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RAID NETS HAUL

Kentucky State Police conduct search warrant find large quantity of drugs, guns

Staff Report
ENTERPRISE NEWS

MANCHESTER — A Manchester man is facing multiple felony charges following a Kentucky State Police investigation that led to the seizure of a large quantity of suspected methamphetamine, prescription drugs, and

several firearms from a residence on U.S. 421 North. According to a post-arrest complaint, Abraham Mitchell, 37, of Manchester, was arrested Friday night, January 16, 2026, after troopers executed a search warrant at his residence located at 3762 U.S. 421 North.



Numerous guns and a large quantity of illegal substances were confiscated in a raid conducted by the Kentucky State Police.

See **RAID A10**

Teens attempt to flee in high speed chase

Speeds reach triple digits in pursuit by KSP

Staff Report
ENTERPRISE NEWS

MANCHESTER — Two 19-year-olds were arrested Sunday night following a high-speed pursuit that reached triple-digit speeds and ended with multiple suspects fleeing on foot into a wooded area in the Laurel Heights community. According to arrest citations, Conley Byrd, 19, of Gum Branch, and Tyler Short, 19, of Skull Branch, were arrested by Kentucky State Police Trooper Jacob Schwab following the incident, which occurred around 10:50 p.m. on Sunday, January 18, 2026.

See **CHASE A6**



CONLEY BYRD



TYLER SHORT



The fiscal court meeting room was nearly packed Thursday for the May Primary ballot position draw. Photo by Mark Hoskins

Large crowd attends draw

Staff Report
ENTERPRISE NEWS

A standing-room-only crowd filled the Clay County Fiscal Court room Thursday afternoon as County Clerk Beverly G. Craft and Deputy Clerk Vanessa Swafford conducted the official ballot-position drawing for the upcoming May Republican Primary Election. Candidates, family members, and local supporters gathered to watch as names were randomly drawn to determine the order in which candidates will appear on the primary ballot — a process that can be especially significant in contested races where ballot placement is often viewed as an advantage. Several countywide offices will feature compet-

itive primaries, while others remain uncontested heading into May. According to the drawing, Paul Durham (Ballot Position No. 1) is unopposed for Property Valuation Administrator. The race for County Judge-Executive will see Tommy Harmon (No. 1) challenged by Scott “Scotty” D. Smith (No. 2). County Attorney Joseph C. “Joe” White (No. 1), County Clerk Beverly G. Craft (No. 1), Sheriff Patrick Robinson (No. 1), and Constable District 2 candidate Anthony Wagers (No. 1) are all unopposed in the primary. One of the more crowded races is for Clay County Jailer, with ballot positions as follows:

See **ELECTION A6**

Thompson Scholar LEGO Lions Make History with Triple Win at Regional

Staff Report
ENTERPRISE NEWS

In a debut season that exceeded all expectations, the Thompson Scholar LEGO Lions proved that being a “rookie” team is no barrier to excellence. Competing in their first-ever FIRST LEGO League (FLL) regional tournament, the Clay County team walked away with a haul of trophies and a reputation for resilience that left a lasting impression on judges and competitors alike. The performance also earned them an invite to state competition.

A David vs. Goliath Showdown
The highlight of the tournament came during a high-stakes final match where the Thompson Scholar LEGO Lions faced off against Louisville’s Sacred Heart Academy—a perennial powerhouse with years of international competition experience and an entire academy dedicated to STEM. While the Lions ultimately fell to the Louisville team, the razor-thin margin of defeat sent shockwaves through the venue. “Our kids faced off against Sacred Heart Academy in the final game

See **THOMPSON A6**



UNDER PRESSURE: (L-R) Sidney Wolfe, Cayson Gipson, and Pratham Soni focus on the field during their showdown with Louisville’s Sacred Heart Academy. Along with Team Captain Benton Bishop (not pictured), the rookie crew held their own against the veteran international competitors.



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