CVC's basketball programs will be under new leadership next year as women's coach Preston Mitchell replaces Bernard Hall as the men's coach.

Mitchell's reassignment is effective at the end of the women's season. He will recruit for both the men's and women's teams until a new coach is found, Athletic Director Carroll Dale said.

Mitchell had mixed feelings about leaving his successful women's program to coach the men's team.

"I recruited these players. We're having a successful season. They've done everything I've ever asked them to do," Mitchell said. "I'm not euphoric about leaving them for a new job."

Under Mitchell's leadership, the Lady Cavs have twice broken the school victory record, winning 22 games last season and 23 so far this season.

Although Mitchell feels sad about leaving his women's team, he is looking forward to coaching men's basketball.

"My high school coaching experience is in boys' basketball. It is a higher skill level," Mitchell said. "At the end of the road, I would probably regret it if I didn't take the chance to coach a men's program."

Mitchell still has great respect for his predecessor, Bernard Hall.

"Coach Hall is more than just a friend. I admire him in many ways. I don't know anyone who has more knowledge of the game," Mitchell said.

According to Mitchell, Hall has supported him in the coaching change.

"He was very positive. He said that I was the man for the job," Mitchell said. "He's shown a great deal of class in adverse situations."

Coach Hall was unavailable for comment.

A national search for a women's basketball coach will begin immediately as well as an additional spring sport position, Carroll Dale said.

Pitcher perfect

Terry Bird reached the 1,000 point mark of his CVC basketball career in a losing effort against King College Saturday. Bird's seven first half points left him one point away from the mark at halftime.

With 9:26 left in the game, a three-point basket gave Bird his 1,000th point. Only 18 other Cavaliers have ever reached this scoring plateau. Bird is only the 3rd player to score 1,000 points in two years.

Bird, a senior guard who transferred from Pikeville College, is also CVC's leading career three-point shooter.

King College, ranked 3rd in the nation, won the game, 99-74. At halftime, the Cavaliers were down, 41-31.

King went on to outscore CVC, 52-48 in the 2nd half.

King College's Brian Combe led all scorers with 21 points. Bird scored 19 to lead the Cavs. Stan Lewis added 18 points.
CVC Baseball: Will 1992 be their year?

Ricky D. Mitchell
Junior Sports Editor

The Highland Cavalier baseball team is coming off yet another fine season. Last year, they finished the year with an excellent 22-10 season.

This season, however, 20% of the 25 roster players are freshmen and sophomores.

Although the team is young, they should still be a steady force to be reckoned with.

Returning on the mound will be the two mainstays of last year's staff in sophomores Nathan Metheney (8-2) and Ian Patterson (7-3). Offensively, Spennilla hopes to get solid seasons from lead returnees Mark Francisco (CF) and Guy Johnston (SS).

Prospective freshmen starters include catcher Mares Kilgore, 1st baseman Travis Sturgill, 2nd baseman, Marcus Kilgore, and shortstop Brian Shelton. For this team to be successful at the plate, returnees Stan Bowles, DH/third baseman Bill Bevins, 1st baseman Travis Sturgill, 2nd baseman Sean Brown, and first baseman John Retynor should still be a steady force to be reckoned with.

Although the team is young, they should still be a steady force to be reckoned with.

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**Basketball**

**Sturgill's 3-pointer downs the Lady Buffaloes**

**Sam Agami**  
**Sports Editor**

Wise—Kelly Sturgill's buzzer-beating three-pointer gave the Lady Cavs a key TVAC win in their championship drive.

Sturgill's twenty-two points, including seven three-pointers was the key in the Clinch Valley victory.

The Lady Cavs, however did get off to a good start. Milligan started off on a 12-0 run that lasted until the 14:50 mark, when Rachel Clay broke the drought with a layup.

The Lady Buffs continued their domination by posting a 21-5 lead with 10:10 left in the half.

Then the Lady Cavs woke up. They exploded on a 27-8 run to gain victory.

This took place in the premier half, including 5 treys. Sturgill and Bird headed the key in the Clinch Valley lost a hard-fought battle against Milligan College last Tuesday night, but they came close and eventually worked it down to a four-point deficit heading into the locker room.

Cavaliers edged out by Milligan

**Ricky D. Mitchell**  
**Assistant Sports Editor**

Clinch Valley lost a hard-fought battle against Milligan College last Tuesday night, but they came up three points short in the 70-67 defeat.

It was a very close game the whole way, as neither team ever defeated three points short in the 70-67 minutes remaining in the half.

The Lady Buffs continued their domination by posting a 21-5 lead with 10:10 left in the half.

Then the Lady Cavs woke up. They exploded on a 27-8 run to gain a 52-29 lead with 2:19 left to play in the half.

The period was even the rest of the way, with CVC taking a 39-37 lead into the locker room.

The Tornadoes then outscored CVC by a 2-1 margin the rest of the way, taking a 28-26 lead to the intermission.

The second half started strong for King as they went on a 14-8 run to start the period, bringing their lead out to 42-30 with 13:47 on the clock.

The Lady Cavs got the Tornado lead down to as little as two, but were never able to overtake King. The Lady Tornadoes went on to prevail by nine.

King was led by Doris Roura with 18 points. Kelly Sturgill was once again the highlight of the Cavalier effort, contributing 22 points, as well as six treys. Cavs Center Rachel Clay went also tall with sixteen rebounds and four blocked shots.

The second half was tightly contested from beginning to end. There were five ties and fourteen lead changes in the period.

The game came down to the wire, as CVC's Kathy Wimper fouled Milligan guard Kim Peer while going for a steal with ten seconds left. Peer then sank both foul shots to tie the game at 70-70.

On the Lady Cavs next possession, Kelly Sturgill hit a desperation shot from behind the three-point line with two seconds showing on the clock.

It swished through the net as the buzzer sounded, giving CVC the victory.