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SEMO Spartans Win Back to Back State Championships

JULY 20TH 2017 BY DEE LOFLIN

SEMO Spartans Win Back to Back State Championships

Spartans Win Back to Back State Titles - by Rhylan Hillis

Dexter, Missouri - The Babe Ruth League SEMO Spartans 15 year olds have once again advanced to the Midwest Plains Regional Tournament. They won the Babe Ruth State Championship in Joplin last week. This is the second year in a row the team has taken a state title.

After going 3 - 0 in pool play in the Junior Babe State playoffs, the first loss for the SEMO Spartans came on Saturday losing 3 - 6 to Booneville.

The Spartans defeated Carthage 15-0; Carl Junction 29-0; Monett 20-1 and lost to Booneville 6-3 in pool play.

In bracket play, the Spartans defeated Booneville 7-0 and beat Mineral Area 4-2.

This was a tough loss for the Spartans and put them in the number 2 position of the tournament. Fortunately this allowed the Spartans to come back the next day and beat Booneville 7 - 0. It was a tough battle against Booneville. The Spartans were down early two runs, but with the help of ace pitcher Gage McNeil and closer Haden Hillis, the Spartans battled back to for the win.

"It felt pretty cool because it was all up to me and I had one job, to focus and throw strikes and I did and we came back and won," commented McNeil, pitcher for the Spartans.

The next game was the championship game and all eyes were on the state trophy.

The evening before right fielder, Haden Hills, from Dexter slept with the state trophy from 2016.

"I knew it would remind everyone how good it felt to win," stated Hillis.

The match-up was a repeat of last year's championship game, Mineral Area had the #1 seed. Garrett Henson was selected to pitch for the Spartans.

"I knew before the game even started that it was win or go home, so I put the team on my back and took them for a ride," stated Henson.

Mineral Area started out strong by scoring two runs early, but that didn't stop the Spartans from fighting back.

In the bottom of the 4th inning, Gavin Bond hit a fly ball deep to right center to tie the game.

Then two hits from Kaden Siebert and Gage McNeil put the Spartans on top making it a 4 - 2 game. At the top of the 7th inning the Spartans needed three more outs to grab the title as State Champions. The first two outs came with a diving catch from Jack Scruggs.

"It felt pretty cool to make an important out," commented Scruggs. People were on the edge of their seat waiting for the third out. The pitch was made, the ball went flying high, and as the last out was just about to be made by center fielder Ethan Hutchison, one could hear in the stand, "State Champs Baby!"

Third baseman, Kaden Siebert after the game said, "It always feels great to win a championship, but this one felt really special."

The tournament will take place in Junction City, Kansas on July 26th - July 30th.

On Friday, July 21, team members will be waiting tables at Dexter Queen on Business 60 to earn tips that will help fund their Junction City trip. The public is encouraged to visit Dexter Queen and support the local SEMO Spartans.

Pictured following their victorious state competition are, front row: Kaden Siebert, Carson Bell, Peyton Driskill, Camden Riley, Mason Keena, Gavin Bond; Back row: Coach Kyle Matthews, Jack Scruggs, Luke Becker, Garrett Henson, Ethan Hutchison, Jake Hankins, Gage McNeil, Haden Hillis, and Coach Caleb Miller.

Special thanks to Rhylan Hillis who provided much of the information, quotes, and majority of the article on the Spartans Championship win. She is going to make a great sports commentator in her future after high school! The ShowMe Times looks forward to her continued coverage of the Spartans and who knows you might be reading more articles from Miss Hillis in the future. Stay tuned!

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2017 Advance High School Volleyball Schedule

JULY 19TH 2017 BY DEE LOFLIN

2017 Advance High School Volleyball Schedule

Advance, Missouri - The 2017 Advance High School Volleyball varsity and junior varsity schedules are now available. Advance will participate in the Notre Dame Volleyball Festival on August 31st - September 2nd and the SCAA Volleyball Tournament on October 2nd - 6th.

Mark your calendar for another exciting year of Advance Hornets Volleyball!!

2017 Volleyball Varsity and Junior Varsity Schedule:

Mon 08/21/17 Scott City High School Varsity/JV Home 6:00 pm

Fri 08/25/17 Richland R-1 High School Varsity/JV Away 6:00 pm

Tue 08/29/17 Oran High School Varsity/JV Home 6:00 pm

08/31/17--09/02/17 Notre Dame Volleyball Festival Varsity/JV Away TBA

Tue 09/05/17 Bernie High School Varsity/JV Home 6:00 pm

Thu 09/07/17 Leopold High School Varsity/JV Away 6:00 pm

Mon 09/11/17 Notre Dame High School Varsity/JV Away 6:00 pm

Tue 09/12/17 Meadow Heights High School Varsity/JV Home 6:00 pm

Thu 09/14/17 Saxony Lutheran High School Varsity/JV Away 6:00 pm

Mon 09/18/17 Dexter High School Varsity/JV Away 6:00 pm

Thu 09/21/17 Puxico High School Varsity/JV Home 6:00 pm

Mon 09/25/17 Oak Ridge High School Varsity/JV Away 6:00 pm

Tue 09/26/17 Bloomfield High School Varsity/JV Away 6:00 pm

Thu 09/28/17 Zalma High School Varsity/JV Away 6:00 pm

Sat 09/30/17 Perryville Volleyball Tournament Varsity Away TBA

10/02/17--10/06/17 SCAA Volleyball Tournament Varsity/JV TBA TBA

Sat 10/07/17 Jackson JV Volleyball Tournament Jr. Varsity Away TBA

Mon 10/09/17 Bell City High School Varsity/JV Home 6:00 pm

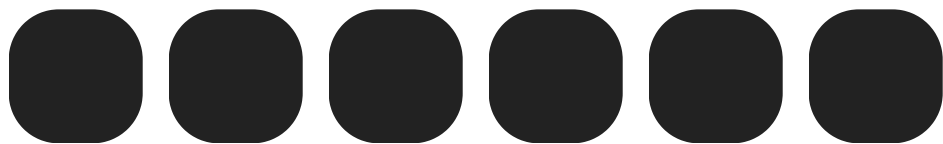
Tue 10/10/17 St. Vincent High School Varsity/JV Home 6:00 pm

Fri 10/13/17 Woodland High School Varsity/JV Away TBA

10/16/17--10/17/17 Volleyball District Tournament Varsity TBA TBA

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2017 Advance High School Fall Baseball Schedule

JULY 19TH 2017 BY DEE LOFLIN

2017 Advance High School Fall Baseball Schedule

Advance, Missouri - The Advance Hornets fall baseball schedule has been announced. The Hornets will open against East Carter County and Van Buren.

Their first home game will be against Cooter High School on Monday, August 21, 2017 at 4:30 p.m.

2017 Advance Hornets Fall Baseball Schedule:

08/18/17--08/19/17 East Carter/Van Buren Baseball Varsity Away TBA

Mon 08/21/17 Cooter High School Varsity Home 4:30 pm

Sat 08/26/17 Naylor High School (DH) Varsity Home 10:00 am

Thu 08/31/17 Oran High School Varsity Away 4:30 pm
Wed 09/06/17 Bell City High School Varsity Away 4:30 pm
Fri 09/08/17 Leopold High School Varsity Away 4:30 pm
Sat 09/09/17 Van Buren HS at Bloomfield Varsity TBA TBA
Sat 09/09/17 Bloomfield High School Varsity Away 12:00 pm
Mon 09/11/17 Oran High School Varsity Home 4:30 pm
Thu 09/14/17 Twin Rivers High School Varsity Home 4:30 pm
Mon 09/18/17 Puxico High School Varsity Home 4:30 pm
Fri 09/22/17 Bloomfield High School Varsity Away 4:30 pm
09/23/17--09/26/17 Bernie Fall Baseball Tournament Varsity Away TBA
Fri 09/29/17 Bloomfield High School Varsity Home 4:30 pm

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Advance High School Cross Country Schedule

JULY 19TH 2017 BY DEE LOFLIN

Advance High School Cross Country Schedule

Advance, Missouri - The Advance High School grades 9 - 12 Cross Country Team Schedule has been released for the 2017 season.

2017 Advance Hornets Cross Country Schedule:

Sat 08/26/17 Jackson CC Invitational Varsity/JV Away 9:00 am

Sat 09/09/17 Arcadia Valley CC Meet Varsity/JV Away 11:00 am

Sat 09/16/17 Cape Central CC Invitational Varsity/JV Away 10:00 am

Tue 09/19/17 Oak Ridge CC Invitational Varsity/JV Away 4:00 pm

Sat 09/30/17 Notre Dame CC Invitational Varsity/JV Away 10:00 am

Thu 10/05/17 Saxony/Chaffee CC Invitational Varsity/JV Away 4:00 pm

Mon 10/09/17 SCAA Quad Meet Varsity/JV Away 4:00 pm

Sat 10/14/17 Farmington CC Invitational Varsity/JV Away 12:00 pm

Tue 10/17/17 Semo Small School CC Conference Varsity Away 4:15 pm

Sat 10/21/17 Dexter CC Invitational Varsity/JV Away 10:00 am

Sat 10/28/17 Class 1 District Varsity TBA TBA

Sat 11/04/17 Class 1 State Championships Varsity Away TBA

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Rib City Volleyball Scheduled at Cape SportsPlex

JULY 19TH 2017 BY DEE LOFLIN

Rib City Volleyball Scheduled at Cape SportsPlex

Cape Girardeau, Missouri - The Dexter Lady Cats Volleyball team have a busy 2-day schedule at the annual Rib City Volleyball Tournament. On Thursday, July 20th and Friday, July 21st teams will battle it out for the number one spot at the Cape SportsPlex in Cape Girardeau, Missouri.

On Thursday, Dexter will begin play at 10:00 a.m. on court 3B against Creekwood.

11:30 a.m. Dexter vs Brookland on court 4A

1:00 p.m. Dexter vs Valmeyer on court 4A

2:30 p.m. Dexter vs Camden on court 6A

4:45 p.m. Dexter vs Brookland 1B on court 4A.

On Friday, Dexter begins play at 11:30 a.m. on court 3A against Fairview

1:00 p.m. Dexter vs John Burroughs on court 5A

3:15 p.m. Dexter vs Murphysboro on court 4B

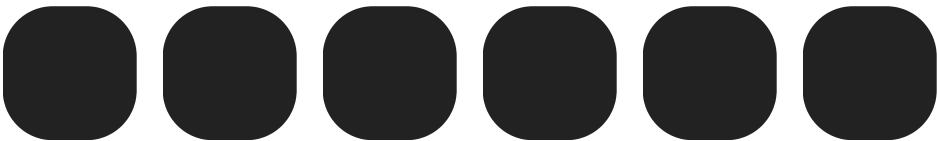
4:45 Valmeyer will play the winner of the Dexter vs Murphysboro game on court 4B

No other Stoddard County volleyball team is playing in this Rib City Shootout.

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