CULLMANSCOREBOARD.COM #HSFOOTBALL SCORING WRAP-UP

Cullman 37 - Fayette County 34 | Vinemont 28 - Addison 22 | Priceville 14 - Fairview 34 | Vina 14 - Meek 47

Cold Springs 0 - Good Hope 34 | Asbury 6 - Holly Pond 54 | Clements 40 - Hanceville 6 | ALL GAMES COVERED INSIDE

The Cullman Tribune

SERVING CULLMAN – IN THE HEART OF DIXIE – SINCE 1874

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Cullman Shooting Sports aims for October opening



W.C. MANN/THE CULLMAN TRIBUNE

Cullman Shooting Sports Facility Manager Doug Long demonstrates the wireless target movement and retrieval system.

W.C. Mann
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CULLMAN – As Cullman Shooting Sports draws closer to completion, its staff is aiming (pun absolutely intended!) to see the one-of-a-kind facility become one of the top stops in the nation for fans of shooting sports. And that could happen by the end of October. On Thursday, CSS Facility Manager Doug Long took The Tribune on a tour, to show us the progress and talk about what's coming up.

Most shooting fans already know that CSS will be home to the nation's longest, above ground, public indoor gun range. It will be the longest indoor gun range in the Southeast, at 110 yards.

The facility will also feature:

• A 25-yard pistol range that is also rated for rifle ammunition

• Environmentally-friendly bullet traps that are rated to stop up to a .50 BMG bullet (not that people will be allowed to shoot those in there). Each range backstop contains approximately 24,000 pounds of ground up car tires. "All the lead that will go into this trap will be recycled," said Long. "All of the brass will also be recycled."

• A planned 25-yard tactical range where shooters can take part in active "move and shoot" exercises

• Two simulator rooms with the TI Gunfighter and Gunfighter Pro systems, where shooters can practice everything from basic trigger control to facing real-world active shooter scenarios

• Gun rental counter, where shooters can enjoy a change of pace from their regular firearms, or "try before you buy" a new personal weapon

• Conference rooms for classes, meetings and social functions. Long explained, "We can do anything in here, from show somebody how to clean an AR-15, to a corporate class. We're able to do corporate gatherings, we're able to do birthdays, Christmas parties, team-building for offices, bachelor parties, bachelorette parties!"

• Coffee bar and lounge area for shooters and non-shooters alike to relax. Said Long, "Anybody can come into the lounge area, sit down, have a cup of coffee or Coca-Cola. » PAGE 8

Bearcats survive Fayette County 37-34 on Tizapa's game-winning field goal

Head Coach Mark Britton leaves it all on the field after record-setting 151 wins



BILL PIPER

Noah Galilee, Joe McElroy, Bill Piper
Contributors

CULLMAN – "It was a great victory," Cullman Bearcat coach Mark Britton said following his team's stunning upset of Fayette County in the final seconds by a score of 37-34. "It's wonderful. The kids fought all the way through it. I'm just proud of the kids."

Friday's matchup between the two-loss Bearcats and undefeated Fayette County proved to be a nail-bitter, as Cullman's Miguel Tizapa nailed a 25-yard field goal to secure a 37-34 victory over the Tigers with just less than six seconds » PAGE 5

Cullman Mental Health Authority to merge with Huntsville's WellStone Behavioral Health Oct. 1

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CULLMAN – Cullman Area Mental Health Authority will merge with Huntsville's WellStone Behavioral Health, effective Oct. 1, according to a press release issued by the Huntsville-Madison County Mental Health Board. The merger was also announced at this week's meeting of the Cullman County Commission.

The two groups will come together under the name WellStone Behavioral Health, and Chris Van Dyke, executive director of Cullman Area Mental Health Authority, will serve as the new chief operating officer.

The merger creates the "largest and most comprehensive behavioral healthcare provider in north Alabama," said the release. A combined 400 employees will serve more than 13,000 clients in the region.

WellStone Chief Executive Officer Jeremy Blair, LMFT shared, "Wellness, self-care and well-being are topics that are continually elevated in today's culture. Behavioral health encompasses a wide range of issues surrounding behavior, mental illness, chronic health problems and substance abuse. We're here to lead the conversation about behavioral health in our community."

Blair continued, "It's critical to remove the stigma that often surrounds mental health services. One in five people will experience a diagnosable behavioral health condition each year. That's why our work remains focused on connecting children, adolescents and adults with the services they need to be at their very best.

"This merger will enhance quality of services and streamline care for our region. We are creating operational efficiencies, cost savings and opportunities to expand the delivery of mental health and substance abuse services in north Alabama."

Van Dyke added, "Behavioral health needs continue to grow, and state and local funding can't keep pace. We embrace the opportunity to join forces as WellStone Inc. so that we can expand our reach within the region. Our team in Cullman will continue to provide services as they are available now but with enhanced operational support. It's about building a stronger organization that meets the needs of our clients exactly when and where they need us the most."

After the Cullman County Commission ratified the merger Thursday, Van Dyke spoke to The Tribune about what the change will mean for mental healthcare in the Cullman area:

"As far as services, they're not going to change, locally. We hope to grow services within the next year or so. We're definitely not cutting anything. We already have plans to expand some of our nursing home services in Madison County, which will help from a revenue perspective. Here locally, we'd love to expand our children's services even further."



CONTRIBUTED

Cullman Area Mental Health Authority's Executive Director Chris Van Dyke will be the chief operating officer of WellStone Behavioral Health.

THE CULLMAN TRIBUNE
SEPTEMBER 30, 2017

2-week investigation nets 2 for meth trafficking

Wendy Sack
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HANCEVILLE – Two Hanceville men are behind bars following a two-week long investigation by the Cullman County Sheriff's Office (CCSO) and Cullman Narcotics Enforcement Team (CNET).

On Wednesday, Sept. 27, according to a media release from the CCSO, Patrick Joseph Cunningham, 37, and Gerald Wilson McDonald, 58, were arrested after a search warrant was executed at a residence on County Road 565 near Hanceville. The release stated that CNET agents had information that the homeowner, Cunningham, and another suspect, McDonald, were selling drugs at the residence.

Once agents made entry into the residence, they allegedly discovered ICE, a stronger and purer form of methamphetamine, marijuana, pills and drug paraphernalia. Cunningham was arrested at the scene.

McDonald was arrested later the same day when he was located at a residence on Golf Course Road. Methamphetamine and drug paraphernalia were allegedly found at this residence as well.

The CCSO says it seized a total of 45 grams of ICE (meth), marijuana, pills and other drug paraphernalia.

Cunningham was charged with trafficking in methamphetamine, three counts of unlawful possession of a controlled substance, two counts of second-degree unlawful possession of marijuana and two counts of unlawful possession of drug paraphernalia.

He is being held in the Cullman County Detention Center on a $261,000 bond.

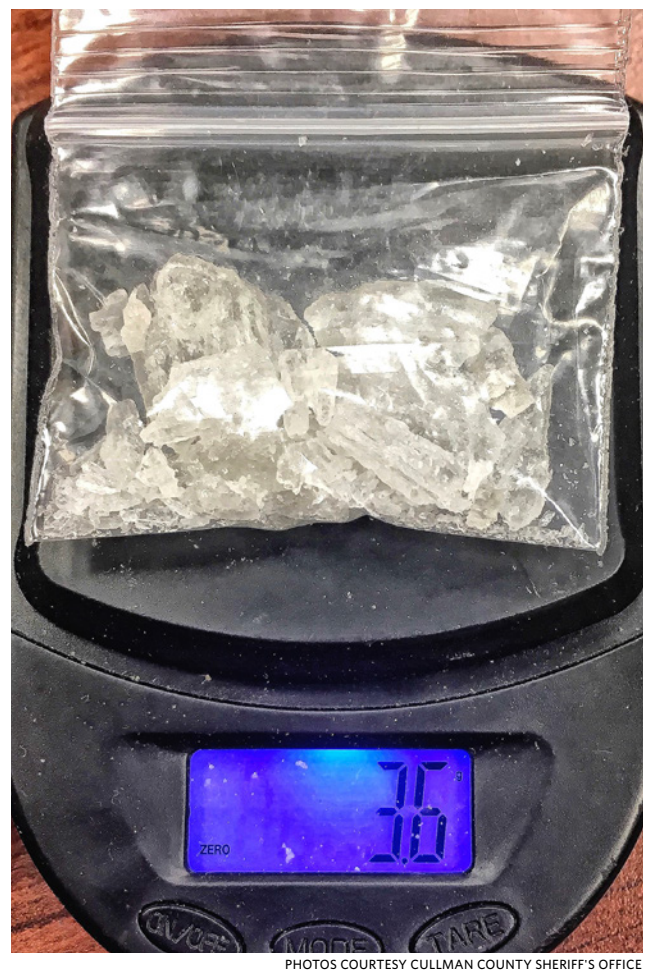
McDonald was charged with trafficking in methamphetamine, two counts of unlawful possession of a controlled substance, second-degree unlawful possession of marijuana, two counts of unlawful possession of drug paraphernalia and attempting to elude. McDonald also had two failure to appear (FTA) warrants for unlawful possession of a controlled substance, possession with intent to distribute a controlled substance and unlawful possession of drug paraphernalia.

He is being held in the Cullman County Detention Center on a $258,000 property bond and $6,000 cash bond.

"This was pretty high-quality meth," said Cullman County Sheriff Matt Gentry. "I am glad we were able to arrest these suspects and get the meth before it made it into our community. I would also like to thank the CNET agents for the good job they did on this case."



Patrick Joseph Cunningham, left; Gerald Wilson McDonald, right



PHOTOS COURTESY CULLMAN COUNTY SHERIFF'S OFFICE

2 Birmingham men arrested for trafficking heroin, cocaine in Cullman County

Wendy Sack
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CULLMAN COUNTY – Two Birmingham men were arrested by the Cullman Police Department on Wednesday, charged with trafficking illegal drugs.

According to a media release from the CPD, on Wednesday, Sept. 27, the department conducted an undercover operation on County Road 437 in Cullman County, where undercover officers allegedly purchased 5.2 grams of heroin and 2.8 grams of cocaine from Devante Smith, 21 and Jordan Evans, 19.

Once the transaction occurred officers attempted to stop the vehicle being driven by Smith.

He failed to stop for officers and a pursuit ensued.

The pursuit went south on Interstate 65, where officers from the Warrior Police Department assisted the CPD in ending the pursuit near Warrior.

The driver, Smith, was arrested and charged with trafficking in illegal drugs, two counts of unlawful distribution of a controlled substance, attempting to elude and reckless endangerment.

His bond was set at $1.1 million.

The passenger, Evans, was arrested and charged with trafficking in illegal drugs and two counts of unlawful distribution of a controlled substance. His bond was set at $1.04 million.

"I would like to thank the efforts of investigators Justin Craft and Scott Sanford for their work on conducting this operation," said CPD Capt. of Investigation, Becky Boyd.

"We do not want heroin, crack cocaine or any other illegal drug in our community, and our narcotics investigators will continue to work diligently to pursue and arrest anybody dealing in illegal drug activity in our community."

Continued Boyd, "I would also like to thank the Warrior Police Department for their assistance in ending the pursuit and making the arrest(s)."

Anyone with information on illegal drug activity is asked to contact the CPD at 256-734-1434 or 256-775-7170.

Smith and Evans remain jailed in the Cullman County Detention Center.

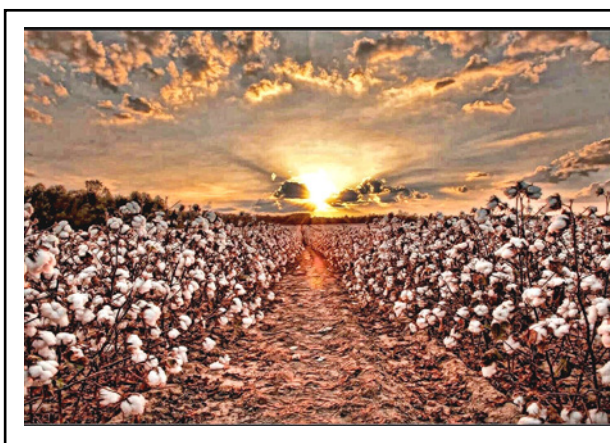


CULLMAN CITY POLICE DEPARTMENT

Devante Smith, left; Jordan Evans, right

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Poet's Corner



The Harvest

By: Randy C. Hale
Picture by: Susan Sloan Johnson

It is one that plants,
and waters
but the
Lord of the Harvest
makes things grow.

First the bud,
the stalk,
then full boll.
Glowing, flowing,
white as snow.

Lift up your eyes
to behold
before the sickle
thrusts.

The scythe slides
smoothly,
the harvest reaped.
The field left empty
the treasure keeps.

Back up to heaven
where it began.
Into His mansions
brought.

The reason planted,
protected, sought.

First the bud
the stalk
then full boll.

Glowing, flowing,
white as snow.

"Lift up your eyes, look on the fields; for they are white already to harvest."
John 4:35

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I can do all things through Christ who strengthens me. Philippians 4:13

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Area residents benefit from Look Good Feel Better program hosted at Wallace State

Gail Crutchfield
WSCC

HANCEVILLE – As the women applied blush, mascara and lipstick, they shared the stories of their battle against cancer and forged a bond that only those who are going through similar situations can establish.

The women were part of the Look Good Feel Better program offered by the Wallace State Community College Salon and Spa Management program through the American Cancer Society and Relay For Life of Cullman County.

"I have thoroughly enjoyed it," said Angie Dingler. "It was very informative. I learned things I thought I knew was doing. I really appreciate what all you're doing and all the products."

"I think it was very worthwhile," said Glenda Moss. "I enjoyed it."

"This was so fun," said Renee Quick. "I enjoyed this very much. I didn't know what to expect but it was better than I thought it would be. I was kind of nervous about it. And these two ladies made it really fun. They really put me at ease. They did a great job."

Those two ladies were Sabrina Flanigan and Amy Moore of the Salon and Spa Management program.

"It was amazing," said Flanigan, who helped Janice York apply her makeup. "I feel so fortunate that we as cosmetologists have this opportunity to give back, how just a little bit of time can make such a big difference in someone's day."

Another Look Good Feel Better session will be held in the spring, with a date to be determined.

For more information about the Look Good Feel Better program, visit www.lookgoodfeelbetter.org. For more information about Wallace State, visit www.wallacestate.edu or call 256-352-8000.



WSCC

Wallace State Salon and Spa Management instructors Amy Moore, left, and Sabrina Flanigan, right, with two of the attendees of the recent Look Good Feel Better program hosted at the college, Angie Dingler, second from left, and Renee Quick.

Tribune Files from Yesteryear

From The Files Of 1919

A son was born to Mr. and Mrs. George Beyer this week.

Mrs. Perry Grimes has returned to her Route Three, Cullman, home after a visit to her grandmother, Mrs. Eliz Stewart, in Carroll County, Georgia. Mrs. Stewart, who is the mother of Alex Stewart, of Cullman, is nearing 100 years old.

J.A. Calvert returned this week from Douglas, Arizona, after five years of service in the Army.

Mr. and Mrs. Richard Hauk, of Saginaw, Michigan, are guests of their mother, Mrs. Pauline Hauk. Richard has recently returned from France.

Miss Lennie Denson, daughter of Mr. and Mrs. L.G. Denson and Jack Moore, of Hartselle, were married here this week.

Major Harwell G. Davis is a candidate for congress to succeed the late John L. Burnett.

From The Files Of 1959

Etha Community News

H.S. McKinney returned home from Cullman Hospital on Saturday, after an appendectomy.

Kelley South, of Birmingham, was the weekend guest of relatives and attended the Sacred Harp singing at Gum Pond.

Mr. and Mrs. J.R. Nails and daughters, Delores and Peggy, spent last Saturday night with Mr. and Mrs. Junior Poole, near Snead, in Blount County.

Conrad Moore was the weekend guest of his parents, Mr. and Mrs. W.L. Moore.

Mrs. Mildred Hanvey spent last week with Mrs. Barbara Bell and children.

Mr. and Mrs. Roy Bell have named their son, Michael Thomas. He was born in Cullman Hospital.

Ronnie Hanvey was the Sunday guest of Roy Johnston.

Guthrey's Cross Roads

Mrs. Nervie Speegle is home from the Cullman Hospital and doing nicely.

Mrs. Joey Sinyard, of Birmingham, has been convalescing from recent surgery at the home of her parents, Mr. and Mrs. M.L. Woodard and with the Calvern Sinyards. She returned home on Sunday.

Mr. and Mrs. C.J. McMurry and Connie, of Montgomery, spent Saturday night with her parents, Mr. and Mrs. Weaver Sinyard and spent Sunday with his mother, Mrs. G.A. Morris.

Mrs. Herman Davis, of Jasper and Mrs. Ray Davis, of Harmony, visited Mr. and Mrs. Charles Bryant on Saturday.

Mr. and Mrs. David Couch have returned to their home in Detroit, Michigan, after visiting her parents, Mr. and Mrs. E.P. Rushing and other relatives.

Tidbits

Mrs. Edna Sanford, of Texas and Mrs. Hassie Spain and Mr. and Mrs. R.G. Hinkle, of Adamsville, were guests of relatives at Good Hope one day last week.

Guests of the J.O. Jacksons this weekend will be Mr. and Mrs. William D. Jackson and family.

New Harmony News

Mr. and Mrs. Arnold Noles, Nettie, Geraldine and Barbara and Mr. and Mrs. N.W. Robertson, of Austelle, Georgia, spent last Saturday and Sunday with relatives and attended the decoration.

Gurley Benefield is building a new chicken house.

Mr. and Mrs. Mershal Rhodes visited relatives, in Gadsden, on Sunday and attended the decoration there.

Mr. and Mrs. John Filmore have moved from here to Joppa.

Mr. and Mrs. Melvin Maze will attend the graduation program at Fairview School on Friday night.

BILLY BOB'S STORIES AND STUFF

Homecomings and dinners on the ground



Bill King
Tribune
Contributor

It's homecoming season in East Central Alabama. No, I'm not talking about an annual football game when the home team schedules a visiting team whom they know they can whip by at least 348 points. I am talking about a church event when members, and former members, come to church for one special day with the ones still there. As the director of a Baptist association of churches, I normally have the privilege of attending several of these events each year. Sometimes I am the guest speaker or the special singer and sometimes I am just the special eater. These events almost always include a meal with enough food to feed an entire college football team for the next couple of months! Sometimes they have singing after the meal. One reason they do this is so everyone can sit down and let their lunch settle and we don't have to crawl to our cars!

These meals are usually pot luck affairs. In case you are not from the south, this means that each person brings whatever dish they wish, with no coordinating of the meal.

Sometimes the host church will provide the meat, which normally consists of fried chicken. These pot-luck meals will work everywhere in the south, except for the southern part of Louisiana. Without some planning there, they may end up with about 356 bowls of red beans and rice! I'm always amazed at how these things work in Alabama.

There will always be cornbread dressing, with cranberry sauce. Up north, they call this stuff stuffing, but the only turkey we stuff down here is ourselves!

There will be the normal vegetables, baked beans with hamburger meat and sweet potato casserole. Panic erupts if there are three or four plates-full of deviled eggs and at least two of pear salad.

You can't buy food as good as this in any cafe.

Back in the day, we had "dinner on the ground." There was none of this eating in the churchhouse stuff back then. Most churches had a concrete-slab table, out by the cemetery, approximately the length of the U.S.S. Alabama.

The cement those things were made of was rougher than a chert road after a hard gully-washer. We kids learned to never use those tables for home base when playing freeze tag after church.

If you accidently fell into the edge of one of those tables, you could be scared for life – maybe even lose a limb!

This was back in the time before churches had enclosed fellowship halls (which sounds better than mess halls), or family life centers (which sounds better than a gym with a kitchen).

I knew a couple of ole boys who owned a road construction company when they were young men. We'll call them the Wilson brothers.

The brothers traveled all across the state and were often away from home for days at a time. This was back when churches ate their meals outside, with the heat, the wind, the ants, the flies and the Wilson brothers. That's because when the Wilson boys were out of town, most places were closed on Sundays and there was hardly any place to eat out. When they happened by a church having "dinner on the ground," they stopped in for lunch and hoped most folks would assume they were someone's third cousin from Arkansas.

Quite honestly, there aren't many things we should enjoy more than worshipping God with family and old friends and then enjoying a nice meal together, whether it's on the ground or in the house, but please don't bring finger-sandwiches or store-bought deserts!

Bill King can be reached at bkpreach@yahoo.com or 334-745-0588 (office) or 334-728-5514 (cell).

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THE CULLMAN TRIBUNE
SEPTEMBER 30, 2017

Broncos rout Rams 54-6

Nick Griffin
Tribune Correspondent

HOLLY POND – The Holly Pond Broncos hosted the Asbury Rams Friday night, and it was all Broncos from the opening kick. Coming off a bye week, Holly Pond looked sharp on both sides of the ball, dominating Asbury 54-6.

The line of scrimmage was completely controlled by the Broncos, who ran the ball for 247 yards in the first half alone and held Asbury to -19 yards of total offense in the first half. Explosive plays in the running game led to quick scores for Holly Pond early in the game.

Junior running back Jeremiah Holmes went for 90 yards and a touchdown in the first half on just seven carries and senior running back Rip McBee also showed out with 107 yards and two touchdowns on just three carries.

Sophomore quarterback Tyler Chaney and senior running back Dustin Stancil each got in for a score as well, giving the Broncos a commanding 46-0 lead at the half.

Holly Pond scored on all but one of its possessions in the opening half and held Asbury to just one first down.

The Broncos made just one mistake in the half when they muffed a punt in the second quarter, but that was remedied by a 65-yard pick six from junior defensive back Isac Ludwig just one play later.

The coaches agreed to play with a 12-minute hot clock for the second half, stopping time only for injuries.

The Broncos managed to put up one more score on a 50-yard pick six from freshman linebacker Jacob Holderfield.

Asbury did manage to get in the end zone once in the fourth on a 33-yard touchdown pass, but the lead for the Broncos was insurmountable and the clock ran out on a final score of 54-6.



NICK GRIFFIN/THE CULLMAN TRIBUNE

The win moves Holly Pond to 4-1 this season including an undefeated record at home on Michelfelder Field.

Next week will be homecoming week for the Broncos as they gear up to host Locust Fork and keep the home winning streak alive.

Tigers claw Red Devils, 47-14

Josh McBrayer
josh@cullmantribune.com

VINA – It was all Meek Tigers Friday night when they made the three-plus hour trip to Vina and came away 47-14 winners.

Meek quarterback Payton Key got the Meek offense on the board first with a 1-yard quarterback keeper. After the PAT, Meek took a 7-0 lead.

The next time the Tigers hit paydirt it was thanks to running back John Mark Abercrombie, who scampered 22 yards for the first of his three touchdowns on the night. The PAT was good and Meek went on top 14-0.

Abercrombie added a second touchdown in the first quarter, this time from 20 yards out, to make the score 21-0 following the PAT.

Meek picked up in the second right where it left off in the first, scoring touchdowns. Key picked up his only touchdown pass of the night when he connected with Destin Morris for a 22-yard strike to make the score 28-0 after the PAT.

The fifth and final score of the half for Meek came on a 4-yard blast from Joseph Martin. The PAT was good and the Tigers took a 35-0 lead to the half.

It didn't take Meek long to get on the board in the second half. Abercrombie fielded the open kick from his own 27 and split the seam up the middle for a 73-yard kick-off return for a touchdown. The PAT was no good and the score sat at 41-0.

Vina got its first of two scores on the night in the third when Austin Hopper had his pass tipped by a Meek defender only to have it fall right in the hands of his receiver Jackson Landers in stride. Landers raced down the far sideline for 69 yards and the score to get the Red Devils on the board 41-6.

Meek answered with the second Martin touchdown on the night, this one from 1 yard out, to put Meek on top 47-6.

Vina scored the lone touchdown in the fourth when Hopper connected with Jacob Lewis for a 7-yard strike. The 2-point conversion was good to make the score 47-14, the final for the night.

Meek heads into a stretch of four straight region games starting next week.

Aggies outplay Bulldogs, taking down Priceville 34-14

Brett Garner
Tribune Correspondent

PRICEVILLE – The Fairview Aggies traveled to Priceville to take on the Bulldogs Friday night and came home with the victory, 34-14.

The Aggies received the opening kickoff to begin the game. They came out aggressive with 22 yards on two rushes by Grant Howard and Garrett Dunn, but on the fourth play of the drive Dayne Black fumbled a snap and McClain Thompson, for Priceville, recovered it.

It was first-and-10 for the Priceville Bulldogs on the Aggies' own 22-yard line. Priceville seemed to have a momentum shift, but the Aggie defense prevailed and it was a three-and-out for the Bulldogs.

The Aggies took back over on the 22-yard line. The drive started with senior running back Howard running for a gain of 20 yards then Tyvn Ellis for 9 yards. Black then found Scoot Bennett and Dunn for a combined 33 yards in the air. The Aggies were at Priceville's 10-yard line and Ellis sealed the drive with a 10-yard touchdown run to put the Aggies ahead 7-0 with 6:17 left in the first quarter.

Now it was the Bulldogs' turn to score; on the very first play of the drive, running back Stephen Vo ran 70 yards to tie the game at seven a piece with 5:54 left in the quarter. The Bulldogs then tried an onside kick and it proved successful as Priceville too back over.

Quarterback David Strunk rushed for 3 yards then running back Trey Jones ran for a 26-yard touchdown to go ahead 14-7 with 4:16 left in the quarter.

The Aggies took back over looking to avenge the touchdown. Howard, Ellis and Black ran for a combined 68 yards on the drive, Ethan Holland had a 7-yard reception, and capping the drive off was Dunn with a 17-yard touchdown reception with 10:08 left in the half. The score was tied at 14 apiece.

On the next drive Priceville accumulated -7 yards and punted to give Fairview the ball back. Ellis, Howard, Donte Dumas and Holland ran for a combined 15 yards on the drive with Dunn sealing the drive with a 30-yard touchdown reception to put Fairview up 21-14 with 6:12 left in the half.

The Aggie defense dominated the rest of the half, allowing only 6 yards. The score remained 21-14 when halftime arrived.

Priceville received the kickoff to begin the second half. The Bulldogs went three-and-out and the Aggies took over. Fairview went 33 yards on the drive before a bad snap allowed Priceville to recover the ball. Priceville again couldn't stop the Fairview defense and went for it on fourth down and failed, turning the ball over on downs.

The Aggies started on the 9-yard line. Howard rushed 75 yards, with Black rushing for 11 before Howard rushed for a 5-yard touchdown to put Fairview up 28-14 with 10:51 left in the game.

After the kickoff Priceville started at the 14-yard line and yet again had a three-and-out and Fairview took back over, this time on the 40-yard line. Howard rushed for 33 yards and Dumas capped off the drive with a 27-yard touchdown reception with 7:29 left in the game. With the extra point missed Fairview went up 34-14. Priceville punted on its next drive, and Fairview finished out the game on the ground.

Final score: Fairview 34, Priceville 14

Howard rushed for 122 yards, Dunn had 111 receiving yards and Ellis had 92 rushing yards for the Aggies.

Fairview will host West Point for a region game, Fairview's homecoming game, next week.

Good Hope shuts out Cold Springs, 34-0, for homecoming

Sammy Confer
Tribune Correspondent

GOOD HOPE – Losing Matt Hancock to a season-ending torn ACL last week definitely hurt the Good Hope Raiders, but they looked to recover from that in their homecoming game against county rival Cold Springs Friday night. A big second quarter was key as they put up three touchdowns to blow open a close game early and the Raiders ended up winning, 34-0. Student-athlete Kate Kent took home the title of homecoming queen prior to the game.

Both defenses dominated most of the first quarter. After an incomplete pass off a bad snap by the Eagles, the Raiders took over in excellent field position at the 25-yard line. After three plays, they were looking at a fourth-and-10 from the 25, and Bailey Quick threw a 25-yard touchdown strike to Kyle Carlton with 48 seconds remaining in the opening quarter to put the Raiders on the board. Quick wore no. 1 in honor of his injured teammate.

The Raiders got the ball back after forcing the Eagles into a punt. After a slow start, Matt Dixon busted a 32-yard run on a fourth-and-4 from the 49-yard line to keep their drive alive.

Quick found Will Dickerson on a big third-down play from the 19-yard line to get a big first down at the 9. A few plays later, on another fourth-down play in the series, Quick threw a 4-yard touchdown pass to Preston Bagwell to give Good Hope a 14-0 lead with 7:20 remaining in the first half.

Another punt by the Eagles put the Raiders at the 37-yard line, and Matthew Schwaiger found a big hole on the right side, breaking a tackle before taking off down the right sideline for a 63-yard touchdown run on the first play; that increased the lead to 20-0 with 5:20 remaining in the first half.

The Raiders struck again on their next series off another Cold Springs' punt on just four plays as Quick found Dixon for a 44-yard score to make it 27-0, which was the score at the half. Cold Springs was held to just 17 yards of total offense in the first half and zero first downs.

But that all changed after the Eagles recovered a Quick fumble to start out the second half. They got their first first down of the game on an Austin Lively 11-yard run as they continued to battle and grind for some positive yardage throughout the game, but it wasn't easy against the tough Raider defense, who held them to just 73 yards of total offense and four first downs for the game. Quick added a 32-yard touchdown run in the third quarter to make the score, 34-0, and that ended up being the final score.

Quick finished the game going 13-of-25 for 228 yards, three touchdowns and an interception, and added 41 more on the ground and a score. Dixon finished with 81 receiving yards and 37 rushing and a touchdown. Carlton (49 yards) and Preston Bagwell (39 yards) each finished with a score of his own.

The defense played its best game of the year, adding a takeaway on a Mason Moniz interception. The offense finished with 387 yards for the game. The Raiders improve to 3-2 on the season, and will head to Winfield in a huge region game next Friday in a must-win game.

"We started off a little flat, but our offense started to click in the second quarter," Good Hope coaching Alan Scott said. "Losing Matt last week, we had to change some things. We struggled a little bit with the changes, but we started to get better.

Bailey was off on some throws in the first quarter, but he found his guys in the second quarter and the offensive line did a great job of protecting him. The defense played outstanding, giving us great field position. Special teams also played really good.

There are some things we still have to clean up though. We have to clean up our turnovers going into region play next week."

The expectations for Scott's Raiders continue to climb higher and higher with each game, and he's happy about that, despite being in a tough region.

He added, "I'm glad that expectations are really high for us this year. We are in a difficult region, but I feel like we can compete. We have to execute on both sides to get in the playoffs."

For Cold Springs, Lively finished with 19 rushing yards on eight carries, and Calvin McNabb finished with 17 rushing yards on 14 carries.

The quarterback duo of Brodi Williams and Jordan Lacey went a combined 5-of-12 for six yards and an interception. The Eagles fall to 1-4 on the season and will head home to take on West End in their first home game since week two, as they look to get their season on track with regional play starting back.

Another brutal loss for the Bulldogs, 40-6

Norman Bush
Tribune Correspondent

ATHENS – It was another bruiser of a Friday night for the Hanceville Bulldogs, who took on the Clements Colts in Athens. The Bulldogs fell 40-6.

Clements got the ball to start the game. From the 25, the Colts put together a 10-play drive capped off by Crimson Bivens running the ball in from the 9-yard line for the touchdown. The PAT was no good, and the Colts were up 6-0 with 8:33 to go in the first.

Hanceville got the ball on its own 20-yard line, but the punt was tipped, going 21 yards and giving Clements good field position at its own 38-yard line.

Seth Harmon got the ball and rushed 62 yards for the TD, making the score 12-0, Clements, with 4:58 left in the opening quarter.

The Bulldogs ended up punting on their next possession.

The Colts got the ball back, putting together another hefty drive, this one 45-yards, ending at the Hanceville 2 as time expired in the first.

The first play of second quarter was a Bivens 2-yard TD. The score was 19-0, with 11:54 in the quarter.

On its next possession, Clements was forced to punt for the first time of the night.

The Bulldogs started at their own 12-yard line. Just a few plays later, Alex Campbell threw an interception to Cole Whales and with 25 seconds left in the half, Clements added another TD when Seth Harbin rushed the ball in from the 13-yard line.

At halftime, the score was Clements 26, Hanceville 0

After a Bulldog three-and-out and another punt from the Colts, Hanceville put an 85-yard drive. Two personal fouls on one play from Clements set up a run by Campbell to the 14. Two plays later, RJ Evans rushed in for a 1-yard TD.

It was Clements 26, Hanceville 6 with 1:47 to go in the third.

That's where the score stayed until midway through the fourth, when Clements put together a 32-yard drive together that ended with Whales rushing in for a 1-yard TD, making the score Clements 33, Hanceville 6 with 5:50 left in the game.

Hanceville's Bo Joles completed two quick passes to Evans, setting up first-and-10 from the Colts' 12-yard line. Two plays later Joles threw an interception to Jackson Bennington, resulting in an impressive 99-yard TD, making the score Clements 40, Hanceville 6 with 1:48 to go.

Hanceville put another quick drive together, but turned the ball over on downs and Clements ran out the clock.

Final score: Clements 40, Hanceville 6.

Clements goes to 2-3 on the season after winning its homecoming game tonight.

Hanceville falls to 0-5 on the season and will host Susan Moore next week

Spectacular finish lifts Vinemont Eagles past Addison, 28-22

Ryan Guthery
Tribune Correspondent

VINEMONT – It was homecoming night at Mark Smothers stadium as the Vinemont Eagles welcomed the Addison Bulldogs. The crowd showed up in full force for a barn burner, and that's just what it got. The Eagles were victorious, 28-22.

Vinemont got the ball to start the game; the offense had no problem getting things clicking. On the very first play from scrimmage, Dustin Moore found a hole for a 54-yard gain.

It didn't take long for the Eagle offense to find the end zone; a 2-yard run by Oistin Cornelius with 9:07 remaining in the opening quarter gave the Eagles an early 7-0 lead.

Addison came out trying to establish a running game. The Bulldogs were picking up good yardage per play until Dustin Moore picked up a loose ball and returned it into Addison territory.

Out came the fired-up Eagle offense; three plays later they found the end zone again, this time on a 41-yard run by Moore to put the Eagles up 14-0 with 4:21 remaining in the opening quarter.

Both defenses settled in forcing punts until midway through the second quarter when Addison struck on a 67-yard run by Zayne Guthrie, cutting the lead to 14-8 with 5:17 remaining in the half.

After failing to convert on fourth down, the Eagles had to surrender possession to the Bulldogs with less than three minutes until halftime.

The Bulldogs looked to take a halftime lead as they moved the ball inside the 5-yard line, but the Eagle defense rose to the occasion, stopping the Bulldog offense on fourth-and-goal with four seconds on the clock to send the Eagles to the locker room with a halftime lead.

Addison game out clicking on all cylinders in the second half, getting the ball and driving 59 yards, taking almost five minutes off the clock, capped off by a 21-yard score by Guthrie which gave the Bulldogs their first lead of the game at 16-14 with 7:42 remaining in the third.

The remainder of the third quarter was dominated by the defenses.

Addison overcame several costly penalties to find a way to stretch the lead out when Grant Rice found Logan Wilkins in the corner of the end zone from 11 yards out with 8:23 remaining in the game; a failed 2-point conversion kept the Bulldog lead at eight.

Vinemont converted on many huge third downs, but ended up facing a giant fourth down where Jack Hill found Dustin Moore for a 20-yard touchdown which cut the lead by 6, forcing the Eagles to go for two.

The same combination hooked up again on the 2-point conversion, tying the game at 22 with 3:33 left to go.

The Bulldogs got the ball in excellent field position, marching down the field as they reached the red zone, where they were looking for the go-ahead score, but a costly false-start penalty put the Bulldogs in a third-and-15, then the Eagles' Moore intercepted the football and returned it all the way to the 10-yard line with seven seconds left in the game.

With time for just one final play, quarterback Hill, rolling out only to find no one open, cut up field, crossing the goal line as time expired.

Final score: Vinemont 28, Addison 22

It was the first homecoming game as head coach for Stephen Robinson at his alma mater, but he didn't take any credit for the win. "That's all we work on effort and attitude and I couldn't be prouder of our guys; that's one thing I want our team to be remembered by is that we never quit."

Bearcats (from Front)

remaining in the game.

Fayette County got the game off to a quick start with a bit of trickery on a squib kick and recovery to start at Cullman's 37-yard line. It only took a couple plays before the Tigers' Byron Sanford took it 37-yards to put Fayette Co. up 7-0.

The Bearcats wouldn't be demoralized by the quick 47-second score. Fletcher Jennings connected with Reese Harbison for a 38-yard gain to set the Bearcats up comfortably at the Tigers' 7-yard line. It took Ezra Burks just two attempts to get into the end zone to tie the game up at 7 all, following the PAT.

It was only a matter of one play by Fayette County before the Bearcat defense lashed out, when Christopher Hulsey stripped the ball and recovered the fumble to give Cullman excellent field position.

Two plays later Jennings connected with Harbison for the second time for a 30-yard bomb to bring Cullman deep into Tiger territory. The Bearcats couldn't break through the defense, which set up a 21-yard field goal attempt for Tizapa, which he nailed with ease to put Cullman up 10-7.

The Tigers pushed back on their next drive, but a strong defensive effort forced Fayette County to punt. Cullman took over at its 44-yard line and took six plays, two long runs from Jennings then a shot up the center by Ezra Burks, to give Cullman a 17-7 lead.

Cullman continued to dominate the first half when Jaron Potter came over the back of a Fayette County receiver to snag the interception and set the Bearcats up for another scoring drive. Burks busted open the defensive line for his third touchdown of the half to extend Cullman's lead to 24-7 following the PAT.

Fayette County finally stopped the bleeding when it scored to bring the Tigers within 10, trailing Cullman 24-14. A few series later the Tigers went deep when Chance Stevenson hooked up with Darius Nalls for a 33-yard TD reception to pull the Tigers within one possession, 24-20, after the PAT was no good.

The third quarter was fast and furious for both teams, but a forced fumble by Hulsey and recovery gave Cullman the ball deep in Tiger territory.

Jennings hit Hayden Henderson for a 32-yard touchdown pass to increase the Bearcat lead to 31-20.

Cullman came out with decent field position, but an errant throw by Jennings was snagged by Nalls, who took it to the house for a pick-six. The Tigers missed the 2-point conversion attempt and trailed Cullman 31-26.

The fourth quarter brought back out the gifted foot of Tizapa, who nailed a short field goal to put Cullman ahead 34-26.

A late rally by Fayette County had Stevenson hit T'marvic Smith for a huge catch to put pressure on the Bearcats' defense as the Tigers marched down to the 19-yard line.

The Tigers' Jamarious Jackson jumped over the Cullman defensive line to bring Fayette County within a 2-point conversion to tie the game at 34 all. The 2-point conversion with 35 seconds remaining was good as the Tigers' Stevenson dove into the end zone to tie the game at 34-34.

Cullman's Jennings aired it out to Henderson on the next series for a 44-yard bomb to set the Bearcats up at Fayette County's 10-yard line.

With 6.8 seconds remaining, the Bearcats' Tizapa set up and nailed a 25-yard field goal to seal the 37-34 victory for retiring coach Britton.

Fayette County tried to make a last ditch effort to score on the kickoff, but Bearcat Dylon Wallace shut it down as he stripped the ball and retained possession to give Cullman the come-from-behind win.

Cullman ended Fayette County's undefeated streak and improved to 4-2 on the season. Cullman will play at Pell City next Friday night.

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THE CULLMAN TRIBUNE
SEPTEMBER 30, 2017

County commission OKs 2018 budget; includes payout to County retirees and pay plan for CCSO

W.C. Mann
craig@cullmansense.com

CULLMAN – During a busy session Thursday morning, the Cullman County Commission approved its fiscal year 2018 budget. The budget totaled $54.2 million, with $21.5 million in the General Fund.

County Administrator Gary Teichmiller stated that the 2018 budget represented a 2.6 percent increase over this year's budget, with most increases coming from increased healthcare costs and a one-time payout to retired county employees.

The budget was not presented in detail, but Commission Chairman Kenneth Walker said that it should be available on the commission website by Monday, Oct. 2.

The retiree payout, which was tabled last month for review, was approved at this meeting.

It is based on a state legislative resolution, and will give each retired County employee a one-time payment of $2 per month of service, with a minimum payment of $300.

Based on the total tenures of 178 retired county employees or beneficiaries, the cost to the County will be $88,988.

The commission also approved the creation of a pay plan for the Cullman County Sheriff's Office (CCSO) separate from the regular County payroll.

The separation will not involve changes in pay, but will make the pay scale for the CCSO clearer and easier to understand for both current employees and potential recruits.

A merger was approved between Mental Healthcare of Cullman/Cullman Area Mental Health Authority and the Huntsville-Madison County Mental Health Board.

Look for more on this development in a separate story from The Tribune.

American Proteins, which had previously been granted a sales tax exemption for a project, was reported to have fallen behind on that project due to weather issues.

The commission granted the company a 120-day extension on its abatement.

A $1,000 appropriation to Wallace State's Future Foundation scholarship fund and a $1,250 donation to the Farm Y'all Festival were approved.

The commission approved several board appointments and reappointments:

• James Knight to the Duck River Reservoir Oversight Board

• Brenda Scott to the Library Board of Trustees, replacing Dan Scott

• Wells Turners to the E-911 Board of Commissioners, replacing Steve Griffith

• Kenneth Nail to the E-911 Board of Commissioners (reappointment)

• J.L. Parker to the E-911 Board of Commissioners (reappointment)

The next commission meeting will take place Tuesday, Oct. 17 at 10 a.m. in the commission meeting room in the Cullman County Courthouse, with work session at 8:30.

The public is invited to attend.

Obituary Announcements: Sept. 30-Oct. 3

Graveside service for Teresa June Worland, 52, of Fultondale will be at 11 a.m., Saturday, September 30, 2017 at Bethsadia Baptist Cemetery. Cullman Funeral Home is in charge of the arrangements. Mrs. Worland passed away Monday, September 25, 2017. She was born March 15, 1965 to Leslie Neil & Janet Bartlett Bates. She was preceded in death by her father and two brothers, Paris Dewayne Bates and Leslie Glenn Bates. Survivors include her mother, Janet Bates and husband of 20 years, Michael Worland; special friend, Willette Beasley Johnson; family and friends.

John Cecil Poovey, 80, of Cullman, formerly of Houston, entered into rest on September 26, 2017 at Cullman Regional Medical Center. Mr. Poovey was born on March 23, 1937, in Winston County, Alabama. "Poovey" enjoyed fishing, deer hunting and Alabama Football! He enjoyed helping other people anytime there was a need. Poovey was always good for a laugh with his great sense of humor. He was an encouragement to all who came to know him at Cullman Long Term Care and Rehabilitation. Poovey was a life time member of New Home Baptist Church. Visitation will be held on Saturday September 30, 2017 from 12:30 p.m. until 1:30 p.m. at Nichols Funeral Home in Haleyville. Graveside Services will be held at Winston Memorial Cemetery at 2 p.m. Brother Gary Wakefield will officiate. John is survived by his sister, Mable Poovey Prescott; sister in law, Polly Poovey Bailey and her husband Larry; nieces, Lynda Presott Myers and Janet (James) Wilson; grand nieces and nephews, Meagan Hanson, Melanie Myers, Matthew Myers, Michael Wilson, and Renee Wilson. He was preceded in death by his wife, Alice Poovey; parents, Robert and Ruth Poovey; brother, Robert L. Poovey Jr. The family would like to thank Amy Jowers and all of the caregivers at Cullman Long Term Care and Rehabilitation.

Jo Dingler Schaefers, wife of Bryan T. Schaefers, passed away on September 27, 2017. Funeral services are Saturday, September 30, 2017 at 2 p.m. at Moss Funeral Home Chapel. Interment will be in Gilliam Springs Baptist Cemetery in Arab. Survivors are: Husband: Bryan T. Schaefers, daughter: Alethia Turley, sons: Jeremiah and Aiden Schaefers, brother: Kenneth Dingler, sister: Margie Dingler.

Wanda Faye Main, 70 of Arley, passed away on September 28, 2017 at Cullman Regional Medical Center. She was born on June 17, 1947 in Lake Wales, Florida. Wanda was a beloved mother and grandmother. She enjoyed fishing and anything outdoors. She especially loved watching animals, birds, and butterflies with granddaughter, Emily. She was a simple, country girl. Funeral arrangements pending with Marion Nelson Funeral Home in Lake Wales, Florida. Wanda was survived by her son, Ted Fehringer and wife Karen; daughter, Virginia Bailey and husband Chris; brother, Buck Sims and his wife Debbie; sisters, Laura Sharp and Debra Holbrook. She was "Grandma" to 2 grandchildren, Emily Pippenger and Philip Wayne Fehringer. She was preceded in death by her husband, Arnold Phillip Fehringer; parents, Calvin and Queenie Huggins; sons, Joseph Phillip Fehringer and Arnold Keith Fehringer; daughter, Elizabeth Faye Fehringer.

Funeral services for Rick Lee Segers, 49, of Cullman will be held on Sunday October 1, 2017 at 2 p.m. at Hanceville Funeral Home Chapel; Pastor Chuck Kennedy officiating, with interment at Duck River Cemetery. The family will be receiving friends at the funeral home on Sunday beginning at 12:30 p.m. Mr. Segers passed away on Wednesday, September 27, 2017 in Cullman. He was born on March 9, 1968 in Birmingham to Lee & Mary C. Segers, Jr. and is preceded in death by his grandparents, Leamon & Vernie Lee Segers and Calvin & Addie Chaffin. He is survived by two daughters, Mandy Segers and Mallory Segers; a grandson, Jaxon Segers; his parents, Lee & Mary C. Segers, Jr.; a nephew, Devin Kemp; the mother of his children, Wendy Rogers; and a host of aunts, uncles, cousins, other family and friends.

Michael Dewayne Whitman, 59, of Haleyville, entered into rest on September 27, 2017 at his home surrounded by his loved ones. Mr. Whitman was born on June 21, 1958, in Cheyenne, Wyoming. Michael served in the United States Navy for 20 years where he earned the Overseas Service Ribbon, Armed Forces Expeditionary Medal, Navy Expeditionary, Meritorious Unit Commendation, Battle "E" Award, Navy Commendation, and Sea Service Ribbon. His nicknames included "Bubba" and "Pop". Michael loved to fish, ride his motorcycle, and his numerous dogs over the years. He enjoyed coffee at the Galley where he could "gossip" with everyone that would sit and talk. He enjoyed the challenge of gathering items for future disasters. Michael was a faithful man of God, he loved reading the Bible, his family, and spending time with his children and grandchildren. He loved bragging that "Debbie is the love of my life." Michael would love that we were altogether, loving him, but he would hate knowing that we have to live without him. Visitation will be held on Saturday, September 30, 2017 from 6 p.m. until 9 p.m. at Nichols Funeral Home in Haleyville, where services will be held on Sunday, October 1, 2017 at 2 p.m. Cindy Guthrie and Brother Rickey White will officiate. Burial will follow in New Prospect Baptist Church Cemetery. Michael is survived by his loving wife of 20 years, Debbie Whitman; sons, Michael David (Nina) Whitman, Jeremy (Heather) Sibley, Landon Whitman, Jason (Jessica) Whitman, Richard (Brandy) Adams; daughters, Sarah Whitman, TaMeka (Brad) Vickery, Angela Whitman, Stephanie Whitman; sister, Cindy (Marlon) Guthrie; brothers in law, James Henderson, and Tim (Darlene) Henderson. He was "PawPaw" to 7 grandchildren, Synthia, Mystique, Blaise Michael, Trinity, Leo Dewayne, Anna Brooke and Anna Renae; a great grandson due to arrive in February 2018, Hayden Michael; and beloved mother in law, Betty Henderson. He was preceded in death by his parents Virgil and Reba Whitman; daughter, Charity Hope Whitman; sisters, Patsy Jo Whitman and Brenda Gail Whitman; father in law, Paul Wade Henderson; and sister in law, Susan Maylene Flinders.

Clarence "Yank" Doedtman passed away on September 27, 2017. Funeral services are October 3, 2017 at 2 p.m. at Sacred Heart Catholic Church. Visitation is on October 2, 2017 at Moss Funeral Home beginning at 5:30 p.m.

Free Obituary Listings

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Local author publishes first children's book

W.C. Mann
craig@cullmansense.com

CULLMAN – Vinemont native and Cullman resident Hallie Christensen recently fulfilled her longtime dream of publishing a children's book, with the release of "Daisy the Nice Dragon" on Sept. 15.

Daisy is a dragon unlike other dragons. She flies and breathes fire, but she doesn't eat things other dragons eat, like people. In fact, there are things about people that fascinate her, and she even wishes she could have...

Well, we don't want to give too much away!

Christensen spoke to The Tribune Wednesday about her project.

"Ever since I was little," she began, "I've always liked writing short stories and participating in Young Writers' Conferences. And I've always wanted to publish a book. In fact, in the book is a dedication to my family and to my younger self, who promised to do this one day."

When asked how she came by her subject matter, she responded, "My favorite animals are cats, so I'm kind of surprised myself about choosing a dragon. Maybe my next book will be about a cat. But I was an English major, and I enjoy medieval literature, so of course I like dragons, too."

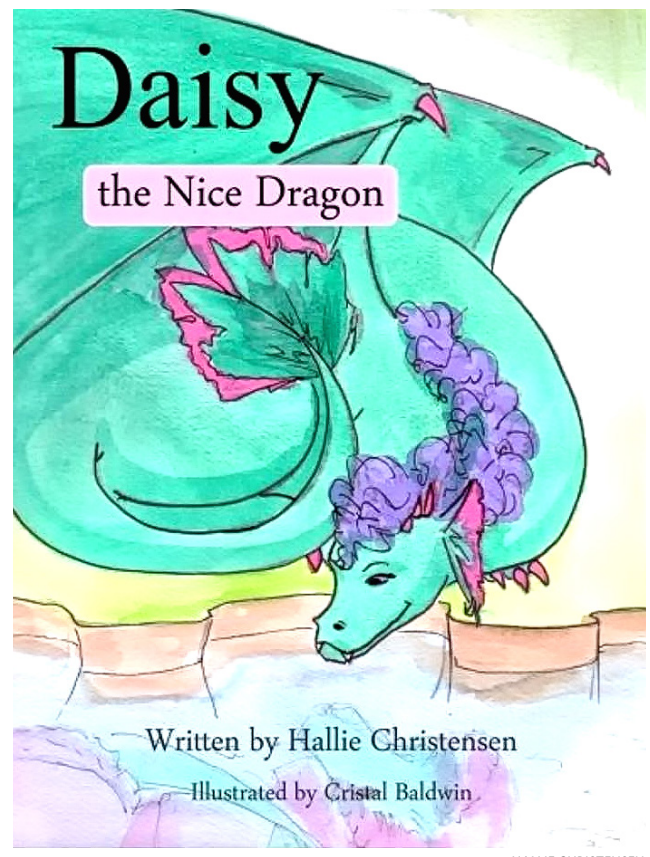
Christensen wrote the story, then, through the network of a freelancing company, found artist Cristal Baldwin to illustrate her book. She was particularly impressed by the artist's combinations of ink and watercolor which became the media for Daisy's art.

Christensen said of her long-distance partner, "She was great to work with, and if I publish another book, I will probably use her again."

Christensen works in the library at Wallace State Community College, and is an adjunct instructor in English.

She has a Bachelor of Arts in English from the University of Alabama, and a Master of Arts in Teaching English from Faulkner University.

As of Thursday, Sept. 28, "Daisy the Nice Dragon" is available at Deb's Bookstore in Cullman. Hard copy and Kindle ebook versions are also available from Amazon.



HALLIE CHRISTENSEN

"Daisy the Nice Dragon" was written by Hallie Christensen and illustrated by Cristal Baldwin.

Wallace State to welcome Common Read author Tricia Downing to campus on Oct. 4

Russell Moore
WSCC

HANCEVILLE – Wallace State Community College will welcome author Tricia Downing to campus on Wednesday, Oct. 4, at 9:30 a.m. at the Betty Leeth Haynes Theatre in the Student Center.

Downing's memoir, "Cycle of Hope: A Journey from Paralysis to Possibility," is currently serving as Wallace State's selection for its annual Common Read initiative.

Downing was a well-known cyclist and athlete, competing in prestigious cycling events, when her life was tragically altered in 2000.

She was hit by a motorist as she was riding her bicycle in Colorado, leaving her paralyzed from the waist down.

Downing didn't let the disability dictate her passion and attitude toward life.

She is now a motivational speaker, author and has completed more than 100 races since her accident, including marathons, duathlons and triathlons.

"Cycle of Hope" chronicles her life during this period from the accident through her recovery to emerging as a world-class wheelchair athlete.

Her book explores themes such as overcoming challenges, thriving through change, exploring diversity, setting goals and developing mental toughness.

"We are honored that Ms. Downing can visit our campus and our students can meet her. I feel like we all can benefit from her message, and I think this will be a great experience for our students. Ms. Downing's book deals with a lot of adversity and obstacles and how to overcome them.

"I know our students face adversity at times or it may be affecting their loved ones," said Wallace State's Hallie Christensen, chair of the Common Read Committee and the college's library assistant and English adjunct instructor.

"She should be an incredible inspiration to us all."

Wallace State has had the privilege of welcoming a number of Common Read authors to campus, including Garth Stein, author of "The Art of Racing in the Rain," last year.

As is the case each academic year, Wallace State's English Department has incorporated discussions boards about the Common Read into its curriculum.

Christensen has also received positive comments about the book from students.

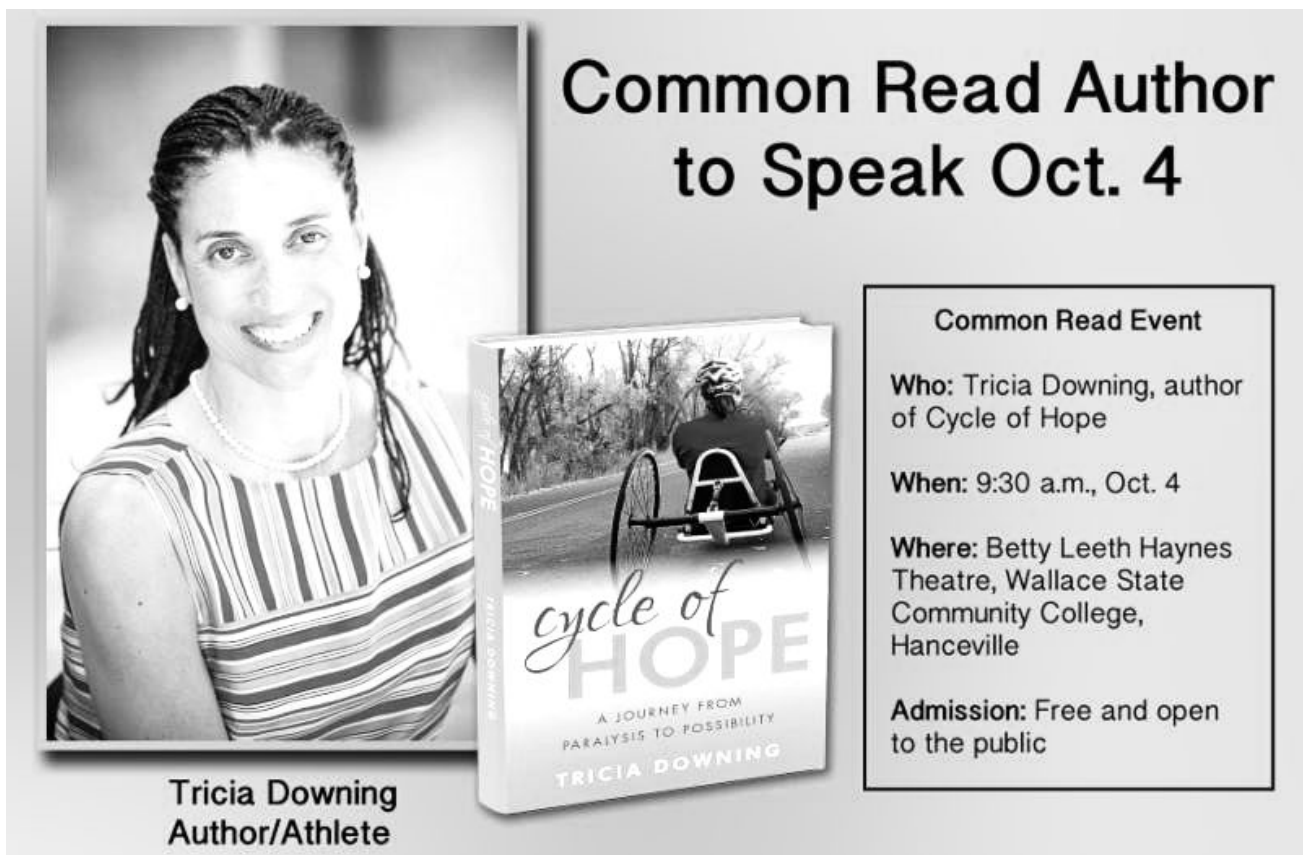
"We have received great feedback. I had a random encounter with a student in Books-A-Million in Cullman, and they expressed how much they're enjoying it.

"It's great to see the students enjoy it," Christensen said.

Admission to event is free and open to the public.

Downing plans to spend time answering questions at the conclusion of her presentation.

For more information about Wallace State, visit www.wallacestate.edu.



WSCC



Opening (from Front)

We're going to have some snack machines in here, and coffee makers. Just come, relax and enjoy some company."

- Adjustable tables on the rifle range that will allow shooters to choose any firing position from prone to standing
- Selected ADA-compliant firing lanes, with wheelchair-accessible tables and controls.
- An air filtration system that will remove both smells and trace gunpowder and lead materials from the air. According to Long, the air inside the range will be "the cleanest air you will breathe all day long."

The entryway is almost complete, with bullet-shaped vehicle barriers and custom pistol-shaped exposed roof trusses. While The Tribune was visiting, crews were installing wall cabinets and counters in the retail area, mounting acoustic paneling in the range and setting up the air filters.

Two air filtration/climate control systems have been installed on the roof. The Tribune climbed up to have a look, and saw units the size of small mobile homes. Imagine a central air unit you can walk through. One was already up and running, while three layers of filters (including HEPA filters rated for use in hospital operating rooms) were being installed in the other.

On the rifle and pistol ranges, wireless computerized target movement and retrieval equipment is already running.

Long demonstrated how the target holder can spin and tease the shooter with dual targets for shoot/don't shoot scenarios, and how the system can move the target to different distances on a programmed pattern. Lights in each firing lane can simulate flashing police or EMS vehicle lights, and a light on the target holder can even simulate shots from the target toward the shooter.

In what is sure to be a favorite feature for some, with the push of a control panel button, the range can be plunged into black-light darkness for all-in-good-fun "zombie mode." The target control system will allow zombie targets to appear suddenly out of the darkness at varying distances in front of shooters.

Troy Acoustics paneling and insulation up to 3 inches thick now lines most of the range areas' walls. Double outer walls and 3 inches of poured concrete on top of the slab ceiling panels will help make the CSS ranges among the quietest ever built, inside the building and out.

Visitors who don't want to shoot will be able to watch activities on the ranges through level eight bullet-resistant windows. According to Underwriters' Laboratories, level eight ballistic glass will absorb five impacts from 7.62mm/.308 rifle bullets before failing. Even an accident in the range will not endanger people outside.

And there shouldn't be many accidents on the range. According to Long, every shooter who goes to the range will have to go through a safety briefing before beginning, in a conference room set aside for that specific purpose.

Helping people do things right with firearms is a major emphasis for the staff at CSS. Long talked about how firearms training is shaping up to be a major activity at the facility.

"Training is really what's coming into focus as one of the main needs that I'm seeing," he said. "Everybody that I'm speaking to is asking for training."

Training opportunities will start in the simulation rooms, where novices can learn how to hold a firearm and basic trigger control. From there, advanced simulators will allow them to shoot at video targets with training guns that actually recoil when fired.

"When you go to the (live-fire) range," said Long, "you're actually used to having something in your hand that's moving. And it's really like old hat when you get to that point: you've gone through your classroom time, you've gone through your blue gun (non-moving simulator) time, you've gone through your blowback gun time. Then, when you're on the range, it just kind of flows naturally from one phase to the next."

More advanced shooters can test both their gun skills and their judgment in real world simulations that teach not only how to shoot, but also when to shoot and, at least as importantly, when not to.

"I love the fact that we're a 'shall-issue' state," said Long.

"You know, you don't have to go and get training before you get your concealed carry permit, but it's something that's our responsibility to do, to go out and be proficient with the use of your handgun. If you're going to carry it in public and, God forbid, you ever have to use it in public, or even at home with your family around, you want to make sure that you're hitting what you're aiming at.

"And shooting is such a diminishing skill. You have your natural shooters, but then again, you have people like me; if I don't practice, my skills erode. And that's 99 percent of the people I've talked to."

CSS has already begun selling memberships, and shooters are lining up. Of the sign-ups, Long said, "It's going pretty doggone well. I've been very pleased."

Long hopes to open the facility, at least to his founding members, the last week of October.

For more information on the CSS facility or membership, visit www.cssrange.com or www.facebook.com/CSSRANGE.

Background:
www.cullmantribune.com/articles/2017/03/24/inside-look-cullman-s-highly-anticipated-record-setting-gun-range

www.cullmantribune.com/articles/2017/03/20/cullman-targeted-longest-indoor-gun-range-southeast-open-year

