn their attention to district play. McLean returns to Calhoun this Friday to host Fort Knox in a matchup that carries playoff implications.

This marks the first meeting between the two programs since the early 2000s, when Fort Knox won both contests, though each was closely contested.

Now, more than 20 years later, the teams meet again with much on the line.

Fort Knox enters at 3-3 overall with a 1-2 mark on the road. McLean is also 3-3 and 1-3 at home. By the RPI formula used by the KHSAA, Fort Knox holds a slight edge at .540 compared to McLean's .470. That number suggests the Eagles may be a narrow favorite, but McLean has shown it can hang with larger schools, as evidenced by last week's effort against Daviess County.

More importantly, Fort Knox is a district opponent. With McLean having moved back into the 2A classification this season, district games determine playoff seeding. A win Friday would significantly improve the Cougars' chances of hosting a first-round playoff game, a key goal for Wagner's team.

The Cougars and Eagles will meet at 7p.m. on Friday, Oct. 3, in Calhoun.



Representatives Needed Γhe McLean County School District is in the process of reconvening the local facilities planning committee. This committee, which will study in-formation about the district's construction needs, includes three (3) at-large business/community members selected by the local board of education. If you are a resident of Mclean Ćounty, and you are interested in serving on this committee, please send a letter of inerest to McLean County Board of Education, ATTN Ashley Troutman, Director of Facilities, PO Box 245, Calhoun, KY 42327 or email your letter of interest to rollie troutman@mclean.kyschools.us. Letters will be accepted through Friday, October 10,

KENTUCKY

FROM PAGE B1

a live and recorded improv series — bringing the energy of comedy clubs and the excitement of unscripted entertainment straight to the stage and screen."

There will be weekly rehearsals and workshops with experienced comedy coaches, he said.

The troupe will perform in live shows and taped improv episodes for You-Tube and streaming services, Winton said.

To audition, submit a oneto two-minute video showing your personality and improv skills, and attend the live audition at 10 a.m. on Nov. 8 at the Kentucky Sound

Final troupe members will be selected by a panel of local performers and producers.

The troupe will debut in a live kickoff show, be filmed, and then have the video released, Winton said.

Applications should be submitted kysoundstage@gmail.com.

The deadline for all submissions is Nov. 1.



will receive sealed bids for ar B passenger vehicle. Bids are due by 10:00 AM Thursday October 9, 2025. Please contact Ashley Troutman at (270)273-5257 or via email at ollie.troutman@mclean.ky schools.us to request a bid packet. Mclean County Board of Education reserves the right to reject any or all bids ir whole or in part or to waive any informalities or irregularit ies, in its judgment, the best interest of the school district will be served

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McLean County News

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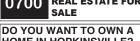
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