

Rockets roughed up in district semis

By **Kacy Kincaid**
Sports Writer

CHAPEL HILL — It was a tough night for the Forrest Rockets in Saturday's District 7-AA matchup with the Grundy County Yellow Jackets, with the Yellow Jackets getting the 51-25 win.

The battle was behind the arc in the first half, Grundy County knocking down five three-pointers, but the Rockets had an answer for each one, netting five of their own.

At the half, the Yellow Jackets led the Rockets 28-17.

Frame three didn't yield much on the offensive end from either squad, with Grundy County's Sam Parson breaking the drought three minutes into the third and Brendan Marsh adding two treys. Senior Ryan Meglis was fouled and sent to the free throw line in the fourth, ending the Rocket drought, with Jayden Russell and Josh Doud chipping in with a basket apiece.

But the effort just couldn't compete with Parson and the Grundy County offense beyond the perimeter, the Yellow Jackets netting another five three-pointers in the second half. Parson led all scorers with 15 points.

Grundy Co. 51 17 11 8 15 — 51
Forrest 25 12 5 0 8 — 25

Grundy Co.: Sam Parson 15, Isaac Campbell 12, Brendan Marsh 10, Dylan Sanders 4, Jarod Huntley 2, Brady Everett 2, Reece Strong 2, Logan Harmon 2
Forrest: Bray McCown 6, Mason Harper 3, Jimmy Bond 3, Josh Rumley 3, Josh Doud 3, Jayden Russell 2, Ryan Meglis 2, Davin Porter 2, Kelley Toombs 1
3-Point goals: Grundy Co. (10): Campbell 3, Marsh 3, Parson 3, Sanders 3
Forrest (5): McCown 2, Harper, Bond, Rumley.
Halftime score: Grundy Co. 28, Forrest 17.



Tribune Photo by Kacy Kincaid
Mason Harper goes in for the layup for the Rockets.



Tribune Photo by Kacy Kincaid
Senior Carli Warner drives to the hoop for the Lady Rockets. Warner ended with six points.

Stellar 2nd half sends Lady Rockets to 7-AA finals

By **Kacy Kincaid**
Sports Writer

CHAPEL HILL — It was a slow start for both teams in the district 7-AA matchup between the Forrest Lady Rockets and Cascade Lady Champions Friday night.

Even with that slow start, a second-half out-pouring was more than enough for Forrest to knock off the Lady Champs and secure a slot in the district championship against Community with the 47-28 win.

It was all Macyn Kirby in the first quarter for the Lady Rockets, but it wasn't enough to take the lead as Cascade led 9-6 heading into the second frame. Cascade's Suzanna Crews netted a three

within moments of hitting the floor in the second, cushioning the Champion lead.

Though a stagnant few minutes, Forrest picked up momentum, Megan Mealer knocking down a three-point goal, Kaylin Pope and Kirby tacking on a goal each to tie it up at 13 at the half.

"The first half was very stagnant," said Forrest coach Hal Murrell. "I have to give them (Cascade) credit, they mixed up their defense. We were playing to not lose instead of to win. It affected our flow big time."

The Lady Rockets' momentum continued with Mealer coming straight out of the gate with a three ball to start the second half. Kirby kept the fire go-

ing with three, three-pointers in the third, picking up nine of her 19 points on the evening.

And with the help of seniors Carli Warner and Samantha Hopkins, Forrest held the biggest lead of the night at 12 heading into the final frame.

"We knew coming in they were going to start taking away the 'knowns,' and the 'knowns' are obviously Macyn Kirby and Kin-slee Inlow," said Murrell. "So, these other girls had to step up and realize that they're going to have to contribute. And there's other ways to contribute other than scoring points. It was a big team effort."

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Vikings hold off Rockets' 2nd half rally in 7-AA consolation

By **Chris Siers**
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CHAPEL HILL — After trailing by double figures in Tuesday night's District 7-AA consolation game, the Forrest Rockets rallied to force a tie on three separate occasions in the second half against No. 4 seed Community, but just couldn't get over the home and finish the comeback as the Vikings held on for a 48-42 win over Forrest.

The first half played well into Vikings' hands by controlling the glass and hitting timely shots. But after trailing by 11 at the half, Forrest caught fire and let it fly from the perimeter in the third quarter on a torrid, 17-6 run.

In the massive third, the Rockets cashed in on five treys, including four-straight at one point, and highlighted by a Davin Porter trey as time expired to knot the game at 32 for the second tie of the half.

Community went on to maintain a three-point lead through the first four minutes of the fourth until Jimmy Bond swished a three-pointer to tie the game at 40 apiece with 2:20 left. But Community responded on a 8-0 run to take a 48-40 lead.

Ryan Meglis scored the final basket of the game with 23 seconds left, but Forrest was unable to get over the hump and mount another run at the Vikings' lead. Forrest had a chance to make it a one possession game with 10 seconds left, but the attempt caught the iron and Forrest's Maki Fleming, who was play-



Tribune Photos by Chris Siers
Rocket coach Shane Chapman huddles up with his team prior to the start of the second half against Community in the District 7-AA consolation

ing in just his second game of the year, caught the rebound to effectively end the game.

Forrest connected on seven three-pointers in the game, highlighted by three from McCown, who led all scorers with 13 points.

Bray McCown added 10 as well. Fleming, along with Landon Lovvorn, led the Vikings with 11 apiece.

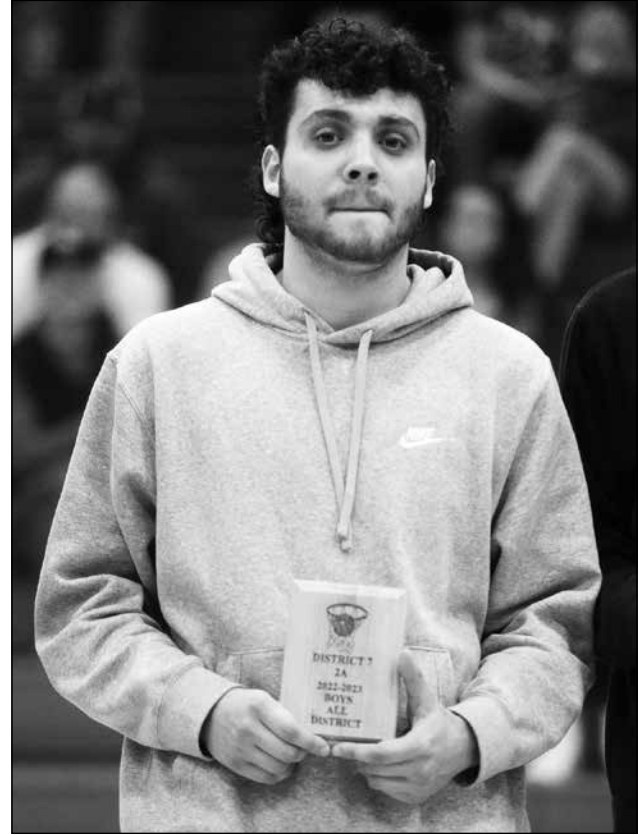
Even with the loss, Forrest still advances to the region quarter-finals, but has a tall order to fill against No. 1 Class 2A team East Nashville on Saturday night.

Community 48 11 15 6 16 — 48
Forrest 42 5 10 17 10 — 42

Community: Landon Lovvorn 11, Maki Fleming 11, Cole Crockett 10, Ramone Hernandez 7, Jacob Flanagan 6, Jason Cullen 3.
Forrest: Ryan Meglis 13, Bray McCown 10, Davin Porter 9, Jimmy Bond 6, Mason Harper 4.
3-Point goals: Community (4): Lovvorn 3, Fleming; Forrest (7): McCown 3, Porter 2, Bond 2.
Halftime score: Community 26, Forrest 15.



For his efforts in the District 7-AA tournament, Bray McCown was named to the All-Tournament team.



For his efforts this season, Davin Porter was named to the All-District team.