Jeffery Simmons photo

Dillon Haley, left, and Austin Jakes set up a double-team block during Friday's matchup against White County. The Pioneers rushed for 230 yards in a 20-13 victory.

WCHS football

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Through two games, the Pioneers have rushed for 550 yards, with star running backs CJ Taylor and Eric Haywood each averaging over 100 yards per game.

The men opening up the holes have mostly been the same. Noah Martin has played every snap at center and is flanked on his right by senior Austin Jakes and junior Dillon Haley. To the left, brothers Devin and Kaden Jordan were opening up holes against DeKalb County.

Moore switched things up against White County, shifting Devin Jordan to tight end and bringing in sophomore Jessie Lira at guard. Jordan and Aiden Cummings have each practiced at tight end, giving the Pioneers two

more big bodies who are adept at steamrolling defenders.

"We haven't been using the tight end a lot," said Moore. "Devin's an experienced guy. He has picked up some things. He was out wide with Raven (Lewandowski) and threw a big block on our swing-pass touchdown against White County."

Warren County (1-1) hasn't eschewed the evolving offense entirely. The Pioneers aren't running the Wing-T or putting all 11 players in tight to grind out three yards each play. Warren County plays out of a spread look most downs, going into shotgun to give the running backs less resistance in the box.

"When you take a person out (wide), they have to take a person out," said Moore. "Oregon came out with the spread and even when they had Marcus Mariota, they were more of a running team. If you can run the ball, you have a chance to pass.

Clay Thompson did benefit Friday from the attention paid to the Pioneer backs, finishing a tidy 4-for-7 for 53 yards a touchdown. Thompson also rushed for 41 yards, including a huge 14-yard run late in the fourth to convert a long third down.

"Clay had a good night. If your quarterback runs, teams have to account for it. It's like having another man on offense," said Moore.

Warren County's ground game will be put to the test this Friday against the Cookeville Cavaliers. Kickoff in Cookeville is set for 7 p.m.

WCHS volleyball -

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With Covenant ahead 24-23, the two teams had a lengthy volley to settle the first set. Warren County made two scrambling saves, but Emma Madewell was able to give Covenant the victory when she swapped out a spike for a drop shot. Madewell's ball arched over two blockers and fell to the floor as Covenant celebrated.

Marah Wanamaker made sure the home team didn't

The Lady Pioneers senior set the tone in the second set, blasting a huge kill on the opening point and drilling an ace through the heart of the Covenant defense for a 2-0 lead.

Wanamaker continued to own the second set, adding a push shot and slam as the Lady Pioneers built a 7-5 lead. The advantage swelled to 14-6 when Wanamaker ripped two aces in a row, prompting a Covenant timeout.

Arianna Hutchins stopped the Lady Pioneer run with a block, but Warren County cruised to a 25-11 set victory.

Covenant tried to flip the script in the third set, opening a 9-4 lead with its patented air-tight defense. The Lady Lions scrambled to save points the whole match, twice having players go crashing into the bench to make sure the ball was played back.

"Covenant does a tremendous job on defense. They were always in perfect position to pass balls that we hit at them," said Rogers.

Warren County (5-3) finally broke the home team on a long point in the third set. Trailing 11-6, the Lady Pioneers made two diving plays to keep the ball alive. Covenant responded with big blasts at the net, only to see Warren County make the dig. The Lady Pioneers finally got the point on an errant return, sparking a

big run. Warren County surged into the lead behind the serving of Wanamaker and Hailey Wood, along with Samantha Jennings dominating the net.

By the time Megan Davis stuffed a shot at the net, Warren County led 16-14.

Freshman Madison Hollis finished off the Lady Lions down the stretch, tossing in two aces during an extended serving streak that closed out Covenant.

Warren County ran away with the fourth set, ending any chance of a Lady Lion comeback.

"There's no quit in the Warren County girls," said Madewell. "Every time we thought we had them down, they would fight

back."

Both teams were back on their home courts Tuesday night. The Lady Pioneers played host to Soddy Daisy at Charlie Dalton Gym, while Covenant welcomed Lancaster to town. See this weekend's papers for more information.



Photo courtey of Painted Barn Media

Hailey Wood sets up her teammates during Monday's match at Covenant. Wood had 20 assists to help the Lady Pioneers defeat the Lady Lions.

SPORTS BRIEFS

WWE HALL OF FAMER COMING TO **TOWN**

"Handsome" Jimmy Valiant will be at Three Star Mall on Saturday, Sept. 1 from 10 a.m. until 2 p.m. The WWE Hall of Famer will be signing autographs.

GLENN AYERS GOLF TOURNAMENT

The Glenn Ayers fishing scholarship golf tournament will be held Saturday, Sept 15 at Willowbrook Golf Course. The tournament will begin at 9 a.m. The tournament is open to four-person

There will be two teams per hole, with groups picked at random. The entry fee includes lunch and registration for cash

To register a team, contact the pro shop at 931-728-8989 or email jhhendrix@comcast.net.

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