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Lady 'Cats Season Opener at Bloomfield

MARCH 25TH 2014 BY DEE LOFLIN

Lady 'Cats Season Opener at Bloomfield

*Written by
Dee Loflin, SMT Manager/Editor*

Dexter, Missouri – The Dexter Bearcats Softball Team will take the field for the first time on Tuesday, March 25th in Bloomfield. Game time is 4:30 p.m.

“We are excited about the season,” stated Dexter softball coach Chris Bolin. “It is our first season to have a district. That changes the whole perplexity of the season. So we have been kind of preparing for that.”

Dexter will have three seniors, Kendra Stevenson, Ashley Brown, and Brittany Bryant along with two juniors, Diana Gilliam, and Dakota Silliman.

“I think offensively we will be a pretty solid team,” Bolin added. “Defensively, we have got a lot of young girls. I could potentially be starting three or four freshmen. Getting those girls game-ready will be an issue, but I think offensively we will be very good. The key right now is just trying to get pitching lined up.”

Riley Rickman, a key pitcher for the Lady Bearcats, was recently diagnosed with leukemia. She has spent the last month in the hospital undergoing treatment.

“Riley Rickman is a senior this year and was going to be a huge part of our team. It’s a hard void to fill because she was a phenomenal softball player that was probably going to pitch a majority of our games.”

Home opener will be on Thursday against Advance. Game time 4:30 p.m.

With all the crazy wintry weather the girls have not had a lot of outside practices, especially outdoors. “We’ve had about two weeks of practice,” Bolin continued. “We are trying to deal with the weather situation and get practices in.”

Dexter will compete against top competitors this year in the Stoddard County area. Teams such as Bloomfield, Bernie, Woodland, Bell City, Advance, and Puxico will compete in the SCAA Tournament in Puxico on April 21st and 22nd.

“The County is always competitive,” Bolin said. “Bernie won it last year and graduated two or three really good players, but they are returning a very good group. I think Advance will be a tough team to beat as well. They have a pitcher that is above average so they will be tough. I think it’s wide open and because all the county teams are involved in the District, it changes how we approach the county tournament.”

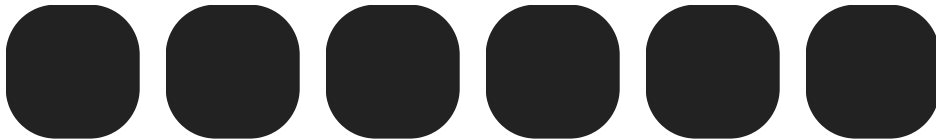
On April 5th, Dexter will host the Swing Pink Tournament, a local fundraiser for 18Forelife and others who have battled cancer locally. Sixteen teams are expected to compete.

“This is our third year doing it and I don’t know of all the tournaments that go on in the spring, but I am going to assume this is probably one of the largest tournaments in Southeast Missouri,” continued Bolin. “Everything we do goes to 18Forelife and the girls are always real excited.”

The 2014 Team Members are: McKenzie Anthony, Ashley Brown, Brittany Brown, Brittany Bryant, Kaylee Carey, Kirsten Durrow, Cidney Gathings, Diana Gilliam, Reagan Miller, Emily Mouser, Morgan Ross, Halley Sielert, Dakota Silliman, Olivia Sitzes, Amber Spence, Riley Rickman, Kendra Stevenson, and Alexis Tankersley. Asst. Coach Leonard Morse.

</images/Dexter High School 2013-14/Softball Schedule 2014.jpg>

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Dexter Lady 'Cats Make History


MARCH 24TH 2014 BY DEE LOFLIN

[Dexter Lady 'Cats Make History](#)

*Written by
Dee Loflin, SMT Manager/Editor*

Columbia, Missouri – The Lady’ Cats made history as they stepped on the court Saturday night to play in the biggest game of their high school career, the ShowMe Showdown Missouri State Class 4 Championship Game. Dexter drew first blood as Paige Patterson hit a bucket in the first minute of the game against the #2 ranked school in the country Incarnate Word.

Dexter varsity girls basketball program has had their best season in the school’s history and was only one win away of becoming the first state champions. The Dexter community is extremely proud of them and no matter what the final score they are winners in our hearts and memories forever. We love our Lady Bearcats!

“Overall, I am proud of our girls,” stated Dexter’s head coach Chad Allen.  “They fought hard all game long and we definitely gave Incarnate all they wanted. Last year we played scared and today we didn’t play scared. We got after them on both sides of the ball, both offensively and defensively.”

The Bearcats only lead in the game was in the first minute when they were up 2 – 0. Incarnate answered with a 13 point run, but Dexter answered back with three treys of their own. Alison Jarrell hit back-to-back 3-pointers to rally the Bearcats at the end of the first quarter. Hannah Noe answered with one as well. Incarnate Word lead by only 4 points going into the second period.

“I owe all the guards that play around me,” stated Alison Jarrell. “I can’t get the ball without them passing it and getting me good looks.” Jarrell hit a total of three treys for Dexter during the game.

Bearcat fans spent a lot of time on their feet cheering for the Lady ‘Cats. There were a few tense moments when a girl would fall or go sliding across the court for the ball. Both teams were very aggressive with getting the ball and getting down court to their respective goals. By half-time Dexter was only down by 8 points, it was still anyone’s game. The crowd gave the girls a standing ovation as they left the court at half-time.

“The first half I felt like we gave up a few too many offensive rebounds and the second half we missed a few shots we normally make,” continued Allen. “If we had done those two things it definitely would have been a lot closer and we would definitely made a good game out of it.”

Hannah Noe #10 tallied a team-high 16 points for the Lady Bearcats including three treys. She has had an awesome year being the first of four Lady ‘Cats to hit their 1,000th career point. She earned that prestigious honor against the Kennett Indians back in January of this year. As a senior, knowing it was her last high school game, emotions were high and at the end she showed her fellow teammates the true spirit of the game, giving hugs and shedding tears on the court.



Alison Jarrell #12 finished the game with a total of three 3-pointers totaling nine points. A senior and the second player of the four who earned their spot in the Dexter hall of fame hit her 1,000th career point against the Kennett Indians. The same game as Noe. She plans to attend Evangel University in Springfield, Missouri and play for the Lady

Crusaders Basketball Team.

Erika Cobb, also a senior, added 4 points to the board. She became the third Lady 'Cat to hit her 1,000th career point this year against the Jackson Indians. After graduation from high school, Erika will be joining the Three Rivers Lady Raiders in Poplar Bluff, Missouri.

"I didn't feel like we were scared at all," commented Erika. "We came out there and played as hard as we possible could."

Senior Paige Patterson #22 shot 50% from the floor and recorded 10 points. She too had an awesome year hitting her 1,000th career point during a District play-off game against the Kennett Indians. She also plans to attend Evangel University in Springfield, Missouri and play for the Lady Crusaders Basketball Team.

"Coming into this game I really thought it definitely helped being here last year," Allen said. "I thought our semifinal game was the best game we've played all year offensively and defensively. To get here to the championship game and get the monkey off our back of getting fourth place is huge. Our girls didn't play scared, got after it and I'm proud of them."

Dexter completes their season with an impressive 27 – 4 record. Hannah Noe, Alison Jarrell, Erika Cobb and Paige Patterson will graduate this year and they will be missed on the court. Good luck and we hope to watch your college games next season!! Once a Bearcat always a Bearcat!!!

As for the rest of the Lady 'Cats we will see you on the court next year for some great Bearcat Basketball!!! It's been an awesome year and we are so proud of each and every one of you. One Team One Dream says it all!!!

Final Score Incarnate Word 60 Dexter 43

Dexter 13 7 10 13 - 43

Incarnate Word 17 11 15 17 - 60

Dexter (43) - Hannah Noe 16, Paige Patterson 10, Alison Jarrell 9, Erika Cobb 4, MaKayla Waldner 2, Melanie McKuIn 2 FG 16, FT 5/6, F 16 (3-pointers: Alison Jarrell 3, Hannah Noe 3. Fouled Out: none)

Incarnate Word (60) - Napheesa Collier 33, Nakiah Bell 9, Abbey Huff 6, Gwen Adams 12 FG 22, FT 13/17, F 10 (3-pointers: Nakiah Bell 3. Fouled Out: none)

[/images/Dexter High School 2013-14/Chad Allen State 2.jpg](#)

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Lady 'Cats Continue Their Quest for State Title

MARCH 21ST 2014 BY DEE LOFLIN

[Lady 'Cats Continue Their Quest for State Title](#)

*Written by
Dee Loflin, SMT Manager/Editor*

Columbia, Missouri – One Team One Dream! The Lady ‘Cats made history today as they won their first Class 4 state semifinal game against the Benton Lady Cardinals by a score of 54 – 21. Saturday, they will again make history by being Dexter’s first varsity girls basketball team to play in a state championship.

The Bearcat had a nearly perfect game shooting 57% from the field. Offensively they executed well. They scored 17 points in each of the first two quarters. Defensively they could not have asked for a better show holding Benton to just 9 points in the first half.

“Overall, I thought defensively we played one of our best games of the year,” commented Dexter’s head coach Chad Allen during the after game interview. “Coming in tonight we knew we wanted to put a lot of pressure on them. They have a great point guard and a great shooter. I just thought we did a good job with our game plan trying to take those two away and put a lot of pressure on them”

Benton never lead during the game, the closest was early in the first quarter when Dexter lead 6 – 5. The Lady ‘Cats gave a tremendous effort hitting 21 of the 37 attempts making for some spectacular basketball.

“Today was one of the first days we executed all of our sets,” Allen stated. “We got a lot of good looks off of them. When you are hitting shots it makes you look a whole lot better.”

“It feels good to come out here after leaving last year with fourth knowing that we are one step closer to going home with a state title,” commented Hannah Noe at the after game interview. Noe, who earlier in the year hit her 1,000th career point, will graduate in May. She tallied the game-high 18 points including one trey. She shot 6 of 12 from the field and was 100% at the charity stripe hitting all 5 of her free throws.

Senior Paige Patterson #22, who also recorded her 1,000th career point, scored 16 points for the Bearcats.

</images/Dexter High School 2013-14/Semifinal Celebration 1.jpg>

Big 3-pointer Alison Jarrell #12 hit three

trey's recording 9 points for the Bearcats. She is also a senior and recorded her 1,000th career point during regular season play.

The final senior on the team, Erika Cobb #15 who also scored 1,000 points of her career this year added seven more points and 8 rebounds to help the Lady 'Cats defeat the Cardinals.

Sophomores MaKayla Waldner and Melanie McKuin each added 2 points.

"We've definitely got some good offensive players," Allen said. "All seven players we throw out there can score."

When Coach Allen put in his freshman and junior varsity squad and brought the four seniors and one sophomore off the court, they received a standing ovation from the crowd. They knew then that they were about to be in the state title game and couldn't be more excited!

Final Score Dexter 54 Benton 21

Dexter 17 17 13 12 - 54

Benton 5 4 9 3 - 21

Dexter (54) - Hannah Noe 18, Alison Jarrell 9, Erika Cobb 7, Paige Patterson 16, MaKayla Waldner 2, Melanie McKuin 2. FG 21, FT 4/7, F 14. (3-pointers: Hanna Noe 1, Alison Jarrell 3. Fouled Out: none)

Benton (21) - Mallory McAndrews 3, Daejah Bernard 5, Elizabeth Mollett 4, Morgan Domann 9. FG 7, FT 6/10, F 10. (3-pointers: Mallory McAndrews 1. Fouled Out: none)

Dexter will play Incarnate Word for the Class 4 State Title on Saturday at 6:20 p.m. in the Mizzou Arena in Columbia, Missouri. Incarnate Word is the defending state champion with a record of 29 – 1 this season.

This will be the first time in Dexter Senior High School history that the girls basketball team has earned a place in the state title game.

"It feels good to get the monkey off our back," Allen commented. "It's great getting to this game, but we are not satisfied. Last year we were just in awe of Incarnate. This year we know we can play with them. We will definitely look at some film tonight and get prepared for them. We've got a short time to prepare for them, but we'll give them all that we can."

“They are a really good team,” commented Paige Patterson. “We were scared of them last year. I was scared of them, but this year we are going to come out and play to beat them.”

Incarnate Word can be beat.

Dexter can stop them!

Our ‘Cats are strong and have more heart than any other team out on that floor!!

We will be victorious!

We are winners!

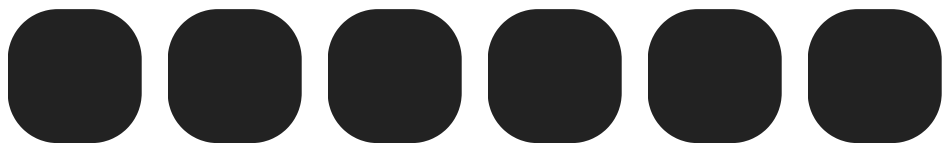
We will make history!

Let’s Go Bearcats!!!

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The Road to the Final Four - Living the Dream

MARCH 19TH 2014 BY DEE LOFLIN

The Road to the Final Four - Living the Dream

*Written by
Dee Loflin, SMT Manager/Editor*

Dexter, Missouri – The Lady 'Cats have earned another trip to the Final Four. Who stands in their way of becoming the #1 Class 4 Girls Basketball Team in the State of Missouri? Some of the usual suspects: Incarnate Word Academy, Marshfield High School and the Benton Lady Cardinals.

First the 'Cats have to beat Benton on Friday. The Lady Cardinals are a public school out of St. Joseph, Missouri with a record of 21 – 8. They have won a state title and are ready to earn another one. Game time 2:30 p.m. on Friday, March 21st.

Incarnate Word and Marshfield will battle it out at 4:15 p.m. Marshfield's record is 25 – 5. Incarnate Word ranked #2 in the country is 29-1 and the 2013 State Champions. They can be beaten. They have been beaten.

They don't have four 1,000 career point players on their team. Can you name one team in the state of Missouri that has had FOUR seniors score 1,000 career points, all to reach their goal in their senior year?

Hannah Noe, Erika Cobb, Alison Jarrell, and Paige Patterson have accomplished something no other high school has ever done, at least to our knowledge. Now that's a story in itself to remember forever. What these girls will take away from basketball is more than just winning, but a state championship win would be icing on the cake to add to all of their personal accomplishments on and off the court.

These young ladies will have to play better than they have ever played before. They will have to play smart, get the rebounds, block key shots, dive for loose balls and play well defensively.

The offense will have to make the right plays at the right times. Dribble well, don't give up the ball, shoot and score. If they execute each of these actions then they will have played the best game possible.

The Lady Bearcats may not be the biggest, fastest, strongest team, but they have heart. Their fans have seen it. They have shown it to their coaches and their teammates. **THEY ARE LIVING THE DREAM!!**

When YOU take the court on Friday, you've got to lay that heart on the line. From the soles of your feet to the tops of your ponytails put it all on the court.

YOU cannot lose.

YOU cannot be defeated.

Believe that!

No matter what the scoreboard reads at the end of the game,

YOU are winners!

This is what YOU have lived for!

This is your opportunity to rise and be heard!

We believe in YOU!

We support YOU 100%

We bleed red and black.

We are a Bearcat Nation!

Go Bearcats!

The Lady 'Cats will leave Dexter around 10:00 a.m. from the high school and will drive through each of the other schools as students, teachers, and staff cheer for their favorite Bearcats! If you would like to participate in the parade, be at the pond on One Mile Road and wave to the girls as they travel to the biggest game of their high school careers!

It's the Final Four for the four seniors!

It's your year!!

ONE TEAM ONE DREAM!!

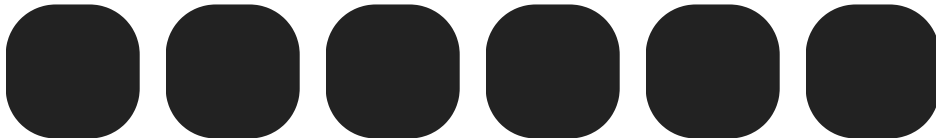
Now go live the DREAM!

Championship game will be played at 6:30 p.m. on Saturday, March 22nd in Columbia. You can watch both games on Dexter's channel 21 YHCTV or view it on your computer in a livestream at yhctv.com. The ShowMe Times will be on the sidelines in the Mizzou Arena updating via Facebook and Twitter.

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2014 Dexter Bearcat Baseball Schedule

MARCH 19TH 2014 BY DEE LOFLIN

*Written by
Dee Loflin, SMT Manager/Editor*

Dexter, Missouri – Spring Sports Media Day was held this week with upcoming seasons for baseball, softball, track, golf and boys tennis for the Dexter Bearcats. With basketball season almost over, spring sports will begin next week.

Eleven players will be returning this year to play baseball. Members of the 2014 Dexter High School Baseball Team are Nick Noble, D.J. Dowdy, Nathan Sadler, Cody Neldon, Wyatt Kiger, Jason Mattison, Jacob Murdock, Austin Aldridge, Chandler Young, Riley Mason, Peyton Pollock, Ryan Mayo, Garrett Keathley, Alex Rudd, Dalton Manuel, Blake Horton, Jordan Wood, Tyler Heil, Jacob Pedigo, Randall Allen, Colton Averett, Jason Jarrell, Cody Pullum, and Hunter Parrott.

“We struggled at the plate quite a bit last year, but hopefully we can turn it around this year,” commented head baseball coach Brian Becker. “We have some good ball players coming back. D.J. Dowdy #15 has adjusted his swing and worked on his hitting. He kind of retooled his swing a bit too. His whole career he has been a grip the bat as tight as you can and see how hard you can swing type of guy, but this year I think we’ve talked him down a little. He knows in order to get on base he’s got to make contact with the ball. He will be behind the plate catching for us and has played all four years and I believe he is going to have a great season.”

Senior Nick Noble #4 is returning this year as pitcher. “Nick threw some for us last year and I look for him to do a good job for us,” Becker stated.

Another returning player is senior Cody Neldon. He sat out quite a bit last year with a knee injury. “Cody is the only kid that batted over .300 for us last year that is returning,” Coach Becker said. “I look for Cody to have a good year once he gets released from the doctor.”

Shown in the photo below are the 2014 Seniors: Nick Noble #4, D.J. Dowdy #15, Nathan Sadler #12, Cody Neldon #6, and Wyatt Kiger #21.

</images/Dexter High School 2013-14/DHS Baseball Seniors 2014.jpg>

Dexter will face Poplar Bluff, Kennett, Sikeston, Notre Dame, Cape Central, New Madrid County Central, and Jackson in the SEMO Conference. “The SEMO Conference is going to be tough as usual,” commented Coach Becker. “I went to the SEMO Conference coaches meeting the other day and the talk around those coaches was this could be the best pitching staff top to bottom in the SEMO Conference that we have ever had.”

Dexter competed in their first baseball jamboree last Saturday at the Kennett High School. “It was a beautiful day for baseball and so far this spring there haven’t been very many of those type days,” Becker said. “It was great that our pitchers got to throw on a dirt mound and our players faced live pitching for the first time this season. Overall, I thought our approach at the plate was good.”

The Dexter Bearcats will face Class 4, District 1 competitors such as Fredericktown, Notre Dame, Sikeston, Perryville, and Kennett.

With the Lady ‘Cats Final Four appearance, the Dexter High School has cancelled the first game of the season for Friday evening against Doniphan; therefore Dexter will have their home opener against Malden on Tuesday, March 25th at 4 p.m.

Below is the 2014 Bearcat Baseball Varsity Schedule. We wish the baseball good luck in their season and we will see you on the field! Go Bearcats!

</images/Dexter High School 2013-14/DHS Baseball Schedule.jpg>

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