

sports

BRIEFS

Chamber golf tourney slated for April 19

The 2008 Annual Member Golf Tournament, sponsored by the Cherokee County Chamber of Commerce, will be held Friday, April 18, at Cherokee National Golf Club. Registration and lunch will begin at 11 a.m. with lunch catered by Fatz. Shotgun start is scheduled for 12:30 p.m. using a Captain's Choice format. Prizes for hole in one, closest to the pin, longest drive and 1st, 2nd, 3rd Flights will be awarded. Corporate sponsorships are available at \$500 which includes a team and hole sponsorship.

Team sponsorships are \$300 and includes 2 mulligans and 1 red tee player. Hole sponsorships are \$100 each. Sponsorships include publicity both at the tournament and in the media.

Registration form and tournament USGA rules and exceptions are available at the Chamber office, via Fax and via e-mail. Contact Gene Moorhead, Executive Director, at 489-5721 or comcher@bellsouth.net or Dr. Ronn Radcliffe, Golf Committee Chairperson, at 489-7246.

Local hoop league begins signups

The Giving Back Organization is signing up students (boys and girls) ages 5 to 18 for the Free Spring/Summer Basketball Program. Applications can be picked up at: The Boys and Girls Club, Sage Sport or WFGN 1180, and must be turned in by April 25.

For more info contact Stan Crosby 864-487-9733; Eddie Palmer, Sr. 864-489-9255; or Johnny Sarratt, Sr. 864-425-0628

Lady Saints split with Barton

The Limestone College softball team split with Barton College on Saturday at the Lady Saints Field. Barton had the advantage in game one winning 2-1, but Limestone rebounded in game two, picking up the win 8-0 in five innings. The Saints now stand at 21-31 overall, 9-11 in the league. Barton is 14-23, 6-10 in the conference.

Summer hoop league registration continues

Registration is continuing at SageSport, the Boys and Girls Club and the Recreation District for the Cherokee County Summer Youth Basketball League. The league is for boys and girls ages 5 to 17. You also can signup by calling Chris Dewberry at 488-9596 or Laymond Dewberry at 425-5860.

Beasley to make intentions known today

Kansas State freshman Michael Beasley plans to announce whether he will enter the NBA draft at a Monday news conference on campus.

While Beasley is expected to be the first pick in the June 26 draft if he declares, the consensus All-American is apparently having a tough enough time deciding that advisers and family members gathered over the weekend to help him make a choice before his self-imposed 5 p.m. CDT deadline.

Glavine suffers hamstring injury

Tom Glavine has made 672 starts in the majors. Twice, 19 years apart, he failed to record an out.

The second time came Sunday against the reeling Washington Nationals, when the Atlanta Braves' 42-year-old lefty departed with a strained right hamstring and was charged with two runs. The reliever who replaced him, Jeff Bennett, walked in two other runs, then hit a batter who scored, too.

Essentially handed a 5-0 lead, the Nationals gave nearly all of that back, then escaped a bases-loaded jam in the top of the ninth to beat the Braves 5-4 and end a nine-game losing streak.

GHS golfers place third in tourney

Hopper shoots 1-under to earn all-tourney honors

By LARRY HILLIARD
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The Gaffney Indians are no run-of-the-mill golf team. They proved it again with a third-place finish at the prestigious Hardaway Invitational at Fort Benning, Ga.

The Indians chopped six strokes off their opening round score of 306 to finish at 606 after Saturday's final round.

A.C. Flora won the event with a 592. Harrison High School, located in Atlanta, Ga., was second with a 596.

Gaffney coach Todd Coggins said his golfers concentrated on improving their short game during the layoff prior to this weekend's tournament.

"We worked on putting and chipping," he said. "Everybody at these tournaments can hit the ball."

It made the difference for Gaffney's Matthew Hopper who was accurate from tee to green, shooting a 1-under par 143 to finish fourth individually. He also was named to the all-tournament team.

"He played very well," Coggins said. "He hit just about every green."

Gaffney's Adam Goins posted a 74-75 - 149, while teammates Phillip Rogers shot 78 on both rounds and Dan Whisenant had an 82-76 - 158.

The Indians also finished third in the event in 2003 - the year they went on to capture the state tournament.

Speaking of the state tournament, Coggins said this weekend's performance boosts his players' confidence heading into the important part of the schedule, including the region and state tournaments.

"This is what we needed with the region in 10 days," he said.

Gaffney finishes the regular season at Mauldin on Tuesday and at home against Spartanburg and Byrnes on Thursday.



Ledger photo by LARRY HILLIARD

Limestone goalkeeper James Tuohy makes the save and clears the ball to an open teammate during first-quarter action Saturday against Pfeiffer. The Saints blasted the Falcons, 16-4.

Saints hammer Pfeiffer

By LARRY HILLIARD
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A.J. Vaughn made sure his Senior Day would be a memorable one on Saturday.

Vaughn led all scorers with six goals and added an assist to lead the third-ranked Limestone men's lacrosse team to a 16-4 victory over rival Pfeiffer at Saints Field.

The Saints outshot Pfeiffer 46-25.

Some other seniors also had big days. Greg Kacinko and Jay Tranello each had a goal, while Justin Haworth dished out a game-high three assists.

Brook Spilker also assisted on a goal for the Saints.

Goalkeeper James Tuohy had nine saves in 56 minutes of play before being relieved by Tony Kvitko.

The Falcons had goals from Eddie Gourley, Chad Olsen, Robert Adams, and Shawn Cross. Goalkeeper Pat Martin posted 12 saves for the Saints.

Both teams will begin Conference Carolinas tournament play next week.

The first round of the tournament will be held on campus sites, while the semifinals and finals of the tournament will be hosted by Limestone College in Gaffney.

Limestone, which clinched the top seed in the tournament and the regular season conference title, will receive a first-round bye and will play at 11 a.m. on Friday, April 18 in the semifinals.

The 2008 Conference Carolinas men's lacrosse championship will be played on Sunday, April 20 at Saints Field at 3 p.m.

Wildcats enjoy a winning spring break

By LARRY HILLIARD
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Blacksburg baseball coach Toby Elliott couldn't have asked for a better spring break.

The Wildcats finished their busy spring break with a 3-1 record after routing Southside, 26-4, on Friday.

Dustin Byars was big again for the Wildcats, posting three wins.

"Dustin pitched great for us and that's what we needed," Elliott said.

Blacksburg improves to 6-5 in the region and remains alive for the fourth and final playoff spot. The Wildcats can clinch that spot with a win Tuesday against Chesnee.

"It was a great week," Elliott said. "We struggled a little offensively against Carolina, but every aspect of our game was in sync."

The Wildcats also beat Broome and Carolina last week. Chapman was the lone team to beat Blacksburg.

Friday's game against Southside was never in doubt. The Wildcats exploded for 11 runs in the first inning to take command.

Ashby Pruitt and Brent Humphries both drove in five runs and homered to lead the 19-hit attack.

Blake Tharpe had four RBIs and Josh



TOBY ELLIOTT

Scruggs knocked in three runs for the surging Wildcats.

Ryan Dellinger, Tyler Moss and Byars combined on the six-hitter.

In the first inning, the Wildcats sent 15 batters to the plate. Pruitt led off the inning with a single. After two walks, Humphries followed with a 2-run single.

Dellinger, Pruitt and Norman also had run-scoring hits. Two other runs scored on a throwing error to cap the big inning.

After retiring the Wildcats in order in the second, the Southside starter was roughed up for 13 runs in the third inning.

Pruitt's grand slam and Humphries' three-run blast highlighted the offensive fireworks.

Blacksburg capped its scoring with two runs in the fourth.

Southside scored three runs in the second and added a run in the third.

Local youth baseball league opens season today

By LARRY HILLIARD
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Borrowing from the popular Monday Night Football theme, are you ready for some baseball?

About 425 area youths sure are. The local Cal Ripken League opens its regular season today at the Cherokee County Youth Sports Complex.

Competition will take place in three age divisions - Major (ages 11-12), Minor (ages 9-10) and Mite (ages 7-8).

Each league will play a 12-or 14-game schedule.

The Major League will feature eight teams, including defending league champion Elks. VFW, which captured the preseason tournament, is expected to pose a stiff challenge to the defending champs.

In the 10-team Minor League, defending champion A&E Engineering has the talent to repeat. But First Piedmont Federal and Burger King could unseat the defending champ.

The Mite League is wide open with defending champ American Community Bank in a rebuilding mode. McDaniel Landscaping and Hamrick Inc. are expected to compete for the league crown.

League official Tim Blackwell said he's looking forward to an exciting season.

"I think the leagues should be very competitive this season, especially in the Major League division," he said.

Blackwell also said the league couldn't operate without its team sponsors.

"The sponsors make it possible to operate the league," he said.