# *The Cavs: headed for the championships*

**Kristen Herd**
**Charger Staff**

Boys basketball is back in action for the '04 season. The boys have been practicing hard and are sure to have a good run this year. "We are looking forward to a great season," stated Coach Kevin Bray.

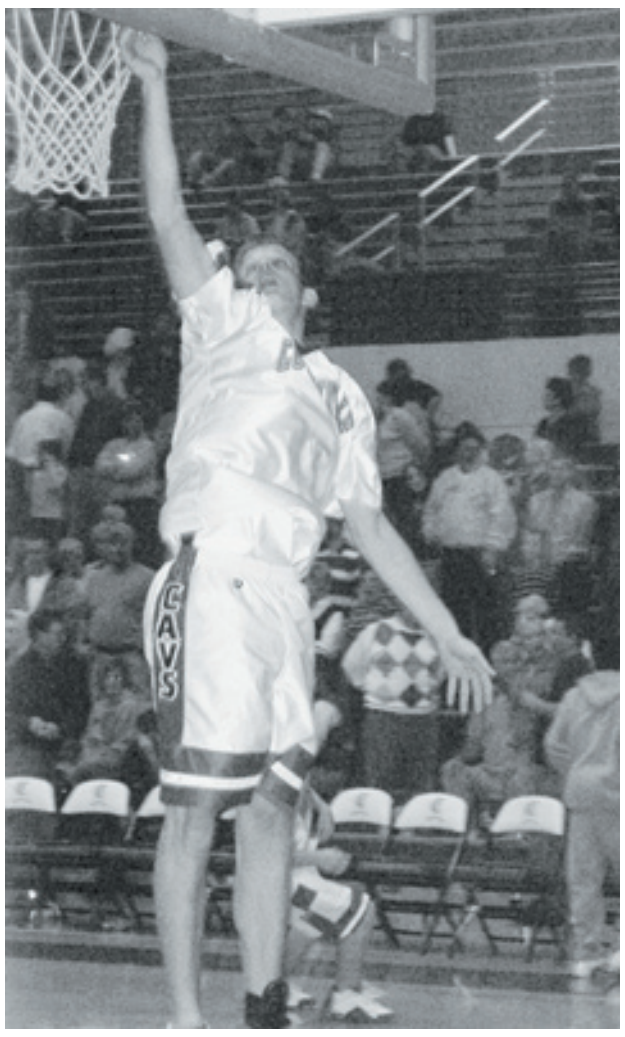
The Cavs first game was Nov. 16 in Oak Ridge against the Oak Ridge Wildcats. This game was well played, but not quite well enough. They lost by two points, 77-75, but it made a difference. The top scorers were Matt Hill, with twenty-three points, Addison Smith, with eighteen points, Landon Rice, with fourteen and Brandon Hodge, with thirteen. On Nov. 19, the Cavs played the Lincoln County Falcons in the Hall of Fame.

The Cavs won this game with a score of 91-61. "It was an upbeat, fast-paced game. The young guys played well," explained Coach Bray.

The second game of the season was against Cumberland County Jets on Nov. 23. Our Cavs won this game with a score of 60-45.Hill achieved the high score of fifteen points and made three of the five three-point goals of the game. Smith made three assists and also scored the first basket of the game, which brought on the toilet paper that is thrown with the team's first home game point. On Nov. 26 and the 27, the Cookeville Thanksgiving Classic took place. On Friday, the Cavs played the Shelbyville Eagles. After the Eagles held the lead through the first half, the Cavs came back during the third quarter and dominated the remainder of the game. Hodge was the leading scorer with twenty points. The Cavs played the West Green Buffaloes on Saturday. During the first quarter, the Cavs lead 32-8. Hodge was the leading scorer with fifteen points and Tyler Bussell was the second leading scorer with fourteen points.

The Livingston Academy Wildcats hosted the Nov. 31 game. The Cavs held the lead throughout the first half. In this game, everyone got to be play. Hill attained the high score of twenty-one points and Zac Hennigan brought thirteen more points to the score.

The final score was 60-37, Cavs winning over the Wildcats. The next game will be the Mid South Classic on the 18-22.



**SLAM DUNK -- The boys basketball team warm up before the big game on Dec. 3 against Sparta.** Photo by Katrina Otuonye.

# T S S A h o n -

**Brandi James**
**Charger Staff**

Not only is Cookeville High School an International Baccalaureate school, but now it can also claim to be one of the schools with the best manners.

On Thursday, Nov. 11, Cookeville High School received the A. F. Bridges Award, named after A. F. Bridges, who was the first executive secretary of Tennessee Secondary Scholastic Athletic Association (TSSAA).

A.F. Bridges served twenty-six years under the title of executive secretary of the TSSAA. Bridges was a full-time executive.

Under Bridges, Tennessee was recognized as excellent in girls' athletics and in his own training programs. He began his twenty-six year accomplishment with TSSAA. His dedication to TSSAA and his improvements to the association acquired him the name of Mr. TSSAA. He retired in 1972 and moved to Trenton with his wife. High ideals of ethics, integrity, sportsmanship and citizenship are the four main points observed when considering a school for the award.

**A.F. BRIDGES AWARD -- Connie McBride, Wayne Shanks and Scott Maddox pose for the A.F Bridges award.** Photo by Katie Coe.

These characteristics are also the basis of the CHS "Just Do What's Right!" program. CHS is one of the twenty-seven TSSAA schools that were selected as an A. F. Bridges Divisional Finalists. Cookeville High School is also one of the nine schools in their classification and one of three that were recognized in the state.

Connie McBride, one of the athletic directors, was more than a little eager to share her thoughts on the subject.

"Cookeville High School was one of three schools, which included Franklin and Dixon Counties, that were in the class AAA. I'm so proud of the faculty, coaches and athletes for receiving this award."

McBride said,"It is the highest award bestowed to a school. I hope we can keep up the good work and inspire more schools to do the same."

Cookeville High School was chosen for the award based on its efforts to positive and reassuring citizenship and good sportsmanship

# *Pistons vs. Pacers vs. Fans: history in the mak-*

**Jonathan McNabb**
**Charger Staff**

During the final minute of the fourth quarter basketball game on the Nov. 19 game played in Detroit between the Detroit Pistons and the Indiana Pacers a fight broke out between Ben Wallace of the Pistons and Ron Artest of the Pacers, over a hard Artest foul. As the fight was about to cool down, a Detroit fan threw a cup at Artest, hitting him in the face. Artest then leapt into the stands to find the fan. When Artest found the person he thought had thrown the cup, he wrestled him to the ground and began to hit him. By this time, many fans came over to fend off Artest.

Artest's teammate Stephen Jackson then entered the stands to help Artest. Jermain O'Neal, another Indiana Pacer, also had a confrontation with the Detriot fans. Each participating player was given a suspensin of record proportions. Ron Artest was suspended without pay for the rest of the NBA season.

Stephen Jackson was suspended without pay for 30 games and Jermain O'Neal for 25 games, almost half of the season. The Pistons' Ben Wallace was also suspended for 6 games. Never before in the history of major sports in the United States has such an incident occurred. It has become a shame and black mark on a great start to the NBA season. The actions of these players against fans will surely be remembered for years to come.

**NBA BRAWL -- Ron Artest and fellow teammates are restrained from attacking a fan.** Photo courtesy of msnbc.nbc.com.

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