

# Phoenix comeback falls short

BY JIM GREEN  
Bertie Ledger-Advance

**ROBERSONVILLE** - A rally by Bertie's boys came up short in the fourth period as South Creek picked up its third win of the season with a 68-56 triumph Feb. 1 in middle school basketball action.

The Cougar girls scored 11 points in a row to close the first quarter and went on to defeat the Phoenix 41-25 to start the sweep.

The boys teams went back and forth in the first quarter until a three-pointer gave the Cougars a 12-8 lead.

The Phoenix tried to keep it close with offense from Kelvin Rascoe, who scored 11 points in the second stanza, but South Creek countered with Xaviar Williams, Vance Rogers, Jaheim Thompson and Zy'Kevious Sherrad to outscore the visitors 21-15 for a 33-23 halftime advantage.

The Cougars amassed 12 of the last 16 points of the second period after Rascoe's free throws cut the deficit to two (21-19) with 2:15 left.

South Creek extended its advantage to 52-34 at



JIM GREEN / Bertie Ledger-Advance

Above: Bertie Middle School guard Kenzaria Askew moves the ball upcourt against South Creek; (right) Kelvin Rascoe drives to the basket against the Cougars.



the end of the third session.

Bertie used free throws from Timothy Thompson and Evan Wells and a three-point play by Cam'ron Harrell to cut the deficit to nine (54-45) with 2:51 remaining in the game.

Two buckets by Jeffrey Cobb and two free throws from Williams

pushed the Cougars lead back to 13 before the Phoenix rose again with three straight buckets from Harrell, trimming the margin to nine again with 1:23 left.

The closest Bertie could get was eight points (62-54) on a free throw by Rascoe with 48.9 seconds showing. The Phoenix managed

just one basket (from Thompson) in the final minute.

In the girls game, Bertie grabbed an early 3-2 lead on before South Creek scored 11 straight points - all from Kearyk-wah Jones - to take a 13-3 advantage.

Bertie continued to struggle offensively in the second quarter, and

South Creek added to its lead behind Jones and Bailey Hughes.

The Phoenix trailed 22-5 at halftime with their only basket coming from Jessica Stokes with 4:45 left in the quarter.

But the visitors had no answer for Jones, who started the third quarter with a basket

and ended it with two free throws to give the Cougars a 28-15 edge.

Bertie's best quarter was the fourth, when it scored 10 points (Bryona West, Kenzaria Askew and Yasmonasia Boone).

Jones had nine of South Creek's 13 points in the final quarter.

## Northeastern staves off Bertie boys

BY TRAVIS JACKSON  
Bertie Ledger-Advance

**WINDSOR** - This past Thursday night the Bertie High School Falcons hosted the Eagles of Northeastern.

Bertie fought back from an early deficit, but the Eagles came out on top by a score of 83-72.

Northeastern came out swinging, starting the contest on an 11-0

run, holding the Falcons scoreless through the first four minutes of the quarter.

Bertie sophomore Jaqwan Baylor scored the first basket for the Falcons at the 3:59 mark.

Northeastern continued on its run, pushing their lead to 24-11 at the end of the first quarter.

As second quarter play ensued, Bertie was able to make adjust-

ments to stunt the progress of the Eagles.

Falcon's junior Quatravis Riddick nailed a triple at the 1:48 mark of the second quarter making the score 37-31.

Northeastern dialed up the full court pressure to end the quarter, forcing several turnovers in the final minutes of the half giving themselves a 44-32 advantage at the break.

Bertie continued to

battle as second half play got under way.

Baylor scored off of a put-back from an offensive rebound at the 5:22 of the third quarter, cutting the Eagles lead to seven at 49-42.

The two teams traded baskets for the following minutes, Bertie senior Erick Speight scored on a drive to the basket, making the score 62-55 in favor of the Eagles to close the third.

As the game's final quarter began, Northeastern continued with the full court pressure, which eventually proved too much for the Falcons to overcome.

Riddick hit 1-of-2 from the free throw line bringing Bertie back to within seven at a score of 77-70 favoring the Eagles with 1:44 left to play in the game.

Northeastern connected on their free throws to close out the contest, warding off the Falcons' comeback.

The loss was part of a three-game week in which Bertie fell to J.A. Holmes 68-62 at home Jan. 30 and 67-45 Friday at Greenville Rose.



ANDRE ALFRED / 2nd Chance Productions

Bertie guard Alden Cottle fires the three-point shot during last week's conference game at home against Northeastern.

### BEAR GRASS RURITAN CLUB 49TH ANNUAL AUCTION SALE!!!

9:00AM, SATURDAY- FEBRUARY 11, 2017  
@ Williamston's Farmers Market on old Hwy 64

**LOTS OF ITEMS FOR SALE:**

Farm Equipment, Antiques, Furniture, Motors, Exercise Equipment, Cars/Trucks, Glassware, Jewelry, Handmade Items, Etc

**FOOD FOR SALE:**

-Sausage Dogs For Breakfast -Chicken Mull For Lunch  
-Homemade Goodies And Snacks -Assorted Drinks Also For Sale

**OTHER EVENTS THAT DAY.**

Last chance to get your Gun Raffle Tickets (there will be 2 Winners announced that day

\*\*\* 50/50 RAFFLE \*\*\*

\*\*\*FEE IS \$2.00 PER TAG AND 10% OF SALE\*\*\*

We Will Accept Items From 12PM To 4PM On Thursday Feb 9<sup>th</sup>

And We Will Accept Items From 8AM Until 4PM On Friday Feb 10<sup>th</sup>

Only Donated Items will accepted on Saturday Morning

\*All items must be removed from the Farmer's Market by Monday, February 13<sup>th</sup> @ 11:00am !!!

\*The Bear Grass Ruritan Club will not be responsible for items left at the Farmer's Market

\*\*\*ALL ITEMS ARE FINAL AND SOLD "AS IS" - No Refunds or Returns\*\*\*

\*\*\*\*  
**PLEASE SUPPORT YOUR LOCAL RURITANS!**

**HOPE  
FIGHT  
CURE**

FREE T-shirt for  
first 500 fans!

ECUAthletics

**WOMEN'S BASKETBALL**  
EAST CAROLINA vs. TEMPLE  
**SAT., FEB. 11<sup>TH</sup> @ 5 PM**  
**SURVIVORS RECEIVE FREE ADMISSION**

For tickets, team & game time info: 800-DIAL-ECU | ECU Pirates.com