



Jeffery Simmons photo
Kora Forbes fires for an out during Tuesday's home tilt against Tullahoma. The WCMS JV team won 9-2, its ninth win this season.



Photo courtesy of Painted Barn Media
Samantha Jennings puts the ball in play against Coffee County. Jennings is a freshman and an emerging talent on the WCHS JV softball team. Jennings and the JV Lady Pioneers play Tuesday, April 3 at home against White County at 6:30 p.m.

A look at the future

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

Player development doesn't happen overnight, or just during the offseason. Time has to be invested over years before some athletes reach their playing peak.

With an eye for the future, most coaches make sure to have a junior varsity team in place to groom their next pool of players.

This spring has been no different, as coaches are always in search of their next star. On the softball diamond, WCMS coach Joe Damon and WCHS coach Gooby Martin have seen their fair share of success in junior varsity games.

The WCMS JV softball team is currently 9-1, with its latest

win coming Tuesday at home. The Lady Pioneers beat Tullahoma 9-2, a night after winning 19-3 in Tullahoma.

Kora Forbes earned the victory Tuesday in the circle, while Brooklyn Cope won Monday. Ebonie Ross helped carry the offense, providing three hits and five RBIs in the two wins. Other top bats included Isabella Pennington, Halle Lowe, Alyssa Mosley, Jessie Young, Dallis Melton and Jazlynn Ward.

For coach Martin, his focus isn't on the scoreboard as much as it is on improvement. With a host of young players who have helped win championships at WCMS, Martin knows his cupboard of talent should be full for awhile.

"This young bunch is very talented. I think they love to play the game," said Martin.

"They play hard and have fun doing it."

New WCHS baseball coach Trice Powers also has a talented farm system in place. He's not shy about getting them on the diamond either.

With a schedule packed with nearly 40 games - almost all doubleheaders - the young Pioneers are getting an early opportunity to prove themselves. The JV team got a big win Tuesday, beating Siegel 3-2 behind a trio of arms on the mound - Kason Holder, Bryan Bynum and Will Rivers.

It seems the future for the Pioneers and Lady Pioneers is in good hands.

EDITOR'S NOTE: To submit JV scores and photos, email sports@southernstandard.com. JV scores will be run when space allows.



Photo courtesy of Painted Barn Media
Will Rivers fires to the plate during Tuesday's doubleheader against Siegel.

Awesome angler

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

Samuel Vandagriff has already made a name for himself in McMinnville as a top angler. Now the rest of the state is hearing about the exploits of the Warren County High School senior.

Vandagriff was recently named to the 2018 Bassmaster All-State Fishing team, which picked 64 anglers from across the nation out of over 465 nominations. The Pioneer senior was one of two selections from Tennessee, joined by Jacob Woods from Loudon. Three other student athletes were named honorable mention - Stratos Lay (Cleveland), Josh Lee (Knoxville) and Nathan Powell (Whitwell).

Last year, Vandagriff was

an honorable mention selection.

Vandagriff has been to state tournaments for several years while fishing with his younger brother Matthew, including winning the Chattanooga Bass Association High School fishing championship in 2016.

The brothers finished fifth in last year's Costa Bassmaster High School National Championship on Kentucky Lake. Most recently, the Vandagriff brothers earned a bid to this year's Bassmaster National Championship by winning a competition in early March at Centerhill Lake.

Vandagriff will try to bring home the national title when he and his brother make the trip back to Kentucky Lake Aug. 2-4.



Photo provided
Senior Samuel Vandagriff was recently named to the Bassmaster All-State team. Vandagriff is part of the WCHS anglers.

Wilkinson —

Continued from page 1B

"It's pretty cool to be on the field and be a part of practice. I get to see all the raw things happening most people don't see or aren't on tape," said Wilkinson.

Wilkinson hasn't decided yet if he'll make coaching a future career, but he's happy to make connections as he decides on a job - most likely one involving sports in one way or another.

"Coaching isn't necessarily something I want to grow into. Ideally, I want to work on the business side of sports," said Wilkinson. "This job helps as far as the people I meet and the references I'll have, but this was just wanting to be around the program."

Wilkinson can stop dreaming now. He's a Volunteer.

Compare Our CD Rates

Bank-issued, FDIC-insured

| | |
|---------------------------|-----------------------|
| 6-month | 1.85 % APY* |
| Minimum deposit \$1000.00 | |
| 1-year | 2.15 % APY* |
| Minimum deposit \$1000.00 | |
| 5-year | 2.90 % APY* |
| Minimum deposit \$1000.00 | |

* Annual Percentage Yield (APY) effective 03/27/2018. CDs offered by Edward Jones are bank-issued and FDIC-insured up to \$250,000 (principal and interest accrued but not yet paid) per depositor, per insured depository institution, for each account ownership category. Please visit www.fdic.gov or contact your financial advisor for additional information. Subject to availability and price change. CD values are subject to interest rate risk such that when interest rates rise, the prices of CDs can decrease. If CDs are sold prior to maturity, the investor can lose principal value. FDIC insurance does not cover losses in market value. Early withdrawal may not be permitted. Yields quoted are net of all commissions. CDs require the distribution of interest and do not allow interest to compound. CDs offered through Edward Jones are issued by banks and thrifts nationwide. All CDs sold by Edward Jones are registered with the Depository Trust Corp. (DTC).

Call or visit your local financial advisor today.

Dan Sellers
Financial Advisor
604 N Chancery St
McMinnville, TN 37110
931-506-7444

Leann Cordell
Financial Advisor
124 East Main Street
McMinnville, TN 37110
931-473-9615

www.edwardjones.com
Member SIPC

Edward Jones
MAKING SENSE OF INVESTING

UPCOMING SCHEDULE

MONDAY, APRIL 2
WCMS golf vs. Prescott, 3:30 p.m.
WCMS tennis vs. Coffee County, 4 p.m.
WCMS soccer vs. Siegel, 5 p.m.
Covenant HS soccer at Riverside, 5 p.m.
WCHS baseball at White County, 6 p.m.
WCMS baseball at Tullahoma, 6 p.m.

TUESDAY, APRIL 3
WCHS tennis at Livingston Academy, 4 p.m.
WCMS softball at DeKalb County, 5 p.m.
WCHS softball vs. White County, 5 p.m.
WCHS baseball vs. White County, 6 p.m.
WCMS baseball vs. Tullahoma, 6 p.m.
WCHS soccer at White County, 7 p.m.

TENNESSEE VALLEY

TRACTOR & EQUIPMENT

532 Harrison Ferry Rd. • McMinnville, TN 37110 • 931-474-1201