

Red Tornadoes, Eagles Advance To State Finals

Written by Staff Reports

Sunday, 04 March 2012 09:12

The Hickory High men's basketball team moved a step closer to the Class 3A state championship on Saturday as the Red Tornadoes (25-5) defeated Concord 81-75 in overtime at the Greensboro Coliseum Special Events Center. It's Hickory's first trip to

the state finals since 1997.

The Red Tornadoes, riding an 11-game winning streak, will take on Rocky Mount in the Class 3A championship game at the Dean Smith Center in Chapel Hill next Saturday night at 7:30 p.m. Zach Jarrett led three players in double figures with 16 points; Jordan Walls-Davis had 13 points. The Red Tornadoes scored the first six points in the first overtime period to pull away. They outscored Concord 8-2 in the overtime session. The game ended in a 73-73 tie at the end of regulation time.

The Red Tornadoes out rebounded Concord 43-32, including 10-3 in overtime.

The Wilkes Central women's basketball team is in the state finals for the first time ever. The Eagles (30-1) marched their way to the Class 2A state title game by knocking off Bandys 48-35 in Greensboro on Saturday. The Eagles will take on undefeated Jordan-Matthews (30-0) in the finals next Saturday at the Smith Center in Chapel Hill at 12 noon.

The Eagles wiped out a 13-point halftime deficit. They held Bandys to 13 points in the second half. The Trojans shot a woeful 15% in the second half. Martha Mastin, who led the Eagles with 17 points and 15 rebounds, was named the Most Valuable Player. The Eagles closed things out by scoring the last 16 points of the game on free throws. Haley Williams and Paige Love each scored 12 points apiece for the Eagles.

The Hickory High women's basketball team lost in the Class 3A Western Finals on Saturday. The Red Tornadoes were victimized by Harding University High 78-46 in the championship game Saturday in Greensboro. Harding University High owned a 19-point halftime lead. The loss also snapped Hickory's (29-2) 20-game winning streak.

Danasia Witherspoon did not play for the Red Tornadoes on Saturday after she suffered a knee injury during the second quarter of last Tuesday's semifinal win against R-S Central. Jazmin Hannah, who suffered an ankle injury in the fourth quarter of that game, led Hickory with 18 points in the loss.