

# sports

## BRIEFS

### Gaffney jayvees improve to 6-1

Wai Ip scored 19 points to lead the Gaffney junior varsity basketball team to an 81-50 win over Byrnes on Friday.

Gaffney improves to 6-1 with the win.

### Limestone wrestlers win tournament

The No. 15-ranked Limestone wrestling team placed first at the 18-team Ohio Northern Tournament on Saturday.

Dan Scanlan (184 lbs.), Casey Bradley (165 lbs.) and David Bush (197 lbs.) placed first in their respective classes.

### Lady Saints top North Greenville

Lindsay Kyle had 17 points and Ariel Lyons had 11 points and 12 assists to help the Limestone women's basketball team beat North Greenville, 63-56.

### Coleman scores 24 in Saints' win

Andre Coleman scored 24 points to help Limestone down visiting Newberry, 77-64, on Saturday. Kenny White added 13 points and Tyron Evans added 10 for the Saints, who improve to 2-3.

### Pettitte admits using GHG

Andy Pettitte used human growth hormone to recover from an elbow injury in 2002, the New York Yankees pitcher admitted two days after he was cited in the Mitchell Report.

Pettitte said he tried GHG on two occasions, stressing he did it to heal faster and not enhance his performance. He emphasized he never used steroids.

"If what I did was an error in judgment on my part, I apologize," Pettitte said Saturday in a statement released by his agent. "I accept responsibility for those two days."

On Thursday, Pettitte was among 85 players named by former Senate Majority Leader George Mitchell's investigation into steroids and performance-enhancing drugs. Pettitte had not commented publicly on the allegations.

Pettitte asked the trainer he shared with Roger Clemens, Brian McNamee, to help him with GHG while on the disabled list early in the season, the report said. McNamee recalled injecting Pettitte two to four times, Mitchell said.

"In 2002 I was injured. I had heard that human growth hormone could promote faster healing for my elbow," Pettitte said in the statement released to The Associated Press by agent Randy Hendricks.

### Michigan hires WVU's Rodriguez

Michigan hired Rich Rodriguez away from his alma mater after failing to bring back one of its own.

A man with ties to both the Wolverines and West Virginia might've helped.

College football's winningest program ended its coaching search Sunday, nearly a month after it started, by announcing Rodriguez would succeed retiring Lloyd Carr.

Rodriguez was scheduled to be introduced as the Wolverines' coach at a news conference Monday morning.

"I am thrilled to have Rich Rodriguez as Michigan's new coach," athletic director Bill Martin wrote in an e-mail to The Associated Press. "Rich brings an exciting brand of football to Michigan Stadium. We welcome the entire Rodriguez family to Ann Arbor."

Former West Virginia coach Don Nehlen, who coached Rodriguez when he played for the Mountaineers and was on Bo Schembechler's staff at Michigan, endorsed the move.

"I felt it was a great opportunity for Rich," Nehlen told the AP in a telephone interview from Morgantown, W.Va. "There are not many Michigans around."

## Shippy aids in S.C. win

By JOE L. HUGHES II  
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A touchdown midway through the fourth quarter by Blue Ridge's Julius Booker helped South Carolina put an end to a two-game losing streak in the Shrine Bowl Saturday as the Sandlappers edged North Carolina 31-24 at a wet, soggy Gibbs Stadium in Spartanburg.

Gaffney linebacker J.B. Shippy was a catalyst in the Sandlapper victory, making several tackles and wreaking havoc in the Tar Heel backfield.

"I just wanted to do anything possible to help this team win," Shippy said. "We wanted to win and have fun and we accomplished both of those goals."

After the Tar Heels scored to take a 14-10 lead early in the third quarter, two quick touchdown strikes by South Carolina quarterbacks Richard Mounce and Reid McCollum helped the Sandlappers gain a lead they would not relinquish.

Mounce, the Blythewood signal caller who earlier in the week was named as the

Palmetto State's "Mr. Football" for 2007, also earned Offensive MVP honors after completing 9 of 18 passes for 249 yards and a touchdown.

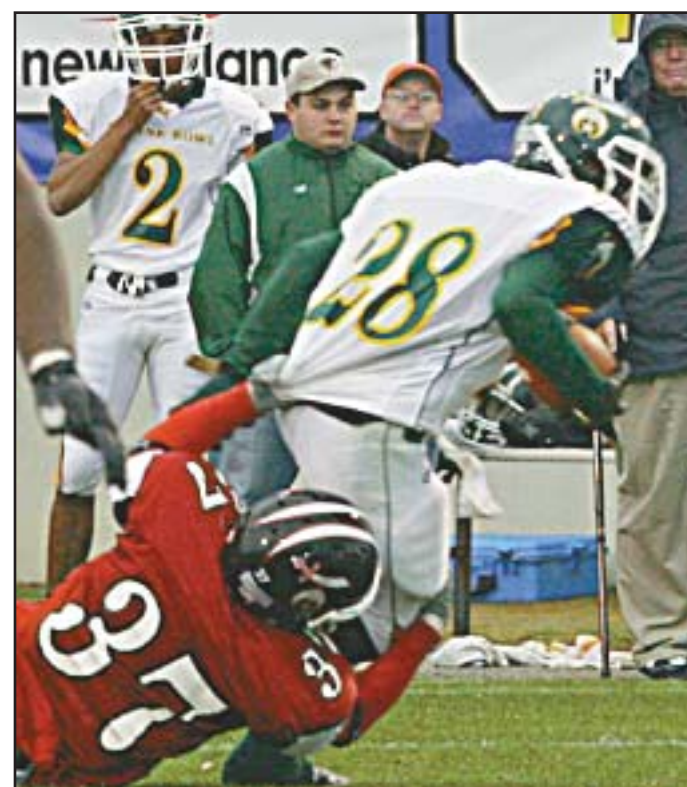
"It's been great. It's been a great two weeks, getting those awards," Mounce said. "I had a lot of fun up here. The coaches are great. The players are great, and it was a great game. I don't think we could have had a better group of receivers out there. I had fun working with them."

Also making an impact was Summerville's A.J. Green, who had four receptions going for 108 yards.

The Georgia commitment's 17-yard acrobatic touchdown grab in the third period dazzled many of the close to 10,000 people at the game, including Sandlapper coach Reggie Kennedy.

"We knew A.J. was a big play type of player and we wanted to do things to get him the ball," Kennedy said.

The offense was helped by a strong performance by the South Carolina defense, which held the North Carolina offense to 280 yards of total offense and forced five turnovers.



Gaffney's J.B. Shippy hauls down a North Carolina runner during Saturday's Shrine Bowl in Spartanburg. The Sandlappers went on to win the game, 31-24.

# Gaffney stays unbeaten

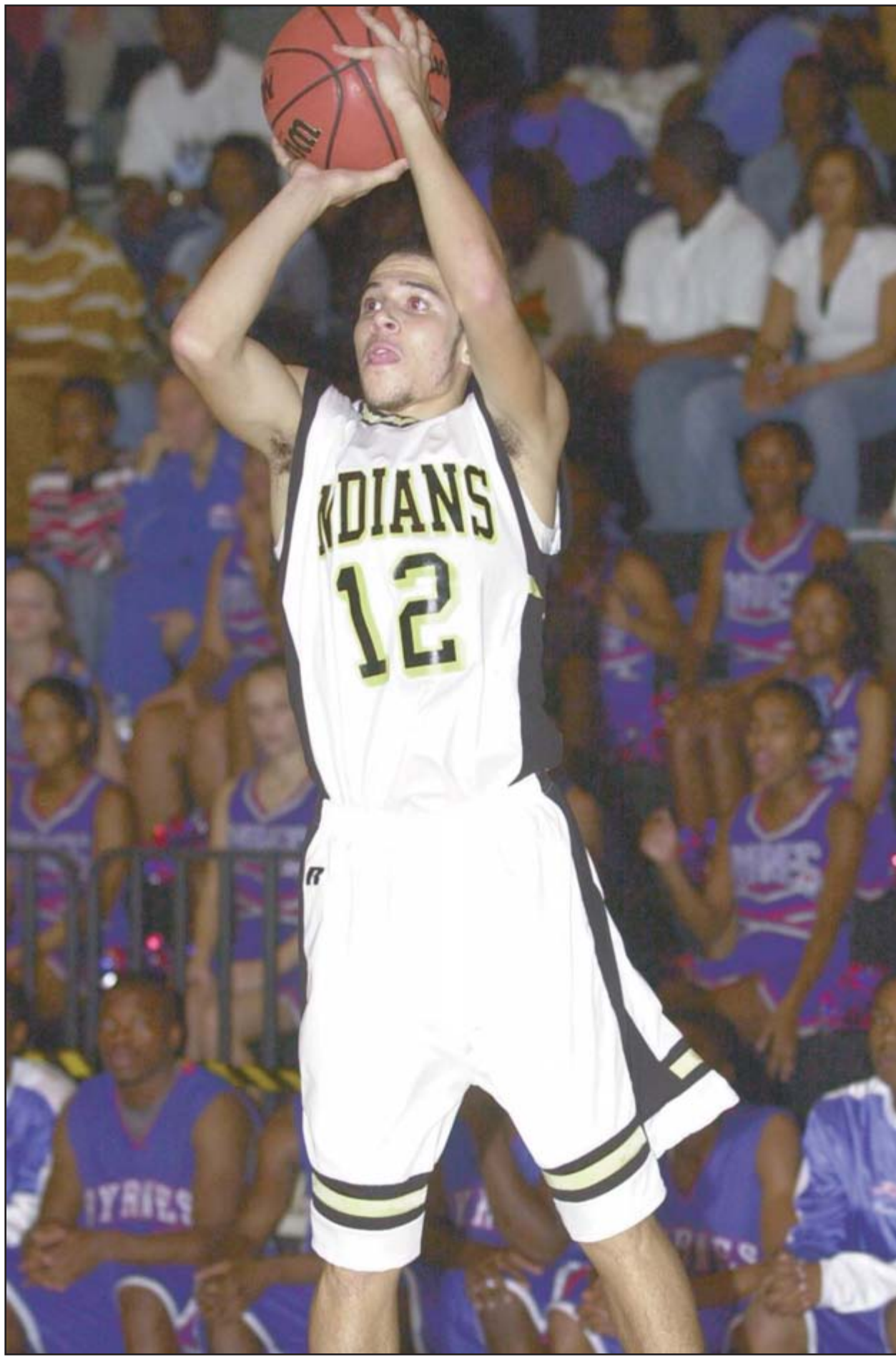


Photo by LARRY HILLIARD

Gaffney's Josh Corry squares up for a jumpshot during first-quarter action Friday against Byrnes. Corry led the undefeated Indians with 24 points.

By LARRY HILLIARD  
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Gaffney coach Mark Huff had several reasons to be pumped.

The Indians made 19 of their 27 free throws. Gaffney outrebounded the taller Byrnes Rebels. 34-24.

And, most importantly, the Indians remained undefeated with a hard-fought 63-60 win over the visiting Rebels on Friday.

"Our kids didn't get down (when they trailed by three)," said a smiling Huff. "Our fans did a great job and our guys stepped up."

Trailing by as many as seven points in the third quarter, the Indians took the lead 51-50 on Josh Corry's 3-pointer with 3:15 left to play.

Byrnes regained the lead on Jason Logan's stickback off his own miss. But Corry tied the game at 52 with a free throw, then put the Indians up by two points with two more free throws with 1:49 remaining.

Anthony Johnson tied the game with a jumper before 5-foot-8 point guard Jazz Palmer grabbed a rebound underneath the basket and scored to give the Indians the lead for good at 56-54.

The Indians extended their lead to 59-54 on Robert Butler's free throw. But the Rebels pulled within 59-57 on Johnson's 3-pointer with :17 left to play.

Corry sank two more free throws to push the Indians' advantage to three points before Torian Richardson's long jumper bounced high off the rim and through the basket to make it a one-point Rebel deficit.

Butler sealed the win with two free throws in the waning seconds.

Corry had 24 points, including 10 of 12 free throws, to pace the Indians, who improve to 5-0 overall and 1-0 in region play.

Gaffney enjoyed a huge edge at the foul line. Byrnes went to the free throw line only three times.

"We've been spending a lot of time shooting free throws," Huff said. "Last year, we weren't a very good free throw shooting team. The first game this year we made just 18 of 39 free throws."

In the third quarter, the Rebels erased a 31-26 halftime deficit to lead 46-43 at the end of the quarter. Logan, who was saddled with foul trouble in the first half, had eight points in the quarter, including a highlight-reel, length-of-the-court drive and jam.

Gaffney travels to 8-1 Dorman on Wednesday.

In girls' varsity action, Tiffany Adair had 25 points and Ashley Holland added 18 to lead Byrnes to a 63-48 win over the Lady Indians.

Byrnes had a 9-0 run in the fourth quarter to break the game open.

Tierra Phillips had 18 points to lead the Lady Indians.

## Blacksburg doomed by turnovers down stretch

By LARRY HILLIARD  
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After so much has gone wrong for the inexperienced Blacksburg boys basketball team this season, coach Travis Miller figured his Wildcats would win when they took the lead on Rashad Earls' basket

with about a minute to go.

But the Wildcats turned the ball on their next three possessions to allow Chapman to escape with a 47-45 victory on Friday.

Chapman tied it at 45 with :20 left to play. After some time ran off the clock, the Wildcats called a timeout for a potential, last-second, game-winning play. But the

Panthers stole the inbounds pass that was thrown into the backcourt and scored as time expired.

"It was a tough loss for us but we have to bounce back," Miller said. "I felt that we played good enough defense but we didn't make plays down the stretch."

Ken Littlejohn had 16 points, including four 3-pointers, to pace

the Wildcats. Earls added 11 for the Wildcats, who led 37-25 with two minutes left in the third quarter.

But the fourth quarter belonged to Chapman, which outscored the Wildcats, 16-6.

"We just didn't make plays," Miller said.

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