



Crawley, No. 23, attempts a layup in the game against Mt. Tabor.



Photos by Timothy Ramsey

From left to right Jalen Crawley; Crawley's father, Gregory McAllister, middle; and Winston-Salem Prep senior player Levon McCullum.

Crawley

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the country as well as older kids and was holding his own. "He's had a pretty good season, and this summer we have been working out with a trainer. We worked on his midrange jumper," said McAllister. "His jumper has improved 100 percent and his defense and ball handling has also improved. Now we need to back it up a little bit and work on his three-point shooting to really open up the

defense." Senior Winston-Salem Prep varsity player Levon McCullum said he was taken back by Crawley's defensive ability and willingness to guard. He says he loves the midrange game Jalen possesses and the fact he is able to get to his "sweet spots" on the court. Crawley says he wants to work on making his teammates better while on the JV level as he prepares for varsity. He expects the remainder of the season to be very good for him and his team. "I expect us to go undefeated in the conference

because my team has heart and plays defense," Crawley continued. "Defense is what wins championships to me." Jalen thinks his teammate Essin Arid is an underrated player that needs to stay aggressive because of the skills he possesses. He says Arid is a severe threat to his opponents once he steps into the paint because of his athleticism. Crawley says when he and Arid are both playing well the Phoenix are a hard team to stop. "When we are both in attack mode you just have to hope we are missing," he said.



Photo by Timothy Ramsey

Eagle point guard Jimmy Nichols, No. 4 in blue, is defended by Raider point guard Landon Rice, as he attempts to bring the ball up court.

Reagan

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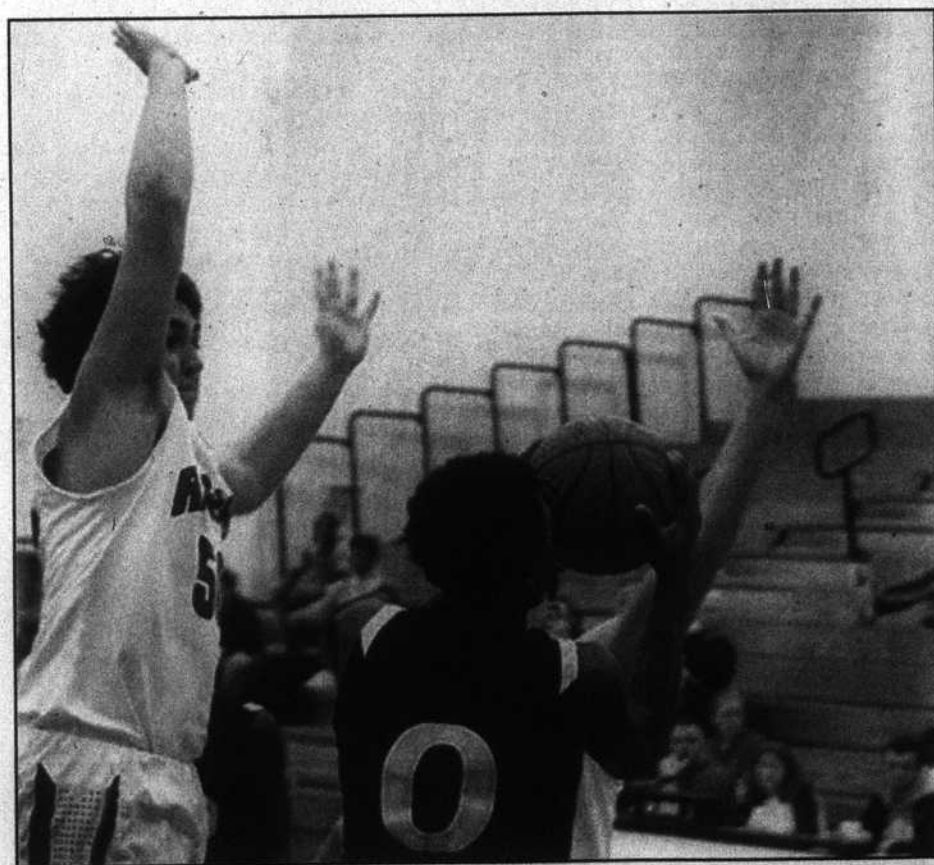
again. Midway through the quarter, the Raiders started hitting midrange jumpers that gave them a comfortable lead down the stretch, or so they thought.

With just over two minutes left in the game and his team trailing, McCummings hit back-to-back three pointers, bringing his team to within two points. McCummings said he knew he had to

make those shots and as long as his team kept playing hard they had a chance. Later on with the game tied, East Forsyth calls timeout with 38 seconds left and possession of the ball. They turn the ball over, giving Reagan a chance for the go ahead basket but the player misses. Brintley grabs the rebound from under the rim with 8.6 seconds left and goes coast to coast and scores with a buzzer-beating layup. "My first thought was to just grab the rebound and push it and once I scored I

knew the game was over," said Brintley of his last-second shot. Reagan had one last chance with 1.8 seconds left in the game but was unable to get a shot off and East won 43-41. "We got down early and started slow and I think that made a difference in the outcome because we had to expend so much energy battling back," said James Stackhouse, Reagan head coach. "I'm also proud of the way my guys fought back but they stayed focused and in the end we fell one basket short.

The Raiders are 0-2 coming off of the Christmas break. They fell to Parkland the day before their matchup against East Forsyth. Coach Stackhouse says he wanted to see how his team responded in their next game and was proud of their effort. "I have a resilient group of guys, they never give up and they play together," said Minor. "I can't say enough about the guys and I'm very proud of them. They could have easily hung their head once Reagan fought back but they kept fighting."



Khaliq McCummings, No. 0, tries to find an open teammate in their game against Reagan.

Games

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Vestal says he has been organizing the games for the past six years and enjoys fellowship with the seniors. "I came to the rec department initially to work with teens because I work with teens at my church," says Vestal. "But once I was here, they asked me how I like working with senior adults. It's amazing how much fun I have and I am a big fan of

them." "I love seeing them get into it and discovering things. For some who think they can't do it then it registers with them that they still have it. A close second for me would be the relationships that I build with the people." Entry forms will also be available in all recreation centers and at the Senior Games office, 2301 N. Patterson Ave., Winston-Salem. For more information, call Chuck Vestal at 336-727-2325 or visit www.WePLAY.ws

Kickoff for Piedmont Plus Senior Games & Silver Arts

The kickoff event will be Friday, Jan. 13, 10 a.m. to noon at Hanes Hosiery Recreation Center, 501 Reynolds Blvd. The event is free and open to the public. Participants will be able to take part in Senior Games events on April 11. For more information, call Chuck Vestal at 336-727-2325 or visit www.WePLAY.ws

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