

"Deer"

(Cont. from A6)

late afternoons, especially when the rising moon is high in the sky at dusk. In September, these quarter moon periods fall on the 12th and 26th of the month.

The current statewide population estimate for Kentucky's deer herd is about 750,000, before fawning, with a stable to slightly decreasing trend. "Hunters who are monitoring trail cameras or spending time observing deer in the afternoons realize it has been a good year for deer reproduction and survival," said Brunjes. Heavy rains in the spring and early summer created lots of food and escape cover for deer.

The outlook for deer sea-

son is excellent, but ultimately the weather during modern gun season in November has the biggest impact on overall harvest.

Last season's deer harvest was the highest on record. Deer hunters reported taking 131,395 deer, a 9.8 percent increase from the 2011-2012 season. "A higher percentage of our hunters were successful," said Brunjes. "The record harvest was opportunity driven. They saw deer and they took them."

The 2012-13 harvest included 42 reported entries, 31 typical and 11 non-typical, into the Boone & Crockett Club record book. These record deer came from 35 of Kentucky's 120 counties.

Counties are assigned a zone status which affects season lengths and bag lim-

its. Kentucky is divided into four deer management zones.

The management strategy for Zone 1 is herd reduction. For Zone 2 and 3 counties, herd maintenance is the goal. Increasing the herd is the aim for Zone 4 counties. This season there were no changes in the zone status for any of Kentucky's 120 counties.

Overall age structure of the harvest indicates that the majority of hunters are recognizing and passing up male fawns. Most antlered bucks taken in the 2012-2013 season were 2 1/2 years old or older. The female harvest was also primarily comprised of adults, rather than fawns or yearlings.

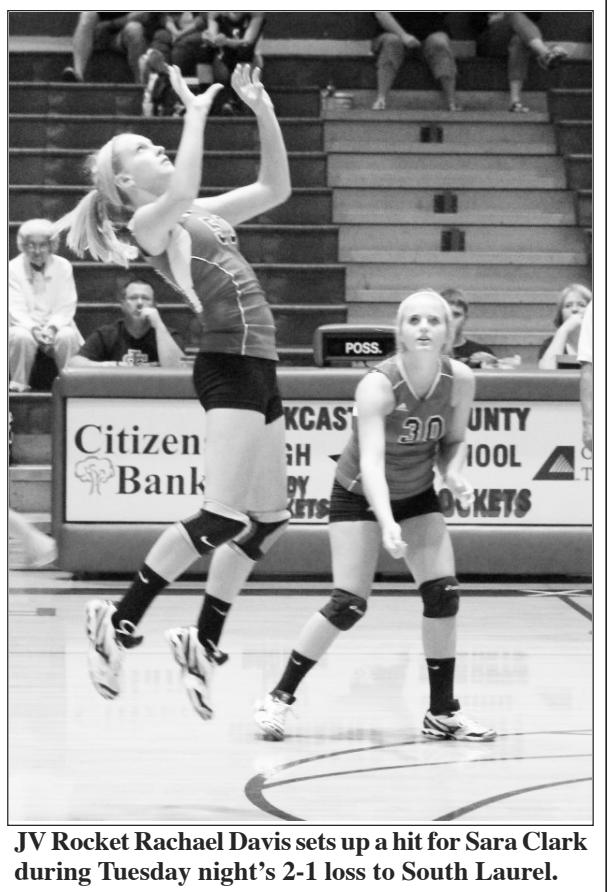
In the past decade, the

Zone 1 counties in northern Kentucky have experienced the most herd growth. "Populations took off in the late 1990s and have remained high," said Brunjes.

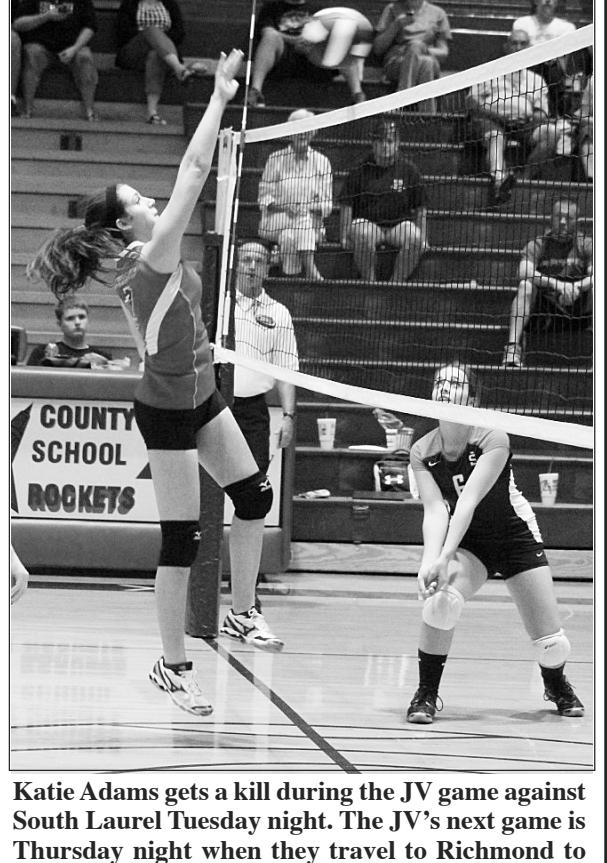
Hunters who would like to donate venison should visit the Kentucky Hunters For the Hungry website at www.huntersforhungry.org for the list 57 processors who are accepting deer.

"This is our 13th season of providing nutritious venison to needy Kentucky families," said Ivan Schell, KHFH Executive Director. "The 70,000 pounds of venison processed annually provides about 500,000 meals."

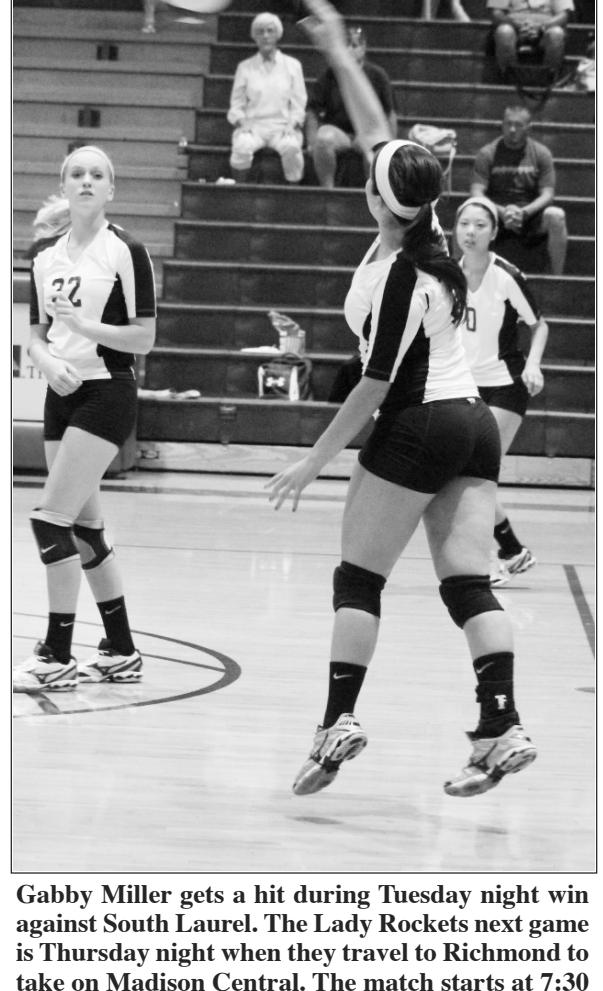
KHFH pays for the processing and hunters who donate a deer receive a car sticker confirming their "doe-nation."



JV Rocket Rachael Davis sets up a hit for Sara Clark during Tuesday night's 2-1 loss to South Laurel.



Katie Adams gets a kill during the JV game against South Laurel Tuesday night. The JV's next game is Thursday night when they travel to Richmond to take on Madison Central. The match starts at 6 p.m.



Gabby Miller gets a hit during Tuesday night win against South Laurel. The Lady Rockets next game is Thursday night when they travel to Richmond to take on Madison Central. The match starts at 7:30 p.m.



Nicoline Joenborg goes for a spike during Tuesday night's 3-0 win against South Laurel.

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Cade burdette is shown putting for birdie against Southwestern where he shot a 38. The Rockets have a shot to win their conference against Mercer County Monday night.



Carson Noble has been a huge part of the conference winning streak for the Rockets. Noble is pictured in the Rockets' match against Garrard County.