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## Northern Hurls Gem In Bearcat Victory

MARCH 24TH 2012 BY UNKNOWN

Northern Hurls Gem In Bearcat Victory

*By Andrew Cato, ShowMe Times Sports Editor*

Logan Northern had an outstanding day from the rubber against the Doniphan Dons.

The junior right-hander threw a complete game, giving up just four hits with five strikeouts, no earned runs, and didn't give up a walk until there were two down in the seventh, leading the Bearcats to a 7-1 victory in his first start of the season.

"I thought Logan Northern did a heck of a job for us today," head coach Brian Becker said after the win. "He threw a great game. He kept us in the ballgame whenever we struggled to score some runs early, and we eventually busted it open for him."

"I felt pretty good all game. I tried to keep the ball away from the middle of the plate and away from them," Northern said. "I just followed Coach Pixley and tried to get the ball down so they could hit it to my defense, and my defense did the work."

Dexter's offense started out on a slow pace, as the Bearcats stranded four base runners in the first three innings. Becker attributed the early woes at the plate to much slower pitching compared to their first two games.

"We started off slow, but I thought we swung the bats a little better today than what we have so far," he said. "It was a bit of an adjustment for them, coming from what we saw

Wednesday to some pitchers that didn't have as much velocity today, and it took us a while to adjust."

"We got our rhythm, and started hitting the ball pretty well. We hit some 'at-em' balls today, hit it hard a few times," Becker added. "We had some opportunities early and hit the ball right back at them, but that's just baseball sometimes."

The  
Dons

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struck first blood in the fourth inning; David Bara, after hitting a leadoff double, attempted to steal third; a throwing error by catcher D.J. Dowdy (Dexter's only error in the contest) allowed the shortstop to record Doniphan's lone run of the day.

The Bearcats responded in the bottom of the fourth, when Dowdy blasted a two out, two run double on the first pitch he faced to give the 'Cats a 2-1 lead. Jordan Miller smacked a double into left-center to drive in Chase Young in the bottom of the fifth and increase the DHS lead to 3-1.

The Bearcat offense exploded in the sixth inning; Brad Potts and Josh Overall each tallied one RBI, while Alex Cliff cranked a long single to center for two RBI's in the four-run rally.

Northern recorded a strikeout and fly out to open the seventh inning before walking his first batter of the day. Northern forced another pop-up on his next batter, and Young made the out to end the big win.

The Bearcats will be back in action on Monday afternoon, when they host a JV doubleheader against the Twin Rivers Royals. The Varsity squad will be back on the field Tuesday afternoon against the state-ranked Oran Eagles.

"Shoot, they'll be good; they're state-ranked," Becker said of the Eagles. "They lost some good players from last year, but they have some good kids coming back. They've got a great program over there, and are always well-coached. You have to respect their ball club every time you play them, and they have earned that respect through the years. Hopefully our kids will come out ready to play on Tuesday, and I think it will be a good ballgame."

Becker was unsure of his starter for Tuesday afternoon, but indicated it would most likely be Jordan Miller. First pitch is scheduled for 4:00 p.m.

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## DMS Volleyball Struggles In Win At Advance

MARCH 23RD 2012 BY UNKNOWN

DMS Volleyball Struggles In Win At Advance

*By Andrew Cato, ShowMe Times Sports Editor*

ADVANCE - The Lady Bearcats continued their winning ways in a SCAA matchup against the Advance Hornets on Thursday night. The eighth grade squad went to three sets for the first time, but ultimately came out on top to stay a perfect 3-0 on the season.

The seventh graders were able to pick up a win in two easy sets. After a close 25-21 win

in the first set, the Lady 'Cats pummeled the Hornets in a lopsided 25-4 second set.

In eighth grade action, the Lady 'Cats picked up a 25-17 win in the first set. Ashlyn Werneck and Julia Hahn both served seven points, and as a team, the Lady 'Cats only missed one serve. In the second set, the Lady Bearcats struggled from the service line, missing five serves in a two-point, 23-25 loss. Dexter's serving woes continued in the third set, but the Lady Bearcats were able to tough out a 25-21 victory to take the match.

Head coach Melissa Hahn was disappointed in her team's performance in the eighth grade contest, noting the game as the worst serving performance to date.

"[I was] disappointed in our serving. The eighth grade team missed a record-high 12 serves," Hahn said. "That was the biggest difference in the game and what kept us from ever gaining momentum. We lost the second set by two points. We missed 5 serves compared to Advance's one missed serve; that cost us the set."

"We would have some great plays then follow it up with a missed serve," Hahn continued. "Advance did a great job of picking up everything we hit over. They are a great defensive team. We pulled out the third set to win the game, but I was not pleased with my team's performance. It just wasn't the same team that was on the floor when we played Bernie."

The seventh grade squad will be back in action on Saturday (March 23), when they compete in the Poplar Bluff Seventh Grade Tournament. The eighth grade squad will have a rematch with the Hornets on Monday, when they face off in the eighth grade only Bernie Tournament.

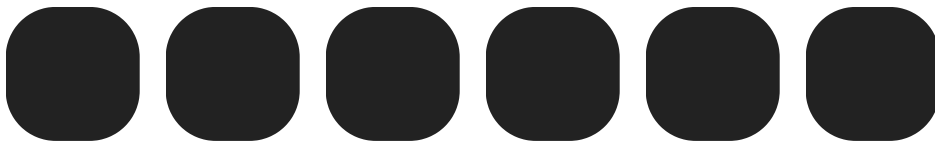
***Photo Above:***

***Head coach Melissa Hahn (right) instructs Lexi May (No. 18) during the Lady Bearcats' preseason scrimmage at T.S. Hill Middle School. SMT File Photo by Andrew Cato***

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## DHS Tennis Splits With Poplar Bluff

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DHS Tennis Splits With Poplar Bluff

*By Andrew Cato, ShowMe Times Sports Editor*

Despite wet courts early in the day, the Dexter Bearcats were able to play their season-opening match against Poplar Bluff on Thursday afternoon.

The Mules and Bearcats split the close match, with Poplar Bluff taking a 4-5 win on the Varsity level and DHS winning 7-6 in JV.

Kyle Willis, a junior, had one of the best Varsity singles matches, winning a 7-2 tie break to claim a 9-8 victory over Poplar Bluff's Dylan Page.

"Kyle came from being down 4-6 to win in a tie break," head coach Leanne Dooley said of her number three Varsity player.

Sam Ward, the Varsity number two, was able to pick up 8-2 wins in both his singles and doubles matches. After downing Cody Hillis and Devin Allison with doubles partner Tyler Miller, Ward again defeated Allison on his own.

In JV action, senior Dalton Putnam started off his tennis career with a 7-5 victory over Collin Gullett in singles. Brooks Propst picked up a dominating 6-1 victory over Poplar

Bluff's Ethan Griffith.

The Bearcats will be back in action on Saturday, when they travel to Farmington for an all-day tournament.

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## DMS Track Has Record-Setting Day

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DMS Track Has Record-Setting Day

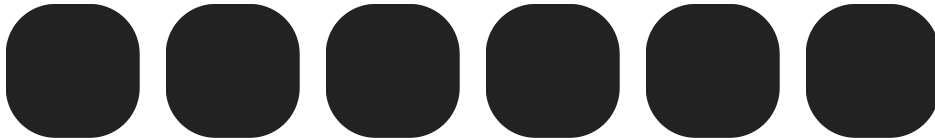
*The DMS Track team opened the season at East Prairie on Wednesday afternoon, and team members broke several records on the day. (From left) MaKayla Waldner,*

***Melanie McKuin, Karaline Keirsej and Dakota Reynolds broke the school record in the 4x100 and the 4x200 meter relays with the times of :56 and 1:58, respectively. Waldner also broke the school's triple jump record, which she set last season, with a 33'4" jump. Thanks to coach Kim Waldner for the photo!***

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## Bearcats Drop Close Contest At Kennett

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Bearcats Drop Close Contest At Kennett

*By Andrew Cato, ShowMe Times Sports Editor*

KENNETT - The Kennett Indians played host to the Bearcats on Wednesday afternoon; the 'Cats put their 1-0 record on the line in their first District contest of the season, but ultimately fell short with a 4-3 Indian victory.

Jordan Miller took to the mound for the 'Cats, lasting 3 and 1/3 innings, with five K's, two walks, and one earned run. Head coach Brian Becker was pleased with his team's effort against the Tribe.

"I thought our pitchers did a good job. Jordan Miller went out there and got off to a very good start. He threw strikes, but got in a little bit of trouble in the fourth, so I put [Brad] Potts in. Brad was able to get a few strikeouts to get us out of the inning," Becker said. "The next inning, he struggled a little bit, so [Alex] Cliff came in the last inning. He got the first two outs, walked a guy, and then their number two hitter, Smith, hit a ball just down the third base line and a kid scored from first base - that sealed the deal for them there."

Potts, in one and 2/3 innings of work, struck out three, walked two, and gave up two earned runs. Cliff, who picked up the loss, walked one and gave up one earned run.

The Bearcats did an excellent job of keeping Adam Grantham in check at the plate; the senior has already signed to play for the NCAA Division I Arkansas State University Red Wolves next season.

"Grantham is a good ball player; we held him in check for the most part," Becker noted. "The only hit he had on us was against a drawn-in infield; they had a runner on third late in the game, and we had to draw our infield in with less than two outs. He snuck one up the middle for a base hit and an RBI."

The Bearcat offense was limited in the contest, with no players coming up with multiple hits at the plate. Becker credited the Tribe's pitching staff for the low production.

"Offensively, we're just not swinging the bat well right now. You have to credit a lot of that to Kennett's pitching; Lockhart started, threw the first three innings, and then Grantham came in for the final four," he said. "We were able to scratch a few runs off Grantham, but he's a great pitcher. D.J. [Dowdy] was able to come through with a base hit there in the second, and Overall put down a squeeze bunt to tie the game in the sixth, but we just never could push that final run across in the last two innings."

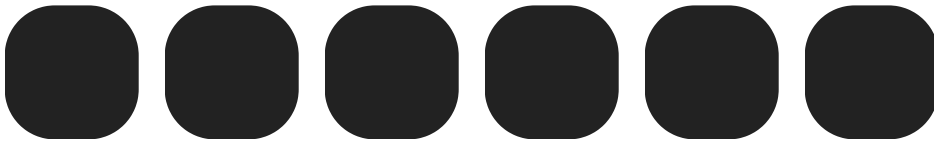
The Bearcats stand at 1-1 on the season heading into another District 1 matchup with Doniphan on Friday. Becker indicated junior Logan Northern would be on the mound for the Bearcats. First pitch is scheduled for 4:00 p.m.

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