

SPORTS

Blue Ridge alumni win at Midnight Madness

By Justin Caudell
Sports Writer

Blue Ridge Early College basketball players from yesteryear showed the 2009-10 Bobcats they still have what it takes on the hardwood, defeating both the men and women at the sixth annual Midnight Madness last Friday, Nov. 6.

The women were first dealt with a loss, falling 57-14 to the alumni. Playing two 20-minute halves, the alumni were up 28-4 after the first half and cruised to a victory. Stephanie Nich-

ols, Class of 2008, led the alumni with 16 points while junior Deana McCall paced the 2009-10 squad with eight points.

"I pretty well knew what was what and where we were at," said head coach Arnold Nicholson after seeing his team in their first performance. "A lot of the younger girls did well and overall I think there is a lot to look forward to this year."

Commenting on the alumni, 75 percent of whom he coached, Nicholson said with a grin, "They

knew what to do."

In the men's contest, the 2009-10 Bobcats fell 60-43. They were down 39-18 after the first half and mounted a comeback in the second half, outscoring the opposition 25-23, but could not make up enough ground. Frank Lanning, Class of 1996, led the alumni with 13 points while junior Sage Kinsey paced this year's basketball team with 16 points.

"They did great, they worked the ball well and had good shots," said head coach T.J. Persicketti.

"I'm extremely happy and proud of them. For only a week and a half of practice, everyone played really well."

The 2009-10 basketball teams officially open their season with a home game versus Tallulah Falls on Tuesday, Nov. 17. The women start at 6:30 p.m. and the men follow. The Bobcats have a scrimmage, non-conference game, versus Nantahala on Friday. Previews of the two teams will appear in the next edition of the Chronicle.



Photos by Justin Caudell/Staff

Kenny Rice, Class of 2005, jumps up to drop the ball into the net.

Weekly Fishing Report

By David Joy

Watershed	Water Level	Stocking	Productivity	Active Species	Hatches	Fly / Bait
Glenville	-5.9 feet	N/A	Fair	Walleye	N/A	Crankbaits
Bear Lake	-5.1 feet	None	Fair	Walleye	N/A	Minnnows Crankbaits
Jocassee	-6 feet	None	Fair to Good	Largemouth Bass	N/A	Texas-rigged Worms Shakey Head Worms
Keowee	-3.2 feet	None	Good	Largemouth Bass	N/A	3/8 oz. Red Buzzbaits Shakey Head Jig
Tuckasegee	N/A	11/2-11/6 D.H. Section	Very Good	Brook Trout	BWO Deptera	#12 Woolly Bugger Peach Glo-yarn Egg
Chattooga	N/A	10/31 & 11/2 D.H. Section	Very Good	Brook Trout	BWO Deptera	#12 Woolly Bugger Peach Glo-yarn Egg
Horsepasture	N/A	Wild	Fair	Brown Trout	BWO Deptera	#18 BWO #18 Olive BTS Midge
Whitewater	N/A	Wild	Fair	Brook Trout	BWO Deptera	#16 Adams #16 Biot Midge

Best Fishing Times Based on Lunar Cycle (darker shade indicates best fishing)

Nov. 11	Nov. 12	Nov. 13	Nov. 14	Nov. 15	Nov. 16	Nov. 17
6:22A-8:22A	7:09A-9:09A	7:57A-9:57A	8:45A-10:45A	9:35A-11:35A	10:27A-12:27P	11:20A-1:20P
6:52P-8:52P	7:39P-9:39P	8:27P-10:27P	9:15P-11:15P	10:05P-12:05A	10:57P-12:57A	11:50P-1:50A

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Bobcats miss playoffs by one win

By Justin Caudell
Sports Writer

The Blue Ridge Early College soccer team missed out on its bid for the North Carolina 1-A playoffs last week by one win. The Bobcats, who finished 8-9-1, 5-6-1 in the Smoky Mountain Conference, were edged out 6-6 by Andrews, who ended the year third, one spot ahead of Blue Ridge in conference play.

The Bobcats had a chance to leap over Andrews for the last playoff spot with a win against the Wildcats on Thursday, Oct. 30, but lost 3-2. Blue Ridge was down 1-0 early in the game but rallied back to have a 2-1 lead. The Bobcats held an advantage over Andrews before the Wildcats were able to tie with two minutes re-

maining in the game and score the winning goal in the final minute.

"It was terrible, I was shocked," said head coach John Hall about the loss. "But that comes with being a young team and not playing the final two minutes. Everyone was so worried about the possibility of overtime that they lost their thought process and did not focus on what was going on."

The loss to Andrews was preceded by a 6-1 win versus Swain on Wednesday, Oct. 29. The win kept Blue Ridge at a .500 record, which they were at or above for most of the season—which was a first since the 2006 Bobcat soccer team that reached the playoffs.

"We could have finished

well over .500, but we blew both games with Andrews and had leads versus Tallulah Falls and Murphy diminish," said Hall. "But we did get close to our goals, finished close to .500 and outscored our opponents on the season, 64-62. I'm very happy with the team."

The Bobcats will graduate two players in the spring, Colby Mills and Robert Reyna.

Looking ahead to next season, Hall said, "We will have to work on our communication, but other than that, I think we will just keep getting better. We have a lot of good kids coming up, many of whom have been playing soccer since they were little."

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Zanone hits hole-in-one

Joe Zanone recorded his second lifetime hole-in-one on the 15th hole at Sapphire National Golf Club on Nov. 2 with a mid-wedge. The hole was playing 90 yards. His playing partners were Tom Borzell, John Hill and Charlie Webb.

Nantahala Hiking Club plans Nov. hikes

Sun., Nov. 15: The Nantahala Hiking Club will take a three-mile moderate hike on the Appalachian Trail from Wallace Gap to Winding Stair Gap. Meet at Westgate Plaza in Franklin (opposite Burger King) at 2 p.m. Drive 20 miles round trip plus a shuttle for one car at end of hike. Bring water, a snack if you wish; wear sturdy shoes. Call leader Kay Coriell, 369-6820, for reservations. Visitors are welcome but no pets please.

Sat., Nov. 21: The Nantahala Hiking Club will take a hike to two waterfalls: a two-mile moderate hike to Kings Creek Falls and an easy one-mile hike to Spoon Auger Falls. Meet at Cashiers Wachovia Bank (in back) at 10 a.m. Drive 20 miles round trip. Bring water, lunch; wear sturdy shoes. Call leaders Mike and Susan Kettles, 743-1079, for reservations. Visitors are welcome but no pets please.

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