

Red Tornadoes, Eagles Advance To Regional Finals

Written by Staff Reports
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The Hickory High men's basketball team marched its way to the Class 3A Western Regional championship game Friday night by blowing out Freedom 81-63 at the Greensboro Coliseum Special Events Center. A 24-5, second-quarter run gave the

Red Tornadoes (24-5) a commanding 15-point lead and they coasted home from there. The Red Tornadoes take on Concord in the Western finals Saturday night. Concord advanced by knocking off North Forsyth, 64-55.

Raheim Connelly led the Red Tornadoes with a game-high 19 points; Zach Jarrett had 14. The Red Tornadoes were Western finalists last year, losing to eventual state champion, Hunter Huss.

The Wilkes Central women's team advanced to the Class 2A Western finals Friday night as the Eagles defeated East Burke 48-45 on Kristen Shoemaker's three pointer with nine seconds left in the game. The Eagles (29-1) will be making their first regional appearance in school history. They will play Bandys in the Western finals. Bandys advanced by knocking off North Surry 60-49 Friday night at UNCG.

Ironically, the Eagles are making their second trip overall to the regional finals. Wilkes Central coach Scott Waugh led the Eagles to the Western finals his senior year in 1984. The Eagles were coached by Tommy Johnson that season. The Cavaliers (20-10) wiped out a 43-36 deficit with 5:26 to play and tied the game at 45 setting the stage for Shoemaker's game-winning shot.