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# Busy & Exciting Summer Gets Started

JUNE 01ST 2011 BY STAFF WRITER

## Busy & Exciting Summer Gets Started

### Dexter Park and Rec Baseball and Softball Season Begins

One thing that marks the summer is the excitement that fills the air at the baseball and softball complex. With a few days practice and a quick brush up on the fundamentals, boys and girls of all ages began their summer league play with the Dexter Parks and Rec Department.

With over 500 players and coaches this season, the Dexter Park and Rec continues a longstanding tradition of summer fun with the summer youth baseball and softball program.

Teams will play throughout the season during the month of June on Monday, Tuesday and Thursday evenings. The *ShowMe Times* will provide schedules for the season as quickly as possible for your convenience.

Check back for great action pictures and team pictures throughout the summer.

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## Lady 'Cats Relay Team Competes At State Meet

MAY 31ST 2011 BY UNKNOWN

Lady 'Cats Relay Team Competes At State Meet

*By Andrew Cato, ShowMe Times Sports*

JEFFERSON CITY, Mo. – The DHS Women’s track team, following a very successful season, competed in the Class 3 Girls State Track Meet on Friday (May 27) and Saturday (May 28).

The Lady ‘Cats sent their 4x100 meter relay team, consisting of sophomores Brooke Baker and Samantha Midgett, as well as juniors Taylor Martin and Lindsey Hindman, to the meet held at Dwight T. Reed Stadium.

The Lady ‘Cats were barely beaten out of advancing to the second day of the meet, qualifying ninth in the preliminaries with a time of 50.86. Sikeston, the eighth team to qualify, finished with a 50.80.

Despite the undesirable outcome, these young ladies have nothing to do but improve for next year – and hopefully bring home a gold medal!

**Photo above SMT File Photo:** *Lindsey Hindman gets the Lady 'Cats off to a good start during the 4x100 meter relay of the DHS Open (April 19).*

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## Miller Falls In State Touranment

MAY 27TH 2011 BY UNKNOWN

Miller Falls In State Touranment

*By Andrew Cato, ShowMe Times Sports*

SPRINGFIELD, Mo. - Tyler Miller was the lone member of the DHS Tennis team to represent the Bearcats in the State Tennis Tournament held at Cooper Tennis Complex. The double-elimination tournament began Friday (May 27) and ends Saturday (May 28).

Miller lost his first match of the day, where he played Brock Baade of Savannah High School.

“At the beginning, I didn’t play good at all,” Miller said. “I went down 5-0, but I found the groove and started to make a comeback.”

Miller won the next three games of the set, but fell just short, losing 6-3.

The second set of the match was more competitive, with Miller forcing a tiebreaker, but he fell 7-5. “I thought I had it under control in the second set, but I let [Brock] slide back into it,” Miller added.

The second match, Miller faced Connor Frazier of Greenwood High School (Springfield). Frazier took the first set 7-5.

“I was playing great in the beginning of the first set,” Miller said, “but then [Frazier] started playing a little better - not as much me not playing as good, he just came on.”

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In the second set, Miller couldn’t get in the groove of the game, and he lost 6-2.

“I just couldn’t get anything going in the set,” Miller added.

Despite the undesirable outcome, Miller represented the Bearcats well. He noted that most of the people in the tournament had the aid of a private tennis instructor, and have been playing the game since a very young age - Miller said that he never played tennis before the sixth grade.

“It’s an honor to be here,” Miller said in an exclusive interview with the *ShowMe Times*. “They’re the best players around, so its just good to go up against the best so you can tell how good you actually are. You don’t get better playing bad opponents.”

“The competition today was much harder than it was all season,” Miller added. “Other than a few people I’ve played this season, these guys were far better than anyone I’ve ever played.”

Always the competitor, Miller was already lining out things that he needed to improve in his game before next season.

“I need to work on changing the pace on the ball,” Miller said. “I just need to continue to get more consistent - playing through long points and not give up and try to hit a winner. I need to do what I’m capable of doing.”

With hard work between now and next season, you can expect this young man - going into his senior year - to do great things in the DHS Athletic program, but not just on the tennis court - Miller is a three sport athlete!

You can see him on Friday nights as he plays wide receiver on the football team in the fall, as well as in the gym during the winter when he hopes to lead the basketball team to another successful season.

*Thanks to Bearcat Mom - and SMT reader - Tracy Miller for the photos!*

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# Bearcat Baseball Players Named To All-District Team

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*By Andrew Cato, ShowMe Times Sports*

The 2011 All-District Baseball team has been announced!

The Bearcats were represented by three players on the squad - Sophomores Chase Young and Jordan Miller, as well as Junior Alex Cliff.

Young, the 'Cats' shortstop, posted a .409 batting average with 12 RBI's and 2 home runs, coupled with a .500 on-base percentage in 78 plate appearances. Young also posted a .851 fielding percentage on the year.

Miller pitched, caught, and played second base for the Bearcats, posting a .373 batting average with 16 RBI's. Miller was .919 from the field. On the mound, Miller threw 23 and 1/3 innings with a 4.20 ERA, 33 K's, and a 3-1 record.

Dexter's first baseman, Cliff, posted a .429 batting average with 30 RBI's - leading the team in the category - and one home run. Cliff was .978 in the field for the 'Cats and only had three errors all season.

The 'Cats posted a 10-11 record on the year, but only lost two seniors (Josh Sifford and Bryn Hester), so the majority of the starting line-up will be intact for next season.

If this young group of players continues to improve their skills with hard work in the weightroom and off-season drills, I would expect nothing but great things in the next few years for Coach Brian Becker and his program.

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## Aquatic Center Ready To Greet Summer

MAY 24TH 2011 BY NEWS

Aquatic Center Ready To Greet Summer

*By Annabeth Miller*  
*Showe Times Editor*

The starter's pistol of summer is soon to make its noise.

Sure, you know it. *Bounce, bounce, thwaap* — the wincing sound of a belly buster off the springboard. Or, how about *Wheeeeeeee! Splash!* - the sound of a kid going down the Water Slide!

Dexter's Aquatic Center is set to open at 1 p.m. Saturday , and DPR staffer Jamie Rowe is ready for the 10th season at the “new” family fun place in town.

“We’re ready,” she said with enthusiasm! The pool will begin its daily hours of operation Saturday – open 1-5 p.m. Rowe said admission is \$6 per person (patrons arriving between 3:30 p.m. and closing time will pay just \$3.)

This summer marks the 10th anniversary of the opening of the Aquatic Center, a milestone event for the community in 2001.

“It’s starting to show its age a little,” Rowe said. “We’ve done a lot of maintenance this year. We did add a new shade structure this year, which will be our new concession area.

And added a little kiddy basketball goal for this year.”

But the water is crystal blue, the chairs all lined up in straight lines like little soldiers, and everything is polished to a high gleam in preparation for the season opening.

Rowe’s enthusiasm for the Aquatic Center hasn’t dimmed in 10 years, and she says the pool is still the place to be on a summer afternoon.

“It’s good family atmosphere,” she said.

The Aquatic Center has six lifeguards on duty every afternoon, in addition to staff who run the concession stand and work in the office. A total of 12 lifeguards are certified and on the center’s staff this summer.

During the summer of 2010, the center average 126 patrons a day. There were days last summer, she said, when it was just “too hot” in the oppressive heat/ She said people just stayed inside the air conditioning on some of the ubber-hot days last year. But a high attendance day Rowe said is around 400 patrons.

“Those are busy, busy days,” she said.

“We’re kicking it all off Saturday!”

## **Dexter Aquatic Center**

- Hours: 1 – 5 p.m. daily; plus lap swims 7-9 a.m. and 5:30-6:30 p.m.
- Daily Admission; \$6 • An individual pass for the entire summer is \$85; a family pass is \$225
- Aquatic Center will be open through Sunday, Aug. 28.

**Photo Above: Jamie Rowe (standing next to the edge of the pool) is ready to start the summer season at the Dexter Aquatic Center. The view is from the very top of the water slide platform - pretty good for a photographer afraid of heights!SMT Photo by Annabeth Miller**

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