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SPORTS & RECREATION

FEBRUARY 24, 2011

Tigers down Johnson, 76-24

John Wood
Frontline Correspondent

Bradwell didn't miss a beat in transitioning from a perfect regular season into the first round of the Region 3-AAAAA tourney with a crushing 76-24 win over Johnson, Feb. 16. Hours before they tipped off, the Lady Tigers found out they had been voted the top team in Class AAAAA in the most recent Georgia Athletics Coaches Association poll.

"We told them in the locker room after the game that tonight we played like a ranked team does. Come out and play like you deserve to be number one," Bradwell coach Faye Baker said.

The Lady Tigers' press forced a turnover to open the game and during the first quarter, most of Bradwell's 18 points came courtesy of Johnson's mistakes.

In all, BI forced 25 turnovers. The Lady Tigers took advantage of them, too.

"Strong ball movement is the best way to beat a zone defense and that movement is something we have been stressing all season," Baker said.

Johnson continued to run into the wall that was Bradwell's full court press. After his team turned the ball over time and time again, Johnson's coach called a timeout and urged his players to find the trap and stay away from it.

Johnson came out of the time out to find BI had switched to a half-court trap, which merely delayed the eventual turnover for Johnson.

Once the Lady Tigers were in complete control of the game they continued to play hard.

"We are not changing anything that we did all season. This is the postseason and we just want to get better at things that we do well. The most important thing we told them is not to get outhustled," Baker said.

Shaquioa Crockett led all scorers with 18 points. Jordan McAllister put in 16 points and Mariah Maternik finished with nine points.

Bradwell moves into the region tournament semifinals against Camden County. The Lady Wildcats upset Savannah High 46-42 to reach the semifinals.

"We beat Camden twice but that was the regular season. Obviously they have some good coaching and they have gotten better as the season progressed. We are not taking them for granted. We have to buckle down and get ready for them," Baker said. The Lady Tigers are ranked No. 2 in the most recent Atlanta Journal-Constitution poll.

John Wood

Lady Tiger Mariah Maternik scores against Johnson during Bradwell's 76-24 romp, Feb. 16, in Garden City. The Lady Tigers found out hours before the game that they were ranked No. 1 in the latest GACA poll.

College competitors play golf with Soldiers

Bob Matthews
Family and MWR Marketing Publicity Specialist

Members of Ohio Wesleyan University's golf team are, in a word, "excited" about playing in the Collegiate Golf Tournament at Hunter Army Airfield and being teamed up with Soldiers for College-Am play the day before.

The young players get a different perspective on life by being with the Soldiers and appreciate the respect they are shown for their golfing skills, Ohio Wesleyan Golf Coach Ian Miller said.

Miller said players told him it "gives them a better perspective on their daily lives, compared to others" who are serving their country.

"We have been fortunate to play at Camp Lejeune (N.C) as well. The players get really excited once they enter the gates of the base. It's a different type of atmosphere, and they all said their concentration levels went up. They were excited when they got there and excited about being there, too," Miller said.

The first two rounds of the 54-hole Omni Financial-Ohio Wesleyan University tournament will be played March 11 and the third round on March 12 at Hunter Golf Club.

Stewart-Hunter Director of Golf Tommie McArthur said the course will play about 6,700 yards for the men and 5,800-6,000 yards for the women competitors.

Miller said his players find Hunter Golf Club's course challenging, but fair.

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Liberty beats BI in scrimmage

Patty Leon
Frontline Correspondent

With the rain gone and warmer temperatures arriving, it seemed as if spring had finally sprung, Feb. 16, when Bradwell Institute and Liberty County squared off in a baseball scrimmage.

In the end, Liberty claimed local bragging rights with an 11-6 comeback win over the visiting Tigers.

Brandon Whitmore started on the mound for the Panthers while former Panther Chris Rafferty started for Bradwell. The Tigers got on the board in the first inning when Garrett McCorckle drove in Leonard Felton to put BI up 1-0.

That was all the scoring until the third inning when Whitmore was pulled for sophomore pitcher DeShaun Collins. The Tigers put five runs on the board on a combination of a Panther error, good base running, walks and timely hitting from Nick Synder, Rafferty, McCorckle, Matt Brown, Caleb Wells and Cody Hill.

Rafferty walked Panther Samuel Wilson, and Cameron Harris reached on a bunt. Both Panthers advanced on steals and Wilson scored on a BI throwing error. Antonio Smith and Trey Sikes then drove in runs to make it 6-3.

Rafferty was relieved by Eric Wells, who walked two Panthers to load the bases. The Tigers turned a double play to get out of the inning.

Bradwell brought Hill to the mound and he hit Whitmore with his first pitch to load the bases. Sikes drove in Lovelady and Harris, and Javaughn Shuman scored Sikes and Whitmore to put Liberty up 7-6.

Both teams went a quick three-and-out in the fifth inning and Liberty brought in freshman Curtis Michalowicz to pitch the sixth.

Panther coach David Samuel said his players began hitting better after dealing with preseason rust and a change in strategy to bunts and base running. But he was especially pleased with his pitching.

"Brandon Whitmore came out and did all right," Samuel said. "He was a little shaky in the first inning but came out in the second and did much better. Richard Lovelady and Curtis Michalowicz, both freshmen, came out and threw strikes and threw four good innings for me so that was a good job."

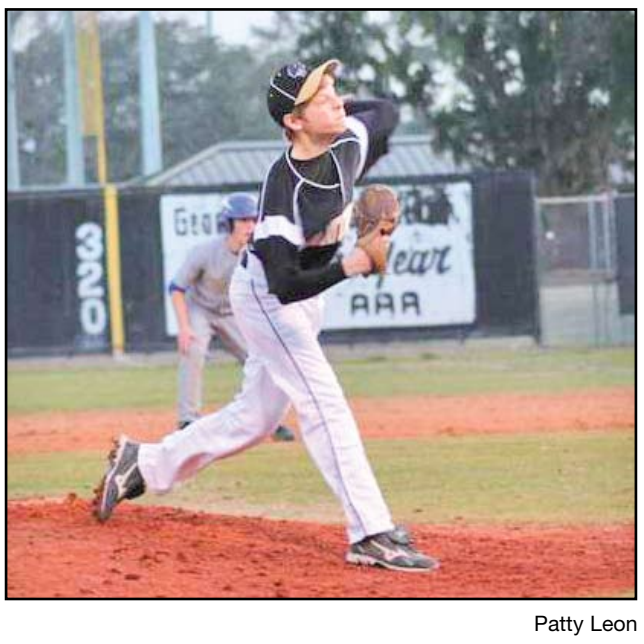
He said the Panthers still need to work on base running and the pitchers need to work on pick-off plays.

"Overall I was happy with the way the guys got better as the game went on," Samuel said.

Tiger coach Rhett Hellgren said he was equally pleased with his hurlers.

"This is the happiest I've ever been with our pitching staff and that is because we have a new pitching coach in Pat Sammons. He is working very hard with our pitchers and is a great addition to our staff," Hellgren said.

"Our lack of concentration and intensity gave them the big inning that brought them back into the game. We had a guy on second base and one out and we make a throw to second instead of going to first and getting the second out," Hellgren said, noting his team needs to improve at the plate. "And we need to get better at knowing what the count is. We have to be able to adjust. We are a team that should win ball games. We need to step up to the next level as a team and if we don't it's going to be a long season. But I am confident we will step it up."



Patty Leon

Richard Lovelady was one of two freshmen pitchers to impress Liberty County baseball coach David Samuel on Wednesday when LCHS beat BI in a scrimmage, Feb. 16.

Fort Stewart Marne/Rocky Conference Intramural Basketball Standings

TEAM	WON	LOST
Marne Conference		
139th MP Co	4	6
526th EN Co	10	0
703rd BSB	4	6
1/30th In	7	2
530th En Co	3	6
549th MP Co	1	9
C, 1/64 AR	2	7
3/7 CAV	5	2
Rocky Conference		
385th MP Co	6	5
D, 1/64th AR	5	6
135th QM Co	7	3
293rd MP Co	0	10
233rd Trans Co	2	6
1/9 FA	1	8
HHC, 2HBCT	9	0
MEDDAC	9	1
3/160th SOAR	3	3

Intramural Basketball Standings

Hard work expected to pay off at BI

John Wood
Frontline Correspondent

Bradwell soccer coaches Lindsay Guyett and Tommy Oglesby started conditioning in November. They say they're starting to see the hard work pay off.

In addition to getting their players in shape, the coaches have been working to build morale and a sense of family among the players.

"We practice right after each other and everyone is getting along really good and working hard together. Everyday we say a quote from Mia Hamm that really stresses the importance of the team," Oglesby said.

The Lady Tigers will showcase some depth with a combination of seniors and underclassman. "We will have some depth with nine seniors. But we also have some green players that haven't been around the high school game as long, but they are starting to pick up the game and they have been making progress," Guyett said.

Players also have been polishing their skill sets with Saturday clinics.

"We have players on both sides of the ball that are starting to step up. We have some very well rounded players that could fit a variety of roles on either side of the ball. When we start making a lineup we are really looking for the position that best fits them," Guyett said.

Guyett and Oglesby have made it a point to make sure that their teams are there to support the other Bradwell athletic teams. They have been very active as a cheering section at the basketball games.

"We want to be supportive of the other sports the way it used to be. I just really am grateful to Bradwell Principal Mr. Scott Carrier and the whole Bradwell community. It has been such a smooth transition for me this year," Guyett said.

Oglesby begins his second season with a team loaded with experience and senior leadership. However, the most important thing that Oglesby hopes his team will showcase this year is ownership.

"We are really working on being a possession-driven team that will be able to control the ball and create good shots. We will be able to control the clock and the pace of the game better. We want to get ball outside the back similar to a basketball fast break," Oglesby said.

The Tigers also are installing offensive sets that will allow them to attack an opponent's weakness.

Defensively, Oglesby is keeping things simple so it will cut down on the mistakes.

"We want to pressure the ball, make sure the field is balanced, and cover the opposing player moving the ball and our goal," Oglesby said.

"Beyond a shadow of a doubt, I think we are good enough this season to finish at the top of the region. We are working hard and the players really seem to be buying into the system that we are using on offense and defense," Oglesby said.

GOLF

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"The course appears fairly tame at first glance, but the green sites are pretty difficult and the greens themselves are fairly small. So, the guys have to really be able to control the ball going into the greens especially," he said.

Miller added, "The key there is hitting the right spot on the greens, and if you do hit good shots, you will be rewarded. It's a fair golf course, but a difficult course in its own right."

McArthur said 68 players from nine men's teams and 35 players from six women's teams are scheduled to compete.

It is on March 10 that Soldiers, retirees, Army Civilians and guests and members of Hunter and Taylors Creek Golf Club will get a chance to tee it up with the potential future PGA or LPGA Tour stars in the College-Am. The deadline for entry into the College-Am is March 8.

Eighteen three-person teams will be accepted for the College-Am. The entry fee is $50 per player for active duty, retirees, DOD Civilians and Taylors Creek/Hunter Golf Club members. The cost is $60 for civilian guests. Those who wish to play should call the Hunter Golf Club at 912-315-9115.

In the College-Am, a three-person scramble team will be paired with a collegiate player. The collegiate player will play his own ball and the score of the scramble team added to the collegiate player will establish a team score.

McArthur said he will do everything possible to match College-Am guest players with the school they request, provided they make reservations early. Play will begin with a shotgun start at 12:30 p.m.

College-Am at a Glance

WHERE AND WHEN: The Omni Financial-Ohio Wesleyan University College-Am will be played at Hunter Golf Club beginning with a shotgun start at 12:30 p.m. on March 10.

WHO MAY PLAY: Soldiers, retirees, Army Civilians and guests, members of Hunter and Taylors Creek Golf Club and civilians are invited.

COST: $50 per person for active duty, retirees, DOD Civilians and Taylors Creek/Hunter Golf Club members; $60 per person for civilian guests.

HOW TO REGISTER: Sign-up will end on March 8. To register, call Hunter Golf Club at 912-315-9115.

Omni Financial-Ohio Wesleyan University Tournament

WHERE AND WHEN: The Omni Financial-Ohio Wesleyan University Tournament will be played at Hunter Golf Club on March 11 and 12. The first and second rounds of the 54-hole tournament will be played on March 11 and the final round on March 12.

WHO IS PLAYING: Participating schools in the Men's Division are Ohio Wesleyan University (host school); University of North Carolina at Greensboro; College of Mount St. Joseph's; University of Pennsylvania;Bryant University; Ohio Dominican University; Wittenberg University; Shenandoah University and Urbana University. Participating schools in the Women's Division are Ohio Wesleyan; Savannah State University; University of Pennsylvania; Ohio Dominican, Wittenberg and Urbana. A total of 103 players are scheduled to compete.

For more information, call the Hunter Golf Club at 912-315-9115.

For more Stewart - Hunter community events check out the February **Quality Time** now available!

Army amputee runs on inspiration

Alexandra Hemmerly-Brown
Army News Service

WASHINGTON - Johnathan Holsey is a runner. The warrant officer stationed at Fort Gillem, Ga., keeps fit for military duty, often logging two to three miles per day, but with one caveat; Holsey has a prosthetic leg.

Assigned to the 3rd Military Police Group as a human resources technician, the 14-year Army veteran hasn't let his injury hold him back. Contrarily, he said being injured has spurred him to do things he never attempted before, like running a half-marathon.

"When I first got injured, I thought if I could ever run again, I'd give it my all," he said.

Warrant Officer Holsey's Army career began in 1992 when he joined as an armor crewman. He has been stationed in Georgia, South Korea, Florida and Washington, D.C. He changed his military occupation after a few years and became an administrative specialist, which is what he deployed as in 2004.

While serving in Iraq as a staff sergeant providing personnel support to the 2nd Infantry Division, Warrant Officer Holsey was swiftly initiated into the infantry lifestyle with near-daily convoys. He explained that his unit was re-locating to another forward operating base, and troops and supplies were shuffled constantly.

Warrant Officer Holsey said he wasn't very worried about riding in convoys, because "you never really think you might get hit."

But on Nov. 10, 2004, when Holsey was headed out on another routine trip, what he didn't expect to happen, did occur.

"That whole day is a blur," he said of being hit. "I never remember anything I did that day."

Pieced together from the memories of other Soldiers who were there, Warrant Officer Holsey only knows what happened second-hand. He doesn't remember his vehicle lurching in the blast from an improvised explosive device, and he doesn't remember how he managed to get out.

Warrant Officer Holsey said he lost consciousness until he arrived at a clinic on a Marine base.

"The one thing I do remember is that I almost rode in a different vehicle that day. I was supposed to switch, but I went back. I always think about that," he said.

Warrant Officer Holsey was medically evacuated to Germany, and then flown to Walter Reed Army Medical Center, Washington, D.C.

When he first arrived at Walter Reed, Warrant Officer Holsey's left leg was reinforced with metal pins, and he endured "wash out" surgeries every two days to prevent infection. Finally, his doctor told him that amputation might be his best option, and the next day he went into surgery.

Courtesy Photo

Warrant Officer Johnathan Holsey takes part in the first ever Warrior Games in Colorado Springs, Co., May 14, 2010, where he participated in the 200-meter dash, 400-meter dash and cycling events.

Told later by his ex-wife and stepsons that he reacted more emotionally than he remembers at the news he'd lose his leg, Warrant Officer Holsey said he's at peace with his decision now.

"I think I've learned to accept it," he said of his injury. "I think some of the things I've accomplished I wouldn't have if I wasn't injured."

Throughout his year of recovery, he said at times he felt as though he wasn't making progress, but within only two months he was fitted for a prosthetic and walking again.

In 2008, Warrant Officer Holsey ran his first Army 10-Miler with Walter Reed's "Missing Parts in Action" wounded warrior group where he met Sue Bozgoz, a retired Army lieutenant colonel and running coach.

Bozgoz, who's helped hundreds of other runners throughout her Army career and now coaches full-time, said Warrant Officer Holsey was the first wounded Soldier she trained.

"I realized that there's a lot of need to inspire wounded warriors," Bozgoz explained, noting she coaches because she loves seeing someone finish what they started.

Bozgoz and Warrant Officer Holsey kept in touch via e-mail and phone, with Bozgoz providing a training schedule and new distances and times to aspire to. One of Bozgoz's colleagues, retired Capt. Millie Daniels, would also meet Warrant Officer Holsey at a track two to three times per week to help him train.

Bozgoz, who's completed 52 marathons, is now also an agent for world-class runners who run in support of wounded warriors during races around the country.

"The goal is to inspire more people to run," she said.

Since 2008, Warrant Officer Holsey has run in each consecutive Army 10-Miler, a few half-marathons and the last 10 miles of the Marine Corps Marathon.

Interestingly, Warrant Officer Holsey said he wasn't really a runner prior to his injury, but he pushes himself harder now, just to see what he's capable of.

In keeping with that theme, in 2009 Holsey applied for Warrant Officer School, and became the first amputee in the Army to graduate. He said the instructors at the school showed him no favoritism because of his injury - the school was all-around challenging.

"I think I was physically prepared for it, but I'm not sure I was mentally prepared for it," he said.

Even at his current duty station, Warrant Officer Holsey said most of his peers didn't know he was injured until they saw him in shorts. But now when they see him running or working out, many of them are inspired to work harder.

Although Warrant Officer Holsey inspires others - he receives constant e-mails from people he doesn't even know to offer him support - he said, "It's the people around me who make me stay positive."

He said before he was wounded, he'd never met an amputee, but now feels as though other wounded warriors are who he relates to best.

"Sometimes I think we have to see each other out there," he said of seeing other wounded warriors at challenging events. "To me, it makes me realize I can still do it."

Warrant Officer Holsey's advice to other wounded Soldiers is to find someone to relate to and talk to them - it's important to let feelings and frustrations out, he said.

"I think you just don't give up," he said. "Don't allow your limitations to be my limitations."

Warrant Officer Holsey plans on staying in the Army until he retires, and he has his injury in part to thank for his decision.

"Because of the opportunities they've given us as wounded warriors, it's important for me to stay and help pave the way for others."