



In a physical contest, Jordan Strawn wrestles the ball away from a Autauga player. (photo by Clint Franks)



Mae Etheridge scored 21 points and added eight rebounds as Patrician advances to the AISA Class 2A Final Foul with a 25-23 win over number one seed Lowndes Tuesday evening at Cramton Bowl in Montgomery. (Photo by Clint Franks)

Lady Rebels fall in AISA's Elite Eight

By Clint Franks
Sun-Advocate Sports

MONTGOMERY -- The defending AISA Class 2A State Champion South Choctaw Academy Lady Rebels (9-12) saw its season end Thursday morning at The Multiplex at Cramton Bowl in a 70-42 loss to the Autauga Academy Lady Generals.

Things went sour for SCA from the start of the game as the Lady Generals would come out firing on all cylinders and would jump out to an 11-0 lead before Emma Kate Williams would bury a three-pointer to cut the Autauga lead to eight. A quick lay-up by Wizzie Miller would cut the lead to six but the Lady Generals would go on another run and lead 16-5 at the end of the 1st quarter. Lady Generals' lead as SCA trailed 28-15 at halftime.

While the 1st half was quiet in terms of fouls, the 3rd quarter was anything but quiet as a foul-fest ensued in a very physical quarter with both teams reaching the double-bonus and any hopes to trim the Lady Generals led was squashed as SCA trailed 53-32 heading into the 4th quarter.

A large portion of the SCA starters would foul out in the final moments as Autauga took the win.

Emma Kate Williams led SCA with 12 points, Lille Johnson and Wizzie Miller had

nine points.

En route to the Elite Eight, the Lady Rebels blew open a close first quarter and never looked back as they blew out Escambia Academy 47-15 to advance to the AISA tournament.

Emma Kate Williams would get things kicked off for SCA by sinking a three-point bomb. Grace Lucus would follow with a three-pointer of her own as SCA led 6-0 in the early going. Escambia would go on an 8-0 run to take its only lead. The Escambia lead was short-lived as Ainsley Fuller grabbed an offensive rebound off the glass and hit a basket to tie the game at eight.

Jordan Strawn would hit a shot off an offensive rebound to give SCA a 10-8 lead after one quarter of play.

The floodgates would open for SCA in the 2nd quarter as the Rebels went on a 13-2 run and led 23-10 at halftime. Clarke Prep was held scoreless in the last seven and a half minutes of the 2nd quarter.

In the 3rd quarter, SCA continued its domination as they lead 34-12 heading into the 4th quarter. Williams was hot in the final period with two three pointers. Mallory Mosley would also sink one from downtown as SCA took the 47-15 win.

Emma Kate Williams led SCA with 13 points and Mallory Mosley added seven points

Etheridge sends Lady Saints to AISA Final Four

By Clint Franks
Sun-Advocate Sports

MONTGOMERY -- Mae Etheridge hit a lay-up with 7.4 seconds remaining in overtime in the Elite Eight tournament to send the third seeded Patrician Academy Lady Saints (12-8) to Thursday's AISA Class 2A Final Four with a 25-23 win over number one seed Lowndes Academy.

After falling behind 5-0, Patrician would finally get on the board with 1:50 left in the first quarter. The Lady Saints missed numerous shots and trailed 7-3 after the first quarter.

Anna Claire Etheridge would cut the Lowndes lead to three with a pair of free-throws. Lowndes would lead by as many as eight, but Mae Etheridge would score 13 points in the first half as the Lady Saints trailed by one at 16-15 at halftime.

Peyton Adams would hit a lay-up to give Patrician its first lead at 17-16 with five minutes left in the 3rd quarter and that would be the Lady Saints only points as they trailed 21-17 heading into the 4th quarter.

The 4th quarter could best be described as "bizarre" as both teams

elected to hold the ball to milk the close.

"That really worked to our advantage," said Lady Saints Head Basketball Coach Ryan Miller. "We were in foul trouble, and we hadn't shot the ball well at all."

Down 23-20 with 16 seconds left in the game, Mae Etheridge would break free and hit a lay-up in the paint to tie the game at 23 sending the game to overtime.

Lowndes would go to the free-throw line with 12 second left but would miss both shots. Mae Etheridge grabbed the rebound and went coast-to-coast to sink a bucket in the final few seconds, stunning heavily favored Lowndes 25-23

"As I was running down the floor, I'm thinking, just don't miss," said Etheridge.

She didn't, and now the Lady Saints, a gritty bunch who played over their heads on Tuesday evening, are in the Final Four, where they will face area foe Pickens on Thursday afternoon at 3 p.m.

Mae Etheridge finished the game with 21 points and eight rebounds. Adams had two points, as did Anna Claire Etheridge.



Trevor Busby was limited to 10 points in a 54-44 loss to Clarke Prep in the 1st round of the AISA Class 2A Playoffs. (Photo by Clint Franks)



Lady Tigers drop heart-breaker to R.C. Hatch

By Clint Franks
Sun-Advocate Sports

ALICEVILLE -- The Choctaw County Lady Tigers (7-14) fell in the AHSAA Class 2A Area 7 Tournament in gut-wrenching fashion as R.C. Hatch nipped CCHS 53-52. In three games with the Lady Bobcats, the final outcome was decided by an average of 2.5 points. A win for the Lady Tigers would have set up a trip to the playoffs.

Verliyah Keeton led CCHS with 20 points and six steals. Jakayah Charleston added 18 points, six rebounds and three assists.

Keeton finishes the season, averaging 16.1 points per game with five rebounds and three steals.

Charleston averaged 11.6 points per game with 9.4 rebounds.

AT LEFT: Verliyah Keeton had 20 points in her last game as a Lady Tiger, shae averaged just over 16 points per game and grabbed just under five rebounds per game (photo by Clint Franks)

Gators end season for SCA Rebels

By Clint Franks
Sun-Advocate Sports

TOXEY -- The South Choctaw Academy boys' basketball (6-15) team saw its season end on Thursday night as the Rebels came out on the wrong end of 54-44 contest with Clarke Prep in the first round of the AISA Class 2A boys basketball playoffs

The Rebels were whipped in the first half as Clarke Prep shot the ball a little better and dominated SCA on the boards.

The Gators opened the game with a 10-2 run. SCA wouldn't sink its first basket until Logan Mask hit a shot with 3:30 left in the 1st quarter. Clarke Prep led 11-4 after one quarter of play.

The Gators would go on a 14-2 run and the

Rebels couldn't seem to buy a basket. Trevor Busby would finally hit a shot with two minutes left in the 2nd quarter as Clarke Prep led 24-6. With baskets by Garrett Chapman and Brently Turner to cut the Gator lead to 14 as Clarke Prep took a 24-10 halftime lead.

An early three-pointer by Chapman would cut the deficit to nine points but Clarke Prep would go on another run and lead by as many

as 19. Clarke Prep would lead 44-27 after the end of three quarters and SCA would cut the lead back to nine but the mistakes of earlier were too much as Clarke Prep punched its ticket to next weeks Elite Eight in Montgomery as the Gators took a 54-44 win.

Trevor Busby was held to just 10 points, Garrett Chapman had nine points and Cameron Robinson had eight points.