## Logan County celebrates six college-bound athletes

**BY WES ELROD** 

Friday morning marked a celebration for six student-athletes for Logan County High School, as a ceremony was held for the six to officially sign their offers to each school they committed to.

For baseball, seniors Tate McLean and Tripp Wadlington committed to the Campbellsville University Tigers for next year.

Two football seniors, Kam Burr and Olijah Woodard, signed to join their former teammates Eli Hawkins and Jack Delaney at Kentucky Wesleyan.

Softball player Addie Cartas made it official signing with the Brescia Bearcats, as archer Philip Thompson signed with Midway University, the third archer to come out of the Cougars program.

To start the ceremony. Athletic Director Todd Adler put an emphasis on how much it means to be a collegiate athlete. '

As the athletic director and head football coach, I always hear kids talking about D-1 this and D-1 that, and although we don't have a D-1 signee today, it's just as important and in the same magnitude as

There's only seven% of athletes that get the opportunity to compete at the next level, with eight million high school athletes in the country.

It doesn't matter what level; what matters is getting a quality education and playing the sport you love to play and I'm so proud of all of these guys earning this opportunity."

For seniors Burr and Woodard, they were key fixtures on the Cougars football offensive line that kept quarterback Ridge Holman upright and allowed the offense to amass almost 2500 yards from scrimmage this past season.

Each possesses the grit and toughness next level. needed to excel at the



Photos by Wes Elrod/News-Democrat & Leader

Addie Cartas and family celebrate the achievement.



Tripp Wadlington and family celebrate the achievement.



Tate McLean and family celebrate the achievement.



Kam Burr and family celebrate the achievement.



Olijah Woodard and family celebrate the achievement.

at points during the number-one ranked As for Thompson, season, he was the archer in the state of



Philip Thompson and family celebrate the achievement.

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Kentucky, with elite performances including a 293 in the bullseye at the Winter Shootout hosted by Logan County. With region and state competitions coming up soon, Thompson will solidify his place as a top-ranked archer for Midway next season.

Senior Addie Cartas will bring her prowess on the pitcher's mound for the Lady Cougars to Brescia next season after an impressive campaign last year and another promising season just ahead.

Cartas had 12 starts, pitching in 76.0 innings and finishing with an 11-1 record. Cartas had an ERA of 1.66 and 102 strikeouts, serving as an ace in the pitching rotation for the Lady Cougars.

The senior duo of McLean and Wadlington are key pieces returning for the Cougars this season after a strong year. Wadlington finished last season with 19 runs batted in (RBIs), one home run, and a.240 batting average on 75 at-bats.

For McLean, it's been his ability on the pitcher's mound that sets him apart.

Last season, McLean had seven starts with 43.0 innings pitched with a 3.91 ERA. McLean finished the season 4-4 and struck out 32 batters.

After the coaches, parents, and players got to speak, each student-athlete signed their letter of intent to close out another momentous occasion for Logan County ath-

As every one of the student-athletes looks to wrap up their final year, they bring more to the table than just their athletic abilities, as their off-the-field person and academics hold as much weight, with each university welcoming their newest signees in the fall.

Wes Elrod can be



Case #25-P-00019

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