



West's Mason Chapman-Mays led the Bulldogs with two TD runs vs. East in the Apple Bowl.

Bulldogs win Apple Bowl; complete second straight perfect grid season

By D.N. PENNELL, Jr.

The West Alexander Middle School Football Team ran its win streak to 13 straight games and completed its second straight perfect season with its 26-8 win over East Alexander in the 2018 Apple Bowl game on Tuesday evening, October 16, in Taylorsville.

The game, which was played in a steady rain from start to finish, saw West pull away with an 18-0 run in the second half. The win upped the West record to 6-0 on the season and gave the Bulldogs

the coveted Apple Bowl trophy for the second straight season.

Each team scored on their first possession of the game resulting in an 8-8 tie at the half.

West Alexander opened the game and went on an eight-play scoring drive for the game's first points. Luke Hammer capped the scoring drive with a one-yard quarterback sneak into the south end zone of Cougar Stadium. Mason Chapman-Mays, who had a 19-yard run to set up Hammer's TD plunge, scored

the two-point conversion to put the Bulldogs in front 8-0 with 4:08 to play in the first quarter.

Later in the first period, East Alexander answered the Bulldog score with a TD of its own. After Tanner Moore completed a long pass to Nate Erkman to move the ball to the West one-yard line, the EAMS quarterback capped the drive with a one-yard TD plunge.

Zhaheim Millsaps added the two-point conversion run for East to tie the

See APPLE BOWL Page 4



Alexander's top doubles team finished 3-0 at the NWC tennis tournament.

Alex's Maltba Sisters capture NWC doubles title, advance to West Regional

By D.N. PENNELL, Jr.

Alexander Central Tennis sophomores Emma and Hannah Maltba compiled a 3-0 doubles record and grabbed the league championship at the NW 3A Tennis Tournament held at Hickory High School on October 12.

The twins, which live in the Bethlehem Community, entered

last week's 3A portion of the NWC Championship Tournament as the top doubles seed. After receiving a first-round bye as the top seed, the duo teamed up for three straight wins to claim the league title. The Cougar pair, which attends the Alexander Early College, posted a win over Watauga in the quarterfinal round and

defeated teams from Hickory High School in the semi-final and final rounds.

The Maltba combo will now advance to the NCHSAA 3A West Regional Tournament set for Friday, October 19, at St. Stephens High School in Hickory.



HANNAH & EMMA MALTBA

NC Airgun Show October 19 - 20

The 6th annual North Carolina Airgun Show will be held Friday, October 19, from 11 a.m. - 6 p.m. and Saturday, October 20, from 9 a.m. - 4 p.m. at the Hickory Fairgrounds exhibit hall, located at 1 American Legion Avenue, Newton, NC. This is the largest airgun show in the southeast. Everyone with a paid admission ticket will be entered into a door prize drawing. Extra tickets can also be purchased at the door prize table. You must be present to win. Door prizes will be given away every hour including modern, antique, and collectible airguns, pellets, BB's, parts, and airgun accessories.

Bethlehem Star Project progressing well with good community support

The Bethlehem Star Committee is reporting good progress and much community support in the replacement of the Bethlehem Star destroyed by the EF3 tornado in 2017. Fund-raising is continuing with positive results and preliminary planning includes several exciting activities for the Saturday evening, December 1st Star lighting (6:30 dinner and 7:00 program).

CONSTRUCTION PLAN

Bethlehem resident Rick Carpenter of Carpenter Decorating has ordered the steel for the 50-foot triangular-shaped tower. Once it arrives the 15-foot high and 15-foot-wide star with LED lighting will be welded to the tower in four places. Eric Frye of Frye Grading will do excavation, Butch Goble will do concrete work, and Land's Electric will provide electrical service. County inspectors have provided a building permit for the new star.

PLANS FOR SATURDAY EVENING, DEC. 1 STAR LIGHTING

Exciting plans are coming together for the lighting of the new Bethlehem Star on the Mt. Pisgah Lutheran Church campus. Community residents and visitors will be invited to gather around bonfires near the star. Pastor David Ross of Fellowship Advent Christian Church will read the Christmas story and members of his church will provide the live nativity, including animals. Boy Scout Troop 275 will be refurbishing and painting the nativity scene prior to December 1. A community choir led by Donna Reid and composed of members from various churches in Bethlehem will sing several songs including "Beautiful Star of Bethlehem." Hershel Teague, longtime community supporter will light the new star. Hershel was very instrumental in the design and construction of the two original Bethlehem Stars.

A special feature of the first segment of the program will be the awarding of a special donation to the Bethlehem Ministerial Association unchurched benevolence fund. A hot dog dinner is being planned to precede the Star Lighting to help fund this project.



Hot chocolate will be served by Boy Scout Troop 275. Girl Scout Troop 12905 will provide programs to attendees and information about other holiday events in Bethlehem. The Bethlehem Fire and Rescue and Alexander Sheriff's Office will provide traffic control.

A second exciting feature of this year's event will be a performance by the award-winning professional gospel singing group, the Pathfinders of Mt. Holly, North Carolina. The group has performed at many churches throughout the southeast, at Dollywood, and other venues. This performance will immediately follow the Lighting of the Star. This program will provide a variety of Christmas-themed religious songs. Final plans for the Star lighting program will be announced in November.

Fellowship Church plans Halloween celebration

On Wednesday evening, October 31, from 6:00 - 8:00 p.m., Fellowship Church will host their annual Halloween trunk or treat for children of preschool, elementary, and up through middle school age. Costumes are welcome, but not required. The event features many snacks, prizes, and special activities for kids, all with the purpose of sharing a basic gospel message. No admission is charged, and all are welcome! Pastor Dave Ross said "This will be a safe place for kids to enjoy Halloween night."

Shiloh Lutheran Church plans chicken pie supper

Shiloh Lutheran Church will hold a chicken pie supper on Saturday, October 20, from 4:00-7:00 p.m. The menu will include chicken pie and gravy, green beans, slaw, desserts, and drinks (coffee, tea, or water.) The cost will be \$7.00 for adults, children ages four - twelve - \$4.00, and under age three can eat free. Carry-outs will be available for \$7.00. All proceeds will go to Hurricane Florence victims. Everyone is invited to come out and enjoy fellowship and good food. Shiloh Lutheran is located at 1011 Shiloh Church Road. Turn at the intersection of Shiloh Church Road and Hubbard Road in Bethlehem. For more information, call Nancy Bowman at 381-2637 or Helen Bowman at 495-7875.



Bethlehem 1 Precinct Election Day polling place change noted

The Alexander County Board of Elections unanimously adopted a resolution to permanently move the Bethlehem 1 Precinct Election Day polling place from Bethlehem Elementary School to Shiloh Lutheran Church, located at 1011 Shiloh Church Road, Hickory (Bethlehem).

This change becomes effective immediately. Thus on Election day, November 6, 2018, eligible voters in Bethlehem

1 precinct will cast their ballots at Shiloh Lutheran Church. The polls will be open at 6:30 a.m. and close at 7:30 p.m.

In addition to this notice, registered voters who reside in the Bethlehem 1 Precinct will receive a notice from the Alexander county Board of Elections, in the form of a voter verification card, reflecting the new polling place information.

For additional information, please contact the Alexander County Board of Elections office at 828-632-2990.

Next Star prints Nov. 15
The next issue of The Bethlehem Star will be printed on Thursday, November 15, 2018. The deadline for advertising and correspondence is Tuesday, November 13, 2018, before 5 pm.

Bumgarner tapped new women's soccer coach at ACHS

Alexander Central High School announced on September 15 that Ashley Bumgarner has been hired as the new Women's Soccer Head Coach.

Bumgarner is employed with Alexander County Schools as an English teacher at the Alexander Early College. He has been a soccer coach for the past six years for Alexander County Parks and Recreation and served as an Assistant Soccer Coach at West Alexander Middle School last

season.

Alexander Central High School Athletic Director Nathan Robinson commented on the hiring of Bumgarner by saying "I am very excited to be able to announce this hiring of Ashley Bumgarner to direct our Women's Soccer program. Ashley is very energetic and I feel that he will do a wonderful job of being able to teach the game of soccer to our ladies. I am also glad that with his hiring, he will help us

continue to keep the Alexander Early College students involved with our athletic department."

Bumgarner commented on his new position by saying "I am honored to now be part of the Alexander Central coaching staff. I look forward to leading the Women's Soccer program and working with the young women who are part of the team. I can't wait to begin workouts and training the ladies to become better soccer players."



BUMGARNER