Written by Mark Darnell
Tuesday, April 3, 2012

The Yellow Jackets prevented the Tigers from completing a perfect week as Coach Juan Clariday and his Tiger team began District 9AA play. MCHS played Westmoreland on Monday and Tuesday, Smith Co. on Thursday, and Trousdale Co. on Friday.

The Tigers traveled to Westmoreland on March 26th. They faced an undefeated (5-0) Westmoreland squad. MCHS jumped out to an early lead plating 6 runs early in the game. However, the Eagles clawed their way back to tie the game at six all. In the top of the last inning the Tigers executed a successful suicide squeeze play to score what would be the winning run. The Tigers would hang on and win by a final score of 7-6.

On March 27th, the Eagles would come to Lafayette. Westmoreland scored the first run in the top of the 2nd on Austin Craighead, but it was unearned. In the bottom of the 2nd the Tigers would tie the game on an unearned run as well. Andrew Kempf would hit a solo home run in the 3rd to give MCHS the lead 2-1 but Westmoreland would tie the game in the top of the 4th on another unearned run. In the bottom of the 5th, Kempf, Larken Whittemore and Austin Craighead would piece together three hits to take the lead 5-2 after six innings. Larken Whittemore would close the game in the top of the 7th and the Tigers would notch their second district win 5-3.

On March 29th MCHS hosted Smith County whom they defeated earlier in the season 6-5. The Owls jumped on MCHS pitcher Jacob McClard early, taking a 2-0 lead. However Coach Clariday showed that the Tigers can manufacture runs, by playing small ball with some timely hitting. After three, Macon takes the lead 3-2. Smith County would once again plate 2 runs and regain the lead 4-3. Unforced errors by the Owls would help keep the Tigers close. After five innings Macon led 6-4. Tiger Johnny Brown would come on in relief and shut down Smith County. A 1-5-2 Macon double play ended the game with a final score MCHS 6 SC 4 and win number six.

On March 30th the Tigers would host Coach Davy Cothron and the Yellow Jackets from Trousdale County and win number four of the week. With Tiger Ian Whittemore on the mound TC's Brock Ellis walked, John Oglesby had a sacrifice bunt, Devon Turczyn moved the runner with a sacrifice fly, Hunter Oldham hits and RBI triple scoring the first run. Hunter Murphy then hits an RBI double and Trousdale takes the lead in the top of the 3rd 2-0. In the bottom of the fourth, Macon would strike after an Ian Whittemore hit, Andrew Kempf walk, and a RBI double by Larken Whittemore. Trousdale County made two good defensive plays to prevent a huge inning by the Tigers. At the end of four TC 2 Macon 1. Trousdale would tack on one insurance run following a walk by Wesley Taylor and an RBI double by Garrett Crafton. Trousdale was able to hang on in the sixth and seventh innings and take home the win by a final score of 3-1. It is win number four on the season for the Yellow Jackets.

Macon County plays at home against White House on the 2nd and travels to White House on the 3rd. They are then set to compete in a tournament at home on April 5th-7th. Come out and enjoy the weather, a steak sandwich and fries, and some good high school baseball.