

# SPORTS WEEK

Also Religion and Classifieds

DECEMBER 10, 2015

## BASKETBALL

### Eagles get the best of Vikings with late-game comeback

# 54-46

BY CRAIG T. GREENLEE  
FOR THE CHRONICLE

If the results of the season opener is any indication, followers of East Forsyth JV basketball are in for a thrilling ride. Down by eight points with 4:38 to go in the game, the Eagles delivered down the stretch to take a 54-46 road win over North Forsyth last week.

Trenton West of East Forsyth converted a pair of free throws to force a 45-45 tie with 1:48 left to play. The Eagles closed out the game with a 9-1 run – all from the foul line – as Tanis Samuels hit 7-of-8 free throws.

The game began to turn in the Eagles favor for good when coach Rodney Minor put his starters back in the game for the final minutes. Earlier in the quarter, Minor yanked his starters who had not played well for a good portion of the second half.

"I took them out so they could watch from the bench and see what was happening," said Minor. "They didn't go after loose balls and they didn't rebound very well. So, I

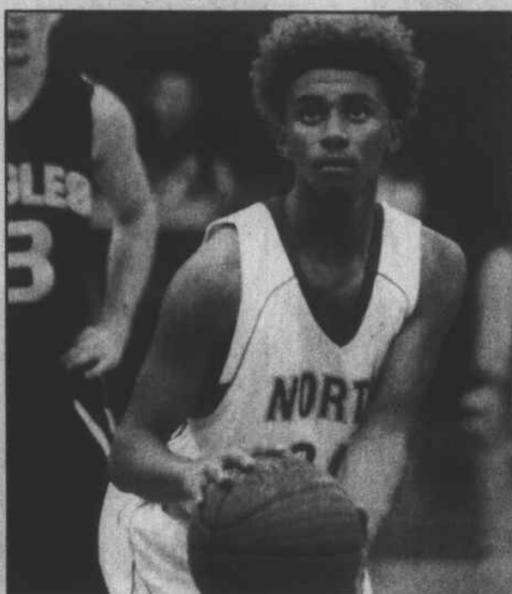


Photo by Craig T. Greenlee  
Naim Evans of the Vikings had three 3-pointers for a team high 14 points against the Eagles.

had to change things up with a lineup of mostly freshmen. "Once the starters returned, they did a better job of grabbing rebounds and they attacked the paint. We started getting second-chance points and we knocked down some free throws. That's what gave us the victory."

Samuels topped the Eagles with 15 points, followed by Sayyid Dalton, who contributed 11 points. Bradley Hall finished with 10.

"In the first quarter, we started out good, but then we got lethargic," said Minor. "We got too comfortable with a 10-point lead and we settled for too many jump shots. At one point, it seemed like North Forsyth just wanted it more than we did."

The Vikings, with Jordan Oakes, Dawoud Evans, Marquan Matthews and Naim Evans taking turns, regrouped midway through the third quarter. Dawoud Evans hit a free throw to give North Forsyth its first lead of the game (32-31) with 3:30 remaining. Oakes and Naim Evans drilled 3-pointers to give the Vikings some cushion. As things turned out, though, it wasn't enough.

"We have to learn how to hold a lead," said coach Jefferey Moore of North Forsyth, whose team fell to 0-3. "In far too many instances, we rushed shots and didn't make the best decisions. With a lead, there was no need for us to be in a hurry with our offensive possessions. It didn't help any that we were out of position for a lot of

See Eagles on B2

## Mount Tabor tabbed No. 1 seed for Lash-Chronicle tournament

BY CRAIG T. GREENLEE  
FOR THE CHRONICLE

Mount Tabor got the nod as the top seed for the Lash-Chronicle JV Tournament, which tips off with six first-round games on Saturday at Carver High School. Being picked No. 1, however, doesn't mean that the Spartans are a lock to win it.

First-round winners will play in the quarterfinal round set for Dec. 19. Two days later, the teams that survive the quarterfinals will face off in a couple of semifinals matchups. The championship game will be played on Dec. 22.

Based on early-season results, Mount Tabor (3-0 at the start of this week) is sure to face stiff challenges from several contenders in the 14-team field. No. 2 West Forsyth and No. 3 East Forsyth figure to have a final say as to which team will ultimately own the championship trophy.

In addition to the 12 public schools in Forsyth County, the tournament field includes Thomasville and Lexington. Of those two out-of-town schools, fifth-seeded Lexington is the most likely pull off a few surprises. The Yellow Jackets are deep and have an abundance of quickness to flourish in a fast-paced game.

One team to keep an eye on is Winston-Salem Prep, which has won three of the last four Lash-Chronicle tournaments. The Phoenix, which lost its first three games, hasn't played up to its capability. Prep enters this year's tournament as the No. 9 seed.

"We feel blessed to be picked as the No. 1 seed," said coach Willie Harrison of Mount Tabor. "This gives us the opportunity to do some scouting and get a good look at possible

opponents. "But just because a team is No. 1 doesn't mean that winning is automatic. You still have to play. So, we're eager to get started and hopefully show that we deserve to be seeded No. 1 in the tournament. We know it won't be easy. That's why we're not overlooking any team."

Mount Tabor has the ability to play different styles, which bodes well for tournament play. The Spartans prime strength is in the paint with the trio of Dillon Bullard, Cole Foley and Duncan Smits. In the backcourt, Carson Anthis and Quest Aldridge provide stability and court savvy.

"We'll run whenever the opportunity presents itself," said Harrison. "But we can also slow it down and pound the ball inside. Across the board, this team is deep and we have several players who can

See Tournament on B2



Photo by Craig T. Greenlee  
Jaylan McMillon (4) delivers at both ends of the floor for West Forsyth.

## Titans squash fourth-quarter rally to defeat Phoenix

BY CRAIG T. GREENLEE  
FOR THE CHRONICLE

West Forsyth imposed its will in the closing minutes to beat Winston-Salem Prep in JV basketball last Friday. The Titans scored quickly off two steals to break open a tight game and earn a 56-50 victory on their home court.

For most of the night, West Forsyth maintained control and led by as many as 12 points. Prep, in the meantime, managed to stay in contention and tied the game, 45-45 on a pair of free throws by Jalen Cranley with 3:21 remain-

ing in the fourth quarter.

Less than a minute later, Mike Montgomery hit a three-pointer from the right wing to put the Phoenix in front, 48-47. From that point on, however, the game belonged to the two Titans players who have same-sounding last names with different spellings.

The decisive sequence started when JaQuan McMillian stole a Prep pass and fed Jaylan McMillon for a lay-up. On the Phoenix's next possession, McMillian came up with another steal and drove the length of the

# 56-50

**"Tonight we shared the ball and at times, we played well defensively."**

—Coach Jeffrey Williams of West Forsyth,

court and scored while being fouled. He converted the free throw to complete the three-point play. McMillon added the finishing touches with a fast-break basket to supply West Forsyth with a 54-48 cushion with 42 seconds left to play.

"Tonight we shared the ball and at times, we played well defensively," said coach Jeffrey Williams of West Forsyth, whose team opened the season with three straight wins. "We also got the opportunity for some of our players to further establish what their individual roles are on this

team." Kelvin Johnson topped the Titans with 18 points and McMillian finished with 14.

Winston-Salem Prep (0-3 at the start of this week) has gotten off to an uncharacteristically sluggish start. Even so, coach Bill Tibbs isn't about to push the panic button.

For the time being, he's missing wing player Tyren Hairston who's sidelined with a dislocated toe. Hairston is expected to return around Dec. 15. The Phoenix did get a boost late

See Titans on B2

Raising Dollars for Scholars



**1.16.16**



STEPHEN A. SMITH

**SUPPORTING SCHOLARSHIPS FOR OUR MEN'S SPORTS**



LATASHA CLARK

**SAVE THE DATE**

*She's Got It Covered*  
A CLASSY HAT AFFAIR

**1.23.16**  
SUPPORTING SCHOLARSHIPS FOR OUR WOMEN'S SPORTS