

INSIDE:

West Craven couldn't find a win against North Lenior,
Havelock wrestles against Croatan in meet
and...
High school golfer Tanner Briele signs with ECU.



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Bears kick Vikings out of playoffs

Bears move on after 31-25 victory

By ERIC VOLIVA
THE INDEPENDENT REGISTER



WILMINGTON--They came, they saw, they wiped out Hoggard.

New Bern head coach Chip Williams knew that the Bears would have to step up and play harder than they've played all season, if they were going to defeat a talented Hoggard team, and advance deeper into the state playoffs on Nov. 18.

"In a game like this, it seemed like every play was pivotal... it was a chess match [going] back and forth," Williams said.

And play chess they did. The Bears found themselves close to checkmate several times, as the Vikings moved their defense into position to make big plays all night.

Williams countered the Vikings defense by taking ad-

vantage of the mismatches that their defense was offering in certain opportunities.

"[The Vikings defense] played a 4-3 with a four shell. We had mismatches on the outside and we tried to take advantage of that," Williams said.

And they did take what Hoggard gave them, which was 212 yards and a touchdown through the air, and 174 yards and three touchdowns on the ground.

Bears quarterback David Towarnicky can stake claim to three of the four touchdowns scored in the game. One of them he tossed to wide receiver Daryl Reynolds with 52 seconds left in the first half, and the other two on quarterback sneaks — the final one sealing the game for New Bern with 6:34 left in the third quarter, bringing the score up to 31-14 in the Bears' favor.

Even though J.R. Whitfield isn't the most recognizable face on the team, his pres-



PHOTOS BY WILLIAM R. TOLER/INDEPENDENT REGISTER

New Bern defensive back Generra Taylor breaks up a pass intended for a Vikings wide receiver at the 10-yard line.

ence on the field was far from miniscule. He proved he could carry the workload as he rushed for 144 yards on 26 carries and a touchdown against a tough Vikings defense.

Bears wide receiver / defensive back Woody Wilson continued to make key plays

to keep his team in contention to advance in the playoffs. He showed that he was a multi-dimensional threat, ending the game with seven receptions for 109 yards on offense, and plucking another interception out of the air at the Vikings' expense.

Continued on Page B4



It's All Sports
With Eric Voliva

Rankings shaken in NFL

In what was supposed to be a league realigned for parity, there really isn't much to be found in the NFL.

Teams are either really, really good or they're not good at all — it's as easy as that.

The once powerful AFC East division, filled with teams that haven't lived up to their potential, led by the New England Patriots, seems now to be the weakest division in the NFL, while the NFC South, once laughed at and thought to be the weakest division after the league realignment, is now regarded as the strongest, with three teams 10 games above .500, led by the Carolina Panthers and the Tampa Bay Buccaneers — both teams with a combined record of 14-6. The total combined record for the NFC South is 22-18, even with New Orleans' poor 2-8 record included, which is good enough for second in the league.

The division with the highest winning percentage this year is the NFC East, with a combined record of 23-17. The Cowboys and the Giants share first place in the division, both with a 7-3 record.

While the NFC has been regarded as weaker conference the past few years, its teams are gaining some momentum now that New England and Pittsburgh have fallen from atop the power rankings early in the season.

Last Sunday's games have further shaken up the power rankings as the Bears unseated the Panthers as the overall best team in the NFC, and the Patriots fell out of the top 10.

My top 10 in the power rankings are as follows, ranked first to last; Colts, Broncos, Bengals, Bears, Panthers, Steelers, Giants, Cowboys, Jaguars and the Seahawks.

While each one of these teams has shortcomings in some area of their game, they all make strong cases as playoff teams.

The Colts, unanimously thought to be the best team in the league, were lit up by the Bengals, as a glaring weakness in their pass defense was revealed in front of the entire nation last Sunday. While they rack up points, they have now proven that they can give up points in large sums in a single half; 27 surrendered to the Bengals before halftime.

The Broncos, who were ranked as low as 20th on my board this season, have improved steadily each week, mainly due to the solid play of Jake Plummer and their revamped defense. If they improve much more, they could challenge the Colts for the top spot on my board.

The Bengals, who are con
Continued on Page B3

Bears fall in close game to Buccaneers 72-68

Mclawhorn scores 17 points in loss

By ERIC VOLIVA
THE INDEPENDENT REGISTER

All the early signs pointed to Laney running away with the game, and even though the Bears lost their home opener, they showed heart and battled back to within five points of a win Nov. 21.

Early in the game it was all Buccaneers, as Laney outscored New Bern 22-12 in the first quarter, but the Bears never gave up on the game, and outscored the Buccaneers 56-50 in the last three quarters, but it was too little, too late.

Laney head coach Fred Lynch acknowledged that it wasn't an easy win, and his team was down in foul trouble early in the game.

"It was tough. No. 24 [Claude Shields] gave us fits, and we got in foul trouble, I think we had three or four to foul out. It was a game where they shot a ton of free throws,

they must have shot at least 50 free throws — at least it seemed like that," Lynch said.

Shields had 17 points, 11 rebounds and two steals in the game, leading the assault against Laney.

Shields wasn't the only Bears player to score in double digits, three other players found themselves with at least 10 points — they were Bobby Mclawhorn, Geoff Mclawhorn and Desmond Brown.

Bobby Mclawhorn had 10 points, four rebounds and a steal, Geoff Mclawhorn had 17 points, four rebounds and a steal and Brown added 13 points, three rebounds and two steals to the total.

New Bern trailed for the majority of the game, but did take the 55-54 lead with 19 seconds left in the third quarter on two points scored by Shields at the free throw line.

But the lead would be



INDEPENDENT REGISTER/ WILLIAM R. TOLER

Bears varsity guard Desmond Brown lays up the ball for two points over Buccaneers guard Averin Reid.

short-lived as Laney quickly overtook New Bern to regain the lead just moments into the fourth quarter, and that would be the beginning of the end

for the Bears, as Laney would keep the lead for the rest of the game.

Geoff Mclawhorn would score two points on a jump

shot with three seconds left in the game, cutting the lead to only two points, but the Bears fouled Laney's Averin

Continued on Page B4

West Craven edged out of playoffs 10-0

By COREY FRIEDMAN
THE INDEPENDENT REGISTER

PINETOPS — Clay Jordan found triumph in defeat.

After his West Craven Eagles ended their season in a stinging 10-0 loss to SouthWest Edgecombe Nov. 11, the veteran Eagles head coach said his players' growth on and off the field was the only victory he cared about.

"Some of you guys have grown up so much," Jordan said in the postgame huddle. "That's a lot more important to me right now than winning a football game. Some of you have turned the corner."

Falling in the first round of the state 3-A playoffs, West Craven finished its season with a record of 7-5 overall, 5-2 in the Coastal 8 Conference.

"If you coach high school football for wins, you're in it for the wrong reasons, that's the way I look at it," Jordan said. "It's about building character."

SouthWest Edgecombe (9-2) scored on its first drive, putting the Cougars on top 7-



INDEPENDENT REGISTER/ WILLIAM R. TOLER

West Craven's defense swarmed to the ball and tackled South West Edgecombe's rusher.

0 after Dequaris Bush found paydirt on a 3-yard scuttle. Oscar Munguia booted the ball through the uprights for the extra point.

Bush led all rushers, exploiting West Craven's over-

matched defense for 165 yards on 27 carries and claimed the evening's lone touchdown.

Jordan said the imposing Cougars dominated the game physically, shoving a young

West Craven team out of their way en route to the second round of the state playoffs.

"We're a very young football team and we're not strong enough yet," he said. "We couldn't block them up front."

Eagles junior running back DeAndre Jones said the team battled back from an 0-2 start to win seven of the next nine games, and expressed confidence that West Craven will build on its success next year.

"I think we played alright," he said. "Next year, we're going to the state championship, that's all."

The teams' defenses traded blows, culminating in a series of stalled drives through most of the first half. SouthWest Edgecombe snapped the stalemate on a Munguia field goal with 5:47 remaining in the second quarter.

Despite a few promising forays into the red zone, the Eagles were unable to cross the goal line, mired in a defensive struggle that prevented the Cougars from piling on the points.

Eagles quarterback Jamar Turnage finished with just one completion for seven yards and one interception. Wendell Boyd led the team in rushing with 42 yards on four carries.

6 Pack	Denver @ Dallas NFL (Nov. 24, Thanksgiving)	Charlotte @ Boston NBA (Nov. 25)	Philadelphia @ N.Y. Knicks NBA (Nov. 26)	North Carolina @ Virginia Tech NCAA (Nov. 26)	Toronto @ Carolina NHL (Nov. 25)	Carolina @ Buffalo NFL (Nov. 27)
Eric Voliva Record: 16-9	Broncos	Bobcats	76'ers	Hokies	Hurricanes	Panthers
William Toler Record: 13-11	Broncos	Bobcats	76'ers	Tar Heels	Maple Leafs	Panthers
Corey Friedman Record: 16-9	Broncos	Celtics	Knicks	Hokies	Maple Leafs	Bills

Inside Sports

New Bern wins first playoff game

New Bern runs over South East Raleigh in 28-14 home victory



BY ERIC VOLIVA
THE INDEPENDENT REGISTER

Sometimes you just know; instinct kicks in and you go.

That's what it was like for New Bern defensive back Woody Wilson in the heat of the final minutes of the game against South East Raleigh Nov. 11, as he made a key interception with 2:43 left in the game, sealing the 28-14 win and guaranteeing the Bears at least one more game in the playoffs.

"I just knew, and broke in front of the ball," Wilson said. "I knew what routes they were running the whole time... so I just broke on the ball."

South East Raleigh scored on its first drive, but wouldn't be able to hold off New Bern from overtaking the lead and keeping it for the rest of the

night.

New Bern evened the score at 7 with about 12 seconds left in the first quarter on a J.R. Whitfield 22-yard touchdown run, which was just the beginning of 28 unanswered points scored by New Bern.

Then with 4:06 left in the second quarter, New Bern quarterback David Towarnicky tossed a 23-yard TD pass to Generra Taylor, making the score 14-7.

Going into the game, the Bears' offensive coaches knew they would see a lot of cover-3 schemes — where the defense plays three men deep — so they relied heavily on four wide receiver sets, giving them the 4-on-3 advantage, which they exploited all

game.

The scheming worked well, as Towarnicky passed for 137 yards and three TDs on the night.

Just before halftime, a Mike Harvey interception set up the third New Bern touchdown.

With five seconds remaining in the second quarter, Towarnicky threw a 24-yard touchdown strike to Darryl Reynolds to make the score 21-7.

South East Raleigh appeared to start the second half with greater determination, but four plays later, Clonzie Nealey stole it from them on their own 45-yard line in the form of an interception.

Continued on Page B4

Right: Bears' Marques Moore chases down Raleigh quarterback Carl Baxter. Below: Bears' Josh Best is tackled as Teddrum Simpson looks on. Far Left: Speedy Charles Graves breaks a long kick return to the 34-yard line, for a gain of 29 yds.

PHOTOS BY JESSICA SIMPSON



West Craven basketball finds no success

Both boys and girls basketball teams fall to North Lenoir in succession by a combined total of 47 points



BY COREY FRIEDMAN
THE INDEPENDENT REGISTER

VANCEBORO — North Lenoir's Sam Edwards stripped the ball from Russell Canady midway through the fourth quarter, scoring on a quick lay-up and drawing a foul, then shooting 3-of-4 from the charity stripe.

Edwards' power play turned a one-point North Lenoir lead into a six-point advantage as the Hawks helped themselves to a 75-62 rout of West Craven during the first game of the season for both teams on Nov. 15.

West Craven (0-1) traded jabs with North Lenoir (1-0) for most of the evening, trailing by no more than three buckets until Edwards and the Hawks surged ahead late in the game.

"We played the perfect first half," said Eagles head basketball coach Chris McDonald. "I don't think those guys expected us to jump out and dominate like we did. Our boys fought hard, and I'm a firm believer in this group that we will have a great season."

North Lenoir's Omar Jones led all scorers with 24 points, while teammate Adrian Brewer contributed 19. Dante Stewart paced the Eagles with 14 points.

The Hawks jumped out to an 11-5 lead early in the first quarter as Jones found his sweet spot near the top of the key, scoring a pair of three-pointers to put North Lenoir up 19-15

at the end of the first quarter.

Jones' explosive scoring potential brought double coverage from the Eagles, but he proved to also be a threat from the foul line, nailing 4-of-8 free throws in the first half.

"We played a little relaxed in the first half," said North Lenoir head coach Paul Dunn. "Once our guys saw that their guys were for real, we had to turn it up a little bit."

The Hawks began laying the groundwork for victory in the third quarter, smothering West Craven with an unforgiving pressure defense. As the fourth quarter began, North Lenoir had closed the gap and was battling to retain the lead on back-and-forth plays.

In girls varsity action, North Lenoir's Carla Miller sank four treys in the third quarter as the Lady Hawks hammered West Craven 60-26.

West Craven girls basketball coach Mike Swain said he allowed his enthusiastic freshman and sophomore players to gain some experience on the court in the fourth quarter.

"We're going to put the players on the court who want to play the hardest and who want to work," he said. "I feel we will get better. I felt like the first couple times up the court we were able to get past them, but we rushed our shot. Then we started missing our shots."

Continued on Page B4



INDEPENDENT REGISTER/ WILLIAM R. TOLER

West Craven's Joyce Freeman moves the ball down the court against North Lenoir's Helena Davis in the Eagles' 60-26 loss to the Lady Hawks.

A few New Bern Bears along with sister Tatum, mother Kim and father Jerry look on as high school golfer Tanner Briele signs on with East Carolina University Nov. 16. Briele was named eastern North Carolina's High School Golfer of the Year in both 2004 and 2005. In 2004, Briele placed third in the Carolinas Junior golfing event, and in 2005 he also placed third in the Future Collegiate World Tour Royal New Kent event. The highlight of Briele's career came in 2005 when he won the Eastern Junior Golf Association event at Kings Grant, and also the EJGA Tour Championship in the same year. This year Breile was ranked 75th in the Golfweek Junior Segarian National Rankings.



INDEPENDENT REGISTER/ WILLIAM R. TOLER

Hunters compete for top bucks in memorial classic

FROM STAFF REPORTS
THE INDEPENDENT REGISTER

The second annual Robbie Adams Big Buck Classic was held the second weekend of November.

The contest, sponsored by the No. 9 Township Fire Department, is named for the late Robbie Adams Jr. who was a member of the department.

More than 150 participants entered the classic. Of those was Joe Monette, who was awarded the grand prize for bagging a 137.2 pound buck on Friday, Nov. 11. The grand prize includes \$1,200 and a trophy inscribed with "Cuz's Pure Mule Award," memorializing Adams' nickname and catchphrase.

Monette's closest competitor was Johnny Stevenson, whose buck was 3 lbs lighter.

Chris Bantos took down a 94.7 lb. doe and took home \$800, while 10-year-old Fisher Nobles and Bradley Banks received \$150. Nobles shot 108.8 lb. buck while Banks bagged a 77.7 lb. doe.

Other prizes included two rifles that were given away. Kaylie Broome's name was drawn in the Youth Division and Robert Winstead won a rifle donated in memory of Michael Dail.

Winners of the "Cuz's Pure Mule Award" hold the trophy for one year, until the next year's classic.

Submit news by e-mailing it to news@indieregister.com

Independent Register

NFL Top Performers

NFL Week 9

	Quarterback	Pts.	Running back #1	Pts.	Running back #2	Pts.	Wide Receiver	Pts.	Defense	Pts.	Total Pts.
Voliva - 311 pts	P. Manning	30	E. James	21	L. Tomlinson	14	S. Smith	19	Patriots	7	91
Friedman - 281 pts	T. Brady	20	C. Williams	21	W. Dunn	8	M. Harrison	4	Buccaneers	3	56
Toler - 309 pts	C. Palmer	25	S. Alexander	26	R. Droughns	25	R. Moss	4	Steelers	11	91
Consensus	P. Manning	30	E. James	21	L. Tomlinson	14	R. Moss	4	Steelers	11	80

Fantasy football by the Independent Register is not intended to copy or emulate any existing fantasy league. Quarterbacks receive 1 point for every 20 yards passing, 3 points for every passing TD, 6 points for every rushing TD, and 6 points for achieving 300 yards passing. Running backs get 6 points for every rushing TD, 1 point for every 10 yards rushing, 1 point for every 10 yards receiving, and 3 points for achieving 100 yards rushing. Wide receivers get 6 points for every receiving TD, 1 point for every 10 yards receiving, 1 point for every 10 yards rushing, and 3 points for achieving 100 yards receiving. Defenses get 3 points for every interception, 1 point for every sack, 6 points for a defensive TD, 2 points for a safety, 3 points for holding opposing teams' offensive rushing total under 100 yards, and 3 points for holding opposing teams' offensive passing total under 300 yards.

A look ahead at some fantasy matchups, which may be irresistible for week 12 in the NFL.

Tom Brady will be facing a weak Kansas City which is giving up on average more than 241 passing yards per game, while also giving up 16 TDs and only taking the ball away 6 times.

Shaun Alexander is having a career year thus far, averaging almost two TDs a game. He is on fire, leading the league in yards (1229) and rushing TDs (19), and is on pace to break the NFL season rushing TD record.

Ladanian Tomlinson has scored 14 rushing TDs in 10 games, and will be facing a Redskins defense that has given up 11 rushing TDs on the season, and is allowing on average 107 rushing yards per game.

Santana Moss is averaging nearly 100 yards receiving per game, and after a hard loss to the Raiders, expect him to bounce back against a Chargers defense that is giving up on average 237 passing yards per game.

The Bears defense is ranked first overall, and looks to keep their legacy alive after racking up eight sacks and two interceptions in the win over Carolina. Expect this defense to dominate the Buccaneers also.

Inside Sports II

On The Mat



INDEPENDENT REGISTER/ERIC VOLIVA

Above: Croatan's Fisher Heverly defeats Havelock's Stuart Griffiths in the 125 pound weight class.

HAVELOCK -- Havelock faced Croatan for a wrestling meet on Nov. 15, defeating Croatan 37-35. The winners from Havelock, in each weight class, are as follows: David Henninger, 103 pounds; Nathan Fennell, 112 pounds; Melvin Whitehurst, 135 pounds; Loren Boone, 145 pounds; K.C. Falls, 160 pounds; Brian Norris, 171 pounds; Lennis Frazier, heavyweight.

Right: New Bern's Tiffany Brown makes a jump shot over Laney's Amber Spolarich for two points. Brown finished with eight points and three rebounds.

The New Bern varsity girls basketball team found little success early against a strong E.A. Laney High School defense that held them scoreless in the first period Nov. 21.

Laney outscored New Bern by 28 points in the first half, but New Bern fought valiantly and outscored Laney by 8 points in the second half, making the final score 31-51.

Bears' top scorers were Jackie Zeeman who had eight points, two rebounds and a steal; Tracy Collins with four points and three rebounds; and Elizabeth Stone with three points and six rebounds.



INDEPENDENT REGISTER/WILLIAM R. TOLER

The NFL power rankings get shaken up after some teams find victory against division opponents

Continued from Page B1

stantly amazing me, have gone from a laughing-stock to a sure bet because of Carson Palmer's composure and accuracy all across the field. Improved play from the ball-hawking defense has catapulted them to third, with an extraordinary shot at overtaking the Colts as No. 1, but the run defense must show that they are able to hold their own before that can happen.

Da Bears. Who would have thought it? They lost their starting quarterback, Rex Grossman, before the season ever began, and had to hand over the reins to the unproven rookie Kyle Orton, who ap-

pears to be made in the same mold as Steelers quarterback Ben Roethlisberger, and can complement a crushing, swarming defense that can win games single-handedly. When you think about this Bears team, think about a Pittsburgh team from two years ago.

The Carolina Panthers edged out the Steelers' for sole possession of fifth place only because of the Steelers loss to the lowly Ravens last Sunday. The Panthers' defense is much better than their offense, clearly, but with the lack of a consistent pass rush, they are going to get burned by the long ball more often than not. The only thing

keeping the Panthers from moving into the top three is the lack of a good running game, and Kris Jenkins. Stephen Davis never quite returned to form after suffering a season-ending knee injury last year, while DeShaun Foster is still injury prone. Why they haven't given the nod to Nick Goings to move into the starting role still puzzles me. He was never a breakaway threat, but at least he was consistently good.

The Steelers lack of a potent passing game is glaring, and injuries to Jerome Bettis and Duce Staley have put a burden on young Willie Parker and their defense. While the

defense is very good, they can't rely on that alone to win every game. They slide to sixth overall.

The Giants, at seventh, have a great offense, led by the experience and talent of Tiki Barber, and their defense can shut out even the best of offenses, but not every Sunday. Eli Manning is much improved from last year, and should continue to improve each Sunday.

The Cowboys have found new life with Drew Bledsoe at the helm, and have made a habit of pulling out the win in the final moments of the game, both against Washington and Philadelphia. This is another team that is on the

drive on them late in the game. Seattle may win its first playoff game since the '80s, but not against Chicago.

All these teams are strong, and have room to improve, but only one can win the big game. Given the circumstances, any of these teams have what it takes to win when it counts, but we'll have to wait and see who'll come out on top in Super Bowl XL.

Just one more thing before I'm done, how about them referees? I know having to be impartial is hard to do, but I think they could at least fake it sometimes.

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Contact Eric Voliva at 633-2757 or at eric@indieregister.com

*We'll See You On
The Sidelines.*

**Independent
Register**

Sports Scores

All scores and standings are current as of Monday, Nov. 21

NFL Scores

As of Monday, Nov. 7

WL Record	First Quarter	Second Quarter	Third Quarter	Fourth Quarter	Final Score
Carolina	(7-3)	0	0	0	3
Chicago	(7-3)	10	3	0	13
Minnesota	(5-5)	0	7	7	6
Green Bay	(2-8)	7	7	0	3
New Orleans	(2-8)	0	7	0	10
New England	(6-4)	7	7	7	3
Miami	(3-7)	0	0	0	0
Cleveland	(4-6)	9	3	10	0
Oakland	(4-6)	3	0	7	6
Washington	(5-5)	7	6	0	0
Arizona	(3-7)	3	10	3	22
St. Louis	(4-6)	3	7	7	11
Seattle	(8-2)	3	14	10	0
San Francisco	(2-8)	3	6	3	13
N.Y. Jets	(2-8)	0	0	0	0
Denver	(8-2)	7	10	0	10
Kansas City	(6-4)	10	21	0	14
Houston	(1-9)	7	0	10	0
Detroit	(4-6)	0	7	0	0
Dallas	(7-3)	7	6	7	0
Tampa Bay	(7-3)	10	3	7	10
Atlanta	(6-4)	0	10	7	10
Jacksonville	(7-3)	0	7	14	10
Tennessee	(2-8)	0	14	7	7
Philadelphia	(4-6)	7	0	3	0
N.Y. Giants	(7-3)	0	10	3	14
Buffalo	(4-6)	7	14	10	9
San Diego	(6-4)	7	0	7	7
Indianapolis	(10-0)	14	21	7	3
Cincinnati	(7-3)	10	17	7	3
Pittsburgh	(7-3)	0	6	0	7
Baltimore	(3-7)	0	13	0	0

NHL Standings

Atlantic		Central	
N.Y. Rangers	(13-7-3)	Detroit	(15-5-2)
Philadelphia	(12-4-3)	Nashville	(12-3-3)
N.Y. Islanders	(11-10-0)	Chicago	(9-11-0)
New Jersey	(9-9-2)	St. Louis	(4-12-3)
Pittsburgh	(6-9-6)	Columbus	(5-16-0)
Northeast		Northwest	
Ottawa	(15-3-0)	Vancouver	(13-6-2)
Montreal	(13-5-3)	Calgary	(12-8-2)
Toronto	(12-7-2)	Colorado	(11-7-2)
Buffalo	(11-9-0)	Edmonton	(11-10-1)
Boston	(7-10-5)	Minnesota	(9-9-2)
Southeast		Pacific	
Carolina	(14-5-1)	Los Angeles	(14-6-1)
Tampa Bay	(10-9-3)	Dallas	(13-6-1)
Atlanta	(8-11-1)	Phoenix	(11-10-2)
Washington	(8-12-0)	San Jose	(8-8-3)
Florida	(6-11-4)	Anaheim	(7-10-4)

NFL Standings

As of Nov. 22

NFC North		AFC North	
Chicago	(7-3)	Pittsburgh	(7-3)
Minnesota	(5-5)	Cincinnati	(7-3)
Detroit	(4-6)	Cleveland	(4-6)
Green Bay	(2-8)	Baltimore	(3-7)
NFC South		AFC South	
Carolina	(7-3)	Indianapolis	(10-0)
Tampa Bay	(7-3)	Jacksonville	(7-3)
Atlanta	(6-4)	Tennessee	(2-8)
New Orleans	(2-8)	Houston	(1-9)
NFC East		AFC East	
Dallas	(7-3)	New England	(6-4)
N.Y. Giants	(7-3)	Buffalo	(4-6)
Washington	(5-5)	Miami	(3-7)
Philadelphia	(4-6)	N.Y. Jets	(2-8)
NFC West		AFC West	
Seattle	(8-2)	Denver	(8-2)
St. Louis	(4-6)	San Diego	(6-4)
Arizona	(3-7)	Kansas City	(6-4)
San Francisco	(2-8)	Oakland	(4-6)

NBA Standings

Atlantic	Central	Southeast	Pacific	Southwest	Northwest
New Jersey (5-4)	Detroit (8-1)	Miami (6-4)	L.A. Clippers (8-2)	San Antonio (8-2)	Minnesota (5-4)
Philadelphia (6-5)	Cleveland (8-2)	Washington (5-4)	Golden State (6-5)	Dallas (7-2)	Denver (5-5)
Boston (4-5)	Indiana (6-3)	Orlando (3-6)	Phoenix (4-5)	Memphis (7-3)	Seattle (4-5)
New York (3-7)	Milwaukee (5-3)	Charlotte (3-8)	Sacramento (4-5)	New Orleans (4-5)	Portland (3-5)
Toronto (1-9)	Chicago (3-5)	Atlanta (0-9)	L.A. Lakers (4-5)	Houston (3-7)	Utah (4-7)

Men's Basketball

Duke	(3-0)
N.C. State	(3-0)
Boston College	(2-0)
Clemson	(1-0)
Florida State	(1-0)
Georgia Tech	(1-0)
Maryland	(1-0)
North Carolina	(1-0)
Virginia	(1-0)
Miami	(3-1)
Virginia Tech	(3-1)
Wake Forest	(3-1)

ACC Corner

Men's Football

Coastal Conference

Virginia Tech	(9-1)
Miami	(8-2)
Georgia Tech	(7-3)
North Carolina	(5-5)
Virginia	(6-4)
Duke	(1-10)

Atlantic Conference

Boston College	(8-3)
Florida State	(7-3)
Clemson	(7-4)
Maryland	(5-5)
Wake Forest	(4-7)
N.C. State	(5-5)

Women's Basketball

Duke	(2-0)
Georgia Tech	(2-0)
Maryland	(2-0)
Virginia	(2-0)
Miami	(1-0)
North Carolina	(1-0)
Virginia Tech	(1-0)
Wake Forest	(1-0)
Boston College	(2-1)
Florida State	(1-1)
N.C. State	(1-1)
Clemson	(0-3)

Laney prevents Bears from win

Continued from Page B1

Reid who connected on both free throws with two seconds left in the game, bringing the game to a close with the score 72-68.

Bears advance past Vikings

Continued from Page B1

"On that play I had flats, and we know in that formation one [Viking receiver] is going to run an out, so I just jumped as deep as I could on flats, and I just looked at the quarterback and he threw it right to me," Wilson said.

You could make a case that any one of the big plays that New Bern made sealed the game for them that night, but none were bigger than the two takeaways that the Bears generated on special teams, which led to a touchdown and a field goal before the end of the first half.

The Bears stay home this Friday to host Britt in the third round of the state playoffs.

Eagles lose to North Lenoir

Continued from Page B2

West Craven (0-1) fell behind 27-15 at the half and never recovered, falling to North Lenoir (1-0) as the Lady Hawks served up a lethal combination of solid shooting and stifling defense.

"About two minutes into the second quarter, we really got into our defense," said North Lenoir girls basketball coach Anthony Lofton. "I think that was the difference in the ball game."

Bears win first playoff game

Continued from Page B2

Four plays and 45 yards later, New Bern scored again on another Towarnicky TD pass to Taylor with 8:17 left in the third quarter, bringing the score up to 28-7.

Although the Bears wouldn't find the end zone again all night, the same wasn't true for South East Raleigh. The Bulldogs would go on to cap off the scoring drive with a 41-yard TD pass from quarterback Carl Baxter to wide receiver Harold Mallette, which would bring the game to its final score, 28-14.

Independent Register

The *Independent Register* is committed to the coverage of local as well as state and national sports. If you would like to submit information about local or state sports, please contact Eric Voliva, Sports Editor, at (252) 633-2757 or at eric@indieregister.com



Quote Of The Week

"Other than some bad calls, it was just poorly played."

If you have an opinion that you want to share with the other readers, label it "Make The Call" and e-mail it to eric@indieregister.com or mail it to 1734 Elmwood St. New Bern NC, 28560. The *Independent Register* reserves the right to not print quotes deemed unsuitable for publication.

These are random quotes that have been overheard or sent in by sports fans. Opinions expressed are not necessarily those of the Independent Register.

"They came, they saw, they kicked some butt." [reference to New Bern vs. Hoggard]

"That's about as bad as I've seen the Panthers play this year [vs. Chicago]. Either they're really bad, or the Bears are just that good."

"I don't think anyone expected the Cowboys to do what they've done this year. They completely re-tooled their defense with

rookies and leftovers, and actually made it work. I haven't seen that happen since the Saints "No Name" defense in the early '90s."

"Now that baseball season's over, what am I going to watch?"

"Coach [Chip] Williams has some good assistant coaches working with him. They've really maximized the output of the talent on the team — players are really showing some heart out there."

"Who wants to watch basketball? It's the dumbest game I've ever seen. All it is,

Make The Call

is people running up and down the court throwing a big ball at a tiny hole."

"I don't know where the mascot goes at halftime. Does he go hang out with the cheerleaders in the locker room, or does he go in with the guys?"

"Have you noticed how every sport is played with some sort of ball? It's like the bigger the ball, the more dangerous the sport — except in bowling, that's the only exception. What are you going to do, break a leg in the lane?"

"I like the idea of picking the home team player, but why did the Bobcats use the fifth overall pick to get [Raymond] Felton instead of [Sean] May? I guess it all worked out for the best, and the duo has a natural rapport. I can see May with a ton of points, and Felton with a ton of assists from those points."

"I just don't know what to say about the game [Carolina vs. Chicago]. Other than some bad calls, it was just poorly played."

"Sometimes I think players don't have enough patience on the [basketball] court, they need to give the play enough time to develop."

"Like coach [John] Fox said on television today, 'You can't win games by throwing interceptions.' I completely agree with him."

"As the football season winds down, I feel like something will be taken away. It's just not a complete weekend without the family sitting around watching the game on Sundays, and I'm not a basketball person."

"North Carolina is off to a