

Lady Broncos advance to district finals, will take on Brady

Written by Wauneta Breeze

Friday, 22 February 2013 18:30 -



From left, Brianna Einspahr, Cassidy Rathe, Brooklyn Nordhausen and Sydnee Harchelroad play key roles for the Lady Broncos.

By Diane Stamm

The Wauneta Breeze

The Wauneta-Palisade Lady Broncos kept its season alive last week with a subdistrict title.

The Lady Broncos opened subdistrict play at Cambridge with a 54-24 win over Medicine Valley.

Even with injured guard Abbie Fanning taking the night off, W-P cruised through the game.

After a 2-2 tie, W-P finished the first quarter on a 12-0 run. Taylor Lee scored eight points in the first quarter for the Lady Broncos.

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W-P outscored the Lady Raiders 10-5 in the second quarter despite missing 17 shots. The Lady Broncos got a three-pointer from Brianna Einspahr, two two-pointers from Sydnee Harchelroad, added one free throw by Emma Skelton and two by Brooklyn Nordhausen.

Coming out from halftime with a 24-8 lead, Skelton jumpstarted the W-P offense in the third quarter by nailing three three-pointers. Harchelroad added four points in the quarter. The pair finished with 10 points each.

Leading by 30, 43-13, the teams played even in the fourth quarter. Lee added two more baskets and finished with a game high 14. Einspahr added another three-pointer and scored eight in the game. Nordhausen finished with six points.

W-P wrapped up the subdistrict title two nights later with a 59-30 defeat of Wallace.

W-P got off to a slow start despite having Fanning back in the lineup. Following two free throws by Lee with 4:30 gone in the game the Lady Broncos held only a 4-1 advantage. Missing nine first quarter shots, W-P turned up the heat on Wallace, getting four straight turnovers off the press and opening up a 10-3 lead. Wallace responded, scoring the final three points of the quarter to close the gap to 10-6.

The two teams' offensive woes continued into the second quarter. W-P missed five shots and had four turnovers as both teams went scoreless for five minutes until Wallace scored. With the ice broken in the quarter, W-P outscored Wallace 8-2 down the stretch to take an 18-10 lead to the locker room.

Over halftime the Lady Broncos fixed whatever offensive malfunction it was having. W-P poured in 33 points in the third quarter to take a 51-23 lead. W-P opened the half with a Skelton three-pointer and Fanning scored all eight of her points, including two three-pointers, in the quarter. Einspahr scored seven points and Lee five in the quarter.

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All 13 Lady Broncos played in the fourth quarter. Another three-pointer by Skelton in the fourth quarter gave her six points in the game. Harchelroad and Nordhausen also finished the game with six points apiece. Einspahr scored nine points, Cassidy Rathe added five points. Lee led the team with 19.

In the district final, the Lady Broncos hope to avenge two losses to Brady. The teams opened the season Nov. 30 with Brady taking home a 52-48 win. The Lady Eagles picked up its second win over W-P Dec. 28, 60-44, in the Brady tournament.

Brady has played a schedule of mostly D1 and D2 schools, its only exception being a 40-47 loss to C2's Southern Valley. Brady's other two losses were to D2's 22-2 Mullen.

W-P, meanwhile, has four losses to C2 schools to go with the two to Brady. The Lady Broncos lost once to Southern Valley (32-41), once to Perkins County and twice to Dundy County-Stratton.

Both teams have beaten Paxton, Hitchcock County, Hayes Center, Wallace and Medicine Valley.

The Lady Broncos and Brady will face off in Wallace at 6:00 p.m. MT/7:00 CT Friday.