

The fabric of Bertie County since 1832

Sports

Phoenix fall to Riverside

BY JIM GREEN

Enterprise & Weekly Herald

WILLIAMSTON - Bertie Middle School's boys basketball team looked like it was on its way to victory Wednesday night (Jan. 18).

The Phoenix held a 35-28 lead with 3:55 left in the third quarter against Riverside.

The Knights, however, rallied in the fourth quarter, holding Bertie to just four points, and pulled off a 49-45 victory to complete a doubleheader sweep.

Riverside's girls pulled away in the second half to claim a 32-13 win in the opener.

In the boys game, a much-improved Bertie squad battled Riverside for three quarters but went cold in the final stanza, managing just one basket and two free throws over the final six minutes.

Bertie jumped out to a 5-0 lead on an old-fashioned three-point play and a bucket by

Cam'ron Harrell.

Riverside rallied with nine of the next 11 points, and took a 9-7 lead on a basket by Ja'Darius Bryant.

Bertie rallied to tie it again, 13-13, at the end of the quarter on a hoop by Evan Wells.

The Phoenix assumed control in the second quarter on a follow shot by T.J. Thompson (17-16). Thompson then had a block that led to a bucket by Marquis Overton, and two free throws by Wells made it 23-17 with 1:54 left in the first half.

Again, the Knights rallied, using a 9-4 run to cut the deficit to one.

Overton's hoop was part of a 8-0 flurry (which also included buckets from Thompson and Harrell) that gave Bertie a 35-28 lead with 3:55 left in the period.

Riverside, behind offense from Williams (six points), Griffin (five) and Bryant (four) took a 40-38 lead, but Wells'



Bertie Middle School squared off with neighboring rival Riverside last week in Williamston. At left, Phoenix guard Miranda Meldick tries to control the ball against Zion Jenkins. Right: Bertie's Marquis Overton drives to the basket in the boys game.

step-back triple at the end of the quarter put the Phoenix ahead 41-40.

Bryant's three-pointer with 5:05 left gave Riverside a lead (43-41) they wouldn't lose.

Griffin's basket made it 46-41 with 3:44 remaining, but a free throw followed by a bucket from Kelvin Rascoe cut it to 46-44 just 13 seconds later.

Williams, Bryant and Tykeem Freeman made free throws in the final

3:34 to seal the win.

Harrell, Overton and Thompson paced Bertie with nine points. Wells chipped in eight.

GIRLS' GAME Riverside 32, Bertie 13

Bertie's girls battled Riverside hard through the first half and even had the lead.

But a 6-2 run at the end of the second quarter gave the Knights the advantage, and their defense limited the Phoe-

nix to just six points in the final 16 minutes and 40 seconds to secure the victory.

The Knights tallied the first six points, only to see Bertie rally for a 7-6 lead on a follow shot by Jessica Stokes with 4:40 left in the first half. Riverside responded with a free throw from Jermaria Brown, a basket from Mirquel Godard and a three-point play from Alea Selby to grab a 12-9 lead.

The Phoenix sliced

the deficit to one (12-11) early in the third session on a hoop by Bryona West, who finished with a team-leading eight points.

But the visitors didn't score for the remainder of the quarter (a span of 4:40) and Riverside pulled away with 12 straight points to take a 24-11 lead.

Bertie's lone points in the final quarter came from free throws by West and Miranda Meldick.

Fourth

From B1

months. The scariest part of Ryan's efficiency is that he also had nearly 70 passes completed of at least 20 yards or more.

That is the offense that made Green Bay look silly and that is the offense that has the rest of the media talking about a potential Atlanta Super Bowl victory.

While the Falcons led the league with 58 offensive touchdowns this season, New England came in third with 51 of their own. Atlanta has better wide receivers and better running backs than New England. What the Patriots do have is Tom Brady. Brady threw for over 3,500 yards and 28

touchdowns in the regular season. It's worth noting that as impressive as that is, he did that despite missing the first four games of the season due to suspension.

The Patriots may not have a prolific rushing attack but it is effective when needed. LeGarrette Blount is a "full steam ahead" kind of runner which makes him dangerous when he is most often used, for draw plays and in the red zone. That might explain how, despite getting less carries than most of the starting tailbacks in the league, Blount managed to lead the NFL in rushing touchdowns with 18.

Despite all of the fanfare that the New Eng-

land and Atlanta offenses will receive, it might ultimately prove to be defense, or a lack thereof, that ensures a New England Super Bowl victory.

As mentioned above, the Patriots are smart, well coached and experienced. I expect their defense, already incredibly tough against the run, to make the Falcons one dimensional. Don't be surprised if the Patriots focus on stopping the Falcons rushing attack and force "Matty Ice" to try and win the game with his arm.

Atlanta can try and counter but I'm not certain they have much of a defense to take with them to Houston for the big game. The Falcons have been ineffective

when trying to pressure quarterbacks and have allowed the seventh most yards per rushing attempt in the league.

If Atlanta can't stop the run and gives Tom Brady extra time in the pocket, there won't be much of a game to watch and everyone

will be talking after the Super Bowl about whatever Lady Gaga did during her halftime show.

That is of course assuming nothing bad happens to the Patriots, like some sort of curse. I'm sure that won't happen though, especially to Tom Brady, one of

the greatest quarterbacks to ever live!

David Friedman is a long time sports writer and columnist. A Bertie High School graduate, he and his family currently reside in Wilmington. David can be reached via e-mail at fourthandlongcolumn@gmail.com.

Warrior boys split, stay in 2nd

Lawrence Academy's varsity boys had a chance to tie Terra Ceia for the Tarheel Independent Conference lead Friday night.

The one-loss Knights, however, had other plans.

Terra Ceia (7-0 TIC, 17-1 overall) used solid runs in the first (23-6) and fourth (22-12) quarters to secure a 79-47 triumph over the War-

riors. Lawrence currently stands second in the conference (5-1) and is 10-7 overall as play began this week.

Miller Trowell led Lawrence with 21 points, while Jarrett Harrell returned to the lineup and added 17 points.

Three days prior, Lawrence overcame a sluggish start to defeat Albemarle 51-38.

Albemarle jumped out to a 14-8 lead in the first period, but the Warriors outscored the Colts 15-7 in the second quarter, 14-9 in the third and 14-8 in the fourth to secure the victory.

Trowell had 13 points to lead Lawrence, while Joe Ward added 11 points and Wood Trowell chipped in seven.

DaQuan Wilson had 10 rebounds.

Bethel JV boys stay undefeated

Still undefeated, Bethel Assembly Christian Academy's junior varsity boys basketball team keeps rolling along.

The Eagles improved to 13-0 overall by defeating Calvary Baptist 65-13 on Friday and

Trinity Christian 50-23 on Jan. 17.

A 27-4 run in the first period was all BACA needed against Calvary Baptist.

Kyle Cullipher led the Eagles with 19 points, while three players added 10 points each:

Mason Askew, Mason Dunlow and Lucas Doughtie.

In the victory over Trinity Christian, Doughtie paced BACA with 15 points while Askew and Cullipher provided eight each.

Bethel JV girls post victories

Bethel Assembly Christian Academy's junior varsity girls basketball team finished last week with two victories.

On Friday, the Eagles erupted for a 22-0 lead

and rolled past Calvary Baptist 42-2 at home.

Kayley Minton led BACA with 22 points, while Haley Northcott, Haven Hoggard and Gracie Simmons added six points each.

Three days before, Bethel outscored Trinity Christian 17-4 in the final stanza to win 28-12.

Minton had 14 points for the Eagles, while Simmons added eight.

RICH SQUARE MARKET

AHOSKIE MARKET

The Places to "Meat Up"

Truckload Pricing Proud

We Proudly Accept MasterCard, VISA, Discover, Debit, WIC & EBT

Like us on Facebook

508 South Main St. Rich Square, NC 252-539-4300

710 North Academy Street Ahoskie, NC 252-332-3368

STORE HOURS
7:30 AM to 8:00 PM - Mon. thru Sat.
8:30 AM to 7:00 PM - Sundays

We reserve the right to limit quantities and correct typographical errors. Typed items take preference over photos.
Sale Days Tuesday 01/12/17 thru Monday 01/30/17
Your Grocery Store! Where You the Customer are in Charge!

Pork Neckbones .99¢ lb.	Bone-In Rib-Eye Steaks \$6.99 lb.	Beef Neckbones \$1.89 lb.
Country Style Ribs \$1.89 lb.	Like us on FACEBOOK For Great Winnings!!	Boneless Pork Chops \$2.59 lb.

We At Rich Square and Ahoskie Market's
Want to Help You Ring in the New Year All Month Long
With Amazing Deals And Savings.
Coming Soon We Will Have Flowers For Your Valentine Sweetheart.

Jamestown Roll Sausage 4/\$5.00	Turkey Chops \$3.39 lb.	Beef Short Ribs \$3.99 lb.	Bass Farm Sausage 2/\$6.00
Fully Cooked Baby Back Ribs \$3.99 ea.	Boneless Chuck Roast \$3.99 lb.	Bottom Round Steaks \$3.99 lb.	Boneless Beef Ribs \$4.19 lb.
Jo Turkey Burgers ^{2lb. box} \$5.99 ea.	Aitch Bones 10 lb. Box \$7.99 ea.	Trout/Whiting Fillets 10 lb. Slab \$26.99 ea.	Baking Hens .99¢ lb.

BBQ Meal Deal 10 lb. Box of Ribs: 20 lb. Leg Quarters: 5 lb. Box Birchwood Beef Patties: 5 Packs Gwaltney Hot Dogs \$49.99	Cooking Good Party Wings \$7.99 ea.
---	--

All Ad Items are while Supplies Last No Rain Checks

Prices above subject to change without notice.

We pride ourselves on being able to offer you a locally operated grocery store that cares about you, our community and our future.