

Girls' basketball team splits opening week games

Written by Wauneta Breeze
Thursday, 06 December 2012 18:31 -



Abbie Fanning (14) gets fouled as she cuts between Brady's Josie Palmer (42) and Madison Elliott.

By Diane Stamm

The Wauneta Breeze

The Wauneta-Palisade girls' basketball team split home and away games last week with Brady and Wallace.

Both teams started slow in the season opening loss at home to Brady.

The Lady Eagles struck first, winning the tip and scoring on its first possession. After the Lady Broncos missed a shot on its first possession, both team struggled to find an offensive rhythm.

Girls' basketball team splits opening week games

Written by Wauneta Breeze

Thursday, 06 December 2012 18:31 -

After a long possession, W-P finally got on the board when Brooklyn Nordhausen hit two free throws.

The Lady Broncos could only manage one more bucket in the quarter. Nordhausen scored on the low block off a nice assist from Tailor Lee.

Brady, meanwhile, made a basket, hit one-of-two free throws and scored another basket off the missed free throw.

"We knew we were going to play tough defense and just let the offense come," said Coach Betsy Johanson. "The girls started off working very hard defensively, and did a great job of staying patient offensively."

Heading into the second quarter down 7-4, W-P scored first when Emma Skelton found Cassidy Rathe for two on the Lady Broncos' press break. Brady answered with two free throws on the other end. Lee hit the front end of a one-and-one and Nordhausen's offensive rebound led to an Abbie Fanning basket.

Tied at 9-9, Brady, often subbing for all five on the floor, then outscored the Lady Broncos 14-9 to end the half. W-P got one free throw each from Sydnee Harchelroad, Fanning and Skelton and two from Rathe. Nordhausen added a basket off an assist from Fanning and Rathe hit a bucket as time expired, but the Lady Broncos gave up six field goals, two coming off offensive rebounds, and two free throws to give Brady a 23-18 halftime lead.

The Lady Broncos opened the half with a three-pointer by Skelton and a free throw by Fanning to cut the lead to one. Brady answered with two baskets of its own only to see W-P come back with two free throws by Brianna Einspahr and Fanning finding Skelton open for a basket.

As the quarter progressed Brady continued to hang onto its lead at the free throw line. The Lady Eagles made five of 11 free throws late in the third quarter. W-P could only answer with two free

Girls' basketball team splits opening week games

Written by Wauneta Breeze

Thursday, 06 December 2012 18:31 -

throws of its own as Brady opened up a six point lead. Another three-pointer by Skelton cut the lead in half heading into the final period, 34-31.

Each team had three turnovers to start the fourth quarter before Fanning's layup narrowed the margin to one point. Brady hit the offensive boards hard throughout the game and used the advantage to answer the layup.

Nordhausen picked up her fifth foul with six minutes to go in the game and Dakota Terry's free throws opened up another five point lead for Brady.

The Lady Broncos came charging back behind Fanning. Her basket followed by her free throw on the next possession set the Lady Broncos up to tie the game when Rathe grabbed Fanning's missed free throw and found Lee for a bucket.

Tied at 38, Brady responded with two more free throws by Terry and a layup. Fanning answered with a three-pointer, but Brady grabbed three offensive rebounds in one series and finally scored. W-P tried to answer with its own offensive rebound but couldn't convert and saw Brady make another layup.

Skelton found Lee in the post to bring W-P back to within three. The Lady Broncos couldn't cut into the lead as the teams traded free throws.

A four-point play by Brady with 2:14 was the nail in the coffin, giving Brady a 51-44 lead.

W-P closed the gap with a three-pointer by Fanning and a free throw by Lee, but couldn't get closer than four with the final score 52-48.

Fanning led the Lady Broncos with 17 points. Terry had 10 for Brady.

Girls' basketball team splits opening week games

Written by Wauneta Breeze

Thursday, 06 December 2012 18:31 -

Johanson said Brady is one of the most athletic teams the Lady Broncos will face this season. Johanson also mentioned Dundy County-Stratton, which the team will face Dec. 11, as another athletic team.

“Our girls gave a great effort against Brady. We know we have lots to learn and lots to improve upon, but we also realize its November,” said Johanson. “We’re not satisfied with getting beat, but we feel like that effort was a good jumping-off point for the rest of our season.”

Wauneta-Palisade broke into the winning column Saturday at Wallace. The Lady Broncos picked up a 47-24 win.

The Lady Broncos spread the ball around against Wallace. Five players scored in the first quarter and seven scored in the game as 11 players saw action.

Lee’s free throw opened scoring for W-P, followed by baskets from Fanning, Skelton, Rathe and Einspahr.

Harchelroad scored five points in the second quarter and Lee added four.

Skelton totaled five points in the third and Harchelroad four in the fourth as the pair each hit three-pointers in the game and finished with nine points apiece.

Fanning scored 10 points to lead W-P.

“We did a great job of coming back Saturday afternoon to get our first official win,” said Johanson. “Wallace is a quality team and we did a nice job of executing our threats against them.”

Girls' basketball team splits opening week games

Written by Wauneta Breeze

Thursday, 06 December 2012 18:31 -

Now 1-1, the Lady Broncos will host 0-2 Cambridge Friday and travel to 1-1 Southern Valley Saturday.