

Six youth wrestlers make state

Warren County is starting to make its mark on the wrestling mat. Competing at the region tournament held at Blackman High School Feb. 11, six local AAU wrestlers were able to qualify for the state tournament to be held Feb. 24 in Franklin.

Zerek Keel, Drake Martin, Kasen Mullican, Huck Damon, Trevion Mathis and Grady Collier all placed in the top four in their respective weight classes, which was the cutoff for state qualification.

Keel and Martin were the highest finishers, taking second in the 130-pound junior and 95-pound midweight divisions, respectively. Mullican was third in the 103-pound midweight division, while Damon, Mathis and Collier placed fourth.

The six qualifiers were part of 13 grapplers coach Dave Holcomb took to the event. Several more were on the doorstep of qualification, but fell just short.

The state tournament will be held at Williamson County Expo Center.



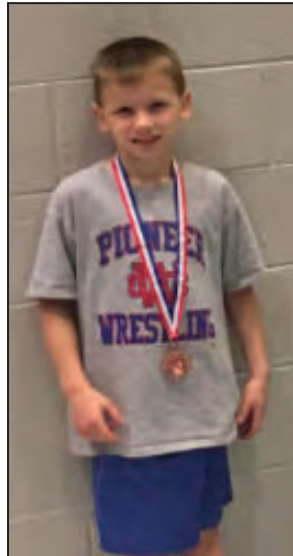
COACH DAVE HOLCOMB, DRAKE MARTIN, KASEN MULLICAN AND GRADY COLLIER



ZERЕК KEEL



TREVION MATHIS



HUCK DAMON

Black belt



Paul Byars, left, pictured with his instructor, was promoted to first-degree black belt in jiu jitsu after three years of training. Byars is the head instructor at Gary Steele Karate Studio.

Photo provided

UPCOMING SCHEDULE

MONDAY, FEB. 19

WCHS baseball vs. Coffee County, 3 p.m. (scrimmage)
WCHS girls basketball in District 6-AAA tourney, TBA

TUESDAY, FEB. 20

WCHS boys basketball in District 6-AAA tourney, TBA

THURSDAY, FEB. 22

WCMS boys soccer vs. Blackman, 5:30 p.m. (friendly)

FRIDAY, FEB. 23

WCMS softball in preseason Playday at Moore Co., TBA

SATURDAY, FEB. 24

WCHS baseball at Stewart's Creek, 11 a.m. (scrimmage)
WCHS boys soccer in Coffee County playday, TBA
WCMS softball in preseason Playday at Moore Co., TBA

SPORTS BRIEFS

AAU TRYOUTS

AAU tryouts for eighth-grade boys will be held Sunday from 2-4 p.m. at Warren County Middle School.

MORRISON SOFTBALL SIGN-UPS

Registration for the Morrison 2018 softball leagues will be held at the Morrison Ruritan Building on the following dates and times: Tuesday, Feb. 20 from 6-8 p.m., Saturday, March 3 from 4-6 p.m., and Thurs-

day, March 8 from 6-8 p.m.

Boys ages 2 to 20 and girls 2 to 21 as of Jan. 1 are eligible. All players must have proof of age. The cost is \$30. For more information, contact John Duncan by text at 205-7835.

WCHS BASEBALL BANQUET

The WCHS baseball spring banquet will be held Saturday, March 10 at 4 p.m.. Tickets are \$100 each and include admission and meal for two people. The guest speaker will be former San Diego Padre Matthew Shepherd.

For additional info, contact Chuck Hollingsworth 931-607-5014.

Lady Pioneers

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Cookeville controlled the middle quarters, getting seven points each from Savage and all-district selection Julianne Dunaway to build a lead. The Lady Cavaliers punctuated the stretch with Cassie Shope's putback at the horn in the third quarter, pushing Warren County behind 40-34 to start the fourth.

Wright made sure the Lady Pioneers got the last laugh though. It was the first time Warren County had beaten Cookeville twice in the same season since 2011-12. In the last five seasons, Cookeville domi-

nated the series, winning 12 of 13 matchups.

Friday's comeback also snapped a seven-game losing streak and, more importantly, qualified the Lady Pioneers for the region tournament.

Punching a ticket for more postseason basketball is something coach Panter had on her goal list all season.

"It's a great reward for the girls to finally get a big win. We have come so close so many times this year and hadn't put it together until now," said Panter. "It's important to make it to region so we know we belong and that hard work does pay off."

Warren County had to make the return trip to Rhea County Saturday to face top-seed Stone Memorial. Results were unavailable at press time. The Lady Pioneers will be back in action Monday, with their game time dependent on Saturday's results.

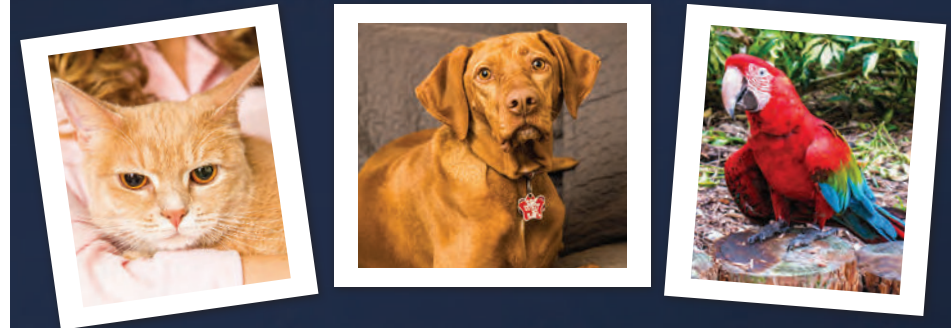
Check @sstandard-sports on Twitter for the latest updates for the District 6-AAA tournament schedule.

Pet Obituary SECTION

When you lose your pet, the grief you feel can be very real and overwhelming. Memorializing your beloved animal companion with a written obituary can be a healing experience that allows you to express and document your emotion.

The Southern Standard will be offering a Pet Obituary section every Friday to those of you who feel compelled to pay a final tribute to your beloved pet.

You can bring your pet obituary to the Southern Standard along with a picture, deadline will be Thursday at 9am. Cost is \$20 per run.



Southern Standard

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