

Bearcat Varsity Softball Team Has Talent!

Anson High School's head varsity softball coach Mr. Terry Ponds had high words of praise for his 2012 team. "These girls are very talented," said Ponds. The team was, at the time of this article, 3-2 and prepping for conference play.

On March 1 Anson went head to head with the Richmond Raiders, and came up one run shy of victory, losing a very close game, 5-4. Pitcher Taylor Bates pitched her first loss. She pitched seven innings with eight strikeouts. Scoring for Anson were Devin Smith, Kailee Cole, Bates and Mallory Gathings. Leading hitters were Bates, 2-4, Gathings, 3-4 and Elizabeth Tarlton, 2-4.

On March 6, Anson took on Cheraw and pounded the Lady Rams in five innings, 16-1, Anson. Taylor Bates returned to the mound and pitched four innings with three strikeouts. Elizabeth Tarlton pitched the final inning. Scoring for the Lady Cats were Devin Smith with two runs, Kailee Cole three runs, Bates two runs, Mallory Gathings three runs, Tarlton one run, Lindsey Haire one run, Kristen Emrich one run, Taylor Pace one run and Jamonica Smith two runs. Leading hitters were Smith 2-4, Cole 3-4, Bates 2-4 and Gathings 3-4.

The third game of the week, March 7, found the Lady Cats meeting Cheraw for the second time, while upping their

record to 2-1. Anson won, 8-4. Taylor Bates pitched four innings while giving up four hits, one run and one walk. Bates, now 2-1, also had ten strikeouts. Elizabeth Tarlton pitched three innings while giving up five hits, three runs, and two walks. Tarlton struck out three batters. Scoring for Anson were Kailee Cole (3-4), Bates (1-4), Mallory Gathings (2-4), Tarlton (1-2), Lindsey Haire (1-3) and Kristen Emrich (1-4).

Their non-conference schedule continued on March 13, with a second showdown with Richmond County and yet another loss to the Raiders. The score, 3-1 Richmond, didn't go down without some fight from the Lady Cats. Taylor Bates (2-2) pitched the length of the game. Leading hitters were Bates (3-3), Jamonica Smith (1-2) and Elizabeth Tarlton (1-3).

And on March 15, Anson met Marlboro County and won the hard fought battle 1-0. Taylor Bates pitched seven innings, improving her pitching record to 3-2. Jamonica Smith was the lone scorer in the game. Leading hitters were Mallory Gathings (1-3), Bates (1-3), Kailee Cole (1-4), Kristen Emrich (1-3) and Lindsey Haire (1-3).

The Lady Cats play today at Albemarle High School. Come out and show your support for this talented, athletic group of girls. Game time is 4:30 p.m. Let's go Cats!

By Melanie Lyon

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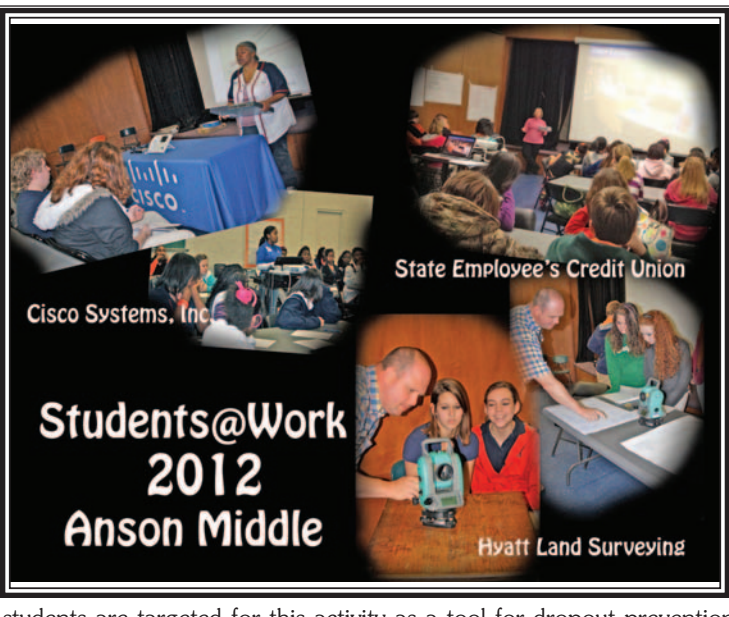
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Students at Work Initiative at Anson Middle School

In a release from Anson High School: Robert Eaves began an initiative to introduce middle school students to various careers and workplace preparedness in today's society. This program is called the Students@Work Initiative. The Office of Governor Bev Perdue has challenged North Carolina Businesses to offer job shadowing opportunities to middle school students in their community. Middle school

students are targeted for this activity as a tool for dropout prevention with planning high school paths and courses. This opportunity exhibits the relevance of education to future success.

On Friday, February 24 eighth grade students from Anson Middle School were treated to a two speakers from Cisco Systems, Inc., from the Charlotte and Raleigh offices. Ms. Cristal Polk and Ms. Akilah Smallwood spoke to all Algebra I B students concerning the skills needed to obtain a job in a science, technology, engineering and math (STEM) area. They discussed the various types of jobs within their company and explained about their products and the skills needed for any STEM related type position. They discussed the job outlook for STEM positions and some of the educational requirements needed. A total of 204 students participated in this presentation.

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On Tuesday, February 28 the Anson Middle School Career Club participated in a presentation from Lynn Burr from State Employee's Credit Union. She discussed the various types of jobs within the credit union and what educational expectations of potential employees. Students were attentive and asked lots of questions. A total of 55 students participated in this presentation.

On Friday, March 9, Anson Middle School geometry students participated in a job shadowing experience with Mr. Bron Hyatt of Hyatt Land Surveying. Mr. Hyatt applied what the students learned in geometry and how it is imperative to possess those skills in his career. Students had an opportunity to view some of his maps and equipment to simulate the process of surveying. A total of 36 students participated in this activity.

A total of 295 students were exposed to various career opportunities through the Students@work programs.

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