

# Community Sports



## Patterson shows the way for Warriors girls' track team

**By Lenny Sementi**  
Tuscola's girls' track team made a statement this past Friday evening at the Tolono Unity Lady Rocket Invite, winning the 18-team event and edging the host Rockets by 8 points. Super sophomore Lia Patterson shined, winning all four of her open running events and donating 40 of the Warrior's 109-points. The second-year runner

won both hurdle races as well as both sprints, setting either personal best times or season best times. She won both the 100-meter dash with a PR of 12.68 and the 200-meter dash with season's best time of 25.74. Then backed that up with a sweep of the hurdles PR'ing and collecting gold in the 100-meter highs crossing the line in 15.04-seconds before taking over the top

of the podium after breaking the tape in the grueling 300-meter lows with a season-best time of 45.53-seconds.

Freshman Kate Foltz collected 16 team points in the open distance races winning the 3200-meter in a personal best time of 11:03. She kicked off the meet with a third-place effort in the 1600, setting another PR finishing in 5-minutes and

18-seconds. The first-year runner was part of 4 more points joining Mia Hausmann, Chloe Bowden, and Rylie Vanausdoll in the 4x400-meter relay securing fourth-place hardware. Hausmann, Bowden and Vanausdoll then linked up with Kenna Clodfelder in the 4x100 and 4x200-meter relays, collecting third and fourth-place medals, respectively.

Junior Natalie Hasting chipped into coach Drew Sterkel's team champs' totals scoring in both throwing events. She won the discus with a toss of 109 feet and took third place in the shot pot hitting the sand at 34.19 feet. Olivia Wallace found her way to 4 points with a fifth-place effort in the discus.

Kenna Clodfelder scored in a pair of field events and

added gold and silver medals to her trophy case. She won the triple jump with a leap of 33.07 feet and finished up in the runner-up spot in the long jump, eclipsing 15.32 feet. Vanausdoll hit the sand in 14.83 meters in the long jump adding fifth-place points to the team victory.

## Warriors drop to Blue Devils after an extra inning

**By Lenny Sementi**  
Tuscola's baseball team erased a 7-run Villa Grove lead with a big fifth inning and rallied twice more in the bottom half of the seventh and eighth innings but couldn't get over the hump falling to the visiting Blue Devils in a high scoring in a 9 inning affair 23-17 this past Thursday, April 13. Coach

Caleb Englehardt started Isaac Halverson on the bump and utilized both JJ Reynolds and Caden Russo in a contest. The Warriors led the way in the hit column.

Junior and lead off hitter Austin Cummings homered and drove in 3 in the big frame as the top three in the order came through big for the black

and gold. The top three spots produced 9 hits combined, getting 3 each from Cummings, Colton Musgrave and Cooper Lyons. Russo contributed 3 hits as well from the 7-hole, while Aiden Devlin reached and scored 4 times on a pair of hits and a pair of walks. Reynolds, Halverson and Nate Thomason all

notched a base hit in the non-conference outing.

They opened the week falling to the Hawks in a back-and-forth contest at Meridian. Lyons took the loss giving up 5 earned, working into the fourth frame. Devlin finished allowing 3 to cross the dish in the 3-innings of work. Lyons scored in the top of first and

Musgrave and Thomason both doubled and posted 3 hits each in the contest but defensive miscues cost the Warriors in the long run. Thomason was a perfect 3 for 3 on the day and was credited with 2 RBIs and 2 runs scored. Musgrave scored 3 runs and went 3 for 5 on the day, while Russo and Cole McCallister each pounded out a

pair of hits. They took on the chin to end the week on Friday, April 14, falling to the St. Teresa Bulldogs in Decatur. Russo was charged with the loss giving up 6 earned runs in the skirmish. Reynolds doubled and scored on a two-bagger by Thomson, who trotted home on a base knock by Halverson.

## Warriors track and field take the long road

**By Lenny Sementi**  
The Monticello Sages Boys Invitational doesn't give team awards but the beauty of the event is that it allows a team to enter three athletes into the open events. Tuscola's distance crew took full advantage of the extra entry swiping five of the top eight spots in the two long races placing five

runners in all, leading the Warriors to an unofficial fourth-place finish in the 18-team event.

Josiah Hortin, Jackson Barrett and Will Foltz dominated the field in the 1600, sweeping the top three spots on the podium, all three posting new personal best times. Hortin was the first to cross the line finishing

in a very fast 4-minutes and 23-seconds. Barrett was a mere second behind, ending his day with a silver medal posting a time of 4:24, while Foltz ended his day only behind his teammates, taking third overall with a 4:33. Blake McCleese took home bronze in the grueling 3200, turning 8 laps in a personal best of 10:07. Xander Neam-

tu was right behind him in fourth overall also PR'ing delivering ending the race in 10-minutes and 11-seconds.

Hortin, Barrett and Foltz ran the first three legs of the 4x800-meter relay before handing the baton to freshman middle-distance runner Boyd Brewer who anchored a gold medal per-

formance for the boys in black and gold. Two more of coach Ryan Hornaday's squad found their way onto the medal stand. Bryce Graves, Dylan Graves, Alan Robello and Ben Hornaday turned in a fourth-place effort in the 4x400-meter relay and a fifth-place finish in the 4x200-meter relay.

Chris Boyd led the way in

the field event for the Warriors. The senior ended his day with silver and bronze. He took second in the shot tossing the lead ball 56.23 feet and third in the discus eclipsing just over 150 feet. Sophomore Sawyer Woodward secured sixth place with a personal best throw of 139.6 feet in the disc.

## The offensive propels Tuscola's softball team forward

**By Lenny Sementi**  
Tuscola's softball team looked to its offense during a busy week that boasted 6 games in just 5 days. The Lady Warriors ran off three in a row, including a pair in the 19th Annual Tuscola Invite, before falling to a very good Marshall squad. They opened the week with a tough loss on Tuesday, April 11 to Meridian. Then they fell to Arthur-Lovington-Atwood-

Hammond before upending St. Theresa on Friday evening before kicking off the invite on Saturday.

The ladies in black and gold used their offense to kick off their own tourney scoring 21 runs in a lopsided victory over Camp Point Central. Tuscola put a pair on the board in the first and then added 11 more in the second and 8 in the third to run away from the Panthers. Isabelle Wilcox

collected the win in the circle and helped her own cause with a big game at the plate. The senior homered and doubled, going 2 for 2 in the game while adding 5 RBIs to the stat sheet. Alaina Smith homered as well and also drove in 5 runs and banged out multiple hits. Ella Boyer and Makenna Fiscus each had a pair of hits in the game as well. Emily Czerwonka and Addy Ring both recorded a base knock and Zoey Thomason scored 3 runs.

Freshman Bayleigh Taylor was in the circle in the second pool play game, collecting the victory, scattering 5 hits and 2 walks in 5 innings of work, striking out a pair. Ring went 2 for 3 in the game and added 2-stolen bases, 2 runs scored

and 3 RBIs to her season totals. Wilcox homered again, drove in 2 RBIs and went 2 for 3 in the contest while E. Boyer drove in a pair on a home run to left. Czerwonka had a pair of base hits, drove in 2, and scored 3 times. A. Boyer doubled and scored while Katie Gibson, Delaney Tyler, Claire Meyer, Fiscus, and Thomason all singled, pushing the Warriors into the Championship game.

After a scoreless first frame, Tuscola's defense struggled to find outs giving up runs in the next four frames to the Lady Lions of Marshall in the Title Tilt. Five miscues in the field and some control issues in the circle were just too much for the Warriors to overcome. A. Boyer tripled and scored

and Czerwonka doubled and scored in the game while Wilcox posted an RBI single. Smith and Thomason also had base hits off a strong Marshall hurler.

Less than 24 hours earlier the Warrior's offense provided more than enough runs to secure an 18-1 Central Illinois Conference win over St. Theresa. Wilcox collected the win in the circle with a 1-hit performance fanning 4 along the way. Ella Boyer homered in the contest and added a pair of hits to her stat line. Wilcox, Smith and Thomason all added 2 hits to the mix as well and A. Boyer, Ring, and Fiscus ended their day with a hit of their own.

Tuscola opened the week on Tuesday, giving up a big

bottom of the sixth inning on the road at Meridian, falling to the Lady Hawks 16-12. Tuscola built a 12-4 lead heading into the bottom of the fourth but could not hold on. Wilcox was credited with the defeat in the circle but was outstanding in the batter's box, going 4 for 5 on the day. She drove in 4, doubled and homered. A. Boyer and Thomason both turned in a 3 for 4 effort with the bat in their hands while combining for 5 RBIs and 5 runs scored. Boyer went yard as well in a big third inning for Tuscola. Czerwonka and Smith both had doubles and E. Boyer singled and scored twice. The Warriors fell one night earlier to a good ALAH squad despite doubles from both Boyer and Czerwonka.

### May 2023

#### Baseball

- Tues., 5/2 vs St. Teresa 4:30 p.m.
- Wed., 5/3 vs Monticello 4:30 p.m.
- Thur., 5/4 @ Central A&M 4:30 p.m.
- Mon., 5/8 vs Unity 4:30 p.m.
- Wed., 5/10 vs Salt Fork 4:30 p.m.
- Thur., 5/1 vs Arcola 4:30 p.m.
- Mon., 5/15 IHSA Regionals Begin
- Sat., 5/20 IHSA Regional Championship
- Wed., 5/24 IHSA Sectionals
- Sat., 5/27 Sectional Championship
- Mon., 5/29 IHSA Super-sectional
- Fri., 6/2 IHSA State @ Peoria

#### Tuscola Softball

- Tue. 5/2 vs St. Teresa 4:30 p.m.
- Wed. 5/3 vs Villa Grove 4:30 p.m.
- Thur. 5/4 @ Central A&M 4:30 p.m.
- Mon. 5/8 @ SJO 4:30 p.m.
- Tue. 5/9 @ Unity 4:30 p.m.
- Thur 5/11. vs Cumberland 4:30 p.m.
- Fri. 5/12 @ Georgetown 4:30 p.m.
- Sat. 5/13 vs Salt Fork 10 a.m.
- 5/15 IHSA Regionals
- 5/20 Regional Championship
- 5/23 IHSA Sectionals @ Home vs TBA
- 5/26 Sectional Championship @ Home vs TBA
- 5/29 IHSA Super-Sectional
- 6/2 IHSA State @ East Peoria

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**LIVE at 6:30 p.m. Wednesdays**  
Discussion of local issues & the week's news



**Join Mike, David & Bill**  
**Thursdays at 4 p.m.**  
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