

# sports

## BRIEFS

### Warriors capture Little Six Tournament Championship

The Granard Warriors captured the Little Six Conference Tournament with a 47-44 victory over Gaffney Middle at Whitlock on Saturday.

The Warriors, who finish the season at 14-1, got 21 points from Ron Best and 14 from Quinshad Davis. Russell Hughes added six points.

"We have a good nucleus coming back next year," said Granard coach Bobby Rodgers. "The kids really got after it and almost had a perfect season."

### BHS baseball team to hold fundraiser

The Blacksburg High School Varsity Baseball team is asking anyone who attends the Feb. 12th scrimmage between Blacksburg and Landrum to consider donating a \$2 admission fee to the fund established for Blacksburg High School teacher Jared Harris. Harris is the art teacher at Blacksburg High and was recently diagnosed with colon cancer.

### Lady Saints drop pair

The Lady Saints softball team dropped two games to Carson-Newman on Sunday afternoon. Carson-Newman shut Limestone out in both games, picking up a 6-0 win in the first and taking the second 3-0.

Limestone stands at 1-3 while Carson-Newman improves to 4-0.

In the first game, the Lady Eagles scored their first run in the first inning, added another three runs in the second and scored two in the third.

Stephanie Templeton was credited with the win, striking out five batters. Lisa DeMarr took the loss. DeMarr is 1-1 on the season.

Keisha Thompson was 2 for 3 for Limestone.

In the second contest, the Eagles scored two in the third. The Eagles scored again in the fourth inning.

Limestone's Emily Wallace picked up her first loss of the season.

### Lady Saints finish 15th in golf tourney

The Lady Saints golf team finished 15th in the 18-team Kiawah Intercollegiate on Sunday with a two-round score of 709 (358-351).

The tournament, hosted by Tusculum College, was held at the par-72, 5,800-yard Cougar Point Golf Course.

### LC grapplers finish second

The Limestone College wrestling team finished second at the EdSouth Tournament hosted by Carson-Newman. Three Limestone wrestlers won their weight classes.

Joby Schreckhise, Dan Scanlan, and David Bush took home individual titles in the weight classes for the Saints.

Limestone's Dustin Baynes and Trey Moss each took third, while Joey Federspiel and Casey Bradley finished fourth in their weight divisions. Limestone's Mike Bush finished fifth.

### Champs blow out Limestone

The Limestone College men's basketball team dropped a Conference Carolinas contest to the defending NCAA Division II National Champion Barton College 82-53 on Saturday night at the Timken Center.

Limestone falls to 5-15 overall (3-12 league), while Barton improves to 15-7 overall (11-4 conference).

Limestone's John Prioleau recorded a double-double with 11 points and 10 rebounds. He was the only Saint to reach double scoring figures.

L.J. Dunn led the Bulldogs with 14 points and posted 8 boards and Brian Leggett scored 12 points and grabbed 8 rebounds. Bobby Buffalo also scored 12 points and recorded a game-high five assists.

Barton held the lead for the entire contest, building a 47-28 advantage at halftime. The Bulldogs outrebounded the Saints 41-21, and shot 53 percent from the field.

## New BHS football coach will be named Tuesday

By LARRY HILLIARD  
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School district officials have moved quickly to complete their search for a new Blacksburg High football coach.

Concluding a search that lasted little more than three weeks, Blacksburg High principal Jim Touchberry said Friday he will offer a recommendation at Tuesday's school board meeting.

Touchberry said the candidate has accepted the position if the school board approves the hiring on Tuesday.

Former coach Robbie Blanton resigned on Wednesday, Jan. 16, after nine years on the job.

Attempts to obtain the list of finalists from the school district's personnel department were unsuccessful on Friday. School district officials are required to provide the list of finalists under the Freedom of Information Act.

Touchberry said he tried to keep the search as confidential as possible, even school board members have been left out of the loop.

"If word gets out on the new coach, it's not going to be because of me," he said.

Only a few officials in the school district know the identity of the new coach, he said.

Ten of the 30 applicants were interviewed for

the job.

Despite the Wildcats' poor record during the last few years, the opening did attract interest from coaches in North and South Carolina in all high school classifications.

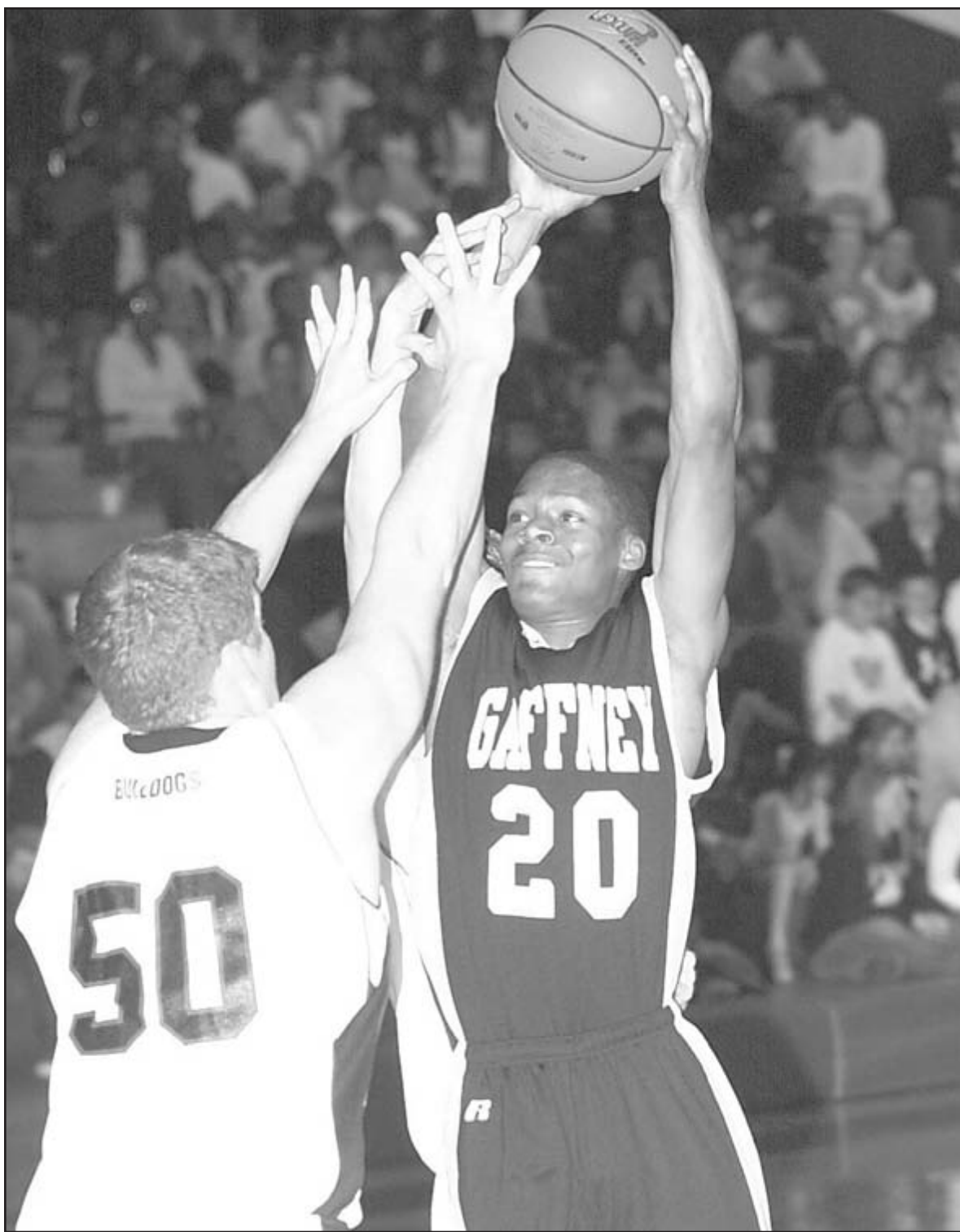
Touchberry said he's optimistic the new coach will reverse the team's losing trend.

"I think we have picked the right man for the job," he said.

Touchberry said he is uncertain when the new coach will begin his new duties. It's also up in the air how many members of the current staff will be retained, Touchberry said.

"The new coach will interview the assistant coaches," Touchberry said.

## That left out feeling



Ledger photo by LARRY HILLIARD

Shooting guard Ty Dawkins is one of six seniors the Indians must replace next season. Gaffney is looking toward next year after missing the playoffs for the first time in nine years.

### ■ Gaffney sits home during playoffs for first time in 9 years

By LARRY HILLIARD  
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For the first time in nine years, the Class 4A playoffs won't include the Gaffney Indians.

The Indians were eliminated from postseason contention Friday when Spartanburg beat Dorman to capture the final playoff spot.

"I'm disappointed that we didn't make the playoffs," Gaffney coach Mark Huff said. "I'm sorry that this is the end of the season for our seniors. You don't want them to end the season with two losses in a row."

After beginning the season at 10-0 and 2-0 in the region, the Indians never recovered from the loss of Jeff Brown and Jazz Palmer, who received suspensions for flagrant technical fouls after a narrow home loss to region champion Hillcrest.

That setback sent the Indians on a downward spiral, losing five of their last seven region games.

"The region was as strong a region as I've ever coached in," Huff said. "But looking back, losing Jazz and Jeff really hurt us. But it has to be a learning experience. You can't get suspended for a game and it not effect your team."

"It might be the best thing not making the playoffs," Huff added. "We weren't playing our best basketball and we had to go to the No. 1 seed (Fort Mill)."

Next season, the Indians must replace their starting backcourt of Palmer and Robert Butler, their two top reserves in Johnny Woods and Ty Dawkins and two valuable backups in Jared Teague and Eddie Jefferies.

But Huff said he's excited about next year's team, which features returning starters Bubba Wright, Josh Corry and Brown.

"Every year you lose seniors that you have to replace," he said. "You just have to replace them as best as you can. But I feel good about next year's team. We'll just have to work hard over the summer."

Huff said the team's top priority is to improve its shooting. Gaffney finished the

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## Indians in need of offensive coordinator - again

By LARRY HILLIARD  
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For the second time in as many years, Gaffney football coach Phil Strickland must find a new offensive coordinator.

On Friday, Gaffney High assistant coach Charlie Patterson accepted the head coaching posi-

tion at Hanahan High School.

Patterson served as the Indians offensive coordinator, replacing longtime coordinator Greg Lawson, who left to become head coach at Laurens.

Strickland said he has no idea who will replace Patterson as offensive coordinator.

"I don't know," he said. "We'll just have to wait and see."

Strickland said he wasn't surprised Patterson is leaving the staff.

"He obviously had the itch to become a head coach again," Strickland said. "He really deserves this opportunity."

Patterson was the head at West Florence, where he posted a 3-19 mark.

The move to Hanahan High

School and the Charleston area also allows Patterson to be closer to his wife's family, and to Goose Creek High School, one of Patterson's assistant coaching spots, Strickland said.

Patterson will be taking over a 2A program that finished 7-5 this season.

"They have been pretty good," Strickland said.

## Barton holds off Lady Saints

### STAFF REPORTS

The Limestone women's basketball team suffered a 66-62 loss to Barton College on Saturday night.

Esty Flores and Kim Butts led the Lady Bulldogs with 14 points each.

Limestone's Tierney Burdett led all scorers with 15 points.

The Saints drop back to .500 with the loss at 12-12 overall and 7-7 in league play.

Barton climbs to 13-7 on the season and 11-4 in the conference.

Essence Greer had 12 points, 5 rebounds and made all 10 of her free throws for the Lady Saints.

Burdett also led the Saints with eight rebounds. Ariel Lyons added 7 points, 3 assists and 3 steals for Limestone.

Sara Fleming and Kendra Thomas both added 8 points for Barton. Candice Britton added 7 points, 4 assists, a block and a steal for Barton.

The Lady Bulldogs jumped out to a double-digit lead to start the game, but Limestone fought back to trail by 5 points at the half.

The Bulldogs led the entire second half, but with just two minutes left Limestone began to close the gap.

With Barton up 63-60, Greer sank two free throws to pull the Lady Saints within one.

Greer then was whistled for a foul to send Flores to the line. Flores missed both attempts with just 34 seconds left to give Limestone another opportunity.

Jones got a shot off but it was blocked by Britton.

Limestone was forced to foul again, sending to the line Thomas, who made both free throws.

Limestone shot 31 percent from the field and 36 percent from beyond the arc.

The Bulldogs shot 37 percent from the field and only 18 percent from the 3-point line.

Limestone will host the Erskine Flying Fleet on Wednesday at 5:30 p.m.



Tierney Burdett scored a game-high 15 points for Limestone on Saturday.