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Softball 'Cats Present Earnings To 18 FORE Life

MAY 03RD 2012 BY UNKNOWN

Softball 'Cats Present Earnings To 18 FORE Life

By Andrew Cato, ShowMe Times Sports Editor

The spirit of giving is alive and well at Dexter High School.

The DHS Softball team followed in the footsteps of both the middle and high school volleyball teams and held a 'Pink' game to raise money for the Ben Kruse 18 FORE Life foundation, a local organization dedicated to helping families that are battling cancer.

During the Lady Bearcats' all day 'Swing Pink!' tournament, held on March 31, the squad raised \$4,371.50 for the charity.

Head softball coach Leonard Morse noted the success of the tournament, and fully expects to make it an annual event.

"It was phenomenal what we were able to do; as far as the tournament, all the teams have asked to come back for next year. Hopefully we'll be able to double the number of teams that were in it and move to a 16 team tournament next year," Morse said. "I didn't know what to expect; we far-exceeded the amount of money that I thought we would ever make. I didn't know how well it would take off in the first year."

Morse noted that one of his players, Ashley Brown, proposed the idea of having the tournament be a fundraiser after the first middle school 'Dig Pink!' game.

"I've been wanting to hold a tournament for the last two or three years; last year, after the middle school did their Dig Pink game, Ashley Brown suggested that we do something similar to that with the softball," he said. "The girls jumped on board, and Ashley herself sold 38 shirts at \$15 apiece. Portageville high school sold over 100 shirts. Most of the money that we raised was from concessions and the sale of the shirts."

Scott Kruse, current DMS principal, founder of 18 FORE Life and brother of the late Ben Kruse, said the outpouring of compassion from area high school and junior high students has been overwhelming.

"It's crazy. It started with the middle school last year, and it happened right around the time that I was hired and got to come back home," Kruse said. "I thought to myself 'That's really neat', and I was kind of glad they did it before I was here. The high school took off with it, and Richland and Bernie both started doing it. Now, with Leonard and the softball team, I love seeing it, because they know that they're doing something to help people."

Last year, 18 FORE Life gave out over \$150,000 in 'love offerings' to local cancer patients; Kruse noted that the organization sends out the offerings in \$1,000 increments, and that the multitude of benefit athletic events put on by area high schools accounted for a good portion of the total donated amount.

"Last year, the middle school volleyball team raised \$2,100, this year they did \$5,300," Kruse said. Bloomfield raised \$1,000, Bernie raised over \$400, and Richland did a volleyball and a basketball game, so you're looking at over \$15,000 dollars."

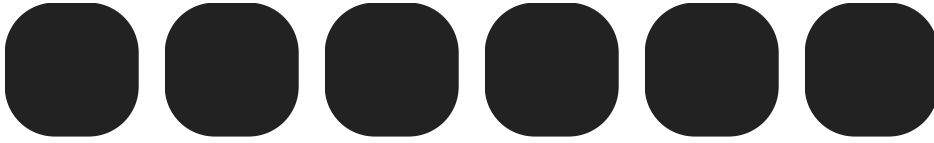
"The way I look at it, that's fifteen families that we can help, because we send out love offerings \$1,000 at a time," he said. "Last year, in total, we sent out \$153,000."

Photo Above: Members of the DHS Softball team gathered Thursday morning to present Scott Kruse with the funds raised during the first annual Swing Pink Tournament. Pictured are (from left): Cierra Learue, Becky Anderson, Ashley Brown, Scott Kruse, Riley Rickman, Emily Triplett, Whitney Layton and Maddie Christian.

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Black River, Clearwater Lake Good For Anglers

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Black River, Clearwater Lake Good For Anglers

In most streams south of the Missouri River, black bass season will open May 26, 2012, until that date all black bass in those streams must be returned to the water unharmed immediately after being caught. For details see Chapter 6 of the Wildlife Code.

PLEASE CHECK REGULATIONS CAREFULLY: Special regulations may apply to designated portions of water bodies; some baits and lures may not be legal for all portions.

SOUTHEAST REGION (573) 290-5858

LAKES

Clearwater Lake: 76 degrees, normal, clear; black bass good on crankbaits and plastic baits; bluegill fair; channel catfish fair; all other species slow. (Report made on 5/3/2012)

Council Bluff Lake: 68 degrees, normal, clear; largemouth bass good on dark colored soft plastics and topwater lures during low light periods; crappie fair on jigs and

minnows; redear sunfish fair on worms; all other species slow. (Report made on 5/3/2012)

Cypress Lake: 71 degrees, normal, dingy; bluegill and redear sunfish good on jigs, crickets and worms in 1 - 3' depths; largemouth bass good on minnows and jigs, plastic worms and crankbaits in 1 - 3' depths; crappie fair on minnows and jigs in 1 - 3' depths; channel catfish fair on worms, crickets and stinkbait in 2 - 3' depths. (Report made on 5/2/2012)

Duck Creek CA Pool 1: 75 degrees, high, clear; bluegill good on crickets; largemouth bass fair on spinners; bowfin good on cut bait; all other species slow. (Report made on 5/3/2012)

Lake Girardeau: normal, clear; bluegill and redear sunfish good on crickets; largemouth bass fair on soft plastic worms; channel catfish fair on worms; all other species fair. (Report made on 5/3/2012)

Perry County Lake: 72 degrees, clear; crappie fair on jigs; black bass fair on spinnerbaits; redear sunfish good on crickets; all other species slow. (Report made on 5/3/2012)

Robert DeLaney Lake: 74 degrees, normal, bluegill fair on crickets close to the bank; crappie fair on jigs and minnows; all other species slow. (Report made on 5/3/2012)

Wappapello Lake: 70 degrees, low, crappie good on minnows and jigs; channel catfish good on trotlines and jug lines using live bait at night; black bass fair on crankbaits and plastic worms; bluegill fair on crickets and worms; all other species slow. Anglers should note the 9" minimum length limit regulation for crappie on Wappapello Lake. Call the Wappapello Lake Recreation Hotline for updates at 573-222-8139. (Report made on 5/3/2012)

RIVERS

Black River (above Clearwater Lake): 71 degrees, low, clear; smallmouth bass (catch and release only) and goggle-eye good on tube baits and live minnows; all other species slow. (Report made on 5/3/2012)

Black River (below Clearwater Lake): 71 degrees, normal, dingy; channel catfish good on live bait and stinkbait; crappie fair on jigs and minnows; black bass good on jigs and minnows (season closed, catch and release only until May 26th); white bass fair on jigs;

all other species slow. (Report made on 5/3/2012)

Castor River (above Zalma): normal, clear; all species slow. (Report made on 5/2/2012)

Mississippi River (middle): rising, muddy; channel catfish and blue catfish fair on worms; all other species slow. (Report made on 5/2/2012)

Mississippi River (Ohio River to Arkansas): normal, muddy; channel catfish fair on beef liver and worms; all other species slow. (Report made on 5/2/2012)

St. Francis River (above Wappapello): normal, dingy; channel catfish good on live bait; black bass (season closed until May 26th) good on minnows and jigs; redear sunfish good on crickets; all other species fair. (Report made on 5/2/2012)

St. Francis River (below Wappapello): 70 degrees, normal, muddy; channel catfish fair on nightcrawlers; all other species slow. (Report made on 5/2/2012)

Photo Above: SMT reader Joe Foster of Essex was proud of his catch during a recent fishing trip. (Photo submitted by Joe Foster - Thanks, Joe!)

Anglers are invited to send pictures of their catch to the ShowMe Times - simply email a photo to SMT Sports Editor Andrew Cato, including your name, where the fish was caught, the species of the fish, and - if you care to share - what bait you were using!

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Bearcat Netters Defeat Sikeston 8-1

MAY 02ND 2012 BY UNKNOWN

Bearcat Netters Defeat Sikeston 8-1

By Andrew Cato, ShowMe Times Sports Editor

SIKESTON - The tennis 'Cats had a dominating performance against the Sikeston Bulldogs on Tuesday afternoon in their third match of the season.

In the Varsity-only contest, the Bearcats picked up an 8-1 win, including two shutouts in the singles division by Kyle Willis and Jacob Robinson.

Sam Ward lost a 7-9 tiebreak match against Brandon Goodwin in the closest contest of the day; Tyler Miller won 8-2 over Josiah Bill. In doubles, Ward and Miller won 8-5 over Bill and Goodwin.

Freshman Noah Kronk picked up an 8-4 singles win over Sydney Gadberry; he and Robinson won their doubles match against Adam Smith and Gadberry with an 8-1 final score.

The Bearcats will be back on their home court Friday (May 4) when they host the Poplar Bluff Mules in their final regular season match.

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

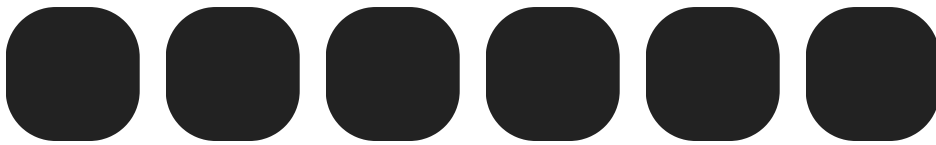
Photo Above: Tyler Miller returns a shot during his 8-2 singles win against Josiah Bill.

/images/Sports/2012/Tennis/20120501_MT_Sikeston_Results.jpg

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Lady 'Cats Fall To Twin Rivers

MAY 02ND 2012 BY UNKNOWN

Lady 'Cats Fall To Twin Rivers


By Andrew Cato, ShowMe Times Sports Editor

The Lady Bearcats closed their season by playing host to the Twin Rivers Lady Royals on Tuesday afternoon; the Royals capitalized on every mistake the 'Cats made, and rallied for a 13-2 victory in five innings.

Becky Anderson took the start and the loss for the 'Cats; the senior threw all five innings and gave up six earned runs on eight hits, with five walks and three strikeouts.

A loss is never a desirable way to end a season, but head coach Leonard Morse was proud of his young squad's effort throughout his first season as head coach; the 'Cats, 12-8, ended the season with double digit wins for the first time in five years.

"We're a young team, and where we were on March 1 compared to where we are on May 1, it's night and day. We've progressed so far, and even though we got ten-runned tonight, we still showed that we can play with anybody on their schedule," Morse said, "especially after our game last night with Advance, taking a team that's only lost one game all season to extra innings."

"It was a great  season," Morse continued. "Considering we were 12-6 headed into our final two games against quality opponents, it was a heck of a season. Our girls are a lot better than what they were, and they've started to come together as a team and figure out what it means to play as a team. Hopefully we can carry that into next season."

The 'Cats were held scoreless until the bottom of the fifth inning, despite having a baserunner in scoring position in the second, third, and fourth innings. In the fourth, Riley Rickman was tagged out at home advancing on a single hit by Taylor Owens; the next at bat, Tiffany Watson was caught off third and picked off by Maci Shearer.

In the bottom of the fifth, Maddie Christian delivered a hot shot down the third base line for a leadoff single. Ashley Brown followed up with a double, and then Whitney Layton and Kendra Stevenson came through with back-to-back RBI singles. Rickman drove a single to center field to advance Stevenson to third, but the Lady 'Cats were unable to put together any more offense, ending the game after the fifth with a 13-2 loss.

Anderson and Layton were the only seniors on the squad this season, and Morse had nothing but good things to say about the pair.

"I couldn't have asked for two better seniors, especially with Becky moving in during her senior year and being new to the school. She fit in quickly, both on and off the field, and I have nothing but high praise for both of them," he said. "I had Whitney for all four years, and she's been a delight to have on the team. They lead wherever they are at - you can't ask for better seniors than that as a coach."

Photos Above:

Top: Whitney Layton had a solid day at the plate in her last game as a Lady Bearcat; the senior went 2-3 with an RBI.

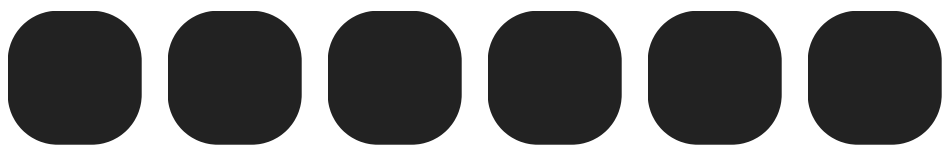
Bottom: Becky Anderson struck out three batters in her final game in a DHS uniform.

/images/Sports/2012/Softball/2012.5.1 - Twin Rivers/20120501_SB_TR_Stats.jpg

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Hornets Sting Lady 'Cats In Extra Innings

MAY 01ST 2012 BY UNKNOWN

Hornets Sting Lady 'Cats In Extra Innings

By Andrew Cato, ShowMe Times Sports Editor

Tiffany Watson was called safe at home in the bottom of the seventh inning to give the Lady Bearcats a 6-5 lead over the Advance Hornets.

After an appeal by Advance's head coach, and a conference with the second base umpire, the call was overturned. The game went to extra innings, where the Hornets plated two runs in the top of the eighth to seal a 7-5 victory.

It was the second time this season that the Hornets and Bearcats have met on the field; in their previous encounter, the Hornets pounded the Lady 'Cats in a 15-1 contest in the SCAA Tournament finals.

Becky Anderson took the start and the loss for the Lady 'Cats; the senior right-hander pitched all eight innings of the game, and gave up 11 hits, seven runs (five earned) with nine strikeouts.

Anderson worked out of a bases-loaded jam in the top of the first inning; Emily Triplett grounded into a fielder's choice to give the Lady 'Cats a 1-0 lead in the home half.

Neither team was able to score in the second inning, but the Hornets struck for two more runs in the third. Both teams saw a scoreless fourth inning.

The top of the fifth saw a leadoff home run from Advance's Kelsi Sturgeon; the Hornets put three runs on the board in the frame. Triplett and Taylor Owens put RBI singles on the board in the bottom half of the inning to bring the score to 5-3. Kendra Stevenson and Triplett belted back-to-back RBI singles in the bottom of the sixth to tie the game at 5-5.

Anderson retired the Hornets in order to start the seventh inning; Watson led off with a walk for the Lady 'Cats, and advanced to third on singles from Owens and Maddie Christian. Whitney Layton hit a hot shot down the third base line to drive Watson across home plate, but the call was reversed for the third out of the inning.

The Hornets struck for two runs in the top of the eighth inning, and the Lady 'Cats were retired in order to end the game with a 7-5 final score.

With the loss, the Lady 'Cats fall to 12-7 on the season; Dexter will close its season on Tuesday (May 1) afternoon with a 4:30 p.m. home game against Twin Rivers.

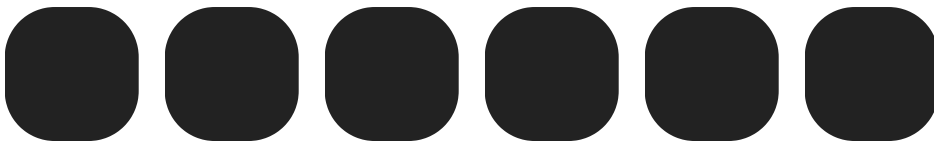
Photo Above: Emily Triplett had a solid day at the plate for the Lady 'Cats, going 3-5 with 3 RBI's (SMT file photo by Kay Stevenson).

/images/Sports/2012/Softball/20120430_SB_Advance_Results.jpg

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