

BASEBALL/SOFTBALL SPOTLIGHT — 7-C

Pitching depth and experience in the field a plus for Lady Cats



Photo by Brad Crowe - Herald Staff

The Lady Wildcats have the benefit of a deep pitching staff and an experienced group of defenders that can play multiple positions as needed. A group of defenders are shown gathering around senior pitcher CharLeigh Stewart before the start of an inning earlier this year.

Lady Cats feel good about their ability to put runs on the board

By **BRAD CROWE**
& **RUSSELL TURNER**
Herald Staff

Runs could be difficult to earn against the Lady Cats in 2022, thanks to wealth of returning talent both in the pitcher's circle and throughout the defensive lineup. Shutting down opponents at the plate proved to be the team's greatest strength a season ago, and with many of those pieces still in place, Greene County's game plan is to rely on much of the same as it gets into the heart of a new year of competition. Leading the way in the circle for the Lady Cats is junior standout Taylor Brewer, a returning All-Region selection who led the team

as a sophomore in starts, innings pitched, strikeouts, wins and saves. Brewer finished last season with a 2.82 ERA and an 8-2 record, striking out 62 opposing batters and allowing only 24 earned runs. The best part is that head coach Tyler Barham believes Brewer is still learning and growing, with the potential to develop into an even better pitcher during her next two years with the program. "We're expecting a lot out of her this season," Barham said of Brewer, who will start at first base when she isn't on the mound. "Taylor has the opportunity to be a very special player if she continues to progress. I'm really looking forward to seeing her reach her full potential over the next couple of years. We're going to lean on her a lot, but she won't have to carry the load all by herself." Also helping to carry the pitching load will be senior CharLeigh Stewart, a

tenured leader on the team who's earned 11 total wins during her time with the varsity squad. Stewart posted a 2.97 ERA through 11 appearances on the mound during her junior season. "We have a lot of confidence in CharLeigh," Barham said. "She can be a starter or she can come in as a reliever and get us out of jams or be the closer in late innings." Making her first varsity start just last week was seventh-grade newcomer Addie Tungett, who will get a lot of opportunities to build experience during JV games this spring while also contributing in big ways to the varsity team whenever her number is called. Also in the JV rotation with potential to work their way into larger pitching roles are ninth-grader Erin Meadows and eighth-grader Zamiah Knight, both of whom add a lot of skill and depth to the Lady Cats' pitching rotation. "Addie really fills up the

strike zone and focuses on pitching to contact and let-

See **DEFENSE**
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GOOD LUCK

Erin

.....
Hope you have a GREAT Season!
.....

Love,
Moma, Daddy
& McKenna

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Good Luck PIP

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Love, Poppa & MawMaw, Pipkins

Have a **GREAT SENIOR** Year!

Jace
LOTT

LOVE, Dad

When Life throws you curveballs...
BE PATIENT.
The perfect pitch is coming.

Have a Great Season
WILDCATS

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