

Suspensions can't keep Statesboro from title

By John Clayton
Savannah News-Press

Statesboro's perfect region season in boys soccer was not without a tumultuous end.

The Blue Devils scored a 4-2 victory over Glynn Academy for the region championship and to run its record to 15-0, but did so without five players who were suspended by the Georgia High School Association for fighting in their previous playoff win over Savannah Country Day.

According to the Georgia High School Association, two of the players were suspended for one game for leaving the sideline during the fracas, but three others were suspended for a full year for their parts in the fight. One SCD player was suspended for a year and one other was suspended for two games.

But it's not over yet for the Blue Devils, who host Valdosta at 5 p.m. Wednesday in the first round of the state playoffs. Runner-up Glynn faces Tift County in Tifton at 7 p.m.

Brown takes job as Groves' AD

Groves baseball coach Kevin Brown has been named the school's new athletic director, replacing Ty Rietzovich.

Rietzovich resigned as the Groves football coach to become coach of the Savannah Chiefs, the city's entry into National Minor League Football, and agreed to step down as athletic director as well.

Brown said one of his first orders of business is to find a new football coach for the Rebels.

Region final schedule

Running events for the Region 3-AAAA track meet start at 6 p.m. today at Savannah State College. Runners qualified for their events Saturday. Field event and distance run finals were also held Saturday.

Track and field events for the Region 3-A track meet begin to-

day with the field events at 1 p.m. at Southeast Bulloch. The track finals will begin at 4:30 p.m.

Effingham County hosts Camden County today at 6 p.m. for the Region 3-AAAA baseball championship.

The Rebels squeaked by Brunswick 5-4 with a seventh-inning rally Friday, while Camden upset top-ranked Statesboro for the second straight game. The Wildcats beat the Blue Devils 8-6, but had to hold off a furious comeback attempt.

Statesboro scored all six of its runs in the seventh and had the bases loaded with one out before being shut down.

The Savannah Country Day girls soccer team, a 2-0 winner over Jenkins in the region final, will host Alexander at 5 p.m. Wednesday in the first round of the state playoffs. Jenkins travels to McEachern for a 6 p.m. game.

Dearing Award coming up

Those eligible for the Ashley Dearing Award for the city's top three-sport male athlete have been named and the ballots will soon be in.

Those eligible are: Benedictine: Tommy McNamara, Leon Gray, Harry Miles, James Rahal, Patrick Smith; Bible Baptist: James Covert, Kenny Peacock, Travis Peacock; Jenkins: Paul Young; Johnson: Terry Bryant, Lawrence Ezell; Memorial: Tommy Duke, Jason Hoffman, Kevin King, Dusty Williams; St. Andrew's: Alex Aldrich, Jeff Penton; Rusty Perry, Josh Rozier, Patrick Spivey; Savannah Christian: Matt Albert, Kris Edge, Brent Goodman, Jacob Hillis, Matt Holmes, Josh Rosecrans; Savannah Country Day: Blake Cole, Adam Novick, Cade Thompson, Julian Tison, Greg Ward, Allen Williams; Savannah High: Ricardo Greene.

Won as Chad Carver went 4-for-4 with two doubles and three RBIs.

Game One
RICHMOND HILL 12, BRANTLEY 5
Brantley pitcher: Will Rigdon, 5-2. Nine strikeouts, 3 hits, 1 earned.
Leading pitcher: Will Rigdon, 5-2. Nine strikeouts, 3 hits, 1 earned.
Game Two
BRANTLEY COUNTY, 4, RICHMOND HILL 2
Brantley pitcher: Jeremy Sanders.
Leading pitcher: Jeremy Sanders, 4-3. Nine strikeouts, 3 hits, 1 earned.
Game Three
BRANTLEY COUNTY, 4, RICHMOND HILL 2
Brantley pitcher: Jeremy Sanders.
Leading pitcher: Jeremy Sanders, 4-3. Nine strikeouts, 3 hits, 1 earned.

SCD netters blank Douglass

From Staff Reports

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Toombs County wins Region 3-A tourney

PEMBROKE - Toombs County captured the Region 3-A baseball title with a 4-0 victory over Bryan County on Monday.

Wesley Hardee picked up the victory as the Bulldogs improved to 22-7. Brandon Hartley and Bryan Davis had two hits apiece.

Both teams advance to the state Class A tournament. Toombs County will play the winner of the Seminole County-Hawkinsville, while Bryan County will face the loser.

TOOMBS CO. 4, BRYAN CO. 0
Toombs pitcher: Wesley Hardee, 7-0. Leading pitcher: Wesley Hardee, 7-0. Leading pitcher: Wesley Hardee, 7-0.

Draft

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The top 10 prospects in the June draft last year Kevin Garnett went directly to the NBA from Farragut Academy in Chicago; he was picked

Porter

Continued from Page 10

Porter has some big-league experience. Captain of the sailing team for the U.S. Merchant Marine Academy, the 19-year-old called J/40s and 30-footers in college and served as skipper on the school's 42-foot

Even so, he realizes this is a long shot at best.

"Obviously, with our lack of experience in the class, if we beat any team, we'd be doing pretty good," Porter said. "It's a last-minute order course to get this thing ready, but I can come down to sailing a boat that's been sailed before."

That effort will begin in the fleet-racing portion of the sailing class trials.

The top four boats after 10 fleet races will qualify for the match-racing, where the boats will compete each other under a different set of rules.

Porter said qualifying for the

first by the Minnesota Timberwolves. Garnett won a starting position midway through this season.

His senior year, Bryant averaged 31 points, 10 rebounds, five assists, five blocked shots and four steals a game to lead the Aces to a 31-3 record and 26 consecutive wins at the end of the season.

Finishing seventh in the Finn after four grueling years of training and campaigning haven't soured Porter on sailing in general or the Olympics in particular.

"Just the sound of everybody cheering me after I won the race made the whole campaign worth it," said Porter, who won Sunday's first race. "Add every night when I got home, there were messages from all my friends and supporters telling me to keep it up and keep trying my hardest. Back, a little girl even asked me for my autograph."

"The better they all had in me was worth more than a medal and is keeping me going."

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