

Going, Going, Gone!

■ Despite Barry Meeks' two-run homer, Patrician needs eight innings to beat Pickens 6-5

By Colin Merritt
The Choctaw Sun

BUTLER — Patrician jumped out to a 5-2 second inning lead on the strength of a two-run blast from Barry Meeks, but had to hold on for the 6-5 extra-inning win over Pickens Academy on Tuesday in Butler.

With one out in the first and Lance Gibson on base after a lead-off single, Meeks lifted a fastball over the centerfield fence to give Patrician the 2-0 lead.

Pickens would tie the game 2-2 in the second before the Saints would strike for three more runs in their half, thanks to three Pickens' errors and two base hits from Gibson and Tony Randolph.

Leading 5-2, Patrician starting pitcher Mikeel Bonner would leak a run in the fourth, fifth and sixth innings to let Pickens comeback and send the game into extra innings tied at six.

In the eighth, PA's Robert Anderson plated the winning run with a single that scored Neal Cook, who had walked, to give the Saints the 6-5 victory.

Bonner got a no-decision after throwing six innings of six-hit ball with four K's and no walks. Lance Gibson, who got the win after relieving Bonner in the sixth with two hitless innings and five strikeouts, was 3-for-4 at the plate. Barry Meeks was 1-for-3 with the two-run homer, while Tony Randolph and Robert Anderson each added a hit.

Patrician (4-2) beat South Choctaw 10-0 at presstime on Thursday behind a grand slam from Barry Meeks and an 11 strikeout performance from starting pitcher Lance Gibson.



Choctaw Sun photo by Colin Merritt



Catcher Robert Anderson (above) collected the Saints' game-winning hit in the eighth inning with an RBI single that plated Neal Cook. Barry Meeks (right) hammered a two-run homer in the second inning. Look under the headline and you can even see the ball!

Lady Rebels drop close one to Jackson

■ Rebels strand winning runs at second and third when line-drive off Jessie Chadwick's bat gets caught

By Colin Merritt
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TOXEY — The Rebels took a 1-0 lead into the sixth before two errors gave Jackson the 2-1 lead. The Rebels still had a chance to win the game, however, but stranded two runners in their last at bat when a scorching line-drive off the bat of Jessie Chadwick was caught by the Jackson right fielder to end the game.

"We should have won that game," bemoaned Rebel coach Diane Johnson of the loss that dropped her team to 3-4 on the season. "We out hit them 10-2 and played good defense until the sixth inning. I'm pleased though, we are really hitting the ball and starting to win some games."

The Rebels took a 1-0 lead in the second inning when a fielders' choice off the bat of Shayna Butler scored Maranda Hallman, who had reached third after a single.

The 1-0 lead would stand until the top of the sixth when Jackson plated two runs on two Rebel errors. Now down 2-1 in their last at-bat, South Choctaw would get a two-out single from Kate Dahlberg, followed by a double from Arielle Campbell to set the stage for Chadwick's fly out.

Trystan Mosley was the tough-luck loser after throwing seven innings of one-hit ball with five strikeouts. Dahlberg, Campbell, Hallman and Chadwick were each 2-for-4, while Tanner Johnson and Ila Stokley had one hit apiece.

South Choctaw (3-5) lost 12-1 to Patrician at presstime on Thursday. SCA will now host Faith Academy on Monday (3/12) before hitting the road to play Monroe on Tuesday (3/13).



SCA's Jessie Chadwick was robbed of a game winning hit in the Rebels' final at-bat when her line-drive to right field was caught with the tying and winning runs on base.

Burford, Lauderdale win STG at Miller's Ferry

■ Winning team tipped scales at 17.95-pounds to take first Share the Gospel bass tournament of 2007; next stop Coffeetown on March 31st

MILLER'S FERRY — Dan Burford and Don Lauderdale weighed in a five-fish limit of bass that tipped the scales at 17.95 pounds to take the Miller's Ferry Open title of the 2007 Share the Gospel Tournament Trail on Feb. 24th.

Burford and Lauderdale led a field of 42 boats on to the water to begin STG's sixth year of competition.

Second place went to the 2003 Tour Championship team of Kyle Hayes and Scott Jackson with a limit of bass weighing 15.40 pounds, anchored by the tournament's lunger tipping the scales at 6.85 pounds.

Third place went to the team of Terry Henson, Sr. and Billy Colburn with 12.18 pounds followed by Ricky Casey and Keylon Webb-11.25 pounds, Leon and Roy Black-11.24 pounds, 3-time CLASSIC Champions Mike Norwood and Leon Wade - 9.37 pounds, Mitchell Hall and Charles Phillips - 9.35 pounds, 2006 Tour Champion Ray Covington - 9.14 pounds, Joe and John Barnett - 9.12 pounds and Marlon Boykin and Jay Turner - 8.85 pounds.

The second stop on this year's trail will be at Coffeetown's Service Park on March 31st.

For further information contact Rev. Howard Gaston at (251) 847-3502 or log on to www.stgospel.com.

Choctaw bow hunters prepare to 'Shoot for a Cure' this Saturday

■ Event held at bow range in Gilberttown will raise money for 'Relay for Life'

On March 10th at the Gilberttown Bow Range, the first ever Choctaw County 'Relay For Life' Bow Tournament will take place starting at 10 a.m.

All proceeds from the event will go to benefit the Choctaw County 'Relay For Life' effort. A \$15 entry fee is required for all entries. There will be youth, junior and adult divisions and each will receive prizes for first through third place.

Door prizes and lunch also will be included, as well as a

drawing for custom made turkey calls by Bobby Lucas and Richard Downey.

Chances for the custom calls can be purchased at local businesses or from any member of the Wimberly Methodist Protestant Church.

To get to the Gilberttown Bow Range, turn on the Barrytown Road in Gilberttown and follow the signs.

For more information or questions contact Janet Downey at 205-673-2253.

Lady Saints plunder Pickens Pirates



Shayna Jimerson threw a no-hitter, striking out 11 of the 22 batters she faced in the Saints 9-0 win. Kylie Lewis pitched a one-hitter in the second game of the double-header, a 6-0 victory that improved PA to 7-3. The Saints actually moved to 8-3 on Thursday afternoon with a 12-1 win over South Choctaw thanks to another Jimerson no-hitter.

■ Patrician takes two from Pickens, allowing just one hit in back-to-back shutouts

BUTLER — Patrician actually allowed just one hit to the Pickens Pirates during a double-header sweep in Butler on Tuesday.

In the 9-0 opening win, junior Shayna Jimerson shined, allowing no-hits over seven innings with 11 strikeouts and no walks.

PA led just 2-0 in the first game before a seven-run sixth inning explosion put the contest out of reach. In the big inning, Kalynd Hall started things off with a one out single. Anna Lewis would work a walk in the next at-bat, before three straight singles off the bats of Codi Stafford, Kylie Lewis and Stephanie Caudle plated four runs. Amber Dobbins would complete the rally with a bases clearing double.

Kylie Lewis finished the game 3-for-4 at the plate, while Codi Stafford was the only other Saint to collect two hits.

In the second game, a 6-0 shutout in five innings, Kylie Lewis got the start for the Saints and pitched a one hitter. Lewis also added two hits.

Patrician (8-3) beat South Choctaw 12-1 at presstime on Thursday behind another no-hitter from Shayna Jimerson. PA will face Wilcox on Friday (3/9) and then Clarke Prep on Monday (3/12).



Amber Dobbins