

WCMS names new soccer coaches

BY **JEFFERY SIMMONS**
Sports Editor for the Southern Standard
(McMinnville, Tennessee)

Success has been a staple for the Warren County Middle School soccer programs. Two new faces are hopeful they can continue to win championships.

Ario Zadeh and Lyndi Dodd have been named the new head coaches at WCMS, replacing Matt Jackson and Matt Walker after both departed as Central Tennessee Conference champions. Zadeh is taking over the boys program, which has won the last five CTC championships, while Dodd will lead the Lady Pioneers, who Walker led to multiple championships during his tenure.

“Our soccer teams have been very successful in the past,” said WCMS athletic director Betsy McBride, who presided over the coaching searches. “I feel confident our new coaches, Ario and Lyndi, will continue to teach the fundamentals of soccer. They have a desire for success.”

Zadeh’s passion was evident from the moment he was told he

had the job.

“I had a moment of crazy excitement. I didn’t want to show it at the moment because I felt I needed to be professional, but the excitement got the best of me,” Zadeh recalled after receiving the promotion. “I stuttered out a ‘Thank you’ and jumped up to shake hands and hug people.”

Zadeh, a fifth-grade teacher at Bobby Ray, has been an assistant for the Pioneers the last two seasons, but his soccer roots go deep. Zadeh, who graduated from Warren County High School in 1995, grew up playing soccer in the area. His father was a big part of helping establish Pistole Park, where Zadeh has served as a coach, referee and commissioner of youth soccer leagues. Zadeh also has coached recreation leagues in Chattanooga and Murfreesboro.

Dodd also has a long history with local soccer. From an early age, Dodd became a force in the net. The newest teacher at West Elementary

helped win championships at WCMS, then became a stalwart at keeper for coach Todd Willmore’s best teams at WCHS. Dodd was a three-time, all-district honoree and member of three runs to region in her high school career.

As a senior, Dodd had three shutouts in district play and allowed only eight goals in eight district games. Upon graduating, Dodd signed a scholarship to play at Tennessee Temple. Dodd would later transfer to play at Bryan College, where she received a degree in elementary education.

Dodd now is looking to shut down opposing opponents from the sideline, a job she’s thrilled to have.

“I’m very excited to have the opportunity to coach. I have always wanted to coach and now I get that chance. I am excited to be able to spread my love for soccer with other girls. I’m looking forward to the season,” said Dodd.

Continued on **2B**



File photo
Lyndi Dodd has accepted the WCMS girls soccer coaching job. Dodd was a three-time, all-district honoree as a keeper for the WCHS Lady Pioneers from 2011-13.



James Clark photo
Chris Sullens speaks to Tyree Ladet and Isaiah Grayson during Monday’s win over Rhea County. The Pioneers will travel to face Cookeville Saturday for a showdown between the two top teams in District 6-AAA.

District showdown moved to Saturday

BY **JEFFERY SIMMONS**
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Fans have to wait an extra day to see the matchup between the top two boys teams in District 6-AAA.

Friday’s games at Cookeville were moved to Saturday, when Warren County will make the trip up Highway 70.

Saturday’s schedule will be packed with action. Beginning at 3:30 p.m., the junior varsity Lady Pioneers will take the court to take on Cookeville. At the same time, the JV boys will face the Cavaliers in the school’s auxiliary gym. At 4:45 p.m., the freshman boys will face the Cookeville freshman boys in the auxiliary gym.

At the main gym, the Lady Pioneers (10-10 overall, 0-2 district) meet Cookeville

(11-10, 0-2) at 6 p.m. The Lady Pioneers are hoping to snap a four-game losing streak overall against the Lady Cavaliers, who have won six in a row over Warren County.

Saturday’s nightcap features the only two unbeaten teams in boys District 6-AAA competition. Warren County enters at 16-3 overall and 2-0 in district. The Pioneers have already beaten Stone Memorial on the road, followed by downing Rhea County at home 80-67 on Martin Luther King Day.

Cookeville is just as stout, currently possessing an 18-4 record and 2-0 mark in district. The Cavaliers, winners of their last 13 games, topped White County and Rhea County (63-45) already in district action.

Saturday’s pivotal boys games is set to start at 7:30 p.m.

Terry fuels Pioneers

BY **JEFFERY SIMMONS**
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Size doesn’t bother Treyton Terry. If anything, the sixth-grade Pioneer point guard relishes teams overlooking him.

It makes his complete demolition of opponents just a little bit sweeter.

Terry has been a highlight a minute for the WCMS Pioneers, who improved to 14-2 earlier this week with a 54-47 victory over Upperman in the state tournament. In the contest, Terry was simply unstoppable, scoring 31 points – 17 in the second half – to guide the Pioneers into a matchup with Bradley Academy, Murfreesboro’s top team, this Saturday at 4:30 p.m. at Middle Tennessee Christian School.

Few players Terry’s age have the confidence or swag-

ger the Pioneers’ floor general possesses. Terry possesses an NBA-infused game, fixed with equal parts of Steph Curry’s confidence to launch from anywhere on the court and James Harden’s craving for contact around the rim to get free throws. Mix in a Russell Westbrook-like attitude to dominate, and Terry is a sub 5-foot terror for elementary opponents.

“He has the ‘It’ factor,” said coach Justin Adcock. “He has tons of passion and confidence.”

In one game against Franklin North, the Pioneers trailed at halftime. Terry came out of the locker room unfazed by the deficit, mostly because he knew he could erase it himself. He poured in 14 points in the third quarter, helping the Pioneers ultimately earn a victory.

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File photos
Treyton Terry has been the driving force behind the WCMS sixth-grade basketball team, which is currently 14-2. Terry, the team's floor general, recently scored a season-best 31 points in a victory over Upperman.



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