

With the top spot in Region Three on the line and a good shot at being ranked number one in Sunday's Tribune Captain's Poll, East's basketball team appeared to have everything going for it as it took a 15-point lead over Cottonwood midway through the third quarter Friday night.

But, in the end, it took four turnovers by the Colts in the final minutes and four clutch free throws from Greg Grand in the last 28 seconds for the Leopards to maintain their unbeaten league mark by taking a 67-64 win.



Mike Maxwell

Cottonwood, which has won only one league game all year, used a good full-court press to score 10 straight points late in the fourth quarter and move within one at 63-62.

But the Colts, given four chances on East miscues, couldn't quite complete the rally as the Leopards showed signs of missing senior star Rich Grimillion who was out with an injury.

In the end, though, it was Grant who came through. The 6-6 senior forward hit 30 points for the night and was easily the dominant player on the floor. He finally took charge at the end to prevent what could have been a stunning upset. Jim Brown scored 18 to lead the Colts while Tim Whitworth had 16.

Highland and Skyline, the two teams chasing East for the league leadership in Region Three, both took easy victories.

Mike Maxwell exploded for 30 points and John Baucom added 28 as Highland recovered from its loss to Skyline earlier in the week by pounding Granite 91-70.

The Eagles emptied the bench in rolling to an easy 89-63 victory over Olympus as John Mattenet, Scott Spurrier, Brandon Bennett and Paul Rasmussen hit the double figures for Skyline.

Upsets Spice Region Five

It was a night of upsets in Region Five as lowly Union shocked previously undefeated Cyprus 52-48 in Roosevelt and Tooele earned a 60-59 victory over Judge, which could have moved into a tie for first place with a victory.

Union, playing perhaps its best basketball game in years, led from the start against the Pirates and moved into the thick of the Region Five race. The Cougars used a balanced scoring attack to earn the victory as Clayton Truman scored 14, Karl Mortenson hit 12 and Doug Chasel scored 10. Alan Dyches and Brooks Jones led the Pirates.

Tooele took a three-point lead with eight seconds left on a pair of free throws by Jeff Kinney and then held on for its one-point upset of Judge as it moved back into the race for state.

Bret Applegate scored 27 points to lead the Buffaloes while Doug Bills had 15 and Joel Rotta 14 to pace Judge in what was a close ball game all the way.

Murray moved into a tie for first place with Cyprus by taking an 80-51 victory over Carbon in Price as Cizo Goncalves scored 28 points and Brad Hale added 21 in what was an important win for the Spartans.

Uintah's Derrin Gardiner hit 20 points and the two free throws late in the game that gave the Utes a 68-66 victory over Jordan in Vernal and kept Kerry Rupp's crew in the thick of the league race. Dave Olsen and Lynn Jensen each hit 15 to lead the Beetdiggers.

Provo Escapes With Wins

In a night of upsets and near upsets, mighty Provo

needed some clutch free throw shooting by Trevin MacArthur in the final quarter to pull out a 43-40 win over Springville. Steve Sanders paced the Bulldogs with 20 while Mark Harding paced the Red Devils with 17.

Payson took a 63-58 victory over Spanish Fork as Jeff Mattinson, Dale Rowley and Robert Hogan hit the double figures while Dixie stormed to an 81-51 decision over arch-rival Cedar City as Tim Fullmer exploded for 26 points.

In the biggest surprise of the night in Region Six, Mark Atwood scored 19 points and Pleasant Grove took advantage of a controlled offense to stun American Fork 48-45. The loss dropped the W Cavemen out of the first-place spot they shared with Provo and Dixie.