

Softball

Brewer highlighted a 9-0 win over FCAHS, while an explosive 8-run third inning propelled the team to a 13-1 win over Gautier. Senior Charleigh Stewart earned the win on the mound against the Lady Gators, striking out seven and allowing only one run on one hit through four innings, and showcasing the options the Lady Cats have in the pitcher's circle.

Even with the talent and depth the Lady Cats have, they learned some valuable lessons this past weekend when they didn't have all of their weapons available. With a handful of key players out due to participation in the county's Distinguished Young Woman Program, GCHS dropped three games in a row, beginning with a 9-0 loss at home to George County on Thursday. A trip to Gulport on Saturday ended in a 4-3 loss to Alma Bryant and a 14-3 setback against the Lady Gators.

"Our younger players, while able to play like seasoned veterans at times, do feed off the efforts of the upperclassmen," Barham said. "So, not having those 3-4 girls available made a big difference."

Barham said there were some positives that came out of the three games, despite the losses. Several players were able to get some important reps he believes will make a difference later on, and, his team learned some valuable lessons even if those lessons were tough pills to swallow.

The Lady Cats will need to put those lessons to work sooner than later as region play is right around the corner. Following last year's region realignments, GCHS will now compete as members of Region 8-4A, pitting



Photo by Russell Turner / Herald Editor

GCHS senior Charleigh Stewart is shown delivering a pitch during last Thursday's game against George County. Stewart and seventh grader Addie Tungett both threw well in the game, but the Lady Cats were missing a few key players and struggled with errors in the field and in providing run support for the pitchers.

them against opponents from Bay High, Moss Point, Pass Christian and Stone County. Last year the region was won by Vancleave, who posted an 8-0 record in region play en route to a third-round appearance in the playoffs. The Lady Bulldogs are now competing in Class 5A, providing a prime opportunity for teams

in the region to make a big early impact. Barham believes his team's tough non-region lineup of games will prepare the Lady Cats to be the team to set the tone.

"Competing has been a theme for us the past couple years," Barham said. "We play games against tough teams such as Wayne County, George County, Taylorsville

and others that help us build that mentality."

"The team feeds off each other and believes they can take on any challenge. So we're just excited to be back on the field with new opportunities to compete and lift our program to new heights."



Eighth grader Lilly Rau is shown (Right) rounding third during jamboree action at George County last month.

Photo by Brad Crowe / Herald Staff



Photo by Brad Crowe / Herald Staff

Shown (Above) is GCHS junior Taylor Brewer being congratulated at first base after a big hit during the jamboree. Brewer is among a handful of players on the Lady Wildcats' roster that have multiple years of varsity experience.

GOOD LUCK this season

Laken

We Love You! MOM & DAD

GO GET'EM WILDCATS!

JOY'S FLORIST

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We Love Our GCHS WILDCATS!

GOOD LUCK this Season

We are so proud of you!

Love, Mom & Dad

Phillip & Eli HERRING

Good Luck Wildcats

FIGHTING FOR YOU

I am proud to represent my friends & neighbors as your Dist. 43 State Senator. I appreciate your trust & support as I continue to represent you & your interests in Jackson.

Dennis DeBar

State Senator - Dist. 43

My family & I wish all our area's student athletes great success this year as they represent their schools & our community on and off the playing fields.