#### **Sports**

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## Bernie Mules to Begin Season at Campbell Invitational Boys Basketball Tournament

NOVEMBER 28TH 2016 BY DEE LOFLIN

Bernie Mules to Begin Season at Campbell Invitational Boys Basketball Tournament

**Campbell, Missouri -** The seeds are set for the highly anticipated Campbell Invitational varsity boys basketball tournament with seven teams participating. Bernie received the #1 seed and will have a first round bye.

The tournament will be begin Monday, November 28th at Campbell High School.

Risco earned the #2 seed and will play #7 seeded Holcomb at 6 p.m. on Monday, November 28th.

No. 3 seeded Twin Rivers will take on the No. 6 seeded Campbell at 7:30 p.m. also on Monday, November 28th.

On Tuesday, November 29th the No. 4 seeded Neelyville will play #5 seeded Puxico at 7:30 p.m.

Bernie will play the winner of the Neelyville/Puxico game on Thursday, December 1st at 6:30 p.m.

The other semifinal game is slated for 8:00 p.m. on Thursday, December 1st with the Championship game set for Friday, December 2nd at 8:00 p.m.

The losers of first round matches will play in a consolation round robin with the loser of the Risco/Holcomb game and the Twin Rivers/Campbell game to be played on Tuesday,

November 29th at 6:00 p.m. The loser of the Risco/Holcomb and Neelyville/Puxico game is slated for a game on Thursday, December 1st at 5:00 p.m. The loser of the Twin Rivers/Campbell game and Neelyville/Puxico game will play Friday, December 2nd at 5:00 p.m.

The third place game is scheduled fro Friday, December 2nd at 6:30 p.m.

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# Bernie Varsity Mules Basketball Team Prepared for an Exciting Year

NOVEMBER 28TH 2016 BY DEE LOFLIN

Bernie Varsity Mules Basketball Team Prepared for an Exciting Year

**Bernie, Missouri -** The 2016 - 2017 Bernie Basketball season is about to get exciting with the Campbell Tournament beginning Monday, November 28th. The Bernie Mules have the #1 seed and have a bye on Monday.

Coach Brad Botsch has had the team adding strength in the off-season in the weight room. Their bench should be much deeper than in recent years as well.

Assistant Coaches are Jason Long and Marcus Massey.

Jayce Burk, Alex Guzman, Riley Wells, and Weston Comstock are the seniors representing the Bernie Mules.

Juniors are Michael Suiter, Weston Comstock, Nate Dillinger, Gavin brown and Dalton Hobgood. Two sophomores, Josh Ellenburg and Hunter Slavings finish out the make-up of the varsity team.

At least six members of the varsity team are listed at 6' or taller. Riley Wells tops the list at 6'7", Michael Suiter at 6'4" and Nate Dillinger at 6'3". Josh Ellenburg, Gavin Brrown and Dalton Hobgood are all listed at 6 foot.

2016 - 2017 Bernie Varsity Boys Basketball Schedule

November 28th - December 2nd Campbell Invitational Tournament

Tuesday, December 6th South Iron (Home) JV will start at 5:00 p.m., V to follow

Friday, December 9th @ Gideon 6:00 p.m.

Tuesday, December 13th @ Woodland 6:00 p.m.

Friday, December 16th @ Bell City 6:00 p.m.

Tuesday, December 20th vs Neelyville (H) 6 pm

December 26th, 27th, 28th and 29th Bloomfield Christmas Tournament (TBA)

Tuesday January 3rd @ Oran 6:00 p.m.

Friday, January 6th @ Advance 6:00 p.m.

Tuesday, January 10th vs Notre Dame (H) 6 pm

Friday, January 13th vs Dexter (H) 6 pm

Tuesday, January 17th vs Bloomfield (H) 6 pm

January 23rd, - 27th SCAA Tournament @ Bloomfield (TBA)

Tuesday, January 31st vs Twin Rivers (H) 6 pm

Friday, February 3rd vs Holcomb (H) 6 pm

Tuesday, February 7th @ Hayti 6:00 p.m.

Friday, February 10th vs Malden (H) 6 pm

Tuesday, February 14th @ Richland 6:00 p.m.

February 18th - 24th Class 2, District 1 Tournament (TBA)

Pictured Front Row left to right: #15 Wyatt Barnett, #22 Hunter Slavings, #12 Weston Comstock, #3 Alex Guzman, and #2 Jayce Burk.

Back Row left to right: #42 Gavin Brown, #23 Nate Dillinger, #35 Riley Wells, #11

Michael Suiter, #20 Josh Ellenburg, and #44 Dalton Hobgood

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## SEMO Conference H.S. Boys Basketball Seeds Released

NOVEMBER 26TH 2016 BY DEE LOFLIN

SEMO Conference H.S. Boys Basketball Seeds Released

<u>Sikeston, Missouri -</u> The SEMO Conference boys basketball seeds have been set! The Sikeston Bulldogs were chosed as this year's top seed in the nine-team tournament to be held at the Sikeston Field House December 5th - 9th.

The Poplar Bluff Mules received the #2 seed followed by #3 Jackson, #4 Charleston, #5 Cape Central, #6 Notre Dame, #7 Kennett, #8 Dexter, and #9 New Madrid County Central.

The Dexter Bearcats will face New Madrid County Central in a "play-in" game on Monday, December 5th at 5:30 p.m. Sikeston will then play the winner of that game at 7:00 p.m. on Tuesday, December 6th.

Jackson will face Notre Dame on December 5th at 7:00 p.m. followed by Poplar Bluff and Kennett at 8:30 p.m.

Charleston will play Cape Central on Tuesday, December 6th at 5:30 p.m. The loser of the "play-in" game will play the loser of the Poplar Bluff-Kennett game on Tuesday, December 6th at 8:30 p.m. for an opportunity to remain in the SEMO Conference Tournament and play the loser of the Jackson/Notre Dame game in a consolation semifinal.

#### **Complete Schedule:**

Monday, December 5th

#8 Dexter vs #9 NMCC 5:30 p.m.

Quarterfinal #3 Jackson vs #6 Notre Dame 7:00 p.m.

Quarterfinal #2 Poplar Bluff vs #7 Kennett 8:30 p.m.

#### Tuesday, December 6th

Quarterfinal #4 Charleston vs #5 Cape Central 5:30 p.m.

Quarterfinal #1 Sikeston vs either Dexter or NMCC 7:00 p.m.

Consolation Quarterfinal Poplar Bluff/Kennett vs Dexter/NMCC 8:30 p.m.

Wednesday, December 7th

Consolation Semifinal 6:00 p.m.

Consolation Semifinal 7:30 p.m.

Friday, December 9th

Consolation 5:30 p.m.

Third Place 7:00 p.m.

Championship 8:30 p.m.

Shown in the photo above: #10 senior Jason Jarrell and #33 senior Ryan Mayo.

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## DHS Bearcats Strive to Push the Basketball Program Forward

NOVEMBER 26TH 2016 BY DEE LOFLIN

#### DHS Bearcats Strive to Push the Basketball Program Forward

**Dexter, Missouri -** The Dexter Bearcats Boys Basketball Team was successful last season. They finished second at the Bloomfield Christmas Tournament losing to Kennett in the Championship. They haven't been in that position in about five years. They were also able to go 500 in the SEMO Conference winning 4 games. They also won 15 games last season, all great accomplishments for the 'Cats.

"We are hoping to continue to push our program forward," stated Dexter head boys basketball coach Josh Dowdy. "There are quite a few guys that have laid the groundwork for our current group....Kronk, Pollock, Flowers, Heil, and Pedigo. If nothing else, we want those guys to know their hard work was noticed and we have a responsibility to keep pushing to improve."

Returning to the court this year are seniors Jason Jarrell, 6'0" guard and Ryan Mayo, 6'1" forward and 6'4" junior center Gabe jackson.

"Jason will again help us in many different roles. He is a three-year starter and will be expected to be a team leader for us this year," commented Dowdy. "Ryan was the first man off the bench last year and plays very hard. He has active hands and will provide a lot of energy for us this year."

"Gabe had a real nice sophomore season last year after he made some noise in the Bloomfield Christmas Tournament. We are expecting him to continue to be a focal point of our team."

There will also be a new face among the Bearcats. Clay Mullins moved in from East Carter County and will play the position of point guard. He is 6'1" junior forward wearing the number 24 jersey.

"Clay has joined our squad this year," continued Dowdy. "He will be running the point and also has the ability to put the ball in the hole. We are excited to have him on board."

Junior guards Ben Sindle, Kole Kelley, Chad Smith, and Alan Pippins will move up from the junior varsity team and add depth in the back court.

"All of these guys will assist in handling the ball and have the ability to score," stated Dowdy. "Dawson Kasting will also add some depth in the paint."

Sophomores Nate Gargas and Braxton Foster have also been promoted to the varsity team. Foster's three-pointer last year from mid-court in the last second boosted the Bearcats to a Junior Varsity SCAA victory over the Bernie Mules.

"We have some new pieces to put together after losing some key players off of our squad last year," Dowdy said of losing several. "As the season progresses, I feel that we have the ability to show some real growth once we learn how to play together. I am hoping to help put those pieces in place as soon as possible."

In the last few weeks they have been focused on defense and Dowdy said he had hoped to be further along than what they are, but that they will improve over the course of the season.

"The boys are trying to get better each day and are real coachable. We have some great kids on this team that exhibit high character on and off the court," continued Dowdy. "I am privileged to be able to work with them each day. I am confident this group will be able to turn the corner and realize the aching legs and long hours of practice will pay off!"

Playing for the Dexter Varsity Bearcats are #2 Kole Kelley, 5'9" junior guard; #10 Jason Jarrell, 6'0" senior guard; #12 Nate Gargas, 5'9" sophomore guard; #21 Alan Pippins, 5'9" junior forward; #22 Braxton Foster, 6'3" sophomore forward, #23, 5'9" junior guard; #24 Clay Mullins, 6'1" junior forward; #25 Dawson Kasting, 5'11" junior forward; #33 Ryan Mayo, 6'1" senior forward; #34 Chad Smith, 5'11" junior forward, and #35 Gabe Jackson, 6'4" junior center.

#### 2016 - 2017 Dexter Varsity Boys Basketball Schedule

6:00 p.m. Tuesday, November 29th vs Charleston at BEC

6:00 p.m. Friday, December 2nd @ Sikeston

December 5th - 9th SEMO Conference Tournament (TBA)

6:00 p.m. Tuesday, December 13th vs Jackson at BEC

6:00 p.m. Thursday, December 15th vs Richland at BEC

December 26th - 29th Bloomfield Christmas Tournament (TBA)

6:00 p.m. Friday, January 6th vs Woodland at BEC (Winter Homecoming)

6:00 p.m. Tuesday, January 10th vs Bloomfield at BEC

6:00 p.m. Friday, January 13th @ Bernie

6:00 p.m. Tuesday, January 17th vs Puxico at BEC

6:00 p.m. Friday, January 20th @ NMCC

TBA January 23rd - 27th SCAA Tournament

6:00 p.m. Friday, February 3rd @ Advance

6:00 p.m. Monday, February 6th @ Perryville

6:00 p.m. Tuesday, February 7th @ Bell City

6:00 p.m. Friday, February 10th vs Kennett at BEC (Senior Night)

6:00 p.m. Tuesday, February 14th @ Poplar Bluff

6:00 p.m. Tuesday, February 21st @ Notre Dame

6:00 p.m. Thursday, February 23rd @ Cape Central

February 25th - March 3rd Districts (TBA)

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## MDC Reports November Firearms Deer Harvest Ends with 185,000 Plus

NOVEMBER 26TH 2016 BY DEE LOFLIN

MDC Reports November Firearms Deer Harvest Ends with 185,000 Plus

#### Top harvest counties were Howell, Franklin, and Texas.

Missouri - Preliminary data from the Missouri Department of Conservation (MDC) shows that deer hunters in Missouri harvested 185,066 deer during the November portion of fall firearms deer season, Nov. 12-22. Of the 185,066 deer harvested, 95,383 were antlered bucks, 18,889 were button bucks, and 70,794 were does. Top harvest counties were Howell with 3,910 deer checked, Franklin with 3,738, and Texas with 3,562.

Last year, hunters checked 186,542 deer during the 2015 November portion of firearms deer season with 90,094 being antlered bucks, 20,911 being button bucks, and 75,537 being does.

MDC reported three firearms-related hunting incidents during the fall firearms November portion. Two of the three incidents involved self-inflicted firearm wounds and occurred in Barry and Camden counties. The third involved one hunter in a party in Grundy County wounding another while shooting at a deer.

Deer hunting in Missouri continues with archery deer hunting from Nov. 23 through Jan.

15, firearms late youth portion Nov. 25-27, firearms antlerless portion Dec. 2-4, and firearms alternative methods portion Dec. 24 through Jan. 3.

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