Mountain Heritage Boys Varsity State Playoffs (2nd Round) At Shelby High School Wednesday, February 25, 2009 Vs. Shelby

(Statistician Paul Badgley)

	1st	2nd	3rd	4th	Final
Shelby	17	17	11	23	68
Mountain Heritage	12	9	15	15	51

The Mountain Heritage Cougars basketaball season came to end Wednesday night with a 68-51 loss to Shelby. The Golden Lions, ranked third in the state in the NC Preps poll, used a very athletic and experienced team to create 15 first half turnovers and build a 13 point half time lead. After stretching the lead to as much as 21 points in the third quarter, the Cougars rallied and entered the fourth quarter trailing by only nine points. All of the Cougars attempts to close the gap were beat back by Shelby who connected on numerous free throws in the fourth quarter. As a team they made 75.8% of the free throws for the game, and that proved crucial in their victory. The Golden Lions finally put the Cougars away in the final minutes, and the Mountain Heritage season came to an end. John Cannon led the Cougars with 15 points and added six rebounds and four blocks. Michael Fender added 14 points as well and did a superior job handling the Shelby pressure that gave the Cougars so much trouble in the playoff game last year. The Cougars ended their season with a record of 21-7. The game also marked the final one for seniors John Mauney, Dylan McMahan, Michael Fender, Will McCurry, and Thomas Burleson, who had outstanding seasons. The Cougars do have a strong nucleus returning next year and will add several up and coming players from a JV team that has won back to back conference championships.

SHELBY	FG	FTA	FT	3РТ	TOTAL
Royster	1	8	6		8
C Allen					0
Hillman					0
Canoy	1				2
D Mayo	3	1	1		7
Wray					0
Lawrence	3			1	9
E Mayo	2	8	8		12
Mitchell		2	0		0
Stamp	2	2	2		6
Gullate	3	2	1		7
Murray	5	10	7		17
Brown					0
Hutchins					0
T Allen					0
Totals	20	33	25	1	68

	FG	FTA	FT	3PT	TOTAL
MOUNTAIN HERITAGE					
Kardulis	1	3	1		3
Wilson	3	1	0	1	9
Mauney		2	0		0
McMahan					0
Fender	3	7	5	1	14
McCurry				1	3
Cannon	5	4	2	1	15
Badgley					0
Letterman	1			1	5
Burleson	1	1	0		2
Neill					0
Totals	14	18	8	5	51