

Broncos pick up split with Med. Valley and Sutherland

Written by Wauneta Breeze
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Diane Stamm | The Wauneta Breeze

Logan Bischoff saves the ball and tries to avoid the W-P cheerleaders during the second half of the Broncos' win.

By Diane Stamm

The Wauneta Breeze

With time on its season running down, the Wauneta-Palisade Broncos split games last week, losing to RPAC opponent Medicine Valley Thursday and defeating Sutherland at home Fridays.

The Broncos trailed throughout the Medicine Valley game, managing only 18 first half points. Medicine Valley's Brendan Johnsen outscored W-P 9-6 in the first quarter. Wes Anderjaska, Connor Kayton and Hayden Pollmann each made baskets for the Broncos in the first quarter.

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W-P's struggles continued into the second quarter. Although its offense improved slightly, the W-P defense gave up four three pointers in the quarter and 20 points. Kayton and Anderjaska added four points to their total in the second quarter and Jack McGraw chipped in four of his own. The Broncos headed into halftime down 18-31.

Coming out from halftime, both teams went to the long ball, especially the Broncos. Anderjaska hit three three-pointers after intermission plus another basket to give him a game high 17 points. Pollmann added two more three-pointers and two two-pointers, scoring 12 in the game. Kayton hit one three-pointer and another bucket, finishing with 11 points. Scoring for the Broncos was rounded out with seven points by Bischoff, all in the fourth quarter, and four by McGraw.

Despite the Broncos' seven second half three-pointers, Medicine Valley (9-8) was able to keep pace with the Broncos, playing even in the third quarter and out scoring W-P by one in the fourth. The Raiders matched the Broncos' three three-pointers in the third quarter and six players scored in the fourth quarter of the 65-51 Medicine Valley win.

Anderjaska went two-for-two from the charity stripe, the only two Bronco attempts. The Raiders made seven-of-12 free throws.

The boys bounced back from the Thursday night loss with a 63-47 win over Sutherland (2-15) Friday.

The game wasn't pretty early on for the Broncos. The Sailors hit two three-pointers in the first 2 minutes and were content running a slow down offense. It wasn't until coach Dave Kuhlen called a time out at the 5:50 mark that the Bronco offense started to get on track.

Pollmann hit a three-pointer coming out of the time out to cut the lead to 3-6, but Sutherland answered with another three-pointer and then added a bucket in the paint.

Down 10 points, Anderjaska started chipping away at the Sutherland lead with a basket and

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then a free throw. Sutherland answered the free throw with a bucket then went scoreless over the final two minutes of the quarter. W-P didn't fair much better, adding only a basket by Weylin Davis with 20 seconds left to make the score 8-15 at the end of the second quarter.

Following a miss by the Broncos and a walk by the Sailors to open the quarter, Kayton cut the Sutherland lead to four with a three-pointer.

After Sutherland added two more baskets to its total around an offensive rebound and put back by Pollmann, the Broncos used one free throw by Bischoff and two by Kayton to cut the lead to three. A three-pointer by Anderjaska with four minutes left in the half tied the game and was quickly followed by a three-pointer by Bischoff to give W-P its first lead, 22-19.

After a basket by Kayton, Sutherland answered with two baskets of its own to cut the lead back to one. The Broncos looked to head into half time up by three after a putback by McGraw, but Sutherland's three-pointer at the buzzer from the 10-foot line of the volleyball court tied the game at intermission.

The Broncos came out strong to start the second half. Getting the ball, Bischoff opened scoring with a conventional three-point play. He scored again on the Broncos next possession, with the team hitting the glass hard and getting three offensive rebounds before Bischoff's basket. After a Sutherland bucket, back-to-back baskets by Anderjaska pushed the Bronco lead to 35-28.

Sutherland then went on its own run, scoring seven points with W-P only able to answer with a basket by McGraw to make the score 37-35.

With 3:28 left in the third quarter, W-P went on its own 7-2 run, with a three-pointer by Anderjaska and two-pointers by Kayton and McGraw, to make it 44-37 heading into the fourth quarter.

The Broncos stretched its lead out in the final stanza, outscoring the Sailors 19-10. Anderjaska hit two more three pointers to give him a game high 19 points. Kayton added a three-pointer and two-pointer, finishing with 14 points.

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McGraw scored six points in the fourth quarter and finished the game with 12 points. Bischoff added one more bucket to bring his total to 11 points. Pollmann scored five points and Davis two for the Broncos.

Now 8-9, the Broncos season winds down hosting Chase County (8-11) Tuesday, Feb. 5, Maywood (1-16) Friday and a trip to Dundy County-Stratton (14-6) Feb. 15.