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## **LADY MT. LIONS SOFTBALL START SEASON**

By Dave Helmick

TuckerCountySports.Com

CAMP KIDD – The Tucker County Softball team opened the season on Tuesday March 26th at home against Tygarts Valley. The Lady Mt. Lions got down early, but they fought back in a big way in route to a 14-4 victory. The Lady Bulldogs started the scoring in the 1st inning as a 3 run homer by Tygarts Valley gave them an early 3-0 lead. Tucker County fought back in the bottom of the 1st with a 2 out base hit by Erin Cassidy that drove in 2 runs. The Lady Bulldogs then struggled to get an out as Tucker County players Hailey Tuttle, Shelby Beavers, Lauren McCrum, Kristen Hicks and Anna Dibacco made scoring plays in the inning to give Tucker County the 10-3 lead after 1 inning of play. Tygarts Valley added 1 run in the top of the 3rd inning, but Tucker County then answered back in the bottom of the 3rd. Cheyenne Gooden started the inning for the Lady Mt. Lions with a home run and an RBI double by Tuttle drove another Tucker County runner home. Tygarts Valley then walked in 2 more runs to end the game with the 10-run rule. The Lady Mt. Lions got the win by the final score of 14-4. Freshman, Kristen Hicks picked up the win for Tucker County in her first ever start as a Mt. Lion. Hicks collected 7 strikeouts in the contest for Tucker County.

CAMP KIDD – The Lady Mt. Lions hosted Notre Dame for a doubleheader on Thursday March 28th. Notre Dame collected 2 wins by the final score of 11-0 in Game 1 and 16-1 in Game 2. The Lady Irish bats were alive at Tucker County in Game 1 and their pitching was on target. Notre Dame pitching and defense allowed 0 hits in the contest by the Lady Mt. Lions in the contest. The Lady Irish offense also was on point as they scored 11 runs over 3 innings to end the contest and give Notre Dame the win in Game 1 by the final score of 11-0. Kristen Hicks struck out 2 batters on the mound for Tucker County. In Game 2 Notre Dame continued to hit the ball well at the plate. The Lady Irish plated 16 total runs over the 3-inning contest. The Notre Dame pitching allowed just 1 hit by Tucker County in Game 2. Gracie Rapp collected the hit for the Lady Mt. Lions in the contest as Notre Dame got the victory by the final score of 16-1.

WEST UNION – Tucker County traveled to Doddridge County on Saturday March 30th to play two contest against two different opponents at the Doddridge County field.

In Game 1 the Lady Mt. Lions faced off against Wirt County. Gracie Filler got things going for Tucker County in the 1st inning on an inside the park homerun to make the score 1-0 early for Tucker County. Wirt County answered back over the next 3 innings to give Wirt the lead 9-1. The Lady Mt. Lions fought back in the 5th inning as a McKinley Murphy double, Hailey Tuttle triple and an Aliyah Plum single cut the Wirt County deficit to 9-3. Cheyenne Gooden singled in the 6th and Gracie Rapp hit a double to add another run for Tucker County. A

Plum base hit and a Kristen Hicks single drove in one more run for Tucker County in the 7th inning, but Wirt County held on for the win by the final score of 10-5.

In Game 2 Tucker County faced off against Doddridge County. The Lady Bulldogs dominated the contest as Tucker County managed just one base runner in the contest to fall to host Doddridge County 9-0. Gracie Rapp led Tucker County in Game 2 with the only hit on a single. Kristen Hicks and Rapp handled the pitching on the afternoon for the Lady Mt. Lions.

Tucker County will return to action tonight Wednesday April 3rd at home against East Hardy for a 5pm start and then they will travel to Grafton on Friday April 5th for a game at 5:30pm. For more info go to [TuckerCountySports.Com](http://TuckerCountySports.Com).



**Tucker County's McKinley Murphy looks to field the ball against Tygarts Valley on March 26th. Tucker County won the contest 14-4. Photo by Stephanie Murphy.**