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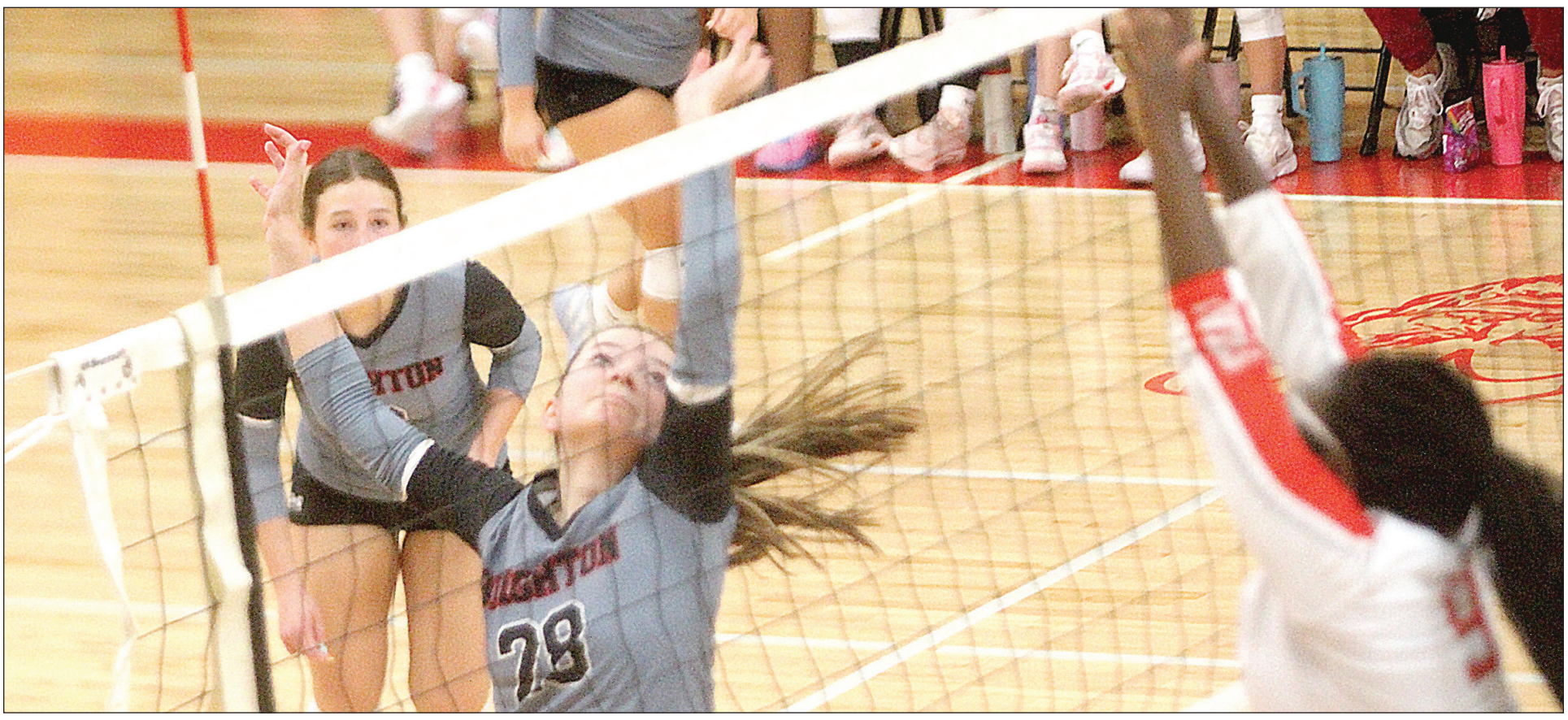
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GERMANTOWN NEWS & SHELBY SUN TIMES

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INSTANT CLASSIC

Improved Lady Devils battle league foe Brighton to five sets

By Thomas Sellers Jr.

GERMANTOWN — District 15-3A Volleyball is one of the toughest leagues in the state of Tennessee.

There is no arguing that Collierville and Houston are on a whole other level. The likes of Bartlett and Arlington have hung banners in recent years as well in their respective gymnasiums.

Then the likes of Munford, Brighton, Cordova and Germantown have proud traditions and are starting to quickly understand they all are improving programs.

On Sept. 8, the Brighton Lady Cardinals made the trip to the Germantown Gymnasium to take on the Lady Red Devils. In recent matchups, Head Coach John Garrett's Lady Cardinals have been able to handle the Germantown squads of Head Coach Aaliyah Causey.

Coming into the 2026 showdown, Garrett tried to give his players a much-needed heads up.

"Germantown is a good team, much improved from last year," he declared. "I watched some film on them and I was worried about this one all weekend. I kept talking to them and telling them, 'Don't come in here and think you're just going to beat them like you did last year. That's a much better team.' My girls keep finding ways to win and learn. They get better, we get better everyday, every time we play a team like that."





Photo: Thomas Seller Jr.

Brighton survived the challenge of Germantown to emerge with a 25-19, 22-25, 27-25, 15-25, and 18-16 win.

"I keep calling them my 'Cardiac Kids,'" Garrett said. "We get into dog fights. Couple of weeks ago against Millington we went down 2-0 and we clawed back and won. That's a great team too.

"It's mental," he added later. "You look out there every so often and see it on their faces. They're down and we're constantly talking to them, Coach McGinnis and I. 'You have to stay up. We can't do this without you.' We're learning how to win. They're learning how to get that killer mentality and winning mentality that we're looking for."

Things appeared to be business as usual after Brighton emerged out of the first set 25-19 winners.

See **Volleyball**, *page 3*



GERMANTOWN FIRE DEPARTMENT JOINS COMMUNITY IN HONORING 25TH ANNIVERSARY OF 9/11

Twenty-five years after September 11, 2001, the Germantown Fire Department joined community members, students and fellow first responders throughout the day to remember those who lost their lives and honor the courage and sacrifice displayed that day.

Members of the department participated in several 9/11 remembrance events across the community, reflecting on the service and sacrifice of first responders and others who answered the call for help.

The day began at Forest Hill

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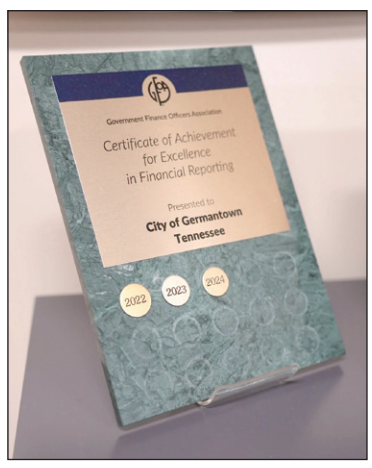
GERMANTOWN EARNS 40TH+ CONSECUTIVE FINANCIAL REPORTING AWARD

City of Germantown

The City of Germantown has once again been recognized for excellence in financial reporting, earning the Government Finance Officers Association's (GFOA) Certificate of Achievement for Excellence in Financial Reporting for the fiscal year ended June 30, 2025.

This year's award marks more than 40 consecutive years Germantown has received the prestigious recognition, reflecting the City's longstanding commitment to accurate, transparent and comprehensive financial reporting.

The GFOA Certificate of Achievement is the highest form of recognition in the area of governmental accounting and financial reporting. To receive the award, the City's annual comprehensive financial report was reviewed



by an impartial panel and judged to meet the high standards of the GFOA's program.

The program recognizes reports that demonstrate a constructive "spirit of full disclosure" and clearly communicate a government's financial story, encouraging

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