

Hickory, Freedom Clinch Conference Titles

Written by Staff Reports

Thursday, 06 February 2014 13:01

The Hickory High girl's basketball team, and the Freedom boys clinched a tie for the Northwestern 3A/4A Conference regular-season championship in their

respective divisions Wednesday night in Morganton.

The Hickory girls (17-0 overall; 11-0 NW3A/4A Conference) remained undefeated by knocking off Freedom 62-46 Wednesday night. Danasia Witherspoon led the Red Tornadoes with 27 points and 14 rebounds; Yazmen Hannah poured in 20 points, 13 of those in the fourth quarter.

The Red Tornadoes can win the title outright by knocking off Fred T. Foard at home Friday night.

In the boy's game, Freedom clinched a tie for the conference title by knocked off Hickory, 61-49. That loss also broke Hickory's (9-9; 8-3) eight-game winning streak.

Khris Gardin led the Patriots (19-1; 10-1) with a game-high 25 points.

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Hickory led for most of the game, holding a four-point lead at the end of the first quarter and a four-point edge after three quarters.

In the fourth quarter, Freedom turned up the pressure on both ends of the court and outscored Hickory 19-3. The Patriots held the Red Tornadoes to 1-of-10 from the floor and forced six turnovers while converting them into nine points.

A 12-0 run by the Patriots put them on top to stay.