

# Streaking

## WCHS girls unbeaten in April

BY **JEFFERY SIMMONS**  
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(McMinnville, Tennessee)

The showdown of the two best teams in District 6AAA lived up to the hype Thursday night.

The Lady Pioneers were able to rally from a six-run deficit to upend Cookeville 13-9, moving into a virtual tie atop the standings.

"We just chipped away after getting behind early," said coach Gooby Martin. "This team has always played to the last out. I love the way they compete and how they respond to our coaching in tough times."

With the way it went early, Warren County (14-4) looked destined to suffer a similar fate as the last matchup with the Lady Cavaliers. Cookeville is the last team to beat the Lady Pioneers, winning 8-1 March 27. The Lady Cavaliers looked just as dominant early Thursday, building an 8-2 lead after three innings against the stunned Lady Pioneers.

Coach Martin gathered his team entering the dug-out before the bottom of the third, imploring them to continue to fight.

The Lady Pioneers listened. MaKenna Mason sparked the team with a two-out, bases-loaded single to score two. Grace Rains followed with a single of her own, scoring another to make it 8-5.



Jeffery Simmons photo  
**Kyra Hillis fires home against Cookeville Thursday. The Lady Pioneers rallied from a six-run deficit to win 13-9, their fifth straight victory.**

Continued on 2B

## Making a racket



**Colin Riley and the WCMS tennis teams faced off against Providence and Webb Thursday. See scores on 2B.**

# Pioneers fall in Shelbyville

A five-game winning streak was snapped Thursday when the Warren County High School baseball team made the trip to Shelbyville.

The Pioneers fell 6-1, the team's first loss in April after pulling off back-to-back series sweeps over District 6AAA foes White County and Cookeville.

Warren County (11-9) fell behind 3-0 in the first inning and never seemed to find its footing against the Golden Eagles. The Pioneers were held to just one hit, Cole Estes' RBI single in the fifth inning.

Estes, who also pitched two innings in relief, came up with a one-out single, scoring Hunter Adams after he walked to start the inning. The lone hit cut the lead to 4-1 and brought the tying run to the plate, but a strikeout and hard liner ended the threat.

Shelbyville came back with

two runs in the fifth, taking advantage of three walks and a passed ball during the frame.

The Pioneers only had one runner each in the final two innings, when Brooks Helton walked in the sixth. He was quickly erased on a 6-4-3 double play.

Ethan Smith took the loss for the Pioneers, giving up three first-inning runs while only retiring one. Smith issued four walks and hit a batter before coach Trice Powers made a pitching change. Dylan Ward filled in for three innings before Estes pitched the fifth and sixth innings. The trio combined to issues 10 free passes, five of which turned into Shelbyville runs.

The Pioneers will make the trip to Lebanon Monday for an out-of-district battle with the Blue Devils. The first pitch is set for 6 p.m.



Jeffery Simmons photo  
**Etsen Mendez looks for open room against Rhea County. The Pioneers won 2-1 in overtime Thursday.**



# Raucous rugby

Jeffery Simmons photos

**At left, India Fann wraps up a tackle against Blackman during Thursday's home match. The Lady Pioneers were dominant, winning 45-5 against the visiting Blaze.**

**Below, William Fernandez finds room to run while evading Siegel defenders. The Pioneers held a 10-5 halftime lead over the Stars, but fell short in the second half.**



# Working overtime

## WCHS soccer gets late win

BY **JEFFERY SIMMONS**  
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Maybe it was ESP between two brothers. Or just a last-ditch effort to make a play. Whatever it was, coach Matt Jackson wasn't complaining.

Senior James Jackson scored two goals, including a game winner with 12 seconds to play, to help the Warren County High School soccer team defeat Rhea

County 2-1 in overtime Thursday night.

The pivotal District 6AAA battle needed extra time after Rhea County was awarded a penalty kick and capitalized with less than 10 minutes to go in regulation. It erased a 1-0 lead Warren County held for nearly 65 minutes, thanks to Jackson's first goal near the onset of the match.

Continued on 2B





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