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Bearcat Wrestling Team Splits in a Tri-Meet with NMCC and Kennett

DECEMBER 17TH 2024 BY DEE LOFLIN

Bearcat Wrestling Team Splits in a Tri-Meet with NMCC and Kennett

The Dexter Bearcats Wrestling Team opened up their season at home in a Sri meet against New Madrid County Central and Kennett. Dexter was victorious over New Madrid by a score of 52 to 29. Kennett narrowly escaped with a win by one point defeating Dexter 41 to 40.

Dexter (DEXTER) 52.0 Central (New Madrid County) (CENTRALNM) 29.0

- 106: Landon Ashland (DEXTER) over (CENTRALNM) (For.)
- 113: Paxton White (DEXTER) over Blake Perez (CENTRALNM) (MD 17-3)
- 120: Hunter McCollough (DEXTER) over (CENTRALNM) (For.)
- 126: Brenner Davis (DEXTER) over (CENTRALNM) (For.)
- 132: Alexander Edwards (CENTRALNM) over Dayton Fornkohl (DEXTER) (TF 22-7 0:00)
- 138: William Jackson (CENTRALNM) over (DEXTER) (M. For.)
- 144: Landon Lacy (DEXTER) over (CENTRALNM) (For.)
- 150: Danyl Conn-Harris (DEXTER) over (CENTRALNM) (For.)

157: Wyatt Hockersmith (DEXTER) over (CENTRALNM) (For.)

165: Mark Miller (CENTRALNM) over Kodi Lynn (DEXTER) (Fall 0:00)

175: Gage Nabert (CENTRALNM) over Aiden Robinson (DEXTER) (Fall 0:00)

190: Connor Henderson (CENTRALNM) over Simon Bruyette (DEXTER) (Fall 0:00)

215: Carson Mullins (DEXTER) over (CENTRALNM) (For.)

285: Gabe Bordon (DEXTER) over Nehemiah Evans (CENTRALNM) (Fall 0:00)

Kennett (KENNETT) 41.0 Dexter (DEXTER) 40.0

106: Landon Ashland (DEXTER) over (KENNETT) (For.)

113: Paxton White (DEXTER) over (KENNETT) (For.)

120: Hunter McCollough (DEXTER) over (KENNETT) (For.)

126: Brenner Davis (DEXTER) over Fred Patterson (KENNETT) (MD 15-5)

132: Logan Decker (KENNETT) over Dayton Fornkohl (DEXTER) (TF 17-2 0:00)

138: Jaxon Akridge (DEXTER) over (KENNETT) (For.)

144: James Shields (KENNETT) over Landon Lacy (DEXTER) (Fall 0:00)

150: Michael Williams (KENNETT) over Danyl Conn-Harris (DEXTER) (Fall 0:00)

157: Wyatt Hockersmith (DEXTER) over Bryson Tilman (KENNETT) (Fall 0:00)

165: Lavon Downey (KENNETT) over Kodi Lynn (DEXTER) (Fall 0:00)

175: Lucus Crum (KENNETT) over Aiden Robinson (DEXTER) (Fall 0:00)

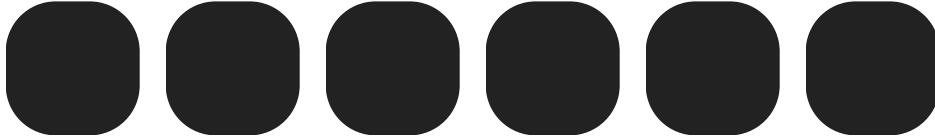
190: Austin Gattis (KENNETT) over Simon Bruyette (DEXTER) (Fall 0:00)

215: Carson Mullins (DEXTER) over Ronaldo Olguin (KENNETT) (Fall 0:00)

285: Kevin Thompson (KENNETT) over Gabe Bordon (DEXTER) (Fall 0:00)

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2024 Charles Bland Recipient Awarded to Caden Lee

DECEMBER 11TH 2024 BY DEE LOFLIN

2024 Charles Bland Recipient Awarded to Caden Lee

The Charle E. Bland Football Award was intended to honor a well-rounded student athlete. The criteria for this award is not only being an athlete, but scholastics, school participation, attendance, community participation, leadership, personal and team attitude.

This is the 31st annual Charles Bland Award and it recognizes the contribution and legacy in the community and school sports.

"I think we missed the overall effect of all senior football players because it is bigger than just whoever carries this trophy out," commented presenter and assistant coach Jason Comfort. "Because I think all senior football players, a number of them over the past have stepped up their volunteerism, they worked a little harder on their grades, maybe they found themselves trying to struggle and fight to get to a place of leadership. And I think

when the group does that, that's often forgotten byproduct of what this award does. There is only one winner, but many are affected by the ambitious criteria of team and community stewardship."

This award is not only athletics, but academics, leadership, community participation, and most of all attitude.

"This award is talked about a lot. It kind of gets the aura of it is a Heisman, an MVP award, IT'A NOT!" continued Comfort. "It is set out to be a reward for the most well rounded student athlete on the football team. That is what Charles Bland's passion was about and you know a lot of people remember that passion."

This young man was very active in our community, he has good academics, and showed leadership," Comfort said.

"It is my pleasure to announce and present this years Bland Award to Caden Lee!"

Caden is the son of Ryan and Ariel Lee. He is a four year member of the DHS football team and is also a member of Future Business Leaders of America, National Honor Society and Sr. Beta Club.

His future plans are to attend the University of Mississippi and major in statistics. He then wants to pursue a career in actuarial science.

A little history of the Bland Award

The late Charles 'Seed' Bland - the man that the stadium these athletes battled in during their high school careers - was a very active supporter of the Dexter School System for many years. The most amazing gift 'Seed' gave was his pride in the Bearcats, as well as the young people of Dexter High School.

Known only to a few, the late Ruth Bland was the 'athlete of the family' and was a standout for both the DHS basketball and track teams. It has been written that she was 'the best female athlete in Southeast Missouri' during her time.

Together, the Bland family has been there to support Dexter Schools and Bearcat Athletics for over 60 years.

Past Winners of the Bland Award

1994 - Kevin Young

1995 - Jason Comfort

1996 - Kent Essner

1997 - Mike Guethle

1998 - Justin Kelley

1999 - David Howard

2000 - Jason mayer
2001 - Nathan McKay
2002 - Drew Wethington
2003 Marc Thrower
2004 - Derek Clark
2005 - Andrew Stuever
2006 - Drew Pixley
2007 - Eric Windham
2008 - Nick Hessling
2009 - Gary Summers
2010 - Taylor Jarrell
2011 - Tyler Miller
2012 - Ryan Joiner
2013 - Holden Bruce
2014 - Noah Kronk
2015 - Tyler Stevenson
2016 - Jason Jarrell
2017 - Ben Sindle
2018 - Nate Gargas
2018 - Honorary Award to Alan Hedrick

2019 - Austin Guy
2020 - Ryan Collier
2021 - Camden Riley
2021 Honorary Award Aaron Pixley

2022 - Logan Josupait

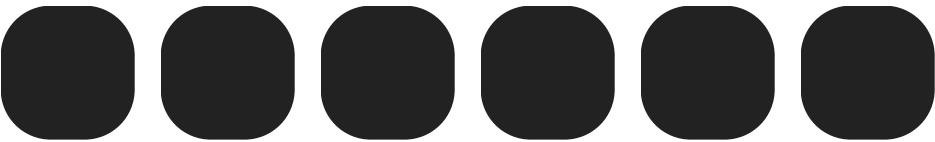
2023 - Rhyder Williams

2024 - Caden Lee

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Historic Moment at Zalma Varsity Boys vs Scott County Central Varsity Boys Basketball Game

DECEMBER 11TH 2024 BY DEE LOFLIN

Historic Moment at Zalma Varsity Boys vs Scott County Central Varsity Boys Basketball Game

In a groundbreaking moment at the Zalma High School gymnasium on December 10, 2024, three remarkable women created history by officiating a varsity boys' basketball game. Tierra Johnson, known for her skills on the court playing for Three Rivers College and Southeast Missouri State University, joined forces with Stefanie Tinsley, a former standout player at Three Rivers College, to officiate the game. The duo was completed by Laura Hagood, a proud alumna of Neelyville

High School, class of 1990.

This historic occasion marked the first-ever instance of three women refereeing a boys' basketball game in the Zalma area, breaking barriers and paving the way for further inclusivity in the sport. The collective expertise and passion for basketball brought by Johnson, Tinsley, and Hagood undoubtedly added a unique and empowering touch to the game, inspiring players and spectators alike.

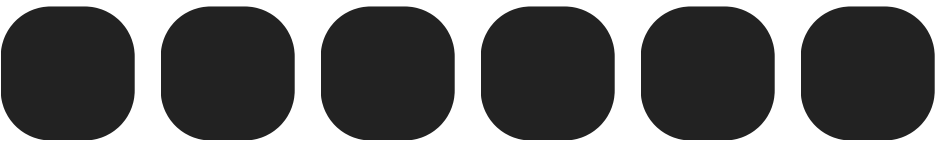
Their presence on the court not only showcased their capabilities as referees but also highlighted the importance of diversity and gender equality in the world of sports. As these trailblazing women continue to make strides in the basketball community, their impact serves as a reminder that boundaries are meant to be challenged and shattered. Cheers to Tierra Johnson, Stefanie Tinsley, and Laura Hagood for their historic achievement and for setting a powerful example for future generations of referees and athletes!

Photo and article submitted.

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2024 Advance Junior Varsity Boys Basketball Tournament

DECEMBER 11TH 2024 BY DEE LOFLIN

2024 Advance Junior Varsity Boys Basketball Tournament

The Puxico JV Indians will play in the 2024 Advance Junior Varsity boys basketball Tournament and have earned the #1 seed. their first game will be against Delta on Monday, December 16, 2024 at 6:00 p.m.

The #2 seed is Chaffee followed by #3 Oran, #4 Woodland, #5 Advance, #6 Bloomfield, #7 Meadow Heights and #8 Delta.

Woodland plays Advance at 7:15 on Monday, December 16th. in the Main Gym.

Chaffee will play Meadow Heights in the FEMA Gym at 7:15 p.m. also on Monday.

Oran will face Boomfield at 6:00 p.m. on Monday in the FEMA Gym.

The tournament will continue on Wednesday with games at 6 p.m. and 7:15 p.m.

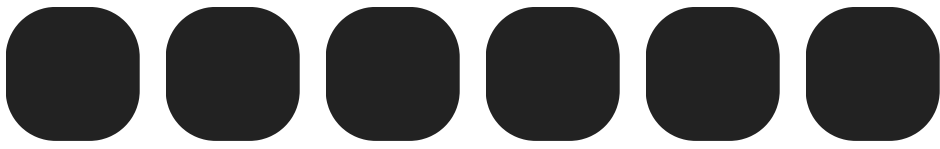
7th Place will be on Thursday at 6 p.m., Consolation/5th Place will be also on Thursday at 7:15 p.m. both in the FEMA Gym.

Third Place game will be in the Main Gym at 6:00 p.m. and the Championship Game will be at 7:15 p.m. also in the Main Gym on Thursday, December 19th.

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Lady Cat Wrestlers Shine in Wonder Woman Rookie Roundup

DECEMBER 02ND 2024 BY DEE LOFLIN

Lady Cat Wrestlers Shine in Wonder Woman Rookie Roundup

The Dexter Lady Cats Wrestling Team competed in the 2nd Annual Wonder Woman Rookie Roundup in St. Charles, Missouri showcasing strong performances from its athletes.

Taylinn Conn-Harris earned a second place finish winning 4 and only losing 1 match.

Izzy Bruyette also won second place with a 4-1 record.

McKenzie Wynn went 1-3 at the roundup.

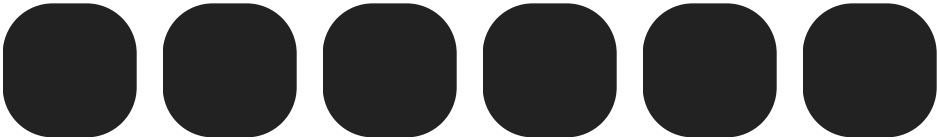
"I am very proud of these young ladies," commented head wrestling coach Cody Boyer. "They have worked very hard to accomplish their wins. This type of roundup is for girls who have only middle school experience or beginners at the high school level."

Two members had to miss the tournament due to a schedule conflict.

The Girls Wrestling Team will be back in action at the Tiger Classic on December 20th and 21st. This event will be held at Cape Central High School.

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