



Hornets knock off McLean County 5-4 for first win

By Steve Wimmer
The Hornets varsity baseball team earned their first win of the season when they won 5-4 over Darren Lynam's McLean County Cougars Friday at Calhoun.

Hancock County took a 1-0 lead in the top of the first when Jack Roberts walked and later tagged up and scored from third base. Dec Lewko started on the mound for HCHS and set down the Cougars in the bottom of the frame.

McLean County tied the game at 1-1 in the second inning, but that didn't last long. The Hornets plated four runs in the third on doubles by Roberts and Dylan Mucker. Lewko, Carter Lyday and Loudon Fluharty all hit safely during the frame.

A base hit, an error and a hit batsman left Lewko with the sacks full in the fourth. The senior quickly got two pop up outs and a ground ball out to end the threat.

McLean County rallied with two outs in the bottom of the seventh. Fluharty was in for Lewko and looking to close out the game.

With two away, Fluharty lost control and hit three

batters in a row. Suddenly, the Cougars had three base runners cross home plate and the home team was one run away from extra innings when Fluharty got a ground ball and short stop Jacob Shultz made the play. He threw to Porter Hay at first base to record the final out and the first win was in the books.

Lewko got the win on the mound. He allowed one unearned run on two hits, with six Ks and three walks over six innings. Fluharty got the save, allowing three runs on one hit, with one K and one walk.

Hay was 2 for 3 at the plate with one RBI. Lewko was 2 for 4 with one RBI. Mucker was 1 for 2 with a double and one RBI. Lyday was 1 for 2. Roberts was 1 for 3 with a double. Fluharty was 1 for 3 with one RBI. Carson Clark scored a run.

Daviess County
Daviess County out hit Hancock County 13-4 during a 17-4 win for the Panthers in the Hornets home opener at Vastwood Park Monday.

DCHS took a 2-0 lead on an double and a throwing error in the first inning.

Dec Lewko took one for the team in the home half of the frame and later stole second base. The senior was left stranded at third.

Carson Clark was on the mound and the senior set the Panthers down in the second. Daviess County's Logan Mewes walked, stole two bases and scored on a sacrifice fly to make the score 3-0 in the third.

The Hornets had a chance in the same inning, but left another base runner stranded at third.

The Panthers blew it open with four hits and four runs in the fourth, then added two more runs to make the score 9-0 in the fifth.

Noah Keown advanced runners to second and third with a base hit in the sixth, and Carter Lyday, Grant Smith and Jacob Shultz all collected RBIs as the Hornets put three runs on the board.

Daviess County all but closed out the game with seven runs on four hits and four defensive errors in the seventh. Hendrix Taylor walked and scored on a wild pitch for the Hornets before the final out was made.

—Continued on page 7



Carson Clark fires a pitch during the first inning of Hancock County's 17-4 loss to Daviess County at Vastwood Park Monday.

—Clarion photos by Steve Wimmer



Dec Lewko gets back to second base on a pick-off attempt then takes off for third after a wild throw during the Hornets' home opener at Vastwood Monday.

Higdon and Bryant hit home runs during girls' 10-9 victory

By Steve Wimmer
Madyson "Boom" Higdon and Bella Bryant both hit home runs and the Lady Hornets held on for a 10-9 win over Whitesville Trinity here Tuesday.

Higdon hit a solo shot over the fence in center

field and HCHS led 1-0. But Trinity answered right back with four hits and four runs in the third to lead 4-1.

A double by Baylee Estes gave the girls runners at second and third when Aubree Mosby delivered an RBI single in the bottom of the third inning. Up next was Bryant and the freshman pounded the first pitch over the fence in left. A 3-run homer and Hancock County led 5-4.

Singles by Audrey Carnes and Jordyn Waltrip before the first out was made in the third and Higdon later brought in two runs with a base hit. Back-to-back doubles by Estes and Mosby and when the dust finally settled the Lady Hornets led 10-4.

Sarah Payne gave Trinity life when the senior smashed a 3-run homer in the fourth. Whitesville added two more runs in the fifth and there would have been more if not for a great catch by Ansley House in right field to end the inning.

Trinity singled to lead off the seventh, but Ryleigh French got a strikeout and the Hancock County defense ended the game with a double play when Waltrip caught a line drive and threw to first for the final out.

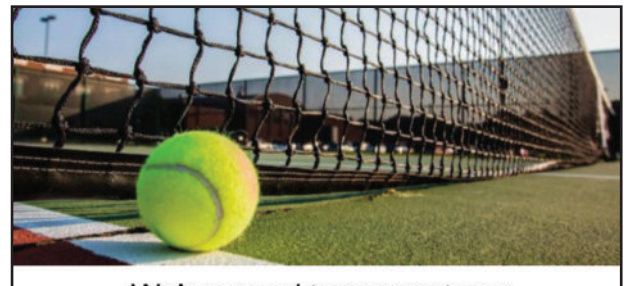
Bryant got the win on the mound. She allowed seven runs on seven hits, with two Ks and two walks over 3.2 innings. French allowed two runs on six hits, with three Ks and one

—Continued on page 7



In photo above: Van Reska stretches to make a volley during his match at Vastwook Park Monday.

In photo at left: Alex Madden strikes a forehand return for HCHS during the team's win over Ohio Co.



We're proud to support our Hancock County Hornets this spring! Wishing all athletes a season of hard work, teamwork, and success!



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