

# Underachieving Bobcats bouyed by Lash tournament experience

By SAM DAVIS  
Chronicle Sports Editor

The best thing that came out of playing in the Lash/Chronicle Junior Varsity Tournament, according to Coach Todd Shuping, was getting a step ahead of non-Forsyth County conference opponents.

The Bobcats finished sixth in the tournament after dropping their first round game to Carver, defeating Parkland in the second round and then losing to North Forsyth in the third round.

Glenn started the season slow and had little momentum coming into the tournament. However, they gathered steam in their game against Carver and stepped up their game a notch to take a last-minute win over Parkland- their first victory of the season.

The Bobcats got good individual play from several players in the tournament. Antonio Thomas finished the tournament with a 15.3 average after scoring 46 points in three games. Corey Jessup also managed a double-

figure average after compiling 32 points, a 10.7 average.

Both came through with clutch performances against Parkland to give the Bobcats a win. The game was tied, 35-35, going into the fourth quarter, but Glenn finally had the mettle to overcome its opponent.

Jessup led the way for the Bobcats with a game-high 18 points. Thomas also turned in a strong offensive performance, scoring 16 points. They were the only players to reach double figures for the Bobcats. The duo took control down the stretch to help their team record its first win. Shuping said his players are still trying to figure out their roles and that has brought with it a case of growing pains.

"The things that hurt us in the tournament are the same things that have hurt us all year," he said. "We're still young and we're learning how to play the game."

The Bobcats played tough with all three of their opponents in the first half, but ran out of

steam in the second half in losses to Carver and North Forsyth.

"Our focus right now is to finish the game," Shuping said. "The game against Parkland was the only time that we've put an entire game together. We have started off a lot of games playing well, but somehow we haven't been able to finish and we've let them get away."

"Winning against Parkland was a good one," he said. "That gave us some confidence and we hope that will carry over into the conference season."

The Bobcats started their North Piedmont 3-A schedule at home against Carver on Tuesday. Shuping said the experience that his team received should help the team reap dividends.

"After the long layoff for Christmas, I think playing in the tournament is really going to help us," he said. "We've had a chance to work on the things that we needed to work on. I thought we played well in all of the games, except for the last quarter against North."



Photo by Imas Sivad

Antonio Thomas (#14) goes to the basket in the Bobcats' game against North Forsyth. Thomas played well in all three of the Glenn games and led the team in scoring during the tournament. The Bobcats recorded their first win of the season by defeating Parkland in the tournament's consolation round.

# Win in final game salvages Mustangs participation in jayvee tournament

By SAM DAVIS  
Chronicle Sports Editor

Camden Banner and Dewaun Wilson helped send Parkland into North Piedmont 3-A Conference play by combining to score 36 points in a 78-67 victory over East Forsyth in the third round of

Banner led the way with 19 points and Wilson added 17. With the two providing the spark, Parkland was able to extend its lead to as many as 12 points in the final quarter after being deadlocked with the Eagles going into the fourth quarter.

Coach Brian Creech said he

play with intensity. I think we did let the game against Glenn get away."

But against East, the Mustangs played hard throughout and never fell into the ruts that they did in their first two games.

"We came out today with intensity like we like to have and



Photo by Imas Sivad

Lamont Wilson grabs a rebound for Parkland in the Mustangs' game against Mount Tabor.

the Lash/Chronicle Junior Varsity Basketball Tournament last Saturday (Jan. 3).

The Mustangs were in desperate need for a win after losing games to Mount Tabor, 55-40, in the opening round and Glenn, 56-50, in the second round of the tournament.

Banner and Wilson, the Mustangs' back court combination, took control in the fourth quarter to boost Parkland to the victory, which improved its record to 3-7.

was pleased to see his team pull out the victory after the Mustangs let a chance for victory get away the night before against Glenn. Parkland led for most of that game against the Bobcats but couldn't put the Bobcats away.

"I thought we could have played better than we did in our first two games in the tournament," Creech said. "We had 44 turnovers in those two games and shot six of 26 from the free throw line. We missed layups and didn't

that was the difference," Creech said. "Camden and D.J. (Wilson) gave us the kind of leadership that we needed. I thought the two of them did a good job throughout the tournament."

The Mustangs also got good play in the tournament from front-court players Lamont Wilson, Levi Fryer and James Taylor. Fryer had nine points and Taylor had 12 to back Banner and Dewaun Wilson for Parkland.

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