

Lady Cats go 11-0

■ Lady Wildcats win five in a row over Choctaw County and J.U. Blacksher at Millry Invitational

By Colin Merritt
The Choctaw Sun

MILLRY — After struggling to get past a pesky Choctaw County squad 2-1 in the tournament opener, the Lady Wildcats outscored their opponents 38-13 over the next four games to claim the Millry Invitational Tournament over the weekend.

The performance, which saw Millry collect 39 hits in three games on Saturday, prompted some praise from usually hard-to-please coach Ronnie Hubbert.

"We have gotten better in these first few weeks of the season," Hubbert said. "We are playing with lots of confidence and are executing the fundamentals, like base running, much better."

The five-win weekend ran the Wildcats' overall record to 11-0. But with the Dolphin Classic in Orange Beach starting this Friday, Hubbert thinks his team will really be put to the test.

"The Dolphin Classic is always an excellent tournament and should be a real good test for our girls," Hubbert stated of the tourney which will feature schools from bigger classifications like 5A Gulf Shores and Escambia. "We aren't just going down there for the experience of playing bigger teams though, we are going down there to win some games."

Last season Millry finished third after losing 2-1 to Gulf Shores in the tournament semi-finals.

Millry Choctaw County 2 1

In the first, Kristen Skinner's double would plate Crystal Thead, who reached on a triple, to give Millry a quick 1-0 lead.

However, Choctaw's Jaleesa McNeely would settle in on the mound and hold the Wildcats scoreless through the next seven innings. Choctaw would actually tie the game in the sixth after two passed-balls plated Brittany Adams, who had reached on a single and stole second.

Millry would retake the lead, 2-1, in the top of the eighth after Courtney Whigham scored on a sac bunt off the bat of Kayla Dyess.

Dyess, already the hero, would save the win in the bottom of the eighth when she tracked down a fly ball in the right centerfield gap. The junior made a wonderful running catch and then fired the ball to second, doubling up the runner and ending the game.

■ **SAINTS From 1B** went a combined 0-for-15 against the Gators.

"If we are going to beat good teams we can't allow runs to score with two out, that's for sure."

In the loss to Clarke Prep, Patrician's Lance Gibson went 2-for-3 at the plate with a solo homer, while Barry Meeks and B.J. Bonner each had two hits in three at-bats. Gibson was saddled with the loss, going five innings and allowing seven hits and two walks with six strikeouts.

In the consolation game, Patrician

Kristen Skinner picked up the win, throwing eighth innings with only two hits allowed and 16 strikeouts. Choctaw's Jaleesa McNeely was the tough-luck loser, going all eight innings with no walks, four hits and three strikeouts.

Millry J.U. Blacksher 5 1

In the Friday night cap, Millry's Jasmine Wells had a superb game on the mound and at the plate. The freshman pitched five innings of no-hit ball while striking out seven with one walk. At the plate, Wells was 2-for-3 with four stolen bases.

Millry actually broke the game open in the fifth with three runs on four hits from Jessica Ganus, Crystal Thead, Kristen Skinner and Jessalyn Hoffman.

Millry Choctaw 10 4

Jasmine Wells once again got the start, but this time she wasn't quite so dominant. Choctaw touched up Wells for two runs in the first and two more in the fourth to take a surprising 4-2 lead over the undefeated Wildcats.

Millry would get some runs for their pitcher in the bottom of the inning, however, when they pushed across six, thanks to bunts and subsequent Choctaw errors.

Kristen Skinner was 3-for-3 at the plate for the Wildcats, while Amelia Carlisle and Jessica Touchstone each had two hits in three at-bats. Both of Touchstone's hits were doubles.

Millry J.U. Blacksher 13 7

Jessica Touchstone picked up the win for the Wildcats in a game that was actually 13-1 in the fourth inning. Touchstone allowed just one hit in four innings with one walk and one strikeout. The Wildcat offense was potent with Touchstone, Jessica Ganus and Crystal Thead each picking up three hits, while Kayla Dyess, Jasmine Wells and Whitney Clark each had two.

Millry J.U. Blacksher 10 0

Kristen Skinner made short work of Blacksher in the championship game, throwing a no-hitter while striking out 14 of the 18 batters she faced. Crystal Thead, Jasmine Wells and Whitney Clark each had two hits apiece.

In the tournament, Millry was 5-0, Blacksher was 2-3 and Choctaw County finished 0-5.

shutout Lamar 7-0 behind a strong effort from pitcher Barry Meeks and another two hit game from Lance Gibson. Meeks went four innings, allowing just three hits while striking out eight. Gibson, along with center fielder Clay Goodwin, had two hits in four trips to the plate, while B.J. Bonner and Tony Randolph each had a single.

Patrician (2-2) will play Thursday (3/8) versus South Choctaw (1-3) in Butler. On Friday, March 9th, the Saints will travel to Wilcox and on Monday, March 12, they will play at Clarke Prep.



Kristen Skinner



Kayla Dyess



Heath McIlwain

Millry sweeps Choctaw

■ Wildcats ten-run Southern Choctaw and Choctaw County on Saturday after no-hitting Blacksher on Friday

By Colin Merritt
The Choctaw Sun

MILLRY — During a three-game winning weekend, Millry pitching gave up just three hits, including a no-hitter by Millry freshman Dylan Whitsett on Friday against J.U. Blacksher.

Millry (4-5) took a 1-0 lead over Blacksher in the third after Whitsett delivered a RBI single that scored Chris Cherry. Allen Guy gave Millry a 2-0 lead in the sixth on an RBI single, before Heath McIlwain broke the game open in the seventh with a two run double. Whitsett picked up the win, allowing no hits with seven strike outs and four walks.

On Saturday, Millry picked up two wins over Southern Choctaw and Choctaw County, both by the score of

11-1. Colby Myers got the victory over Southern Choctaw, throwing three innings with one hit and four strike outs. Ethan Chancy hit a two-run double, while Chris Cherry, Allen Guy and Stanton Sullivan had RBI singles.

That afternoon, Millry beat Choctaw County 11-1 behind a two-hit outing from starting pitcher Ethan Chancy. Chancy had 12 strike outs in the win that saw Hunter Martin and Allen Guy picked up two hits apiece and Heath McIlwain plate two runs with a double. Taylor Owen and Dylan Whitsett each scored three runs.

Millry will host Mobile Christian in a double-header starting at 4 p.m. on Saturday. On Monday (3/12), the Wildcats will play at Jackson.

■ **THIRD From 1B**

Lady Saints Kingwood 5 0

In the Friday night opener, the Saints would strike for two runs in the first and two in the second thanks to two singles from Stephanie 'Doodle' Caudle and one from Allie Roach. Kylie Lewis scored two of the runs by getting on base with a walk and a double. The early lead was more than enough for junior pitcher Shayna Jimerson, who picked up the win with a five inning performance that saw nine strikeouts, two hits and a walk.

Lady Saints Cottage Hill 15 0

On Saturday morning, Patrician struck for 11 runs in the second inning against Cottage Hill thanks to doubles from Allie Roach and Kylie Lewis.

Lewis, who also picked up the win on the mound allowing just one hit while striking out six, finished a perfect 3-for-3 at the plate with three runs scored. Roach was 2-for-4 and Shayna Jimerson went 2-for-2.

Lady Saints Tuscaloosa 2 5

The Saints jumped out to a quick 1-0 lead in the first inning after a leadoff walk from Kylie Lewis and an RBI single off the bat of Allie Roach. However, TA would tie the game in the second inning and take the lead in the third on a two-run homer from Olivia Gibson.

Gibson, who is the cousin of Major League pitcher and Choctaw native Eric Dubose, finished the tournament with three homers. Shayna Jimerson took the loss in the time shortened game.

Lady Saints Clarke Prep 2 5

Clarke Prep would strike first in this Saturday afternoon elimination game after back-to-back two out walks led to a two-run double that put the Gators up 2-0. The Saints would get one back in the second after an Amber Dobbins walk and a Shayna Jimerson single plated a run, then tie the game, 2-2, in the third after a Kylie Lewis double and an RBI single from Doodle Caudle.

With the scored still tied in the fifth, Clarke Prep would work three walks to load the bases and set the table for a three-run double that broke the game open. Kylie, who took the loss, finished 2-for-3 at the plate with two doubles. Jimerson continued her hot hitting with two singles in two at-bats, and Doodle picked up one hit in three trips to the plate.



Big cats for Pat

SILAS — Pat Reed caught these three huge catfish on Friday while fishing somewhere in Choctaw County. The largest weighed about 17 pounds, with the group totaling 39 pounds. Pat said she had been trying to catch that big cat for about 3 years.

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