

## Southern Standard all-county teams



SABLE WINFREE - WCMS



LILLY CANTRELL - MORRISON



KENNEDI PEGG - CENTERTOWN



BRIANNA TAYLOR - H. CREEK



LILY RAINS - DIBRELL

## Guards lead the way in 5-6 grade girls basketball

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

Guards are becoming more vital as basketball has evolved into a perimeter-oriented game. The trickle-down effect seems to have touched the 5-6 grade elementary girls league.

Great shooters, strong ball handlers and defensive menaces at the guard position littered the *Southern Standard* all-county first team. The team includes Sable Winfree from WCMS, Centertown's Kennedi Pegg, Morrison guard Lilly Cantrell, and the league's top two scorers, Lily

Rains (Dibrell) and Brianna Taylor (Hickory Creek).

Winfree encompasses all the qualities of a great guard. In helping the Lady Pioneers to an unbeaten 8-0 regular season, Winfree was her team's leading scorer (10.5 points per game) and was among the team leaders in assists, steals and rebounds.

Winfree enters this week's county tournament (starting Monday at WCMS, see more on 2B) playing her best ball. The slick shooting Lady Pioneer scored a season-high 16 points Thursday to help Warren County down Dibrell 46-15.

While Winfree's team enters the tournament unbeaten and in sole

possession of their division title, it took until the last day of the season to determine the league's second division champion.

A fierce battle for first place in the girls B division ensued between Morrison and Centertown, culminating Friday when the Lady Warriors slammed Morrison 30-12 in front of the student body.

At the center of the deciding victory was Pegg, who scored a season-high 13 points to upend the Lady Eagles. Pegg is a key cog for Centertown, which will enter the tournament on an eight-game winning streak.

Morrison was the last team to

beat the Lady Warriors – thanks in large part to Cantrell.

The Lady Eagle guard scored a game-high nine points in a 25-22 December victory. Cantrell followed by scoring in double figures three times, her best coming Jan. 29 when she scored 15 in a 43-21 win over Irving College.

Double figures was a near nightly occurrence when Rains took the court for the Lady Wildcats. The league's leading scorer at 12.8 points per game, Rains was the perfect barometer for Dibrell. Her team was 6-0 when she scored 10 points or more, but 0-3 when she didn't reach double digits.

Rains had her best night

Thursday while taking on Hickory Creek. Rains hit for 22 points, matching the Lady Hawks on her own in a 45-22 victory.

On the other side, Hickory Creek was relying on its own do-it-all guard.

Taylor scored 14 of her team's points in the Dibrell loss, one of seven times she reached double figures. Taylor was the team's leading scorer in all nine games and finished with 100 of her team's 134 points this season.

The second team includes Bella Stiles and Ava Jones (Boyd), Paige Sweeton (WCMS), Krista Chisam (Centertown) and Brooklyn Wanamaker (Irving College).



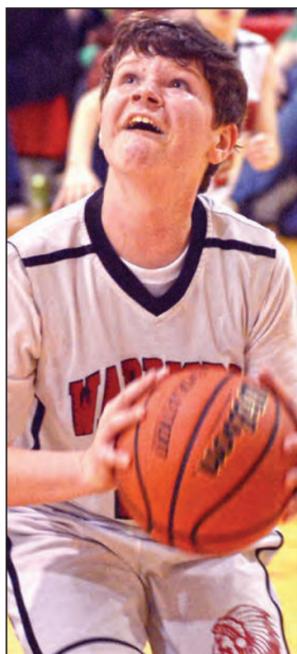
TREYTON TERRY - WCMS



ALEX VAN VUUREN - WCMS



NATHAN TURNER - BOYD



BALER MELTON - CENTERTOWN



GARRISON RANDOLPH - DIBRELL

## Unbeaten Pioneers earn two honorees

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

All talk around the 5-6 grade boys basketball league has focused on WCMS. And for good reason. The Pioneers won the preseason tournament, then swept through the regular season at 8-0 while outscoring their opponents by 334 points.

Fueling the Pioneers has been the play of point guard Treyton Terry and forward Alex van Vuuren, two players selected on the *Southern Standard* all-county team.

"The kids from WCMS certainly

deserve recognition," said Boyd coach Chris Perry, whose team finished second in the A division of the boys league behind WCMS.

Despite rarely playing big minutes due to big leads, Terry and van Vuuren still had a big impact on their team's success. Terry ignites the Pioneer offense with a blend of shooting and vision unmatched in the league, while van Vuuren has the versatility to step out and fire 3-pointers or bang in the paint for buckets.

Terry was at his best down the stretch, scoring 12 points in big wins last week over Boyd and Dibrell at home to clinch the division. His counterpart was better

away from home, as van Vuuren notched his season high in points (13) twice – at Dibrell and at Hickory Creek.

Joining the Pioneer stars on the first team are Centertown post Baler Melton, Boyd guard Nathan Turner and Dibrell guard Garrison Randolph.

Melton was a force behind the Warriors finishing the regular season 8-0 in the boys B division. Melton scored a season-high 17 points in a pivotal road win at Morrison, something that stuck out to the coach of the Eagles.

"Baler is a tough player to guard," said Morrison coach Susan Holt Page. "We played a zone (in

our second meeting) that focused on stopping him."

Turner was also used to the treatment of having a defense designed to limit his effectiveness. It rarely stopped the Bronco point guard.

Turner led the lead in scoring at 12.6 points per game, including a league-best 28 points when the Broncos went on the road to beat Dibrell 33-21.

"He is just a special player," said Dibrell coach Darek Elrod. "I've seen him play since the Little Pioneer League. There's few things he can't do with a basketball."

Turner barely edged out Elrod's top guard for the scoring lead.

With a pension to bomb away from the outside, Randolph averaged 10.1 points per game for the Wildcats. Randolph scored 20 points in a duel with Turner and the Broncos in January, then notched a season-high 21 points Thursday in a 37-28 victory over Hickory Creek.

Making the second team were: Jayron Morris and Tucker Wanamaker (Morrison), Aiden Miller (Centertown), Jonathan Lara (WCMS) and Brody Womack (Hickory Creek).

All honorees will be in action this week when the 5-6 postseason tournament kicks off Monday night at WCMS.

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