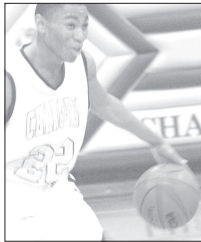


Chargers play well against JRD top teams


By Brian Nowlin

The Central Chargers' basketball team came into last week hoping to get on a roll in order to close out the season on a strong note. With a roster that doesn't include any seniors a strong finish to the year will give the group confidence heading into next season. This week, Central would take on two of the top teams in the district and play well in despite not getting the final outcome they hoped for.

The Chargers took on Amelia first and the Raiders returned almost the entire team from last season. The squad is first in the district and their experience is a big reason for that. Central would play well early on as they trailed by



Brandy Seward gets ready to use his killer crossover in action last week against Buckingham.

Photo by Shannon Brown

just three points at the end of the first quarter. In the second quarter, Central also played well but went to halftime with the score reading 33-26 in favor of the Raiders.

In the third quarter, Central would continue to battle and keep the score close, but finally; the depth and experience of Amelia would take over in the final period as the Raiders got a 78-50 win.

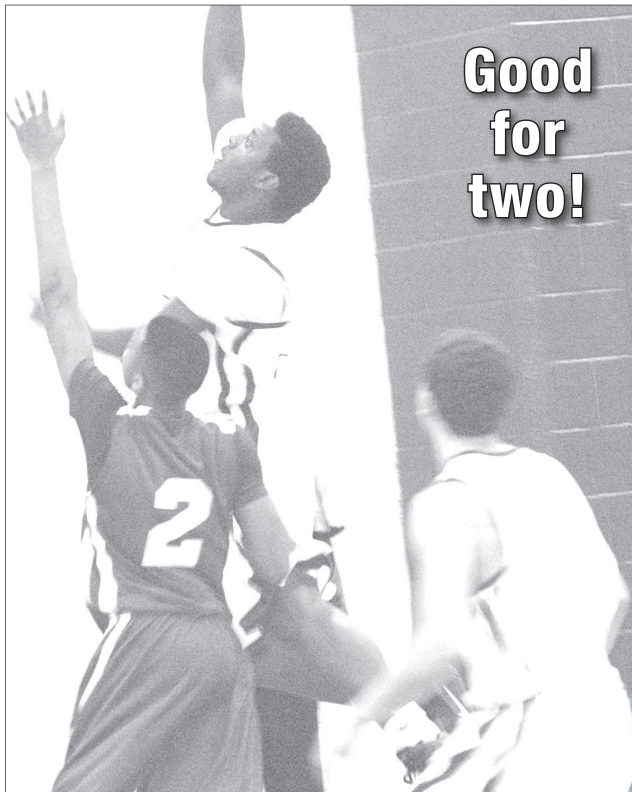
DJ Haywood was the Chargers leading scorer with 14 points. Jaron Webb had a strong game with 10 points and 9 rebounds, while Brandy Seward and Joe Taylor added 9 points each to the score. Cody Forward had 5 points and 6 rebounds, while Dontavious Logan rounded out the scoring with 3 points.

The Chargers would then take on another JRD that is at the top of the district and features a senior filled roster in the Buckingham Knights. Central would struggle early on the offensive end, but got things turned around and played Buckingham even in the second quarter. The teams would head to the half with the Knights leading 33-25.

In the third quarter Central would again play even with the visiting team and go into the final quarter with a chance for an upset. The Chargers would outscore Buckingham 18-15 in the final period, but couldn't close the entire gap and fell by a 64-58 score.

Cody Forward led the Chargers with a double double when he scored 12 points and added 10 rebounds. Brandy Seward added 14 points and 5 assist to the CHS effort, while DJ Haywood also scored in double figures with 12 points. Joe Taylor scored 10 points on the night; Jaron Webb added 8 and Tre Reavis scored 2.

Good for two!



Jaron Webb goes strong to the basket during varsity basketball action at Central High School last week.

Photo by Shannon Brown

WEEKLY SCHEDULE

CHS Girls Basketball			
Feb 3	Nottoway	Home	6:00
Feb 10	Randolph Henry	Home	6:00
CHS Boys Basketball			
Feb 3	Nottoway	Away	6:00
Feb 10	Randolph Henry	Away	6:00

Lady Chargers suffer pair of tough losses

By Brian Nowlin

The Lady Chargers continue their march toward a playoff spot as the end of the season draws near. The team opened up the week with a game against Amelia who are currently undefeated in district play.

The Lady Raiders who returned their entire squad from a year ago and the experience showed as they started playing a strong first quarter and used swarming defense to cause several Lady Charger turnovers. This Amelia press helped them jump out to an early lead as the Lady Chargers fell behind 24-7 after the first quarter.

The Lady Chargers would settle down in the second quarter, but they could only cut into the Lady Raiders lead by one point. The second half saw both teams play pretty evenly as the Lady Raiders would only outscore the Lady Chargers by four, but Central couldn't overcome the early deficit and fell by a 59-39 score.

Amirah Smith would be the leading scorer for the Lady Chargers as she accounted for 19 of the 39 points for the night. Tatyana Chavous would be the team leader

in rebounding with 12.

The Lady Chargers headed to Buckingham on Friday night looking for the season sweep of the Lady Knights. Midway through the first quarter, senior leader MarJuReka White Jennings went down with an injury, which kept her out for the remainder of the game. In addition, another player who plays the same position as White Jennings was unable to play (non injury related), which left the Lady Chargers with only three forwards to play the entire game.

Amirah Smith who is another CHS inside leader got into foul trouble with some questionable calls in the first half leaving the Lady Chargers scrambling and relying on 1 freshman and 3 sophomores on the court together for the majority of the second quarter. The younger players did a good job keeping the score close in the first half as the Lady Raiders trailed by five at the half.

The Lady Chargers would cut the lead to one going into the final quarter, but they could not pull the victory as they fell 39-35. Sha Diquah Williams had 11 points and Tatyana Chavous had 12 rebounds.

Kavaliers top Brunswick for second time

The Kenston Forest Boys Basketball team completed a season sweep of archrival Brunswick Academy last Friday night. The Kavs fell behind at halftime but rallied to outscore the Vikings by 42 to 32 in the second half and defeated Brunswick 62-57. Dante Favale led a well balanced scoring attack that saw four Kavs in double figures: Dante Favale, 15; Tom Jones, 12; Tyler Kirby, 11; Jared Thomas, 10. Tom Jones completed a double-double by pulling down 18 rebounds as well.

In the week's earlier game, the Kavaliers were defeated by

Amelia although they played a better game than in the first contest between the two squads. The Patriots ran off to an early lead but the Kavs closed the gap in the second and third quarters making for an interesting competitive game. The final score was 66-42 in favor of Amelia. Dante Favale scored 15 to lead the Kavs. Tom Jones had another big rebounding game pulling down 20 boards against the much taller Patriots. Jones is now averaging a double-double for the season. The Kavaliers stand at 4-7 in the VCC and 6-8 overall.

Scrappy JV girls lose two close contests

By Brian Nowlin

The JV Lady Chargers basketball squad would take on a pair of James River District opponents last week as the regular season is quickly coming to a close. The young squad continues to work and play hard each week and has already pulled out several big wins this year. Unfortunately for the Chargers, they wouldn't be able to add to that win total last week, but still played tough.

Against Amelia, Central would play a terrific first half as they went toe-to-toe with the strong Raiders squad and only trailed by a 28-25 score as the teams went to halftime. In the third quarter, both teams would continue to play well as Amelia would move a little further ahead.

In the final quarter of play, Central would run out of gas as the deep Amelia team was able to pull out a 41-30 win, but the Lady Chargers played well and made their opponent work for the win.

Jameka Bragg was the leading scorer with 15 points, while Jasmine Knight also had a big game with 7 points and 15 rebounds. Other scorers for Central were Danyelle Hughes with 4 points, Tylesha Thomas with 2 points and Hailey Archer who had 2 points and 9 rebounds.

Central then took on Buckingham and again played well early on. The Chargers would go to halftime trailing by just 2 points as the score read 14-12. In the third quarter, Central continued to play strong defense, but their offense fell into a slump and Buckingham increased their lead to 9 points as the squads entered the final quarter.

In the fourth period, Central would play the Knights evenly, but couldn't close the margin and fell by a 25-16 score.

Leading scorers for Central were Jasmine Knight with 5 points and 6 rebounds and Jameka Bragg with 5 points. Stephanie Jennings had 2 points and 7 steals; Tylesha Thomas had 2 points and 4 assists, while Qwshawnda Banks added 2 points.

JV boys continue to battle in district games

By Brian Nowlin

The Central Chargers JV boys' basketball team would take on two more strong James River District teams last week when they faced off against Amelia and Buckingham. The Chargers squad continues to play extremely hard this year as the young group learns and grows, while looking to improve each week.

The team would take on Amelia to start the week and got off to a slow offensive start in the game. With shots not falling for Central, the Chargers defense continued to work hard, but Amelia would be able to take a 28-13 lead into the half.

In the second half, Central would continue to work hard, but just couldn't get the points on the offensive end of the floor that they need to stay with Amelia. The Chargers battled hard to the end, but eventually fell by a 58-20 margin. Dajour Smith led the team with 7 points while, Eli Parrish and Tucker Price each had 4. Tyler Harding added 3 points and Tyrell Atkins added 2 to round out the scoring for Central.

The Chargers would then take on Buckingham and this time Central jumped out of the gate quickly behind the offense of Dontavious Logan and Isaiah Webb. Central would be leading 10-9 at the end of the first quarter, but Buckingham

got hot on the offensive end and took a 27-17 lead into halftime.

In the second half, Central would start off cold in the third quarter as Buckingham built on their lead, but the Chargers never quit and actually outscored the Knights 16-11 in the final period. Despite the run at the end, Colin Dalton would score 8 points for the Chargers and Micquan Bland rounded out the scoring with 2 points.

Dontavious Logan led the team with 13 points, while Isaiah Webb had a big game with 11 points for Central. Colin Dalton would score 8 points for the Chargers and Micquan Bland rounded out the scoring with 2 points.

JV Kavs take two wins

The Kenston Forest boys' junior varsity basketball team completed a successful week by defeating both Amelia Academy and Brunswick Academy. The JV Kavs began the task with a relatively easy win over Amelia. The Kavs trailed throughout the first half but rallied to outscore Amelia 29-9 in the second half. The final score stood: KFS, 49; Amelia, 32. Bryce Bishop totaled 15 points and led the Kavaliers. Fred Vanlandingham added 13 while Josh Loftus snagged 10 rebounds.

On Friday, the Kavs led throughout the contest; the score stood at 39-23 at the end of the third quarter. The Kenston JV however led BA score 23 points in the final stanza to close the final margin to 50-46. Bryce Bishop again led the Kavs with 18 points. Akseem Lee-Meyers and Fred Vanlandingham both contributed 8 points and George Short and Josh Loftus each added 6 points. The Junior Varsity team now stands at 5-6 in the VCC and 6-8 overall. The JV Kavs play three tough games this coming week versus Southside Baptist, Steward, and Southampton.

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