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Spring Softball Play-offs Begin on Monday

APRIL 27TH 2014 BY DEE LOFLIN

Spring Softball Play-offs Begin on Monday

Written by

Dee Loflin, SMT Manager/Editor

Dexter, Missouri – This will be the first time in Missouri history that the Missouri High School Activities Association (MHSAA) has ever held a spring softball state tournament. So we are about to make history in Southeast Missouri with Bernie, Bloomfield and Dexter all competing in the Class 1, District 4 play-offs!

“We are very excited about getting to participate in districts this year,” commented Dexter softball coach Chris Bolin. “Having spring districts makes our season a lot more meaningful as well as competitive. I know the girls are excited about the opportunity to compete in a district tournament.”

The Lady Bearcats softball team is ranked as the #1 seed in Class 1, District 4 play-offs hosted by Bernie.

The Bernie Lady Mules seeded #2 and the Bloomfield Lady Wildcats seeded #3 will play in the semifinals at 3:00 p.m. on Monday, May 28th. The winner of this game will play Dexter at 5:00 p.m. for the championship in Bernie.

State sectionals will be held on Monday, May 5th with the winner of District 4 hosting the winner of District 3.

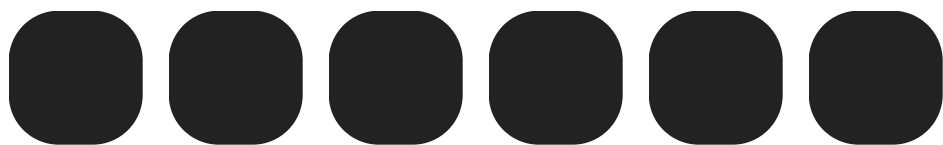
State quarterfinals will be held on Thursday, May 8th. Three Rivers College in Poplar Bluff, Missouri will host the state semifinal game on Friday, May 16th with the championship game scheduled for May 17th at 1 p.m.

</images/2014 Images/Class 1 District 4 Softball.jpg>

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Tim Fox Signs to Play Baseball With the Cardinals

APRIL 27TH 2014 BY DEE LOFLIN

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Written by
Dee Loflin, SMT Manager/Editor

Bloomfield, Missouri - High School senior Tim Fox has signed to play baseball for Mineral Area Community College in Park Hills, Missouri and will play second base as a Cardinal.

"I am just happy to get to play at the collegiate level," commented Fox. "I've always wanted to play baseball and I am just happy to get the opportunity."

Tim Fox batted .441, led the team in runs, doubles, walks, and stolen bases last year. Also, last year he was named second team all-state as well as 1st team all-district. He also made the SCAA all- tournament team his freshman year as well as his junior year.

"Obviously he has been a very good high school player," commented Mineral Area assistant baseball coach Mike Overman. I like his tools. He has a strong arm. Swings very well. Very versatile. This year we are returning only one infielder. We are sophomore heavy this year and being a two year college we have a pretty intense fall schedule. We have pretty good competition. We count on Freshman to make an impact for us in the fall. Because we are a two year college we definitely need guys to jump in and make an impact."

When asked why he chose Mineral Area College, "I like Mineral Area, it's close to home and affordable. I like the coaching staff and I know a lot of guys on the team. I visited Mineral Area and the comfort level is good and the community is great. I know a few of the players that are coming in and they seem like nice guys."

The Bloomfield Wildcats last regular season home game will be on May 13th against Bell City. Game time 4:30 p.m. They will begin play-offs in the Class 2, District 3 games on May 26th.

"Tim has given a lot to our program over the last four years," Bloomfield coach Tyler Trover stated. "His hard work and dedication has set a great example for the underclassmen to come. He deserves this opportunity, and I know that if he will continue to work hard and remember what got him to this point, he will have a successful college career."

Sitting Kimberly Fox, Tim Fox, Bill Fox. Standing are Bloomfield athletic director Coach Jason Karnes, Bloomfield baseball coach Tyler Trover and Mineral Area Community College assistant coach Mike Overman.

Tim plans to major in Business Management. We wish Tim the best in his future

endeavors!

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D.J. Dowdy Signs to Play Football

APRIL 25TH 2014 BY DEE LOFLIN

[D.J. Dowdy Signs to Play Football](#)

Written by
Dee Loflin, SMT Manager/Editor

Dexter, Missouri – Senior D.J. Dowdy will wear a Bearcat uniform again next year, but not for Dexter and he will change his colors from red/black to purple/white. He has signed to play football at Southwest Baptist University in Bolivar, Missouri. On Wednesday a signing ceremony was held at the Bearcat

Event Center in Dexter.

Shown in the photo are his parents Jim Dowdy and Carla Dowdy, D.J. sitting in the middle, Dexter assistant football coach Brian Becker, Dexter head football coach Justin Peden, and Dexter assistant football coach Brice Beck standing.

“D.J. is a great kid,” commented Dexter head football coach Justin Peden. “He worked real hard all summer and during the season. I am proud he will be able to go somewhere to get his education and get to play at the next level. If there is anyone that deserves it from this year’s team, it’s Dowdy.”

Dowdy was an outstanding offensive player this past season, catching 30 passes for 718 yards and had six touchdowns. He was also 30 for 57 for 277 yards and threw two touchdown passes as quarterback. D.J. was extremely versatile for the Bearcats playing both quarterback and starting wide receiver. He also competed for Dexter in basketball and baseball.

“Being able to play more than one position is always good,” stated Peden. “He will be able to do whatever the coaches want him to do, offensively or defensively. Being versatile is a good thing and will help him showcase his skills.”

Early this school year at the Fall Sports Banquet, D.J. earned the Most Valuable Back award and the Most Valuable Player of the Year award for football.

Dowdy plans to major in physical education and he said that Coach Peden really helped him embrace football as his chosen sport, though he enjoys both basketball and baseball.

“Growing up baseball was my favorite sport,” commented Dowdy. “After this year I kind of fell in love with football more. After the season was over, I decided I wanted to play football on the college level.”

Southwest Baptist University is an exception four-year college offering a great athletic program. They currently compete in the NCAA Division II Mid-America Intercollegiate Athletics Association. SBU is committed to being Christ-centered in every facet of the university life and students are free to express Christian faith and values in the classroom.

Peden went on to say, “This is an amazing time in this young man’s life. I just feel blessed to have played a part in D.J.’s development and can’t wait to see what the future holds for him. He will accomplish great things at Southwest

Baptist.”

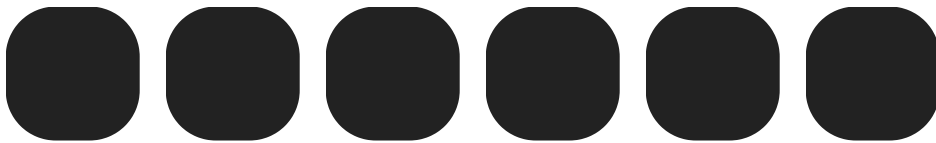
SBU’s first game will be against William Jewell College in Liberty, Missouri on September 4, 2014. For a 2014 Football Schedule click **HERE**.

Congratulations D.J.! The Dexter community is extremely proud of your accomplishments and we look forward to seeing you in a Bearcat uniform next year. On behalf of the ShowMe Times it has been a pleasure to watch you play during your high school career. Good luck with your future endeavors and we'll see you on the field!!

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Bernie Mules Win 2014 SCAA Baseball Tournament

APRIL 25TH 2014 BY DEE LOFLIN

[Bernie Mules Win 2014 SCAA Baseball Tournament](#)

Written by

Bernie, Missouri – The Bernie Mules earned back-to-back SCAA conference baseball tournament wins shutting out the Bloomfield Wildcats.

Top-seeded Bernie had little trouble defeated the Wildcats earning 5 runs in the first inning and 4 runs in the second inning earning them a 9-0 lead early in the game.

“I thought it was big we got out of the first inning,” commented head baseball coach Darrin Shipman. “They had a couple runners on and we held them scoreless. Getting five in the bottom of the first really took the pressure off of us.

I thought B.J. Jennings did a good job keeping the ball down and we played great defense behind him.”

Devin Trammell collected four RBIs, a team-high. Austin Beck and Devin Trammell each hit a home run.

B.J. Jennings got the win. "It feels great to win this tournament," stated Jennings who is a senior. "I just did my best for the team and put the ball out there and they were great helping me get the outs when we needed them."

Winning this tournament was a top priority of Coach Shipman. “I told the kids we have a good tournament in Malden, but this is more important to me to win the conference tournament just because this is our conference year-in and year-out.”

Bernie 12-3 on the season has won their last ten games. The Mules will host Portageville on Monday, April 28th. Game time 4:00 p.m. They will then travel to Memphis, Tennessee to play Holcomb at the Redbirds Stadium.

The Bloomfield Wildcats 11-5 will be back in action on Saturday when they travel to Malden to take on the Greenway at 11:00 a.m. and East Carter County at 1:00 p.m.

Final score Bernie 9 Bloomfield 0

Bloomfield 0 0 0 0 0 0 0 - 0 3 4

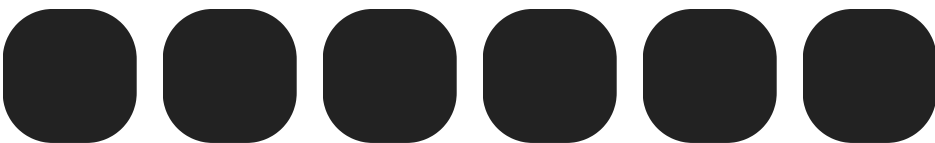
Bernie 5 4 0 0 0 0 X - 9 10 0

WP - B.J. Jennings. LP - Tim Hector. HR - Austin Beck (BE), Devin Trammell (BE). 2B - Justin Stanfield (BE). Multiple hits - Bernie: Josh Stevens 3-3, Brad Freed 2-4.

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Archery Tournament Was a Record-Breaker

APRIL 24TH 2014 BY DEE LOFLIN

Archery Tournament Was a Record-Breaker

Submitted by

Dee Loflin, SMT Manager/Editor

Missouri - The sixth Missouri National Archery in the Schools Program (MoNASP) tournament at Tan-Tar-A Resort March 28 and 29 turned into a record-fest in which the state record score fell and fell again, and again.

The tournament brought together nearly 1,267 contestants in grades 4 through 12 from 81 schools to test their skills with bow and arrow. Contestants use identical equipment to shoot 15 arrows at targets from 10 meters and another 15 from 15 meters. An arrow in the 3-inch bull's eye gets the shooter 10 points, so the maximum possible is 300 points.

Going into this year's tournament, the record stood at 294 points. Eighth-grader Joe Wilder, of St. Peters, edged that figure up to 295 on Friday afternoon. The following morning, Hunter Berry, a 12th-grader from Sarcoxie, nudged it up another notch to 296. But Lee's Summit High School Freshman Shelby Winslow had the last word when she raised the bar to 297 points.

"That's just two points short of the world record," says Missouri Department of Conservation Education Outreach Coordinator Eric Edwards, who coordinates MoNASP. "She had shot that score before in local tournaments, so a lot of people knew she was capable of doing it. Sustaining the necessary focus at a big, state-wide event can be difficult, but she pulled it off."

Focus is essential to success in archery. It also takes discipline to follow the steps in drawing and aiming a bow with proper form. These are skills that anyone can develop. They also are fundamental to academic success.

“Teachers are our best spokesmen,” says Edwards. “They tell absolutely remarkable stories about students who struggled with classwork and behavior problems until they got into NASP. The kids get excited about archery, and since participation in the program depends on good behavior in the classroom, their behavior improves. When shooting, they learn how to focus their attention and apply a process to a challenging task. The next thing you know, their grades improve, and seeing their accomplishments in higher shooting scores and better grades boosts their self-esteem. It’s no wonder teachers love NASP.”

MoNASP participation grew at an amazing rate early in the program’s history, and continues to accelerate. Edwards estimates the number of shooters and spectators at this year’s state tournament at more than 10,000. The Osage Beach Police Department had to be called in to direct traffic.

Asked what is behind this remarkable growth, Edward says, “Kids say it’s just fun. They enjoy spending time with their friends and shooting with them. They like the fact that they all use the same equipment, so kids of all sizes and shapes have an equal chance and can succeed. It’s great for spectators, too. You aren’t 100 yards away from the action. You are right there.”

Scores at the state tournament also are on the rise. Edwards says he thinks this is because students who joined the program while in grade school now have years of experience and practice under their belts. Winslow is an example. She has been part of the program since 4th grade. With another three years of practice, a MoNASP shooter could post a perfect score of 300.

“I am so impressed with the scores this year” says Edwards. “Each year the scores just get better and better. Kids from Missouri should have a very strong chance at making the podium at the national tournament in May.”

Missouri will send 500 shooters to the national NASP tournament May 9 and 10 in Louisville, Ky., where they will compete against 10,000 other shooters.

MoNASP is an affiliate of the National Archery in the Schools Program. It is coordinated by the Conservation Department and the Conservation Federation of Missouri in partnership with more than 300 participating schools and numerous

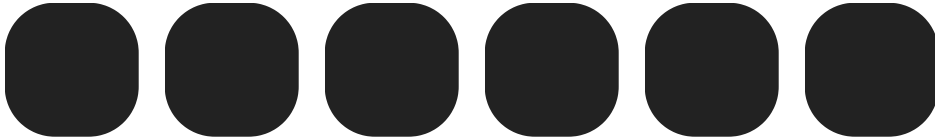
state and local supporting organizations.

Sarcoxie R-II High School, whose MoNASP program got started just two years ago, won its team division for the second year in a row. George Guffey Elementary School in Fenton has dominated the team competition, winning first place all six years Missouri has held a state tournament.

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