

# Hot start leads Rockets past Vikes

By Rickey Clardy  
Sports Writer

CHAPEL HILL —The Forrest Rockets started the game with 14 unanswered points and withstood a late comeback attempt by the Community Vikings as the Rockets took a 61-51 victory in a District 7-AA basketball game Friday night.

Forrest (3-19, 2-3) used the hot hand of Bray McCown to gain the advantage in the opening quarter. McCown connected on three treys as the Rockets used four three-pointers to take a 14-0 lead with 3:13 left.

Community (1-22, 0-5) responded with the last seven points of the quarter as the Rockets took a 14-7 lead to the second quarter.

The offensive woes continued for the Vikings in the quarter as Community could only manage seven points while the Rockets increased their lead.

Ben Villazon led the way with nine points as six Forrest players netted points. The Rockets scored the final seven points and took a 33-14 lead into halftime.

“We came out strong and Bray McCown had a great night shooting the ball early and took a charge for us,” Coach Shane Chapman of the Rockets said. “Kind of set the tone for us early and our guys were able to hold on to it.”

“We spent the last couple of days putting in an offense to attack the basket inside against their zone and our first eight shots were 3s,” Coach Robbie Davis of the Vikings said. “This was not the game plan.”

“Mentally, we froze and completely didn’t execute what was asked of them,” Davis added.

Landon Lovvorn scored six points as the Vikings started



Tribune Photo by Rickey Clardy

Mason Harper drives down the lane and scores for the Rockets. Harper had 13 points in the Forrest victory.

to heat up in the third quarter. Mason Harper scored eight points for Forrest as Community outscored the Rockets 17-14 and cut the Forrest lead to 47-31 heading

to the fourth quarter.

Lovvorn, Cole Crockett, and Jacob Flannagan each scored six points as the Vikings made a move in the quarter.

Community was able to cut the Rocket lead to 10, but the Vikings could not get closer. Davin Porter led Forrest with six points as the Rockets took the district win.

Harper and Porter each scored 13 points to lead three Rockets in double figures. Villazon added 11 points.

Lovvorn netted 15 points to lead three Vikings in double figures. Crockett scored 12 points while Flannagan added 10.

“At half, we went back over everything we talked about all week and outscored them in the second half, but it was too little, too late,” Davis said.

“The kids played hard all night long,” Chapman said. “We had some little dry spells and we started trading buckets back and forth.”

“I was okay with a 15-point lead to trade buckets with them,” Chapman added. “They went into a zone and 24 (Crockett) sparked a comeback.”

“We were able to have enough in the tank to finish,” Chapman added.

Forrest connected on nine treys while the Vikings had three. The Rockets were 6-of-9 at the free throw line while Community was 4-of-4.

“The guys moved the ball well,” Chapman said. “Still too many turnovers, but we can build on that.”

“The mental side of the game is just not happening and we continue to miss shots that are just head scratchers game after game,” Davis said.

“You don’t expect a high school team to miss as many layups and point blank shots as we do,” Davis added. “It’s been like that all season long game after game and that won’t win any games on any level.”

Community	7	7	17	20	—	51
Forrest	14	19	14	14	—	61

Community: Landon Lovvorn 15, Jacob Flannagan 10, Ramone Hernandez 7, Jason Cullum 4, Moe Berman, Cole Crockett 12, Corey Paterick 3, Noah Watson, Emery Smith, Austin Stickler, Jaxon Williams.  
Forrest: Mason Harper 13, Davin Porter 13, Bray McCown 9, Jimmy Bond 6, Ryan Meglis, Ben Villazon 11, Josh Rumley 6, Eli Bell 3.  
3-Point goals: Community (3): Lovvorn, Hernandez, Paterick; Forrest (9): Harper 3, McCown 3, Porter 2, Villazon.  
Halftime score: Forrest 33, Community 14.

# Tigerette miscues lead to Spring Hill win



Mashawna Ridley drives through the Spring Hill defense and collects a foul in the process.

By Chris Siers  
sports@t-g.com

LEWISBURG — Marshall County (12-10, 1-7) built a nine-point lead by halftime against visiting Spring Hill on Friday night, but little by little, the Lady Raiders were able to whittle away the Tigerette lead and in the closing minutes, stole the lead and escaped Lewisburg with a key District 8-AAA win on Friday night.

Spring Hill closed the game on a 17-10 run and dealt the Tigerettes a 44-41 loss.

A nine-point lead was cut to four points after

three quarters, setting the stage for a dramatic finish in the fourth.

Spring Hill’s Mariya Ramsey hit a layup with 4:24 left to give Spring Hill a 38-37 lead.

Over the following three minutes, the lead changed three more times until Mashawna Ridley drove to the rim and finished with a layup, putting the Tigerettes on top, 41-40, with 1:24 left.

After a foul on Keriona Thomison sent Spring Hill to the line, it was Meme Goodman who hit the front end of a one-and-one attempt to tie the game at 41

with 37 seconds left.

On the following possession, the Tigerettes committed a back court violation, giving the ball to Spring Hill with 27 seconds left in regulation.

Unable to foul, it was J.C. Brashear who hit a layup with 18 seconds left to make it a 43-41 lead for the visitors.

Eventually, Spring Hill drew a foul with one second left and again, Ramsey delivered on the front end of a pair of free throw attempts to make it a three-point game, which secured the win for the Lady Raiders.



Tribune Photos by Chris Siers

Demiyah Blackman pulls up for a mid-range jumper. She scored eight points for the Tigerettes on Friday night.

While Marshall County held the lead through the majority of regulation, Spring Hill made its run when switching to a full court, 2-1-2 defense that forced several Tigerette turnover and allowed the Lady Raiders to make their run.

Brashear led all scorers with 17 points, while Ridley chipped in 16 to lead the Tigerettes.

Marshall County closes out the regular season this week, beginning with a game at Lawrence County on Tuesday night and the regular season finale

on Thursday at home against Page.

Spring Hill	8	7	12	17	—	44
Marshall Co.	12	12	7	10	—	41

Spring Hill: J.C. Brashear 17, Meme Goodman 12, Mariya Ramsey 5, Belle Brashear 4, Penelope Phillips 4, Alli Davis 3, Greer Herring.  
Marshall Co.: Mashawna Ridley 16, Kayla Keiler 11, Demiyah Blackman 8, Maggie Steely 6.  
3-Point goals: Marshall Co. (2): Ridley, Steely.  
Halftime score: Marshall Co. 24, Spring Hill 15.