The Freedom High boy's basketball team is off to a roaring start. The Patriots (8-0) have won eight straight to start the season.

They continued their winning ways Thursday night in the opening round of the Freedom Christmas Tournament. The Patriots blasted Asheville-Roberson 90-44 in their first-round game.

Chris Bridges and Austin Butler led four players in double figures with 16 points apeice. The Patriots led 26-11 at the end of the first quarter, and they put the contest away as they built a 47-22 halftime lead.

Gabe Logan and Jeron Hemphill of the Patriots added 15 and 14 points, respectively; Chase Rucker led the Rams with 12 points in the loss.

The FHS girls (5-3) bounced back from Monday's tough loss against East Burke by blasting Forestview 73-35 in their first-round game Thursday night.

AkiQula Mills led three players in double figures with 18 points. The Partiots led 18-3 after one, 35-18 at the break.

Anayana Williams of the Patriots had 15 points; Tamia Gidney had 14 points.

THURSDAY'S RESULTS:

GIRLS:

FREEDOM 73, FORESTVIEW 35

CREST 67, ASHEVILLE-ROBERSON 49

ASHEVILLE CHRISTIAN 66, R-S CENTRAL 44

McDOWELL 77, EAST BURKE 75, 2 OT

BOYS:

FREEDOM 90, ASHEVILLE-ROBERSON 44

WEST MECKLENBURG 62, R-S CENTRAL 39

FORESTVIEW 73, McDOWELL 67

WEST CALDWELL 48, EAST BURKE 36