

# 2024 Spring FLING

McKenzie, Tennessee  
**THE BANNER**

Special Edition  
TUESDAY, JUNE 4, 2024

BASEBALL ▾ SOFTBALL  
TSSAA STATE CHAMPIONSHIP SERIES • MAY 21-24, 2024

## FEATURING:

- ▾ MCKENZIE BASEBALL
- ▾ HUNTINGDON BASEBALL
- ▾ HUNTINGDON SOFTBALL
- ▾ CENTRAL SOFTBALL

## Congratulations to All Area Teams

The 2024 Spring Fling was something special for the folks of Carroll County. Four teams, Huntingdon Baseball and Softball, McKenzie Baseball and Hollow Rock-Bruceton Central Softball, all competed and represented their schools proudly. The Huntingdon Mustangs and Fillies finished as runners-up in Class 2A, both losing by just one run a piece.

McKenzie and Central made it to Thursday playing in the semi-final round. With any luck, Carroll County could have had four teams playing for gold. Plus, Huntingdon Track and Field was well represented by Tycen Willis and Blaine

Todd. Willis finished second in the discus throw and Todd finished fourth in the 3200M.

Having one team or individual go to the state tournament is fantastic. Having three schools compete is even more exciting. Also, it is fair to mention, that Westview Softball and Henry County Softball made the tournament. Westview made it to the semi-finals losing to Liberty Creek in the second game on Thursday.

From a sports writer's perspective, one that is still constantly learning and adapting, it was an amazing week in Rutherford County. Hosting a tournament that size must be a logistical

nightmare, from organizing the facilities, the officials, affiliate aids and everything in between. I would say that the weather was good for the Spring Fling from the standpoint that all the games were played and only delayed, with a couple of venue changes and a race against the next thunderstorm.

On a personal note, my mileage for the week was close to 300 miles in four days, this is excluding the distance to and from Murfreesboro. Most of my days started from my hotel in Murfreesboro to either the StarPlex or McKnight Park (softball), then to Stewarts Creek in Smyrna (baseball), back

to Murfreesboro (softball), then to Rockvale (baseball), and finally back to Murfreesboro for food and sleep. Thank goodness I had help for two days so we may have missed something.

I did give the TSSAA a hard time about not having a solid Plan B but I was just one squeaky wheel amongst 10,000 other things they had to hear about. Overall, they did an adequate job, I just find a few things questionable but it could have been worse.

The best part of the trip/experience was watching young people excel. What I witnessed firsthand from our Carroll County teams was a love for the game and good sportsmanship.

To the athletes, thank you for

making it a memorable experience not only for me but for your fans. While I don't know the count of how many were in the stands or how many people watched from home. I do know that we are all proud of the job you did on the field and how well you represented Carroll County.

As we move into summer break, I am already contemplating the 2024-2025 athletic season.

Again, thank you to our athletes and our advertising sponsors. Here's to a great season and many more to come in the years ahead.

— The Banner Staff

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Keliea Winstead, MSPAS, PA-C



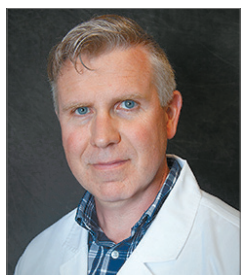
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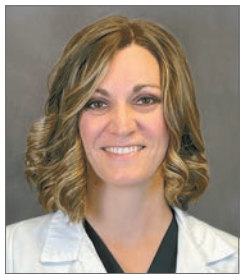
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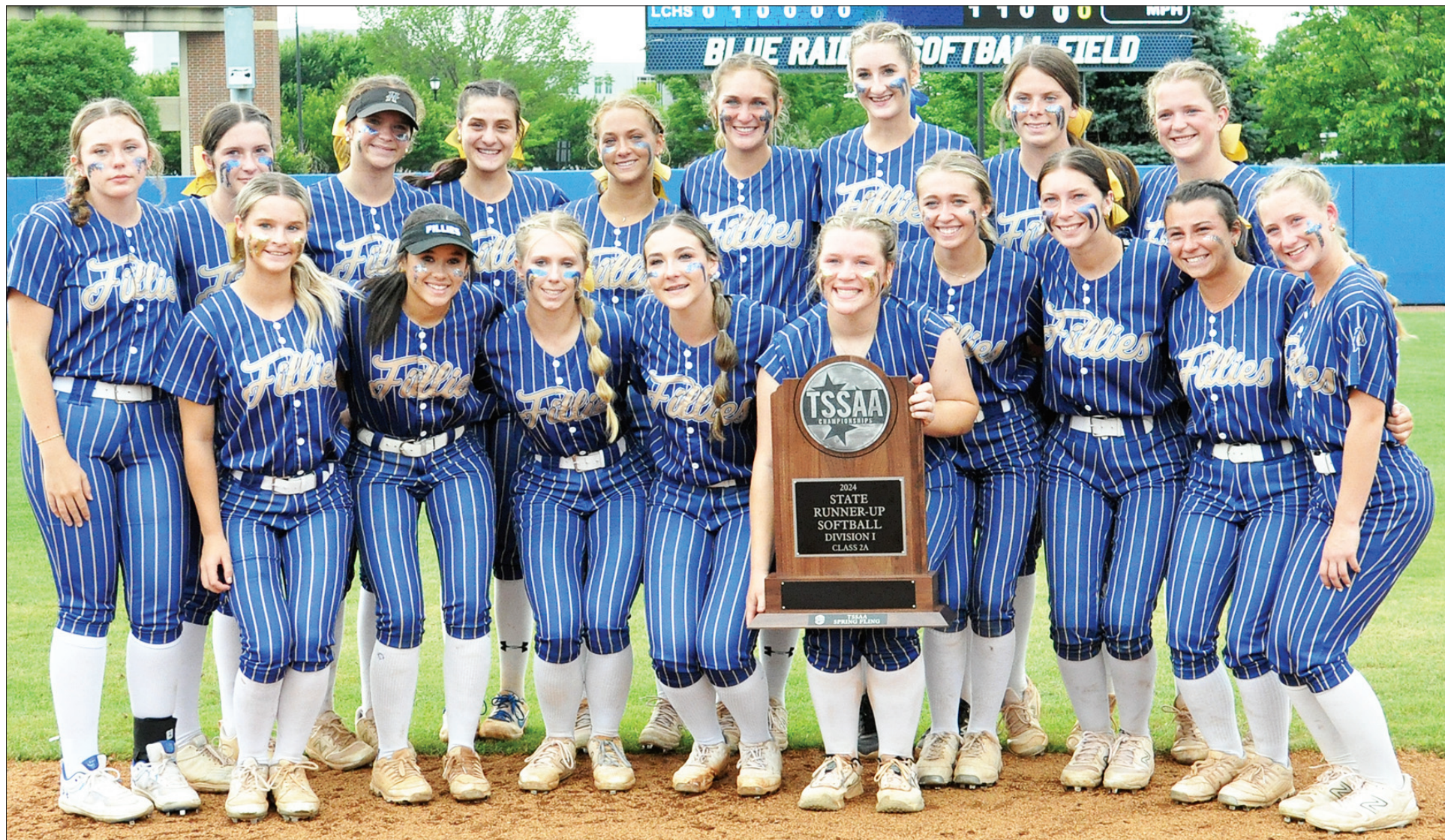
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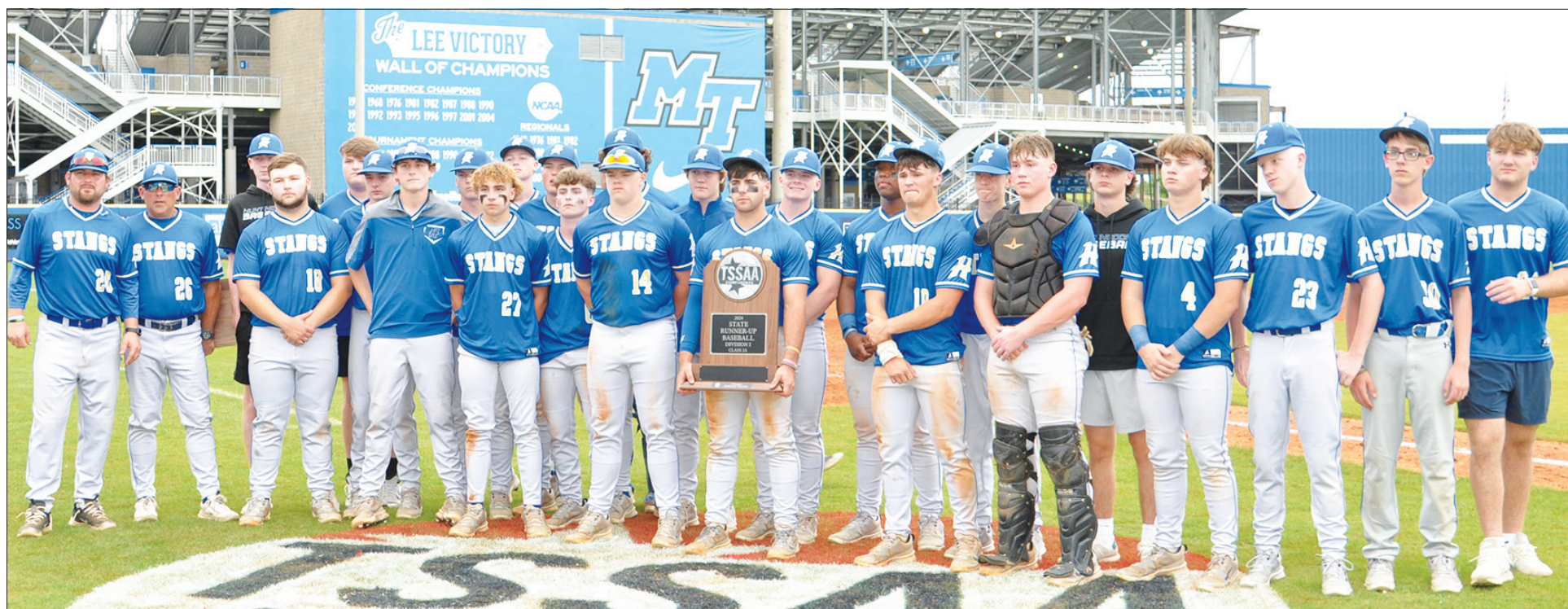
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Above, The Huntingdon Fillies hold their runner-up trophy for Class 2A softball. Below, the Huntingdon Mustangs hold their runner-up trophy for Class 2A baseball. Photos by Jason R. Martin/The Banner



## Perfect Game Keeps Fillies from State Title

BY JASON R. MARTIN  
jmartin@mckenziebanner.com

The Huntingdon Fillies proved hard to hit in the Spring Fling. Natalie Kreuziger pitched in all four rounds of the tournament. She threw a total of 421 pitches, 271 of which were strikes accounting for 49 strikeouts. Kreuziger allowed nine hits and walked only nine batters. Over the four days, the Fillies outscored their opponents 10-2. The Fillies were the only team in the 2A softball bracket to make it to Friday's championship unscathed.

### HUNTINGDON 0, LIBERTY CREEK 1

MURFREESBORO (May 24) — The Huntingdon

Fillies and Liberty Creek Wolves game was a battle from the circle. For the Fillies, Natalie Kreuziger faced 22 batters, striking out six. She threw 77 pitches for 46 strikes giving up one hit and two walks. Liberty Creek's Kaylor West pitched a perfect game allowing zero hits and zero runs over seven innings, striking out five. This was the first perfect game in eight years and the fifth perfect game in state tournament history.

Liberty Creek took an early lead in the second inning when Maisen Lewis doubled, scoring Hailey Langston who was on base after being hit by a pitch.

In seven innings pitched, West threw 79 pitches for 55 strikes for five strikeouts.

This was the Fillies' tenth appearance in the state tournament and best finish as the runner-up.

### HUNTINGDON 6, RIVERSIDE 1

MURFREESBORO (May 23) — In the third round of action, the Huntingdon Fillies ousted the Riverside Panthers 6-1.

Riverside got on the board in the first inning after Lauren Ruehl bunted into a fielder's choice, scoring Kylie Frost.

Huntingdon captured the lead, 2-1, in the bottom of the first after Josie Sanders walked, and Josey Stokes singled, each scoring one run.

See **FILLIES** on Page 3

## Huntingdon Mustangs Finish Runners-Up in 2A Baseball

BY JASON R. MARTIN  
jmartin@mckenziebanner.com

The Huntingdon Mustangs made short work of their opponents during the TSSAA Spring Fling. Starting on Tuesday, May 21, and wrapping up on Friday, May 24, the Mustangs outscored their opponents 35-9. Playing from Stewarts Creek High School, they picked up three solid wins knocking off Smith County and Riverside before battling Loretto at MTSU for the title.

### HUNTINGDON 3, LORETTO 4

MURFREESBORO (May 24) — Despite out-hitting Loretto five to four, Hunting-

don fell 4-3 on Friday.

Broox Bennett, Gray Eubanks, Braylon Rich, Silas Sharp, and Brady Warbritton each collected one hit for the Mustangs.

Sawyer Raines was the starting pitcher for Huntingdon, allowing two hits and one run over one and one-third innings, striking out one and walking three. Eubanks came in and pitched three and two-thirds innings. He allowed two hits and three runs (two earned) while striking out two and walking four. Graham Bartholomew closed the game.

Loretto was the first to get on the board in the first inning when Mason Tidwell hit a solo home run to left field. Rich hit a

sacrifice fly, which brought Warbritton around from second, tying the game at one in the top of the third.

A tag up by Jackson Traglia gave Loretto the lead, 2-1, in the bottom of the fourth.

In the fifth inning, Carter Daniel hit a two-run RBI double to right field, scoring Clint Seymore and Tidwell giving Loretto a 4-1 lead.

Down but not out, the Mustangs brought it to within one run in the sixth inning. Rich doubled off a line drive to right field. Then, Bennett singled to left field. Bartholomew advanced the runners after grounding out. Sharp hit

See **MUSTANGS** on Page 3

**Congratulations, Mustangs & Fillies!**  
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Top Left, Huntingdon Coach Alan Eubanks accepts the runner-up plaque for Class 2A baseball. Top Right, Riverside team huddles up as they trail Huntingdon. Above Left, the runner-up awards for baseball. Above Right, members of the Huntingdon baseball team stand during the national anthem. Below Left, Wesley Williams crosses home plate against Smith County. Below Right, Easton Byars throws a strike in the opening round. Photos by Jason R. Martin/The Banner

Top Left, Fillies Coach Alicia Warbritton accepts the coach's runner-up plaque from TSSAA officials. Top Right, Coach Warbritton talks to her team and encourages them not to give up. Above Left, Natalie Kreuziger throws the pitch across home plate. Above Right, Pitcher Natalie Kreuziger and Catcher Josie Sanders talk strategy against Liberty Creek. Below Left, Delaney Byars singled making it to first base. Below Right, Kelby Crossno bats during the state championship game. Photos by Jason R. Martin/The Banner



## Mustangs

...From Page 2

the two-RBI single to left as Huntingdon trailed 4-3. Huntingdon couldn't produce the necessary run to tie in the seventh as Loretto claimed the 2A Baseball State Championship. This was Huntingdon's eighth appearance in the state tournament and second runner-up.

### HUNTINGDON 14, RIVERSIDE 3

SMYRNA (May 23) — Braylon Rich drove in six runs on three hits to lead Huntingdon Varsity Mustangs past Riverside Panthers 14-3 on Thursday. Rich hit a grand slam to left field in the third scoring four, singled in the second scoring one, and doubled in the fourth scoring one.

Riverside got on the board in the top of the first inning after Camden Eason doubled, and Huntingdon committed an error.

The Mustangs made the score 3-2 in the bottom of the first after Gray Eubanks homered to right field, scoring two runs, and Graham Bartholomew singled, scoring one run.

Huntingdon added to their early lead in the bottom of the second inning after Eubanks doubled, Rich singled, and Bartholomew singled, each scoring one run.

The Mustangs scored five runs on four hits in the bottom of the third inning. Eubanks singled, scoring one run, and Rich hit a grand slam to left field.

Owen Kreuziger started on the hill for Huntingdon. He allowed seven hits and three runs (two earned) over five innings, striking out three and walking two. Cody Brasher stepped on the hill first for Riverside. He surrendered 10 hits and 10 runs (nine earned) over three innings, striking out three and walking four.

The Mustangs accumulated 13 hits in the game. Bartholomew, Eubanks, and Rich each collected three hits. Brady Warbritton had two hits for Huntingdon in three at-bats. The Mustangs also showed patience at the plate, accumulating six walks for the game.

Leadoff hitter Stone Wallace led Riverside Panthers with two hits in three at-bats. Eason and Brasher each drove in one run for Riverside. Riverside Panthers turned one double play in the game.

### HUNTINGDON 8, RIVERSIDE 1

SMYRNA (May 22) — On Wednesday, Huntingdon took an early lead and never looked back in their first win over Riverside. The Mustangs easily defeated Riverside, 8-1.

The Mustangs got on the board in the first inning after Braylon Rich doubled, scoring two runners, Brady Warbritton and Gray Eubanks.

Huntingdon added to their early lead in the bottom of the second inning when Rich drew a walk, scoring Braylin Dearmon, and Broox Bennett doubled on a fly ball to left field, picking up two RBIs, scoring Warbritton and Eubanks.

With Dearmon and Warbritton on base, Eubanks homered to center field, scoring three runs in the bottom of the third for the Mustangs. Caleb Ezell stepped on the hill first for Huntingdon. The starting pitcher surrendered six hits and one run over seven innings, striking out seven and walking two. Peyton Kirk started on the mound for Riverside giving up seven hits and eight runs over three innings, striking out three and walking eight.

Eubanks and Rich were a one-two punch in the lineup, as each drove in three runs for the Mustangs. Bennett, Rich, and Brady Warbritton each collected two hits for Huntingdon. Graham Bartholomew paced the Mustangs with four walks. Overall, the team had patience at the plate, collecting 10 walks for the game. Dearmon and Warbritton each stole multiple bases. Huntingdon stole five bases in the game.

For Riverside, Camden Eason went 1-for-3 at the plate as the right-handed hitter led the team with one run batted in. Aiden Creasey led the Panthers with two hits in four at-bats. Riverside turned one

double play in the game.

### HUNTINGDON 10, SMITH CO. 1

SMYRNA (May 21) — In the opening round of the Spring Fling, the Huntingdon Mustangs made short work of the Smith County Owls, 10-1.

Brady Warbritton drove in five runs on two hits to lead Huntingdon past Smith County Varsity on Tuesday. Warbritton tripled in the second inning, scoring three runs, and doubled in the seventh inning, scoring two.

The bottom of the lineup was strong for the Mustangs. Easton Byars, Jax Bennett, and Braylin Dearmon combined for five of the team's 10 hits in their victory. They scored four runs and drove in two.

Huntingdon jumped out to the lead in the top of the second inning after Warbritton tripled, scoring three runs, and Gray Eubanks was struck by a pitch, driving in a run.

The Mustangs added one run in the third. Bennett hit a sacrifice fly, making the score 5-0.

Byars stepped on the bump first for Huntingdon. He gave up seven hits and one run over seven innings, striking out seven and walking one. Bennett Gammon started on the mound for Smith County. He allowed six hits and five runs over three innings, striking out four and walking three.

The Mustangs accumulated 10 hits in the game. Number eight hitter, Dearmon, showed the depth of Huntingdon's lineup, by leading them with three hits in three at-bats. Eubanks had two walks. Overall, the team had a strong eye at the plate, piling up six walks for the game. Eubanks stole two bases.

Evan King went 2-for-4 at the plate as the first baseman led the team with one run batted in. Gammon went 3-for-4 at the plate to lead Smith County Varsity Owls in hits.

## Fillies

...From Page 2

Kreuziger led things off in the circle for Huntingdon. The left-handed pitcher surrendered two hits and one run (zero earned) over seven innings, striking out eight and walking three. Ruehl started in the circle for Riverside allowing seven hits and six runs (three earned) over six innings, striking out seven and walking seven.

Stokes provided pop in the middle of the lineup and led Huntingdon Varsity Fillies with two runs batted in. The left-handed hitter went 2-for-3 on the day. Adalyn Allen and Stokes each collected two hits for the Fillies. Huntingdon had a good eye at the plate, amassing seven walks for the game. Ava Ryan Canovan and Sanders led the team with two free passes each. Huntingdon turned one double play in the game.

Ruehl led Riverside with one run batted in. The pitcher went 1-for-2 on the day. Ruehl and Lanie Holbert each collected one hit for the Panthers. Riverside turned one double play in the game.

### HUNTINGDON 2, MEIGS COUNTY 0

MURFREESBORO (May 22) — In Wednesday's match-up, runs proved hard to come by in Huntingdon's win against the Meigs County Tigers. Both teams were strong in the circle, but the Fillies defeated Tiger 2-0. Natalie Kreuziger started the game for Huntingdon and recorded 21 outs.

Kreuziger struck out 16 batters on the day. She gave up three hits and zero runs over seven innings while walking three.

Huntingdon got on the board in the second inning after Lilly Wortham singled to left field, scoring Kelby Crossno.

Lainey Fitzgerald took the loss for Meigs County. The starting pitcher went five innings, surrendering two runs on seven hits, striking out nine and walking none.

Adalyn Allen and Wortham each collected two hits for Huntingdon Varsity Fillies. Wortham and Karter Moore each drove in one run for Huntingdon Varsity Fillies.

Elizabeth Miller, Sadie Scott, and Sierra Howard each collected one hit for the Tiger.

### HUNTINGDON 2, WESTMORELAND 0

MURFREESBORO (May 21) — In the opening round, Natalie Kreuziger struck out 19 batters as the south-paw led Huntingdon past the Westmoreland Eagles 2-0. Kreuziger surrendered three hits and zero runs over seven innings while walking one.

The Fillies got on the board in the third when Kylie Tippitt singled on a ground ball to third, scoring Kelby Crossno. In the bottom of the fourth inning, Josey Stokes picked up an RBI single to center bringing home Madison Mann.

Lanie Cook Parkhurst started in the circle for Westmoreland. She surrendered four hits and two runs (one earned) over six innings, striking out one and walking two.

Stokes, Ava Ryan Canovan, Josie Sanders, and Tippitt each collected one hit for Huntingdon. Stokes and Tippitt each drove in one run for the Fillies. Huntingdon didn't commit a single error in the field.

Ayla Tuttle, Ellery Perdue, and Gari Lynn Jones each collected one hit for Westmoreland.




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# 2024 Fillies Roster

1	Adalyn Allen	14	Katherine Meggs
17	Aubry Castleman	22	Kelby Crossno
4	Ava Ryan Canovan	21	Kensley Brockman
7	Bailey Cary	18	Kylie Tippitt
12	Chesney Baker	44	Lilly Worthman
20	Delaney Byars	3	Madison Mann
10	Josey Stokes	23	Mileigh Halliard
24	Josie Sanders	27	Natalie Kreuziger
5	Karter Moore	9	Reese Bradley
25	Katelyn Brewer	15	Taylor Canovan

# 2024 Mustangs Baseball Roster

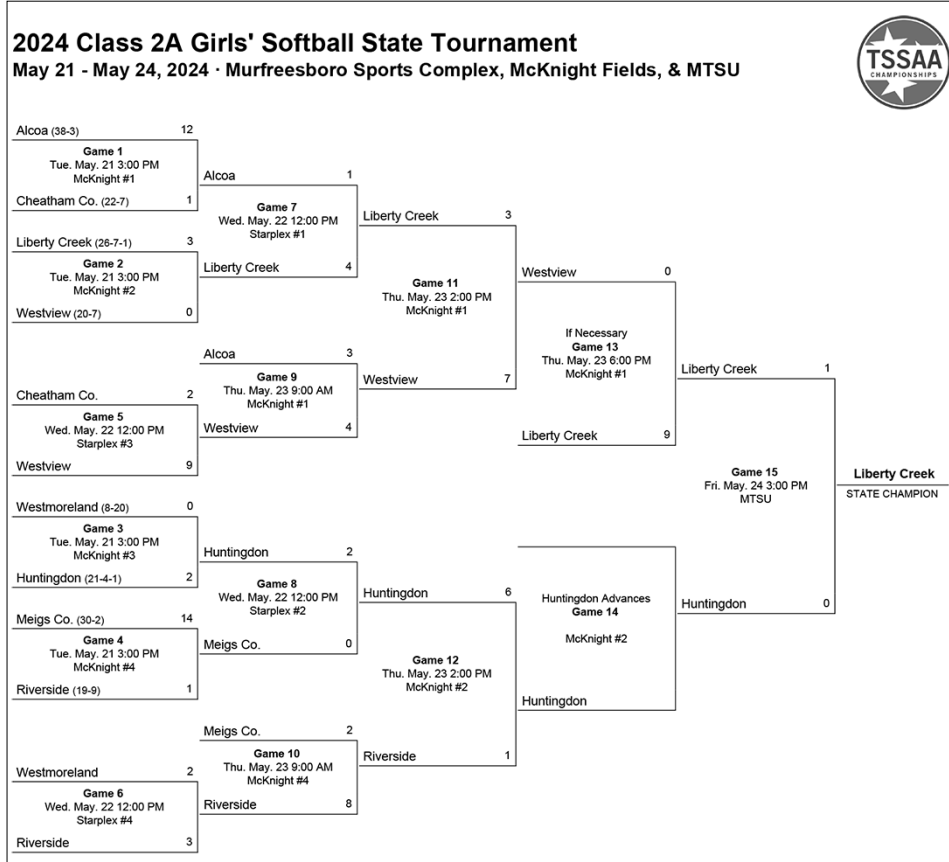
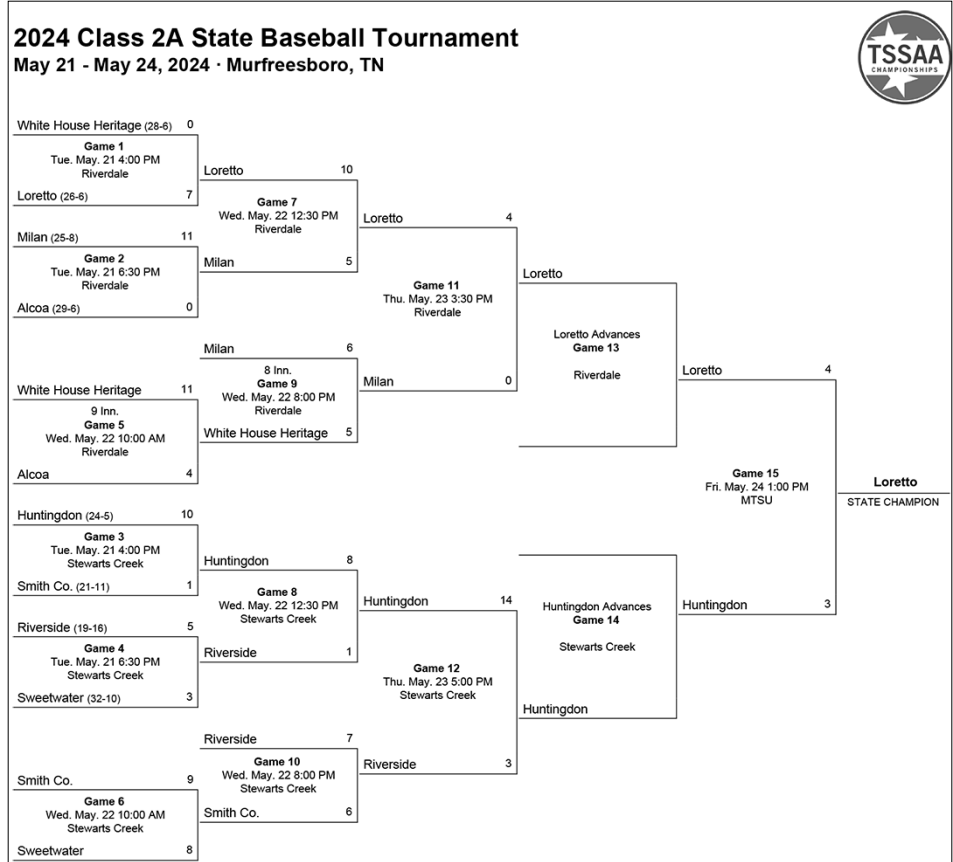
13	Graham Bartholomew	Senior	4	Broox Bennett	Sophomore
2	Jaxon Bennett	Senior	25	Caiden Biggart	Sophomore
1	Ashton Hutcherson	Senior	11	Braylin Dearmon	Sophomore
3	Pate Tippitt	Senior	27	Caleb Ezell	Sophomore
15	Tayshawn Rivers	Senior	23	Thomas Kendrick	Sophomore
16	Easton Byars	Junior	5	Owen Kreuziger	Sophomore
24	Aiden Hilliard	Junior	28	Sawyer Raines	Sophomore
18	Braylon Rich	Junior	12	Silas Sharp	Sophomore
7	Gabriel Smothers	Junior	30	Derek Hodge	Freshman
10	Brady Warbritton	Junior	14	Hayden Strop	Freshman
6	Wesley Williams	Junior	29	Cody Wilson	Freshman

# 2024 Fillies Softball Schedule

Mar. 11	Henry County	W 5-3
Mar. 15	Lexington	L 0-3
Mar. 16	@ Hardin County	W 9-3
Mar. 16	@ Hardin County	L 3-4
Mar. 18	@ Dyer County	W 8-5
Mar. 19	@ McNairy Central	W 11-1
Mar. 26	Waverly	W 7-6
Mar. 28	@ Camden	L 1-3
Apr. 1	McKenzie	W 15-0
Apr. 4	@ Bruceton	W 5-0
Apr. 6	@ Crockett County	W 3-2
Apr. 6	Henry County @ Lexington	W 2-1
Apr. 6	Riverside @ Lexington	W 3-0
Apr. 16	@ Camden	W 9-1
Apr. 18	@ Waverly	L 0-5
Apr. 22	Lexington	W 2-1
Apr. 23	Stewart County	5 8-0
May 2	@ Henry County	t 2-2
May 7	vs Camden	W 6-5
May 9	Waverly	W 3-2
May 11	Waverly	W 4-1
May 13	Harpeth	W 11-2
May 15	Cheatham County	W 7-2

# 2024 Mustangs Baseball Schedule

Mar. 11	Jackson North Side	W 8-0
Mar. 13	Scotts Hill	W 10-8
Mar. 14	South Gibson	L 2-5
Mar. 18	@ USJ away	W 8-5
Mar. 19	Bruceton	W 13-2
Mar. 21	Crockett County @ Union	L 1-3
Mar. 25	Peabody	W 6-1
Mar. 27	Dresden	W 8-3
Mar. 28	McKenzie	W 11-0
Apr. 1	Stewart County	W 4-3
Apr. 4	@ Stewart County	W 11-2
Apr. 5	@ Milan	L 9-10
Apr. 8	Camden	W 9-5
Apr. 12	@ McNairy Central	L 5-10
Apr. 15	@ Waverly	L 6-9
Apr. 16	Waverly	W 10-0
Apr. 18	@ Dresden	W 11-0
Apr. 20	Pope John Paul II Preparatory	W 10-0
Apr. 23	@ Bruceton	W 14-0
Apr. 25	Union City	W 7-0
Apr. 26	USJ	W 13-3
May 2	@ Camden	W 5-3
May 3	Waverly	W 1-0
May 4	Camden	W 8-7
May 9	Hickman County	W 10-0
May 10	Harpeth	W 5-0



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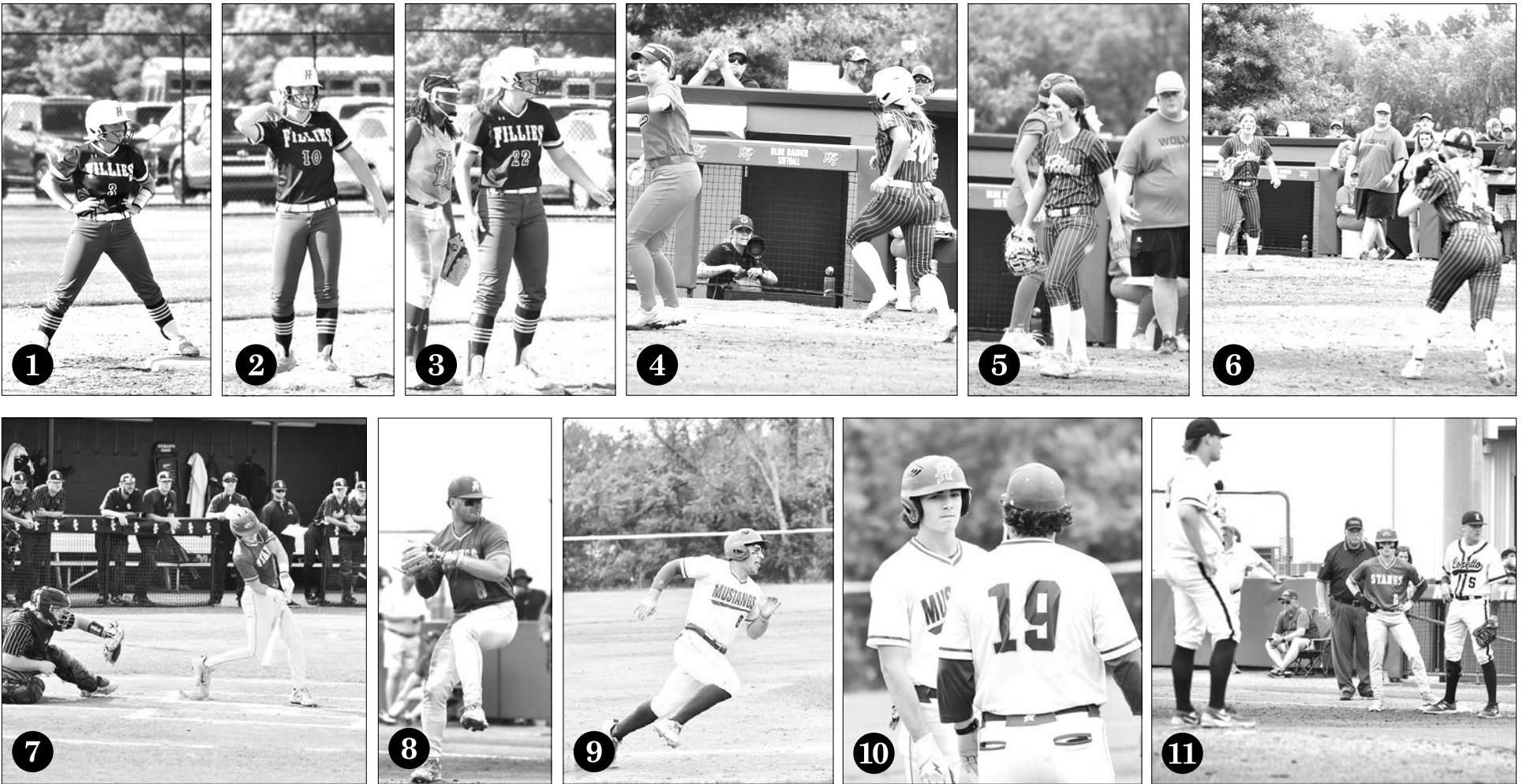
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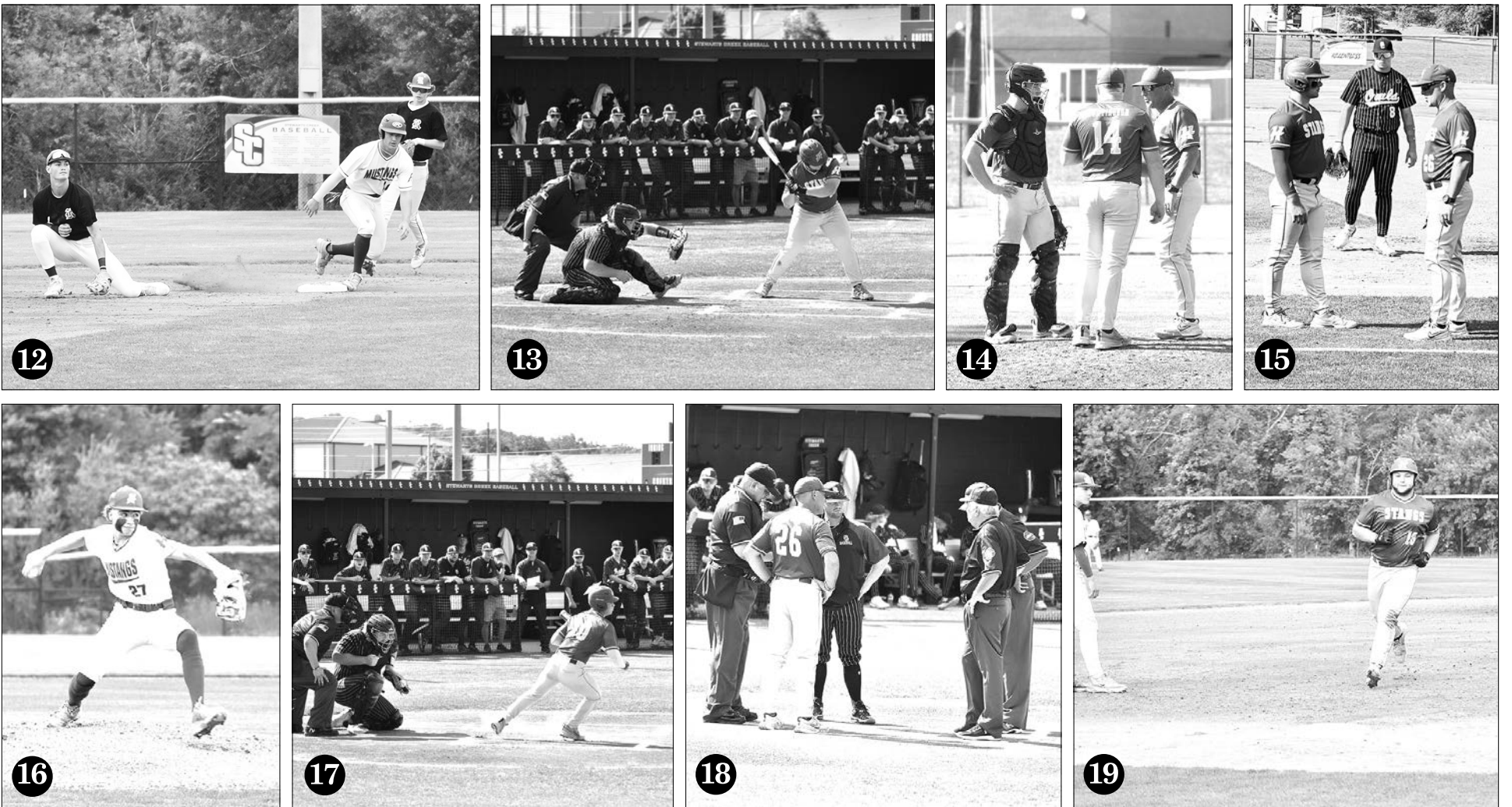
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season! We are so proud of you!**

**McKenzie, Tennessee  
THE BANNER**



1. Madison Mann gets on base during the Riverside game. 2. Josey Stokes stands on second base. 3. Kelby Crossno looks to advance from second. 4. Delaney Byars runs towards first base. 5. Josey Stokes stands near the base after a Liberty Creek player gets a hit. 6. Josey Stokes and Lilly Wortham work to get an out. 7. Jaxon Bennett swings for a single against Smith County. 8. Gray Eubanks pitches in the championship game against Loretto. 9. Gray Eubanks rounds third. 10. Braylin Dearmon gets his running orders from third base coach Brandon McCormick. 11. Wesley Williams stands on first base during the championship game. 12. Brady Warbritton gets on base. 13. Braylon Rich preps to take a big cut at the ball. 14. Coach Alan Eubanks talks to his pitcher, Easton Byars, and catcher, Silas Sharp. 15. A little fatherly advice from Coach Eubanks to Gray Eubanks. 16. Caleb Ezell pitches in the first game against Riverside. 17. Brady Warbritton gets a base hit. 18. A meeting of the coaches and officials during the Smith County game. 19. Braylon Rich rounds third base after hitting a grand slam. *Photos by Jason R. Martin/The Banner*



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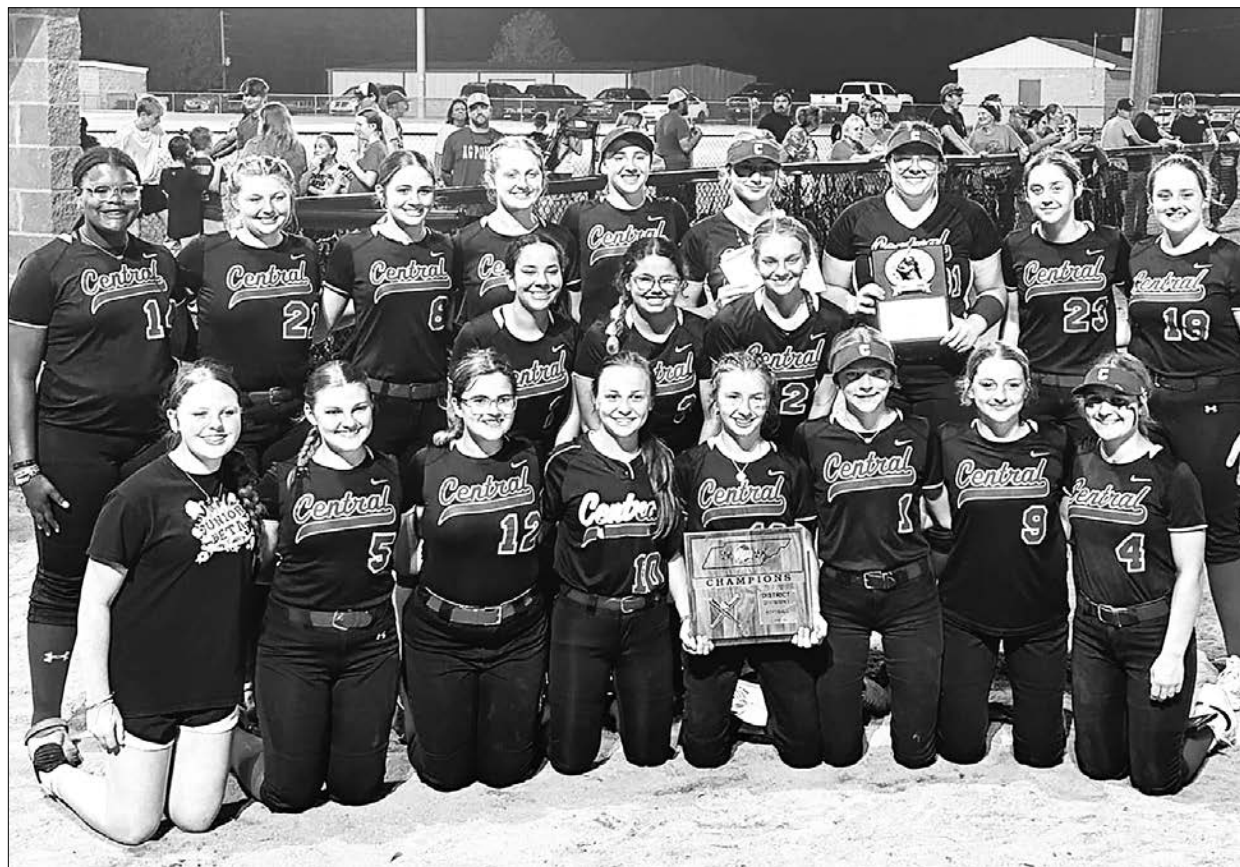
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## Hollow Rock-Bruceton Central Lady Tigers Class 1A Stopped One Win Away from Championship Round

BY JASON R. MARTIN  
jmartin@mckenziebanner.com

The Hollow Rock-Bruceton Central Lady Tigers came within a single run of having three Carroll County teams playing for a state championship. The Lady Tigers fought their way through the losers' bracket after dropping game one to battling in the semi-final round in two games against Jo Byrns.

### CENTRAL 0, JO BYRNS 1 (GAME 2)

MURFREESBORO (May 23) — In the third meeting, in as many days, of the Central and Jo Byrns, the offense was hard to come by as the Lady Tigers were knocked out of the tournament by the Lady Devils, 1-0.

Both teams pitched strong games in the second game on Thursday, but Jo Byrns was a little bit stronger at the plate in their 1-0 victory. Madison Holder started the game for Central and recorded 11 outs.

Jo Byrns got on the board in the fourth inning after Ella Resha singled on a fly ball to left field. Miley Head came home for the go-ahead run-winning run.

Kaliyah Lucas earned the win for the Lady Devils. She surrendered one hit and zero runs over seven innings, striking out four and walking one. Holder took the loss for the Lady Tigers. She went three and two-thirds innings, giving up one run (zero earned) on eight hits, striking out three and walking none.

Holder led Central with one hit in two at-bats. The Lady Tigers turned one double play in the game.

Jo Byrns had 10 hits in the game. Resha led the Lady Devils with one run batted in. The left fielder went 1-for-3 on the day. Lucas went 3-for-3 at the plate to lead Jo Byrns in hits. Head and Faith Holt each collected multiple hits for the Lady Devils.

### CENTRAL 2, JO BYRNS 1 (GAME 1)

MURFREESBORO (May 23) — In Thursday's morning game against Jo Byrns, the Central Lady Tigers won in dramatic fashion, with a 2-1 walk-off victory.

The Lady Tigers were down 1-0 in the bottom of the seventh inning when Madison Holder homered to left field, scoring two runs. To get into scoring

position, with one out Carlee Hicks doubled on a fly ball to center field.

In the sixth inning, Jo Byrns got on the board after Millie Putnam singled, scoring Faith Holt from second.

Addison Hampton earned the win for Central. The righty surrendered three hits and one run over seven innings, striking out one and walking none. Callie Yates took the loss for Jo Byrns. She went six and two-thirds innings, surrendering two runs on four hits, striking out four and walking one.

Holder went 1-for-3 at the plate as the outfielder led the team with two runs batted in. Holder, Mykenzie Burton, Carlee Hicks, and Hampton each collected one hit for the Lady Tigers.

Putnam led the Lady Devils with one run batted in. The second baseman went 1-for-3 on the day. Miley Head, Putnam, and Julia Arms each collected one hit for Jo Byrns.

### CENTRAL 7, OLIVER SPRINGS 4

MURFREESBORO (May 22) — On the second game of the day, the Central Lady Tigers eliminated the Oliver Springs Bobcats 7-4.

The Bobcats took an early 1-0 lead going into the bottom of the second inning. Oliver Springs would go up two runs after a solo homer by Chloe Lackey.

The Lady Tigers would turn around and tie it up as Olivia Scott hit a single, but an errant throw to first advanced Garrison to third and allowed Madison Holder and Anna Kee to score.

Oliver Springs rallied, retaking the lead 4-2 in the top of the fifth. Lackey led the inning off with a double to left field. With one out, Evelyn Denham hit a two-run homer to center field.

Down but not out, Central took the lead 6-4 in the bottom of the fifth. With one out, Hampton hit a single to center field, advancing Carlee Hicks and scoring Kaidyn Williams. Addison Tucker came in as a courtesy runner for Hampton, then Kee hit a double to right field bringing Tucker home. McKinley Garrison grounded out but picked up an RBI when Holder reached home.

The Lady Tigers scored another run in the sixth when Hicks hit a fly ball double to left fielding

See TIGERS on Page 7

## 2024 Central Roster

Name	Grade
Julia Whitman	Freshman
Carlee Hicks	Senior
Ava Anthony	Freshman
Addison Hampton	Senior
Lilly McGee	Freshman
Karlie Moudy	Junior
Madison Holder	Sophomore
Anna Kee	Senior
Olivia Scott	Sophomore
McKenzye Castleman	Freshman
Kaidyn Williams	Senior
Keely Williams	Junior
Mykenzie Burton	Senior
Ludivine Bernard	Junior
Addison Tucker	Sophomore
McKinley Garrison	Junior
Spencer Ervin	Junior

## 2024 Softball Schedule

Mar. 7	Adamsville	W 6-5
Mar. 11	@ Middleton	W 15-0
Mar. 12	Milan	W 2-1
Mar. 13	@ Crockett County	L 2-4
Mar. 13	@ Tipton Christian	T 6-6
Mar. 13	Tipton-Rosemark	T 6-6
Mar. 14	Gleason	W 15-0
Mar. 15	@ Adamsville	W 5-2
Mar. 16	@ Crockett County	L 0-5
Mar. 16	@ Chester County	W 6-5
Mar. 18	Frank Hughes	W 15-0
Mar. 18	Frank Hughes	W 14-0
Mar. 19	@ Gibson County	W 4-2
Mar. 22	@ Tipton-Rosemark	W 8-1
Mar. 23	Waterloo	W 4-2
Mar. 23	Perry County	W 8-0
Apr. 1	@ Henry County	L 0-1
Apr. 4	Huntingdon	L 0-5
Apr. 8	McKenzie	W 16-0
Apr. 12	McEwen	W 10-0
Apr. 15	@ McKenzie	W 12-1
Apr. 16	@ Milan	W 8-1
Apr. 17	@ Adamsville	W 9-0
Apr. 18	Houston County	W 5-4
Apr. 23	@ McEwen	W 12-5
Apr. 25	@ Houston County	W 2-0
Apr. 26	Riverside	W 9-0
Apr. 29	Clarksburg	W 16-0
May 2	Scotts Hill	W 4-0
May 3	McKenzie	W 14-0
May 6	Houston County	W 10-0
May 13	Perry County	W 10-0
May 15	@ Wayne County	L 2-3

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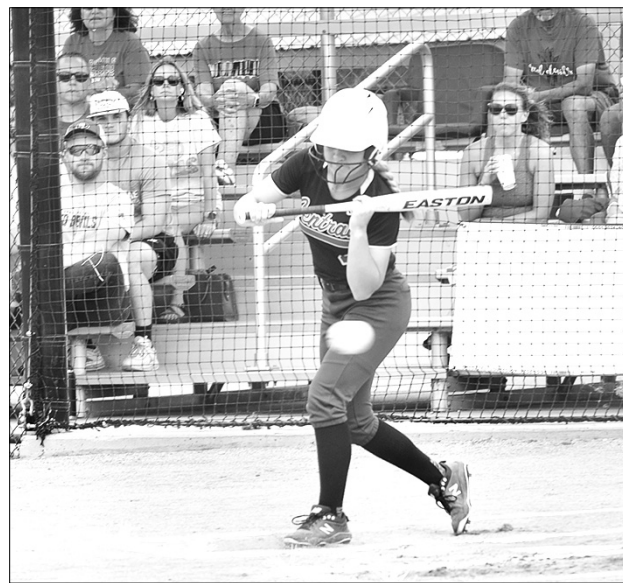
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Above Left, Karlie Moudy tags up on second and throws to first. Above Center, McKenze Castleman fires a pitch across the plate. Above Right, Lilly McGee lays down the bunt. Below Left, Carlee Hicks takes a swing at the ball against Jo Byrns. Below Center, Mykenzie Burton takes a swipe at the ball. Below Right, Ludvine Bernard looks for her pitch. Photos by Jason R. Martin/The Banner



# Tigers

...From Page 6

bringing in Morgan. Central came away with the 7-4 win.

Hampton threw 108 pitches, stroking out six giving up six hits and one walk. For Oliver Springs, Isabella Thornton started in the circle with three innings pitched allowing two hits, three walks and two runs. Ella Hampton and Lackey came in to relieve in hopes of a late comeback for the Bobcats.

## CENTRAL 3, SOUTH FULTON 2

MURFREESBORO (May 22) — The Central Lady Tigers took it down to the wire in the morning game against the South Fulton Red Devils winning 3-2. Central took the win in the bottom of the second with a walk-off double scoring the go-head run. Down 2-1

in the bottom of the seventh inning when Anna Kee doubled, scoring Madison Holder and Olivia Scott.

Central pitchers struck out 12, while South Fulton sat down two.

HRB Central Lady Tigers jumped into the lead in the bottom of the seventh when Addison Hampton hit a solo home run to left field followed by Kee's two-RBI double.

Holder led things off in the circle for the Lady Tigers. The starting pitcher gave up four hits and two runs (zero earned) over six and one-third innings, striking out 10 and walking three. Maddie Gray began the game for the Red Devils. She allowed six hits and three runs (two earned) over six and one-third innings, striking out two and walking one. Hampton appeared in relief for HRB Central Lady Tigers.

Kee went 1-for-2 at the plate as the outfielder led the team with two runs batted in. Hampton went 2-for-3 at the plate to lead

Central in hits. The Lady Tigers turned one double play in the game.

Piper Lusk went 2-for-3 at the plate to lead South Fulton in hits. Aubree Gore stole two bases.

## CENTRAL 2, JO BYRNS 3

MURFREESBORO (May 22) — The Central Lady Tigers opened the tournament with a 3-2 loss to Jo Byrns.

Addison Hampton started the game for Central and recorded 21 outs. The Lady Tigers were right in it until the Lady Devils reached on an error in the seventh inning with Miley Head crossing the plate for the lead.

An error put Central on the board in the bottom of the first. Then a second error put their lead to 2-0 in the bottom of the third inning.

Millie Putnam singled on the sixth pitch of the at-bat, which helped Jo Byrns tie the game at two in the

top of the sixth.

Callie Yates earned the win for the Lady Devils. She allowed two hits and two runs (zero earned) over seven innings, striking out eight and walking five. Hampton took the loss for the Lady Tigers. She went seven innings, allowing three runs (two earned) on five hits, striking out seven and walking none.

Anna Kee and Carlee Hicks each collected one hit for Central. The Lady Tigers accumulated five walks for the game. McKinley Garrison and Cloe Morgan led the team with two free passes each. Garrison stole two bases. Central stole four bases in the game.

Lady Devils' Head made the most of her chances at the plate as the number seven hitter led the team with two hits in three at-bats. Putnam went 1-for-3 at the plate as the infielder led the team with one run batted in. Jo Byrns turned one triple play in the game.



Above, Kaidyn Williams catches the ball from right field. Below, Addie Hampton throws a strike. Photos by Jason R. Martin/The Banner



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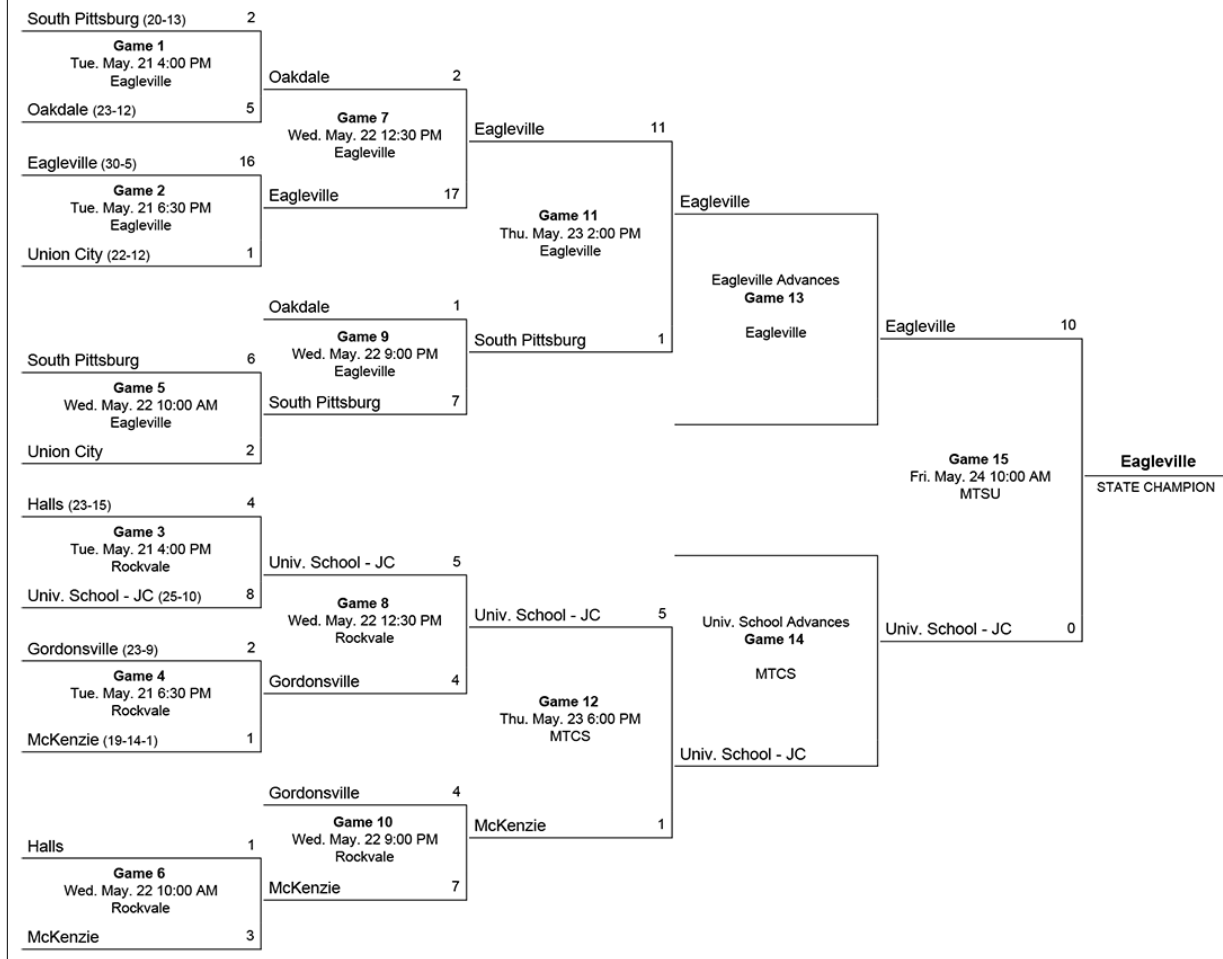
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**2024 McKenzie Roster**

#	Name	Grade
1	Gage Crosland	Junior
2	Ace Brown	Freshman
3	Hayden Garrett	Senior
4	Jake Cassidy	Senior
5	Cole Brown	Freshman
6	Kadarius Cunningham	Junior
7	Tate Surber	Junior
8	Xander Jonhsey	Sophomore
9	Lelan Gordon	Freshman
10	Fletcher Holt	Sophomore
11	Christian Hytinen	Freshman
12	Avery Brown	Freshman
13	Lane Anderson	Senior
14	Craegen Travis	Junior
15	Dawson Brush	Senior
17	Jacobi Melton	Freshman
19	Ripken Thompson	Freshman

**2024 Baseball Schedule**

Mar. 11	Union City @ CP Classic	L 5-14
Mar. 11	Dresden @ UC CP Classic	L 4-1
Mar. 12	Stewart Co. @ CP Classic	L 2-3
Mar. 16	@ Graves County	L 2-5
Mar. 18	Henry County	L 2-5
Mar. 19	@ Henry County	L 2-5
Mar. 21	Gleason	W 10-0
Mar. 25	Camden	T 4-4
Mar. 26	@ Camden away	L 3-7
Mar. 27	Adamsville @ Huntingdon	W 5-4
Mar. 28	@ Huntingdon	L 0-11
Mar. 29	@ Crockett County	L 0-10
Apr. 1	@ Houston County	W 12-0
Apr. 1	@ Houston County	W 10-0
Apr. 4	Westview	W 9-2
Apr. 5	@ Stewart County	W 5-1
Apr. 8	Bruceton	W 12-4
Apr. 9	@ Bruceton	W 6-1 L 1-3
Apr. 12	Riverside	L 3-1
Apr. 15	McEwen	W 14-1
Apr. 16	@ McEwen	W 17-1
Apr. 18	@ Westview	L 2-3
Apr. 19	Dresden	L 6-8
Apr. 22	@ Gleason	W 15-1
Apr. 23	@ Gibson County	W 4-3
Apr. 26	Stewart County	L 2-3
Apr. 30	@ Waverly	L 1-2
May 1	Houston County	W 7-1
May 2	Bruceton	W 13-3
May 3	McEwen	W 8-0
May 10	Perry County	W 9-0
May 11	Collinwood	W 7-0

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McKenzie Rebels defeat Collinwood picking up their third consecutive region championship. *File Photo*

# Rebels Falls Short in 1A Championship Run

BY JASON R. MARTIN  
jmartin@mckenziebanner.com

The McKenzie Rebels had the comeback story of the year. In the first few weeks of the season, the Rebels struggled to hit. They started the regular season 0-6 and like a diesel engine, they slowly heated up and became a force to be reckoned with. They came into the postseason with a 12-14 record and knew they had to prove themselves.

McKenzie continued to win, claiming the District 12A Championship and the Region 6A Championship. Then the Rebels swept Richland High School for a spot in the Class 1A Spring Fling.

With something to prove, the Rebels fought through adversity, weather delays and a change of venue making it to the semi-finals before finally being eliminated from the tournament.

## McKENZIE 1, JOHNSON CITY 5

MURFREESBORO (May 23) — In a game the Rebels couldn't afford to lose, luck was not on the side of McKenzie as they fell to the University School Johnson City Buccaneers, 5-1.

McKenzie got on the board in the first inning after Jake Cassidy grounded out but an errant throw led to Hayden Garrett scoring.

In the bottom of the fourth inning, Johnson City took the lead after Peter Boynewicz doubled, and Patrick Boynewicz grounded out, each scoring one run. The Buccaneers led 2-1.

Then in the bottom of the sixth inning, Johnson City put McKenzie away. Boynewicz scored on an error as the Buccaneers went up three. The final points came off a two-run double by Samuel Henley, capping the game at 5-1. Ultimately, eliminating the Rebels from the champion-

ship contention.

Craegen Travis started on the hill for McKenzie. He allowed four hits and four runs over five and one-third innings, striking out four and walking two. Knox Poston started the game for Johnson City. He allowed four hits and one run over seven innings, striking out four and walking two.

Lane Anderson, Tate Surber, Cole Brown, and Xander Johnsey each collected one hit for McKenzie.

Henley led the Buccaneers with two runs batted in from the number seven spot in the lineup. The first baseman went 1-for-3 on the day. Boynewicz went 2-for-2 at the plate to lead Johnson City in hits.

## McKENZIE 7, GORDONSVILLE 4

ROCKVALE (May 22) — On Wednesday, after a severe rain delay prevented the game from tak-



The Rebels having one last team huddle on their home field before state. *File Photo*

ing place until 9 p.m., the McKenzie Rebels were triumphant 7-4 in a rematch with Gordonsville.

Gordonsville got on the board in the top of the first inning after Sam Albritton singled, and Tristan Wood

grounded out, each scoring one run.

An error extended the Gordonsville lead to 3-0 in the top of the second inning.

McKenzie flipped the game on its head in the

bottom of the second, scoring six runs on two hits to take a 6-3 lead. The biggest blow in the inning was a double by Jake Cassidy after a 6-pitch at-bat that

See REBELS on Page 10

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# Rebels

...From Page 9

drove in three. Cassidy stepped on the hill first for McKenzie. He gave up four hits and four runs (zero earned) over seven innings, striking out six and walking two. Albritton was on the mound first for Gordonsville. The starting pitcher surrendered four hits and five runs (four earned) over one and one-third innings, striking out one and walking three.

Cassidy led McKenzie with three runs batted in. He went 2-for-4 on the day. Tate Surber led McKenzie with three hits in four at-bats.

J. Foster, Edward Rivera, Albritton, and Wood each collected one hit for Gordonsville. Foster, Albritton, and Wood each drove in one run for Gordonsville.

## McKENZIE 3, HALLS 1

ROCKVALE (May 22) — In the first match on Wednesday morning, McKenzie defeated Halls 3-1. Lane Anderson started the game for McKenzie and recorded 21 outs.

McKenzie got on the board in the top of the first inning after Cole Brown singled, and McKenzie scored on a wild pitch.

Anderson stepped on the bump first for McKenzie. He gave up three hits and one run over seven innings, striking out seven and walking one. Gavin Brewster led things off for Halls. He allowed five hits and three runs (one earned) over seven innings, striking out six and walking one.

Brown drove the middle of the lineup, leading the Rebels with two runs batted in. He went 1-for-2 on the day. Tate Surber went 2-for-3 at the plate to lead



Above Left, Lane Anderson throwing the third strike for an out. Above Right, Craegen Travis getting an out at first. Below Left, Hayden Garrett getting a hit. Below Right, Tate Surber stealing home. Bottom Right, Gage Crosland catching a pop fly. Photos by Gracie Aird/The Banner



McKenzie in hits. McKenzie turned one double play in the game.

Hayden Benson, Hayden Burks, and Brewster each collected one hit for Halls. Benson went 1-for-2 at the plate as the center fielder led the team with one run batted in. Halls turned one double play in the game.

## McKENZIE 1, GORDONSVILLE 2

ROCKVALE (May 21) — In the opening round of play, Tuesday's game against Gordonsville was a heartbreaker for McKenzie, as they lost the

lead late in a 2-1 defeat. The game was tied at one in the top of the seventh when Tucker Smith doubled, scoring one run.

The pitching was strong on both sides. Gordonsville pitchers struck out 15, while McKenzie sat down seven.

A walk by Tate Surber put McKenzie on the board in the bottom of the first.

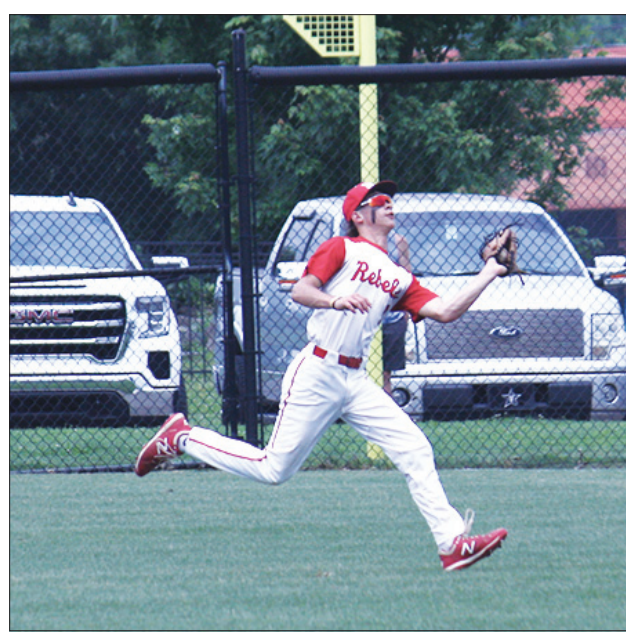
Sam Albritton singled, which helped Gordonsville tie the game at one in the top of the third.

Surber started the game for McKenzie. He gave up three hits and one run over four and one-third

innings, striking out four and walking three. Colton Bennett opened the game for Gordonsville. He allowed one hit and one run (zero earned) over seven innings, striking out 15 and walking three.

Surber led the team with one run batted in. Jake Cassidy went 1-for-3 at the plate to lead the Rebels in hits.

Smith and Albritton were a one-two punch in the lineup, as each drove in one run for Gordonsville. Albritton went 2-for-4 at the plate to lead Gordonsville in hits. Gordonsville turned one double play in the game.



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