

See the stories and pictures at the top of the page about the Apopka Blue Darter and Wekiva Mustang football teams' games from last week. Apopka defeated West Port 49-0 in their homecoming bout and Wekiva beat Eustis Panthers 53-6.



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Blue Darters dominate West Port in Homecoming win



TEMPEST'S
TIMEOUT

Marshall Tempest

By Marshall Tempest
Apopka Chief Staff

The Apopka Blue Darters ran up the scoreboard last week in a 49-0 homecoming victory over district rival West Port High School. The Blue Darters are now 3-1 this season and 2-0 in district matchups. As of Tuesday, September 17, Apopka is ranked 92nd in the state, 14th in Division 7A, and 22nd in Orlando.

This week the Apopka offense was able to not only get rolling – it was able to snowball as the game went on becoming stronger, more consistent, and regularly exploding for chunk plays. Even some of Apopka's players who don't get to see the field much got to not only play but help the team with

a victory.

A lot of Apopka's offensive production can be attributed to West Port not being a premier program as they are currently ranked 363rd in the state. But, besides that, Apopka's offense played great, and most importantly, they looked comfortable.

Everyone from the offensive line to quarterback Tyson Davison did great in the win. Apopka collected 417 total yards with 347 of those yards coming on the ground with the other 70 coming through the air.

Apopka's running backs, especially Jayden Safford, had a great night as they collected four rushing touchdowns.

Davison, Apopka's quarterback, had a good night through the air but a great one on his feet. Davison collected three touchdowns – two passing touchdowns and one rushing touchdown. Davison only threw the ball seven times and only connected with a receiver three times, but two of those three times

See WEST PORT Page 2B



On Friday, September 13, Apopka's Myles Fieldings eludes a tackle with a quick move after receiving a punt.

The Mustangs trample the Eustis Panthers 53-6

By Neal Fisher
Apopka Chief Staff

The final score of 53-6 reflected the lethal explosiveness and thoroughness with which the Wekiva Mustangs defeated the Eustis Panthers on Friday, September 13. Wekiva has now been carried to two consecutive victories by realizing their lethal explosiveness and thoroughness.

"At 2-2, record and position in is certainly much better than a couple of weeks ago," Mustangs coach Doug Gabriel said. "The performance was decent as far as consistency from start to finish for the first time this season,"

Over the last seven quarters, Wekiva has gained 729 total yards. However, the number includes a non-stop clock and only four plays run during the last two quarters. Total yards were in favor of the Mustangs by a margin of 355-135 against the Panthers including the last play of the contest. Wekiva's margin of total yards gained not including the last play was 277 yards.

Several of the statistics were among the five highest in Mustangs' history. The most noticeable of the five highest was 53 points

scored in an individual contest. Winning an individual contest by 47 points stands out as among the five highest as well.

With an average of 14.8 yards and two interceptions returned for touchdowns, Wekiva ran only 24 plays over the course of six possessions. All six possessions ended with touchdowns.

The first play from scrimmage produced all the points the Mustangs needed to win and set the tone of playing from ahead.

Wekiva also turned as golden a break into points for the first time out of three this season. A fumble on the

	Wekiva	Eustis
First downs	12	7
Rushes-yds	16-216	31-12
Passing yds	139	123
Total yds	355	135
Com-Att-Int	7-8-0	6-20-3
Fumbles-lost	3-0	2-1
Penalties-yds	6-60	12-110

Wekiva	13	20	13	07	-	53
Eustis	00	00	00	06	-	06

Scoring Breakdown:

1st W: Blackmon 43 run (kick failed); 9:57; W: Pipken 18 run (Fritchley kick); 7:16. 2nd W: Woulard 12 pass from Keillor (Fritchley kick); 11:50; W: Ellis 32 pass from Keillor (Fritchley kick); 3:45; W: Glenn 38 interception return (kick failed); :35.6. 3rd W: Blackmon 62 run (Fritchley kick); 10:10; W: Woulard 55 pass from Keillor (Fritchley kick); 2:20. 4th W: Smith 27 interception return (Fritchley kick); E: Rodriguez-Jack 57 pass (kick failed); 3:55

See EUSTIS Page 2B



On Friday, September 13, the Wekiva defense comes up with a huge tackle for loss.

Wekiva faces out-of-state opponent Georgia Lee County

By Neal Fisher
Apopka Chief Staff

Taking on an out-of-state opponent tonight, Friday, September 20 is a unique contest for the Wekiva Mustangs.

On the other hand, fac-

ing the Georgia Lee County Trojans falls under competition is necessary for improvement school of thought.

Kickoff is scheduled for 7:30 p.m.

"Another opportunity to put together four quar-

ters of quality play," Gabriel said. "We have demonstrated how capable we are against the teams with under .500 records. Facing top tier teams is another story though. If the story is to change, mistakes have to stop."

Competing with the Trojans' length of sustained success at the state level is extremely rare.

Lee County's record since 2007 is 157-53 or a winning percentage of .752. The high point was claiming the Georgia AAAAA

(highest classification in Georgia is AAAAAA) state championship in 2017 and 2018 while winning 29 out of 30 contests.

A losing season has not been recorded since 2006. Sixteen playoff berths have been earned during the 17

seasons (2011 the lone exception).

Sustained level of success has only increased during recent seasons though. Record has improved since 2017 from 9.5-3 to

See GEORGIA Page 4B

A look at the 2024 APK bowling season

By Neal Fisher
Apopka Chief Staff

Last season was the 11th consecutive season that the Apopka Blue Darter bowling team found itself in the State Championship. However, a streak of advancing to at least the semifinal round (double elimination tournament) of the state championship meet also came to an end at 10.

Apopka's state of the program is the same 10

months later. The Blue Darters certainly have the core to return to the state championship meet with four bowlers returning from the 2023 qualifier. The four bowlers returning from the 2023 state championship meet qualifier also translates to strong potential for regaining the standard of state championship contender status.

"Level of consistency has to improve though,"

See BOWLING Page 4B



Apopka bowling coach Doug Campbell stands with the 2023 APK bowling team.

The fastest 15-year-old in the world!

Pictured below is Carson May, a 15-year-old out of Oviedo, who recently became *the fastest kid in the world*.

A few weeks ago we

did a story on May traveling to the Bonneville Salt Flats in Utah to beat the record for the youngest person to ever hit 200 miles per hour. Sadly, May was

unable to attempt this record when they arrived due to the Southern California Timing Association not allowing him to drive because he was not yet 16

years old. Soon after that, the Utah Salt Flats Racing Association reached out to May and said they would

See MAY Page 6B



On the left, May is seen with the car he used to set his new record. The car is a 1972 Datsun 240Z that has a Toyota 2JZ with a Borg Warner Turbo putting out 1,000 plus horsepower. On the right, May hugs his grandfather Red Stauffer, his role model, after he sets his first ever land speed record.



Apopka swim teams win big at Ocoee



First row (l-r) Brooke Bemiss, Ava Densberger, Ava Vernier, Alexia McReynolds, Lily Whitworth. Second row (l-r) Travis Novak, Nicholas Howell, Steven Novak, Andrew Kurz, Jordan Dreyer.

Boys Blue Darter Swim won a Three-way shootout, and the Darter Girls Swim picked up a win and a loss.

After two earlier meets this season that were cancelled because of the weather, the Blue Darter Swim Teams closed the deal Wednesday September 11th at Winter Garden's Farnsworth Pool. Hosted by Ocoee High, it was a three-way "double dual" between the Apopka Blue Darters, Ocoee Knights, and the Horizon Hawks. The boys came in first, beating Horizon 79-75 and Ocoee 116-22. The girls took 2nd out of 3, besting the Knights 104-40 and losing to the Lady Hawks 68-94.

First-place finishers,

beating Ocoee and Horizon both, were Apopka boys captain and senior Steven Novak in the 500 freestyle individual event and senior Nicholas Howell in the 100 breaststroke individual event. Novak was joined by the other senior captain Jordan Dreyer, junior Andrew Kurz, and sophomore Travis Novak to slap the wall first with the winning 400-yard relay.

The girls' 400 free freestyle relay also took overall first place led by junior team captain Alexia McReynolds, junior Ava Densberger, sophomore Lily Whitworth, and sophomore Brooke Bemiss. The Blue Darter Boys are now 2 and 0 and the Lady Darters are 1 and 1.

FWC holds annual Fish Art Contest for grades K-12

Hello Folks,

I can hardly wait for Sunday. That will be the first day of “Fall.” I’m ready for some cooler weather. I know it’s not goin’ to just go down to the 60s overnight, but we are headin’ for some cooler months.

The fishin’ is still about the same. It’s still kinda hot durin’ the day, then we get the afternoon rains and that keeps a lot of folks off the water. Hopefully we will get some cooler days real soon and that will help cool the water down and get those ole specks to bitin’.

The bass fishin’ has been a little slow, but I’m hopin’ that some cooler weather will get them to bite.

I wanted all the parents to know that the FWC is havin’ a Fish Art Contest. This is an annual program and it invites youth from around the world to connect with nature and learn about fish and aquatic habitats while exploring the creative art. This contest is open for young artists from kindergarten



Jim Keck
Goin’ Fishin’

through 12th grade.

Since its founding in 1997, the Fish Art Contest has reached over 85,000 youth in 46 countries. This is a free contest and is accessible to all youth across the globe. Florida students can submit their work to Wildlife Forever usin’ the Florida Fish Art Contest entry form page. One first place winner and one runner-up will be selected for each grade bracket. The brackets are set up like this: kindergarten through third grade, fourth grade through sixth grade, seventh through ninth grade, and then tenth grade through twelfth grade.

There will be one category for illustrating the best freshwater fish species and one for the best salt-water fish species. You can

visit MyFWC.com/Fish-Art for more information.

If you haven’t read about this yet, the ramps on the Butler Chain are closed again due to high water. I know there has been a lot of rain late, and the water is high on the St. Johns River as well. As of September 11, the following boat ramps are closed on the Butler Chain of Lakes: R.D. Keene, Lake Down, Fern Creek, and Randolph Street. These ramps will be closed until the water levels are reduced to 9 inches above the normal High Water Elevation. You can go to the OrangeCountyParks.net website for more information.

I haven’t heard of any ramps bein’ closed on the Harris Chain of Lakes.

Well, that’s it for this week. I will be gone next week on vacation. I hope you get a chance to do some fishin’ over the next two weeks. Hope to see you on the water real soon.

Tip of the week: Fall is comin’.

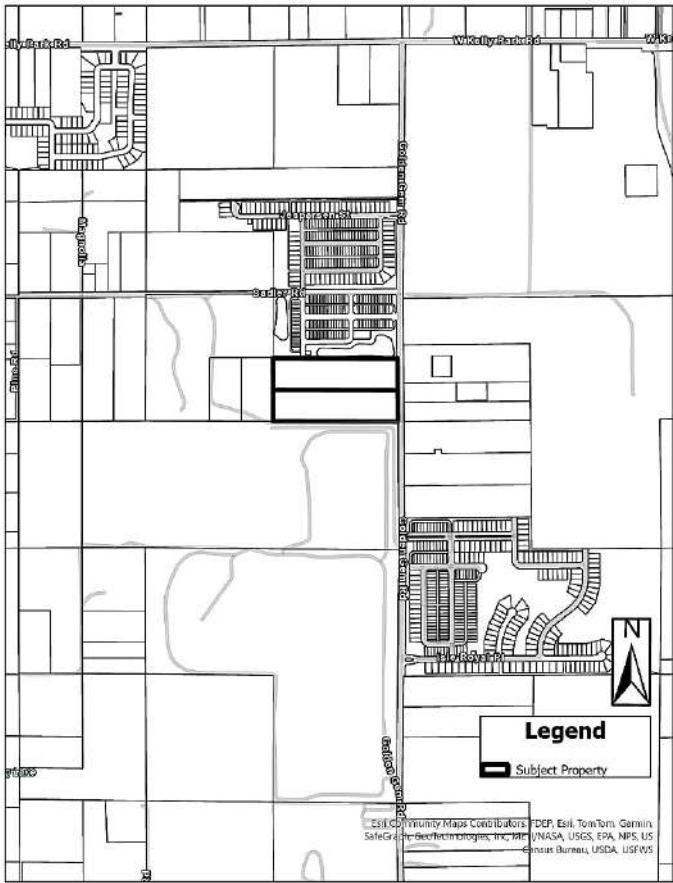
Save a few and good luck.

PUBLIC HEARING NOTICE ANNEXATION CITY OF APOPKA

NOTICE is hereby given pursuant to Florida Statutes 171.044, the Apopka Code of Ordinances, Part III, Land Development Code, Article II, Section 2.5.1.A, that **GL SUMMITT ENGINEERING, INC. C/O GEOFFREY L. SUMMITT, P.E.** has made an application to the City of Apopka City Council for an **ANNEXATION** of the following described property:

ORDINANCE NO. 3073

AN ORDINANCE OF THE CITY OF APOPKA, FLORIDA, TO EXTEND ITS TERRITORIAL AND MUNICIPAL LIMITS TO ANNEX PURSUANT TO FLORIDA STATUTE 171.044 THE HEREINAFTER DESCRIBED LANDS SITUATED AND BEING IN ORANGE COUNTY, FLORIDA, OWNED BY STACY AND ROBERT MOSS AND TIMOTHY BURCHFIELD; LOCATED WEST OF GOLDEN GEM ROAD, SOUTH OF NIGHTSHADE GROVE LANE AND SADLER ROAD; COMPRISING 19.76 ACRES, MORE OR LESS; PROVIDING FOR DIRECTIONS TO THE CITY CLERK, SEVERABILITY, CONFLICTS, AND AN EFFECTIVE DATE.



Parcel Identification Number(s): 14-20-27-0000-00-025 and 14-20-27-0000-00-083
Contains: 19.76 +/- acres

NOTICE is given that public hearings for Ordinance No. 3073 will be held by the **City of Apopka City Council** at its regularly scheduled meetings in the City Council Chambers of the Apopka City Hall, 120 E. Main Street, Apopka, Florida on **Wednesday, October 2, 2024 beginning at 1:30 P.M. and Wednesday, October 16, 2024 beginning at 7:00 P.M.** or as soon thereafter as possible.

Affected parties and the public may appear at the above listed hearings to speak. The proposed Annexation can be inspected at the Apopka Community Development Department located at Apopka City Hall on weekdays between the hours of 8:00 a.m. and 4:30 p.m. City Hall address shown below. Please be advised that, under State law, if you decide to appeal a decision made with respect to this matter, you will need a record of the proceedings and may need to ensure that a verbatim record is made, which record includes the testimony and evidence upon which the appeal is to be based. In accordance with the Americans with Disabilities Act (ADA), persons with disabilities needing assistance to participate in any of these proceedings should contact the City Clerk’s Office at 120 East Main Street, Apopka FL 32703, Telephone: 407-703-1704, no less than 48 hours prior to the proceeding.

Apopka City Council
Apopka Planning Commission
Community Development Department

September 20, 2024

Publish: The Apopka Chief

177399

Police Beat

If a law enforcement agency charges you with a crime and this paper reports that information, please notify us within 90 days if the charge is dropped, or if you are found not guilty by the court. After verifying the information, we will be happy to publish it. Please send notification to The Apopka Chief, P.O. Box 880, Apopka, 32704-0880.

In the period from September 8-14, the Apopka Police Department received 1,474 calls for service, responded to 34 crashes, issued 24 citations, and made 12 arrests. Juveniles were charged with battery-touch or strike.

The following adults were arrested and charged:
Zyannah Ny’Zada Azar Allan Pierre, 19, 463 Lake Bridge Ln. #1735, Apopka, larceny-grand theft \$750 less than \$5,000.
Briam Josue Espinoza Hernandez, 23, 6 Juniper

Loop Way, Ocala, hit and run-leave the scene of crash involving damage to property.

Kila Lee Filiatrault, 38, confidential, Apopka, battery-touch or strike (domestic violence).

Carlos Garcia-Lopez, 19, 463 Dream Lake Dr., Apopka, vehicle theft-grand theft of motor vehicle.

Terrance James McMillian, 39, 136 NE 6th Ave., Boynton Beach, burglary-dwelling/structure/conveyance armed; larceny-grand theft of firearm; vehicle theft-grand theft of motor vehicle; drugs-possession of controlled substance without prescription; drug equipment-possession and/or use; possession of weapon or ammo by convicted Florida felon.

Victor Jose Ortiz, 34, 1035 Interlaken Way, Apopka, drugs-possession of controlled substance without prescription.

Melvonnia Teneya Pompilus, 40, 3675 Hogs-

head Rd., Apopka, trespassing-failure to leave property on order of owner.

Barry Lee Snyder, 71, 3000 Clarcona Rd. lot 2112, Apopka, kidnap-false imprisonment of person; simple assault-on specified personnel; resist officer with violence.

Kenney Wade Strickland, 45, PO Box 601, Ocoee, drugs-possession of controlled substance without prescription (methamphetamine).

George Ronald Vaught, 27, 1616 N. Federal Hwy Apt. 4, Lake Worth, burglary-dwelling/structure/conveyance armed; larceny-grand theft of firearm; vehicle theft-grand theft of motor vehicle; damage property-criminal mischief \$1,000 or more.

Jenod Tavonte Wallace, 30, 7901 Forest City Rd., Orlando, burglary-unoccupied conveyance unarmed (X3); larceny-other theft.

James Leslie Williams, 35, 575 Lake McCoy Dr., Apopka, trespassing-occupied structure or conveyance.

Eustis: Explosive Mustang offense



A Wekiva running back slips through the Eustis defensive line with ease getting to the second level of the Panther defense.

Continued from page 1B

second play from scrimmage was recovered by the Mustangs at the Panthers’ 49-yard line.

Two plays later, Mike Blackmon took a handoff from Jackson Keillor. By the time Blackmon reached the right side of the line, the defense had been pushed at least six inches to the other side. Blackmon bolted through the opening while reaching full speed and outran the rest of the defense to the end zone. Running to the right hashmark | and forward once past the line of scrimmage | provided Blackmon with the slight angle needed.

Distance of the rush covered 43 yards. The other rushing touchdowns were

scored by Lawrence Pipken from 18 yards and Blackmon again from a distance of 62, respectively.

Keillor threw three touchdown passes, in order: 12 yards to Naeem Woulard, 32 to Michael Ellis, and another 55 to Woulard. Seven of eight pass attempts were also completed by Keillor.

The interceptions returned for touchdowns were the work of Chris Glenn (38 yards) and Jabari Smith (27). Times of the touchdowns were with 35 seconds remaining in the first half and 10:10 in the fourth quarter, respectively. Returning two interceptions for a touchdown has now been achieved during six contests in Wekiva history.

Glenn also ended the Panthers’ second possession with an interception.

Then a blocked punt concluded Eustis’ subsequent (third) possession.

“Over the last couple of weeks we have gotten two much needed victories,” Gabriel said. “Of course, celebrating as opposed to trying to figure out what went wrong is much preferable and feels lighter. A lack of listening to the coaches and stubbornness is still present, which starts the process of committing mistakes. Performance tonight was far from consistent enough to be competitive against a lot of opponents though.”

The Panthers’ lone

See EUSTIS Page 5B

West Port: ‘... a great team win,’

Continued from page 1B

were for a touchdown.

I got to talk to Davison a little bit after the win and ask him how he felt about the offense production – especially his own. “This was a great team win. We got the guys who needed to get in, in, and get them some reps in, and we all just balled out. I think we were all able to play so well because of a great week of preparation from the coaches down to the players, to the scout team, to the athletic trainers keeping us healthy. And when you have a week like we did, it shows on the field.”

Davison showed great poise out there for most of the night until he was pulled out to give his backups some reps. Davison’s highlights were his running game, especially his 38-yard rushing touchdown that put up the first points of the night for the Blue Darters. Other than that he had two passing touch-

downs with both showing his ability to read the defense and place the ball only where his receiver could get it.

Davison’s first passing touchdown was a 10-yard completion to Noah Morgan on a beautiful corner route. The second was a huge chunk play which made the stadium roar. Sitting on Apopka’s 47-yard line Apopka went with a play-action boot. Apopka lined up with a five-man front with two recovers on each side and one back in the backfield next to Davison. Before the snap, Davison called for a motion from his slot receiver on the right side who goes into a jet sweep sort of motion. Davison called for the snap – faked the handoff to the sweeping receiver – and began moving out of the pocket.

As Davison left the pocket, he was one-on-one with a West Port edge rusher. With a quick move, Davison shook the West Port defender and made

him fall to his knees. As he continued to scramble from pressure, Davison saw the receiver that was set in motion upfield wide open down the sideline and heaved up a pass that ended in a 53-yard touchdown for Davison and receiver Judah Harvey. After the original sweep motion, Harvey continued upfield on a wheel route and was completely forgotten about by the West Port defense-leaving him wide open down the sideline!

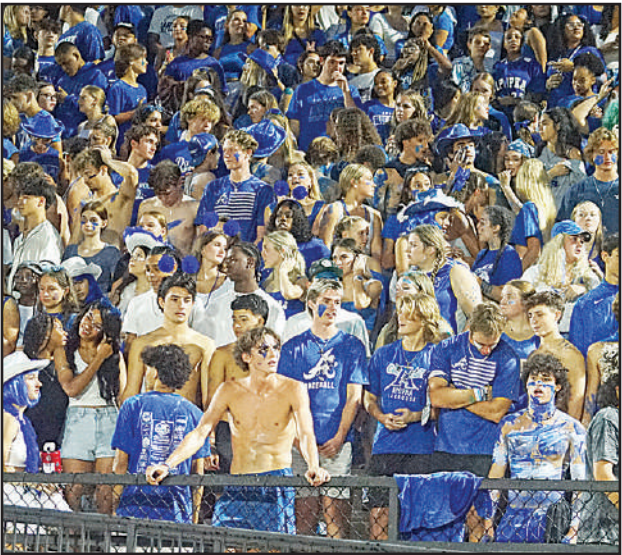
Our boys in blue came out swinging last Friday during their homecoming game scoring 21 points in the first quarter. But they didn’t stop there. In the second quarter, the boys scored another 21 points and went into the locker room at halftime up 42-0.

The Blue Darters went on to score one more touchdown in the third quarter, but the second half was much more about letting some of Apopka’s

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Blue Darters rise to 3-1 after big win over West Port



The Apopka student section during Apopka's homecoming win over West Port High School.



On the left, Myles Fieldings receives a punt. On the right Fieldings tries to return the punt by forcing his way through West Port defenders during Apopka's 49-0 victory over the Wolf Pack.



These pictures are all of the same play. Apopka's Tyson Davison finds himself one-on-one with a West Port edge rusher but uses a quick move to evade the tackle and put the defender on his back during the game on Friday, September 13.



Apopka's Kingston Shaw (15) congratulates and embraces a teammate after a touchdown in the Blue Darters' win over West Port.



Tyson Davison heaves a pass to an open receiver for a 53-yard passing touchdown.

Mustangs 2-2 after defeating the Eustis Panthers



On Friday, September 13, a Wekiva defender dives for a wild pass, almost securing an interception for the Mustangs.



During their 53-6 victory, Wekiva's quarterback Jackson Kellior looks to his wideout receiver as he breaks the press at the line of scrimmage.



The Wekiva defense sack the Eustis Panthers quarterback for a major loss of yards on Friday, September 13.



Wekiva's Michael Ellis finds himself alone upfield heading for the end zone with no Panthers in sight to stop him.

Georgia: Trojans are ranked 85th nationally and fifth in Georgia

Continued from page 1B

11.6-2. The Trojans advanced to the regional final round (last eight teams) last season.

After four victories in as many opportunities so far this season, Lee County looks just as primed to make another run to at least the regional final round. The rankings agree as the Trojans hold the fifth position in the state of Georgia and 85th nationally (Maxpreps.com).

“Lee County is a top tier team and we have an opportunity to grow up when facing them,” Gabriel said. “I keep talking about mistakes and the lack of focus on, but top tier teams

turn mistakes into points.”

Rushing to pass ratio is about 70-30. The Trojans have more importantly found the formula for primarily relying on the option while also creating plays of big impact when using the pass. Total yards gained per contest of 288 yards rushing and 152 through the air has translated to 53 points per contest.

The clear centerpiece of the offense as the proverbial dual-threat is quarterback Weston Bryan. However, Bryan’s role within the offense is far more than executing a play of big impact at any time. A 6.1 yards per carry average while leading the team in rushes (59) demonstrates

consistent production and contribution.

However, the team’s leading ground gainer is Ousmane Kromah with an averaging of 8.4 yards per carry and 113 per contest.

Providing a third option on the ground with another 50 yards per contests and eight per carry is Canton Williams.

Then the passing game has been equally consistent. Bryan has completed 47 of 70 pass attempts for a percentage of 67 and quarterback rating of 106.

Receiving is also by committee. At 14, Jaden Upshaw leads the team in receptions and 60.3 per contest. Six different receivers have caught at least

five pass attempts though.

A committee approach is the hallmark of the defense as well and grows out of the 4-3 formation with cover two coverage. The lack of domination but equally efficient, 19 points per contest is being given up by the defense.

Use of stunts and twists compared to straight attacking is about 50/50.

Linebackers and safeties tend to stay at home.

With 48 tackles, Greg Baston is the team’s leader. Twelve players have garnered at least 15 tackles though.

A two contest winning streak has provided Wekiva with new life and the state of the program is much

lighter than just two weeks ago.

“At 2-2, record and position is certainly much better than a couple of weeks ago,” Mustangs coach Doug Gabriel reiterated this week. “The performance was decent as far as consistency from start to finish for the first time this season. Goal is of course to be great and stand out but decent comes before.

“We have gotten two much needed victories with decent performances.”

Over the last seven quarters, Wekiva has gained 729 total yards. The number includes a non-stop clock and only four plays run during the last two quarters. Total yards were

in favor of the Mustangs by a margin of 355-135 during and including the last play of the most recent contest. Wekiva’s margin of total yards gained not including the last play was 277 yards.

Points given up compared to scored by Wekiva is also .500 at 101-101.

“There have been flashes of positive play, the kind which wins contests,” Gabriel continued to reiterate. “However, mistakes committed are still a lot more than we should be making. Shooting ourselves in the foot is still too common. We continue to be our worst enemy.”

West Port: Davison, Darters have a winning mentality this week



Apopka’s Tyson Davison explodes for a huge gain up the middle of the field on Friday, September 13.



Apopka’s Caleb Reed makes a tackle on West Port’s quarterback Seshen Fraser at the line of scrimmage.

Continued from page 2B

younger and more inexperienced guys get some reps in so they can be ready in the future. The Blue Darters let both of their back-up quarterbacks get some reps, and we got to see how the offense may be different around them.

Davison had nothing but good things to say about the Apopka quarterbacks.

“They played great and they looked great. Blake Childs and TJ Fra-

zier looked amazing out there.”

The head coach of the Blue Darters Jeff Rolson talked to me a bit about the win, and he was very happy with it.

“You know, it was a good game. We were able to move the ball, we got a shutout, we put a lot of points on the board, a lot of kids got to play, no one got hurt, it’s homecoming, and it’s a district game, so this is big. Obviously, they (West Port) were outmanned, but we need to get

better mentally and physically, so this was a good game to do that.

Rolson said hopefully this win can give the boys some confidence and some reassurance that we can score consistently. But he knows that Edgewater, “is a different animal.”

Apopka at Edgewater September 20

Today, Friday, September 20, the Apopka Blue Darters will travel to Edgewater High School for their first away game of the

season to face off against the 2-2 Edgewater Eagles. The Eagles are currently ranked 64th in Florida, 10th in Division 5A, and 14th in Orlando.

The Eagles are always a powerhouse program and this year is no different, so don’t let their record fool you. Their two losses were to The First Academy (28-24) and Jones High School (24-21). The First Academy is currently ranked 35th in Florida, 5th in Division 1A, and 6th in Orlando and is 4-0. Jones

High School is currently ranked 19th in Florida, third in Division 4A, and 5th in Orlando, and is 3-0.

After watching the game film on both of their losses, the Eagles’ losses were fueled by their own mistakes: fumbles, run fit assignment problems, and just discipline on defense. Even with all these mistakes, they barely lost those two matchups.

I don’t think Edgewater will be mistake-prone against Apopka because they know that at

2-2, they can’t afford any more losses if they want to make a deep playoff run. So, Apopka better be ready for an Edgewater team that will be coming out to play perfect football.

But when I talked to Davison after the game last week, I asked him what was the team and his game plan and mentality going into the game. He answered with one word.

“Win!”

Weekly SUDOKU

by Linda Thistle

4		9	2				7	
	3				7			1
5				8		3		
8				6			1	
	9				5			6
		6	4			8		
		5	9				4	
	6			1	7			
2					4			9

Place a number in the empty boxes in such a way that each row across, each column down and each small 9-box square contains all of the numbers from one to nine.

DIFFICULTY THIS WEEK: ♦♦

♦ Moderate ♦♦ Challenging
♦♦♦ HOO BOY!

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SUDOKU ANSWERS: PAGE 6A

Bowling: Consistency is key in championship

Continued from page 1B

Apopka men’s coach Doug Campbell said. “Not a secret, an average of at least 210 pins, perhaps even 225 bowling 10-pin is needed to advance past the first component of the state championship meet. Then an even higher average bowling Baker was needed to advance deep into the second component during some of the meets. Every individual bowler has thrown multiple scores well over 225 pins every day in both formats. Every individual bowler has also thrown multiple scores below 180 every day in both formats.”

Baker is bowling’s equivalent of a base-

ball line-up. Each bowler throws one frame at a time. The first bowler in the line-up throws the first frame. The second bowler in the line-up throws the second frame and so on. With 10 frames and a line-up consisting of five, only two frames are thrown by each bowler.

During the four weeks of fall practices, scores over 215 and under 180 have been roughly 50/50. A handful of times, scores in the 290s were reached. In the other direction, a handful of times scores also reached the 150s.

Less than 10 scores thrown per individual have been in between.

Throughout 10 seasons

as head coach of the Blue Darters, Doug Campbell has molded multiple bowlers into state championship caliber bowlers, as part of a team and individually.

However, Campbell oversaw and guided the improvement of the entire team last season to an eighth district championship.

The team average in both formats improved by over 30 pins during the regular season. Still, Apopka entered the district championship meet and postseason with the lowest average of any team during the streak and a decisive underdog. Another significant improvement was needed to win the district champion-

ship and earn the 11th consecutive state championship meet berth. During the district championship tournament, when the success of the season is judged, the Blue Darters took the step of becoming a team consistently reaching scores above 200 pins.

Taking a team starting at the position of replacing four starters from a state championship team to a district championship was the perhaps the finest job of Campbell’s coaching career. At the least, the finest job as far as the number of bowlers significantly improving scores to district championship level. From

See BOWLING Page 5B

CLUES ACROSS

1. Native American people

38. Type of gasoline

40. Actor LeBlanc

41. Perform in a play (Brit.)

10. Schoolboard accessory

12. Rods

14. One who renews

16. Sculpted body part

18. Chatter incessantly

19. King Cole, musician

20. Plates on a turtle's shell

22. University of Utah athlete

23. The world of the dead

25. Singer Redding

26. Former Yankee great

27. Prefix indicating wrongly

28. Unhappy

30. Anger

31. Dark brown or black

33. Restaurants have a lot of them

35. Made a mistake

37. Damp

39. A digital tape recording of sound

40. More (Spanish)

43. Disfigured

44. White (Spanish)

46. Building occupied by monks

47. Georgia rock band

49. Device that generates intense beam of light

51. State of agitation

54. Make by braiding

59. Local area network

60. Unit of work or energy

61. Indigenous person of Thailand

62. Liquefied natural gas

64. Distance to top

CLUES DOWN

1. Witch

2. Utilize

3. Writing utensil

4. Places to perform

5. Subsidies

6. Consume

7. Athleisure clothing brand

8. California town

9. Atomic #50

10. The Muse of lyric and love poetry

11. Creates anew

13. Humorous commentaries

15. Cool!

17. Most ignoble

18. Soggy dirt

21. Designed to be useful

23. Hebrew unit of liquid capacity

24. High schoolers' test

27. One-time internet accessory

29. City in India

32. Furniture

34. You have likely chatted with one

35. Pass or go by

36. Proof of purchase

39. A digital tape recording of sound

40. More (Spanish)

43. Disfigured

44. White (Spanish)

46. Building occupied by monks

47. Georgia rock band

49. Device that generates intense beam of light

51. State of agitation

54. Make by braiding

59. Local area network

60. Unit of work or energy

61. Indigenous person of Thailand

62. Liquefied natural gas

64. Distance to top

Solutions can be found on page 6A of this newspaper.

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Bowling: Coach Campbell says that spares win bowling matches

Continued from page 4B

a lack of, Campbell developed a team with the potential to score above 225 pins when any game ended and advancing.

However, developing a consistency throughout the team for scoring above 225 pins and advancing is now Campbell’s task.

“Once again and even if sounding like a broken record, I can’t emphasize the importance of spares enough,” Campbell said. “Ever since the first bowling ball was thrown, outcomes are determined by spares. Teams consistently converting spares *win*. Teams with anchors consistently converting spares win in particular. Converting spares is realizing the opportunity to score additional pins during the next frame. Failure to convert spares is leaving the opportunity to score additional pins on the table.

The primary difference from the make-up of last season’s team is the addition of improving the level of consistency. The anchor was the only position filled at the start of last season. However, the lone position

needing to be filled at the start of this season is the anchor.

“An anchor failing to convert spare opportunities translates to the team heading into the second half of a (Baker) game with pins left on the table,” Campbell said. “Difference between a team scoring 210 pins and 230 pins at the least is consistently converting the spare opportunities. State champions are converting in the high-80 percent range at the least. Again, those 20 pins is the difference between qualifying for the state championship meet and advancing during the state championship meet. This group of bowlers found out the difference first-hand last season.”

Kolton Evans, Logan Licavoli, John Cruz, and Bradyn Sowers make up the returning group of bowlers. Joining the team this season is Angelo Mullica and Colby Todd.

Potential is also the state of the women’s program heading into the 2024 season. Under Jason Ramos, a reconstructed women’s team has undergone an equally significant improvement as the men had

last season.

Returning as the core is Elizabeth Marshall, Jaiden Mullica and Makayla Branson. Yareliz Gonzalez-Melendez, Shyanne Adams, Haylee Thames, Olivia Hodge, and Madelynn Scofield joined the team this season.

Improving the pins per game average to the mid-190s and after qualifying as an individual for the state championship meet last season, Marshall will serve as the anchor.

“By at least 25 pins, each of the bowlers new to the team has improved,” Ramos said. “Improvement is far from leaving us capable of matching the program’s high point right now. Most importantly, a season doesn’t consist of just fall practices. The goal is always to steadily improve throughout the regular season, then peak as the postseason begins.

“There is no reason to believe the improvement won’t continue during the regular season in general. We still need to improve team and individual scores by a minimum of 25 pins to reach the high point again. Reaching the high point

again is possible because of the steadiness with which the bowlers have improved and in only a few weeks (fall practices).”

Apopka was one of the last six teams (four in the elimination bracket, two winners) during the 2020 state championship tournament. However, the 2020 berth was the first of three consecutive into the state championship meet.

“Of course, the odds are against any team being one of the last eight,” Ramos said. “I am optimistic the team will have at least developed the capability to reach the high point because of the steadiness improving. Another 25 pin improvement would certainly put us in the position of a favorite to qualify for the state championship meet, again at the least. Remember the 25 pins talking about is being added to the can-build-around scores of the returners.

“Most importantly, I am proud of the progress each bowler has made individually and as a team member. The opportunity for a special season exists because of the effort put forth during the fall practices.”

tices.”

Another unique and subtle challenge facing the Blue Darters after achieving the state championship level success has been a lack of matches in which to gain experience. This season though, the schedule is also limited because several teams in the area did not have a full roster until September.

Only 12 teams have scheduled matches with Apopka this season. The schedule is made up of the Edgewater Eagles (September 17), West Orange Warriors, Horizon Hawks (September 19), Dr. Phillips Panthers, Wekiva Mustangs, Ocoee Knights (September 25), Wekiva Mustangs, Lake Buena Vista Vipers (October 9), Winter Park Wildcats (October 15) and Wekiva Mustangs, Windermere Wolverines, Olympia Titans (October 16). All matches will be held at Bowlero Lanes on S.R. 436, which is the home facility of the Blue Darters, Warriors, Mustangs and Knights. However, matches have been added mid-season in the past.

The more traditional and commonly known

format is 10-pin. A bowler throws 10 frames. Number of pins knocked down over the 10 frames are added together for the final score.

District and the state championship meets consist of 10-pin as the first component. Then Baker is used for the head-to-head, double-elimination tournament. Men and women, individual and team championships are contested.

Teams placing first and second or the two finalists from each district championship meet, advance to the state championship meet, as well. Dates for the District 7 championship meet is Tuesday, October 22, at Apopka Bowlero. On October 29, 30 and 31 as well as at Boardwalk Bowl (10749 East Colonial Dr.), the state championship meet will be held.

Apopka is a member of District 7, along with Boone, Crooms Academy, Edgewater, Jones, Lake Brantley, Lake Highland Prep, Lake Mary, Lake Mary Prep, Lyman, Ocoee, Olympia, Seminole, Wekiva, West Orange and Windermere. The sport of bowling is not divided into classifications.

Eustis: Last minute scorer was EHS

Continued from page 2B

score was a 57 yard pass on the last play of the contest.

Three of the six point-after-touchdown attempts were no good. The snap was rolled to Keillor (holder) on the ground. By the time the ball reached Keillor, several Eustis players were in the backfield.

“There have been flashes of positive play, the kind which wins contests,”

Gabriel said. “However, the team has to be in a position to win the contest. In order for the play to matter and have an impact on the outcome, the score has to be competitive. Scores aren’t competitive until play is consistent from start to finish of a contest. As the physically bigger and stronger as well as less inexperienced team, we were favored. We played a team in the process of transition-

ing to a new coaching staff, looking for stability right now. (Darnell Harrison was hired on August 11.)

“Mistakes committed are still a lot more than we should be making. However, even more mistakes were committed by Eustis for a number of reasons, but starting with the coaching situation. Shooting ourselves in the foot has been common. We continue to be our worst enemy.”

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To view job postings and/or to apply online, visit the school crossing guard unit on the website at www.ocso.com, or call 407-836-4082.

The Orange County Sheriff’s Office is an equal opportunity employer.

Its address is: OCSO, Human Resources Division, 2500 W. Colonial Dr., Orlando 32804, or Post Office Box 1440, Orlando, FL 32802-01440.

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May: Like grandfather, like grandson: Carson sets his own record!



The car shown above is the Datsun 240Z that May used to set his record.

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Join Marching for Jesus Parade

The community is invited to join the Marching for Jesus Parade 2024 on Saturday, September 28, at 10 a.m. on the corners of 977 S. Central Avenue and 10th Street.

Come, walk the streets of Apopka preaching the gospel, singing, handing out gospel tracts, waving signs proclaiming the Lordship of Christ, and sharing that He alone is the answer for the lost and dying. Young and old are invited!

For more information or offers to help, contact Pastors Keith Bridges 407-760-4746, End Time Word Ministry and Sarah Ballard 407-463-9132, Living Waters Community Fellowship Ministries.

Continued from page 1B

give Carson a chance of licensing during the 38th Annual “World of Speed” in September at the Bonneville Salt Flats since Carson already has his NHRA and NASCAR Licenses and has experience in racing.

And just like that, Carson May’s dreams came true. At 15, May has secured his place as the youngest known driver to be recorded over 200 MPH, with a top speed of 216 MPH at the “World of Speed” in Bonneville.

May is looking forward to going to Bonneville next year and beating his Grandpa’s Land Speed Record. Carson wants the coveted “200 MPH Red Hat” when he turns 16! To get a “Red Hat” you have to break a Land Speed Record over 200 mph.

Back in August during thier Original visit May’s grandfather Red Stauffer did break the Land Speed Record in F/BFMS (F is the motor size, Blown Fuel Modified Sport). Red went 231 MPH on a 220 MPH record that has stood since 1988. This is Red’s second



Carson May stands with his timeslip for his record breaking run at the Bonneville Salt Flats in Utah.

land speed record!

May got in touch with this week to give some appreciation to all who helped him on this journey.

Carson would like to thank USFRA for allowing him to License, the White Goose Bar Team for their friendship and knowledge they have shared with him over the years, Jay Meagher of RS Garage in Sanford for building and tuning the Toyota 2JZ motor, James, Andy and James Reeser of Pop’s Pride Racing for their advice and pushing the Datsun off during the World of Speed. Carson would like to especially thank one of the most important people in his life, his Grandpa, Red Stauffer for always believing in him, always being someone to look up to and helping him to make his dream come true.



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Apopka girls volleyball takes loss against Sanford Seminoles



A Lady Darter passes a ball to a teammate during Tuesday evening's match.



Apopka's Madeline Sherrer leaps to block a hit from a Seminole.



Isabella McCarthy watches as a teammate passes a ball during Apopka's loss to Seminole on September 17.



Chesney Haun (9) dives to receive a ball as teammate Zoey Dallas (7) looks on waiting for a pass.



An Apopka player blocks a hit at the net against Sanford Seminole as the Seminoles went on to win.

Photos by Ralo Flores

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