

## Lady Rebels make history with 6A South State title

By Sophie K. Long  
Staff Reporter

The Lady Rebel Volleyball team secured the Region 3-6A District Championship and 6A South State title and made history by playing for a state title for the first time ever.

To secure the South State title the Lady Rebels had to beat Hancock. In three sets (25-15, 25-19, 25-16), they had secured the victory.

"It feels really good to beat them because we didn't beat them during pre-season. We were ready for a fight so it felt good to get it done in three," Sophomore Mallory King said.

With this win they were the first GCHS volleyball team to win South State and compete for state.

"We've definitely worked for it. We didn't spend one day off during fall break. We worked every single day. It has definitely paid off, and I'm just very proud of my team," Senior Ella Dean said.

Hancock has put the Lady Rebels out the past two years in South State, so beating them this year was the icing on the cake of a great season.

"We set our sights on them early on. . . Last year we just weren't meant to win, but I think it just fueled us more for this year," Coach Laney Christian said.

Achieving this much is a reflection of what these girls were capable of.

"It feels really amazing because a bunch of us girls have been playing together for a few years and it makes it such a special experience," Junior Lexi Eubanks said.

Highlights from the season include Seniors Aryana Dixon, Lani McDoniel and Jordyn Bradley hitting the milestone of 500 kills. Senior Blakely Slay also had 1,000 digs. They began their kill and dig streaks freshman year on varsity.

"They were my first group to take on as a head coach here at George County. We have been together their entire volleyball career and my whole head coaching career. . . I don't really know what George County Volleyball looks like without them," Christian said.

*Editor's Note: State results were not available at press time.*



photo/Karlynn Massey

"Put Up the Wall"- Senior Ella Dean blocks Hancock opponent. They grabbed the south state title by defeating Hancock 3-0. The Rebels played Lake Cormorant Oct. 17 in Clinton for the state title.



photo/Ariel McDaniel

Game on!-Landon "Avalanche" Parkin holds his opponent from Stone County. This 13-0 game made their second win in a row.

## Rebels win second week in a row

By Faith Travers  
GCTV Anchor

The Rebel football team is making a comeback as they continue to make steady progress throughout the season.

The Rebels won the game against Stone County with a score of 13-0. According to Coach Kelly Causey, the boys have shown a lot of hard work and dedication throughout the season. They have improved a lot from the beginning of the season, and the scores now prove it.

"Overcoming adversity, you know, losing the first three ball-games of the year but still being able to focus and get better week after week," Coach Causey said.

The team prepares for their games by doing film study, which is where the team gets tapes of their opponents games and studies them so they can prepare to

go up against them knowing the right moves to bring home a win.

The coaches are always looking for ways to help their players improve and stay aware of spots they play best in for the beneficial development of their players.

"Always as a coach we are trying to put them in a position where they can have success," Causey said.

The team does not just stop at practices, the boys take initiative and spend their own time improving so that they can show up and show out once they get on the field.

"The work off the field, like out of practice and things like that, that's what helps me grow," senior Kamari McCann said.

Although at the end of the day, practicing is not all that helps our team grow and get better.

According to Coach Causey, the community has a lot to do with helping the team play to their best ability. When the Rebel fans are in the stands cheering on the players and bringing energy into the game, it gives these boys a better atmosphere to play in.

"I think that the fan base is really important because that hypes us up for the game, seeing all the people in the stands to support us really puts our mind in the game and see who we do it for," junior Braylon Fairley said.

Overall the team is hoping that they will continue to grow and win the last few games of the season. The Rebels faced the West Jones Mustangs on Oct. 10 to begin their district games, results were not available at press time. Their next game will be at Jim Hill in Jackson on Oct. 17.

## Wrestling joins GC Athletics

By Jocelyn Rodriguez  
Staff Reporter

George County is stepping onto the mat for the first time. This fall, the school will officially launch its wrestling program, making this sport something new students

can to participate in.

Last year, students were surveyed if they would be interested in adding wrestling to one of the 34 sports George County has to offer.

"We got some interest from some people in the community,

who thought it was a good way to add a female and male sport on campus, and it's catching fire." Athletic coordinator Brandon Davis said.

The team has about 30 members and is made up of both boys and girls at the middle school and high school. This year Wrestling Coach Clement Williams's top priority will be focusing on student's interests in the sport.

"I'll work hard to get them interested and make sure they don't quit," Williams said.

The wrestling team will begin their practices and matches in October. Matches will be held at the George County Middle School gymnasium.

Williams has helped with other wrestling programs and is familiar with self-defense. He has over 20 years of experience. Williams is hoping for a good year and hopes to grow interest for next year.

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