

Highland CC splits pair of games with Independence CC

Highland Community College men's and women's team split a pair of games against Independence Community College last night. The lady Scotties continued their success recording their 21st victory of the season winning 64-61; while the men's Scotties team continues to slide with another loss, as they fell 82-77.

In what will be the lady Scotties first winning season since 1984, they continue to win behind a young squad that features nine freshman and three sophomore's and a new coach, in his first season at the helm in Highland, BJ Smith. Smith is an experienced coach in collegiate basketball with coaching stints at Southeast Missouri State University, Northeastern Oklahoma A&M, and North Arkansas College.

The lady Scotties who are currently ranked fourth in the NJCAA national poll, improved to 21-2 with the win over Independence last night. Freshman guard, Kathy Thomas continues to lead the way in scoring for the Scotties netting 27 points in the win; while freshman forward, Jaaron Kassanvoid scored 21 points on the night. With the win the lady Scotties also improved their Kansas Jayhawk Community College conference record to 9-2 on the season with the win.

KNZA's Sports Director, Justin Fluke caught up with lady Scotties head coach, BJ Smith the other day; to listen to that interview click on it underneath the picture up top on the right.

The men's Scotties team has been in a slide recently after starting the season and conference play off pretty successful. With the loss last night to Independence, the Scotties fell to 11-10 on the season and .500 in conference play (5-5). Down by seven points at the half the Scotties fought back in the second half outscoring Independence by two points (42-40) but ultimately still came up a little short, overall in the game.

Sophomore guard, De'Andre Upchurch led the way once again for the Scotties with 28 points on 10-22 field goals. Sophomore's, Roderick Camphor and Jarvis Benard chipped in double figures, also with 18 and 12 points, respectively. Independence was lead with four different players in double figures in the win for their squad.

Next up for the Highland Community College Scotties is a road matchup at Kansas City Kansas Community College on Saturday. Women tip at 2:00pm and the men will tip at 4:00pm.