

An Independent Newspaper Founded in 1885

The Laurens County Advertiser

South Carolina's Award-Winning Weekly Newspaper

# SPORTS

## Bates' late surge sends Clinton boys to Seneca

By Nick Herman  
Sports Editor

When J.D. Payne fouled out with 2 minutes, 47 seconds left in regulation, Ahmari Bates saved Clinton's Class 3A state playoff life, scoring the final 12 points for the Red Devils boys basketball team in a 67-61 first-round win on the road upset over No. 1-seeded Chapman.

The victory set up a second-round game for the Red Devils at Seneca Friday night.

Bates scored nine of his final 12 points over the final 1:30 after Chapman rallied back from a 58-51 deficit with eight straight points to go up 59-58 and retake the lead.

But after that, it was all Bates. "Offensively, we got up by seven and we took some quick shots. We took two really quick shots and allowed them to get back into the game," Clinton Head Coach Eddie Romines said. "We bounced back from it."

Bates certainly helped the team bounce back. He took over the scoring load when Payne fouled out, and his personal scoring surge helped him finish with a game-high 32 points, 24 of which came in the second half.

"There was a lot of concern,

but I was telling the boys we had to step up," Bates said. "Everyone had to step up."

After Chapman jumped ahead with its 8-0 run late in the fourth quarter, capped off by a 3-point shot from Banks, Bates hit one jump shot to give his team a 60-59 lead, then hit 7 of 8 foul shots as Chapman tried to muster one final rally.

"We came down, we just basically ran an iso play for Noodle (Bates), and he made it," Romines said of the go-ahead basket. "Then we got a stop, and we were holding it. They fouled him, and he hit some free throws."

Chapman, which plays a perimeter-oriented offensive game, went cold against Clinton's zone defense. The Panthers hit eight 3-pointers in the game, two fewer than Clinton hit, and missed 24 attempts. Clinton, by comparison, made its 10 3-pointers in 19 attempts.

Clinton's effort was aided by the play of Sam Tiller and Konnor Richardson, singled out by Romines after the game for their ability to do the dirty work. Not only did the two help on defense, but both contributed on offense. Richardson scored six points and Tiller tied P.J. Bluford with five points to wrap



Photo by Nick Herman

**FEELING GOOD** — Clinton Boys' Head Basketball Coach Eddie Romines and the Red Devils turned in a first-round upset of Chapman to advance in the SCISA Class 3A Tournament, 67-61, at Inman.

Clinton's scoring.

Familiarity may have helped the Red Devils against Chapman. The two teams had spent the last two seasons as Region 3-3A foes. Romines said he would've loved to have finished third in the region, which would've earned the team a trip to Southside and not Chapman, but when he found out the opponent that mindset changed.

"When I found out we were drawing Chapman, I was happy," Romines said. "We were familiar

with them."

Last year's Clinton team lost a gut-wrenching overtime game against Camden. This year, the Red Devils are ready to erase the memories of that loss, and hopefully put itself in position for a long - and memorable - tournament run this year.

"They're very hungry and very motivated," Bates said.

Visit [leadvertiser.net](http://leadvertiser.net) and the Advertiser Facebook page for coverage from Friday night's playoff game at Seneca.

## Winthrop men flip script, knock off Blue Hose

By Nick Herman  
Sports Editor

The last time the Presbyterian College men's basketball team took on Winthrop, the Eagles got out to a hot start in the first half, only to see the Blue Hose storm back and eventually pick up the victory in Clinton.

Wednesday night's rematch at Rock Hill's Winthrop Coliseum was the polar opposite for the Blue Hose, who jumped out to a 14-point lead in the first 6 minutes, 13 seconds, only to see the Eagles storm back and eventually pick up a 93-85 victory. PC is now 15-12 overall, 7-5 in the Big South, while Winthrop moved to 17-8 overall and 9-3 in conference.

Presbyterian hit 64 percent of its 3-point attempts in the first half as it built the lead, but Winthrop managed to cut the lead down to 48-46 at the half. In the second half Winthrop's defense picked up against PC's perimeter shooting, holding the Blue Hose to 3-for-17 from 3-point range and 32 percent shooting from the field.

Presbyterian had four players score in double figures, with Francois Lewis (eight boards) and Adam Flagler each tallying 23 points to tie Winthrop's Adam Pickett for game-high honors. Cory Hightower added 16 points and eight rebounds, while Davon Bell finished two rebounds short of a triple-double (10 points, 13 assists, eight boards).

Pickett, who also had 12 rebounds to lead the Eagles, paced four Winthrop players in double figures, while Nych Smith had 22 points, Bjorn Broman had 19 points and five assists, and Charles Falden had 14 points.

Presbyterian is home today (Saturday) for a critical game in the conference race against Campbell. The Camels, who now sit 1.5 games ahead of PC for third place in the conference, are led by Chris Clemons. He currently leads the

nation in scoring at 29.8 points per game, and moved to ninth-place on the NCAA's all-time Division-I scoring list with 48 points Wednesday against Hampton. Clemons is 22 points short of 3,000 career points, and now 30 points from tying former Bradley guard Hersey Hawkins for eighth on the all-time list.

The game starts at approximately 4:30 p.m., and follows a women's contest between PC and High Point.

**UNC Asheville 51, PC women 45 (Tuesday):** PC trailed by 11 points in the third quarter before rallying back to within a point, but Ali Trani hit five free throws in the final 30 seconds to hand the Blue Hose their eighth straight loss.

Trinity Johnson had a season-best 15 points for the Blue Hose, including 8-of-11 free throws, in 23 minutes off the bench. Salina Virola had 14 points and eight boards, while Kacie Hall added 11 points. PC (4-19 overall, 2-10 Big South) shot 36 percent from the field.

Tiffany Wilson and Jessica Wall each scored 12 points to lead UNC Asheville.

### COLLEGE Women's tennis

**PC postponed:** Presbyterian's home contest Tuesday with Wofford was postponed due to the weather. The match was rescheduled for March 1.

PC's next match is slated for today (Saturday) against Hampton.

### Women's lacrosse

**No. 24 Duke 20, Presbyterian 0 (Wednesday):** Duke had a 35-3 edge in shots on goal against the Blue Hose, and also won 17 of 21 draw controls. PC also turned the ball over 10 times in the contest.

Kayla Koch and Heidi Shafer combined for 15 saves for the Blue Hose (0-2), who host Wofford today (Saturday) at 2 p.m.

## Laurens County Sports Hall names '19 inductees

By Nick Herman  
Sports Editor

The Laurens County Sports Hall of Fame announced its latest class of inductees Tuesday evening, featuring a five-person class that will be honored in April.

William Hill, Bill Hogan, Lonnie Pulley, Phil Rogers and Clovis Simmons were all announced as members of the new class, joining the 13 previous inductees from the first two Hall of Fame classes.

Hill was a three-sport athlete at Presbyterian, playing football, bas-

ketball, and running track. He was named to the All-Decade Team at PC and was a starter for the Blue Hose in the 1959 Tangerine Bowl. Hill's 11 interceptions still stand as the program record for a single season at PC. He was drafted by both the Minnesota Vikings of the NFL and the CFL's Edmonton Eskimos, and he played two seasons with Edmonton.

Hogan, who was a broadcaster with WLBG AM-FM, helped the station's reach by including high school and college sports from around the Upstate. He was the play-by-play voice for Laurens, PC

and Furman. He also hosted a high school football scoreboard show, which was a first at that time.

Pulley helped the Raiders win the 1983 state football championship, and in the same season he was named the Shrine Bowl MVP, an All-State team member, the S.C. Back of the Year and was selected for the Adidas All-American team. Pulley played collegiately at Winston-Salem State from 1984-

87 and helped the team win a CIAA Championship as an all-conference selection in his senior year.

Rogers played for Frank Howard at Clemson after establishing himself as an athletic star at Clinton High. Rogers played football, basketball, baseball and ran track with the Red Devils. At Clemson, he set

■ See Hall, page 5

**EXTRA! EXTRA!**  
Read all about it in  
The Laurens County Advertiser

**WHO? WHAT? WHERE?**

**I CAN FIX YOUR COMPUTER!**  
871-3694 VERY REASONABLE RATES  
682-9150 I MAKE HOUSE CALLS!  
LEAVE MESSAGE  
NEW & REBURNISHED COMPUTERS FOR SALE  
20 YEARS EXPERIENCE  
CRW COMPUTER SERVICE

WANTED • WANTED • WANTED • WANTED • WANTED  
Buying junk cars, trucks and farm equipment for scrap. We also provide auto transporting service.  
Call for Quote!  
860-637-7603 • 864-871-0980

**2019 UMPIRES POSITION AVAILABLE**  
Are you a baseball fan who has a great knowledge for the game and wanting to give back to the community?  
**Youth Baseball Umpires are needed for the 2019 Season.**  
We need your help to provide a great opportunity for our youth.  
For more information call The Ridge 681-7275 or visit us at 301 Exchange Drive, Laurens.

**POOLE'S TREE EXPERTS**  
Since 1985  
NO MONEY UP FRONT!  
WILL BEAT ANYBODY'S PRICES!  
ALL JOBS GUARANTEED!  
All Types of Tree Care  
Removal, Stump Grinding  
(864) 876-1518 or 266-5484  
LICENSED, INSURED, BONDED  
We Now Accept All Major Credit Cards & Pay Pal

**SOUTHERN TREE EXPERTS**  
969-6480  
871-0272  
CALL ANYTIME  
★Free Estimates★

**ATWOOD'S**  
-Gravel Hauling  
-Backhoe Service  
-Bobcat Service  
-Septic Tank Repair  
684-8085  
984-0173

**WE CARE ABOUT YOUR HEART**  
do you?  
FEBRUARY IS AMERICAN HEART MONTH

**Well's Home Improvements**  
We Do Gutters, Siding & Windows, Metal & Shingle Roofs, Decks & Room Additions, Aluminum Awnings, Window Specials, Bath & Kitchen, Remodeling  
20 Years Experience • Fully Licensed  
Call Us for Special on Window Replacement!  
864-200-1867 or 547-1540  
ALL WORK GUARANTEED  
FREE ESTIMATES  
FINANCING AVAILABLE

**Well's Home Improvements ROOFING**  
Metal or Shingle  
We Do Roof Repairs  
No job too big or too small — we do it all!  
We Also Install Mountain Rock  
NO MONEY UPFRONT  
Financing Available  
Call 864-200-1867 or 547-1540  
FREE ESTIMATES

**POOLE'S TREE EXPERTS**  
Since 1985  
NO MONEY UP FRONT!  
WILL BEAT ANYBODY'S PRICES!  
ALL JOBS GUARANTEED!  
All Types of Tree Care  
Removal, Stump Grinding  
(864) 876-1518 or 266-5484  
LICENSED, INSURED, BONDED  
We Now Accept All Major Credit Cards & Pay Pal

**Blood Pressure Self Monitoring Program**  
Are you one of the 85 million people in the United States who has high blood pressure? Blood Pressure Self Monitoring Program is a 16-week evidence-based hypertension management program designed to empower participants to take ownership of their cardiovascular health. The program promotes regular blood pressure self-monitoring at home using proper techniques, individualized support and nutrition education by a Healthy Heart Ambassador.  
For more information, please contact Leah Bolt at 864-984-2626 or [leah@laurensymca.org](mailto:leah@laurensymca.org) or join us at our next nutritional seminar!  
**Nutrition Seminar:**  
**February 21 @ 9:30 AM**  
Topic: The DASH approach to healthy eating  
the **LAURENS YMCA**  
410 Anderson Drive • Laurens  
864-984-2626

**EMERY'S TREE SERVICE, INC.**  
NOW SERVING LAURENS COUNTY  
Specializing in:  
•Lot Clearing  
•Construction  
•Fertilization  
•Stump Removal  
•Spraying  
•Tree Removal  
•Trimming  
•Thinning  
•Landscaping  
FULLY INSURED  
28 YEARS IN UPSTATE  
THOMAS BURTON & SCOTT EMERY  
864-895-1852 • EMERYTREESERVICE.COM

To Advertise Here Contact Us at 984-2586

**J&B BRICK, STONE & BLOCK MASONRY**  
Brick veneer, mobile home underpinning, foundations, small concrete jobs. Any kind of brick or block work.  
864-993-9346  
Junior Grant  
864-547-3027  
Bruce Grant  
FREE ESTIMATES  
Licensed & Bonded