

Cougars

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 "I think we came out real sluggish in the first half and just couldn't get things going," said Leggett, a 5-2 linebacker. "We are much better than the way we played in the first half. In the second we were determined to prove something to ourselves and our fans. We settled down and played like we're capable in the second half."

Both teams struggled offensively in the first half. Neither team mounted a serious threat until Ruth Morris scored on a three-yard run just before half-time. Amy Rodgers' kick made it 7-0 at intermission. The touchdown was set up by Cherie Woodbury, who intercepted a Tennessee pass and returned it 25 yards to the Heat's 17-yard line. Quarterback Mia Nance had a key 10-yard run to keep the drive alive

before Morris scored three plays later.

Tennessee took its first and only lead of the game midway through the third quarter when it drove the ball 80 yards for a touchdown. The big plays included a 20-yard pass completion and a 35-yard touchdown run on a sweep. The Heat then converted a two-point conversion to lead 8-7.

That seemed to inspire the Cougars, who pawed right back to retake the lead for good. Morris took a pitch and outran the defense for a 45-yard touchdown and Rodgers added the extra point for a 14-8 Cougar lead at the end of the third quarter.

From there, Leggett and the defensive unit took control.

Tina Ruiz picked off an errant Tennessee throw and raced 60 yards to the Heat's three-yard line. Two plays later Nance added a touchdown on an eight-yard scramble and

Rodgers again added the extra point to make the score 21-8

Leggett, who finished the game with 16 solo tackles, including several bone-jarring stops, added the final score.

"This game is a lot more exciting than playing basketball," Leggett said. "But it's not the same because it is so much more physical. I really like it."

Now in her third season with the Cougars, Leggett said she can see improvement in her team and the league.

"The competition is definitely better," she said. "We're picking up the number of fans and supporters, and we're playing more games. The first year we only played three games. Last year we played seven, and this year I think we're going to play 10."

The team will leave Friday for Atlanta, where it will play on Saturday night and try to increase its record to 3-0.

Jones

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 the all-time leading scorers.

That, along with a 3.5 grade-point average and membership in the National Honor Society, helped land Jones a basketball scholarship to Wake Forest. In fact, Jones has already begun taking classes at Wake. Jones' grade-point average and SAT scores are the highest of all the incoming players in the basketball program. In addition, she's also started getting to know her teammates on the Lady Deacons team.

"I think that's going to be a big plus for me," she said. "I realize that playing on the college level is going to be a totally different type situation, but I think I'm doing the things that will help me get out to a good start."

At Wake, Jones will be vying for a starting position at the point. That's the position she's played all her life, but she'll be going up against bigger, stronger players.

"You expect that in college," she said. "But you also know you have to step your game up and play with them."

Jones said she expects to be



Porsche Jones was a four-year starter at Carver and helped lead the Yellowjackets to a state 3-A championship.

All-Star

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 bench again in the second quarter and scored four more points to help his team go to the locker room with a 50-39 advantage at the half.

In the second half, Bristow continued to generate key offensive baskets, and his team never looked back in taking the victory.

"I came in trying to do what I know how to do," Bristow said. "Coming in as a replacement, I felt a little slighted, but I wanted to make the most of the opportunity. I think I did that."

A three-year starter at Parkland, Bristow was the leading scorer on a team that advanced all the way to the state 3-A championship game in Chapel Hill. The Mustangs came up short in the game but made a great run in the play-

offs to make it to within a game of a state title.

He said his performance in the All-Star game should have been enough to prove that he belonged in the game that featured most of the state's top seniors.

"I felt really confident, especially with the guys from Winston being on the team," said Bristow, who has signed to play at UNC-Greensboro next season.

Forsyth County teams placed four players on the squad. Bristow was joined by teammate Phillip McCandies, Whit Holcomb-Faye of Reynolds and Mike Drum of North Forsyth. McCandies, Holcomb-Faye and Drum were all in the starting lineup.

"That's what really made it nice," Bristow said. "I finally got a chance to play with some guys who I've played against throughout my career, and it

to work out with the players in pickup games, and I think they feel that I can help them. I look at the way things were at Carver, and I believe we can make the same kind of improvement."



Drum

was a good feeling. I just wish I had been able to play with them on the same unit."

Instead, coach Jim Pappas stayed with two distinct lineups throughout the game. Curtis Withers, who was named the game's Most Valuable Player, did the bulk of the work for the starting unit on the West team. Withers connected on eight of 16 field goals, made five of eight free throws and grabbed six rebounds.

McCandies, Parkland's 6-9 center who will be playing at Virginia Tech next season, led the West with 11 rebounds and added 11 points and three blocked shots.

"I was just trying to go out and play hard to help the team," McCandies said.

"I thought the team had the jitters early, but after Ray came in and went on that 8-0 spurt by himself, the rest of the team picked up the intensity and played well the rest of the game."

Drum, the 6-6 forward from North, scored six points on 3-of-9 shooting. Holcomb-Faye, a key ingredient on RJR's state championship teams in 2001 and 2002, scored five points on 2-of-7 shooting from the field.



Holcomb-Faye

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