Sports

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Lady 'Cats Roll Through Charleston

SEPTEMBER 13TH 2011 BY UNKNOWN

Lady 'Cats Roll Through Charleston

By Andrew Cato, ShowMe Times Sports Editor

The Lady 'Cats had a dominant performance against the Charleston Lady Bluejays on Monday afternoon.

The 'Cats, in a varsity-only contest, were able to win six of their seven matches with big leads.

In the No. 1 singles match, Jessica Snider faced a tough opponent in Charleston's Makayla Thompson.

Snider again had to battle through adversity, and came back from a 2-4 deficit to earn an 8-6 win in the best match of the day.

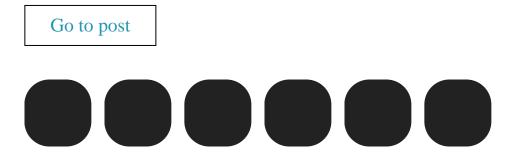
The JV and Varsity Lady 'Cats will be in action again this afternoon when they take on the Poplar Bluff Lady Mules at home.

The match is scheduled to get underway at 4:00 p.m.

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Lady 'Cats Split Contest With Bloomfield

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Lady 'Cats Split Contest With Bloomfield

By Andrew Cato, ShowMe Times Sports Editor

BLOOMFIELD -- The Lady 'Cats, coming off their first losses of the season in the SEMO Spike Tournament last weekend, continued to struggle on the court against the Bloomfield Wildcats on Monday night.

The Lady 'Cats split the contest with Bloomfield; the JV squad won in straight sets, 25-

16, 25-16. The Varsity 'Cats lost the first set 21-25, and forced extra points in the second set, losing 25-27.

Head coach Lauren Hutchcraft felt her team wasn't mentally prepared for the game and noted a lack of aggression from her hitters.

"We had people in the net, people missing serves, and that's going to cost you a game those are easy points you just give the other team," Hutchcraft said after the game. "You have to hit against them, they're going to pick it up, as good as their defense is."

"I don't really feel like we played well, we didn't seem fired up at all," she continued. "It seemed really slow for both teams. We were really quiet, we weren't hitting the ball, we were tipping where we should have been hitting a lot more."

Senior libero Erika Mouser had a solid defensive performance for the Lady 'Cats, racking up 11 digs in the contest. Hannah Noe also played a solid game, with 9 assists, 8 digs, 4 kills, and 2 aces in the match.

The Lady 'Cats, now 7-4 on the season, will be in action again Tuesday night, when they face the Scott City Lady Rams at the Bearcat Event Center.

"Scott City is a great team, probably one of the best teams we face, and we'll have to play a lot better than we did tonight to be able to beat them," Hutchcraft said. "Hopefully the loss tonight, coupled with the hometown crowd, will get my girls fired up and ready to play!"

JV action is scheduled to begin at 6:00 p.m., with the Varsity game immediately following.

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Bearcats Teach The Next Generation

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Bearcats Teach The Next Generation

Stevie Payne demonstrates the proper use of the 'rip' technique to a group of defensive lineman during Dexter Park & Rec's annual *Day With Bearcat Football*.

During the great event, future Bearcats take to the practice facilities of Charles Bland Stadium to learn the game's fundamentals from the Varsity Football team, under the watchful eye of the DHS coaching staff.

The DPR Little League Football season will get underway Saturday, September 17, with games at 9:30 and 11:00 a.m.

The full schedule for the 2011 season can be downloaded here. For more information, visit the DPR website

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SBU Falls To AR Tech In Home Opener

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SBU Falls To AR Tech In Home Opener

From Jeff Weseloh, SBU Director of Athletic Media Relations

Charles Johnson Leads the Bearcats with 3 TD's Against Arkansas Tech.

Bolivar, Mo. - The SBU Bearcats had a stellar offensive performance on Saturday night against Arkansas Tech, but came up short to the Golden Boys, losing 31-20. Charles Johnson lead the Bearcat offense with seven receptions for 107 yards and three touchdowns.

Arkansas Tech jumped out to a quick 14-0 lead before SBU was able to respond in the first quarter. With 6:34 to go in the first, SBU quarterback Justin French completed a 20 yard pass to Johnson to pull SBU within 7. Arkansas Tech would go on to score 10 more points in the half, and take a 24-7 halftime lead.

In the second half, the Bearcats brought in Dan Connors to take over the offense. Arkansas Tech struck first, taking a 31-7 lead, before SBU started battling back. Late in the third quarter, Connors threw a beautiful 23 yard pass to the back corner of the endzone to Johnson for a touchdown. The two would connect again in the fourth quarter for seven yard touchdown, but the comeback fell just short.

Connors had a great first game as a Bearcat, completing 14 of 23 passes for 166 yards with two touchdowns and one interception. The Bearcats were lead in rushing by French who had 56 yards rushing, and were leading in tackling by Zach Moore and Alain Pierre who each had eight tackles.

"I apologize to the Bearcat faithful for our performance tonight," head coach Keith Allen stated after the game. "I obviously didn't do a very good job in preparing our team. I will work much harder this week in our preparation. I was happy with our teams fight and effort and the fact they didn't quit. But you aren't going to win many games when you turn the ball over five times and commit 14 penalties. We will work hard this week to rectify those issues."

The Bearcats will be back in action next Saturday, September 17, when they travel to Hays, Kansas to take on Fort Hays State. Kickoff is set for 7:00 p.m.

Southwest Baptist University is a four-year evangelical Christian university that was established in 1878. The main campus is located about 30 minutes north of Springfield, Missouri, in Bolivar, a town of approximately 10,000 people.

DHS alum Glen Johnson is a defensive lineman for the Bearcats.

For more information on SBU Bearcat Athletics, visit sbubearcats.com.

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Bearcat 'D' Struggles Against Sikeston

SEPTEMBER 10TH 2011 BY UNKNOWN

Bearcat 'D' Struggles Against Sikeston

By Andrew Cato, ShowMe Times Sports Editor

The Sikeston Bulldogs proved to be too much for the 'Cats to handle on Friday night at Charles Bland Stadium.

Sikeston's speed and outstanding ground game took a toll on the Bearcat defense, and the Bulldogs handed Dexter the first loss of the season with a 57-30 final score. Head coach Aaron Pixley noted that tackling and penalties again proved to be big problems for the Bearcats in the contest.

"We talked about it all week long, about how we had to tackle these guys. Whenever you get in space there with them, you've gotta make sure you wrap up real well, and I think we were over-pursuing quite a bit on defense," Pixley said. "Turnovers, big penalties got us again tonight."

The Bearcats' defense struggled with over-pursuing the speedy Sikeston running backs, which led to big plays for the Bulldogs.

"I told them after the game, any time you have a defense that over-pursues a lot, that's aggressive kids, but you have to correct a few things along the way to correct the over-

pursuit," Pixley continued. "That's what we have to do. We have to tackle better. They hit way too many big plays on us. If you don't tackle these guys, they build momentum."

James images/Sports/2011/Football/2011.9.9 - Sikeston/2011.09.09_7DIMG_5616.jpg

Watson proved to be the biggest challenge for the Bearcat defense. Watson's incredible speed, coupled with the Bulldogs' misdirection-oriented offensive schemes, helped the running back to 332 rushing yards and two touchdowns in the contest. "[Watson] is good...he's not an overly big kid; he's very fast. The style of offense they run is really conducive to a super-fast kid like that," Pixley said. "Their other backs are good, but the Watson kid, they got us on the gives up the middle as well as some runs off-tackle. Part of the reason for that was their misdirection prior to the handoff. They're a very good football team."

Despite the final score, the 'Cats were in the game until midway through the third quarter, and the Dexter offense moved the ball well for most of the game.

Senior Zach Watson picked up a fumble to setup a short field and touchdown for the 'Cats early in the third quarter, but an onside kick that Sikeston recovered was the 'nail in the coffin' for the Bearcats. "30 points will win you a lot of football games. We come right out, get a fumble, take it down and score to tie it 22-22, and it's anybody's game," Pixley said. "They come back, score, get the onside kick, and score again, and that turned the momentum in their favor and we had a hard time coming back after that. We missed two possessions right there that our offense probably could have done something with."

Quarterback Cody Stevens (9-22 for 148 yards, one touchdown, and two INT's passing, 101 rushing yards on 16 attempts and one touchdown) had a great game for the Bearcats. Despite the low completion percentage and two early picks, the senior showed some great leadership late in the game.

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over four minutes left in the contest, the senior QB scrambled for 26 yards to set up a 28 yard touchdown pass to Tyler Miller on the next play. The touchdown drive was too little, too late for the Bearcats, but it gave the squad a much-needed burst of positive energy.

"They were up big there, and we were doing a good job moving the football, and I felt like we could continue to move it," Pixley said of the drive. "Our kids responded and had a great attitude. In the fourth quarter, our kids were great about saying 'hey, this is okay, lets just keep playing hard and get something positive out of this', and I think they're going to recover from it and be better for it."

Both teams move to 2-1 on the season after the contest.

The Bearcats will be on the field next Friday, when they hit the road to face the Scott City Rams. Kickoff is scheduled for 7:00 p.m.

For a full breakdown of the game's stats, click here.

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