

SECTION **B**



Sports

WEDNESDAY • NOVEMBER 29, 2017

Inside:

- LA girls roll
- Pick'em winner
- Church Briefs

Fourth and Long



David Friedman

Cooking, football and hoops

As a guy that thoroughly enjoys both cooking and watching football, preparing Thanksgiving dinner is quickly becoming one of my favorite holiday traditions.

This year I spatchcocked a 20-pound turkey and dry brined it in the fridge for four days. This resulted in a juicy and delicious bird with crispy skin that required less than three hours to cook and zero prep time on the big day. That meant I had a backbone to make turkey gravy good enough to write your momma about and a lot more time to watch football. It was a wonderful recipe for a happy Thanksgiving.

Thanksgiving only got better when the Tar Heels began play in Portland. The PK80 tournament gave UNC fans lots to be happy about on Thursday and Friday with good-looking wins against Portland and Arkansas.

On Saturday, my brother Russ and I headed to Raleigh for the Carolina-North Carolina State football game. I was gifted the tickets by friends (thanks Adam and Whisper) and, knowing I was going to be a ram amongst wolves, I was happy to have another Tar Heel with me.

It was a tough loss and a fitting end to what has been a challenging season for Carolina football. The Tar Heels showed a lot of fight but "ran out of gas." N.C. State has a starting rotation that has not been riddled with injuries and is filled almost exclusively with upperclassmen. Pretty much the opposite of what UNC has put on the field most of the year.

On a side note, it was my first time in Carter-Finley Stadium, and I walked away impressed with

See **FOURTH**, B6

Bertie rally falls short

BY JIM GREEN
Bertie Ledger-Advance

WINDSOR - The first game of this season ended up like a lot of games last season.

The Bertie High School varsity boys basketball team fell behind and pulled a big rally in the second half, only to fall short, 80-72 to visiting Greenville Rose Tuesday (Nov. 21) in the 2017-18 opener.

The Falcons (0-1) trailed by as many as 12 points early in the third quarter, but pulled within two points of the Rampants (67-65) with 3:37 left in the game.

Rose was able to pull away with a game-ending 13-7 run, led by Creighton Lebo, to emerge victorious.

Lebo, the son of East Carolina University mens basketball coach (and former UNC stand-out) Jeff Lebo, tallied 14 points in the final stanza and led all scorers with 36 points.

Bertie had its own highlight reel in the form of Tray Riddick, who poured in 32 points to lead the Falcons. Riddick's 13 points galvanized his team and the home fans, but ultimately the comeback fell short.

The teams traded the advantage for several minutes in the first quarter.



JIM GREEN / Bertie Ledger-Advance

See **BERTIE**, B6 Bertie's Tray Riddick (No. 11) wards off Greenville Rose's Ben Harris on his way to the basket during last week's opener.

Lady Falcons win in debut

BY JIM GREEN
Bertie Ledger-Advance

WINDSOR - Nyasia Barnes, Daesha Smith and Dawaunti Combs keyed a third-quarter flurry as the Bertie High School girls basketball team defeated Greenville Rose 51-41 in its season opener on Nov. 21.

The teams were tied at 22-all when Barnes and Smith took over in the third stanza.

Barnes' two free throws tied it at 24, and after a rebound from Combs, Smith buried a three-pointer that gave the Falcons the lead for good (27-24) with six minutes left in the quarter.

But Barnes and Smith weren't done.

Barnes had a driving layup, and Smith made one of two at the foul line then followed with another triple and

a blocked shot to keep the Bertie advantage at nine (33-24).

The lead grew to 13 (37-24) on an old-fashioned three-point play by Smith and a free throw from Combs before the Rampants finished on a 5-0 burst to cut the deficit to eight (37-29).

A bucket by Combs pushed the lead back to 10 to start the fourth quarter, and Bertie never let Rose get any closer than eight points the rest of the way.

The Falcons received some clutch offense from Combs (six points), Barnes (two good (27-24) with six minutes left in the quarter (basket) and Morgan Mayzck (basket) in the final seven minutes.

Bertie got off to a sluggish start, trailing 11-6 after one quarter.

But Smith jump-start-

See **FALCONS**, B6



JIM GREEN / Bertie Ledger-Advance

Lady Falcon Daesha Smith (No. 33) shoots a three-pointer over Rose's Ty'Kierra Daniels.

Bertie Ledger-Advance congratulates this week's Athlete of the Week.

Bertie
Ledger-Advance

Bertie Ledger-Advance
109 S. King St., P.O. Box 69
Windsor, NC 27983

Athlete of the week

BHS
Basketball
Daesha Smith

