

### *Tigers win, Lady Tigers fall at home against Converse*

The St. Mary's boys' basketball team opened the season in grand style with a 66-32 win over Converse Monday night at home while the Lady Tigers fell 43-36.

St. Mary's was less than 72 hours removed from the football quarterfinal where all but two basketball players played. The Tigers had just two days of practice to prepare for Monday's opener.

The Tigers were led by Ayden Warren with 29 points and five three-pointers while senior Payne Williams scored 17 points. Senior Ben Bienvenu also chipped in with 10 points.

SMH jumped out to a 24-9 first quarter lead and led 42-16 at halftime as they cruised to the win. The Tigers also drilled eight three-pointers for the game, seven in the first half.

"I didn't expect us to shoot that well our first night out," said SMH boys' basketball head coach Jake Bankston. "I thought we were able to establish more of an inside presence against the zone. I thought we also moved the basketball around well and attacked the gaps."

In the first game, the Lady Tigers (1-4) and Converse battled for much of the game as Converse held a 33-32 lead entering the fourth quarter. However, SMH went 5:10 without scoring allowing Converse to build a 38-32 lead before holding on for 43-36 win.

The Lady Tigers were led by Ava Holland with 10 points while Lybi Cross scored eight and Lexi Cross had seven.

Next up, the Tigers and Lady Tigers will play Tuesday night on the road against Episcopal of Acadiana.

