

Lady Hounds escape with 3ot victory

By Josh Shephard
For The Carlisle Mercury

SPORTS EXTRA
CYNTHIANA, Feb. 26 — The Paris Lady Hounds defeated cross-town rival Bourbon County 61-56 in three overtimes to advance to the finals of the 37th District Girls Basketball Tournament.

Ashley Allen propelled Paris into a third overtime in a 3-point game that tied it at 54-54, and Paris was able to outdistance the Lady Colonels in the final three minutes.

Bourbon got the lead in the first quarter, but the advantage was short-lived as Paris' Megan May and Yolanda Brown hit two consecutive shots to put the Lady Greyhounds up 6-3 at the 5:04 mark.

Bourbon re-took the lead again a few minutes later, but again Paris was able to battle back to the lead spot after May sent in two to tie it at 8-8.

The Hounds lead shot to five with a 3-point conversion from Brown, but that was the biggest lead Paris held, as the Lady Colonels' Stacy Reed tied in a 3-pointer to cut the trail to two, 13-11, with 11 seconds remaining in the quarter.

Bourbon missed a chance to tie and throughout the second quarter, Paris dominated as Brown scored the net twice for a 6-point Paris lead.

Gillespie scored Bourbon's only points throughout the first four minutes of the quarter, meanwhile, Allen gunned in a 2-pointer followed by a layup from Angie Fields.

Fields hit once more to put the Hounds up by 10, 24-14, constituting Paris' biggest lead in the game.

Paris held a 29-20 advantage at the half.

The Lady Colonels came back in the third period.

Becky Gillespie jammed in two for 33-26 trail at the 4:21 mark, then returned to white-hot away at the Paris lead with another score to make it 33-30.

Lisa Gilbert brought the

Colonels to within one at 33-32 before Paris turned things back around with a 3-pointer from Allen to make it 38-32 with 1:06 remaining in the third.

The Colonels' challenge was far from over as Reed and Oliver sank buckets to end the third, 38-36, Paris.

A Paris 3-pointer gave the Hounds a short-lived 2-point advantage, but Oliver responded with a bucket to tie the game.

At 47-47, with 1:13 on the clock, Paris attempted to stall the game. However, a 5-second call was assessed on the Hounds and possession reverted to the Colonels with 23 seconds left in the game.

Bourbon's scoring attempt failed, sending the game into its first overtime.

Neither team managed to advance on the scoreboard in the first 3-minute overtime. Paris' one chance was stopped as Brown's layup attempt was blocked by Oliver.

In the second, though, it seemed Bourbon County had seen things up as they moved to a 52-49 lead with 37 seconds left on the clock.

May went to the line and banked two to bring the Hounds back within one, 52-51, but Gilbert kept the Hounds at a distance with another set of foul shots to give the Colonels' a 54-51 lead.

The Colonels' set up a tight pressure defense, which kept the Hounds from position, but with six seconds left, Allen threw the ball up from the far corner and it caught only net as it went through sending the game into its third overtime.

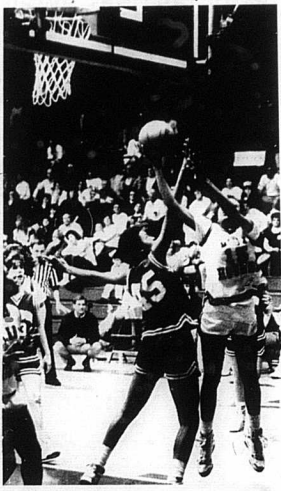
Paris went ahead 58-56, but two chances to catch the Hounds failed to bring the Colonels' points.

Fields fired in two with 18 seconds left in the game, and Allen sent the Lady Hounds with four seconds remaining when she

made a free throw to end the game.

Paris earned a berth in the regional tournament with the win

and will play the winner of the Nicholas-Harrison game, scheduled Feb. 27, for the district championship.



SPORTS EXTRA Josh Shephard
Paris Lady Hounds' Yolanda Brown slides under the arm of Bourbon County Lady Colonels' Sylvia Oliver for two points in the first game of the Girls 37th District tournament at Harrison County. Paris held on through three overtimes to win the game, 61-56. Bourbon County moves on to the district finals, Friday, and a berth in the 10th Region championship tournament next week.

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Lady Jackets reach 20 game win plateau

By Josh Shephard
For The Carlisle Mercury

SPORTS EXTRA
MAYSVILLE, Feb. 21 — With their 84-65 win against St. Patrick, the Lady Jackets became the school's first girls team to win 20 games in a season.

It is also only the second team since 1980, when the boys team logged 20 wins, that a Nicholas County team has won 20 games.

The Jackets took control of the game early when senior Christy Axtier fired in a field goal for a 7-4 lead.

Nikki Smoot logged fouls two and three immediately following Axtier's score.

At the 2:46 mark of the first quarter, Tary Earlywine brought in a 3-point conversion for a 12-4 advantage.

Two consecutive shots from Christy Hatten and the Jackets held a 16-6 lead at 2:47.

Amy Simons sent a bounce pass between two Lady Saints to Earlywine for another score.

Any Powers rebounded and ran down court, but Kim Denkins blocked her shot, grabbed the ball and gunned in a layup at the other end for a 24-6 lead.

The Saints scoring stall was broken when Tammie Whaley came up and rifled in a 3-pointer, with less than a minute remaining in the first.

With scores from Denkins and Earlywine, the Jackets led 28-9 by the end of the first quarter.

Whaley opened the second with a 3-pointer followed by two more shots to bring the Saints to within 16 points.

A second scoring lay by St. Pat allowed the Jackets a run up a 49-16 lead at the 1:14 mark.

With 58 seconds remaining in the half, Smoot logged foul number four.

The score at the end of the half had the Jackets in full control of the game at 51-22.

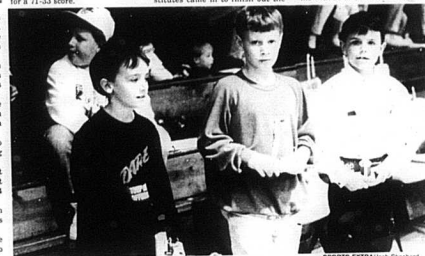
Whaley hit a third 3-pointer for 59-27 with 4:33 left in the third. After Hatten plunked in a shot, Whaley scored twice more at 3:27 to give the Saints 31 points.

Smoot brought in two with 57 seconds left for a 67-33 score.

Earlywine was taken to the foul line twice at the end of the quarter for a 71-33 score.

Elizabeth Schanding scored twice and Hatten once, before substitutes came in to finish out the

game. Earlywine lead Nicholas with 29 points, followed by Denkins with 20 and Hatten with 16.



SPORTS EXTRA Coach David Smith and the Lady Jackets basketball team. Trophy winners for the Little League Basketball free throw shooting contest, presented at halftime of Friday night's game between the Nicholas County Bluejackets and the Deming Black Devils, are, from left George Livingood, Hawks, Greg Morris, Rebels and overall winner Rich Storm, Bears. Not Pictured: Brad Russell, Jets.



SPORTS EXTRA Josh Shephard
Jennifer Johnson shoots out a St. Patrick Lady Saint while waiting to grab the rebound in the last game of the Lady Jackets' regular season. After two defeats, the Lady Jackets managed to attain their 20 wins, the first time a Nicholas Girls' team has ever accomplished the feat.

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