



Eric Haywood got plenty of touches during Friday's scrimmage against Lincoln County. Warren County moved the ball well against the Falcons, but struggled to get the ball into the endzone. Photo courtesy of Paul Henry/Elk Valley Times

## Pioneers preparing to bounce back

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

Friday's scrimmage in Lincoln County was an eye-opener for the Pioneers. For the first time since last October, Warren County got a chance to get on the field against an opponent.

The biggest takeaway was that the Pioneers still get to start the year 0-0.

"This one doesn't count

against our record," said fourth-year coach Tom Moore. "It was our first field action this year since we didn't have a spring game. We have a lot of young guys who haven't played much.

"The good thing is we didn't leave with a false sense of confidence. We're going to work to improve each week."

Two quick scores, one aided by a Pioneer turnover, helped Lincoln County roll in the work-out between the once rival pro-

grams. Moore thought the scrimmage settled down from the fast start by the Falcons, but he believes lots of work still needs to be done, particularly on defense.

"We didn't set the edge well or rally to the ball as well as I'd like," said Moore. "It wasn't because we weren't strong enough or fast enough though. We had some things happen where we weren't in the right place or didn't know what we

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were in.

"We'll be able to work through that. It's a lot of young guys and they came back and had a good practice Monday."

Offensively, the Pioneers were able to move the ball between the 20s. Red zone struggles hit the team hard, stalling out four potential scoring drives right at

the Falcon doorstep.

Early jitters were to be expected, with several players trying to find their way at new positions. One thing Moore has continued to count on is his offensive line, which once again succeeded in opening holes.

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The WCHS cheerleaders will be helping sell season tickets and parking passes for the 2018 football season. Members of the team are, front row, from left, Kassidy Byars, Zoye Henry, Heidi-Lin Teeters, Kenzie Walker and Kensley Whiteaker. Second row, Bella Blankenship, Lexie Thomas, Ellie Noblin, Araya Buchanan and Koley Campbell. Back row, Abby Reagan, Jylia West, Megan Davenport, Gracie Cowan, Deryn Allen, Rylee Ryan and Emily Hoch.

## Cheers for chairs

Pioneer fans can watch football in leisure this fall.

Nunley Stadium has added to its accommodations this year, bringing in 150 chair-back seats which will be near midfield. The seats can be reserved by buying season tickets, which go on sale Wednesday, Aug. 1.

"The center section has always been reserved seating, but there was no way to distinguish seats," said Warren County High School athletic director Todd Willmore. "We've been looking at this for the last 4-5 years and we came across a good product

with a company which has worked with stadiums like ours before.

"We started with 150 seats, but we could expand in coming years depending on the demand."

The WCHS cheerleading team will be working to sell reserved seating, along with parking passes to this fall's football games. The 150 new seats will be \$40 each, while regular general admission season tickets will be on sale for \$30. Parking passes can be purchased for \$25.

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## Looking to repeat

### Martin selects team to defend title

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

The Lady Pioneer softball team will get to mount its defense of the District 6AAA title next spring with several members who helped earn it just a few months ago.

Warren County High School softball coach Gooby Martin announced his 2019 roster over the weekend, which includes nine players who started games during postseason play last season.

"I think we have a very talented roster. We're excited about this team," said Martin.

Six of the returning starters will be seniors. Ashton Whiles - one of program's leaders in home runs already - and Maddie Cantrell return to the rotation, while Hailey Wood and Emily Mikkola will be back in the middle of the infield. Wood and Mikkola both earned postseason accolades last season, winning the District 6AAA MVP and district infielder of the year awards, respectively.



Upcoming sophomore Elia Atterson will help Warren County defend its district title. File photo

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