

Rusheon, Greenacres clinch shares of district titles

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The Rusheon Rams seventh-grade team and the Greenacres Mustangs eighth-grade team each clinched a share of their respective district championships Thursday.

The Rams seventh-graders defeated Greenacres 50-38 to improve to 8-1 with one game left. Meanwhile, Cope fell to Benton 34-26. The Cougars (7-2) dropped out of a tie for first. Rusheon can win the outright title with a victory over Elm Grove Tuesday or a Cope loss to Greenacres.

Cope can gain a share of the title if it wins and Rusheon loses.

In another seventh-grade game, Haughton edged Elm Grove 29-27.

The Greenacres eighth-grade team downed Rusheon 50-39 in a showdown for first place.

Greenacres (8-1) can win the title outright with a win over Cope Monday or a Rusheon loss to Elm Grove.

Rusheon (7-2) can get a share of the title if it wins and Cope beats Greenacres. The Cougars handed the Mustangs their only loss of the season 31-30 on Jan. 13.

In other eighth-grade games, Cope downed Benton 32-27 and Elm Grove topped Haughton 34-29.

At Greenacres, KeShawn Jones poured in 18 points and Landric Watson added nine to lead the Rusheon seventh-graders.

Kendall Brown topped Greenacres with 17 points, and David Maxey chipped in with 11.

Noah Hildebrand led the Greenacres eighth-graders with 18 points.

Harvey Calhoun scored 14, including nine in the fourth quarter. Antony Mulrenin added 10.

The game was played before a near capacity crowd.

The Mustangs led 26-20 at the half and 36-26 after three. They extended the lead to as much as 17, but Rusheon fought back and got to within six with about three minutes left. The Mustangs then regained control with a 7-0 run.

At Elm Grove, Nick Heckman scored nine points, while Mario Cook and Malcolm Hall had eight apiece to lead the Haughton seventh-graders to the win.

Knije Harrison paced Elm Grove with 11 points.

Malcolm Banks scored nine points and Cameron Ashley eight to lead the Elm Grove eighth-grade team. Ashley had a key bucket down the stretch.

Charles Harper led Haughton with nine points. Colton McClain added eight and Josh Lister six.

At Benton, TJ Anderson tossed in 12 points, and Doyle Adams scored eight for the Tigers' seventh-graders.

Garrett Hable had four rebounds and five steals.

Quillon Dixon paced Cope with 12 points, and Jack Hunter Johnson had seven.

KJ Bilbo scored 10 of his 16 points in the first half to lead the Cope eighth-graders. Tybren Wimberly, Bryson Vance, Drew Brewster and Jonathan Brandon combined for 15.

Jessie Little led Benton with 12 points. Jon Cromer scored six of his eight points in the final quarter.