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Snapping Turtles Begin Laying their Eggs in June

JUNE 06TH 2019 BY DEE LOFLIN

Snapping Turtles Begin Laying their Eggs in June

Snapping turtles begin laying their eggs in June. Though intimidating to people, snapping turtles play an important role in nature.

The Missouri Department of Conservation (MDC) says snapping turtles begin laying their eggs this month in sandy areas. Though many Missourians may be intimidated by their hard, spiny shells, large size and “snappy” demeanor, naturalists say these amphibians play an important role in nature and deserve to be left alone.

“These turtles help keep the populations of many aquatic plants and animals in check,” said Alex Holmes, a MDC naturalist. “Their nests are also preyed upon by hungry predators such as skunks, raccoons, and mink.”

Holmes said snapping turtles have earned a reputation for their strong jaws and ability to snap, but if people don’t try to handle them, they’re a beneficial wildlife species. They live in farm ponds, marshes, swamps, sloughs, rivers, and reservoirs — anywhere there is permanent water.

“Snappers prefer bodies of water with a mud bottom, abundant aquatic vegetation, and submerged logs,” Holmes said. “But now is the time females often travel over land during their egg-laying season and often are killed by cars.”

Female turtles are particular about where they lay and bury their eggs and might travel long distances to find a suitable location, Holmes said. Most female snappers select well-

drained, sandy or loose soil to deposit their eggs.

“Snapping turtles are careful to lay their eggs deep in the sand,” he said. “If you find snapping turtle eggs, simply cover them back up and let them be.”

Courtship and mating can take place between April and November, but mostly in late spring and early summer. June is the usual month for egg-laying, though two clutches may be laid per season. The female digs a nest in deep sand or loose soil and deposits usually 20–30 eggs. The eggs hatch 55–125 days later, depending on environmental conditions.

Holmes said snapping turtles aren’t detrimental to fish and wildlife as generally supposed, even though they do eat some small fishes, very young ducks, and goslings. Common snappers are basically lazy and are more apt to feed on slower moving, sick, less desirable fish. By doing this, they provide a valuable clean-up service by eating diseased or weakened fish and by devouring any dead or decaying fish or other animals.

Snapping turtles can be harvested, with some people preferring to eat the meat in a stew. However, anyone harvesting a snapping turtle should ensure it’s not an alligator snapping turtle. Alligator snapping turtles live only in the few natural aquatic habitats remaining in Missouri’s Bootheel. It’s the largest species of freshwater turtle in the world. The alligator snapping turtle is rare in our state due to habitat loss and illegal harvesting. There is no open season for the alligator snapping turtle.

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Class 2, District 3 All District Baseball Team Announced

JUNE 04TH 2019 BY DEE LOFLIN

Class 2, District 3 All District Baseball Team Announced

Class 2, District 3 All District Team has been announced for the Spring 2019 high school baseball season.

Advance had five players. Augustus Garner, Hunter Curtis, Ridley Bailey and Noah Saucedo each earned honors on the all district team.

Layton Keith of Advance received Honor Mention.

Here is the list of the 2019 Spring Baseball All District Team

Advance: Augustus Garner, Hunter Curtis, Ridley Bailey and Noah Saucedo

Bloomfield: Ethan Hutchison

Chaffee: Landon Tenkhoff, Breven Yarbrough, Brennan Fowler, Kade Sullivan, and Andrew Brown

Meadow Heights: Wyatt Lincoln and Kade Lindgren

Puxico: Kasen Barnfield

St. Vincent: John WibbenMeyer and Nick Lappe

Honorable Mention

Advance: Layton Keith

Bloomfield: Gage McNeil

Chaffee: Cole Dannenmueller

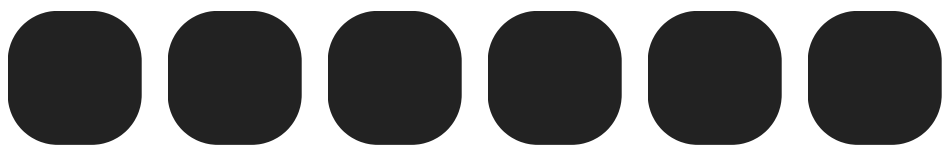
Puxico: Jordan Armstrong

St. Vincent: Garrett Dobbelare

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Two Bernie Lady Mules Named to the 2019 All-State Softball Team

JUNE 03RD 2019 BY DEE LOFLIN

[Two Bernie Lady Mules Named to the 2019 All-State Softball Team](#)

Missouri - The 2019 Spring Softball All-State Teams were announced for the 2019 Season. Alyson Marcum a junior and Bernie High School earned 1st Team recognition as a pitcher.

Marcum helped her team go 23 - 4 and win their District 3 championship.

She went 14-3 with one save. She also earned 0.814 ERA, 192 strikeouts and 21 walks in 103 + innings pitched.

Taylor Anthony was named a second-team catcher. She hit .453 with 14 doubles. She also had two home runs and 42 RBIs.

Here is the list of the teams:

Pitchers

Kaileigh Dirden Sr. Scott City

Sami Huck Fr. Potosi

Alyson Marcum Jr. Bernie

Aleah Paxton Sr. Lincoln

(T) Katelyn Kotlarz Jr. Mt. Vernon

(T) Ayden Shannon Fr. Wellington Napoleon

Catcher

Rylee Venable Sr. Scott City

Emily Shipman Jr. Forsyth

Bree Shannon Fr. Wellington Napoleon

Infielder

Kyra Jaco Fr. Kennett

Kennedy Coleman Jr. Potosi

Hayley Frank Sr. Strafford

Mallory Gazaway Sr. Liberal

Brooke Conner Sr. Sweet Springs

(T) Lauren Eagle Sr. Sweet Springs

(T) Abby Henson Sr. Pleasant Hope

Outfielder

Lyndsey Hood Sr. Mt. Vernon

Tommi Gardner Sr. Mtn. Grove

Katie Shuffler So. Malden

Madison Bolten So. Wellington Napoleon

Utility

Emma Eaton So. Potosi

Designated Player (DP)

Anell Harris Fr. Kennett

Spring All State

2019

2nd team

Pitcher

Kaitlin Garrett Sr. Plato

Lauren Schallert So. Purdy

Madi Bentley Fr. Diamond

Kylee Winfrey Sr. Sweet Springs

(T) Jaydin Lee Jr. Pleasant Hope

(T) Sydney Litton So. Potosi

Catcher

Taylor Anthony Jr. Bernie

Maleiah Parker Sr. La Monte

Ella Dougherty So Skyline

Infielder

Emerson Bates Jr. Wellington Napoleon

Kennady Keating Sr. Adrian

Kaylee Payne Jr. Oran

Jess Hulseby So. Park Hills Central

Danielle Cutbirth Fr. Crane

Michaela McChesney Sr. Mt. Vernon

Outfielder

Katie Robinson Sr. Crane

Lindey Oehrke Sr. La Monte

Ally Kelly Fr. Park Hills Central

Katelyn Stewart Sr. Pleasant Hope

Utility

Sydney Vaught Sr. Sweet Springs

Designated Player (DP)

(T) Rachel Essary So. Forsyth

(T) Haley Mackey Jr. Lincoln

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2019 SEMO Conference Baseball Team Announced, Two Dexter Players Earn Honorable Mention

MAY 23RD 2019 BY DEE LOFLIN

2019 SEMO Conference Baseball Team Announced, Two Dexter Players Earn Honorable Mention

2019 SEMO Conference Baseball Team was announced on Wednesday, May 22, 2019.

Senior catcher Ethan Kincy and senior infielder/pitcher Luke Thurston received honorable mention.

Pitcher of the Year was Notre Dame's Kam Dohogne.

Co-Players of the Year were Nate Self of Sikeston and Landon Hahn of Jackson.

Catchers: Hunter Hiatt of Cape Central; Nolan Self of Sikeston; and Gabe Hurley of Notre Dame.

Infielders: Landon Hahn of Jackson; Seth Spraggs of Jackson; Reese Robinett of Kennett; Justin Moses of Poplar Bluff; Luke Becker of Poplar Bluff; Nate Self of Sikeston; and Tyler Landewee of Notre Dame.

Outfielders: Seth Essner of Jackson; Kobe Gates of Kennett; Seth Tice of Kennett; Gabe York of New Madrid County Central; Jeff Thornbrough of Sikeston; and Brayden Eftink of Notre Dame.

Pitchers: Tanner Hecht of Jackson; Tyler Martin of Jackson; Payton Heinley of Kennett; Caedan Knepp of Cape Central; and Kam Dohogne of Notre Dame.

Honorable mention: Boone Gartman, Jackson; Tanner Duncan, Kennett; Noah Burkey, Poplar Bluff; Zach Moore, Cape Central; Gunner Crosnoe, Cape Central; Noah Hicks, Sikeston; Collin Dumey, Notre Dame; Carson Webb, Poplar Bluff; Brady Robertson, Poplar Bluff; Payton Howard, Sikeston; Gavin Bond, New Madrid County Central; Marshall Brown, Kennett; Bodey Ellis, Kennett; Carson Webb, Poplar Bluff; Sam Pierce, Poplar Bluff; Jonathon Thurman, Poplar Bluff; Tyler Gilmer, Sikeston; John Michael Stanley, New Madrid County Central; Tyler Harris, Jackson; Lance Kluesner, Jackson; Will Richardson, Jackson; Ben Jansen, Notre Dame; Layne Robinson, Notre Dame; Ethan Kincy, Dexter; and Luke Thurston, Dexter.

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Eight Bearcats Headed to State

MAY 23RD 2019 BY DEE LOFLIN

Eight Bearcats Headed to State

Eight Dexter Bearcats Track and Field athletes will compete in the Class 3 State Championship on Saturday, May 25, 2019 in Columbia, Missouri at the Mizzou Track and Field Complex. The meet was originally scheduled for Friday and Saturday in Jefferson City; however due to the tornado the event changed to a Saturday only event.

Austin Guy, Margo Nea and Seth Rogers as well as the 4x200 boys and 4x800 girls relay teams qualified for state at the Class 3 sectional meet at Hillsboro High School on Saturday.

Cole Barker, Austin Guy, Seth Rogers and Drew Soule broke their own school record in the 4xx200 meter relay to finish fourth in the sectional meet. The top four finishers qualify for state. they posted a time of 1:31.22, beating their old record of 1:32.89 which they set at the Sikeston bulldog Invitation on April 16, 2019.

Austin Guy finished third in the high jump at 6 feet and Seth Rogers placed fourth in the 100-meter with a time of 11.24 seconds.

Margo Nea placed second in both the 1600 and 800. Her time in the 1600 was 5:36.37 and the 800 was 2:30.33.

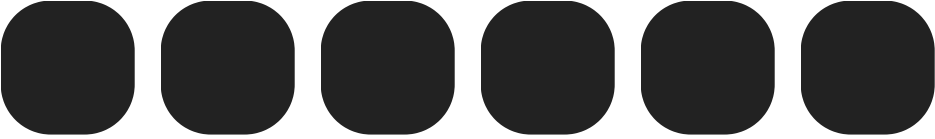
Gabbie Brown, Rachel Lin, Margo Nea, and Avery Neely finished third in the 4x800 with a time of 10:48.76.

Dexter placed 9th overall in the girls team standings. The boys finished 10th in team standings. Cardinal Ritter took first place in both the girls and boys team standings.

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