

Bombing Barons Face Newton Co.

Briarcliff Rips Baldwin High, 67-57;
Rams Roll, 50-39; Hart, Elbert Win

Special to The Atlanta Journal
GAINESVILLE, Ga., Feb. 23—Briarcliff High Coach Ray Hambrick is looking for his team's best performance of the season Friday. His Barons take on Newton County High's Rams, loser of only two games, and the winner goes to the State Class AA tournament.

Briarcliff reached the climatic game here Thursday night by dumping Baldwin of Milledgeville, 67-57. Newton County eliminated Forsyth County, 50-39. Hart County eliminated host Gainesville, 69-57, and Elbert County dropped Madison County, 48-39.

Tonight's games pit Forsyth County-Newton County in a girls game at 5 p.m., Briarcliff-Newton County boys at 6:15, Hart County's girls and Elbert County's girls at 7:30, and Hart County's boys and Elbert County's boys at 8:45.

Bill Woodall (20) and Al Sharp (19) did the damage for Briarcliff; Mike Rutledge (22) was high man for Newton County; Sherrell Whitaker (34) almost defeated Gainesville single-handedly

for Hart County; and Tom Gilbert's 13 led Elbert County.

ELBERT COUNTY (48)—Tom Gilbert 13, Jo Jo Frierson 10, David Daniels 9, Kenneth Oglesby 7, Harry Drennan 7, Stanley Guest 2, Syd Johnson, Larry Guest, Richard Rucker, Bobby Adams, Robert Clarke, Clyde Howell, Tuffy Johnson, Kenneth Sanders.

MADISON COUNTY (39)—Kenneth Whitehead 21, Kenneth Martin 8, Ronnie Coile 7, George Strickland 2, Ty Tyner 1, Glenn Booth, Jack Mann, John Carson, Joe Dudley, Dennis Moore, Spratt Bullock.
SCORE AT HALF: Elbert County 29, Madison County 22.

NEWTON COUNTY (50)—Mike Rutledge 22, Billy Shaw 13, Terry Smith 7, Terry Rutledge 6, Jimmy Jordan 2, Harry Bowen, Denny Dobbs, Stan Harris, Grady Campbell, James Knight, Kim Christian, Bob Travis.

FORSYTH COUNTY (39)—Billy Waters 12, Roger Heard 10, Jimmy Hammond 7, Buz Bennett 4, Robert Sewell 3, Jimmy Brooks 3, Robert Hughes, Horace Johnson, Lanier Orr, Bill Martin, Randall Howard, Rudy Martin, George Martin, Charles Callahan, David Whiteman, Ralph Johnson.

HART COUNTY (69)—Sherrell Whitaker 34, Tim Floyd 16, Terrell Ayers 6, Randall Burns 5, Garry Phillips 5, Billy Kidd 3, James Robinson, Roy Cleaveland, Harold Patterson, Douglas Burdette, William Eaves, David Milford.

GAINESVILLE (57)—Preston Rideheper 16, Johnny Christopher 10, Cleon Nalley 13, Jimmy Martin 9, Andy Turk 9, Warner Fuselle, Bill Morrison, Anthony Barrett, Jim Dorsey, Counte Cooley, Stan Allen, Whit Embry, Jimmy Kemp, Skipper Fuller.

BRIARCLIFF (67)—Bill Woodall 20, Al Sharp 19, Pat Battle 12, Barney Corbin 10, Guy Camuso 3, John Olson 1, Tommy Skinner 1, Tim Kokko 1, Neal Johnson, Roger Anderberg, Evan Corbin, Mike Milligan.

BALDWIN (57)—Rye Ramsey 23, Rusty Kidd 12, Jimmy Lingold 10, Jerry Mills 10, Phil Vincent 2, Raymond Hinton, Mike Landy, Danny Spears, Pat Craig, Larry Edgar, Ronnie Smith, Jimmy Skipper, Don Johnson, Lynn Massey, Tommy Battle.

Region 4-AA Tournament

Rams Escape Upset Trap; Forsyth Girls In Finals

BY PHIL JACKSON
Times Sports Editor

Quick Newton County escaped Briarcliff's upset trap in the Region 4-AA semi-finals at Gainesville High gym Friday to set up an expected meeting with Hart County in last night's championship bout.

But in girls' competition, Forsyth County's Lady Bulldogs surprised Newton's female Rams and were to go against a mighty Hart County six for the big trophy. Two consolation games between semi-final losers were to precede the title meeting.

Little Billy Shaw, certainly one of the finest prep players even to trod the GHS boards, brought favored Newton from behind in the last quarter to disappoint hustling Briarcliff, 63-60.

Shaw, who drove and jumped his way to 33 points, sacked three foul shots in the last 40 seconds to provide the winning margin. Coach Ronald Bradley's quint trailed the Barons by six points going into the final period but Shaw's competitive leadership brought the Newton victory.

John Olson, Al Sharp and Barney Corbin sacked 19, 15 and 12

points for Briarcliff but the Barons folded in the final seconds.

Hart's boys, once again led by towering Sherrill Whitaker, Gary Phillips and Tim Floyd, blasted Elberton, 65-43. Whitaker and Phillips got 18 each as Floyd tossed in 11. Clyde Hewell pushed through 10 for the Blue Devils.

Usual Trip

Forsyth County's girls, already assured of their annual trip to the state tournament, got outstanding defensive play to beat Newton, 43-32.

While forwards Mary Hammond and Shirley Whitt were scoring 22 and 15 points, guards Linda Hughes Betty Perry and Regina Hughes were keeping a defensive blanket over Newton's scorers. Jordye Bailey topped the losers with 11 points.

Hart County's females, the pre-tournament favorites, had no trouble downing Elberton, 49-27. Wanda Reynolds, Melba Yeargin and Gloria Thornton scored 17, 16 and 15 points for the winners as Linda Dye and Steve Green had 15 and 10 for the Devilettes.



COACH RON BRADLEY
...Signals Newton