

Sports

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Warriors

From B1

LA scoreless in the first stanza on their way to a 21-0 lead.

Guo's 12-foot jumper with 6:52 left in the first half accounted for Lawrence's first points. Hughson and Taylor Powell also scored in the second quarter, but the home team trailed 28-6 at halftime.

The Warriors were able to cut the deficit in half (28-14) in the first 4:24 of the third quarter behind Guo, Zheng and Ratzlaff. But the Cyclones finished the quarter on a 17-3 run with their starters and led 48-17 going into the final quarter.

XXX accounted for the LA's only points in the final stanza.

Zheng paced Lawrence with seven points while Guo added four.

In the girls game, Lawrence Academy was able to stay close in the first half thanks to offense from Gracen Rogers (six points), Hailey Gardner (four), Rebekah Goodwin (three) and Lindsay Smith (two).

Community Christian was able to take advantage of turnovers and missed layups as it expanded its lead to nine (31-22) at the end of the third quarter.

A pair of buckets from Smith pulled the Warriors within five (32-27) with 5:45 remaining, but the Cyclones finished on an 11-6 run (Baker had four of LA's points in that span).

Smith led Lawrence with nine points while Baker added seven and Rogers chipped in six.

Last Friday, Lawrence Academy's varsity girls won their second in a row by defeating Ahoskie Christian 35-23.

The Warriors needed a 14-2 flurry in the third quarter to separate themselves after trail-



JIM GREEN / Bertie Ledger-Advance

Lawrence Academy's Benson Zheng puts up the shot during Monday's home game against Community Christian.

ing 16-15 at the half.

Lindsay Smith and Baker each had 10 points for Lawrence. Smith and Rebekah Goodwin collected seven rebounds each.

Last Tuesday (Dec. 4), the Lady Warriors held off Ridgescroft 30-24 by using a 12-7 edge in the final quarter to expand its slim lead.

Lindsay Smith and Lauren Baker each collected eight points for Lawrence, while Rebekah Goodwin added six points.

Smith (14 rebounds) and Goodwin (seven) paced the Warriors on the boards.

The Lawrence varsity boys started last week with a 43-26 defeat to Ridgescroft School at home on Dec. 4.

Brian Hughson and Riley Ratzlaff paced the Warriors with seven

points each, while Benson Zheng and Jason Guo tallied six points each.

Zheng led the LA rebounders with eight. Guo added five, while Tayloe Powell, Tyler Wheeler and Burke Huddleston chipped in with four boards each.

On Friday, Lawrence remained winless, as Ahoskie Christian used a 35-7 run in the second and third quarters to pull away for a 52-31 triumph at home.

Ratzlaff and Hughson collected 10 points each for the Warriors. Zheng and Guo contributed eight and seven rebounds, respectively.

The LA boys will take a break before playing in the Perquimans Holiday Tournament Dec. 28-29.

The LA girls return to action in early January.

Fourth

From B1

Tar Heels are looking pretty good and Duke, even coming off a loss to Boston College, looks legit. There have been several years where the winner of the "series" became the instant favorite to win it all and the loser was still considered a top contender for the title. I think this might be one of those years.

I can't talk about col-

lege basketball and not give a shout out to my brother from another mother, Curt Chamberlain. Curt is also a native northeastern North Carolinian but he has spent the last decade with his lovely wife Michelle living in Las Vegas. He got into sports writing a few years ago and has recently been given his own talk show and has been asked to provide halftime analysis of UNLV home basketball games. I stayed

up this past weekend to hear him discuss UNLV's game against Illinois and he did a fantastic job - far better than I did my first time on radio. Keep chasing your dreams Curt!

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.

Cooke Communications tourney is Dec. 19-20

BY JIM GREEN

Bertie Ledger-Advance

ROBERSONVILLE - It's almost here.

The inaugural Cooke Communications Holiday Invitational basketball tournament sponsored by the Martin County Tourism Development Authority will be held Tuesday and Wednesday, Dec. 19-20, at South Creek High School in Martin County.

The two-day tournament is sponsored by Cooke Communications in Greenville, the parent company of the Bertie Ledger-Advance (Windsor), the Martin County Enterprise & Weekly Herald (Williamston) and the Chowan Herald (Edenton).

The event, which is co-sponsored this year by Martin County Travel and Tourism Authority, features four high schools in the newspapers' coverage areas: South Creek, Riverside, Bertie and John A. Holmes (Edenton).

The tournament kicks off on Tuesday (Dec. 19) at 4 p.m. with the Riverside girls against Holmes, followed by a boys game at 5:30 p.m. between the same schools.

Bertie's girls take on South Creek at 7 p.m., followed by the boys game at 8:30 p.m. between the same schools.

On Wednesday, Dec. 20, the event concludes with the third place girls game at 4 p.m., followed by the third place boys game at 5:30 p.m.

The evening's games

will feature the girls championship at 7 p.m., followed by the boys championship at 8:30 p.m.

Admission is \$7 both nights.

Concessions are available both days and will include bottled drinks, candy, pickles, popcorn, hot dogs and pizza.

"We at South Creek are pleased to host the inaugural Cooke Communications Holiday Invitational," said SCHS Athletic Director Wes Hughes. "The tournament should feature some good basketball and be a pleasure for our local fans. Hopefully it will be a good moneymaker for our local schools. I hope everything goes well and it is something we can continue to participate in in the future."

Falcons land 6 on all-conference team

From Staff Reports

Bertie High School's varsity football team was rewarded for its second straight state 2A playoff appearance under head coach Grantley Mizelle.

The Falcons placed six players on the All-Northeastern Conference team for the 2017 season, as selected by the league's

coaches.

Bertie wide receiver Jamarii White was selected first team on offense.

Five of Bertie's selections came on second team.

Running back Lacurtis Askew and offensive linemen Brandon Davis and Keyontra Lee were tabbed for the offensive squad.

Lee (defensive line),

Nate Cheeseboro (linebacker) and Marcus Philyaw (defensive back) were selected as second-team defensive players.

Bertie also had five players who received all-conference honorable mention recognition. They were Darius Rascoe, Jordin Morning, Isaiah Williams, Oscar Jones II and Christopher Cooper.

BACA

From B1

She was followed in the scoring column by Gracie Simmons with seven points.

Contributing four points each for the Eagles were Coleen Askew, Haley Northcott, Abbey Minton and Hannah Price.

Northcott (seven rebounds) and Minton (six) paced Bethel on the boards.

The Bethel varsity boys squad dropped to 6-3 with a 51-43 loss to Trinity Christian.

The Eagles got off to a solid start, leading 16-9 after one quarter. But the Tigers rallied and outscored their hosts 11-6, 15-7 and 18-14 in the second through fourth quarters to complete the comeback.

Mason Dunlow led BACA with 16 points, while Caleb Simmons added 15 points. Lu-



ANDRE ALFRED / A.A. Imaging

BACA's Caleb Simmons (No. 15) shoots against Trinity.

cas Doughtie chipped in six points.

Dunlow grabbed 11 rebounds for the Eagles, while Paul Northcott added seven and Doughtie tallied six. Bethel played Ridgescroft School on Tuesday and will return home to face Liberty Christian (Richlands) on Friday.

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