

By Misty Green

The local junior high basketball teams from Macon County and Red Boiling Springs participated in the 2011 Cumberland Rim Conference (CRC) Tournament held recently at Clay County High School.

In previous CRC Action... The #6 seeded Red Boiling Springs Junior High Lady Bulldogs were eliminated in the first round of the event, with a 41-36 defeat from #3 seeded Jim Satterfield Middle School.

The #5 seeded Macon County Junior High School Tigers were also eliminated during the first round of tournament play, with a 41-36 defeat by #4 seeded Jackson County.

The #2 seeded Red Boiling Springs Junior High Bulldogs played #3 seeded Westmoreland, and was defeated by a score of 42-26. From this game, the Bulldogs were routed to play against Jackson County for a third place standing in the tournament. Westmoreland advanced to the Championship round against #4 seeded Jackson County.

The #1 seeded Macon County Junior High School Tigerettes played #4 seeded Jackson County in the semi-final round of the tournament, and won by a score of 43-24, advancing them to the Championship game against #2 seeded Westmoreland.

RBS' Third Place Action... The Red Boiling Springs Junior High School Bulldogs challenged Jackson County for the third and fourth place spots of the CRC Tournament, with the winner of this game being decided in the final moments of the contest. Jackson County quickly added four points to open the game, however a field goal and a

three-point basket by Bulldog Alex Mullinix put Red Boiling Springs on top. A lay-up by Dallas Greanead and a field goal by Zane Roberts pushed RBS to a 9-4 lead. Jackson County then completed one free-throw shot to trail by four points. Just before the first quarter buzzer sounded, Alex Mullinix was able to put up two more points, giving the Bulldogs a 11-5 advantage.

RBS continued to dominate the Blue Devils in the second period, leading 21-9 at the halftime break. These RBS points were achieved on five points from Skyler Holden and five points from Nick Deckard.

Jackson County kept trying to recover in the second half of the game, and was able to trail the Bulldogs 32-24 with 2:22 left in the game. The Blue Devils then achieved a five-point play with a three-pointer and two free-throws to shadow the Bulldogs 32-29. Blue Devil Connor Hall picked up his fifth personal foul with 1:25 left in the game, with Skyler Holden being able to add one point to RBS' lead.

Greanead then made his fourth foul, and Jackson County, completing one point, inched upward, 33-30. With 0.41 left on the game clock, the Blue Devils achieved the last field goal of the game to trail RBS 33-32. Bulldog Zane Roberts was fouled with 0.28, making one of two free-throws attempted. Jackson County then missed their next two-point shot, however they kept possession of the ball with 14.2 on the game clock. Aiming the ball at the basket, Bulldog Dallas Greanead blocked the shot to help secure the victory for RBS.

As the clock continued on the next inbound pass, Bulldog Zane Roberts was fouled, sending him to the line to add one more in the game. Red Boiling Springs achieved the CRC third place spot with a 35-32 victory over Jackson County.

Alex Mullinix led RBS to victory with ten points, followed by Zane Roberts with eight points, Skyler Holden with seven points, Nick Deckard with six points, and Dallas Greanead with four points.

The RBS Jr. High Bulldogs improved their season record to 17-4, and will now participate in the TNT Tournament in Springfield, TN on February 5, 2011. The Blue Devils fell to 6-14 for the season.

CRC Girls Championship Action... The Macon County Junior High School Tigerettes entertained Westmoreland for the championship round of the CRC Tournament and achieved their goal by defeating the Lady Eagles 33-9 after four quarters of play.

Westmoreland acquired the first field goal of the game by Abby Hinton, however the next 19 points belonged to Macon County.

The Lady Eagles were held to a low-four points in the second quarter, with two baskets by Westmoreland's Cook and Gregory. The Lady Eagles achieved one free throw in the third quarter, and two points in the fourth period to finish out the game and dropping their season record to 10-4.

Macon County improved to 15-0 with the championship win, having five players to acquire points during the game, by Leah Anderson, Briley Driver, Emilee Harris, Reese Shrum, and Lyndsey Belton.

The Tigerettes also plan to compete in the TNT Tournament in Springfield, beginning on Saturday, February 5, 2011.