

Gentry, Howard lead Tigers past Columbia

Tribune Staff Report

COLUMBIA — Jamal Gentry and Jabrae Howard combined for 47 points and the Marshall County Tigers outlasted visiting Columbia Central on Tuesday night, 74-67.

Third quarter withstanding, the game was played at a breakneck pace, with the two squads combining for 52 points in a high-scoring fourth quarter. The Tigers got quality scoring from Gentry, who led the visitors with 26 points, including five made three-pointers.

Howard logged the bulk of his offense in the fourth quarter, where he went an incredibly efficient 7-of-8 from the free throw line.

Marshall County clung to a slim, 19-18 lead after the first period, but was able to play add-on with another 19-point effort in the second quarter.

Five different Tigers scored in the second, with Howard totaling six, while Gentry added seven, including a pair

of triples.

With the offenses clicking in the first half, Columbia stormed back as the scoring for both ground to a near halt in the third.

The Tigers logged just three field goals for six total points in the quarter, while Columbia rallied with a 10-point effort to knot the game at 44 after three quarters.

Howard and Gentry took control of the fourth, combining for 21 points to guide the Tigers to the seven-point lead.

Jayden Hart joined Gentry and Howard in double figures and added 12 points for the winners.

Columbia's Jordan Davis led all scorers with 30 points.

Marshall County returns home on Friday to face Giles County.

Columbia 18 16 10 22 — 67
Marshall Co. 19 19 6 30 — 74

Columbia: Jordan Davis 30, Jhrevious Hall 14, Malachi Horton 9, Kayden McCoy 8, Koda Cutlip 4, Deklan Armstrong 2.
Marshall Co.: Jamal Gentry 26, Jabrae Howard 21, Jayden Hart 12, Aja Jones 8, Kintarius Morris 5, Jayden Randolph 2.
3-Point goals: Marshall Co. (7): Gentry 5, Howard, Morris; Columbia (7): Davis 5, Horton 2.
Halftime score: Marshall Co. 38, Columbia 34.

Rockets come up short vs. Fayetteville

By Kacy Kincaid
Sports Writer

CHAPEL HILL — The Forrest Rockets left it all on the floor as they hosted Fayetteville City Tuesday night, falling to the Tigers 37-35.

Out of the gate, it was an aggressive and fast-paced ballgame, the Tigers bringing a full-court man-to-man press forcing multiple Rocket turnovers throughout the game.

Fayetteville City had some trouble knocking down shots to begin with, stifling their lead potential to only six after the first quarter.

The Rockets regained control in the second quarter, their best of the game, with Davin Porter, Ben Villazon, and Bray McCown combining for 11 points and holding the Tigers to a meager five.

The contest was an even split at 19 going into the half.

Although the Rockets' struggle to handle the ball remained, there was no letting off the throttle for either squad upon returning for the second half. It was a tough scoring battle, each bucket made being answered on the other end.

Forrest entered the fourth down by three.

Fayetteville City found most of its points at the free throw line in the fourth, with Bryson Johnson getting tough to handle in the paint.

Forrest's Jimmy Bond, Eli Bell, and Josh Rumley showed up strong for the Rockets, keeping them in the game offensively.

With only a few seconds left in the game and the Rockets down by two, they put up a shot that didn't fall in their favor.



Tribune Photo by Kacy Kincaid

Eli Bell hits a much-needed shot in the 4th quarter for the Rockets.

Fayetteville City 14 5 11 7 — 37
Forrest 8 11 8 8 — 35

Porter led the Rockets with 15 points on the night and Johnson led the Tigers with 13.

The Rockets are back in action Friday night at home against Liberty Creek. Tipoff is set for 7:30 pm.

Fayetteville City: Cambrian Taylor 4, Samuel Willoughby 7, Teondre Love 4, Kentius Henderson 4, Bryson Johnson 13, Philip Bonner 3, Lateral Brown 2
Forrest: Ben Villazon 4, Bray McCown 6, Jimmy Bond 4, Eli Bell 2, Josh Rumley 4, Davin Porter 15
3-point goals: Fayetteville City: Bonner, Willoughby; Forrest: Porter
Halftime score: Forrest 19, Fayetteville City 19

Tigerettes crush Glencliff after monster 1st half

By Dennis Holley
Sports Writer

LEWISBURG — The Marshall County Tigerettes on Friday night faced the Colts of Glencliff High School (0-3) in the first game of the evening at Dottie Kelso Memorial Gymnasium.

The Tigerettes easily defeated the Colts back on November 15 and once again had little trouble turning back Glencliff as the Tigerettes dominated and came away with a 65-10 victory.

The Tigerettes surged ahead early and by the end of the first quarter led 28-0.

"It was good to get the win and to be able to play a lot of players. We got to cheer on those that don't get much playing time. Just good to get a win and we will need to get better in practice and get better in games for the upcoming district season," Tigerette coach David Steely said.

The Tigerettes were led in scoring by Demiyah Blackman and

Maggie Steely as they both scored 13 points, Jachene Ridley scored 10 points, and Kayla Keiler chipped in eight points.

Michelle Ruiz and Brooklynn Taylor led Glencliff with three points each.

The Tigerettes defense shined brightly as four of the first five possessions resulted in steals and layups for Marshall County as Keiler and Blackman each scored two baskets each from steals from the Lady Colts.

Another bright spot for the Tigerettes was Glencliff attempted no free throws in the game.

Mashawna Ridley buried a three-pointer, Jachene Ridley sank two free throws, Caroline Hollingsworth scored two points, Maggie Steely sank a three-pointer as the Tigerettes scored from all angles to lead 28-0 at the end of the first quarter.

Coming in off the bench for the Tigerettes, Karlie Lohr scored four points, Abby Mathis

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Tribune Photo by Dennis Holley

Montai Vaughn and Jayden Hart position for a rebound against Glencliff on Friday night.

Tigers outlast Glencliff in OT thriller

By Dennis Holley
Sports Writer

LEWISBURG — The Marshall County Tigers (3-2) welcomed the Glencliff Colts for the nightcap, non-district matchup on Friday night.

The Colts defeated the Tigers 64-61 defeated the Tigers back on November 15 but in the return matchup at Dottie Kelso Memorial Gymnasium, Marshall County turned the tables on the Colts and won by the same score in overtime in front of an enthusiastic home crowd.

The Tigers earned a hard-fought victory on a night when the basketball court at halftime of the boys game was named 'Steely Court' in honor of long time Marshall County assistant coach Don Steely.

It was an emotional evening for the Steely family as former players and Marshall County alumni paid tribute to the Steelys for their decades long support of the basketball program at Marshall County.

The Tigers and Colts played up tempo, hustling and dramatic free-throw shooting

that usually is apparent in late season tournament action rather than early December, the home team thrilled the Tiger faithful with their never-say-die attitude.

"It is exciting to coach these guys even though I don't have a whole lot of hair left, I like it when guys step up and guys come off the bench to make shots. We wanted to push the action, attack the rim and Jabari Howard did, as well as Jamahl (Gentry) and Jayden (Hart) both stepping up," Marshall County coach Lavon King said.

The Tigers were led in scoring by Jamahl Gentry and Jayden Hart with 21 points each.

Howard also chipped in eight points.

Glencliff was led by D'Azjon Dowell with 15 points.

The Tigers gained the tip-off but missed on successive shots at the basket before Glencliff found a rebound and Terron Stricklin buried a three-pointer and after another Tigers misfire, Dowell scored on a 12-foot jumper to push the Colt lead to 5-0.

The Tigers responded with Jayden Hart scor-

ing back-back offensive rebound baskets to make the score 5-4.

Dowell drew a foul on a drive to the basket and made both free throws to push the Colts lead to 7-4.

The Tigers fought back with Hart again making a basket and being fouled in the process but was unable to complete the three-point play and the Colts still led, 7-6.

Dowell was still the man for the Colts as he made one of two free throws and on a put-back, scored a basket to push the Glencliff lead to 10-6.

Gentry then buried a three-pointer from deep in the far corner and on the next trip downcourt, proceeded to sink another three-pointer and the Tigers had their first lead, 12-10.

Thomason sank a free throw so that when the horn sounded, the first quarter ended with MCHS leading 16-15.

With the play by both teams getting heated and whistles for fouls being numerous with less than 90 seconds gone in the second quarter, both teams were in the one-and-one bonus free throw

shooting.

Gentry was feeling the moment and scored nine points in the quarter including another deep three-pointer and a layup that came off high on the backboard to slide gracefully though the net.

After Glencliff's Lazaros Odwar drilled a three-pointer, Hart continued his fine night for the Tigers as he dropped in a basket and a free-throw.

With 2:03 left until halftime the score was knotted at 25-25.

Glencliff's Toby Amosa hit a free throw at the 1:30 mark pushed the Colts into the lead 26-25 but Gentry answered high off the backboard with a layup that brought the Tigers back into the lead, 27-26.

Jayce Harney sank a free-throw for the Tigers with 38.8 seconds until halftime, but Thomason and Hart traded baskets and at the half, the score was tied at 32-32.

The third quarter was more of the same, up-tempo, fast hands, leaping attacks at the rim and contested basketballs by both teams

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Tribune Photo by Dennis Holley

Caroline Hollingsworth goes up for two for the Tigerettes.