

# SPORTS B



Tena Edwards photo

Evan Jones hurdles the offensive line in an attempt to block a field goal in the Tigers' three point loss at Macon County Friday night.

## Tigers come up short

### Macon County prevails in tight contest

**DUANE SHERRILL**  
Editor Smithville Review  
Smithville, Tennessee

Playoff hopes now hinge on a showdown with Cumberland County in two weeks as the DeKalb County came up short on a rain-slick field in Lafayette Friday night, two key penalties contributing to their loss in the battle of Tigers, 20-17. The first half proved to be

a defensive stalemate as the teams traded punches early with DeKalb stopping Macon's first drive by recovering a John Mark Gammons fumble. The first mark on the scoreboard didn't come until the last 27 seconds of the first quarter when Macon place kicker Ryan Underwood split the uprights with a 33-yard field goal. His kick culminated a 14-play, 77-yard drive.

DeKalb would respond with an Andrew Fuson 33-yard field goal midway through the second quarter after a botched fake punt by Macon which gave the visitors the ball on the Macon 47. A 20-yard jaunt by running back David Bradford brought the ball into Fuson range. The successful boot made the count 3-3. Macon County would have the last say in the half;

however, as they drove the ball 54 yards, the drive culminating with a Gammons to Landon Whitmore eight-yard touchdown pass making the count 10-3 with 40 seconds left in the first half. DeKalb came painfully close to knotting the count at the half when Axel Aldino threw a Hail Mary as time ran out in the half, the prayer caught by Grayson Redmon. However, illegal procedure at the line of scrimmage erased the touchdown.

"Had the long touchdown pass right before half not been called back, who knows what would have happened," Coach Steve Trapp admitted. "Something like that can shift momentum in our favor." The DeKalb Tigers squandered a prime scoring opportunity after getting the opening kickoff of the third quarter when Aldino fumbled after his squad had penetrated to the Macon 10-yard line following a 10-play, 60-yard

drive that featured two major pass completions by Aldino, one to Redmon and one to Bradford. DeKalb would be able to hold Macon to three and out and get another shot at scoring, thanks to a 25-yard jaunt by Bradford. DeKalb pushed the ball to the 26 before the drive stalled after five plays. A Fuson field goal attempt would fall just short from 44 yards out.

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Duane Sherrill photo

Junior Tiger Nicholas Murphy bulldozes through a pack of Bulldogs Saturday during the Youth League Super Bowl in Monterey. The Tigers lost on a late touchdown pass, 21-6 to Fentress County.

## Stopped in Super Bowl

### Junior Tigers fall in championship game

**DUANE SHERRILL**  
Editor Smithville Review  
Smithville, Tennessee

The DeKalb County Junior Tigers were bitten by the Fentress County Bulldogs Saturday, their hopes for a youth league Super Bowl title dashed in the waning minutes of the youth league final in Monterey as they fell 12-6.

The junior league team seemed to have everything going its way early as quarterback Jaxen Sherrell hit tailback Ryan Lyons with a short pass at midfield on the third play of the game. Lyons was able to take the one-yard pass and turn it into a 50-yard touchdown run, giving the boys from Smithville a 6-0 lead barely 90 seconds into the game.

Things looked even better when the Bulldogs fumbled near midfield on their next possession. However, the Fentress County defense remained stout, as it did most of the afternoon, the large line not allowing the Tigers to take advantage of the turnover.

The Bulldogs took over during the second quarter of play, pushing the ball down the field on a 60-yard drive that culminated in a touchdown at the 6:13 mark of the quarter, making it 6-6 with the failed conversion.

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## Lady Tigers' season brought to a close

**DUANE SHERRILL**  
Editor Smithville Review  
Smithville, Tennessee

The season came to an end this past week for the DeKalb County High School Lady Tiger soccer squad as they were shown the door from the district tournament by top-seeded Cumberland County, 3-0.

Their loss in the semi-finals of the D6AA tournament came one day after the Lady Tigers eliminated district rival Upperman, 4-0 in the first round, play-in game in Smithville. DeKalb controlled the pace of the Upperman game from the opening kick with Sarah Starnes opening the scoring at the 18th minute with a blast in the far corner of the goal just past the outstretched arms of the Lady Bee goalie. The Lady Bees had already used up their good fortune by that point as four Lady Tiger shots

had bounced off the goal post before Starnes put her kick in the back of the net.

Anna Rachel Blair added another goal to the total before half, as continued pressure by the Lady Tigers resulted in her goal at the 39th minute.

Sophie Hackett made the score 3-0 in the 50th minute and Abby Parchman put the match out of reach in the 62nd minute with a goal.

The Lady Tigers finished with four wins, the exact number from last year, with their final record being 4-10-1 with a 1-3 district total. Their wins included two victories over Upperman along with wins over Cannon County and White County.

The squad said goodbye to seniors Robin Pafford, Anna Rachel Blair, Maria Trilles, Abby Parchman, Sophie Hackett, Sarah Starnes and Elvia Carillo Rivera.



Duane Sherrill photo

In a photo from behind the goalie, Anna Rachel Blair puts on the brakes and fires a shot on goal in the Lady Tiger 4-0 win over Upperman in the first round of the district tournament.