

Tigers finish sweep of Lincoln Co.

By Dennis Holley
Sports Writer

LEWISBURG — Steely Court at Dottie Kelso Memorial Gymnasium on Friday night saw Marshall County High School (13-9, 3-2) welcome district foe Lincoln County High School (4-13, 1-4), with the Tigers hoping to sweep the Falcons.

The Tigers had handily dispatched the Falcons back on January 10, but this time the Lincoln County Falcons maintained a slim lead until mid-way of the third quarter when timely shooting by Tigers guards Jamahl Gentry and Jabrai Howard lifted MCHS into the lead and from there the Tigers held on for a 67-56 District 8-AAA win.

Gentry paced the Tiger with 23 points, while Howard added 21 points and Marcus O'Neal chipped in 18.

Maddox Franklin led the Falcons with nine points and Reese Smith added seven.

The Tigers controlled the tip, but a missed field goal and a defensive rebound by Lincoln County sent the ball the other way and Smith on a nice drive down the lane, laid the ball up and Lincoln County led, 2-0.

The Tigers responded with Gentry from the top of the arc sinking a three-pointer to put Marshall County in the lead, 3-2.

The Falcons with Jackson Mullins, off an assist by Jack Massey, scored on a layup and Eli Ogle on a put-back,

before Massey drove the lane and just like that Lincoln County led, 8-3.

Kentorius Morris for the Tigers buried a three-pointer from the right side before Logan Carter sank two free-throws for Lincoln County to extend the Falcon lead, 10-6 at the end of the first quarter.

With Aja Jones in foul trouble, the Tigers struggled stopping the Falcons down low and in front of the basket.

Lincoln County began the second quarter with a four-point run on baskets by Hayden Swinford and Carson Thompson before Gentry for the Tigers answered with a nice drive to score but missed the free-throw making the score 15-8.

Gentry led the Tigers with eight points in the second quarter and O'Neal added four, but Marshall County still saw Lincoln County increasing its lead to seven points, 27-20.

The third quarter saw the Tigers pick up the pace scoring wise as Jabari Howard made his presence known as he smoked the net for 12 points and the Marshall County made a run at the Falcons.

The Tigers closed the lead to 33-31 at the 3:26 mark, then from out front, Gentry banged home a three-pointer to put the Tigers in front for the first time of the night.

Franklin for Lincoln County responded with a basket, but Howard sank a free throw to tie the game at 35.

The Tiger guards then began to roll, com-



Jabrae Howard wins the tip-off against Lincoln County in the Tigers' 11-point win on Friday night.

Tribune Photo by Dennis Holley

binning for 27 points to lead Marshall County to a seven-point lead at the end of the third quarter.

The fourth quarter with O'Neal sinking three baskets on drives to the basket and Gentry sinking five free-

throws and Howard making four the Tigers kept their poise, made their free-throws and when the horn sounded the Tigers had prevailed, 67-56.

"In the third quarter our guards stepped up and turned good de-

fensive play into good offensive play. Good guard play is important when tournament time rolls around in a couple of weeks. We hope to continue that kind of play, you can go a long way with good guard play," coach Lavon King

said.

Lincoln Co. 10 17 13 16 — 56
Marshall Co. 6 14 27 20 — 67

Lincoln Co.: Eli Ogle 13, Maddox Franklin 9, Jack Massey 7, Reese Smith 7, Logan Carter 6, Hayden Swinford 6, Carson Thompson 4, Jackson Mullins 4.
Marshall Co.: Jamahl Gentry 23, Jabrae Howard 21, Marcus O'Neal 18, Kentorius Morris 3, Jayce Harney 2.
3-Point Goals: Marshall Co.:(7): Howard 3, Gentry 2, Morris, O'Neal; Lincoln Co.:(6): Ogle 2, Swinford 2, Franklin 2.
Halftime Score: Lincoln County 27, MCHS 20.

Ranked Lincoln Co. holds off Tigerettes

By Dennis Holley
Sports Writer

LEWISBURG — The Marshall County Tigerettes (12-7, 1-4) Friday night faced the No. 9 ranked Lady Falcons (19-2, 5-0) of Lincoln County High School for a game in District 8-AAA on the floor of 'Steely Court' at Dottie Kelso Memorial Gymnasium.

The Tigerettes lost in Fayetteville to Lincoln County back on January 10 and were looking to return the favor but though the Lincoln County team struggled in shooting the basketball the Lady Falcons got the early lead and managed to keep Marshall County at arm's length for the entire game and came away with a 44-36 victory.

Mashawna Ridley led all scorers with 19 points and Kayla Keiler scored nine points for the Tigerettes.

Alyssa Petty scored 15 points and Abby Bryan added 12 points to lead Lincoln County.

The Lady Falcons controlled the tip, then misfired on their first shot and Maggie Steely grabbed the rebound for Marshall County

Both teams were finding the range difficult before Tigerette Demiyah Blackman broke the ice sinking two free throws.

Lincoln County's Rilee Smith responded by sinking two free throws to knot the game at two.

The teams swapped baskets on back-to-back possessions before Lincoln County's Abby Bryan rained three-pointers and at the 3:10

mark, the Lady Falcons led 10-7.

After a time out, Marshall County's Kerriona Thomason sank two free-throws and Kayla Leiler grabbed an offensive rebound and laid the ball in and the Tigerettes led 11-10.

Lincoln County reclaimed the lead on a basket by Bryan and as time drained down, Bryan struck again scoring on a jumper to make the score 15-11 at the end of the first quarter.

That four-point lead would be maintained by Lincoln County throughout the second quarter even though the ball continued to bounce off the rim for the No. 9 ranked Lady Falcons.

Ridley continued to score sinking two baskets, a three-pointer and a free throw to keep Marshall County close and Petty answered with eight points of her own in the quarter and at halftime the Lady Falcons led 29-24.

The third quarter, with tweaks by both coaches slowing the scoring, the Tigerettes would scratch closer only to see Lincoln County respond and keep the four-point lead.

Ridley continued her hard working night as she scored four of her teams seven points in the third quarter to go along with a Caraline Hollinsworth three-pointer.

Rilee Smith and Molly Brown carried the load for Lincoln County as the Lady Falcons, still with that four-point lead, led 35-31 going into the final quarter.

The fourth quarter saw the action just as



Mashawna Ridley fights for the opening tip-off against Lincoln County.

Tribune Photo by Dennis Holley

contested as the third quarter, but Lincoln County held back the Tigerettes with Ridley for MCHS scoring her

final basket to lead all scorers with nineteen points.

The Tigerettes return home to face Spring Hill

on Friday night.

Lincoln Co. 15 14 6 9 — 44
Marshall Co. 11 13 7 5 — 36

Lincoln Co.: Alyssa Petty 15, Abby Bryan 12, Rilee Smith 8, Mollie Brown 6, Brynna

Stubblefield 2, Anna Kate Cooper 1.
Marshall Co.: Mashawna Ridley 19, Kayla Keiler 9, Demiyah Blackman 3, Carline Hollingsworth 3, Kerrion Thomason 2.
3-Point Goals: Marshall Co. (3): M Ridley 2, Hollingsworth; Lincoln Co. (7) Petty 3, Bryan 3, Smith.
Halftime Score: Lincoln County 29, Marshall Co. 24.