

Bertie

From 8

ter, going on an 11-5 run sparked by Ckayvion Everett (two baskets), Boston, Hill and Sharpe (one basket each) that pulled Holmes within 11 (41-30).

Bertie responded with a 10-0 run (five points from Riddick) to regain control, 50-31, at the end of the quarter.

The teams nearly matched scoring totals in the fourth quarter. Sharpe, Mitjonte Stanley and J'Veon Bryant hit 3s for Holmes, who fouled repeatedly in an attempt to extend the game.

Riddick added another triple in the fourth quarter and finished with 30 points to lead the Falcons.

He was joined on the all-tournament team by Joshua Burden, who had eight of his 12 points in the fourth quarter. Cottle provided 11 points.

Joining Riddick and Burden on the all-tourney team from Holmes were Sharpe (seven points) and Zion Boston.

GIRLS FINALS

Bertie 50, Holmes 42

Bertie's girls pulled away from John A. Holmes in the fourth quarter with a 15-8 run that sealed the girls championship for the Falcons in the inaugural Cooke Communications Holiday Invitational.

The contest between the former conference rivals featured six ties and 10 lead changes.

Bertie (5-3 overall) took the lead for good, 36-35, to start the final quarter when Akyia King found Dawaunti Combs for the go-ahead bucket with seven minutes to play.

The 7-0 run continued with a three-pointer from King, a basket from Combs and a bucket from Morgan Mazyck (off a nifty pass by King) to make it 41-35 with five minutes left.

The Aces ended the outburst when Jamilian Johnson stole a pass and scored with 4:15 left, but Mazyck blocked a shot on Holmes' next possession, and that led to a bucket by Combs for a 43-37



Falcons advantage with three minutes remaining.

Combs (three free throws), Mayzck (basket), King (three-pointer) and Destiny Clark (two free throws) sealed the win for Bertie in the final 2:18.

The Aces held the lead for much of the first quarter. Holmes jumped out to a 6-0 lead behind baskets from Kyra Bradley and Anna Bass, but Bertie responded with 11 of the last 13 points (four by Daesha Smith, a triple by Combs and baskets from King and Mayzck) to gran an 11-8 lead.

The lead changed hands three times in the second quarter, the final one on two free throws by Smith. The Falcons led 20-17 at the break.

The Aces outscored Bertie 18-14 in the third stanza to take a 35-34 advantage into the fourth quarter.

Janryryah White (eight points) and Mikyah White were the all-tournament selections from Holmes, who were paced by nine points from Bass in the championship game. Johnson added eight points.

Combs (13 points) and King (11) were selected for the all-tournament team from Bertie. King was named the girls Most Valuable Player.

Bertie guard Joshua Burden (No. 2, above) slips between three Holmes defenders to release the shot during the boys championship game of the inaugural Cooke Communications Holiday Invitational Dec. 20 at South Creek High School.



The Bertie High Schools girls are the inaugural Cooke Communications Holiday Invitational Tournament champions.



The Bertie High Schools boys are the inaugural Cooke Communications Holiday Invitational Tournament champions.

Fourth

From 8

that I would actually have tried. I'm ashamed to say it, but it doesn't make it any less true.

But Jason Brown did not fail. According to Adam Lucas' above mentioned story in my issue of Born & Bred, Brown's First Fruits farms has donated over 850,000 pounds of food to the hungry.

I knew the story and walked away from reading it feeling both

ashamed of what I haven't done and inspired by what I could do.

Thank you to Jason Brown for reminding us that being a God given gift is far more valuable than having one.

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.

JIM GREEN / Bertie Ledger-Advance

Merry Christmas & Happy Holidays

There is no time more fitting to express our thanks and to wish you a MERRY CHRISTMAS AND A PROSPEROUS NEW YEAR

David Bowen & Staff

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On September 18, 2017, the Bertie County Board of Commissioners officially created the Bertie County Poverty Commission. The goal of this Commission is to "create a substantial platform for engagement," by convening a group of diverse team leaders and decision makers from multiple agencies committed to reducing the number of children and families living in generational poverty. This new commission will also develop a plan with measurable outcomes that improve access, participation, and/or impact of evidence-based and other promising practices in one or more of the following areas: early childhood education, nutrition, workforce development, and health and human services.

If you or someone you know, has a passion for this cause and would like to serve on the Commission, applications are available on the County's website (www.co.bertie.nc.us), via fax, or email. Applications can also be picked up from Sarah Tinkham in the Clerk to the Board's Office. For more information, please call 252-794-5300.

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