

SPORTS

Tom Didato, sports editor

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LUGOFF-ELGIN JUNIOR GOALKEEPER Kyle Brosius comes up big in making this save during action while playing for the South Carolina Olympic Development Team this past summer.

Demon duo earn positions on S.C. ODP soccer squad

Special to the C-I (Camden, S.C.)

The Lugoff-Elgin High School boys' soccer program, once again, has more than one player on the South Carolina Olympic Development team's roster.

Both junior goalkeeper Kyle Brosius and sophomore midfielder Henry Edmonds have made the cut for the 2012 team, traveling to the sub-regional event held in Winston Salem, N.C., in January.

The South Carolina Olympic Development Program (ODP) is the start of the identification process for the USA National and Olympic teams.

The South Carolina Youth Soccer Association conducts the program for U.S. Soccer, under the jurisdiction of the United States Olympic Committee. The purpose of this prestigious program is to identify players on the basis of open tryouts and develop them to represent their state, region, and the United States in soccer competition.

Players are working toward solidifying a permanent roster position to attend the Region III Camp at the University of Alabama in July. From this camp, players can be selected as Regional Pool Players and are provided with the opportunities to represent the region in inter-



L-E SOPHOMORE MIDFIELDER Henry Edmonds dribbles upfield during action from a Demons' game played last season.

national (overseas trips) and national events.

This marks the second time in as many years in which the

Lugoff-Elgin High School boys' soccer program has been represented by a player(s) in the ODP program.

K of C free throw contest on tap Jan. 7

All Kershaw County boys and girls, ages 10 to 14, are invited to participate in the 2012 Knights of Columbus Free Throw Shootout.

The annual competition will be held on Saturday, Jan. 7 at 1 p.m. and will take place inside Camden's E. Clarkson Rhame City Arena, located on South Broad Street.

The doors to the facility will open at 12:30 p.m. for practice and registration. The contest is held annually with winners progressing through regional and state competition. Scores from state competitions are used to determine international champions.

There is no entry fee and age eligibility is based on the age of the contestants as of Jan 1, 2012.

Entry forms are available at the Kershaw County Recreation Department offices, located on West DeKalb Street in Camden and contestants may also register the day of the event.

A parents' signature is required in order for the youngsters to participate in the event.

During the competition, each boy or girl will attempt 15 free throws. In the event of a tie, a five-shot tie-breaker shootout will be implemented until a clear winner emerges in each age and gender group.

Any persons seeking further information on the Knights of Columbus Council 9672 free throw shootout may contact Craig Deluhery at 438-5493.



A natural hat trick

For the third time in as many years, Lackey Surveying won its league title in the Kershaw County Recreation Department youth soccer league. This past season, the team captured the midget division (12-to-14-year-old) championship. Pictured here kneeling, from left, are Nicholas Butler, Benjamin Schnese, Christopher Butler, Robert Lackey and Mikeal Nelson. The back row is made up of Coach Scott Jordan, Cameron Jenkins, Kimberly Rozier, Ryan Kelly, Gray Batten, Campbell Jordan and Coach Robbie Lackey. Missing from the team photo were Shaw Wilgis, Chloe Butcher, Fin Butcher, Joseph McCarley and Coach Randy Wilgis.

O'Brien passes away in Ireland Jockey's riding career ended in 1974 Carolina Cup

Michael O'Brien, 68, whose career as a steeplechase jockey ended following a fall in the 1974 Carolina Cup steeplechase, passed away last Friday afternoon at Tallaght Hospital in his native Dublin, Ireland, following an illness.

O'Brien's connection to Camden stems from his being thrown from his mount, the William Pape-owned and Jonathan Sheppard-trained Athenian Idol, in the 1974 Camden spring classic feature. As result of the spill, O'Brien was left paralyzed from the waist down and was confined to a wheelchair.

Later, veterinarians determined that Athenian Idol, the 1973 Eclipse Award winner for steeplechasing, suffered a heart attack in the race.

Ironically, O'Brien's brother, Leo, won the chase that afternoon aboard longshot Breaking Dawn at the Springdale Race Course.

Michael O'Brien won the National Steeplechase and Hunt Association's (now National Steeplechase Association) leading rider crown in 1972 after he rode 21 winners (17 over fences) with 19 seconds and 11 thirds in 80 starts that year.

His days as a jockey finished, O'Brien returned to Ireland and began a career as a trainer. He would send out three Irish Grand National champions --- King Spruce, Vanton and Glebe Lad --- in his career. He also conditioned a pair of jumpers who won at the Cheltenham Festival in Shawiya, winner of the 1993 Triumph Hurdle, and Kadoun, who took the Pertemps Final in 2006.

Another of his major hurdle winners was Bright Highway, which completed the Mackeson Gold Cup - Hennessy Gold Cup double in 1980.

O'Brien retired from training two years ago, according to the Irish Times.

L-E places sixth in Seahawk Slam

Led by a trio of second-place finishers, the Lugoff-Elgin wrestling team finished sixth in the USMC Seahawk Slam held at Hilton Head High School last Thursday and Friday.

The showing was the first time in the past three tournaments in which the Demons did not come away with the team championship. Evan Moxie's charges en-

tered the 24-team event fresh off having captured their own, 20th annual May Plant Credit Union Demon Holiday Classic the previous weekend.

Lexington won the team crown with 228 points followed by St. James with 198.5. The Demons were fourth among South Carolina entries with 135.5 points.

L-E received second-place

finishes from freshman Harrison Kruger at 152 pounds along with seniors Zach Connell (195) and Allen Jenerette (220).

Taking a third for the Demons was sophomore 120-pounder, Chris Jackson. Senior Derrick Miller was fifth at 170 pounds while senior Joey Counts took eighth-place in the heavyweight division.

Tourney time in full swing for KC teams

Here is the slate of tournament events for county teams this week:

Wednesday: Lugoff-Elgin boys in the Farm Bureau Insurance Classic at Chesterfield High School (opponent, time TBA); Camden girls in the Apple Classic at Walhalla High School (opponent, time TBA); North Central girls in Andrew Jackson Christmas Invitational (6 p.m. vs. Andrew Jackson)

Thursday: Lugoff-Elgin boys in the Farm Bureau Insurance Classic at Chesterfield High School (opponent, time TBA); Camden girls in the Apple Classic at Walhalla High School (opponent, time TBA); 10th

annual Ahlstrom Nonwovens/MPCU Carolina Classic boys' basketball tournament at North Central High School (6 p.m. - Cheraw vs. Camden; 7:30 p.m. - McBee vs. North Central); North Central girls in Andrew Jackson Christmas Invitational (if win on Wednesday 6 p.m.; if lose on Wednesday, 3 p.m.)

Friday: Lugoff-Elgin at Lexington Duals wrestling tournament (2 p.m.); Ahlstrom Nonwovens/MPCU Carolina Classic boys' basketball tournament at North Central High School (6 p.m. - third-place game; 7:30 p.m. - championship game)

Saturday: Lugoff-Elgin at Lexington Duals wrestling tournament (TBA)

S.C. troops not forgotten by CCRA and Colonial Cup patrons

The Carolina Cup Racing Association's "Salute to the Military" at last month's running of the Marion duPont Scott Colonial Cup Steeplechase proved to be a flag-waving event in more ways than one with the unveiling of a mural of "Old Glory" sponsored by McDonald's. It was sent to a unit from McEntire Air Force Base which is currently based in Kuwait.

Members of the Carolina Cup Racing Association (CCRA), Kershaw County Chamber of Commerce, American Legion leaders and South Carolina National Guard troops joined in at the National Steeplechase Museum, located on the grounds of the Springdale Race Course in Camden, for a picture, taken in front of the mural, which was being sent overseas by the South Carolina National Guard.

The 2011 Colonial Cup Coloring Mural was, again, sponsored by McDonald's. In addition to its brightly colored depiction of the American flag, the mural also includes hand-written notes of support, thanks and prayers from Colonial Cup patrons for the Palmetto State troops.

As part of its second annual "Salute to the Military," the CCRA provided several thousand free tickets to military members and their families. When those were snapped up quickly, the CCRA offered general admission and reserved parking tickets at a 50 percent discount. Colonial Cup Day 2011 (Saturday, Nov. 19) featured steeplechase horse racing and entertainment such as Jack Russell Terrier Trials, wagon rides, a carousel, the Carolina Skydiving Team, as well as the Paddock Shoppes retail village.

The 2012 Carolina Cup race poster, featuring defending champion Sunshine Numbers with winning jockey Jody Petty in the saddle for Camden-based owners Sue and George Sensor and Camden-based trainer Arch Kingsley, was also unveiled as part of that day's ceremonies. The 80th running of the Carolina Cup Steeplechase Races will be held on Saturday, March 31 at the Springdale Race Course.



Photo courtesy of Johnny Deal