



Ron Bradley ties the state's all-time record for wins with 1,254.

Bradley ties with 1,254th victory

Floyd sinks seven threes in triumph

By Brian Knapp

Sports Editor

The Newton boys' basketball team put on clinic Saturday night.

Legale Floyd sank seven three-pointers and struck for 32 points — 28 in an incredible first half — as the Rams blitzed Jackson County 96-49 at Newton High School, setting season highs for points scored and margin of victory.

Newton (16-5, 6-0 subregion) made 56 percent (36-for-64) of its field-goal attempts as head coach Ron Bradley tied the late D.B. Carroll's all-time state record (combined boys and girls) for career wins with his 1,254th victory.

The Rams vaulted out to a 19-5 first-quarter lead, then converted their first eight attempts from the field in the second period, all but ending the game before halftime. They fired on all cylinders.

"I thought we were just awesome the first half," Bradley said.

Brilliantly breathtaking, Floyd hit 11 of his 17 tries from the floor, including 7-for-11 from beyond the three-point arc. He gave the Rams a 41-14 lead with three minutes to go in the first half with his seventh three-pointer.

"Legale was just superman," Bradley said. "It was one of those nights where he could have scored 50 or 60. You don't see many of those nights."

Newton picked up right where it left off after halftime, shooting 10-for-15 as a team in the third quarter, its lead ballooning to 71-35. Antwone Smith shouldered the offensive load with superb mid-range shooting in the third, pumping in 10 of his 22 points.

Darius White, meanwhile, quietly fell just shy of his first career triple-double with 12 points, 11 assists and eight rebounds despite sitting out most of the fourth quarter.

Bradley can supplant Carroll as the state's all-time winningest prep basketball coach when Newton meets Rockdale County at 7:30 p.m. tonight at Rockdale County High School in Conyers.

Newton 54, Heritage 32: Antwone Smith and Darius White each had 17 points and 11 rebounds as the Rams maintained their lead in the south subregion with a 22-point victory over Heritage Friday.

The win made Newton head coach Ron Bradley the ninth man in United States history to reach the 900-win plateau as a boys' basketball coach.