

# KM Junior High Girls Share Loop Cage Title

Kings Mountain Junior High's jayvee basketballers copped their second straight co-championship in the Foothills Conference Tuesday by defeating East Lincoln 80-16 in their season's finale.

The victory gave Coach Becky Summitt's girls a final 11-1 record and a share of first place with Burns.

Sheryl Goode and Diane Williams led the KM scoring effort with 12 and nine points respectively. Williams led the rebounding with 13.

The Lady Patriots shot only 30 percent from the floor but played a good defensive game. They held East to only eight field goals.

"Our offense did not look too good at times," said Summitt, "but this was due partly to East Lincoln's aggressive defense. However, we made several pretty plays and key baskets on our fast breaks. Although we would

have liked to be in first place all by ourselves, we will have to settle for a tie since we are not allowed to have playoffs," she added.

"I am pleased with our season and I am really proud of these girls," she continued. "They have worked hard, played tough, and came out on top. I was also pleased with their conduct on and off the court. They were good sports and humble winners and it was a pleasure to coach them. They are a great bunch of girls."

The varsity dropped its final contest, 62-35. East Lincoln pulled away after leading by nine at half-time.

KM did pull within four in the third quarter, but Kim Gladden and Debbie Appling fouled out and East broke the game open. Gladden led the KM scoring with 18 points, Mary Moore added eight and Appling six. Appling was top rebounder with nine.

The Lady Patriots finished their season with a 3-9 record but the record was not an indication of their style of play.

"We lost five ballgames by five points or less," noted Coach Candy Albergine, "and many times we found ourselves behind early by as much as 10-15 points but came back to play some tough basketball."

Gladden led the club in scoring with a 13.9 average. Appling averaged 9.7 and Andrena Goode 8.4. Appling was the top rebounder with an average of 9.8 per game.

At 5-6, she was usually rebounding against much taller opponents.

"I am very proud of this group of girls," added Albergine, "because they showed a lot of character by not letting some early heartbreaking losses get them down. They always gave 100 percent and that can be hard to do when you have given it all you have and yet fall short of your goals."

"Coach Summitt and myself believe we are sending some fine talent to the high school next year and we know they'll continue to give the effort they have given us."



KM Junior High Girls Basketball Champions

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