

February 15

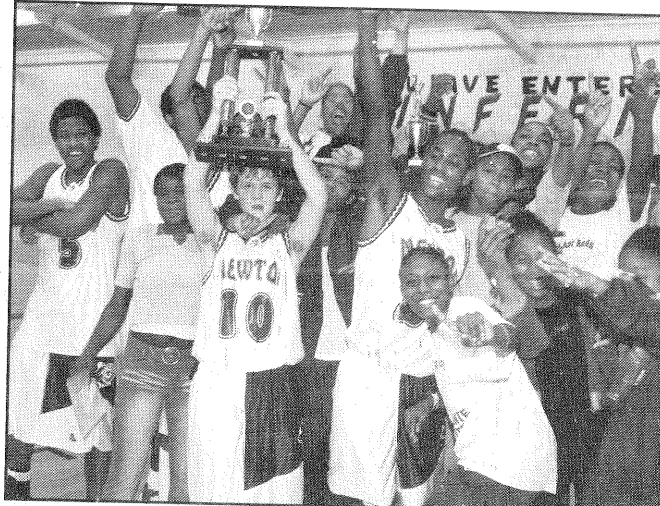
Newton teams reign as region champions

#2 LOGANVILLE — The Newton High School boys' and girls' basketball teams stand together as region champions for the first time in 21 years.

Powered by 16 points and eight rebounds from Darius White, the Newton boys' basketball team stunned previously undefeated Cedar Shoals 54-51 in the Region 8-AAAA Tournament championship game Feb. 15 at Loganville High School.

"We knew we were a good team," said White, whose night included a paralyzing one-handed dunk on an offensive rebound in the first half. "We knew what we could do."

Antwone Smith chipped in with 15 points — nine in the fourth period — and eight rebounds, and Legale Floyd added 14 points as the Rams (22-6) won the



File/The Covington News

Rise to the throne: The Newton High School girls' and boys' basketball teams celebrate their region titles.

program's 16th region crown.

Second-ranked Cedar Shoals entered the game undefeated at 24-0. "A lot of people said [Cedar Shoals] couldn't be beat," said Newton head

coach Ron Bradley. "We beat a great basketball team tonight. It was a great evening."

Elsewhere, Jamica Wyatt led three players in double-figure scoring with 17 points as the Newton girls'

basketball team dominated Cedar Shoals 60-42 in the Region 8-AAAA Tournament championship game at Loganville High School.

Ieshia Wallace added 15 points, and Tenesha Tucker threw in 14 points for the Lady Rams (21-7), who extended their winning streak to 11 games. Ebony Johnson played a superb all-around game with seven points, 14 rebounds and seven assists.

"We were ready, but I didn't expect it to go the way it did," said Newton head coach Mike West after winning his first region title. "We don't have the best players or the best coach but we play together, and when you do that, you can go places."

This is the first time since 1982 that the Rams and Lady Rams have won region championships in the same year.