

4-run rally lifts Taylor in state softball opener

BY WILL MUIER
PAXTON MEDIA GROUP

After having to wait an extra day due to rain, the Taylor County Lady Cardinals won their first round matchup Saturday in the 2025 KHSAA State Softball Tournament on Saturday in an exciting victory.

A four-run rally in the third inning was the difference in the 5-3 win over Letcher County Central at John Cropp Stadium in Lexington. It propelled the Lady Cards into a state quarterfinal game Sunday.

"We feel great," Lady Cardinals head coach David Bradstreet said. "This is our first trip to the state tournament, and our first time we've won the region. The girls battled today. We hit the ball hard, and even found some holes and took advantage of errors. There was no quit, and enough solid defense to keep us in that game."

Taylor County's leadoff hitter Riley Sprowles, who had three hits in the contest, started the game with

a single and advanced to second on the throw. She scored on a wild pitch just one batter later, giving the Lady Cardinals an early 1-0 lead.

Sophomore Maddie Hunt started on the mound and did her best work throwing off speed pitches and forcing weak contact. In her seven-inning complete game, Hunt allowed three runs on nine hits, walked two and struck out one.

"Maddie Hunt, it's her birthday today, her sweet 16," Coach Bradstreet said. "She's been the anchor for us all year, changing speeds and spinning the ball. She always relies on her defense. They usually put the ball in play, she's a pitch-to-contact pitcher. She did great today."

The difference in this game came from the Lady Cardinals' bats in the third inning. TCHS managed four runs in that inning,



WILL MUIER/Paxton Media Group

The Lady Cardinals celebrate after defeating Letcher County Central in the first round of the softball state tournament Saturday in Lexington.

thanks to some timely hitting and capitalizing on mistakes. Back-to-back singles followed by an error scored one and left runners on the corners with just one out.

This is when Raegan Cundiff smacked a hard ground ball in between the third baseman and shortstop for a single, increasing the Taylor's lead to

three. Now with two outs and a pair of runners on, five-hole hitter Briley Edwards delivered on the biggest stage with a double to the left field fence that brought Adelyn Bradstreet and Cundiff home.

"We have to have that," Coach Bradstreet said about the timely hitting.



Senior Riley Sprowles looks back to her bench, celebrating her leadoff hit in Taylor County's 5-3 win Saturday in the first round of the state tournament over Letcher County Central in Lexington.

"Every team here is good, and every team here is on a win streak. If you're going to find a way, you

have to have some good defense, and you have to have some hits fall. To score, you have to have some runners on by hits falling, and that's what we did today."

Down 5-0 in the fifth inning, the Lady Cougars didn't roll over. They responded three runs of their own in the inning. An infield error scored the first run, and a string of hits scored the next two to make it 5-3 with just two innings to go.

In the seventh, Letcher County Central threatened with a pair of single with just one out, but a quick pop up and ground out shut things down, and sealed the win for Taylor County.

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Budget hearing regarding proposed use of County Road Aid

A public hearing will be held by Taylor County Fiscal Court at the courthouse on June 17, 2025 at 9:00 a.m. for the purpose of obtaining citizens comments regarding the possible uses of the County Road Aid (CRA) Funds. All interested persons in Taylor County are invited to the hearing to submit oral or written comments on possible uses of the CRA Funds. Any person(s) who cannot submit written comments or attend the public hearing but wish to submit comments, should call the Office of the County Judge/Executive at (270) 465-7729 by June 16, 2025 so that arrangements can be made to secure their comments.



LEGAL NOTICE

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