## Hoops! The Scarlets did it again

The smell of popcorn surrounds the court, screams and cheers come from every direction of the gym, and the feelings of joy and excitement radiate from the crowds. This is what you can find at an East High School girls varsity basketball game. Win after win, thanks to the connection that the girls have with each other, the Lady Scarlets shoot hoop after hoop at a game hosted by Hoover High School, the girls won 82 to 28, a result of their immaculate teamwork and perseverance. "We are all like family. Honestly we are really close," Jacie Stephenson/11 said. With unconditional support from each other and fans, the girls know they can accomplish anything. "Our coach is super close with us, and he provides us support from not only on the courts, but also off the court as well," Kiana Sanders said/11. There is no other strong bond that the Lady Scarlets have than the one they have with each other. "One thing I'm going to miss the most is my tea, I like being with them all the time," Eriana Brown/12 said.

> "If you never lose, you never know how it feels to win,"

> > -Kiana Sanders/11

Shooting from the free throw line is Aaliyah Williams/9. Aaliyah started playing basketball when she was in Kindergarten, and since then it's been a part of her life." Being on varsity is nerve racking, but at the end of the day, it's a good feeling to be on varsity as a freshman," Williams said.





Pictured are seniors Eriana Brown, Tiana Ziegler, and Honor Edmunds. One shared goal for these seniors in their last season was to make state. These seniors are continuing their education into college, but some will not continue their basketball careers. "Playing for East was really fun but, I don't see myself playing in college," Honor Edmonds/12 said. Photos by Y.Baires, A. Salazar,







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(Top left) Figuring out who to pass the ball to is Eriana Brown/12. She started playing basketball in 2nd grade. Her grandfather inspired her to play because it makes him happy to see her play the game he loves. "Its not how good you are, its how good you want to be, Brown said.

(Top right) Pausing and giving respect to the national anthem is the East High varsity girls basketball team. Holding hands and coming together as a team are rituals per every game. "At the beginning of games we pay respect," Ross

(Bottom left) Bouncing the ball with her left hand is Jacie Stephenson /11. Her favorite memory involving basketball is going on all the retreats encouring bonding with her teammates. She enjoys going to practice because she likes feeling like shes getting better. You have to work at it all the time to get better," Stephenson said.

(Bottom right) Focusing on the court is Honor Edmonds/12. She is determined to take on a win for the team. She started playing because her friends played. Her goal for this season is to go to state. "When you feel like stopping, think about why you started," Edmonds said.

Making a pass is Tiana Ziegler/12. Her brother inspired her to pursue basketball. Her best moments in basketball has been bonding with her teammates in the locker room. "I'm going to miss the girls who I have been with since seventh grade, Ziegler said.



Giving her all to make a winning shot is Kiana Sanders/11. She started playing basketball when she was four. Her family inspired her to play. "The bond between the coaches and players is really close and they follow our personal lives as well so it's not just on the court," Sanders said.





Preparing to make a shot, and making it count for the win, is Justice Ross/11. Ross has been playing since she was six. She started playing because her dad inspired her to join the team. "Hard work beats talent, when talent does not work hard, Ross said.



Here is coach Sam Powell talking to the girls team, motivating them to play harder and better to take on a win. "He is always pushing us to do better and work hard," Mia Elliott/11 said.

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