

Mooreville Track Teams Prepare For SD-7 Finales

It's this week or never for the members of the Mooreville Senior High's girls and boys track teams.

With the regular season preliminaries now complete, next on the Southern District Seven Conference track tour agenda is this week's respective track and field finales, ones that will determine final team and individual positions.

Mooreville's Devilettes and Blue Devils completed their regular business with a trip to Bessemer City Thursday afternoon for a tri-sect meet.

It served as the last tune-up for teams in anticipation of this week's conference meets.

The SD-7's girls league meet was scheduled to take place Tuesday at host Chase, while the boys gather for their final league gathering at Bunker Hill.

Both Mooreville teams have hopes of gunning for individual conference titles.

Among the girls, their best hope lies with Angie Mayhew, who completed an undefeatable run in the 800-meter run with

another first-place finish there last week at Bessemer City.

That was one of two blue ribbons earned by the Lady Devils of head coach Sandy Sullivan.

The other came via perhaps the team's only other league meet held in senior Sally Smith Smith captured the gold in the high jump, one of several events she has completed well in during the regular season.

For the boys, they finished last week's final regular season appearance with a single first-place finish, it turned in by Mike Wingler in the 110-meter high hurdles.

Wingler is also expected to be among the league contenders for honors in that event.

Wingler also fashioned a second-place showing in the 300-meter intermediate hurdles.

At Bessemer City, other league title hopefuls for the Devils put the finishing touches on their acts, as Ty Cross placed second in the Discus toss and wound up third in the shot put.

Kelly Painter turned in a second-place effort in the shot put, while Marcus Chambers

provided the boys of head coach Barclay Marsh with a near sweep in that event by placing fourth in the shot.

Both teams enter this week's respective league meets with hopes of prolonging their seasons.

In addition to seeking leaguewide honors, the track and field performers are hoping to land times in the running events and distances in the field attractions that will merit them a spot

in the upcoming postseason regionals.

Some of the Mooreville teams members have already met, or are on, at the venue of meeting, qualifying requirements.

While all competition during the regular season track meets have carried some weight, final league standings and individual event championships will be declared during the running of the two conference meets this week.

T-Ballers To Tee Off On Season Debuts Next Tues.

For Mooreville's T-Ball League teams, tee-off time, literally, in early next week.

Tuesday evening, to be exact, when the Mooreville T-Ball League cranks up another season with a pair of games that will serve to christen regular-season play.

Games that night will involve four of the 10 teams comprising the T-Ball League roster this year.

Those scheduled for opening night play are the Athletics, Astros, Braves, and Yankees.

During the remainder of the opening week, the Brewers, Pirates, Cubs, Phillies, Mets and Dodgers will all be engaged in first-week action at least once apiece.

All of the T-Ball battles will take place at Edgemore Park. Beginning with the season's first week, and continuing throughout the six-week-long season, games will be held on Tuesday and Thursday evenings, and on Saturdays.

On Tuesdays and Thursdays, just a pair of games will be held each playing date.

However, on selected "Super Saturdays," all 10 teams will play. Five games are tabbed to be held on four Saturdays during the course of the season. Play on those days will begin in mid-morning and extend throughout the early afternoon.

During the season, all 10 teams will face the remaining nine league opponents once apiece.

Play in the league is again being conducted through the Mooreville Recreation Department.

Players in the league are those boys and girls born between Aug. 1, 1984, and July 31, 1986.

Beginning with next Tuesday's opening-night twinnbill, the remainder of the T-Ball Baseball League schedule follows:

May 7
6:00 Athletics vs. Astros
7:00 Braves vs. Yankees

May 9
6:00 Brewers vs. Pirates

2:00 Cubs vs. Phillies
May 11

9:30 Athletics vs. Braves
10:30 Astros vs. Mets
11:30 Phillies vs. Dodgers

12:30 Pirates vs. Cubs
1:30 Yankees vs. Brewers
May 14

6:00 Dodgers vs. Mets
7:00 Braves vs. Astros
May 16

6:00 Dodgers vs. Pirates
7:00 Mets vs. Phillies
May 18

9:30 Yankees vs. Dodgers
10:30 Athletics vs. Cubs
11:30 Braves vs. Brewers

12:30 Astros vs. Phillies
1:30 Pirates vs. Mets
May 21

6:00 Brewers vs. Athletics
7:00 Cubs vs. Yankees
May 23

6:00 Cubs vs. Braves
7:00 Dodgers vs. Athletics
May 26

6:00 Mets vs. Yankees
7:00 Phillies vs. Pirates
May 30

6:00 Brewers vs. Astros
7:00 Yankees vs. Phillies
June 1

9:30 Pirates vs. Yankees
10:30 Dodgers vs. Brewers
11:30 Mets vs. Braves

12:30 Phillies vs. Athletics
1:30 Cubs vs. Astros
June 4

6:00 Athletics vs. Mets
7:00 Brewers vs. Cubs
June 6

6:00 Braves vs. Dodgers
7:00 Astros vs. Yankees
June 8

9:30 Pirates vs. Braves
10:30 Yankees vs. Athletics
11:30 Dodgers vs. Astros

12:30 Mets vs. Cubs
1:30 Phillies vs. Brewers
June 11

6:00 Cubs vs. Dodgers
7:00 Athletics vs. Pirates
June 13

6:00 Braves vs. Phillies
7:00 Brewers vs. Mets
8:00 Astros vs. Pirates



NCNJBC State Runner-Up

Who ever said nobody remembers who finished second, never did. Adrian Smith Bowles, 12, of Mooreville did just that recently, placing second in the North Carolina National Junior Bowling Congress state tournament held in Greensboro last month. Bowles competed in the grades three-five category, and finished second in the with handicap division. As a result, Bowles has earned an invitation to compete in the national regional tournament this summer.

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After Losses, No-Hitter, Vikings Hit Rock Bottom

It doesn't get any worse than this for South Iredell's varsity baseball team.

Engaging in three Foothills Athletic Conference games within a five-day span last week, the Vikings were dealt defeats in all three, one of them after being held hitless, to plunge into the cellar of the league standings.

The skid continued at home Friday night when visiting Statesville piled up a 12-1 victory.

But it wasn't the lowest point the previous Tuesday night, when the Vikings failed to punch out a single base hit to absorb a 12-0 no-hitter at the hands of host West Iredell.

Also last week, South Iredell completed an earlier game interrupted by rain, and again it poured, as Statesville held on to post a 7-5 victory.

Combined, three defeats lowered South Iredell's record to 0-4 in the FAC, keeping them as the league's only winless squad, and pushed their overall record

to the 4-1 level.

At home against Statesville Friday, the good news is that the hosts did pick up some hits, but that was good as the Greyhounds looked up their second win of the week over the Vikings.

South picked up its lone run in the fourth inning, ending 10 innings of scorelessness, when Tracy Shinn scored off a double steal.

Shinn had been stranded on a walk, swiped second, and moved to third on a passes ball.

The Greyhounds were in control from the start, scoring four times in the first inning and adding three more in the second for a 7-0 bulge.

The Vikings then scratched for their lone run in the fourth.

The Hounds added another run in the fifth and put the game away with four runs in the top of the seventh.

Shinn joined teammates Brian Wagner, Corey Honeycutt, Doug Sherrill and Randy Mayberry in

picking up a base hit each to account for the Vikings offense.

Mark Appa, who started, took the loss with Ryan Douglas also working on the mound for the hosts.

At West Iredell, nothing went right for the guests, who failed to make contact in suffering the 12-0 drubbing.

It was the first time the Vikings have been no hit in four years.

Shinn started on the mound for the visitors and suffered the loss, with Douglas and Appa taking turns pitching.

Combined, the trio surrendered the 12 runs along with 16 hits and five strikeouts.

South was limited offensively to five baserunners, three via walks, one a hit batsman and the fifth on an error. None of them advanced as far as third base. The Vikes went down on strikes 14 times.

West Iredell, in support of junior pitcher Kevin Martin, collected 18 hits and took charge with five runs in the first inning. The Warriors added three runs in the second, scored three more times in the third and their final run in the fifth.

In the continued game against Statesville, South Iredell put together a last-inning rally that trimmed a four-run deficit to two but which ended with the tying run on base.

The contest was resumed in the bottom of the second, with Statesville on top, 2-0.

In the third, the Vikes gained their only lead with three runs, highlighted by Mike Cummings' two-run single.

Statesville responded with two runs in the bottom of the third to regain the lead for good.

The hosts padded their lead to 7-3 with three runs in the fifth.

In the seventh, the Vikes put together a last-inning rally that produced their final two runs, but left a pair of runners stranded when a fly ball ended the threat.

South's Matt McConnell suffered the pitching loss, going the distance and allowing the seven runs on eight hits with five strikeouts.

Shinn paced the visitors at the plate with two hits, while Brian Shaw added a safety.

South Iredell, now stuck at the bottom of the league standings, entered this week's schedule with a couple of league games on tap.

The Vikes were to open the week last (Tuesday) night with a game at home against North Surry, and they then conclude it with a trip to cross-county rival North Iredell Friday night.

Rob Hancock, at number two singles, battled through three sets before losing.

At home to host league-leading Newton-Conover, the highlights were null as the Devils were handed their first shutout against a conference opponent.

The closest the hosts came to picking up a point was again at number two singles, where Hancock was once again involved in a three-set challenge before losing.

The Blue Devils of coach John Huffman entered this week's agenda scheduled to conclude the home portion of the league season in the first of two matches on tap.

The locals were to make their final home appearance against conference foe when entertaining Maiden late Tuesday afternoon.

Mooreville then gears up for its final league match when stepping beyond league boundaries to host non-league Providence Day tomorrow (Thursday) on the Edgemore Park course.

Senior High wraps up its league slate when traveling to Bunker Hill early next week before engaging in the two-day conference tournament May 8-9 at Newton-Conover.

Bunker Hill, playing on its home course, fashioned a second-best, 315 to lose three strokes off its own unstable advantage.

Newton-Conover finished third, with 328 strokes, followed, in order, by Chase, with 332, Bandys, with 350, Bessemer City, with 359, Maiden, with 364, and Cherryville, with 375.

The teams still have 18 holes left to play in tournament competition.

Mooreville's team score was paced by the two-over par 74 carded by freshman Butch Farrington, who solidified his position in fourth place among the league's top scorers.

Jason Young, also an underclassman, and Matt Ray, likewise, each earned identical scores of 79, both Young and Ray are returning all-conference golfers. Young currently ranks fifth leaguewide in stroke totals, while Ray is tied for 10th.

Benji Alexander used his round of an even 80 to round out Mooreville's team score.

Mooreville will join the rest of the league in wrapping up tournament play tomorrow (Thursday) afternoon with the final 18 holes on the Catawba Country Club Course.

Imps Open Second Half Just Like First Half

It was back to the ways of old for Mooreville Junior High's baseball team in opening the second half of its Tri-County Conference season.

And it's a good thing.

After opening the season with three straight wins, the Red Imps fell on hard times, and with it fell on a four-game losing skid.

But the Imps righted ship some in the game that marked the opening of the TCC's second half at Monday afternoon, triumphing 13-3, six-inning triumph over visiting China Grove on the Moor Park field.

It marked the second win in as many times over China Grove for Junior High.

The victory came on the heels of the team's fourth straight defeat, a 14-8 loss handed down by visiting West Rowan Thursday afternoon.

As a result of the split, the Red Imps of head coach Rick Spielman squared their record at the 4-4 level both within the TCC and overall.

At home Monday, the hosts rode the pitching of Michael Park and reliever Ryan Byers to the 10-run win in a game that was shortened by an inning due to a leaguewide rule.

Park allowed all three China Grove runs in the fourth before Byers was called on in relief to work the final three innings.

The Imps, looking to slide from underneath a losing skid that had reached to four games, took steps in that directing line in the first inning by cutting loose for five runs.

The hosts added two runs in the second, and three more in the third, before ending the game with three runs in the last of the sixth.

Centerfielder Peter Scire unleashed four hits to top the hit-heavy attack that also featured six extra-base hits.

Shortstop Scott Hager clubbed a pair of triples, while Park and Jeremy Smith each also added a three-base knock. Park and Ryan Whittington each clubbed a double.

It was Greg Edwards' opposite-field base hit that drove home the game final run with two outs in the sixth.

At home Thursday to host West Rowan, it was the Imps who started off having the game cut short by the 10-run lead rule only to suffer the 14-8 loss.

West Rowan appeared headed for an early return home, taking a 9-2 lead into the bottom of the fourth.

West had scored once each in the second and third innings before Mooreville scored twice to tie the game in the last of the third.

The Imps scored another run in the fourth and added three in the fifth, the last three which enabled the contest to go to the sixth.

That was so as West also played three runs in the top of the fifth before scoring its final two runs in the first half of the seventh.

Park again was the starting pitcher, and he endured the loss, with Byers again being called on in relief.

At the plate, Scire and Hager

each paired hits the latter slapping a double as one of his, while Whittington and Park each added a base knock.

After playing two straight games at home, the Imps now spend a week traveling, beginning today (Wednesday).

Junior High plays at Corriher-Lipe this afternoon and stays on the road to face host Knox Monday.

Devils Trim Deficit In SD-7 Golf

Mooreville moved closer to its first Southern District Seven Conference golf title in five years following the opening round of the annual 36-hole league tournament

Playing the first 18-holes on Hickory's Rock Barn Golf Course, the Blue Devils trimmed three shots off what was an eight-stroke deficit entering conference postseason play to inch to within five strokes of the current league leaders.

Mooreville did so by posting a team medalist-best score of 312 strokes for one of its best 18-hole scores in head coach Preston Harris' tenure.

"That's a very good team score," beamed Harris early Tuesday morning. "We put up another one like that, and we're in business."

The Devils are, anyway.

Entering the tournament trailing from Bunker Hill by those eight strokes, Mooreville overcame the individual match medalist round of the Bears' Paul Carpenter, who fired a one-under 71, to make up ground in a weather-interrupted round Monday.

Mooreville used three rounds in the 70's and a fourth right at 80, to post the best team score of the day.

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