

Lady Broncos defeated in first round of state tourney

Written by Wauneta Breeze

Wednesday, 06 March 2013 22:44 -



Fans greet the team as it exits the locker room before the start of the game.

By Diane Stamm

The Wauneta Breeze

Returning to the state basketball tournament after a four year absence, the Wauneta-Palisade Lady Broncos fell, 39-69, to Lindsey Holy Family in its first round game.

Opening the game with consecutive baskets by Kaylee Jensen, Holy Family opened up a 6-0 lead before the Lady Broncos got on the board. Two Tailor Lee free throws sparked an 8-2 run by W-P. Back-to-back three-pointers by Emma Skelton and Sydnee Harchelroad tied the game at 8 with three minutes left in the quarter.

The Lady Broncos could only manage two more free throws by Lee over the remainder of the quarter, while the Lady Bulldogs added 10 more points.

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Holy Family put the pedal down in the second quarter, sticking 20 points on the board. W-P could only manage three-pointers by Abbie Fanning and Harchelroad and a two-point bucket by Fanning in the quarter.

Trailing 18-38 to start the second half, W-P watched Holy Family continue to pull away.

The Lady Broncos put seven points on the board in the quarter while giving up 14. Brianna Einspahr knocked down a three-pointer and Skelton a two-pointer. Lee added two more free throws.

Einspahr's second three-pointer opened the fourth quarter, but Holy Family's trend of getting layups and offensive rebounds continued through the remainder of the game.

Fanning added another three-pointer, Lee scored two baskets and Harchelroad added a bucket. Lee hit two more free throws, going 8-8 on the night, and finished with 12 points.

Fanning and Harchelroad each scored eight points. Einspahr added six points and senior Skelton finished with five points.

Though coach Johanson said Holy Family is legit, the Lady Bulldogs went on to lose to eventual state champion Wynot in the semifinals and Falls City Sacred Heart in the consolation game.

Finishing the season 18-7, the team spent Friday and Saturday in Lincoln at other tournament games and came home Saturday evening.